

• Village Voice •

February 2021

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.233



Let It Snow!

Snow arrived in the area this week, making some pretty views and endless fun for children, many of whom took to the lanes with their sledges. This picture of St Nicholas' Church captures one of the lovely scenes, and below a very happy child with her snowman.



picture courtesy of Sylvia Scales

Thank You For Your Donations

Following the donation from money raised by the alternative Christmas Card Scheme, Clare Edwards, Head of Relationship Fundraising and Campaigns at the Garden House Hospice has written; "From everyone here at Garden House Hospice thank you so much for the kind donations totalling £931.00, proceeds of the Hinxworth and Edworth Alternative Card Scheme. I know that you have, as a group, been doing these for quite a few years now and I hope you will be able to pass on our thanks to everyone for their wonderful generosity and support.

Our position remains uncertain at the hospice, as the impact of the pandemic continues to unfold. We remain determined to continue providing our care, and therefore we really are grateful for your support, as it will help protect the future of our services and we could not hope to keep the doors of the hospice open without such support."

With thanks to Rachel Giles

Welcome to all Newcomers!

It has been a busy time lately with many new people moving into the area. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all newcomers on behalf of the Village Voice. If any newcomers would like to use the Village Voice to introduce themselves, they would be most welcome. Please send a brief introduction about yourself, where you have come from and why you chose to move to our lovely area. I am sure all locals will be very interested to hear about you.

Lucy Wade-Editor

On the beat

with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook

Have your say on how we police your area



Local Crime Information

After an incident in Barkway all dog lovers are asked to help to spread this safety message in order to prevent much loved pets being targeted by criminals.

I would like to reassure you that Dog Theft in Royston is very rare, but to minimise the chance of becoming a victim yourself, please make sure that you are following safety advice:

- Be vigilant and cautious of suspicious individuals or markings seen around addresses, any cold callers and strangers approaching you whilst out dog walking.
- Ensure your dog is microchipped and registered with up to date information and has a collar and dog tag (use your surname rather than the dog's name and your telephone contact)
- Take plenty of clear photographs of your pet and especially of any distinctive markings.
- Never leave a dog unattended in the garden, in the car or outside shops.
- Don't give details of your pets, your location or your favourite walking spots on social media and make sure your security settings are set to friends only.
- When out, always know where your dog is. Be mindful of anyone who may be trying to distract your attention from your dog or attract your dog's attention away from you.
- Avoid leaving dogs in outside kennels if at all possible. If not possible then make sure the kennels are alarmed – experience tells us padlocks alone will not stop thieves!
- Ensure all gates are locked at top and bottom with a shoot bolt and padlock and consider fitting a bell or gate alarm.
- Ensure the garden or yard boundary (fence, hedge, etc) is secure so that no one can gain entry or pull your dog out. Ensure the dog cannot escape through any gaps.
- Consider driveway alarms to alert you to intruders and combine this with the use of monitored CCTV that will alert you via your phone or tablet instantly.

- For more rural locations, think about u Watch, a multi-purpose security device that does not require WiFi or additional lighting.

If your dog is stolen report it to Herts Police by visiting its online reporting centre or by calling 101 or if in progress 999.

Notify your microchip database provider immediately and advise Doglost.co.uk either via their website or Facebook page. They will offer help, support and advice.

You can join Royston Dog Watch by emailing PCSO Penny Tomsett on penelope.tomsett@herts.pnn.police.uk.

COVID Vaccination Rollout

Please note the latest information regarding the above can be obtained from the Ashwell surgery website www.ashwellsurgery.co.uk and facebook page. This is updated on a Monday on a weekly basis.

Peter Chapman - Ashwell Patients Group

Rising Water Levels

Water levels continued to rise in the area during mid-January. With the brook in Hinxworth at unusually high levels and the bend at the Hinxworth end of New Inn Road flooded. Footpaths turned into mud tracks and it was difficult for any locals to get their daily exercise. But a little ray of sunshine appeared in New Inn Road with a little flourish of early daffodils. An encouraging sign that spring is indeed on its way.



Lin and Lance - Goodbye

After 25 years in our home in Hinxworth, we are finally moving back to the East Sussex/Kent borders, where we have previously lived, and where we still have family and friends. How fortunate we have been to have spent many happy years in our home in Christy's Yard, enjoying the company of our lovely neighbours and true friends in the village. We will miss the social life, clubs, pub, church, various activities and most importantly the friendship of you all. It would be difficult to imagine a more welcoming and pleasant neighbourhood, but let's hope that we will find the same in our new home in the village of Ticehurst!

Our only regret, is that we have been unable to say goodbye to everyone, because of the current Covid restrictions, but we send our best wishes and love to you all.

Lin and Lance

Waste Tips to Help Stop the Spread

To help slow the spread of coronavirus and keep you and our collection workers safe, please remember to:

- Wash your hands before and after putting your bins out.
- Disinfect your bin handles and lids.
- If you have coronavirus, double bag and store any used tissues and PPE for 72 hours before being put outside for collection.

Together we can help maintain a good waste and recycling service for everyone during the Covid-19 crisis.

Hinxworth & Edworth WI

January 2021 Meeting

A good start to the new year for the Hinxworth and Edworth WI with the first meeting of the year taking place over Zoom on 14 January with quite a reasonable show of faces on the screen. Sylvia took the meeting as usual, reading out some apologies from one or two members who were unable to join, signing the minutes of the last meeting and going through the WI resolutions. Sylvia also announced that WI subs would not be due this year until April, so we all have a few months grace and time to save up for these at £44 for the year. Any budding new members out there who would like a taste of the village WI – why not join us for the next three months – at only £11 it is a good way to see if you would like to become a full member in April. Get in touch with Sylvia if this appeals to you or indeed any current WI member would be happy to help you join.

The speaker for the January meeting was Judy Karbritz who gave us all an insight into some of the little-known facts and secrets about film making entitled "Behind the Scenes at the Movies". Judy is an established and popular speaker for Women's Institutes, Luncheon Clubs and various local groups and societies. We found her talk fun and light-hearted but also informative and hugely enjoyable with lots of good Power Point slides to entertain us. Interesting and often amusing facts came to light like who was discovered upside down in a toilet, secrets revealed about the making of The Wizard of Oz, Gone With The Wind, Singin' in the Rain, The Sound of Music and many other old time favourites.

Finally, some info on forthcoming meetings: In February some of the members are putting on a virtual Panto for us so really something to look forward to, plus Vicky Scales will be hosting a cook-a-long – Chicken and Frankfurters – so we can all cook supper together during the meeting and enjoy our meal afterwards while joining in a light-hearted quiz organised by Anki. (Hopefully all members will have got the details of the recipe via an email from Sylvia – if not please let her know). In March we look forward to welcoming Liza Leland as our speaker – her topic is "A Woman for All Seasons" which includes anecdotes, poems and jokes. The February meeting date is 11 Feb to start at 7.30. Look forward to seeing you all then.

Chris Hook

February Church Services

(Government regulations and local conditions, permitting)

7th Feb. 10.15 am, Family Service, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

14th Feb. 9.15 am, Parish Communion, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

21st Feb. 9.15 am, Parish Communion, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

28th Feb. 9.15 am, Parish Communion, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

9.30 am, Holy Communion, St Vincent, Newnham

<https://tinyurl.com/stmarys-zoom>

Or you can use the Meeting ID: 848 3055 8684 Passcode: 277646.

Patrick Forbes

Valentine's Day

As February approaches, so does Valentine's Day. During these times when restaurants are closed couples can still celebrate in the safety of their own homes by cooking a romantic meal. This recipe is quick and easy but effective, so set the table for two, light some candles and enjoy a romantic dinner:

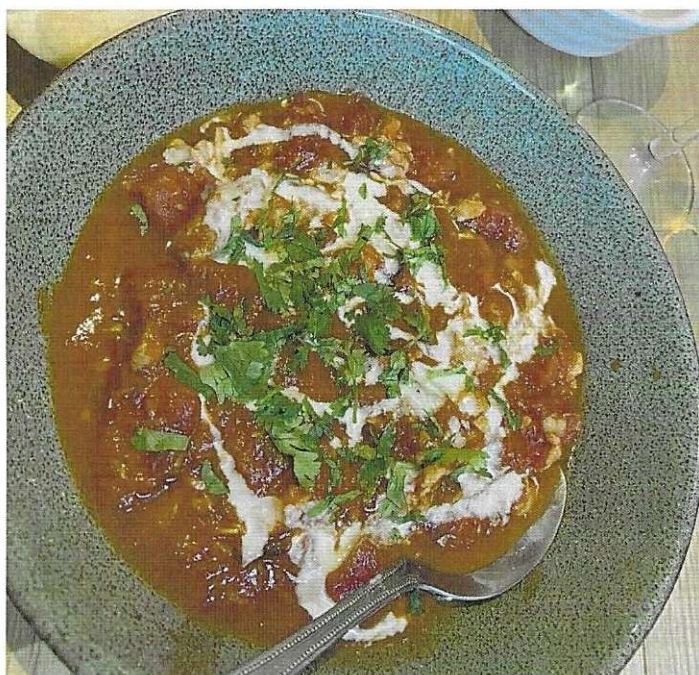
Fish Stew

Ingredients :

- 2 portions of cod loin
- 1 tsp of caraway seeds
- 1 red chilli
- 3 cloves of garlic
- 1 dried ancho chilli or 1 tsp of smoked paprika
- 2 tins of tomatoes
- 2 tbsp of tomato puree
- ½ tsp sugar
- 1 small bunch of coriander
- Salt to season
- Tahini sauce to finish the dish:
- 1-2 tablespoons of tahini
- Juice from ½ a lemon
- Salt to taste

Method:

1. First start by preparing the ingredients; cut the chilli into 1-2cm pieces, thinly slice the garlic and remove any seeds from your ancho chilli, then tear or slice it into small strips.
2. In a large pan add a tablespoon of olive oil and place over a medium heat. Once the oil is hot add the fresh chilli and fry for 2 minutes. Add the garlic, ancho chilli and caraway seeds. Continue to fry until the garlic is starting to turn golden brown, but be careful not to burn it.
3. Add the tinned tomatoes, tomato puree, ½ a teaspoon of salt and sugar. Allow to come to the boil then reduce the heat and simmer for 15 minutes, stirring regularly, if the sauce becomes too thick add a small amount of water.
4. After 15 minutes add the cod, cover the pan and cook for 10 minutes or until the fish is cooked.
5. Whilst the fish is cooking make the tahini sauce; mix the tahini with the lemon juice and salt then add 75ml of cold water. Beat together until the sauce is smooth and creamy. Add more or less juice and salt to taste. Roughly chop the coriander leaves.
6. Once the fish is cooked taste the sauce and adjust seasoning if required. Carefully lift the fish into a serving dish, cover with the rich chilli stew and drizzle on the tahini sauce. Top with chopped coriander.



The Three Horseshoes

Takeaway Menu

Buttermilk Chicken Burger	12.9
Chicken breast soaked in buttermilk with a good dusting of our own crispy coating, sweet chilli mayo served with rosemary fries	
The Shoes Burger	12.9
2 x 3.5 oz steak burger, smoked streaky bacon, emmental cheese, jalapenos, guacamole, fresh lettuce served in a toasted bun with rosemary fries	
8 oz British Sirloin Steak (gf)	18.0
Served with a grilled tomato, oven roasted mushrooms, garden peas & rosemary salted Chips	
Add peppercorn or blue cheese sauce	1.5
Steak Manwich	14.5
Rump steak cooked how you like it. Sliced into medallions and topped with rosemary sauted mushroom and melted smoked cheddar on a toasted ciabatta. Served with fries	
Beer Battered Cod	12.9
Landlord beer battered cod served with rosemary salted chips, mushy peas, tartare sauce & lemon wedge	
Ham & Eggs (gf)	10.9
Hand carved honey roasted ham served with 2 free range eggs, rosemary salted chips & peas	
Steak & Ale Pie	12.9
Served with mashed potatoes, market vegetables and gravy	
Roasted Aubergine (ve)	12.9
Stuffed with sweet peppers, tomato, oregano and garlic, with peri peri sweet potato wedges	
Homemade Chicken Kiev	13.5
Stuffed with rosemary, thyme and garlic butter served with baked cherry tomatoes and chunky chips	
Trout with Prawns (gf)	13.9
Panfried on a bed of roasted new potatoes, tender stem broccoli and garlic, lemon and herb sauce	
Pan Fried Seabass (gf)	12.0
Served with crushed new potatoes and spinach fondant with todays market veg	
Homemade Chicken, Ham & Leek Pie	12.9
Served in a pie dish with a puff pastry top, with mash and todays market vegetables	

New Permissive Footpath

The Smyth family have recently started farming the field at the back of the Francis Road bungalows. We thought we could add to the walking routes around the village by creating a permissive path joining the public footpath at the top of the allotments to the one at the bottom of the Recreation Ground. The route runs around the edge of the cropped field so please stay to the edge and keep dogs on leads. We have put signposts at either end of the permissive path and will occasionally close the route. We hope you enjoy the walk and appreciate the countryside as you go



Rosemary, David and Charlotte Smyth

Hinxworth & Edworth Business Directory

Katrina Hoskins has volunteered to put together a local business directory for Hinxworth & Edworth. I am sure we have a wealth of businesses, knowledge & talent amongst us that we may not even be aware of & it is always good to keep things local & support small businesses etc. If you would like to be included, please send the name of your business, the service you offer & your contact details to Katrinahoskins@hotmail.com. You need to either live or do business in Hinxworth & Edworth to be included in the business directory. Details of how the directory will be distributed to follow.

Transport to Covid Vaccination Centres

For residents who do not have access to their own transport, both Royston & District Community Transport and North Herts Community Transport have drivers carrying out transport to vaccination appointments. Both are chargeable (Royston 55p per mile and North Herts 45p per mile with a minimum £5 per journey). Both cover our area and Bassingbourn to Letchworth.

Royston & District Community Transport
<https://www.roytrans.co.uk/>
 01763 245228

North Herts and Stevenage Community Transport Scheme
<https://www.nhcvstransport.org.uk/>
 01462 689402

Ashwell Patients' Group

There are currently some 885,000 people with dementia in the UK, a figure expected to reach 1.14 million by 2025 according to the Alzheimers Society. Many people have direct experience of seeing friends and loved ones fall victim to this condition and of finding communication increasingly difficult as it progresses.

Presently there is no cure for dementia but music has a valuable role to play in enhancing quality of life for people living with the syndrome and their carers. It has the power to bring people together and provide a way to stay connected. It can enliven, stimulate and enable people to express themselves creatively beyond words. Research shows that music can help reduce distressing symptoms such as agitation, apathy and anxiety. While sufferers can struggle to recognise faces, music can transport them back to happier times.

A huge supporter for using music as a therapy is former newsreader Jon Suchet whose wife succumbed to dementia. He observed how transformative music was for her. She had lost the ability to speak and was locked inside her head. But when she heard music "She would close her eyes and love it, beat in time, tap her feet"

As renowned neurologist Dr Oliver Sacks put it:

"Music imprints itself in the brain deeper than any other emotion. Music evokes emotion and emotion can bring memory. Music brings back the feeling of life when nothing else can".

For more information go to: -
musicfordementia.org.uk
www.alzheimers.org.uk and look for Playlist for Life"

Copy Date: Please send all copy / pictures for March edition to Lucy Wade by February 20th to E-mail: villagevoice3@gmail.com