

» Village Voice «

August 2016

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.179

Brilliant Hinxfest



Around 200 villagers and friends enjoyed a superb evening at Hinxfest on July 16th on Hinxworth Recreation Ground. The event, organized by the Village Hall Management Committee, was a fantastic opportunity for people to relax and enjoy each other's company and some great music. The only jarring note was the amount of dog poo found on the site while setting up for the evening.

Two Heads for Ashwell School

Following Mrs Lisa Hall's departure to the headship of Woolgrove School in Letchworth, we shall be welcoming not one but two headteachers to our school in the coming months. The first is Mrs Suzanne Summerhayes who will be interim head until Christmas. Then she will be followed by Mr Simon England who takes over as permanent Head from January. Simon writes something about himself below. We hope to have some information about Suzanne in the September edition.

As a result of spending time supporting children in schools as a teenager, I knew from a very early age that my passion was in education. I swiftly decided to pursue a career in teaching and in 2005, having completed my BA Honours in Primary Education at Middlesex University, I began my NQT year with a little trepidation!

dinosaur hunt

I have since spent 11 happy years in teaching, four as the Deputy Headteacher at Bonneygrove Primary School, where I've worked across all age ranges. My wife, who also happens to be a teacher, and I have been married for seven years and we have two young lively boys who keep me busy running around searching for dinosaurs in the garden and playing football.



spurs supporter

In my spare time, I can be found competing on a cricket field, relaxing by a lake with a fishing rod or supporting Tottenham Hotspurs at the Lane.

My appointment as Headteacher at Ashwell Primary School is most certainly the proudest moment of my career to date. It is an honour and I feel very privileged to become part of a delightful village school which clearly has a strong community feel to it. I am extremely excited and very much looking forward to getting to know the children, parents, staff and the whole of the Ashwell community. If you see me wandering around the village as I try to familiarise myself with new surroundings, please do stop me and introduce yourself.

Simon England

Three Horseshoes August events

Starting on the 5th August and continuing every Friday after that, Fish Fridays with a choice of three fish dishes from the specials board.

Quiz Night starting on the 17th August and every third Wednesday of each month.

Bank Holiday Bash August 27 & 28

Fun for all the family: Beer Festival, Bouncy Castle, Live Music, Hog Roast.

Don't be shy, give us a try.

Harp Concert at St Mary's Church, Ashwell 10th September 2016 at 7 pm

Seven different types of harps featuring Danielle Perrett and Robin Ward and members of the Clarsach Society.

Tickets: £10, £8 concessions, children under 18 free. Buy your tickets on the night. There will be a bar. and a harp workshop 2 pm – 4pm priced at £5.00.

Big Breakfast Brunch Review

Although we have lived in Hinxworth for two years now, we haven't been to a big breakfast before. I came along on July 10th with my two children, Scarlett and Logan. How fabulous to have your breakfast cooked for you and be able to chat to other villagers at the same time! I think my sons' novel way of eating ketchup may have raised a few eyebrows, but it was at least a conversation starter. Looking around, the turnout reflected how much people in the village enjoyed it. The kids had fun though the enticement of the playground meant we didn't stay as long as I'd have liked! Thanks to everyone who cooked or helped out on the day, sterling work. We will be back next year!

Caroline Marlborough

The Big Breakfast Brunch raised £236 for Denman College. Bacon, eggs and sausages for the meal were supplied by Farrowby Farm, the home of good food.

Hinxworth and Edworth WI

Hinxworth and Edworth WI held their garden meeting at the garden of Dewmead by kind permission of Mrs Bridget Sheldrick. It was a lovely evening. Members and their husbands and partners enjoyed the lovely sunny weather whilst listening to the WI business, especially a very detailed report given by Jan Youngman of the visit by eight members to our Annual General Meeting in Brighton.

croquet meets crochet

This was followed by Biddy Sheldrick teaching several of our members to play croquet. One member had misread the minutes of the last meeting and brought along her crochet hook as she thought we were going to be taught to crochet! This caused some amusement.

Refreshments were then served, Eton mess, fresh strawberries and shortbread biscuits, followed by a cup of tea. The raffle was drawn and the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

learn about the Samaritans

There is no meeting in August. Our next meeting is on Thursday September 8th, a talk by Jayne Whitfield on The Samaritans, 7.45 pm in the Village Hall, Hinxworth.

Carol Cheney

Please don't feed these ponies



Debbie Hawthorne feeding the ponies

Molly and her three month old foal Missy, who can often be seen near the allotments off Francis Road, are fed regularly. Molly needs to lose weight, so please don't try to feed the ponies. A warning sign suggests they might just nip you!

Onkey needs jockey London coach trip



Hinxworth's Onkey the donkey needs a young jockey to keep him from being bored at weekends. Maximum weight of jockey is six stone. Call Antonia on 07802 876947.

No soup lunch in August

The next soup lunch will be served on Friday September 9th in Hinxworth Village Hall from 12.30 pm until 2 pm. Unrivalled choice of soups and puddings, plus coffee or tea, all for just £3. All welcome.

Top Hinxworth journalist retires

Hinxworth journalist Tony Lloyd has retired after 44 years in the industry. Tony, aged 62, of The Close, quit The Daily Telegraph in May after 29 years service for a new life of leisure.

He began his journalistic career as a cub reporter on The South Yorkshire Times shortly after leaving school. He later worked for The Sheffield Star as a reporter and then sub-editor. His next move was to The Daily Mail in Manchester where he spent four years before moving to London for a job on Robert Maxwell's ill-fated evening paper, The London Daily News.

met Joanna Lumley

The Daily News folded after just nine months and Tony was offered a job on The Daily Telegraph where his jobs included Northern Editor, Night Editor and, latterly, Head of Print Production. In 2005 he won Newspaper Design of the Year award, which was presented to him by the actress Joanna Lumley.

fantastic career

Tony told Village Voice: "I have enjoyed a fantastic and very rewarding career but the time has come to spend more time with Pat, on the golf course and in our caravan. I am also looking forward to spending more time with my lovely grandchildren Alfie and Daisy."



Tony with a newsboard of his retirement, a gift presented to Tony by the ever resourceful Graham White

Concert for Amnesty

Simon and Frances Marlow are hosting the annual Amnesty International Concert at their house on Sunday September 4th at 3 pm.

Kate Romano - clarinet; Simon Marlow - piano
Brahms Sonata in F Minor and the Finzi Bagatelles
Sarah Hughes - voice; Tom Marlow - piano; A J Brinkman - bass performing a mixture of jazz standards and original compositions.

human rights for all now

Human rights is not just an ideal that we can comfortably wait for in some preferred future. It is a practical necessity right now for the many people in the world whose lives become tragedies through its absence. So let's all help to make human rights observed everywhere. This is one reason why the work of Amnesty International is so important. So please support this fundraising event.



bargain concert and tea and cakes

We are asking for a donation of roughly £15 per person – young children free! Our music room holds about 30 people, but we are confident it will again be sunny and warm enough for many more people to spread out onto the lawn and listen from there. Tea and cakes will be served as ever!
Contact Simon & Frances Marlow, Hill Cottage, Hinxworth, SG7 5HR, phone 01462 742268, email simonmarlo@aol.com

Dates for your diary

August 8th HYP Session Hartrees' pool
August 20th Village Voice copy deadline
August 27th and 28th Bank Holiday Bash Three Horseshoes
September 1st Hinxworth Parish Council, Village Hall 7 pm
September 4th Concert for Amnesty, Hill Cottage 3 pm see above
September 8th Hinxworth & Edworth WI 7.45 pm Village Hall
September 9th Soup Lunch Hinxworth Village Hall 12.30 - 2 pm
September 10th Harp Concert St Mary's Ashwell, 7 pm, see page 1
September 17th Coach trip to London - see this page

Small ads are free in Village Voice...and they work!

Hinxworth Parish Council Angell car makes £605,000

Notes of a meeting of Hinxworth Parish Council held on Thursday 7th July 2016 in the Village Hall at 7 pm.

Present: Mr R. Cobb, Vice-Chairman; Mr D. Osmond; Mr E. Sore; Mrs W. Kitchener, Clerk.

Apologies: Russell Lewis and Nicholas Tiffin.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting of 2nd June were agreed by the Parish Councillors and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

2. Finance: Current Parish Council Funds: The Councillors agreed to the expenditure for the current month.

3. Highways: The list following "The Walk the Village Initiative" details the outstanding action to be taken: - horse riding signs to be erected in the Village; weed killing between the kerbs and the roads.

4. Village Hall: Eric Sore reported that he had been notified the rubbish bins are not being emptied. Wendy Kitchener advised the VHMC should contact NHDC.

5. The Allotments: At present there are eleven and a half plots vacant out of the twenty plots.

6. Any Other Urgent Business: The War Memorial: The following pledged funds have now been received, £1250 from the Clutterbuck Trust, £500 from Tony Hunter. Eric Sore confirmed the £500 from the VHMC will be with the Parish Council in the near future. With the £1250 pledged by the Parish Council the shortfall is £3800. This is an increase from the original budgeted shortfall of £3300 as it seems unlikely that the £500 sum that was pledged at the Annual Parish Meeting will be forthcoming. Eric Sore reported the work is likely to begin at the beginning of August. He will contact Russell Lewis to ask him as Chairman to put a note in Village Voice regarding the start date. Wendy Kitchener is also to contact the local branch of the British Legion to see if there could be a donation from them.

Hinxworth Parish Council Website: Russell Lewis has met Joe Perricone. Their discussions are ongoing.

The Land next to Cantlebury, Chapel Street: This will be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting in September.

The letter to the Chairman from the Clerk: This matter has still to be resolved.

7. Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday September 1st 2016 at 7 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Wendy Kitchener, Clerk, Hinxworth Parish Council

Male Voice Choir wows Hinxworth audience



The Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir under its conductor Les Rayner, and accompanied by pianist Mary Anstey, gave an enjoyable concert at St Nicholas Church, Hinxworth on Saturday July 9th. It was their third visit to the village.

proceeds shared

Guest soprano Lucy Black sang works by Mancini, Franck, Lehár and Sartori. The concert sadly marked the imminent move of member and concert arranger Stuart Lillie to Dorset with Melanie. Proceeds were shared between St Nicholas Church and Hinxworth Young People.



picture: Ruth Fletcher, Bonhams

Hinxworth was at the centre of a tale of international intrigue last month when the amazing story of a rare Aston Martin, stolen from the village 14 years ago, made headlines around the world when it sold for a staggering £605,000.

mystery Dutchmen stole car

The Aston Martin DB2, which competed in the 1949 Le Mans race, belonged to Chris Angell but had been gently rusting in his garage at Jack's House in New Inn Road for decades. Then, in 2002, two mystery Dutchmen arrived in Hinxworth claiming to be trying to contact Chris who, at that time, was suffering ill health and living with a relative. After discovering that the house was empty the pair returned with a low loader and made off with the car.

convicted thieves skipped bail

The men, Bert Anton Visser, 64, and Heerke Jan Visser, 53, were apprehended as they tried to sell the car at auction some time later. They were convicted in 2003 of stealing the car, but were released on bail by a judge and failed to return for their sentencing or to hand the car over. Both men remain at large and are still being sought by police. They are believed to be still in Holland.

Chris Angell devastated

More recently the car was found at a storage facility in Holland. It was passed on to Mr Angell's relative Ashley Mack, who decided to sell the car due to the expensive cost of restoring it. Sadly, Chris died before the car was found. Mr Mack said: "Christopher was devastated by the theft of his car and just before he died in 2003 he was still asking 'has that nice policeman got my car yet?' Even at this stage my heart will be pleased if it doesn't sell, but my head has to acknowledge that it will cost many thousands to restore."

came 7th in Le Mans endurance race

The vehicle went under the hammer at Bonhams' Goodwood Festival of Speed sale in West Sussex on June 27. Out of three Aston Martins entered into the Le Mans endurance race in 1949, the DB2 with the registration plate UMC 65 was the only one to cross the finishing line and came in seventh place.

The green prototype, which was built as a test-bed for the later production of the DB2, was also raced in the Spa 24-hour race in the same year and finished in fifth place.

It had been expected to sell for around £1 million but in the event was bought by an American buyer for £605,000.

It is estimated it will cost hundreds of thousands of pounds to renovate and Mr Mack was keen for the car to go to someone who is passionate about motor vehicles.

lovely car, exceptional history

Detective Sergeant Jo Goodson, from Hertfordshire Police, received intelligence from solicitors that it was used as a surety for a loan. Officers travelled to seize the vehicle in April this year. "It was extremely satisfying. It was quite emotional because it's a lovely car with an exceptional history," she said.

Tony Lloyd

Village Voice is published by St Nicholas Church, Hinxworth and can be viewed in colour at www.hinxworth.info

On the beat

with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook

Church Roof Copper stolen

Police are investigating an incident of heritage crime at St Mary's Church in Clothall, Baldock, where thousands of pounds worth of copper has been stolen from the roof.

Heritage crime is any offence which harms heritage assets. It can include architectural theft, anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, unauthorised excavation and metal detecting, damage caused by vehicles, metal theft or theft of historical and cultural property.

The theft is believed to have taken place between Thursday, June 2 and Wednesday, June 8. Offenders stole half of the copper on the whole roof and they had to remove tiles to get to it and therefore would have been up there for some time. A vehicle would also have been needed to transport the stolen metal.

rain water damage to interior

The Church of St Mary the Virgin dates back to the 12th Century and sadly because the theft was not discovered for a couple of days, rain water has also got into the building and damaged some of the church fixtures. PC Shaun Deal, who is investigating, said, "I am appealing to anyone who has been in the local area over the past couple of weeks and has seen any suspicious activity around the church to get in touch."

mindless theft damages heritage

"Not only has the theft caused the church considerable damage on the roof, it has also damaged the building internally. Church buildings such as this are an important part of our heritage and mindless theft like this only serves to ruin an important part of our history for generations to come."

Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Deal via the Hertfordshire Constabulary non-emergency number 101, quoting crime reference number G3/16/314. Alternatively call Crimestoppers, the independent charity, on 0800 555 111.

Help protect our heritage sites

In April 2014, Hertfordshire Constabulary launched Heritage Watch, a scheme which aims to protect the county's thousands of historical sites, monuments and artefacts from heritage crime. Offences have become more prevalent in recent years as criminals have turned their attention to metal theft and the illegal trade of assets. Putting right damage caused to heritage assets can lead to repair bills of hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Through Heritage Watch, the Constabulary hopes to protect our heritage by improving communication between people who live near these sites, those who have an interest in the county's history and the police.

Chief Constable Andy Bliss said, "It's so important to protect Hertfordshire's historical and cultural assets for future generations. People who live close to historical sites and those who have an interest in our local history tend to frequent the county's heritage sites more often and are more likely to notice anything suspicious."

become the eyes and ears

"Through joining up, we hope the public will become the 'eyes and ears' of these precious sites and artefacts and will report anything suspicious to us." The public can sign up to become members via the Constabulary's web page where further information can also be found: www.herts.police.uk/HeritageWatch.

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 or 112 from your mobile. Non emergencies ring 101, or 112 from a mobile.

If you have a story for Village Voice, or a free small ad, or would like to take pictures for us, contact the Editor, 01462 742015.



Church Services

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

HYP News



We've had a busy few months at HYP and have really enjoyed the last few sessions down on the Rec, doing some den building, rounders and swingball. We said Happy Birthday to Elizabeth and Lewis.

massive thank you!

Karen and I continue to be overwhelmed by the support of people in the village and I was speechless when Stuart Lillie rang me to say he wanted to donate half of the proceeds of the Welwyn Male Voice Choir concert to HYP. We gratefully accepted the £200 and I am busy looking at organizing a trip to Mega Jump in September which is an indoor trampoline park.

Hinxfest!

What an amazing event, and big thanks to the VHMC, and also for allowing us have a stall. We raised £75 from selling Glow sticks, Festival hairbands, having a Pick 'n Pix stall and doing some festival face paint. More importantly the kids had a great time.

Anyone who is nine or over and is interested in coming along to HYP for a taster session please contact me on jayne@thead.co.uk

Jayne Whitfield

Grow your own - on an allotment!



Are you a gardener who would like a large vegetable patch? Are you a foodie, and into healthy eating and knowing where your food comes from? Are you looking for a way to get more exercise and fresh air? Then, why not have an allotment?

Dig this! Hinxworth Allotment Group in Francis Road has plots waiting for you.

Allotments were originally pieces of land allotted for the purpose of growing food for a family throughout the year. Your allotment can provide you with your own delicious fresh seasonal fruit, vegetables and herbs, and because your allotment is so close, the time from picking to eating can be just minutes! You can't get any fresher! We also grow flowers as companion plants, as green manure and to encourage bees and butterflies.

Whereas many nearby allotment groups have long waiting lists, Hinxworth Allotment Group has 10 full-size plots available right now. Smaller children's plots are free.

Simply contact Janice Woodward, 3 Francis Road, Hinxworth. Telephone 01462 742 008 Mobile 07949862267 or email janice.woodward1@btinternet.com First come, first served!

Pam Swinbank

copy date

Please send all copy and pictures for September's edition to Patrick Forbes, 18 Francis Road, Hinxworth SG7 5HL, e-mail villagevoice3@gmail.com by August 20th.