

Village Voice

March 2011

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.114

Be a Councillor

The last four years on the Parish Council have been eventful and have had their successful moments. For all the councillors I am sure these four years of monthly meetings with their debates, disagreements and consensus opinions and village initiatives have been a rewarding experience.

Now a new Council will be elected in May. Nomination papers can be obtained from the clerk, Wendy Kitchener (01767 313766). They have to be handed in to the District Council Offices in Letchworth by April 4th.

a chance to care for Hinxworth

Being a Councillor is a wonderful opportunity to help look after the whole Parish, and it is also an opportunity to instigate creative change. Two things we have managed to achieve in this way during the past four years are getting the allotments going and persuading the County Council to install smart street lighting. Then there are the more mundane things like making sure the recreation ground and the war memorial are well looked after. Keeping the roads in at least moderately good repair is a perennial and never ending battle. And it is important that pressure be brought to bear to keep Ashwell Primary School and Knights Templar as the schools for our children in the village.

But there will always be new issues to address, and a helpful and managerial eye on village infrastructure will always be necessary. So, at least five energetic and enthusiastic people in the Parish must get themselves nominated for election. So why not be one of them?

If you are interested and want to know more before deciding whether to stand or not, I am sure any present councillor will be pleased to talk with you about it.

Simon Marlow

Barry - your key to security

Last year some 276,000 homes were successfully burgled in this country. If you worry about home security, Barry Huber from High Street House, Hinxworth, may be able to help. Both the Police and insurance companies specify what adequate security means: five-lever mortice locks on your front and back doors and key operated window locks. "A lot of people say, 'I've got that,' but often they haven't. and if somebody kicks their door down the insurers will pay for the damage to that door but anything stolen will not be covered. If the Police have been round and given their advice and you haven't taken it, then you could be in trouble with your insurers. Approved five lever mortice locks carry the British Standards kite-mark BS3621, it's worth checking to see if your locks are approved."



38 years' experience

Barry spends his time fitting locks and replacing doors so he knows what he's about. He started working for a firm called Aldridge and Son Locksmiths in Islington 38 years ago. Barry moved with his family to Hinxworth four years ago. He works for himself now, Barry Huber - locksmith. He has done a great deal of work both for the Police and for Enfield Council, fitting locks, making premises secure after burglaries or 'domestics'. "That work is falling off a bit so I thought it would be good to get some more local work. Ring me on my mobile 07850 418589 or 01462 743311." As I left High Street House, I thought, "Better the locksmith you know..."

Patrick Forbes

Red Nose Day

March 18th

10 am - 12 pm Coffee Morning
Village Hall, Hinxworth. 12.30 pm
- 2 pm Soup Lunch, Hinxworth
Village Hall. 4pm - 6 pm Children's
Disco, music, hot dogs, dancing to
Hinxworth's own DJ Les Whitfield.
Tickets £5 to include hot dog tea.
Please bring extra cash as there
will be lots of other things to do
and buy including glo-sticks and
nail painting. Wear something red,
as silly as you dare. Tickets from
Michele Jarman 01462 743453.
8pm Red Nose Quiz Three Horse-
shoes. See you there!



The Hills are alive.....

The Sound of Music comes to Hinxworth on Saturday March 26th 7pm. A film and sing-along for all the family to enjoy – costumes optional, just come and have fun. Wine for the grown ups and juice for the young folks. A never to be forgotten experience! Tickets from Sylvia Scales 742505 proceeds to the Village Hall.

....and the gardens will bloom...

Open Gardens – Sunday June 12th 2-5pm with cream teas. After the success of last year we thought we would like to repeat this popular event but after this year we will be making this a biennial event. Any keen and proud gardeners who would like to open their gardens to the village and friends only please contact Sylvia Scales 01462 742505 any volunteers who would like to help also get in touch please. Thanks.

and Hampton Court will be wonderful.

Village Outing Hampton Court Wed July 27th £28 contact Sylvia Scales for details on 01462 742505.

Are your brain cells ready?

Guys – it's that time of year again for us all to be thinking about this year's Multi-venue quiz. Quiz@home11 will be taking place on Saturday April 2 and we really want the fifth one to be the best ever – after all, it is in support of our wonderful Village Hall.

So..... we need as many hosts/hostesses as possible. Remember, our communal quiz pits one household against another – the more households we have, therefore, the more exciting will be the evening.

Our quiz is a social event – a community event – a fun event. Be part of it and offer to be a host/hostess.

All you have to do is make contact. Please do and we will explain all – it really is so simple. We can be reached on 01767 315094 or royal_penguin@hotmail.com

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Heather and Michael Baim

Newnham Lunch

This high point of the social calendar will be held on Sunday September 11th at 1 pm. Book the date now, more details to follow.

Car Park Party

To mark the royal wedding on Friday 29th April, the Three Horse-shoes will host a party in the Pub Car Park - details next month.

Swordsman Andy wows WI



The 74th Birthday Party of Hinxworth and Edworth W.I. was held in the Village Hall on Thursday February 10th, it took the form of a Bring and Share supper which was as usual extremely good, this was followed by a demonstration of Tai Chi, given by Andy Spragg and his colleague Denise Coster. After telling us about the concept of Tai Chi he then demonstrated the moves, also moves using a ceremonial sword and wooden staff. Then it was our turn to "Have a Go". The ladies in "Calendar Girls" doing Tai Chi on a Yorkshire hillside had nothing on us as we tried very hard to follow Andy's moves, amid much laughter. The look of concentration on some of the husbands' faces was a joy to behold. Following this the Birthday Cake, made and iced beautifully by Jerry Keep, was cut by Audrey Clare, whose birthday was also that day. The raffle was drawn and the meeting closed at 10.15, everyone saying they had enjoyed the evening of learning something different.

a village boy 80 years ago

Next month's meeting is on Thursday March 10th in The Village Hall, Hinxworth at 7.45pm. The speaker will be Ken Burton, his topic "A Village Boy in the 30s and 40s". All members and non members welcome.
Carol Cheney

Friends of Ashwell Museum 2011

Monday March 14th AGM at Ashwell School. Sunday May 8th Ashwell at Home. Tuesday June 28th Coach Trip to Bletchley Park. Saturday September 17th Coach Trip to London. Wednesday 19th October Part 3 Archaeology of Ashwell. Wednesday 30th November A History of British Food.

We look forward to your support at any of these events. Further details will be published nearer the time but do contact any of the committee if you would like information. For booking any of the trips please contact Karyn Mills on 01462 742155 or Hilary Masham on 01462 742416.

Dates for your diary

March 3rd Hinxworth Parish Council, Village Hall 8 pm
March 4th Sing along to the movie "Grease" Ashwell Village Hall 8 pm
March 10th WI meeting 7.45 pm Hinxworth Village Hall
March 12th Table Top Sale, Ashwell School, 10 am - 2 pm
March 14th Friends of Ashwell Museum AGM at Ashwell School
March 17th Red Nose Safari Supper, see March Village Voice
March 18th Red Nose Day - raising money for Comic Relief
March 20th Concert at The Brew House, Radwell, details on page 3
March 26th Sound of Music - Hinxworth Village Hall
March 31st Parish priest Chris Ball licensed 8 pm St Mary's Ashwell
April 2nd Multi-venue quiz - see front page
April 16th Bach's B minor Mass, St Mary's Hitchin 7.30 pm
April 16th & 17th Hinxworth Art Society Spring Exhibition
April 29th Royal Wedding Party in the 3 Horseshoes Car Park
May 8th Ashwell at home
June 12th Hinxworth Open gardens 2 pm - 5 pm. See front page
June 28th Coach trip to Bletchley Park - see above
July 16th 8.30 pm Ashwell Playgroup Summer Ball, St Mary's Ashwell
July 27th Village Outing to Hampton Court, 01462 742505 for details
September 11th Newnham Church Lunch 1 pm, details soon
September 17th Coach trip to London - see above

Rainforest in Ashwell School



Ashwell School's whole school theme this term is 'Rainforests', and as part of this Henri Rousseau's famous painting 'Tiger in a Storm: Surprised' was used to inspire work across the curriculum, for example in geography, literacy, music and art. On January 19th the school had a special art day – all 238 full time pupils, ranging in age from 4 to 11 years old were divided into mixed age groups and given the choice of ten different art activities. They spent the whole day working on the art activity of their choice and the work they produced was displayed in a special exhibition open to parents and other visitors, with donations going towards sponsoring an acre of rainforest through the charity 'Rainforest Concern'.

mixed media

The activities on offer included sculpture, weaving, mask making, appliqué, fabric printing, collage and painting, and the children had a thoroughly enjoyable day, with

older pupils helping younger ones with the trickier tasks. We are all very proud of the work they produced, and hope to repeat the experience next year, using a different painting as inspiration.

Kate Oxley



Ashwell School

Nursery Admission Tours

If your child was born between September 1st 2007 and August 31st 2008 and you would like to visit the School's Nursery on Monday March 7th at 9.15 am or Wednesday March 16th at 11 am or Friday March 25th at 9.15 am, please contact the School on 01462 742297 or admin@ashwell.herts.sch.uk to book a space or for further information. Spaces are limited on each tour.

Burns Night success

February 12th saw 62 villagers pack Newnham Village Hall for a Burns night supper and dance.

Ian Craig was master of ceremonies, dispatched the haggis, called the dances, and kept us in order, almost. The evening raised £940 for the Village Hall. A great event!



Hinxworth Art Society

The date for our annual exhibition is fast approaching and all our members are busy creating more good works for you to see. These will be in various media such as watercolour, oil, pastel, charcoal and ceramics. Most will be for sale and this year there will also be a section of unframed paintings for you to purchase and take away on the day.

Junior artists, send in your work

The popular children's section will be repeated this year and the Art Society would like to invite children in the Village Voice distribution area to submit, free of charge, artworks for display but not for sale. This could be a great opportunity for young artists to get their first taste of fame! Please contact Audrey Clare on 01462 742820 for more details.

Please come along and vote for your favourite exhibit. Admission and parking is free and refreshments are available. We look forward to seeing you.

Annie Hull

At the Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday 3rd February. All councillors and the clerk were present.

Grants. The Council has been notified that, contrary to previous advice, it could now apply for the Environmental Improvement Grant. It was decided to make an application immediately.

Highways. It was noted that many potholes in the roads in the Parish were still unrepaired. It was agreed to press the Highways Department to deal with these as a matter of urgency.

Regarding the overhanging hedges in the High Street, Hertfordshire Highways have now stipulated that the minimum width of the pavement should be 1.2 metres, with any hedging trimmed vertically to maintain that width.

Notice Boards. It was agreed to ask Steve Hawthorne to make, build and install the new village notice boards.

Allotments. In view of the recent flooding of the allotment car park site it was agreed to modify the arrangement and construct it instead with a geo textile membrane covered with planings. This would take place as soon as possible.

Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday March 3rd 2011 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. The full minutes are published on the village website at www.hinxworth.com the month following the meeting.

Cut costs and save the planet

The Saveometer is a Personal Smart Meter that can both save you money and help to save the planet. It displays real time electricity usage, costs per hour, week, month, quarter and year. It also shows your carbon footprint, the amount of CO2 your electricity use is generating. It has an accurate radio controlled clock, a calendar, barometer, and measures temperature and humidity. It will show you trends in your electricity usage. Even turning on a light will be detected by the Saveometer PSM, and the precise cost of running that lamp is displayed within seconds. The meter interprets and stores the information received and displays it in way



which the owner of a Saveometer PSM finds most useful. To find out more go to www.saveometer.com or contact Ian Wilkinson on 01462 742146 who can show you the unit in use.

guarantee and a discount

Guarantee? It's a zero risk purchase. If you do not save the cost of the unit in the first year you get your money back! Better yet, order one, using this unique code IW20DA and obtain a significant discount.

Brian Robert Willan - a good mate

Brian was a modest man, a man of few words, a family man, a dad, a granddad, a great grandfather, a friend and devoted husband to Marion. He was born in Middlesex in 1935, only son of Stan and Gwen and brother to Yvonne and Jane. His family moved to the US Air Force base in Nuthampstead, just close to Barkway, near Royston. Brian would often remember growing up on the Airbase with his sister Yvonne, seeing the massive B17's take off and land, hanging around the Woodman pub waiting for Dad or being given chocolate by the American pilots. Around 1950 at the age of about 15 Brian joined the Royal Navy, serving Queen and country on board a Royal Naval Mine Sweeper. He then joined the Submarine Service and he stayed there for over 14 years.



married Marion on Merseyside

In 1955 whilst still in the Navy he met Marion or 'love' as he often called her. Brian and Marion, a publican's daughter, were married in Liverpool in 1958. Later they moved across the water to the Wirral, to a lovely house called Windy Noah. Brian used to go down to the Royal Naval Association or the RNA in Birkenhead. This was timed like a military operation, up and ready by 11:45, arrive at the RNA 12.00, back home for 1.30 for dinner, afternoon nap more often with Benji his dog, at his side in bed.

10 years ago Brian and Marion moved down from the Wirral to Royston and eventually Hinxworth. Of course the first thing that Brian did was to make himself a member of the Royal British Legion in Royston and a regular at the Three Horseshoes in Hinxworth.

wouldn't have changed a thing

Over the past few years Brian's health deteriorated robbing him of his independence and stopping him from doing what he enjoyed most, popping down to the Legion in Royston or the Three Horseshoes for a pint and a chat. He died in peace, happy for the life that he lived. I'm 100% convinced that if he was given a chance to live his life again he wouldn't choose to do it any other way, not one bit.

just a good mate

Brian was generous to a fault and he'd never let you down and although I've heard Brian say on many occasions stop bitching, I can honestly say Brian never bitched about anyone. There was never a side to Brian, there was never an act, never an undertone, he never tried to be someone else, he never changed for anyone or anything Brian was for better or worse just the same person in any situation, he was always Brian, Dad, Granddad or just a good mate and I loved him for it.

David Nolan (*edited from the eulogy at Brian's funeral on February 18th*)

Brian Robert Willan born on August 31st 1935, died on February 4th 2011. He leaves his widow Marion and three daughters Susan, Carol and Lorraine. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Spring Serenade

The Brew House, Radwell, Baldock, SG7 5ES

Sunday March 20th 2011 at 11.00 a.m.

Tickets £10 and £4 (under 18s) include a glass of sherry or juice and homemade biscuit. Tickets are only available in advance; ticket numbers limited due to the size of the concert room.

Sanja Mitrovic-Uhde and Catherine Wilmers cellos, Ilga Pitkevica piano

Handel: Sonata for 2 cellos in G minor Op 2 no.8

Beethoven: Sonata in F Op 5 no.1 Adagio sostenuto: allegro

Brahms: Allegro non troppo from Sonata in E minor Op 38

Tchaikovsky: Valse sentimentale

Saint-Saens: Allegro Appassionato

Chopin: Introduction and Polonaise

Tickets from Graham Kingsley, The Brew House, Radwell, Baldock, Herts SG7 5ES or ring 01462 730490

On the beat

with PC 431 Paul Marina

A cautionary tale

A 31 year old man from Peterborough has pleaded guilty to defrauding a 77 year old Royston man out of £12,000 – for work on his property that should have cost under £300. Steve



Winters, of Paston Ridings Caravan Site, Norwood Lane, Peterborough, admitted fraud by false representation at Cambridge Crown Court on January 11. He was due to be sentenced on a date to be fixed in February. Winters was charged with defrauding the pensioner at his address in Royston, on several dates between March 31st and April 22nd. He had told the victim that his drains needed urgent attention and claimed that extensive work had been carried out when in fact; just two drain covers were replaced. Winters was finally caught when staff at the victim's local branch of HSBC notified police when he tried to withdraw a large sum of money to make yet another payment to the conman.

Beware of fraudulent tax e-mails

I received the following e-mail to my works e-mail account. This is obviously a fraud, and it had an attached form that asked for my bank account pass code. Please beware of such messages. Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs will NEVER send such a letter by email.

Dear Applicant,

We have reviewed your tax return and our calculations of your last year's accounts a tax refund of GBP 178.25 is due. Please submit the tax refund request and allow us 3-6 days in order to process it. A refund can be delayed for a variety of reasons. For example submitting invalid records or applying after the deadline. Please download and submit the form attached to this email in order to complete your tax refund.

Best Regards, HM Revenue & Customs.

contact us

March's surgery will be held in the United Reformed Church Hall, Ashwell High Street 10.30 am until 12 pm on Friday March 4th

My phone number is 01438 757924. Ring 0845 33 00 222 if you have suffered a crime or need Police within a couple of hours. 999 for immediate response if you have just suffered a crime and for hare coursing.

PC 431 Paul Marina. North Herts Rural.

paul.marina@herts.pnn.police.uk 01438 757924

chris.brabrook@herts.pnn.police.uk 01438 757935

Amy.Rainbird@herts.pnn.police.uk 01438 757935

Bedfordshire Police Contact

For readers in Edworth, in emergency dial 999, otherwise ring 01234 841212, Bedfordshire Police HQ switchboard, manned around the clock.

Wind Turbine plans blown away

Central Bedfordshire Council have refused the planning application for the development of 10 wind turbines (originally 16 planned) at Langford/Toplars Hill on the grounds of noise and visual impact. The applicants The Cooperative Group (Planning) can take the decision to appeal. Wendy Kitchener

Be there to welcome Rev. Chris Ball

The Churchwardens and PCCs of the United Benefice of Ashwell, Hinxworth and Newnham request the pleasure of the company of all Benefice parishioners at the licensing and installation service for the Reverend Christopher Ball as Priest-in-Charge. The service will be held in St Mary's Church, Ashwell on Thursday 31st of March 2011 at 8.00pm

Don't miss our next deadline: March 20th

Please send all copy and pictures for April Village Voice to Patrick Forbes, 18 Francis Road, Hinxworth, Herts. SG7 5HL, by March 20th. Village Voice is published by Forbes Services Ltd and can be read at www.hinxworth.info Email address for all copy and pictures is fool1@patrickforbes.plus.com

Church Services - March

March 6th 10.15 am Family Service St Nicholas Hinxworth
March 13th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist St Nicholas Hinxworth
March 20th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist St Nicholas Hinxworth
March 27th 9.30 am Holy Communion St Vincent Newnham
March 31st 8 pm Licensing of Chris Ball, St Mary's Ashwell

Soup lunch returns

February's soup lunch will be in Hinxworth Village Hall on Friday March 18th from 12.30 pm until 2 pm. Proceeds in aid of Comic Relief.

Crete Villa

House in peaceful surroundings overlooking olive groves. Sleeps up to 6. All mod cons and pool. 45 minutes from airport, five minutes from the sea, shops and tavernas.

Few dates left. For info contact Betty Thorn on 01462 742858

St Nicholas Needs You

Are you an experienced bell ringer willing to help out? We are struggling at the moment to find enough ringers for Sunday mornings and would be delighted to see you. If you are interested, please contact our Tower Captain, Paul Watler on 07836547791.

Thanks

Thank you very much to all our friends and neighbours for all their kind cards and help after Brian died. They are a great comfort to me.

Thanks again.

Marion Willan

Summer Dance

Ashwell Playgroup is holding its Summer Dance on Saturday 16th July 8.30 pm in St Mary's church Ashwell with music, bar and canapés, dress to impress. Tickets will be on sale from May at £15 each. Further details will be published nearer the time.

Mortier's Tea Travels



Q. Where do you drink your Mortier's Tea? A. Half way up a mountain in the Canary Islands. The Burrows and the Tookeys enjoy a cup of Mortier's Tea while on holiday on the Island of Palma.



Earliest daffodil?



Dear Patrick,

We believe this daffodil to be the first to bloom in the village every year. Sheila took this photo on the 1st of February, so it must have been out for a day or so. It seems to thrive in a sheltered spot behind the garage of The Orchard.

Alan Murray

Ashwell Table Top Sale (indoor)

Saturday March 12th 10am to 12pm at Ashwell School, Silver Street, Ashwell.

Bargains galore to be had, from household items, bric a brac, Home-made cakes and pies, raffle prizes.

Bring the family and get there early. No admission. £5 for a pitch/table. Also if you would like to donate any items to sell on behalf of Ashwell PTA For more details or to book a pitch contact Michelle Woods on 01462 742269 or email michellejwoods@hotmail.com

Bach's B minor Mass

This magnificent work will be performed by North Herts Guild of Singers and Musica Donum Dei at 7.30 pm on Saturday April 16th in St Mary's Church Hitchin. Tickets £15, £13 concessions, £8 students, from Ticket Manager 01462 433393