

» Village Voice «

November 2014 for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.158

We shall remember them

On Sunday November 9th there will be a Communion service at St Nicholas Church at 9.45 am followed by the Remembrance ceremony and Two Minutes Silence at the War memorial in the High Street. There will be coffee afterwards at the Three Horseshoes. All welcome.

Hinxworth Live Advent Calendar

Don't miss out on your chance to be part of Hinxworth's first live Advent calendar. We've already had lots of people volunteer to turn one of their windows into a festive scene! To date, the following days are free: 3rd, 4th, 5th, 8th, 10th, 11th 15th and 23rd. Please contact Karen Mills (01462 743 311 or mrsmills@btinternet.com) if you'd like to take part. Once all of the days are full, leaflets will be posted around the village confirming the addresses taking part and the date of their 'unveiling'. We're also finalising a website so that you can share the festive fun with family and friends. Full details will be available soon.

We'll be starting with a kick-off event in the Three Horseshoes on 29th November, more details to follow.

Karen Mills

Soup Lunch

It has come to my notice that some people in the village think that our monthly Soup Lunch in the Village Hall is for those of us who are on the breadline and need a monthly bowl of soup to keep the wolf from the door!

Let me enlighten you — the Soup lunch was set up by Yvonne Tookey twelve years ago, as a non profit making exercise, to encourage people in the villages to get together once a month to chat, exchange views and generally have an enjoyable hour or two.

no two soups the same

Three different ladies on a rota system each month make a homemade soup. Even though we do not get together before the event, we have never had two soups the same. There is also on offer a choice of three desserts, and a cup of tea or coffee to follow — all for the princely sum of £3.50, not bad in this day and age. If we do make a profit it is given to charity. So lovely villagers, both young and old — we have customers from 18 months to 89 years — do come to the soup lunch and meet up with your friends. Better still, bring your friends with you, whether they live here or further afield — all are welcome.

So a choice of three freshly home made soups served with a bread roll, a choice of three homemade desserts, served with cream, custard or ice cream, and tea or coffee £ 3.50. Children can have a smaller serving at a reduced price. **Next soup lunch Friday 14th November, 12.30pm till 2pm in The Village Hall Hinxworth.**

We hope to see lots of you there - come early to avoid disappointment!
Carol Cheney

The Big Event - ironing out the cracks

To each and everyone who helped with, or attended, the Big Event, there will be a meeting on 7th November at 7pm in Hinxworth village hall. The meeting will be a virtual pat on the back to us all and an autopsy of the event, ironing out the cracks for future events. Please come, it will be a short meeting, but a most informative and important one.

Many many thanks to everyone that gave so much of their time. We did have a grand day out!

Brenda Smith

Alternative Christmas Card Scheme

It will soon be time to think about buying Christmas cards again. If you are new to the village or haven't joined this scheme before, the idea is that those taking part donate the money that they would otherwise have spent on buying and sending Christmas cards to their friends in Hinxworth and Edworth.

any amount is gratefully received

Each year we have supported a local hospice and a Third World charity; last Christmas we raised £1,250. This year, the charities we will be supporting are our local children's hospice and Sightsavers. Keech Hospice Care supports families across Herts. and Beds. with a child or young person diagnosed with a life limiting condition. Sightsavers works to cure preventable blindness in some of the world's poorest countries. Just before Christmas a card sending Christmas greetings and the names of all the participants is delivered to every house in these two villages.

money before Christmas, please

If you are interested in joining the scheme again or for the first time, all I need at this stage are your names to janetfair@btinternet.com or telephone me on 01462 743137, but it would be a great help and save me the embarrassment of having to chase up contributors, if you could, please, let me have your money before Christmas. Just put your contribution - preferably cheques, though cash is welcome too, of course - in an envelope and drop it in to me at "Cammocks", Chapel Street, Hinxworth. Cheques should be made out to Keech Hospice Care and/or Sightsavers. You may wish to divide your money between both charities. If your contribution is in the form of cash, do remember to write your name on the envelope and which cause(s) you would like to support.

gift aid is a bargain

Finally, but most importantly, if you are a UK taxpayer and would like to make your contribution through Gift Aid, do please let me know. It's a great help to the charity concerned as it can then reclaim another 25p in the £1 without any extra cost to you. Gift Aid forms can be downloaded from the internet, or I can supply one. We have not collected for Sightsavers through the Christmas Card Scheme before, but if you have contributed to either organisation through Gift Aid in the past you will not need to complete another form. Just let me know. Meanwhile, remember - you don't need to buy so many Christmas cards!

Janet Fair

Village Supper - 15th November

£12.50 per head, three course meal and entertainment - tickets still available. We have the following auction items available to bid on ahead of the village supper: - two tickets to see Arsenal vs. QPR play on Boxing Day 2014, with thanks to Graham White; - four nights, five days in self-catering cottage, Brecon Beacons, with thanks to Viv Hughes. If you are interested in bidding on any of these items, please get in contact.

Victoria Scales, 01462 742505 - 12 Francis Rd

Christmas Bazaar

Seasonal gifts to buy, tea, coffee and cake and a visit from Father Christmas. Large tables still available, £10 per table - or small table if you don't mind sharing, £5 per small table. If you are interested, please contact Victoria on 01462 742505.

Hinxworth and Edworth WI

A most enjoyable WI meeting was held on Thursday 9th October, three members decided that we all needed to know how to wrap our Christmas and birthday presents.

Yvonne Tookey introduced the meeting and said that Marion Willan and Jan Youngman would show us how to do this with great expertise. Marion Willan, unbeknown to us, used to work for Thornton's Chocolate Company wrapping boxes of chocolates, and showed us how to wrap that difficult round tin. How many times has it turned out to be a dog's dinner after we have fought with the wrapping paper and tape? Marion showed us the easy way and she wrapped a round tin very expertly that looked amazing. Then, along came Jan Youngman with various decorations to enhance the gift.

Following that, Yvonne took the cloths off the two tables at the back of the hall and there, in all its splendour, was wrapping paper, tape, ribbon and a large selection of decorations. We were instructed by Yvonne to get into pairs and choose a container to wrap from the varied selection available which would be judged at the end of the evening.

The eventual winner was Pat Lloyd, who had wrapped a very small box and decorated it beautifully. She was awarded a small gift, attractively wrapped and decorated of course!

Next month's meeting: Thursday November 13th, 7.45 Village Hall, Hinxworth, subject Jewellery Making with Heidi Mason.

Carol Cheney

Visit to IWM London

On October 2nd, a coach full of villagers left Ashwell for a day in London to visit the refurbished Imperial War Museum. We seemed to take a long time to get there and to return, but once there, there was much to see. The displays concerning life in the trenches in the First World War were well worth seeing and gave the visitor a sense of what it must have been like for those fighting there. There were exhibitions of the work of 1914-1918 war artists and more than a hint of the controversy surrounding some of their work. Did they show the true horror, was their work propaganda?

war horse appears

Coffee and lunch were available, and the weather was kind enough to let us sit outside at tea time. For those who did, there was a surprise appearance of War Horse, out for exercise in the grounds. It was an interesting and thought-provoking day. Thanks to the Friends of Ashwell Museum for organising it.

Patrick Forbes



war horse visits IWM

Dear Editor,

We are back in the fast lane here at Place Farm thanks to Village Voice and the article by David Rumball. We followed his advice to the letter and are now enjoying a 22mbps broadband service via EE LTE.

Previous BT offering 1.9mbps at best! I have cancelled the BT contract and have made a saving on our monthly outgoings. I have found that an external antenna is required to pull in the signal, this also enables one to position the router conveniently. The up front costs are: the router £134.00, the antenna £33.00, antenna extension lead £8.00. The monthly cost ex VAT IS £30.00 so £36.00 inc. So thank you David Rumball and thank you to the Village Voice.

All the best,

Colin Bone

Winter Wonderland

On Saturday 6th December 2014, 10am - 12.30pm at the URC Hall, Ashwell. Santa's grotto, rides on Onkey the donkey, mulled wine and refreshments, 'Made in Ashwell' Christmas gifts, a raffle and much more festive fun for the family! In aid of Ashwell Playgroup. Contact 07710 504018 for further details.

Go MAD in Tanzania



In September, Caroline and John Gearing and Gaye Rowlands spent three weeks in Tanzania, doing voluntary work with the charity, Go MAD (Go Make A Difference). We worked with poor village communities, building water tanks, goat sheds, latrines, continuing to build a new health centre with houses for a doctor and nurse, helping in the orphanage and leprosy community, teaching menstrual hygiene to older girls in school and women in the villages, taking very ill children and adults to hospital and paying for their medical care, as well as other projects.

Many of you have been extremely generous with donations towards this work and we want to share our experiences with you.

If you are interested to hear more and see photos and video, there will be a Go MAD Evening on Saturday, 8th November, in St Mary's Church, Ashwell from 7.00pm. This is an invitation for anyone in Ashwell, Hinxworth, Newnham and Edworth to join us.

There will be a 'Bring and Share Supper' and wine and soft drinks available. Please bring a plate of food to share (savoury or sweet), plus your own plate, bowl, glass and cutlery.

For any further details, ring Gaye (742758) or Caroline (742515)

Harvest Festivals

Between 70 and 80 villagers attended Harvest Festivals in St Nicholas and St Vincent churches in October. Both churches were seasonally decorated with grain, flowers, fruit and vegetables. After the service in St Nicholas, there was coffee and harvest loaves baked especially by Patrick and Annette Forbes. At Newnham, there was a glass of wine for those thirsty after lustily singing harvest hymns. Collections at both churches raised more than £250 for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal to help teach Egyptian women to read and write.

and a poem

Harvest Time has come at last
Apples and berries are growing fast
Rain has fallen on the land
Vital crops are new and grand
Everyone has come together
Singing now forever and ever
Thank you, God, for harvest.

Gus Hartree



a home-made harvest loaf

Dates for your diary

November 1st Hallowe'en Party 3pm - 5pm. Hinxworth Village Hall

November 7th Alternative Quiz Night Ashwell Village Hall

November 8th St. Nicholas Churchyard clean up 10 am

November 14th HYP Hinxworth Village Hall

November 15th Village Supper

November 29th Christmas Bazaar

December 6th Winter Wonderland URC Hall Ashwell

January 31st 2015 Village Quiz

September 3rd 2016 - The Big Event

Hinxworth Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Hinxworth Parish Council held on Thursday 2nd October at 7pm in Hinxworth Village Hall.

Present: Mr D. Osmond, Chairman, Mr A. Cullen, Mr E. Sore, Mr P. Watler, Mrs W. Kitchener, Clerk.

Correspondence: A Village Sign for Hinxworth: Jan Olson- Williams has written to the Parish Council with the idea of a sign to be sited in the Village. Her intention is to contact Businesses/Organisations/Residents within Hinxworth for the design and siting of the sign. Funding to be from within the Village and possibly grants. Her intention is to oversee and manage the project. In principle the Parish Council is in agreement if the Villagers give their consent. In the meantime the Parish Council will contact the local authorities, Council and District for their authorisation, if necessary, and their input for the project.

Finance: Current Parish Council Funds: The Councillors present signed the expenditure for the current month. Proposed by David Osmond and seconded by Eric Sore.

Annual Audit: BDO the external auditor has returned the Annual Return for 2013/2014. This has been approved and accepted by the Parish Councillors.

Planning: Planning application 14/01745/1HH Hamstead, High Street Hinxworth. The Parish Councillors agreed unanimously to object to the above planning application.

Highways: New Inn Road:- Hertfordshire Highways has yet to carry out the necessary work on the overhanging vegetation and the verges. Tony Hunter has again been notified the work has not been carried out. The Parish Council is awaiting his response. In the meantime the Hinxworth/Ashwell Road requires the same work to be carried out.

Recreation Ground: Overgrown Hedging: A quote is awaited from David Granger for the cutting back of hedges and trees.

Play Area Inspection: This is to take place within the next month.

The Tennis Court: The new tennis net posts have been purchased and installed. The court is now attracting more players on a regular basis.

The Allotments: The plot 7a licence has been signed by the allotmenter Pat Lloyd. The Parish Council Chairman and Clerk have now signed off the licence on behalf of the Parish Council.

Any Other Urgent Business: Hinxworth Youth Club: Annie Cullen and Karen Mills attended for this item. They put forward a proposal for a youth club for the Village. The Parish Council support the project wholeheartedly and wish the team well.

Stotfold Junior Football Club: Andy Bainbridge Club Secretary attended for this item: He thanked Hinxworth Parish Council for the use of the Recreation Ground for the 2013/2014 season which had allowed for the Junior Teams a venue to play. For the 2014/2015 season facilities had been made available by Stotfold Town Council for three more pitches in Stotfold, but with a fast growing interest in junior football Andy felt it could be likely SJFC may request the use of the Recreation Ground sometime in the not too distant future.

Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday November 6th 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

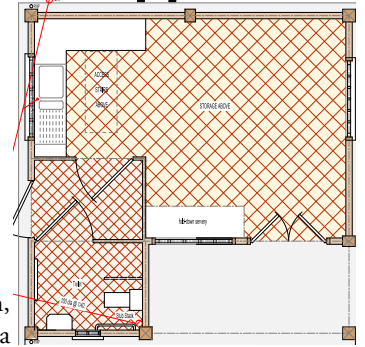
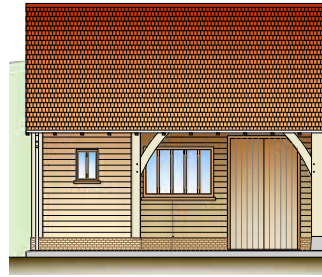
Wendy Kitchener Clerk, Hinxworth Parish Council

National Youth Harp Orchestra

The National Youth Harp orchestra, formerly known as the International Harp Ensemble, will perform at St Mary's Church, Ashwell on the 23rd of November.

A musical feast for the eye and the ear! Experience the captivating sound of this 25 piece harp ensemble as it journeys through a musical landscape including light classical, Celtic repertoire, romantic pieces, jazz and modern/popular music. You will be amazed at the versatility of the Ensemble, comprising some of Britain's finest harpists under the directorship of the witty and gregarious Luisa Cordell. They have performed internationally in France, Belgium, Portugal and Germany and have recently returned from a tour to the USA where they performed at a private dinner reception given by the British Ambassador for Bill and Hillary Clinton, Barbra Streisand and the Prince of Saudi Arabia.

St. Nicholas Appeal



St Nicholas Church, Hinxworth, is to have a kitchen and a toilet and a meeting room and storage space. We took advice about whether these extra facilities could be shoe-horned into the existing medieval building and were advised that it would not be possible. So we decided to have a new building sited where the existing shed stands, on your right as you walk from the road to the church. Anyone who has been to any service, baptism, wedding, funeral or concert in the church will know that the lack of a loo is often a real problem.

Geoff Burrows designed the building illustrated above and the Church Council applied for planning permission to North Herts. District Council. Permission has been given and the oak framed building has been ordered from Shires Oak Buildings of Ufton, Leamington Spa.

The building is being paid for out of church funds. However, to put in the kitchen, disabled toilet, meeting room and to furnish and equip the building will cost around £25,000. So we are launching an appeal to find this money. Stuart Lillie and Eric Sore and others have agreed to organise the appeal.

a village asset

St Nicholas Church has not made any major appeal to the local community in the 16 years I have been living here. With help from villagers and the Friends of St Nicholas we were able to pay for the new oak pews, the oak screen and the flooring at the back of the church in recent years, changes which have won general admiration and approval. The church is a village asset, dating from 1322. Hinxworth and Edworth villagers are welcome to any or all of its services, have the right to be married and have their children baptised in the church, be buried in the churchyard.

The building and its grounds are maintained by the church congregation for and on behalf of those who live in Edworth and Hinxworth. Hinxworth Parish Council makes an annual grant towards the cost of keeping the churchyard tidy.

The Diocese of St Albans does not make any contribution to our maintenance costs. Indeed, the congregation pays over £8,000 a year as a contribution to the training, accommodation and expenses of whoever is the priest in Ashwell.

we need your help

So now we need your help. The building will be delivered and built some time in December. Stuart and Eric and I are putting our heads together but we want to hear from you with suggestions, ideas however wild. If you would like to donate directly, please send cheques payable to PCC of Hinxworth to the honorary treasurer at Peele Patch, The Close, Hinxworth, Baldock, Herts, SG7 5HS or BAC to 30-94-30 account number 01065282 with reference New Building Gift, and email alecstephenson@btinternet.com that you have done so. Thank you.

Patrick Forbes 01462 742015

Alternative' Quiz Night

Friday 7th November, Ashwell Village Hall at 8pm. Book your babysitters and get your thinking caps on, in preparation for Ashwell Playgroup's 'Alternative' Quiz. Expect the unexpected! Contact 07966 034795 for tickets.

Ashwell Baby and Toddler & Messy Play Christmas Party!

On Thursday 11th December 2014, 9.45am 'til 11.15am at the URC Hall, High Street, Ashwell. Music, fun and a visit from you know who! Tickets £2.50 per child available on the door.

On the beat with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook



Shed/Outbuilding Burglary Update

Regular readers will be aware that we have had a spate of shed/outbuilding burglaries recently. Just a quick update regarding this issue, we have received information to suggest a group of possible offenders. We are gathering information and we hope to have the possible offenders in custody in the near future. I hope next month I will be able to share some positive news relating to this issue.

school parking - advice to parents

With a new academic year, parents in Hertfordshire have been warned by police about the dangers to children of parking outside schools while on the school run. Parking close to schools is a significant issue across the county and parents are reminded to be mindful when dropping off or picking up their children and not to fall into the habit of parking illegally or in a thoughtless or dangerous manner.

Inspector Phil Bloor, from the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Road Policing Unit, said: "The area outside school entrances must be kept clear to allow an unrestricted view for approaching drivers and riders or children wanting to cross the road. Road markings are there for a reason and drivers must not wait, park or stop to set down or pick up passengers on school entrance markings."

don't park inconsiderately

Parents are also reminded not to park inconsiderately and in a way which will inconvenience residents, other road users or in a way that obstructs the road. Insp Bloor added: "We want parents and children to get to and from school safely. Parents should be prepared to park a little further away from schools to avoid parking in places which will cause danger to children and to other road users."

"As the nights start drawing in, the risks posed by inconsiderate parking by the small minority greatly increase. If members of the public have any concerns in relation to illegal or unsafe parking outside schools, I would urge them to report it to police on 101. We will endeavour to improve safety working with our partners and carry out enforcement action where necessary."

Parents are advised to not stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- at or near a bus or taxi rank
- on the approach to a level crossing
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- near the brow of a hill or hump bridge
- opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle
 - where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
 - in front of an entrance to a property or on a bend
 - Where you would obstruct cyclists' use of cycle facilities except when forced to do so by stationary traffic.

Hertfordshire Police contact

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.

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

November 2nd 10.15am Family service St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
November 9th 9.45am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
November 16th 9.15am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
November 23rd 9.15am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
9.30am Holy Communion St Vincent, Newnham
November 30th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth

Churchyard clean up

It's time to tidy up St Nicholas' churchyard again. We will meet on Saturday November 8th at 10 am. Coffee and biscuits will be provided. Please come and help and bring any gardening tools you think you will use. Thank you.

Patrick Forbes

HYP Youth Club Update Free Taster Night Friday 14th November

The taster session for HYP is fast approaching and the children and teenagers are getting very excited about coming along. Thank you to all of you who have expressed an interest in coming at 7pm on Friday November 14th, and for all you other potential "Hypsters", it's not too late to let us know that you want to come, or if you are really cool just turn up on the night and surprise us. We really want you to come and tell us what you want your youth club to be. Get your thinking caps on for cool ideas for fun nights, creative designs for a HYP logo and a 'name the snack bar' competition.

can you please help us?

Entry to this taster session will be free and we would like to thank the Parish Council and North Herts Council for their generous funding which has allowed us to purchase some initial kit that everyone will enjoy. Also thanks to the support of VHMC with this project. Thanks also to the Perricone family who have donated a pool table, Jacqui Johnson for loan of an air hockey table, Andy Cullen for a Nintendo Wii and Les Whitfield for a donation on a TV. Please bring along some pocket money to enjoy the chocolate fountain, freshly fried chips and other yummy snacks and drinks. We are also looking for parental help on a rota basis so please let us know if you are interested.

HYP Team

Jayne Whitfield 07974 572938 jayne@ehed.co.uk, Annie Cullen 07561 103848 aandacullen@btinternet.com, Karen Mills 07967 613255 mrmills@btinternet.com

Buddhist Temple visit

23 villagers visited the Amaravati Buddhist Monastery at Great Gaddesden on Saturday October 18th. It was another excursion by members and friends of Mustard Seed, the St Nicholas Church housegroup. In past years we have been to the West London Synagogue and the Central London Mosque. We were made welcome and were shown round the monastery, established in 1985.

shoes off and on

We assembled to eat a shared lunch with the community and other visitors, after which we were encouraged to ask questions about the community and about Buddhism. There was a large selection of free books and leaflets available to be taken away and read. By the end of the visit we had nearly all got used to taking our shoes off and putting them on again, a community tradition. Thanks to Rochelle and Peter Mortier for arranging the visit.



Don't miss copy deadline

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