

Ashwell & Bassingbourn Patient Group

NOTES FROM OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

We welcomed two new members, Rachel Capay to represent Steeple Morden (replacing Andrea Rowland) and Nicola Reed, our new Operations Manager.

Staffing News Our quest to appoint an additional doctor continues. These are in very short supply nationally but our fingers are crossed that we may have found someone. Sadly our Health Care Assistant Claire is leaving but we have appointed two people to replace her with additional hours which is good news.

eConsult Patients should note that this online service is only available on weekdays between 7 and 9am. This service is useful and convenient but it impinges on our doctors' availability to see patients in person or to offer telephone conversations. This restricted access via eConsult enables a suitable balance to be struck.

Telephone It has long been recognised by the committee and surgery staff that our current system is inadequate despite having numerous admin staff on duty to manage calls throughout the day. Long waits are common and frustrating, and ending up by being cut off only rubs salt in the wound. The NHS is funding a replacement system and it is they who are in charge. Some new cabling has been installed. We hope that the new system will be operational before too long but we are in the queue. The surgery was urged to exert what pressure it can to speed up the process.

Social Prescribing Our PCN (Primary Care Network – comprising surgeries in Ashwell, Baldock and Letchworth) has employed someone to fill this post. Referrals (for non-medical approaches) will be made through our doctors and Physician's Assistants. We are in touch with "Ashwell Greening" about possibly using our surgery gardens as one of our Social Prescribing opportunities.

Welcome Pack It was suggested that such a pack would be very beneficial for new patients, especially the elderly with complex needs. Katie, our Practice Manager, will look into this.

Gold Standard Framework The purpose of this is to provide smooth access to the range of services palliative patients might need – GPs, community care, hospice. Sadly this coordinated approach was derailed during the height of the pandemic. However, Dr Jarvis was pleased to report that it was now functioning again.

New Pharmacist for Ashwell The committee acknowledged the great service Brian Deal provided and wished him well in his retirement. We are pleased to welcome Dhaval Patel and the surgery looks forward to working with him for the benefit of our patients.

Vaccination News Our surgery wanted to be able to offer covid boosters alongside flu jabs. However, the NHS is issuing the covid vaccines to PCNs and it is they who will be responsible for the booster programme. They were the ones who ran the service at the centre near Sainsbury's in Letchworth. They will offer covid boosters at our surgeries at the same time as our staff deliver the flu jab. During the discussion it became apparent that not all committee members had received texts from our surgery about the flu jab despite being eligible. It later emerged that texts are only sent to patients who have indicated a willingness to receive them. Any patient who does not receive texts from the surgery and who wishes to do so should contact reception – preferably by email so as not to put further pressure on our overloaded phone system!

Our next meeting will be towards the end of November.

Copy Date: Please send all copy/pictures for the December edition by November 20th. E: villagevoice3@gmail.com

The Three Horseshoes

Quiz Night - Our monthly Quiz Night will be on the 16th November. Pop in to challenge your neighbours and friends!

World Cup - All of England's Group stage matches will be shown on the 21st, 25th and the 29th...come along to join in some of the football fun.

Wise Words

If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito.

Dalai Lama

The Wine Draw Is Back!

Wine draws are back for the autumn and winter. This is your chance to win 2 bottles of Wine Society Champion wines for just £1.00.

Château Lamothe Saint Germain, Bordeaux 2020

Proving emphatically that Wine Champion Bordeaux needn't be expensive, and this 'great little claret' is packed with bright redberry fruit. This blend of 75% merlot and 25% cabernet franc is a Champion in 2022.

Château Thieuley Blanc, Bordeaux 2021

The panel of tasters were shocked that this 'appealing and aromatic' white costs less than £10 and promptly voted it a winner. Fragrant, grassy and zesty, with an appealing herbal note – a 'textbook' dry white Bordeaux. A 2022 Wine Champion.

Put £1.00 in an envelope and give/post it to one of the following people/houses. Hinxworth: Jan - Chapel House, Chapel Street, Karen - High Street House, Julie - The Three Horseshoes. Edworth: Katrina and Pete - 8 The Barns. Newnham: Fiona - Newnham Hall Cottage

Closing date 20th November.

On The Beat

G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

Criminal Damage, Ashwell Road, Hinxworth – At 1.24 on the 14th September two men entered a stables in Hinxworth. The men looked around the site, damaged the CCTV system and made off removing no property. 41/74478/22

Theft of Motor Vehicle, Dick Smith Walk, Ashwell – Over night on 22nd to 23rd of September a John Deer tractor was stolen from a farm in Ashwell. The tractor was later recovered from a location in Bedfordshire and returned to its owner. 41/76885/22

Garden House Hospice Christmas Fair

The Friends of Garden House Hospice Christmas Fair returns on Sunday 11th December to The Cloisters in Letchworth from midday until 4.30pm.

Ashwell PTA Are Running the Bass Belle

A group of parents, governors and staff at Ashwell School (including myself) are running the Bass Belle 10 miler on Sunday 27th November to raise money for Ashwell School PTA. The PTA helps raise funds to provide additional activities and resources for the children at the school. Any sponsorship donations would be gratefully received. <https://gofund.me/8b649585>

Rachel Giles

• Village Voice •

November 2022

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.254

700th Celebration Kicks Off Roof Appeal

A great big thank you to all who attended our 700 year celebration of St Nicholas Church on Saturday 3rd September. The weather stayed fair for most of the afternoon. We had over 30 village dogs enter Hilary and Kathy's fun dog show. Unsurprisingly the V.I. sold out of their delicious cakes. We had dozens of treasure hunters (who knew there are so many boats in our Church), the Salvation Army band played magnificently all afternoon, the BBQ run by Wendy, Richard and Robin was a great success, and a thank you to Sharon and our girls who ran a very busy bar, plus Vicar Chris put together a wonderful history of our beautiful church. We still maintain Gerry's team got lucky in the tug of war, but in the end a lovely afternoon was had by all. And our church bells rang in celebration, thank you Paul.



Photo submitted by Peter Hoskins - The Salvation Army keeping everyone entertained

The aim of our 700 year Birthday Party was to celebrate our very special church and bring together our very special village. Longer term our lovely church needs a little help. Specifically a roof repair estimated at £120,000 and £15,000 to strengthen the tower.



Photo submitted by Peter Hoskins - Hilary and Kathy's Fun Dog Show



Photo submitted by Peter Hoskins - Village 'Tug Of War'

The Church PCC is now embarking on a fund raising project to pay for the church's replacement roof, the Parish Council is supportive of these efforts and wishes them well in the endeavours. Apart from existing funds and various grants they would like help from the village. Donations to the fund can be made directly to bank code 30-94-30 and account number 01065282; cheques payable to 'PCC of St Nicholas Hinxworth and a Just Giving site at www.justgiving.com/campaign/stnicholashinxworth. Or contact the church treasurer Alec Stephenson at 01462 742953

Sonja Bentley & Alec Stephenson

Arts, Craft, Coffee and Cakes

On Saturday 19th November, from 10am - 4pm, The Sew Busy Group and Hinxworth Art Society are proposing to hold an Arts and Crafts, Coffee and Cakes Day to include the sale of New and second-hand Art & Craft items. From Kits to Knits; Pictures & Paints; Books & Brushes; Cakes & Crafts. If you have any items that fit the category i.e. art materials you no longer use, sewing kits never started or not finished but complete or anything new relating to the above including cakes, and would like to donate to the sale it would be gratefully received. All proceeds will go to the roof and window repair at St Nicholas Church. Drop Off points up to Mon. 13th (Cakes 18th) to Viv Hughes. Bury End. (Tel: 743227). Yvonne Tookey. 7 Francis Road. (Tel: 742439). Marianne Osmond. Blackbirds. High Street. (Tel: 742048) or Katrina Hoskins. 8 The Barns. Edworth. (Tel: 07702013910).

Viv Hughes



Please can all those wanting a table at the Hinxworth Village Hall Hollywood Ball, book your places by the beginning of November. Thank you and look forward to seeing you at the Xmas Ball.

Parish Council Minutes

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 6th OCTOBER 2022 AT 7.00 PM.

Present: Mr R Cobb (Chairman), Mr N. Tiffin (Vice-Chairman), Mr A. Lloyd, Mr A. Dawson, Mr B. Higgins, Mrs W. Kitchener (Clerk)

Apologies: Steve Jarvis County Councillor, Tom Tyson, District Councillor.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 1st September were agreed by the Parish Councillors. Proposed by Tony Lloyd and seconded by Tony Dawson.

2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda: Nothing to report.

3. Correspondence: A letter has been received from Simon Marlow, and signed by a number of residents, regarding the viability of energy efficiency/saving/generating methods the Parish Council and the Village may be interested to have installed. The Chairman said that the Village Hall Committee had applied for a quote regarding Solar Panels from NHDC "Solar together" initiative. In Simon's letter it also floated the idea of Solar Panels on the Recreation field and/or a Wind Turbine somewhere in the village. The Parish Council felt it would be a good idea if a feasibility study and/or working group be set up by the residents who expressed an interest by signing the letter.

4. Finance: Current Parish Council Funds: The Councillors agreed to the expenditure for the current month. Proposed by Nick Tiffin and Tony Dawson.

5. Planning: No. 8 New Inn Road - 22/02463/FPH. This Parish Councillors agreed their response was they had "no objection" to this application.

6. Highways: Pothole: There is a large pothole at the junction of New Inn Road and the High Street. This has yet to be repaired.

7. Village Hall: Information on another possible defibrillator for the Village Hall has been passed to the Village Hall Management Committee.

8. Recreation Ground: The Bedfordshire Caravan Club: The club had their annual visit to Hinxworth on September 30th to 2nd October. Seven caravans were parked on the recreation ground.

9. The Tennis Court: The posts holding the nets in place require replacing and have now been purchased. Bob Scales has kindly agreed to install them.

10. Allotments: Water Availability: Dick Cobb has met Baldock Allotments Group Chairman to get a better understanding of how they get mains water onto their two sites. After much discussion the Councillors feel there are a number of options available, and they will investigate further.

New Allotmenters: A new allotment licence has been signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

11. Any Other Urgent Business: **The Wooden Bench at the end of Francis Road and the High Street:** LeisureGrow Ltd kindly offered to replace the bench. The Women's Institute will reinstate the plaques detailing the Queen Elizabeth II silver and diamond jubilees and add an additional plaque for the platinum jubilee. The Parish Councillors thanked both LeisureGrow and the Women's Institute for their endeavours.

St Nicholas Church 700 Year Anniversary Celebration: The event to raise funds for the restoration of the Church was a great success and approximately £580.00 was raised.

A letter from St Nicholas PCC will be delivered to the residents of Hinxworth and Edworth detailing the structural condition of the church. It also includes the current position of funds in hand

and the outstanding funding required to enable the restoration to go ahead. The Parish Council supports this letter from the PCC.

Hinxworth Memorial Clock: This is now back in working order, following the very hot weather which stopped the chimes working, Ali McGaw and Julien Stepian were able to restore it to working order without having to call in Graham Newman. Ali will now take on the task of winding the clock now that Gordon Hayden has stepped down after forty years of stalwart duty.

The Defibrillator: The arrangements originally agreed did not take place due to the company involved basically not turning up on the due date. The Councillors are satisfied the defibrillator is still in good working order but will research the possibility of providing an additional defibrillator for the Village Hall. It is hoped the current defibrillator will still have its software upgraded, taken away for the update and a temporary replacement installed with the original being returned as soon as possible, as previously planned for the 8th September, Dick Cobb will follow-up.

12: Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 3rd November 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Wendy Kitchener (Clerk)

Church Services For November

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Sun 6th Nov | 09.15 | Family Service | St Nicholas, Hinxworth |
| Sun 13th Nov | 09.45 | Holy Communion for Remembrance Sunday | St Nicholas, Hinxworth |
| Sun 20th Nov | 09.15 | Holy Communion | St Nicholas, Hinxworth |
| Sun 27th Nov | 16.30 | Holy Communion | St Nicholas, Hinxworth |
| Sun 27th Nov | 09.30 | BCP Holy Communion | St Vincent's, Newnham |

There is also a short service of Evening Prayer at St Nicholas most Wednesday afternoons at 4pm, all welcome.

Soup Lunch

Again a big thank you to everyone for making Soup Lunch so successful. As always the soup was delicious so lots of happy customers. We have money ready for donation so please let me know of any favourites. One or two charities have been suggested already. The next Soup Lunch will be Friday 11th November 12.30 - 2pm.

Chris Hook

Big Breakfast

The much anticipated Big Breakfast hosted by the Hinxworth and Edworth WI (some members pictured at the top of page 3) was a super success enjoyed by everyone who attended. So many big breakfasters arrived, locals and from further afield with their friends and families. Thank you everyone - villagers, visitors and all members of the WI and their husbands and partners too for helping to make this breakfast such a success.

The event really highlighted what a friendly bunch the WI is and hopefully will encourage some of you to come along to one of our meetings and see what else we get up to. Some of the money raised will go to the WI so that we can continue to get good speakers for future meetings, we are also making a donation to the Church and buying a thank you plaque to put on the new bench that Mr Grimmer has so kindly presented to the village.

Chris Hook



WI Members getting ready for the Big Breakfast

Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday is on the 13th this year. The day starts with a service at our church St Nicholas at 9:45 followed by the service of remembrance at the war memorial with a two minutes silence at 11:00. The day provides an opportunity for people to remember their relatives and friends actions in the armed forces, emergency services and others by wearing their medals on the right chest. Individual's personal medals are worn on the left side. After the service the pub will provide coffee and tea.

Alec Stephenson

Advent Windows

A big thank-you to Sharon Tyler-Dawson for volunteering to get this year's Advent Windows organised. Like last year, this will run from the 15th December. If you would like to take part in the festive village event please call or text Sharon on 07496 641 934.

Christmas Card Scheme

As Christmas is approaching the Alternative Christmas Card Scheme in Hinxworth and Edworth means a donation can be made to one or both of the chosen charities instead of buying and sending Christmas cards to friends and neighbours in Hinxworth and Edworth. A printed Christmas card with seasonal greetings and the names of all the participants will be delivered to every house in the two villages before Christmas. This year, the chosen charities are the Garden House Hospice in Letchworth, which provides a wide range of services for patients, their carers, and families facing a life limiting illness; and the British Red Cross who help people in the UK and around the world get support when crisis strikes.

If you would like to participate in the scheme I have set up a Just Giving page for the Garden House Hospice (www.justgiving.com/Rachel-Giles11) and for the British Red Cross (www.justgiving.com/Rachel-Giles12). When donating, please tick "hide donation amount from public view". It is also imperative that you put the names of all the people in your household including surname, and tick the box saying "happy to share contact details with Rachel Giles" so that I can include all the contributors' names in the Christmas card. If you have participated in the Alternative Christmas Card Scheme in previous years I have your address (which is put in the card alongside your name) but if you are new to the village or moved house in the past year please email me your address - rachel@gilesunlimited.co.uk. Please can donations be made by Monday 5th December. If you prefer not to use Just Giving please put your contribution in an envelope with your name and address. Cheques can be made payable to "Garden House Hospice Care" or "British Red Cross". Please drop donations to me at Bury End Farm, Ashwell Road, Hinxworth by Monday 5th December.

To artists in Hinxworth or Edworth, I need a Christmas picture/design for the Card this year. If you are interested (perhaps you are doing GCSE or A Level Art, or just enjoy drawing/painting) please get in touch with me. rachel@gilesunlimited.co.uk.

Rachel Giles



For the Fallen by Laurence Binyon

(10 August 1869 – 10 March 1943)

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children, England mourns for her dead across the sea.

Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit, Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.

There is music in the midst of desolation and a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young, straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.

They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted, they fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again; they sit no more at familiar tables at home;

They have no lot in our labour of the day-time; they sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound, felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,

To the innermost heart of their own land they are known as the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust, moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,

As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness, to the end, to the end, they remain.

ST MARY MAGDALENE, CALDECOTE, SG7 5LD

Carols by Candlelight

SATURDAY 10TH OF DECEMBER - 3:30PM

CAROL SINGING BY CANDLELIGHT
MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES SERVED
AT THE INTERVAL

TICKETS £10

For more information & tickets go to: <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/559010/>