

**HOXNE
DENHAM, SYLEHAM
&
WINGFIELD**

**Village
Voice**

**AUGUST - SEPTEMBER
2010**

Supported by community donation and advertising revenue

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Meeting times for all Councils will vary. Please refer to Council reports for time of next meeting.

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The Revd. Susan Loxton is chair to Hoxne & Denham PCCs.
The Revd. Fiona Newton is chair to Syleham & Wingfield PCCs.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Editorial

Last of the Summer Wine

To every thing there is a season . . . Ecclesiastes

When you have lived in and loved a home like Abbey Farm for nigh on fifty summers, that's a lot of sunshine and we've cherished every warm ray of it. Modesty should forbid me quoting from an article by John Draper, in the June 1998 issue of this magazine, entitled The Hoxne Story: 'For over a thousand years, the Priory and then the Abbey has played a part in the life of our community. It has never been better loved and served than it is by the two whose home it is now.' If there is a grain of truth in those kind and generous words, I hope, in some small way, we have tried to repay and share the privilege of being a part of this noblest of histories.

But now we must go, because to every thing there is a season and a time to every purpose under Heaven – a time to get and a time to lose. A wise old head once told me that whatever you have or do in this life, you are only a caretaker. Not being able to exercise that care with the encircling years would surely tarnish the rich bounty which fortune has so freely bestowed. So it is time to move on before time does it for us.

Knowing when to move on or step down is never easy. A common failing among mortals is to believe that we are immortal or, perhaps worse, irreplaceable. But I fear either of those false ambitions leads sooner or later to impotence and, eventually, ridicule. I expect we have all heard or even said, 'If I don't do it, nobody will.' What arrant nonsense! History is one long record of successive generations picking up the baton. For every soldier cut down, another steps forward.

I guess the problem is that, unlike retirement, there is no set time for moving on or relinquishing responsibilities. Some have had enough by the time they reach their fifties and others still have plenty of spark in their seventies and beyond, and some just don't know how to let go. There is no formula for quitting at the right time. We each have to decide that for ourselves and that is doubly difficult if you are still on top of the game. Then again, there is an old adage that says 'that's the time to quit!' One thing I do know – there will always be another runner to pick up the baton. They may drop it or they may run the next leg. But that's not any of our problems.

So, we will enjoy this the last of our summer wine and, with luck, plant another vine and look forward to a new vintage which, be sure, we will share with all of you who have made the first so very drinkable.

JB/CB

Diary dates

Saturday August 7

Syleham Church Fete
Monk's Hall, Syleham

Saturday August 14

Hoxne Artisan Market

Sunday August 15

Brakey Wood, Hoxne
10th anniversary party

Saturday September 4

Hoxne Flower and Produce Show -
St Edmund's Hall

Friday September 10

Macmillan Coffee Morning
65, Goldbrook, Hoxne

Saturday September 11

Suffolk Historic Churches bike ride
Hoxne Artisan Market

Sunday September 12

HSA Clay Pigeon Shoot - Oakley Park

Sunday September 19

Hoxne Harvest Breakfast

Friday September 24

RBL Annual Dinner
Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

Saturday September 25

Hoxne Music Festival Quiz
St Edmund's Hall

Wingfield Harvest Sausage and Mash
Supper, St Andrew's Church

Sunday September 26

Wingfield Church Harvest Festival

Tuesday September 28

Phoenix Group Fashion Show
St Edmund's Hall

Sunday October 3

Hoxne Church Harvest Festival

Saturday October 9

Wingfield Annual Craft Fair
Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall

Friday October 15

Mustard Theatre Company
St Edmund's Hall

Saturday November 20

RBL Christmas Bazaar
St Edmund's Hall

Saturday December 4

Hoxne Church Christmas Bazaar
St Edmund's Hall

For St Edmund's Hall bookings

call Andy Bull 668273 for

Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion

ring Gail Jackson 668186.

For Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall,

call Joyce Revell on 668102.



The Hoxne Village Community Choir needs You!

Baritone or tenor, soprano or contralto it matters not.

As long as you enjoy singing come along and join us.

Practice begins, in the church, in early September.

For further details contact Gill O'Connor 01379 668241

or email gillocon@btinternet.com

■The annual Craft Fair and Mini Market held to raise funds for St. Andrew's Church in Wingfield will take place on Saturday 9th October. The fair will run from 10am until 4pm and will take place at Syleham and Wingfield village hall. For further information, to book a stall, or to offer any help on the day please contact Julie Thompson on 01379 668169.

We look forward to seeing you.

■Exploring Faith is an important course, designed for our Hoxne deanery, to deepen and extend our knowledge and experience of our Christian understanding. On Monday evenings during the autumn, beginning on September 13 in the Sancroft Hall in Fressingfield. More details from Susan on tel: 586040

■Hoxne churchyard has been the village 'resting place' for centuries with the names of many local families recorded on the memorials. Its very size, however, presents a challenge to those few volunteers who strive to keep the grass and undergrowth under control. Recent clearance work has given a new opportunity to open new areas but more help is needed. See page 30 for details.

■St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne would like to thank all who use the recycling facilities for paper, glass and textiles at the Village Hall. As you may be aware the funds raised for this recycling are paid directly to the village hall and the Management Committee would like to thank you all for your continued support.

■John and Jane Langley are organising a Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support with raffle, cake stall and bring and buy on Friday September 10 at 10.30am at 65, Goldbrook, Hoxne.

■Harleston Choral Society welcomes everyone, whether they have sung in choirs all their lives or have never sung in a choir before and don't read music. There are no auditions and all music is

OUT AND ABOUT...

provided free. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings from 7.30 – 9.30 pm, and on occasional Saturday mornings, in Harleston Junior School, School Lane, Harleston.

■Mid-Suffolk District councillor Mrs Elizabeth Gibson-Harries officially opened the Abbey Wood community project at the home of Mr and Mrs Tommy Gee, Wingfield. The wood, consisting of 1400 trees of indigenous species, has been made available to the community for the future enjoyment of Wingfield's children (and their children).

■Hoxne Music Festival Quiz
Saturday September 25, St Edmund's Hall, 7.30 start, teams of up to six, £5 a head with refreshments included.



The Red Feather Club has been recognised by the 95th Bomb Group Memorials Foundation as the official public museum for the group whose war-time base was at Horham airfield. Picture shows 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association chairman James Mutton holding a plaque commemorating the recognition with Ian Hawkins (association president) and Alan Johnson.

Letters to the editor

From Anne Swann

In the autumn, I plan to prepare shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. If you would like to take part, there will be leaflets available in Low Street Post Office or from me at 10 Church Close, Hoxne. My phone number is 669322. **Church Close, Hoxne**

From Nigel Dark

We're delighted to report that this year's door-to-door RNLI collection raised a total of £434 - £195 from Lower Hoxne (Jack Knights) and £239 from Upper Hoxne (Nigel Dark and Linda Gower). That's £50 more than last year (no cutbacks here!) and 49.5% of the £877 collected in Eye and District as a whole, which makes it our largest contribution to date. Thank you all for your generosity; we - and the lifeboat crews - are very grateful.

Corn House, Cross Street, Hoxne

From Jane Langley

On behalf of EACH, Treehouse Appeal - I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who attended my coffee morning in May. Also thank you for the kind donations of cakes, raffle prizes and cash donations. The sum of £182.80 was raised and sent to EACH in Ipswich. A particular thank you must be made to Gladys Baldwin, Margaret Phillips and Betty Clark for their excellent raffle organisation.

Goldbrook, Hoxne

From Nena Drake

Once again I must thank all the ladies who provided such a lovely selection of cakes and sponges for my cake stall at the church fete. To be baking in the temperatures that we have had this year I can only say a big thank you; also to my helper Doreen who braved the showers to keep everything covered.

Church Close, Hoxne

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Suffolk NHS seeks pharmacy feedback

What do you think of your pharmacy? Are the opening times convenient for you? Would you like to see other services at your pharmacy? If you have a view, NHS Suffolk has launched an on-line survey to listen to your suggestions.

Sheila Baldwin, NHS Suffolk senior pharmacist said: "Pharmacists already play a vital role in the community and offer a wide range of healthcare services - not only do they dispense medicine but they are an invaluable source of advice that can save a trip to the doctor." The short Pharmacy Needs Assessment 2010 survey will take only a few minutes to complete and asks just seven questions.

Ms Baldwin added: "By completing this questionnaire we will be able to better understand what pharmacy services people use and what services people would like to see introduced. Feedback from the public is invaluable and plays an important part in assessing how well pharmacies currently meet patients' needs and what we need to do to make pharmacy services even better." The online survey can be found at www.suffolk.nhs.uk

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Celebration time in the Wood...

Brakey Wood, planted by the people of Hoxne to celebrate the millennium, is ten years old – come and see how the wood has grown in the ten years!

To mark this anniversary Hoxne Parish Council, along with the Woodland Trust, is organising a family event to be enjoyed in the wood.

Hoxne was one of 250 communities which planted trees with the Woodland Trust at the turn of the millennium, creating new woods across the UK as part of the 'Woods on your Doorstep' project.

Sunday August 15 - 2 pm til dusk.

There will be music, dancing, and fun events for children to join in with such as a bug hunt with prizes for the most interesting specimen, and a BBQ and bar. There will also be several local craftspeople providing demonstrations of their skills and selling their wares.

Parish councillor Chris Johnson is encouraging the original tree

planters, including former pupils of St Edmund's Primary School, Hoxne, to come along to the event.

Chris says: "The biggest change people will see in the wood over the ten years is just how big it has grown and how green it looks. It is already fast becoming an oasis for wildlife, with over 60 species of birds recorded, as well as a number of interesting plants and regular sightings of deer, foxes, bats and even grass snakes. In fact, it really is our own little nature reserve."

Parking at Brakey Wood is limited to disabled only. Please arrive at the event on foot or by cycle. If you need to drive into the village, please park at St Edmund's Hall and follow the footpath signs to the wood. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dogs well behaved and on a lead please.

For further information on the event or photograph opportunities please contact Hoxne Parish Council on 07554 733621.

Year 2000



Year 2010



New opportunity to see the Hoard

You may have been listening to the series on Radio 4 A History of the World in 100 Objects given by Neil McGregor, director of the British Museum. A few weeks ago he told the story of the Hoxne Hoard (which is still on the R.4 website and can be downloaded).

It is still the finest Roman hoard ever excavated in Britain and in 1992 was an important moment for the village. Many people at that time would have gone to the British Museum and talks were given in the Village Hall. That was almost 20 years ago. I discovered that the British Museum allows groups of 25 adults to be shown, by a curator as a special tour, specific items from the collection.

It has now been arranged for 25 of us to meet a curator, Mr Robert Gwynne, on Wednesday September 8, 12 noon at the Museum, who will show the group the Hoxne display.

Simmonds Coaches will take us to London, picking up at 8am from the Village Green (allowing a stop on the way if required) arriving at the British Museum at 11.30am and leaving the Museum at 4pm.

The cost, including tour and coach, is £26 per person. Postal bookings only, please - to Dona Haycraft, The Old Surgery, Church Hill, Hoxne IP21 5AT including a cheque for the booking fee. Please include your email address for confirmation of your seat(s) to save postage.



Friends aims to make a century

Since formed back in the 1980s the Friends of Hoxne Church has raised in excess of £120,000. Out of this a total of more than £81,000 has been spent on the fabric and upkeep of the Church to keep it in the condition as it is today.

The PCC is now waiting for the results of plans being put forward for the redevelopment of the north aisle. This means a greater effort being made to raise funds to support this project. At the moment the Friends has 90 members, it would be great if we could reach the 100 mark. All it costs is £12 a year (less than 24p per week), this

would bring us in £1,200. If you are interested please ring 01379 740821 for more information.

Along with our events throughout the year we have a regular coffee morning that takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month starting at 10am (except this month July when it will be on the fifth Saturday - the 31st).

The Friends also has cups and saucers, dinner plates, pudding dishes, cutlery, and wine glasses which can be hired. Enquiries to the above telephone number.

John Chapman - chairman

Sun shines for Legion's fund raising

The Hoxne and District Branch of the Royal British Legion held its Summer Fete on July 3 at The Old Vicarage, Hoxne by kind permission of Rod and Carmel Searle. We were blessed with fine weather for the event which raised some £570 towards the branch's contribution to the Annual Poppy Appeal. I would like, on behalf of the branch, to thank everyone who supported the afternoon especially those who manned the various stalls and those 'operating' unseen in the background.

Recently we lost Eric Thompson, a long-standing member and friend, who passed away after a long illness. A Memorial Service was held at Hoxne on July 17 at which the Branch Standard was present.

Our next function is the Annual Dinner to be held at Syleham Village Hall on September 24 at 7pm. This a chance for members and supporters to gather and enjoy a social evening, so if you wish to join us please contact Bill Herrington (668703) or myself (01379 643393).

Once again I would like to thank everyone for the support shown to our cause in helping those in need as a result of serving our country.

Roger True

.....

Visitors pour in for gardens in full bloom

Many thanks for all the support given from our local villages to making Wingfield Open Gardens a successful event. Most of the gardens featured sculptures by leading artists from the eastern region and nationally, some of whom have exhibited internationally. The organisation was very much a joint effort of gardeners, sculptors and committee members of the Wingfield and District Garden Club and the stalwart efforts of Lesley Jackson and staff at Wingfield Barns.

We raised £1,901.47 which will be divided between St Andrew's Church, Wingfield and the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Wingfield College and Catelyns were overwhelmed with visitors - and special thanks go to the gardeners and their helpers for serving lunches, cream teas and cakes. Again, we had very good feedback from visitors over the quality of food

and service. One even asked if lunches were served every weekend!

The Wingfield Barns car park was packed to capacity over the two days and we had a huge number of visitors invading the village from as far as London, the north Norfolk coast, Norwich, Bury, Ipswich, Bawdsey and Dunwich. Darren and Carly, the new managers of the De La Pole Arms also had a busy weekend serving a multitude of visitors on both days.

Added bonuses were a Chamber Concert at Wingfield Barns, and a hog roast, on Sunday.

The next Wingfield Open Gardens is 2012, giving our gardeners and garden club committee a well earned rest. Last, but not least, the gardens were in full bloom and the weather performed well, making it a perfect weekend for viewing all 17 gardens at their best.

Rosemary Elliott

Pre-school learns from 'real-life'

St Edmund's Pre-school, Hoxne would like to welcome Owen to our group and also wish our school leavers a very happy time when they start their new schools in September. Goodbye and good luck to Coral, Grace, Rachel, Raisa and William – we will miss you all!

We are always on the look out for opportunities to support the children's learning with real-life situations. The last few months have given us some wonderful hands-on learning experiences.

We have been studying mini beasts and successfully reared and released some painted lady butterflies into the garden. We went on an amazing pond dipping expedition where the children discovered dragonfly nymphs, backswimmers, leeches and many other underwater mini beasts.

We also ventured further afield to Trinity Park, Ipswich for the Every Child a Talker Family Day where the children had a close encounter with



a Gruffalo!



Following the children's interests in police role-play we invited PC Long to call into pre-school and talk to the children about how the police help us.

We also had a visit from Sid, an ex-police dog and his owner John. The children were delighted to see Sid jump over obstacles and find a hidden ball.

We have also enjoyed our Sports Day run jointly with Little Treasures featuring events including the pram push and throw the teddy as well as old favourites such as beanbag on the head race and the egg and spoon!

We currently have vacancies for September and we can accept the new 15-hour a week funded sessions for all children aged three years plus. (We are open from September-Monday/Tuesday/Thursday 9.30am-3.30pm and Wednesday/Friday 9.30am-1pm).

Call Pre-school on 07910 8331949 to request a brochure or arrange a visit.



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Garden club sees pleasing growth

Hoxne Garden Club is growing at a very pleasing pace with more than ten new members joining since our annual meeting in March. Our membership now stands at 99 despite the loss of one or two original members.

In March we had a first class talk by Mrs M Griffiths of Harleston about her wartime experiences at Bletchley Park and this led to Phoenix and the Mothers' Union joining forces to arrange a visit to Bletchley Park in June which was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

In April we had a talk by Michael Stagg entitled Suffolk Images involving gardens, horticulture, woods and trees and once again this talk gained much approval by our members.

We had a tour of Christchurch Park Ipswich in May led by Shaun Taylor a member of the club which enlightened many of us with the history and up-to-date improvements which have taken place in the park over the years. In June we heard a talk by Mr C J Parfitt about the River Alde.

The Garden Party held in July at the home of Stuart and Eleanor Hart, Home Field House, Heckfield Green was a happy and enjoyable event. Thanks to Stuart and Eleanor.

For the future months Nigel Bradford is to give a talk on his Australian travels in the Outback covering the history of South Australia and the GHAN Railway to Alice Springs - (August 19 at the Village Hall)

The big event of the year is the Annual Flower and Produce Show to

be held at Hoxne Village Hall on Saturday September 4 at 2pm and opened by Mr Clive Digby, headmaster of Hoxne School. The school is participating and Sue Flagg is organising the event (668258). The schedule is available at Low Street Stores and we hope as many people as possible will participate in this event which is becoming ever more popular .

In September we have organised a day's outing to Houghton Hall; in October we have a talk on the 'Ottomans' in Turkey and in November, a member of the staff of Beales, Attleborough focuses on roses. To end the year we have our Christmas Dinner on December 3 at the Brome Grange.

RAMBLING. Roger Knight has taken over the rambling section of the club since March and the rambles are continuing to be a source of great enjoyment to all who participate. Average numbers for the last six months have been about 25. Rambles have taken place at Alburgh, South Elmham, Walsham le Willows, Badingham and an away day at Snape/Friston in July.

The next ramble is based on Hoxne in September (23rd) at the Swan and the final two rambles for 2010 are to be held at Sibton, near Peasenhall in October and Redgrave in November. There is a good lunch afterwards which is always very enjoyable.

We are always looking for new members either to the club or just for rambling. If interested please contact Nigel Bradford (668551) or Sue Flagg (668258).

NB

HSA gains all-round support

As another school year ends, Hoxne School Association can look back on a year of varied and well supported fundraising events. From the clay shoot in September, through various Christmas events, quiz nights, the summer fair and refreshments at sports day the HSA Committee, supported by parents, has raised significant funds which have been used to benefit every child at St Edmund's Primary School.

Over this year the HSA has donated £3,000 to the school for the purchase of additional laptop computers, with a further £3,000 being pledged from future fundraising events. £1,500 was made available to the school to purchase furniture for the refurbishment of Class 1 and the HSA paid for coaches to transport the whole school to London to see the Lion King as well as subsidising the tickets to allow all children to go.

The HSA has also supported various eco-projects at the school including a wormery, bird boxes and various gardening projects in the green area as well as a litter bin for the playground.

These are all things which enhance the learning experience of our children and we would like to thank both the parents and other members of the community who have supported our efforts by attending events and subscribing to the 100 Club.

Looking forward to the next school year, our first planned event is the annual clay shoot which will again be held at Oakley Park with the kind permission of Peter Saunders. This will be held on Sunday September 12 from 11am-5pm and is a fantastic event run by Richardsons of Halesworth. There are cash prizes, refreshments served all day and a popular raffle. Come along and see for yourself!

Can you be a friendly face?

Home-Start Mid Suffolk is a registered charity established over 26 years ago and needs volunteers to help offer support, friendship and practical help to families with young children. ■ Can you be that friendly face who can spend a couple of hours each week supporting families in need? ■ Are you a parent or do you have parenting/childcare experience? ■ Are you a person who has excellent listening skills? ■ Can you offer an extra pair of hands and give practical and emotional support? ■ Join a friendly team of volunteers. ■ Receive full training and opportunities of further training. ■ All expenses are paid. Our volunteers tell us it's one of the best things they have ever done!

A new 10 week/ 40 hour preparation course for volunteers starts on September 21.

If you are interested please contact Maria or Angela at:

office@homestartmidsuffolk.org.uk tel 01379 678552 / 07540 282074

Home-Start Mid Suffolk, Kerrison, Thorndon, Eye, Suffolk IP23 7JG

Volunteers will be required to have an enhanced CRB check, expenses for this will be met by Home-Start.

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Chairman re-elected

At the annual meeting on May 24, Philip Flagg was re-elected as Chairman and Ted O'Connor takes the role of Vice Chairman. Rod Searle remains responsible for planning with Stuart Jarrold as Deputy Planning Co-ordinator.

Tudor Close

The Parish Council is pleased that new properties in Tudor Close will be occupied in August and wishes everyone who successfully secured a house all the very best in their new home.

Look for an allotment?

If you are a keen gardener, or would like to give it a go, please register your interest in having an allotment within the village. The Parish Council will then collate requests and see if a suitable site can be acquired in the future. It would be preferable if you could email to register your interest to pc@hoxne.suffolk.gov.uk or telephone the clerk as below.

Seven applications

During May and June the Council considered seven planning applications. Details of these are included in the Parish Council minutes which can be found on the Hoxne website – hoxne.net

Welcome pack

Don't forget the Parish Council produces and delivers to everyone moving into the village a welcome pack. If you would like details of your organisation or business to be included in this please let the Clerk know.

Jubilee ideas?

Finally, looking forward to 2012 when the Queen will celebrate her Diamond Jubilee, if you have any ideas on how the village should commemorate this occasion, please get in touch with your suggestions.

Meeting dates

The Parish Council next meets on 16 August and 13 September at 7.30 pm at the Playingfield Pavilion. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**For more information please contact Philip Flagg, Chairman, Tel: 668258
or Sarah Foote, Clerk, Tel: 668031 or 07554 733621.
Email pc@hoxne.suff**

School has busy, busy term

We are fast approaching the end of yet another busy and productive term here at St Edmund's Primary School; soon it will be time to wave good bye to our Year 6's as they move on to their new high schools. The Year 6 pupils attended Crucial Crew at East Anglian Museum at Stowmarket where they learnt about how to cope with an emergency situation, personal hygiene, hazards within the home and outside, among other things.

Year 4 children (see right) joined together with Mendham and enjoyed a lovely night out under the stars. They had an outdoor dinner and an enjoyable night's sleep in their tents. While Year 3 children have been to Knettishall Heath (right) where they looked at the work of the artist Andrew Goldsworthy and used materials from the surrounding area to replicate his work and also took part in activities to promote their team building skills. Year 5 was involved in more team building activities with the pyramid of schools at Hartismere High School where they looked at shapes and construction of bridges also drama and art workshops.

The children took part in a drumming workshop led by Mr Gary Newland linked with the Hoxne Music Festival. Pupils also demonstrated their brass instruments and maypole dancing skills at the festival.

The whole school was invited to enjoy a morning learning circus tricks at a real big top Ferrel Circus. The children took part in small groups

learning how to juggle, spin plates (right) and walk on a low tight rope and much more. We've had another sporting term with KS2 pupils competing in the cross country at Mellis, athletics at Hartismere, sports afternoon for reception children at Wortham, camping and canoeing and sports day. Class 1 have enjoyed a lovely trip to Southwold in our recent summer sunshine too.

'Romans' visited us this term and talked about Roman life; they also demonstrated how Romans dressed. The whole school dressed up in traditional Roman clothes (right) also and this linked with their history work of Roman life and Boudicca.

We'd like to thank everyone who has supported the school this year either with help at more recently the very successful summer fair, by working in the green area or by attending our events. Big thank you to Claret who donated a ton of stone, which has been used in the green area. We've just added a new apple tree that we purchased with money raised during our recent 'green' day so look forward to tasting some Gala apples.

After the success of Cash4schools this term we plan to repeat it again on September 9. We have a new search engine to set up as your home page (if you would like to help support our school funds). By using it before you shop online you can help raise money for us without costing you a penny: www.stedmundshoxne.easysearch.org.uk

Julie Rogers

From the Junior Road Safety Officers

We travelled to Endeavour House, Ipswich with the JRSO's from Mendham School by train from Diss with Mrs Rogers and Mr Digby (below), we met other schools, looked at their road safety portfolios, we also went into a special conference room and had a chance to ask council leaders questions. We were presented with certificates for our portfolio work. This is our school's first year of having JRSO and we are thrilled to gain a Bronze Certificate. **DB&DB**



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NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

Hoxne, Denham, Syleham and Wingfield

Main contacts for anyone who needs to get in touch with a member of the clergy are:

Hoxne – Brian Chester, Flaxfield, Witton's Lane tel: 01379 669157

Denham – Barbara Irwin, Reading Hall tel: 01379 870500

Syleham – Marion Minns, Paramoosh, Pink Cottage tel: 01379 669262

Wingfield – John McCracken tel: 01379 384181



Times of worship • August - September 2010

August 1

Wingfield 10am Family Communion
Syleham 11am Morning Prayer
Hoxne 11.15am Holy Communion

August 8

Wingfield 10am Holy Communion
Hoxne 11.15am Morning Prayer

August 15

Wingfield 10am Family Service
and Holy Baptism
Syleham 10am Holy Communion
Hoxne 11.15am Holy Communion

August 22

Hoxne 10am Family Service
Syleham 10am Village Service
Wingfield 11am Morning Prayer

August 29

Hoxne 10am
Benefice Holy Communion
Laxfield 10.30am
Benefice Family Communion

September 5

Wingfield 10am Family Communion
Syleham 11am Morning Prayer
Hoxne 11.15am Holy Communion

September 12

Wingfield 10am Holy Communion
Hoxne 11.15am Morning Prayer

September 19

Syleham 10am Holy Communion
Wingfield 10am Family Service
Hoxne 11.15 Holy Communion

September 26

Syleham 10am Village Service
Hoxne 10am Family Service
Wingfield 11am Harvest Festival

■ **Essential repair work on
St John's Church at Denham
means services are presently being
replaced by home meetings.
August 22 - The Brambles at 3pm.**

**Week-day services with a focus on prayer are held at
Hoxne, second Tuesday at 9.30am; Denham on the third Tuesday at 9.30am;
Wingfield on Mondays at 12noon; Syleham on Tuesdays at 12noon.**

**The Vicarage, 2 Tansy Meadow, Fressingfield,
Eye, Suffolk IP21 5RQ**

Tel: 01379 586040 Email: susan.loxton@mypostoffice.co.uk

August 2010

Letter from your vicar....

‘O the country life for me’

I was showing off recently to my granddaughter as we were riding in the car near here. “Charlotte,” I said, “see that field on the left; that’s barley, and that field on the right; that’s wheat.” And a little later, “Charlotte, that field was bright yellow but now the flowers are gone, and see the little pods; they have seeds in that will be crushed and turned into oil; that’s called rape.”

See how much I have learnt!

A few days ago I had cause to be driving to another village at 6am (not a usual occurrence, thankfully). The roads were nice and quiet through lack of traffic but I was delighted to see many hares running from field to field – such a lovely sight. And the yellow rape has been replaced by fields of golden barley – breathtakingly beautiful.

Before the children broke up from school, I went into each of the three schools on my patch and told them the whole story from creation to Jesus in about eight minutes! The children joined in a chorus with me; words and actions. The writer of the story summarised God’s rules for living in four short sentences and although I can’t show you the actions I think the words are worth repeating:

Worship God

Respect yourself

Love one another

Make good use of the world

Now, let me look up that bird I saw yesterday in my book...Have a great summer; I’ll leave you with this lovely Celtic blessing:

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields

And until we meet again,

may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

love - Susan

Rev'd Susan Loxton (Tel: 01379 586040) is priest-in-charge of Denham, Fressingfield, Hoxne, Mendham, Metfield, Weybread and Withersdale

Rev'd Fiona Newton (Tel: 01986 798266) is priest-in-charge of Brundish, Cratfield, Laxfield, Syleham, Wilby and Wingfield and Rural Dean of the Hoxne Deanery

St Peter and St Paul, Hoxne

The church was filled with family and friends on June 25 for the memorial service for Mrs Betty Clark. Betty and her husband Harold moved to Hoxne 11 years ago, living in Nuttery Vale. Although Harold died in 2006, Betty continued to join in with many village activities including the Hoxne Garden and Theatre clubs and the Phoenix Group. She was also an artist and a member of the Dickleburgh Art Club. Tributes were paid to her at the service by her three children Chris, Simon and Liz. A cremation service had taken place at Norwich previously – a city in which Betty had lived earlier in her life followed by moves to Birmingham, Kent and Hereford. She was born in Watford in 1926.

Fete raises £1456

Saturday 19 June was not the most promising of days for a summer fête!

A chilly wind and frequent showers did their best to dampen down our best efforts. Well, they failed!

Granted the take was a bit down on the last couple of years, but success is not always measured by financial reward. Community spirit is actually what it's all about and we had that in abundance, from Susan Loxton's 'Visitation from on High' to a record 'breaking' china stall, and praiseworthy defiance of the elements all round. A new addition for thrill seekers was, quite literally, the high spot! Alan and Joan Garnham's cherry picker, under the careful hand of Geoff, proved to be a real knee-trembler and was at full stretch all afternoon. In spite of a mechanical breakdown, the organ-grinder and some helpful monkeys kept the kids dancing; cakes were covered and uncovered; plants a-plenty; bottles beat best before and altogether it was a better result than we could have

CHURCH NEWS

hoped for raising a total of £1,456.71 Setting up and clearing up is always the bane of any fête but once again a sturdy team made light work of these chores. Thank you all so much for transforming a dull day into a happy and profitable one.

Mothers' Union

Mother's Union meets at 2pm on the third Monday of the month at Time House, Low Street.

August Thursday 19 we have an Archdeaconry Day at Hacheston Church and hall 11am-4.30pm. There will be speakers including Val Jeffries our new president. Lunch will be provided, a service, MU merchandise, 'bring and buy' and news from our work around the diocese and beyond.

At our September meeting on Monday 20 at 2pm we hope that Chris Lowe will be with us to speak about her travels and MU work in Dover.

The sum of £88 was raised for the Mount Kilimanjaro climbers in June. This money goes to the 'Wheels Appeal' to help towards the travel costs of our development workers.

Four members joined the coach trip from Suffolk, to attend the annual Conference at Preston in June. This was very interesting and enjoyable and we made new contacts and met up with old friends not to mention the very comfortable hotel.

On Thursday August 5, Fressingfield branch is holding a Garden Meeting and 'What the MU is about' at the Vicarage, Fressingfield at 2.30pm. Susan Loxton will be the speaker and our president Val Jeffries will be there. Anyone interested in the work of the MU is welcome to attend. There will be a bring and buy for the Home Start scheme and a cake and pro- ►►

duce stall for the MU 'Wheels Appeal'.

**Cathie McGregor, enrolling member
01379 668434**

Flower rota

August 1 (with July 25)

Altar - Eleanor Hart

Porch - Isabel Draper

August 8 and 15

Altar - Sue Thornett

Porch - Josephine Marsh - Feiley

August 22 and 29

Wedding flowers.

September 5 and 12

Altar - Sarah Buckley

Porch - Cathie McGregor

September 19 and 26

Altar - Suzanne Lewis

Porch - Cathie McGregor

The church harvest festival will be on October 3 and the list will be sent out in early September. Thank you to all flower arrangers who continue to provide welcoming flowers for visitors to the church.

Cathie McGregor 01379 668434

St John, Denham

Building work has finally started on the repairs to St John's in Denham, and as a result the monthly services have been abandoned in favour of a monthly Bible study. Through the summer we are meeting in homes and gardens in Denham to consider The Second Epistle of Peter, each month we will read and discuss a separate section of this short letter and consider its message for us today. Please join us for the August meeting which will be at 3pm on Sunday August 22 at The Brambles, Church Road, IP21 5DE when we read 2 Peter 2:1-22 and consider "the surprising virtue of intolerance".

The builders have removed the church roof, and found more rot than they had anticipated, and discovered that the west wall is more fragile than previously con-

sidered, but the repairs continue, and we hope and pray that the work will be completed on time and within our financial constraints.

St Margaret, Syleham

Safari Supper

A really great evening, with several newcomers to the village joining in. Thank you to Ian and Jean Marshall for organising it all. Thank you to all the hosts and to all who donated such lovely raffle prizes, £461 was raised for the fabric fund.

Church tower

An inspection, using a cherry picker, was carried out by our architect; this is part of the Quinquennial report estimated at the time as indicating costs of £30,000, so please support our fundraising efforts.

Church Fete

August 7, 2 – 5 pm at Monk's Hall, Syleham. Cream Teas, Jewellery Stall, Books and Bric a Brac, Cake Stall, Tombola, Bowling for The Hamper, Raffles, Decorate a Bun for Children, plus children's games and lots more for both adults and children. Do support us; contributions to stalls are very welcome. Telephone 669262 if you need them collected. All proceeds to the fabric fund.

We have received a donation of dollars for our fabric fund from the Fisher family in America; how kind of them to continue to support us. The family left Syleham for America in the 1500's!

The summer lunch raised £570 for general funds. Thank you to all who came and all the helpers. We were blessed again with lovely sunshine. Marquees kept us in the shade in the lovely garden at Monk's Hall.

Cheese and wine at the old vicarage by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Colin Campbell. Results will be announced in the next *Village Voice*.

St Andrew, Wingfield

We had a scorcher for our **Open Gardens** weekend, and over £1,900 was raised, to be divided between St Andrew's and the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Our **Animal Service** on 20 June was very well attended – no less than five horses brought their owners, some of them with accompanying conveyances, and we saw smaller creatures as well, such as a pair of canaries. Needless to say, the service took place in the churchyard rather than inside the church. As one member of the congregation remarked: 'It seemed like the sort of gathering that Jesus would have held'.

The collection for the service has been donated to the BBC Wildlife Fund. Wingfield and District Local History

CHURCH NEWS

Society has begun a timeline, showing events in the village alongside those in the wider world, and this is on display in the church. Thanks to David Young and Sally Allmey for their work.

The vicar's last piano lesson was greatly enjoyed, and will be repeated. A recital in the offering soon?

Forthcoming events include a **Harvest Sausage and Mash Supper** to be held in the church on Saturday September 25, followed by the Harvest Festival service on the 26th. We also plan a **Talent Evening** in September and another car treasure hunt in the autumn – watch this space!

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Planning: Recent applications:

0750/10 Former Broadwater Mouldings site, Horham Road (Hoxne) (Change of use of land and buildings from plastics manufacturing to storage of raw materials and manufactured goods). Granted by MSDC (The Parish Council considered that more information was necessary on various aspects of the application particularly the proposals for third party use

1094/10 (LBC) Mill Farm Hoxne Road (Replacement of reed thatch with long straw thatch) & 1098/ 10 Mill Farm, Hoxne Road (Fence round pond and bridge over). These applications have been granted by MSDC (The Parish Council decided to recommend approval in each case.)

0724/10 Land alongside A140 Ipswich Road, Eye (Two wind turbines and ancillary works) Granted by MSC. (The Council raised no objection to these proposals)

0096/10 Airfield Industrial Estate, Eye. The (revised) application has been withdrawn by the applicant.

Visit to Roger Skinner Ltd, Stradbroke.

Councillors were welcomed to The Mills by Mr. Skinner and members of his team on the 8th June. The visit included a presentation, a tour of the factory and a valuable and helpful opportunity to discuss and ask questions about their current operation, as well as plans for the Hoxne/Denham site (formerly Broadwater Mouldings) both in the short term when it will be used only for storage and in the longer term as their main manufacturing facility.

Parish Plan Public Meeting

A public meeting will be held in the autumn to gauge support for the development of a Parish Plan for Denham and if successful to get the process started. A parish plan is based on a comprehensive survey of the wishes and aspirations of residents for the village and the subsequent report and action plan could provide a strong case for the sustainability and funding of new initiatives and of course equally can provide a potent tool with which to oppose unwanted change. Please look out for a flier in Village Voice giving further details.

Speedwatch

Following a discussion at the Annual Meeting when the SNT representative explained the purpose and working of the Speedwatch scheme Denham Parish Council has contacted neighbouring parishes to explore the possibility of a joint initiative to deter speeding in the villages. Under the scheme Councils can share the cost of detection equipment (which is operated by teams of volunteers who have received training from Suffolk Police). An update will appear in the next edition.

Litter Pick

It was hoped to decide at the July meeting a date for a new litter pick of the whole village to be held later in the summer. If you are interested in taking part please contact the Chairman (668281) or the Clerk.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 1st June and included the Parish Council Chairman's review of the year and reports from the police Safer Neighbourhood Team, Neighbourhood Watch, Denham Church and the Friends of Denham Church and the Village Hall.

The Village Hall has seen an encouraging rise in bookings and substantial improvements to the Hall have been made particularly for disabled access.

The Church is due to be closed for 16 weeks for repairs but services will be held



during the summer in various homes across the village. The Friends who continue to raise funds for the Church will now be a sub committee of the PCC.

Neighbourhood Watch: every effort is made to attend the monthly SNT Tasking meetings at which priorities for local policing are set. A common theme is speeding in villages (See item on Speedwatch above.)

The SNT reported a marginal increase in recorded crime but the detection rate remained high. A new area based response to 999 calls, coupled with new technology should enable a response on site within a maximum of 15 minutes.

As in 2009, it was hoped that the Red Feather Club and others unable to be present at the APM would instead be able to give their reports at the July Parish Council meeting.

Annual Parish Council Meeting

At the Annual Parish Council meeting held immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting, Councillor Ray Keeble was re-elected as Chairman. Election of a vice-chairman was deferred to the July meeting. The Clerk presented a summary of accounts and budget forecast. The annual return was approved at the extra meeting on 30th June.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 29th September at 19.30 in the Village Hall. (A report on the July meeting will appear in the next edition)

For further information please contact David Jenvey, Clerk (01379 388184).

.....

Be in fashion with Phoenix

Ladies – two dates for your diaries from the Hoxne Phoenix Group. We will be holding a Fashion Show with clothes by Artichoke on Tuesday September 28 at 7.30pm in St Edmund’s Hall; there will be light refreshments and a glass of wine or fruit juice. Tickets – available from members in August – are priced £6. All are welcome.

The group has also decided on a date and venue for Christmas shopping – Monday November 15 at Colchester. The time of leaving the village and price of the coach will be in the October/November issue of Village Voice. Our speaker for August is Jenny Gibbs who will tell us about rural life in Turkey. The meeting will be in the lounge of St Edmund’s Hall

on Tuesday the 10th at 7.30pm – visitors are welcome at £2 per person. We are all feeling very sad at the death of Mrs Betty Clark. Betty was a very enthusiastic Phoenix member, always ready to help and her birthday buttonholes were always admired. Betty will be greatly missed in our group.

.....

■ HSA Lottery results for the last three months of the school year are:
June: £20 - Allen Burridge, £15 - Mark Goddard, £10 - W and S Foote.
July: £20 - Dawn Lodge, £15 - Mr and Mrs Read, £10 - Gail Jarman.
Aug: £20 - L.Schofield, £15 - A.Liversidge, £10 - Mr and Mrs P Thomson.
Thanks to all for your support and hoping you will be able to continue when we collect in September for another lottery year.

Theatre club's successful run

Since our last report in the February/March issue of the Village Voice the Hoxne Theatre Club has completed a very successful six-month programme, well supported by our members. The visit to the Royal Albert Hall in March to see a *Classical Spectacular* was a great success and our full coach came back home very much 'on a high'. *French without Tears* and the *History Boys*, both seen in Norwich, were also great entertainment and enjoyed by all.

In July, our usual visit to Cromer's *End of the Pier Show* was a full coach once again after so many years. The Pitch and Putt Brigade enjoyed themselves to the full and the fish and chip supper ended yet another good day out.

We are holding our Annual Dinner on Saturday August 7 at Hoxne Village Hall at 7pm for 7.30pm to celebrate our 24 th Anniversary. There will be free wine at the table and pre-dinner drinks as you arrive and of course entertainment to complete the evening. If you would like to come along with a club member please do not to hesitate to book with us.

On September 22 we are visiting the Theatre Royal Norwich to see a matinee performance of *Carrie's War*, a war-time story of two children packed off to the Welsh mining valleys and living through extraordinary events.

In December we have once again arranged to visit Thursford, at popular request, with a stop at Holt on the way for Christmas shopping and lunch. The date is Tuesday December 7 leaving Hoxne in the morning for a full day out. Our programme for October and November has yet to be completed but will be published as soon as we can.

If you have any enquiries or wish to join the Theatre Club, please get in touch with Nigel or Viv Bradford(668551) or Doreen Weller (668291).

A date to book for annual bike ride

Just a note for your diaries that the annual bike ride for Suffolk Historic Churches is on Saturday, 11 September this year.

Churches will be open from 9am to 5pm to sign you in. Sponsor forms etc. will shortly be available from John Ball at Abbey Farm, Hoxne (668222) for Hoxne riders. Please support this most enjoyable and worthwhile event.

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Churchyard clearance 'makes space'

Recent clearance work in Hoxne churchyard has made way for approximately 60 additional grave spaces which, hopefully, will ensure that burials can be accommodated for the rest of this decade and beyond. Grateful thanks are recorded to Hoxne Parish Council and The Friends of St Peter & St Paul for funding the hire of equipment for this long overdue task. In future, a receptacle will be provided for the disposal of detritus i.e. dead flowers, ribbons, etc. Please use it.

At the moment the cleared area looks a bit scruffy as the ground was rock hard. As soon as there has been appreciable rainfall, it will be levelled off and seeded with grass which will much improve the appearance of the churchyard. However, maintenance is becoming an increasing problem for an 'ancient thin red line' and any volunteers, even on an occasional basis, would be welcomed with open arms. The kit is all to hand – mowers, strimmers, etc. If you can spare an hour now and then, please contact either churchwarden, Brian or John, or any member of the PCC.

NB: John Brawn has undertaken a complete survey and update of the burial records, which is no mean undertaking as these date back to previous centuries and have not always been fully recorded. So, for the time being, plot reservations have been suspended but don't worry, we'll find you a spot when you need it! John's number is 668352.

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Gardeners view the best (after the worst)

The Wingfield and District Gardening Club's meeting on June 30, was an evening visit to members' gardens under the title *Gardens at their Best*, the same gardens we visited in February (*Gardens at their Worst*). Four gardens were seen before night fell, but a very pleasant (cool) evening was had by 18 club members and guests. Our July meeting was a visit to Blacksmith's Cottage Nurseries on the 21st, an evening visit. In August, a visit to Fairhaven Trust Garden in Norfolk has been arranged for Saturday 28 while in September, Mr Michael Harvey will speak to us about the Abbey Wood community project, and about trees in general, date to be arranged. For details of meetings etc., please phone 01379 384259 or 384525.

Graham Redelsperger (chairman)

.....

Wayne's gardening tips

August - complete your trimming of hedges, evergreen shrubs grown as hedges or topiary specimens. Keep trapping earwigs on Chrysanthemum buds. Put a straw-filled plant pot on a cane; the pots are emptied daily and pests destroyed. Clear out split cucumbers.

September - plant spring cabbages. Most rambler roses will have finished flowering and may be pruned. Shelter tender plants that have been outdoors during the summer months. Enjoy the rest of the summer. More from me next time. **Wayne Page**

.....

James Govier, the painter, etcher and engraver who lived in Hoxne, would have celebrated his centenary on the 1st of August. He studied at the famous Swansea School and Royal College of Art. From 1947-1965 he was the art master at Eye Grammar School and resided in Hoxne from 1950 until his death in 1974. Initially James and his wife Freda made their home at Rose Cottage and briefly at Langley, Cross Street before moving to The Retreat, Heckfield Green. James produced a number of drawings and

paintings of Hoxne and would be seen drawing, painting and sketching around the village. A new colour postcard featuring a view of the village from Oak Hill will be published soon to be followed by a new history book on Hoxne featuring further examples of his work. In 2011 a retrospective exhibition of his work will be held in Suffolk. Further details about James Govier can be found on the internet.

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First XI hold on; 2ndXI go up

The AFC Hoxne annual meeting and presentation evening were both held over a ten-day period in June.

The club secretary, Fiona Chapman, reported that the 1st XI narrowly avoided relegation from division 2 of the Saturday Ipswich Football League. The 2nd XI however, won promotion from division 4.

The treasurer, Gail Jackson, stated that the finances were in a much healthier state than a year ago. This was mainly because of the highly successful race evening in October.

Chairman, Pat Haydon, praised the efforts of the respective management team, Paul Chapman and Lee Brown

(1st XI), as well as Lee Lucraft and Barry Garland of the 2nd XI.

Officers elected were: President, Clive Baxter; Chairman, Pat Haydon; Vice-chairman, Richard Farthing; Secretary, Fiona Chapman; Treasurer, Gail Jackson; 1st XI Manager, Paul Chapman; 2nd XI Manager Lee Lucraft; committee officers, Barry Garland, Nigel Woodhouse and Daniel Burton.

The award winners at the presentation evening were 1st XI: Reese Palfrey (player of the year); James Harrison (manager player) and James Chapman (most improved player). 2nd XI: Adam Hall (player's player); Lee Clements (manager's player) and Will Frost (most improved player).

The President, Clive Baxter's clubman of the year award, went to first team coach, Lee Brown, while Sam Martin, was selected as clown of the year.

Pre-season training began in mid July, and the new league season starts on August 24.

Clive Baxter, president



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Hoxne bounces back in fly-plagued contest

The Hoxne Bowls team arrived by coach at Great Yarmouth sea front prepared to enjoy a cup of tea and a bacon butty. However, it was the bowlers that were about to be devoured. Attracted by the freshly washed and pressed bright white shirts and blouses, a plague of sand flies descended upon the teams from Stradbroke White Hart, Dennington, Bedingfield, Fressingfield, Laxfield and Hoxne, who prepared to do battle in the annual Mid Suffolk League's Yarmouth Tournament. The scene was like Morris dancing without the music as bowlers danced around waving hankies, hats and bowls cloths to fight off the little devils. Once the bowls commenced, Hoxne found they were up against more than the flies, suffering a heavy defeat to the eventual runaway winners, Laxfield. However, the Hoxonians bounced back and were just pipped to second place by Dennington.

After enjoying beautiful seaside fish and chips and a stop for a little liquid refreshment on the journey home. the bowlers of Hoxne tucked themselves up in bed to reflect on a day of good bowling, laughs with friends, old and new, sun and sea air to boot. (The flies almost forgotten now)

The Hoxne team has several new bowlers and this years creditable performance at Yarmouth has been reflected in the Mid Suffolk League itself where the team finished comfortably in mid table.

Two of our more experienced members, Maurice Hurry and Alan Garnham, have reached the County Area semi finals in the men's pairs and we wish them well in that competition.

The club has one of, if not the best, greens in the county and will host the finals weekend for the Upper Waveney League competitions this year.

We are always ready to welcome anyone who thinks they may like to take up the sport. For more information contact club secretary: Roger Knight on 01379 668403.



■ *A little reluctantly I joined the coach for the annual Hoxne Bowls Club outing to Great Yarmouth for the Mid Suffolk Bowls Ass. & League, Tournament. Encouraged to support the team by bowl's player, husband Mike, we dutifully rose early to be picked up by the coach at 8am outside Hoxne Primary School.*

Knowing absolutely nothing about the wherewithal of bowls I had to admit the players looked marvellous in their white shirts and grey trousers. I even sat and watched as the teams gathered before taking myself off for some much promised shopping. The day rushed by with the six teams, all from local villages, pacing up and down the greens, intent on winning the tournament. Thanks to some wonderful sunshine I struck out for the sea enjoying the feel of sand between my toes and a quick paddle. On the way home, a glass or two was raised at the Flixton Buck to celebrate Hoxne's very respectable third place, with, as an extra bonus, traditional jazz playing in the background.

Jan Murray

SYLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Chairman Mr J Leader

The Police continue to patrol our area and PCSO Long warns against leaving windows open in vulnerable spots. We are pleased that there have been no reported crimes.

Distraction burglaries – be warned! Last time we warned of car park distractions. Now the police report a number of incidents within the County of elderly people being conned by people claiming to be from utility companies. They repeat their warnings always to check identities – and remind us to watch out for elderly neighbours.

Energy saving – News is still awaited on whether or not a hydro-electricity scheme is likely to be feasible; there is (no surprise here!) a great deal of documentation to complete.

Oil purchasing scheme – There was considerable interest at the time of the Parish Plan survey in setting up a group to buy oil at a discount price. One of the parish councillors would be willing to co-ordinate a scheme but needs to know how many households would actually want to participate; if you are interested, please let the Parish Clerk know and details will be passed on.

Recycling facility – a survey of needs and opinions is awaiting some expected funding – but you will be asked for your views in due course. Thank you for your patience!

Footpath survey – The Parish Council is very grateful to volunteers who will be surveying our footpaths and reporting on walking conditions and the state of repair of any bridges. They will also report on dog fouling on paths and, if there appears to be a problem area, a waste bin may be considered.

Hedgerow survey – Grateful thanks to volunteers from a neighbouring parish who are helping Mr Leader with this survey.

Craft Club – Not a Parish Council thing but a new and enjoyable initiative for Syleham! A craft group will be meeting in the Village Hall on the third Thursday every month at 1.30pm. Phone 668251 for more details.

**Next Meeting:
Wednesday 8th September at 7.30pm.**

**Clerk: Mrs M Lewis 01379 669258
pc@syleham.suffolk.gov.uk**

Say cheese?

Photography is an increasingly popular pursuit - but so often the results fail to meet our expectations. Steve Hickman has some top tips.

In the first of an occasional series of articles on photography, local portrait photographer Steve Hickman gives some hints and tips on getting that perfect solo or group portrait.

Try an experiment: analyse your mouth as you say 'cheese'. You start with a trout-pout, then a split second later you are Coco the Clown. Not exactly natural, informal or spontaneous. But how can you get these qualities in your people-shots? Here are my top five tips- based on my experience photographing dozens of Norfolk and Suffolk babies, toddlers, teens and adults every week!

1. Communicate with your sitters.

Don't ask them to say cheese- ask them what their favourite food is. The example family group here decided that their favourite food was KFC chicken bits- this set the little girl off into a fit of giggles which was all I needed to get everybody happy at the same moment- CLICK!

2. When photographing a couple or a parent with a child, you can get more intimacy into the shot by getting them to look adoringly at each other, and not at the camera.

3. Solo portraits can sometimes be more dramatic if the sitter is looking out of the frame. Try getting them to stand and look

over their shoulder, or face them away from the camera and catch them in profile as they turn their upper body towards you.

4. For perfect child photos, get down to their eye level and give them something to play with - a favourite toy, an apple, some bubbles. If all else fails with toddlers, and you are desperate for a smile, make a funny noise, put on a ridiculous hat- or get somebody just out of frame to tickle them!

5. Trade secret: for a large group, there always seems to be somebody blinking. So ask everybody to close their eyes tight and open them wide on the count of 3. OK, get ready with your finger on the shutter. 1, 2, 3, 4..... CLICK! Sorted!

Next time, I'll look at selecting the ideal location for your people-shots.



■ Family and solo portrait sittings are available from [steve hickman photoart](http://stevehickmanphotoart.com).

Photoshoots are arranged at your own home using portable studio equipment and rates start from just £40 for a 90 minute shoot including around 200 high resolution images on CD or memory stick for you to print from. Or [steve hickman photoart](http://stevehickmanphotoart.com) can arrange professionally printed enlargements or canvases from the images.

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children for a farewell family dinner, and chose us as suitable guests, being of the same age and idealistic outlook.

After coffee, he took John to Entebbe Airport through the back way as Special Branch were waiting at the lodge to pick him up. John was working for an African Co-operative which aimed to give growers a fairer price for their cotton and coffee than the Asian middlemen, an activity seen in the 50s as dangerously political and not progressive by the powers that be.

I am sure older readers will recall what happened to Stonehouse. He became an MP and Minister in Wilson's government, launched a bank intended to help the new country of Bangladesh, went to the wall, and disappeared, thought to have committed suicide by drowning.

Unfortunately for him the Australians were looking for Lord

Lucan who had also gone missing, and mistakenly arrested Stonehouse, sending him back to England to face the music.

The co-incidence is that the night he went missing, his daughter Jane, not a friend, was by chance at a dinner party with my son, who was unaware that we too had had dinner with her as a small child, and during the meal her mother rang to tell her that her father had disappeared.

Wanting to find out more about Stonehouse I bought his autobiography, 'Death of an Idealist' for 1p from Amazon.

From this sad story, written in prison, I discovered that his first job was Probation Officer, yet another coincidence perhaps. There are so many, all as yet unexplained, leading to much speculation about the known unknowns. TG

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WINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Michael Harvey

New Councillor. The Council is pleased to welcome Mike Allmey as a new member of the Council. Mr. Allmey was co-opted on 27th May thus returning the Council to full strength.

Annual Parish Meeting At the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th May the Chairman presented his review of the Parish Council's year and reports were presented by or received from our County Councillor, the police Safer Neighbourhood Team and local community groups and organisations including St Andrews Church, the newly reconstituted Wingfield Barns, the Village Hall, the Ramblers and Friends of the Arts in Wingfield. We were particularly pleased to welcome the Local History Group, and the Gardening Club both newly formed and reporting to the Annual Meeting for the first time. All recorded good progress and positive plans for the future as part of an encouraging picture of thriving community life in the village. County Councillor Guy McGregor said that Suffolk had the lowest increase in council tax this year, achieved against a background of services rated as high quality and amongst the most cost efficient in the country. However he drew particular attention to the extremely severe financial constraints which will affect the County this year and beyond with major reductions in central government funding which will necessitate a fundamental reappraisal of ways of working, increased sharing of services and cooperation with Town and Parish councils.

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting (following directly after the Parish Meeting), Councillors Michael Harvey and Lee Smith were re-elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively. The Clerk presented a summary of the accounts and forecast for 2010/2011. The accounts and annual return were approved at the meeting on 28th June.

Travellers Encampment on Wingfield Green

As reported in the previous edition established procedures were followed under which the travellers were given a deadline to leave the Green, failing which legal action to evict would be instigated through Suffolk County Council. Although there was some delay the process worked effectively and we are grateful for the assistance of the County legal department. However it is disappointing to note that once again considerable mess was left behind. Arrangements were being put in hand for the removal of rubbish from the Green but at the time of writing it was understood that MSDC would be unable to assist in cleaning up the adjoining private land. Nevertheless we would like to thank Mrs. Gibson-Harries for her efforts in raising the matter on our behalf

Abbey Wood On the 4th July Mrs. Gibson-Harries formally opened the wonderful new community woodland near to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gee to whom particular thanks are due. Progress reports on this initiative, which has involved the planting of well over one thousand mainly deciduous trees, and shrubs of native species have appeared in earlier editions.

Next Meeting. The next ordinary (scheduled) meeting of the Council will be held on 8th September (venue to be confirmed). This meeting is expected to include an agenda item covering a number of issues associated with the management of the Green.

For further information: please contact David Jenvey, Clerk (01379 388184)

Welcome to Mick Glynn's Health and Fitness Column

Kids Stuff

At last the sun is shining, the summer holidays just around the corner and a great opportunity for parents to encourage good eating habits and plenty of activity.

Due to these alarming statistics, experts are warning that for the first time, there's a very real chance that parents could start outliving their offspring, due to obesity-related diseases such as cancer and heart disease. Eating a healthy and balanced diet is very important during childhood because it helps to establish long term healthy eating habits, as well as ensuring optimum weight, growth and bone strength.

So let's exchange the bad for the good!

OUT WITH THE OLD.....

Burger, chips, beans

Sugary cereal, fruit juice

Salty crisps

Fizzy drinks

Sausages, potato waffles

AND IN WITH THE NEW.....

Chicken and sweetcorn burgers, potato wedges in their skins and beans.

Fresh fruit, melon, pineapples, guava, glass of milk, muesli.

Sweet potato wedges (lightly spiced), crispy vegetable batons.

Fruit juices mixed with sparkling spring water.

Grilled chicken and vegetable kebabs, onion mash.

Make fitness or activity fun.. *Kids are naturally active, so it shouldn't really need too much encouragement.*

Kite flying, cycling, country walks, games of rounders, frisbee, miniature golf or pitch and putt. Something the whole family can take part in, so if your children are not particularly sporty, don't despair, just getting them to help around with the housework, do the shopping, or walk to school is a great way to get their muscles and heart working.

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Names from the past...

Graham Baron Ash [1889-1980] of Wingfield Castle

My first meeting with Graham Baron Ash at Wingfield Castle was as a young boy with my grandmother Olive Tye, who was one of the teachers at Wingfield School. We had cycled to the castle and were given a guided tour of the property, with Mr Ash.

My second meeting with Baron Ash was when he gave me 2/6 to spend at Wingfield Vicarage Fete during the early 1960s. He was a generous benefactor to the school and village and to other charitable causes and restoration projects.

Baron Ash as he was commonly known helped to restore Packwood House in Warwickshire which had been purchased by his father Alfred in 1903. Graham had inherited Packwood House in 1925 which he presented to the National Trust in 1941 after years of restoration work. Baron Ash continued to live at Packwood House until he decided to move away to Suffolk. In 1943 Baron Ash resided briefly at Abbey Farm in Hoxne and lodged at The Scole Inn, before moving into Wingfield Castle on a forty-year lease as the tenant of the Adair family who owned the Castle. Baron Ash helped to restore the castle and filled it with treasures in the form of paintings, furniture, tapestries, ceramics and objects of interest.

I visited the castle again during the early 1970s as an art student and was allowed to take some photographs and make drawings of the house and surrounding buildings during the 1970s and up until Baron's death in 1980. I was shown an album of photographs showing the castle before its restoration and after the restoration work, Baron Ash had carried out. By 1947 the castle was habitable again and Graham

Baron Ash moved in to his new home. Looking back, I suppose that Graham Baron Ash was an English eccentric, with a passion for restoring old houses and collecting antiques and enjoyed his solitary existence. He was a very well educated and knowledgeable man on a number of subjects and had travelled throughout the world. In 1938 he had been appointed High Sheriff of Warwickshire, having put his name forward for election. This was a bit of a surprise as he didn't like to be in the public eye.

He never married and lived a reclusive life as a bachelor initially being looked after by his housekeeper Dorothy Eden and then by his butler Stanley and male servant Mr Hall. His nearest relatives were his sister Betty [Mellor] and niece Buntly. In 1967 on the 4th of October the auctioneers Christies sold part of the collection housed at Wingfield Castle and on the 30th of May 1980 another sale disposed of the remaining collection which had been put together by Graham Baron Ash.

Graham Baron Ash died at Wingfield on the 20th of February 1980 aged 91 and his ashes were buried in the family grave at St Giles Church, Packwood. A service of remembrance was held at St Andrew's in Wingfield and another at Norwich Cathedral.

His obituary was written by his friend Thomas W Ferrers-Walker of Baddesley Clinton Hall and is mentioned in passing in the preface of the 1980 Wingfield Castle sale catalogue.

The Ash family can trace their origins back to Richard Ash of Ashby de la Zouch in Leicestershire, who bore arms in the 1530s. The family fortune was secured by ►►

▶▶ Joseph Ash [1825-1915] and his son Alfred [1859-1925] who produced galvanized iron products in Birmingham. In the Easter of 1984 Gerald Fairhurst who had purchased the castle in 1982 opened up Wingfield Castle to the public after two years of restoration and refurbishment. The castle was sold again in 1987 and 1989.

Wingfield Castle has been featured in the Country Life Magazine in 1932 and in the following books - Suffolk Houses, Suffolk Excursions by Thomas Kitson Cromwell in 1819, North East Suffolk by Alan Jobson, East Suffolk Illustrated by HR Barker in 1908, Great Medieval Houses of England and Wales by Anthony Emery and of course Wingfield its Church Castle and College by SWH Aldwell which was published in 1925.

Details about Graham Baron Ash can be found in the guide book to Packwood House and in The Baron of Packwood by Mike Miles which was published in 2004. A current exhibition at Packwood House features the world tour of Graham Baron Ash and artefacts collected during his travels.

The Ash family motto, Non nobis sed omnibus in Latin can be translated in English to, Not for us alone, but for everyone. This rings true to the generosity

shown by Baron Ash in giving Packwood House to the National Trust and in his bequests to projects which appealed to his sense of preserving art and restoring architecture.

Wingfield Castle became his retreat, repository and setting for his collections. In the grounds were a set of stone statues of the four seasons purchased from Brome Hall and a marble bust of a Roman emperor, probably taken from Oakley Park in Hoxne. The library included a number of books on East Anglia, numerous art books and two illustrated scrap books. Included in the sale of drawings and prints was a view of the castle by Samuel and Nathaniel Buck dated 1738 and a view of the castle by Robert Clump dated 1812. Stained glass panels were inserted into the windows of the castle and came from various sales. The restoration of Wingfield Castle was carried out with great thought and care using appropriate building materials. The building work was carried out by Reades of Aldeburgh under the direction of the site foreman Charles Rouse. *Stephen Govier [Hoxne July 2010].*

If you would like a historical article written about Denham, Hoxne, Syleham or Wingfield or have any information or old village or family photos please contact me on 01379 668532



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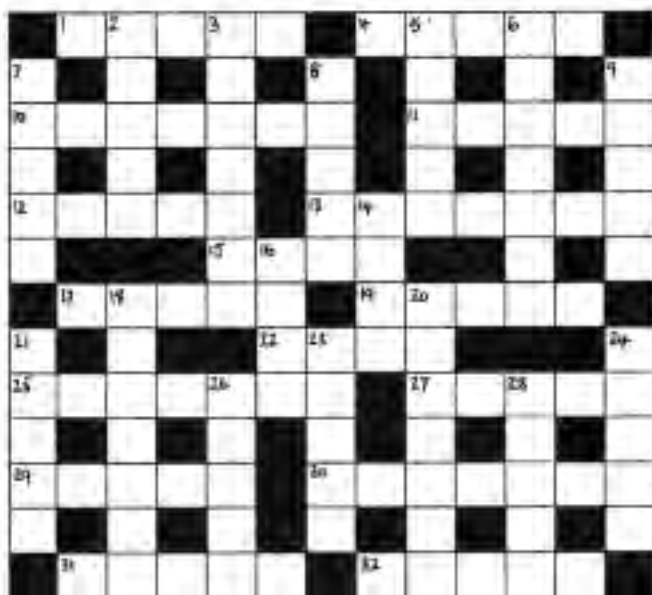
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 77

The prize for the first correct solution spread to crossword puzzle No. 76 went to Mrs Juliette Eady of Town Farm, Botolph Claydon. The solution appears below.



ACROSS

DOWN

- 8 Once there were CXXL in a pound (5)
- 4 Unwell in case of historians for high ground (5)
- 10 Rare gear around to ergatics (7)
- 11 Hasty permission to depart (5)
- 12 Froggy company holding tattered rug (5)
- 13 Adult pig worm out (5,2)
- 15 Truck Neil stiffs (4)
- 17 Keen to agree differently (5)
- 19 Decorous salutes after a party (5)
- 22 Monster from the bag reclaimed (4)
- 25 Melody follows pen back to the goal (7)
- 27 Asses that stallion holds one (5)
- 29 Roughly C or Re (5)
- 10 Stroked fish for tug master (7)
- 11 Fruit found in September (ryegrass) (5)
- 12 Insurers in prisoner's room, five (5)

- 2 Eastern bishop alternative (5)
- 5 Comfort part meaning on the Solent (7)
- 3 Snow Botic (5)
- 6 Left breadwinner to be paid (7)
- 7 Trap an approaching church (5)
- 8 Rule assembled Niger (5)
- 9 Files change shape (5)
- 14 Rare confusion at the back (4)
- 16 Press an element (4)
- 18 Saucier a very quiet over, somehow (7)
- 20 I've followed dirty code to instead (7)
- 21 Need we hear massage? (5)
- 23 Avian warblers (5)
- 24 Trickle from side-association skill (5)
- 26 Race somehow having motorbike race, say (5)
- 28 Hintify a quiet friend (5)

SOLUTION TO PUZZLE NO. 76



If you would like to enter the crossword competition, send your solution to the editor by 1st Sept. 2010. The first correct solution to be spread will receive a cash prize of £10.

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1st October (copy by 8th Sept., please)
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