

» Village Voice «

July 2013

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.142

Olympic Legacy Comes to Hinxworth

**OUR
BIG
GIG**

Did you know that due to the success of the Olympic Games in bringing communities together all over the country, the Government has made funds available through the Arts Council to extend the reach of the Cultural Olympiad to include rural communities?

As a local event specialist I have been successful in securing funding from the Arts Council as part of the 'Our Big Gig' initiative to run an interactive musical event in Hinxworth and to include also the communities of Edworth, Newnham, Caldecote, Ashwell, The Mordens and Litlington.

On Saturday 13th July all are welcome to join us at Hinxworth Village Hall between the hours of 10am and 2pm for a fun filled programme of song based musical activity. I have managed to persuade some local musical talent to share their enthusiasm and musicality with you: Tony Ridgway-Cole, the flamboyant conductor at Letchworth City Chorus, Clare Adam of Workplace Harmony and soon to be singing for the Queen as part of the Coronation Festival at Buckingham Palace, and David Mills, our very own Frank Sinatra.

Families are welcome as activities are suitable for all. The four x one hour rolling programme is specifically designed for you to dip into for a short time or stay for the whole four hour session. Refreshments will be provided. Join us for this **free** event to create a rural room of sound with friends, family and neighbours.

For more details or to book your place please contact me on 07794 130450 or at barbs@workplaceharmony.co.uk.

Barbs White

Soup Lunch

It is with regret that I have to tell you that I can no longer organise the monthly soup lunch. Due to John's ill health, I cannot commit my time to the monthly task of organising it.

Thank you all for your support especially the very kind ladies who have made soup over the last ten and a half years. Once again a big thank you to you all. Soup lunches will continue as Elaine and Nichola Watler have volunteered to take on the organising. Please give them your support. Next soup lunch July 12th, 12.30pm - 2pm in Hinxworth Village Hall.
Yvonne Tookey

Entertainment wanted!

Village Supper, 23rd November. We haven't currently got any offers for entertainment. If necessary we shall look outside of the village, but it would be good to have "home grown" entertainment.

Also, we will be running an "Auction of Promises" this year to give more people, even if you can't come to the supper itself, the opportunity to bid on lots. If you have a skill, craft or item etc. that can be put up for auction to raise money for the Village Hall, for example, 1 hours tuition on how to use the internet, a home made and decorated cake for a child's birthday, gardening, home tuition, baby sitting or taxi service (in other words pretty much anything!) for an evening, please get in contact on 01462 742505.

Victoria Scales

Butterfly Ball a success!

Thanks to all of you who supported us on the night, the evening was a great success, and we hope you all had a fabulous evening.

A big thank you to Uche for giving us another brilliant performance as always, Vittorio for serenading us while we ate. Sandy Soundz - thanks Tom and Ryan for keeping us dancing. Margaret and Gerald for their help with the bar. Paul for offering his services as barman. And finally, Maureen Lamberts Catering for a lovely meal.

Debbie, Helene, Valerie and Janice



Bike ride for Great Ormond Street

Tom Cullen, aged 7 from Hinxworth, will be riding across Devon this July. Tom and his dad, Andy, are hoping to raise money by cycling the 60 miles of off-road tracks that join the North-South cycle trail across the county. The ride will take a few days, with stops for refuelling and sleep, and perhaps a bit of cricket practice in the evenings. Tom says "We planned to do a big bike ride this summer, and I asked if we could raise money while we are doing it. I chose Great Ormond Street Hospital because they are a hospital just for children and they make children better."

If you could spare a few pounds to sponsor Tom on his adventure and help him reach his target of £400 for this important cause, he would be so pleased. To sponsor Tom, please go to www.justgiving.com/tomsdevontrek, or get in touch with Annie on 07561 103848. Thank you.

Annie Cullen



Casino night cancelled

Due to lack of interest, this event has been cancelled.

Jan Raynham

Village outing

Two places have become available on the outing to Harlaxton Manor and Castle Ashby gardens on Wednesday July 24th. Please phone for info and to book, £25 per person.

Sylvia 01462 742505

The Hinxworth Golf Society visits Wyboston Lakes Golf Course....!

The Hinxworth Golf Society Spring Meeting was held at Wyboston Lakes Golf Club on May 31st which must have been the hottest day of the year so far! We had wonderful sunshine and bright blue skies all day.

Armed with 'dusted off' golf clubs and numerous golf balls, 12 Hinxworth players competed in 2 team competitions during the day. There was a better ball team competition in threes in the morning over 9 holes, followed by a Ploughman's lunch and then an 18 holes Texas Scramble competition in the afternoon.



L-R: Tony Lloyd, Elaine Olson Williams, Ian Wilkinson, Jonathon Moss, Chris Vallely, Phil Joester, Jan Olson Williams, Jean Cobb, Graham White, Pat Lloyd, Dick Cobb and Shaun Kiernan.

Some very interesting golf was played. Rumour has it that Dick Cobb hit the same telegraph pole with his ball twice, nearly decapitating himself on the second occasion! Many of our players were seen foraging around in the trees rather than walking the fairways and others were spotted fishing for their balls in the many lakes and ditches around the course. Someone thought that they saw Phil Joester actually IN the water trying to retrieve some balls! It was all great fun.

The morning better ball competition was won by Elaine Olson Williams, Graham White and Jean Cobb. The afternoon Texas Scramble competition was won by Shaun Kiernan, Pat Lloyd and Phil Joester. The most improved player award went to Mrs Pat Lloyd. The overall golfer of the day was Mrs Jean Cobb.



Finally, the 'golfers clock', donated to the society in 2012 by Mr Graham White, which is a tasteless, large wall piece, with a flat Halfords own brand AA battery, was awarded to the golfer who came last in the day's rankings, Mr Dick Cobb. General consensus was that it would look quite interesting sitting next to the silver trophy in The Chapel....

The Society's autumn meeting will be held in September/early October at Abbotsley Golf Club. More details later.

Jan Olson Williams

Lux Aeterna at St. Mary's Hitchin

North Herts Guild of Singers presents Lux Aeterna, a choral celebration of light shining in the darkness with music by Edward Elgar, Jonathan Dove, John Tavener, Louis Vierne, Morten Lauridsen, Eric Whitacre, Theodore Dubois. Conductor Stephen Bullamore, Organist Colin Spinks. Saturday 6th July 7.30pm, St. Mary's, Hitchin. Tickets £12, £10, £5, from David's Bookshop, Hitchin Initiative, Evans-Pughe Strings, Highbury Post Office. Call 01462 790210 or 01438 861185, or from the website www.nhgs.org.uk.

Jo Johnson

Zumba

Just a reminder that this class takes place on Mondays and is great fun if you like to dance or exercise, 6 - 7 pm £4.50 per class. For information call 01462 742505.

Pilates

Pilates cancelled due to lack of numbers. It could start up again in September if enough people commit to coming, let me know.

Sylvia Scales 01462 742505

News of broadband development is eagerly awaited!

Hinxworth and Edworth WI

The members held the meeting this month to give the committee a well earned rest. The evening opened with the usual notices, and then our president for the evening, Clare Hay introduced Angela Collins, who is a maker of hand puppets. She also presents shows both for adults and children with the puppets she has made. She was a very vivacious person and made us laugh from start to finish as she described her life, which had not been easy by any means. She obviously had never lost her sense of humour and has an excellent imagination. She then described how she had first started to make the puppets and has made over 100 of them; many made with oddments of material from the Diddy Men of Knotty Ash, to East End characters. She had brought with her a portable stage so she gave us a little show of her own with music, which was so amusing that many of us were crying with laughter.

This was followed by a strawberry cream tea, and thanks and a gift were given to each member of the committee. If anyone is interested in booking Angela for a children's party, the number to phone is Angela Collins "Celebration Times" - 07974 277423.

The next meeting is on Thursday July 11th, which is our Garden Meeting and is to be held at Clare College, Cambridge, leaving in cars from the Three Horseshoes at 6.15pm. We take with us a picnic tea, and strawberries and cream will be provided. Also a folding garden chair is an essential as there is no seating provided in the college garden. We hope for a dry evening but an umbrella might not go amiss!!

Carol Cheney

Friday Funny Jokes Lunch (on a Sunday!)

"A day without laughter is a day wasted" - Charlie Chaplin

Roll up, roll up, roll up for the side-splitting event of the year! We are proud to announce the first, the very first, annual Friday Funny Jokes Lunch!

All profits to be shared equally between Hinxworth and Edworth WI and Hinxworth and Edworth Village Hall

An afternoon of laughter, fun, hysteria, surprises, letting our hair down, supporting our local community. Sunday October 13th 2013. Hinxworth and Edworth Village Hall. Laughter schedules to start at 12.30pm, finishing around 3pm. The funny thing is that it only costs £12.50 a head including an hysterical glass of wine! Just for a laugh, lunch will be melon followed by poached salmon and salad, followed by locally produced desserts - that should bring a smile to everyone's face!

For tickets, please contact Michael Baim on 01767 315094 or 07816 665594 or email him at penguinbaim@gmail.com.

Offshore Sailing

Is there anybody in the villages who would like to sail in the Solent Area over a weekend this summer? The cost is about £100 to £150 for the two days from Friday pm to Sunday pm. I have chartered this yacht in the picture from 19th to 21st July. More details from Alec Stephenson on 01462 742953.



Hinxworth George scoops doggie prize



A total of 20 competitors and 13 dogs competed in the Dog Friendly golf event at Abbotsley in Cambridgeshire in June. The event attracted entries from several counties. Contestants were treated to a sausage on arrival and given their own special Doggy Bag. The winners were Jan and Elaine Olson-Williams of Hinxworth, accompanied by West Highland White Terrier George with 37 points. Accepting their prizes Jan said "This event is everything golf should be, barking good fun, we laughed all the way round at the antics of the 4 dogs in our group, what a great event." Meanwhile George said "woof".

Hinxworth Parish Council

Minutes of Hinxworth Parish Council meeting, held Thursday 6th June. Present: Mr L. Whitfield, Chairman, Mr A. Cullen, Mr D. Osmond, Mr P. Watler, Mrs W. Kitchener, Clerk. Apologies: Mr E. Sore

Land rear of Francis Road: Notification has been received from NHDC of an interest by a local resident to use the area for horse grazing purposes. In principle the Parish Council has no objection but NHDC needs to clarify the following: The footpath detailed on the site plan must be enclosed safely; The fencing details surrounding the site must be clarified; The tenant will maintain the area coloured blue on the site plan. In general the Parish Council requires a more detailed plan.

Highways: Terry Wilkinson, the District Agent for Ringway Contractors on behalf of Hertfordshire Highways and a representative from Hertfordshire Highways visited Hinxworth. David Osmond reported all potholes have now been identified, the S bend sign in New Inn Road will be replaced, the condition of Francis Road is to be reviewed. The Parish Councillors agreed the Hinxworth sign by the School House also requires replacing.

Village Hall: The grassed area in front of the Village Hall: The VHMC has requested the Parish Council provide a post and linked fence to be installed around the area. A quote is awaited.

Recreation Ground: Hinxworth Archers: An additional picnic table is now in place to add to the one they kindly provided last year. The Tennis Court: The Parish Councillors agreed the availability of the Tennis Court for hire be posted on the Village website. Stotfold Junior Football Club has requested the use of the recreation ground on a Saturday morning from September to May for the next two years. The Parish Councillors need to discuss this further with the Football Club and therefore have invited them to attend the next Parish Council meeting on 4th July.

County Councillor: Tony Hunter would like to attend a Parish Council meeting in the near future. The Councillors agreed for him to attend in either September or October.

Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday July 4th 2013 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Wendy Kitchener Clerk, Hinxworth Parish Council

Shulah and Simon to play at St Nicholas

Violinist Shulah Oliver and Simon Marlow have been playing music for ten years. They are planning to record a cd of their music in St Nicholas Church during five days in August. Provided they can get some sponsorship they will give a concert in aid of St Nicholas Church at 3 pm on Sunday August 18th. To hire a concert grand piano for the five days will cost them over £900.



Shulah, 31, plays with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, the Philharmonia, and leads the Astaria String Quartet. The concert programme and the cd will include Elgar's violin sonata. More details in August Village Voice but book the date now.

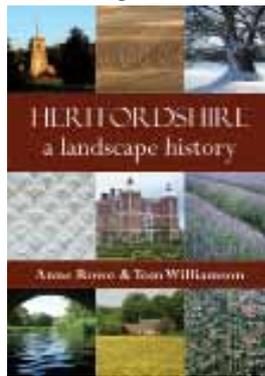
Dates for your diary

July 6th Lux Aeterna St. Mary's Hitchin, 7.30pm, see page 2
July 12th Soup Lunch, Hinxworth Village Hall, 12.30pm - 2 pm
July 13th Our Big Gig, Hinxworth Village Hall, 10am - 2pm see page 1
July 20th Hampers and Champers, 8pm - phone 01462 742136
July 24th Village Outing Harlaxton Manor 9am
August 18th Shulah Oliver and Simon Marlow concert St. Nicholas, 3pm
September 22nd Ashwell Museum trip to London, 9am
September 28th Catherine Dunlop Harp Concert, St. Nicholas 7.30pm
October 13th The Friday Funny Jokes Lunch, see page 2
November 23rd Village Supper, Hinxworth Village Hall 01462 742505
November 30th Christmas Bazaar 11am - 1pm
December 7th Afternoon of Carols at Caldecote Church
September 20th 2014 Hinxworth Village Show

Hertfordshire: A Landscape History

by Anne Rowe and Tom Williamson

Tom Williamson, Professor of Landscape History at the University of East Anglia, and Anne Rowe, well-known local landscape historian,



have collaborated on an authoritative new study of the history of Hertfordshire's landscape. Combining their expertise, they bring together extensive fieldwork with a wealth of new research. This is the first major new book on the Herts landscape since Lionel Munby's 1977 book, *The Hertfordshire Landscape*.

Although it has no coastline and no dramatic ranges of hills, Hertfordshire nonetheless has beautiful Chilterns beechwoods, intimate, almost secretive claylands to the east, ancient coppiced woodlands west of the Lea valley and sweeping chalklands to the north.

The book explains the historical processes that created what we see in the landscape today: the form and location of villages and farms, the character of fields, woods and commons, the varied building styles. In this the landscape itself acts as a major piece of evidence, for it was the geology of the land itself – how well it drained, whether the soil was fertile or less so – that determined where people chose to settle, where hamlets, villages and eventually towns grew up. In the book Hertfordshire's evolution is tracked from pre-history right through to the twenty-first century.

Perhaps the key factor in Hertfordshire's development over the last half millennium and more has been its proximity to London. Many rich Londoners ventured out into Hertfordshire to build country houses where they could relax whilst also showing off their wealth. And the capital city provided a ready market for the county's produce, particularly the malt and barley that kept London supplied with beer. Plants, rock, soil, rivers, settlements: the history of the landscape is also the deep and fascinating history of us. Heavily illustrated with maps and photographs, this definitive work will be invaluable reading for all those with an interest in the history, archaeology, and natural history of a fascinating county.

The book is available at David's Bookshop in Letchworth.

Flute and organ concert raises £350

Shame if you didn't make it to the concert by flautist Marlene Verwey and organist Herman Jordaan in St Nicholas Church, Hinxworth on May 25th. The music was heavenly, and the soloists were so impressed with the building's acoustic that they plan to return and record there, as well as giving a further concert. The concert raised around £350 towards the project to build a kitchen and toilets on the church site.

Ashwell harpist Catherine Dunlop will be giving a concert in St Nicholas Church on Saturday September 28th at 7.30 pm. Tickets, £10 to include a glass of wine, available from August 1st from Patrick Forbes, 18 Francis Road, Hinxworth, phone 01462 742015.

Thanks

Our thanks to Barry Huber for his assistance in gaining entry to a locked property following a suspected local emergency. No damage was caused and a replacement lock fitted to maintain security.

Fortunately with his help a positive outcome resulted, without which there could have been serious consequences.

Ian Wilkinson

Community Notice - Farr Festival 2013

Friday 19th to Sunday 21st July at Bygrave Plantation, Nr. Newnham. Farr Festival is a music festival with programmed entertainment between the following times: Friday - 13:00 to 06:00 (Saturday), Saturday - 13:00 to 06:00 (Sunday morning). A sound propagation test will take place on Thursday 18th July to enable us to set the sound systems to the noise limits in our Event Licence. There will be a Community Hotline available from Thursday 18th to Sunday 21st July, 24 hours a day: 07845 311 551. For more information on the festival please visit farrfestival.co.uk.

Dom Farr

On the beat

with PC 1277 Nic Musto

Let me introduce myself to you. My name is Nic Musto and I will be firstly taking over this column and also working alongside Paul Marina up until his retirement in October to make for an easy transition where I will then be your dedicated rural police officer alongside Chris Brabrook our PCSO.



I have been a police officer for 18 ½ years and 15 of those years I have been based at Royston Police Station. It's fair to say that I have quite an extensive knowledge of the rural area. Rural life is very important to me and I hope to work alongside many of you to keep our communities safe and free from crime.

Let me tell you a story of one of my first rural policing experiences way back in 1997.....!

When I was working as the Royston response car driver, I had cause to be extra vigilant in my patrols to a rural location that housed a very large compound. The company had been the victims of burglary whereupon people had entered the site over the top of some very high metal railings, started some of the machinery and then used its size and weight to drive through the railings. The company had since employed a night watchman to remain on site and to monitor the newly purchased CCTV.

alert!

One night as I was working the night shift, we received a 999 call from the night watchman. He had seen two people scale the external perimeter fence and drop down into the yard. Totally convinced that the intruders had not left the site we suggested that he remained locked in the office to continue his surveillance of the fence line.

"stop police!"

My colleague and I began searching every single hut. A torch to hand, every door was swiftly and dramatically opened. Due to the size of the area this was taking some time. By now we had made a methodical sweep through the compound and were now closing in on our prey leaving only one last corner of sheds remaining to search. Slowly we came across the final wooden hut having ducked under a wire to get to it. Just as I placed my hand on the handle and prepared to wrench the door open there was a sudden quick movement off to my left and I was nearly knocked over as they ran off! "Stop police!" I immediately gave chase on foot and could hear their heavy footsteps as they ran across the grassed area I was now on. My torch every so often just catching a flash of white as they ran, by the sounds of it there must have been two, maybe three. They were obviously tiring as I heard their footsteps slow. Sensing the pursuit coming to an end as we must be fast approaching the perimeter fence and in order to arrest three I draw my baton ready to strike!

struggle!

I stopped dead as I came upon my quarry - a white horse! I had stumbled into a field at the back and had been chasing a horse. I looked at him and he looked back at me. At this point I was joined by my colleague and after a second he also realised what had happened. We both struggled to stand on our feet as we burst into laughter! Everything we deal with is not always what it seems. No burglar was ever found, but I did manage to take home something for my roses....on my shoes.!

contact us

Nicholas.musto@herts.pnn.police.uk 01438 757986

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

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

Ring 101 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 1277 Nic Musto, North Herts Rural

Bedfordshire Police Contact

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

Church Services

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

July 14th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth

July 21st 9.15 am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth

July 28th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth

9.30 Holy Communion, St Vincent, Newnham

Community Fund Launch

Do you have an idea for an initiative that would make your community safer? I am pleased to announce the launch of the Commissioner's Community Fund – a new initiative that will provide support to innovative local schemes which aim to keep our community safe. As I have said in my Police and Crime Plan, 'Everybody's Business', I want to help individuals, communities and businesses to get together and generate ideas. This could range from small-scale purchases to big ideas needing match funding.

I am keen to support projects that show a strong partnership ethos. For example, where a local community proposes a project requiring manual labour to achieve their objectives, offenders on supervised Community Payback could be drafted in to carry out the work. I have allocated £250,000 to the Commissioner's Community Fund for 2013. Bids are welcomed from any partnerships, community groups or organisations who can contribute towards the priority areas set out in 'Everybody's Business'. These priorities include focusing on the needs of the public, particularly victims of crime, (Public Focus) ensuring that offenders make amends and pay back for the cost of crime (Offender Pays) and developing plans to apply greater Business Sense to police and crime fighting.

Bids should be submitted to thefund@herts.pnn.police.uk and will be considered on a quarterly basis, with first allocations being made this summer. For more information about both the Fund or the Plan, please go to www.hertscommissioner.org/my_plan/community_fund.aspx

David Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner

Ashwell Summer Stage School

Come and join our exciting week-long singing and acting course! We will be working on a mix of songs and drama pieces. As well as singing and acting there will be a songwriting workshop and dance / movement workshop to add extra inspiration and creativity into the mix. Young people are encouraged to create extra pieces to add to the show!

At the end of the week we have a performance for family and friends, to showcase and celebrate all the exciting pieces we have created throughout the week. Ashwell Summer Stage School is tailored to cater for all abilities and is open to all 6-12 year olds who want to sing and act. This is a chance to make new friends, build in both skill and confidence and get creative with singing and acting in a fun and relaxed environment. Monday 5th - Friday 9th August 10am - 3pm, week course £129. For more information and to book your place, please call 07903 058568 or email missaeh@hotmail.co.uk.

Alex Holmes

Ashwell's Summer Sing

Ashwell's Summer Sing is one afternoon packed full of singing! You will get to sing a mix of show, a cappella and pop music and will learn some singing technique to help explore and develop your singing voice in a fun and relaxed group environment. There is no age or experience restriction on this event, it is open to the whole local community of adults. Perhaps you love singing in the shower or along to the radio? This is an exciting opportunity to get to explore your singing voice in a group! Ashwell's Summer Sing workshop is tailored to cater for all abilities. Saturday 10th August 12pm - 5pm, £25. For more information and to book your place, please call 07903 058568 or email missaeh@hotmail.co.uk.

Alex Holmes

Don't miss copy deadline

Please send all copy and pictures for August's Village Voice to Annie Cullen, 1 Christy's Yard Hinxworth, Herts. SG7 5EH. E-mail to villagevoice3@gmail.com by **July 20th**. Village Voice, published by Forbes Services Ltd, can be read at www.hinxworth.info