

» Village Voice «

September 2014 for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.156



We invite you to **The Big Event** 6th September

There will be dancing, playing and dressing to impress
Glamour, judging of dogs and of talent
There will be eating, drinking and competing
Sporting, creating and selling of wares
Face painting and tattoos for those who so wish
There will be chatting and smiling and new friends made
Most importantly there will be laughter and laughter some more

There's still time to enter your latest recipe, build up a scarecrow,
Or find a biggest marrow found under your bushes
Entries can be received until 11.30am on the day
Afternoon extravaganza will starting from 12.00pm
Everyone is invited. Everyone is welcome
We still need help in setting up the showground if you are able
around 7.30am or at 5.00pm
Please come and help

Hinxworth & Edworth Village Hall Management Committee
For more information contact Jack Smith 01462 743104

Hi there, children!

Are you ready to dress up for the most exciting Fancy Dress Competition? Are you under 11? Can you pretend to be a fruit or a vegetable? Yes? Then don't forget to come to the Big Event on Saturday September 6 at 2.30 pm on Hinxworth Recreation Ground. It's going to be great... honestly. We already know that there will be a banana walking around so just imagine you could join it as well – take a selfie and send it to all your friends.

be a pea, a tomato, an apple

So how about it...perhaps you would like to be a pea, or a tomato, or an apple, or even another banana. It will be such fun and what's more..... the winner will get a special trophy to keep forever.

If you have any questions all you have to do is call us on 01767 315094 and we would love to talk to you. We can't wait to see you all at the Rec. Heather and Michael Baim

Car Boot Sale

PITCHES MUST BE PRE-BOOKED

HINXWORTH REC SEPT 6TH 12-5PM

**£5.00 pitch payment upfront.
No tradesmen**

To book your pitch
Contact Jack Smith 07889840376

Fundraising for a cure for Diabetes



My name is Isla Tookey, I am eight years old and I have Type One Diabetes. I've had it since I was three years old and it can make life very difficult at times as I have around eight blood tests every day, more if my blood is very high or low or if I'm poorly, but I know I have to have them to keep me well. I have had thousands of injections but I am now on a pump which I like much better, but I don't like it when mum and dad have to wake me at 2 am to make me eat if my blood is too low. I have met lots of children like me who have Type 1 Diabetes and it makes me very sad.

help find a cure

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, JDRF, is trying to find a cure for Type One and I want to do something to help. Last year my big brother George raised £1000 for JDRF by doing a sponsored bike ride and I was really proud of him. On 7th September 2014 we are both doing the Woburn Triathlon; I am doing the Scootathlon and George is doing the Duathlon! We are quite excited about it and hope to be able to raise some more money for JDRF to help find a cure for me and all the other Type One children. If you feel you can sponsor us, we would be really grateful. Thank you.

To donate on line, go to www.virginmoneygiving.com, enter David Tookey in the **sponsor your friend** box, and that will take you to George and Isla's Triathlon for JDRF.

Isla Tookey

Tortoise Sebastian goes walkabout

We have lost our small tortoise called Sebastian. He doesn't answer to his name but if you did see him, he's the one on the right of the photo, could you pop him in a shoe box with a few holes in it and please call Mandy on 07772 510154 or 01462 742729. Thank you.



Don't miss copy deadline

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

Cracking tea in Edworth

What to do on a Sunday afternoon? I thought we should go and try the Summer Barn Tea Room in Edworth. We rolled up, parked, rang the bell and in no time at all, we were sitting down in a new pine clad tea-room. Sue Cranston appeared, we ordered scones, cream and jam and a pot of tea for two.

The scones were huge and tasty, the cream and jam delicious, the tea hot and freshly made. The décor was cheerful, and there were some cushions made by Sue available for sale, along with a large footstool.

bed and breakfast

We thoroughly enjoyed the experience and can unreservedly recommend the Summer Barn. Sue and husband David used to run a bed and breakfast in Devon and know what hospitality and customer service are all about. They still run bed and breakfast at Edworth and I bet it's very comfortable indeed.

best to book

We didn't book, but if you suspect everyone else is going there for tea, it would be worth ringing Sue on 01767 600523 to book in advance. Open weekends 11 am - 4.30 pm, and Thursdays and Fridays during school holidays.

Patrick Forbes



Signwriter Jack



Jack Smith working on one of the Big Event signs

sight-seeing



This hot air balloon was spotted over Hinxworth

Dates for your diary

September 6th The Big Event Horticulture show and afternoon extravaganza
September 11th WI meeting, Hinxworth Village Hall 7.45 pm
September 12th Soup Lunch Hinxworth Village Hall, 12.30pm
September 13th Heritage Open Day St. Mary's, Caldecote, 1pm - 5pm
September 14th Heritage Open Day St. Mary's, Caldecote, 1pm - 5pm
September 20th Copy deadline for October Village Voice
October 4th Ashwell Book weekend St. Mary's Ashwell, 10am - 5pm
October 5th Ashwell Book weekend St. Mary's Ashwell, 2pm - 5pm
October 31st Hallowe'en Disco Village Hall
November 15th Village Supper, Hinxworth Village Hall
November 29th Christmas Bazaar, Hinxworth Village Hall
January 31st 2015 Village Quiz

Solid wall insulation - the key to five star comfort?

Homes with solid walls are often draughty and expensive to keep warm in winter. The Green Deal Home Improvement Fund has offered to pay up to 75% of the cost of installing solid wall insulation (up to £6,000). However, a common objection, aside from the cost and disruption, is that wall insulation might spoil the looks of a property.

We understand that the government's green deal home improvement fund is now closed to new applications - Editor.

deeper window sills, increased comfort

One option is to insulate internally at the front and externally to the rear. That way your home's façade stays unchanged. 10cm of depth may be lost from your front room, but you gain deeper window sills and increased comfort.

A more breathable insulation like wood fibre or mineral wool, used internally, will reduce any risk of condensation forming inside the wall. Using polystyrene will speed up external wall insulation, being easy to cut to accommodate external pipe work, prior to rendering.

adequate ventilation is vital

You'll probably need to make other improvements to get the full benefits. Cornices will need extending, sash windows double glazing and the front door draught-proofing. Retaining adequate ventilation is vital, so a new ventilation unit may complete the picture.

Is it all worth it? If many early adopters are to be believed, solid wall insulation is key to achieving five star comfort in an older home. You can quiz a private homeowner on the pros and cons at a free SuperHome Open Day. Book now at www.superhomes.org.uk

Gordon Glass

Caldecote Heritage Open Days



picture: Matthew Saunders

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September. The Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Caldecote will be open from 1.00pm to 5.00pm each day. Admission Free, ample parking, Cream teas, Bric-a-Brac Stall, Live barrel organ music.

the tower roof leaks

Come and imagine how this little church welcomed its first visitors in 1350! The tower roof leaks! Donations to the restoration fund are welcome.

See www.caldecotechurchfriends.org.uk or www.heritageopendays.org.uk/directory/caldecote-church for more information.

Peter Robbins 01462 742440

Anyone for cricket?

If you would like to watch the newly formed Hinxworth cricket team playing in their first (and possibly only) match against Ashwell, come along to Ashwell rec on Sunday 7th September. Time to be confirmed, please check the village notice board for more details.

Andy Cullen

Archery into the community



On Saturday 2nd August 2014 Hinxworth Archery Club of Hertfordshire invited nine members of Biggleswade's Women's Institute to "Have a go" at their sport.

expert tuition

Over two hours five members of HAC including new UK Masters National Tournament compound champion Neil Bridgewater and youngest HAC archer, his nine year old daughter Evie, acquainted the ladies with the technique of archery as they shot two dozen arrows in competition. The winner had a total points score of 178 and was presented with a small trophy by HAC secretary David Osmond.

big event have a go

HAC will be continuing to bring archery to the community by hosting a 'Have a go' at the Hinxworth village's 'Big Event' in September.

David Osmond

Not superfast broadband but an improvement

A few months ago, my internet service provider Plusnet decided to send a BT Openreach engineer to check why my broadband was so slow. The engineer came and took all manner of measurements on the line, and pronounced it noisy. There was no fault on the house wiring. He went off to the cabinet at the corner of New Inn Road, hoping to find a quieter line. He returned some 90 minutes later, saying he had found a quieter line. My broadband speed had improved to over 2 Mbps. Within days a near neighbour told me that her broadband speed had mysteriously decreased. There has to be a limit to the number of times BT can work this trick with a degrading line from Ashwell!

water in an overhead cable

A month or two later, my broadband vanished altogether. Plusnet sent another BT Openreach engineer to investigate. I suggested that he should cut the cable and splice a new piece of cable to enter a room just inside the house. This he did. When he cut the cable, I noticed water dripping from inside the cable. It went on dripping for some minutes. Presumably the cover at the top of the street pole had been breached, allowing water to enter the cable and wick down its length. The engineer said he had never seen such a thing from an overhead wire. It was to be expected in underground cables!

not superfast but 2.6 Mb/s

He made the new connection, installed a new master-socket, and we clocked speeds up to 2.6 Mb/s. I had been advised to remove as much of the existing internal phone wiring as possible, as this can conspire to slow down broadband speeds. "Keep it simple, Stupid," seems to be the best advice so I have bypassed all the older internal phone wiring, and use a new set of cordless phones. If any reader would like to give a good home to a set of four BT Edge 1500 cordless phones with answering machine and charging bases, I'd be only too pleased.

Patrick Forbes

Next month we will be printing an article by David Rumball on how he dispensed with BT's landline and achieved broadband speeds of 60 to 80 Mb/s and upload speeds of 16 to 20 Mb/s.

Village Trip to Highgate Cemetery



Not everyone's cup of tea perhaps but 29 villagers and friends enjoyed the village outing this year starting off with a guided tour of the very atmospheric Highgate West Cemetery. Our guide was Simon who was not only very informative but regaled us with amusing anecdotes about the unusual graves and persons buried in them. This cemetery, unusual because of its Gothic and Greek allusions, was left to go wild for much of the 20th century until rescued by its Friends. Even now it is dangerous to stray off the maintained paths for you are at risk not only of breaking an ankle on the riotous foliage but of plunging through broken and unmarked graves!



bare knuckle boxing leads to nowhere

This was a hugely interesting visit to a most unusual venue and the weather stayed fine and dry. Among the residents interred here are Alexander Litvinenko and Thomas Sayers the most famous bare knuckle boxing champion of the 19th century whose notorious last fight involved a train from Kings Cross to destination labelled 'nowhere' and a blank ticket! And all because this kind of fighting was illegal and the authorities wanted to prevent it occurring. It strikes me that this may have been the forerunner of illegal raves! Many monuments here are testaments to vanity and a desire to impress, among them is the largest vault of General Sir Loftus William Otway whose vault would easily hold 16 but who stipulated that only direct line descendents could be buried here. However he ran out of direct line descendents and so half of the spaces are vacant!

well timed thunder and rain

After a quick visit to Karl Marx's tomb on the East side it was off to Kenwood House for most people's enjoyment of a much needed and lengthy cup of tea - lengthy because it was now the heavens chose to open with the claps of thunder and a torrential downpour which would have lent even more atmosphere to the cemetery visit but which would have been even more unwelcome!

Thank you to those who supported this year's strange choice of venue! Good ideas for next year welcome.

Sylvia Scales

September WI Meeting

The September meeting of the Womens Institute will be held on Thursday September 11th in The Village Hall, Hinxworth, at 7.45pm. The speaker will be Barry Huber, on House Security.

All members and new members welcome, husbands too if it would be of interest to them.

Carol Cheney

On the beat with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook



Help Hertfordshire Constabulary fight crime with new phone app

A mobile phone or tablet app has been launched in Hertfordshire which gives opportunities for members of the public to help solve crime. The 'Facewatch ID' app can be downloaded on many portable devices and offers the user the ability to scroll through photographs and identify people that Hertfordshire Constabulary would like to speak to in relation to crimes or as witnesses or victims. 'Facewatch ID' is also available for PC or Mac, with the user simply visiting a website to view the same images.

Facewatch have provided the system for free to Hertfordshire Constabulary and intelligence officers will upload the images themselves, depicting people who are sought in connection with an incident or active investigation. www.facewatchid.info.

suspects on your mobile phone

When opening the app, the user either inputs their post code, or the app automatically recognises their current location. They can then select a radius of up to 50 miles to display images of those who the police seek to identify. The user can then easily scroll through a gallery of images and, should they recognise any individuals, they can simply fill out a form anonymously which is then submitted as a suggestion to the police. Should they also know the current address or whereabouts of the individuals, this can also be included.

Hertfordshire Constabulary has had for some time its own 'Wanted' section on the website, with numerous success stories of members of the public identifying individuals displayed on the web page. In addition, the Constabulary also posts the photographs on its Facebook page www.herts.police.uk/facebook

search for facewatch ID

The 'Facewatch ID' app works on both Apple and Android devices and is completely free to download. To download the app to your smart phone or tablet, just search your app store for 'Facewatch ID.' You can also download the app through the Facewatch website at www.facewatchid.info.

using technology to tackle criminals

Chief Constable Andy Bliss said: "We are committed to making Hertfordshire a safe place for people to live and 'Facewatch ID' provides yet another way for us to achieve that. We are keen to utilise technology to tackle criminals and the community can now help us to do that with this pioneering app. I would urge the people of Hertfordshire to download the app and to help us to continue to maintain Hertfordshire as one of the safest places to live in the country. Richard Thompson OBE, CEO at Facewatch, commented: "We are delighted that Hertfordshire Constabulary is using 'Facewatch ID' to identify people the police want to speak to in the county. The app is an ideal tool to involve members of the public and ask for their valuable knowledge to help the police solve crimes. We have seen some impressive results so far and we're really looking forward to the force using the app as part of their investigations."

For more information on Facewatch, please visit www.facewatch.co.uk/cms

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

September 7th 10.15am Family Service St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
September 14th 9.15am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
September 21st 9.15am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
September 28th 9.15am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
9.30am Holy Communion St Vincent, Newnham

Soup Lunch

September soup lunch is Friday 12th September 12.30pm to 2pm, Hinxworth Village Hall. £3 for a choice of soups, a choice of puddings, and tea or coffee. See you there.

Hurricane Bertha comes to Hinxworth



We may have experienced just the last dregs of Hurricane Bertha all the way from the Caribbean, but there was still plenty of puff left to cause a pile of damage to our lovely lime tree avenue in the churchyard.

Steve Gumm kindly offered to cut up the fallen branches and remove them from the site. Thanks, Steve.

Gerald Clare

Ashwell Book weekend

The 15th Ashwell Book weekend will be held on Saturday 4th October from 10.00am – 5.00pm and on Sunday, 5th October from 2.00-5.00pm in St. Mary's Church, Ashwell. Entrance £1. Children under 16 free. Come and browse among the many hundreds of books, videos and D.V.Ds for sale at bargain prices. Refreshments available. All proceeds to the Church Restoration Appeal. Many thanks,

Carolyn Lush

Neighbourhood Watch / Owl Watch

There are currently around 70,000 homes signed up to Neighbourhood Watch in Hertfordshire, and evidence suggests that crime is reduced in areas where Watch schemes operate, by between 16% and 26%. Scheme membership not only makes homes more secure but can also deter anti-social behaviour, reduce insurance premiums and encourage a greater community spirit amongst residents, so it makes sense to sign up and help make your community a safer place to live.

Are you part of a Watch scheme on OWL? Why not recommend it to your friends and family? If you would like to find a local Watch scheme in your area or start one up, please visit www.owl.co.uk

For those who are unable for whatever reason to take full part in a Watch scheme, they can still get police messages and advice via OWL – a free email service which sends useful information and news about your local police and crime prevention advice to anyone who signs up who has a Hertfordshire postcode. Please visit www.owl.co.uk/herts or go to www.herts.police.uk and click on the OWL logo.

Owl is a messaging service that keeps you up to date with on-going crime trends and crime prevention advice. You can choose how you receive the information for example over the phone or via email.

Chris Brabrook