

» Village Voice «

December 2016

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.183

Ofsted visits Ashwell School

On 10th November Ofsted called in at Ashwell School for the first time since 2011. With only 12 hours notice, our staff had little time to prepare, which meant that the inspector saw the school in action very much as it is on any other day. Our whole staff team, very ably led by Suzanne Summerhayes, our interim head, and Simon England, our head-to-be from January, rose magnificently to the challenge. Praise was heaped upon our children and our parents could not have been more supportive.

'good' school result

At the end of a day's exhaustive and exhausting scrutiny, during which no stone was left unturned, the inspector declared that Ashwell continued to be a **good** school. As usual the judgement also sets an agenda for future development which Mr England will be implementing in the new year. His involvement in this exercise will enable him to get off to a flying start and we are confident that under his leadership and with all the staff behind him, the school will go from strength to strength.

The governors would like to congratulate the whole school most heartily on such an encouraging achievement.

Peter Chapman, Chairman of governors.

Christmas card scheme

If you haven't yet joined the Hinxworth and Edworth Alternative Christmas card scheme, please do so as soon as you can. The details were printed in last month's Village Voice.

deadline looms

The deadline is in a matter of days, Saturday December 10th. So if you would like to take part, save a lot of Christmas card writing and give to one or both of our two charities, Garden House Hospice and Save the Children Fund, do please get in touch with Janet Fair, janetfair@btinternet.com, or ring 01462 743137. Thank you.

Village Hall Christmas Dinner Dance

Saturday 10th December. Hinxworth Village Hall

Thank you in advance to all of you joining us for the evening. Just a quick reminder! Start time 7.00-7.15. Dinner will be served at 7.45 so this will give you time to enjoy your pre-dinner drink and chat.

Dress code – very smart or formal if you prefer. A few seats are still available at the time of writing so if your interested call either Helene or Debbie on 07890 212194 or 07446 357556.

See you there!

Village Hall Management Committee

Saint Nicholas Patronal Festival

St Nicholas Church, Hinxworth, celebrates its Patronal Festival on Sunday December 4th at 10.15 am. All will be welcome to join us. Saint Nicholas was Bishop of Myra in the fourth century AD. He is patron saint of children, seafarers, brides and unmarried women, and Russia.

In Dutch, he is Sint Niklaas, from which we have Santa Claus. In Holland presents are still given on his feast day, December 6th, rather than on Christmas Day.



We wish all our readers a very joyful Christmas and a good New Year.

Chris meets Theresa May in India



Chris Sheldrick got the chance to show Prime Minister Theresa May his "what3words" geolocation project on November 7th during the Prime Minister's visit to India. Village Voice featured this exciting venture in its edition of February this year.

Ashwell at Christmas December 3rd

As part of Ashwell at Christmas on Saturday, 3rd December, the Christmas Fair at St. Mary's will take place in the church from 9.30am – 2.30pm. Stalls include arts and crafts, cakes and cards and presents and prizes. The choir will sing carols, and refreshments will be available.

Winter Wonderland will be at the U.R.C. from 10.00am – 1.00pm, The Guides will be selling food and wrapping presents in the Parish Church Room and the Museum will be open. Come and join us to celebrate the start of the Christmas season.

Come to our carol services

St. Vincent's carol service is at 4.30 pm on Sunday December 11th after which mulled wine will be served.

St Nicholas' carol service is at 4 pm on Sunday December 18th. All welcome to either or both services.

Poppy Collections = £808.36

House to house collections raised £525.36. The collection at the Remembrance Sunday service at St Nicholas amounted to £283. So the total sent to the Royal British Legion amounted to £808.36. Thank you to those who collected and those who gave.

Horses hit by deadly virus

A devastating virus has struck horses in our area. Of eight horses stabled at Edworth, six have died, bringing loss and heartbreak to their owners. There appears to be no effective treatment or vaccination against this disease.

Please be vigilant and obey any instructions posted on notices where horses are kept. Thank you. Meanwhile our thoughts and sympathies are with those whose horses have been affected.

Verity's medieval village on BBC1

Verity White has produced a film called The Village which will be shown at 9 pm on December 19th on BBC1. The programme is based on a French medieval village.

1st Dec
Summer Barn Tea Room,
3 Lower Farmhouse, Edworth

2nd Dec
1 High Street, Hinxworth, (Open house)

3rd Dec
Hill Cottage, Arnolds Lane, Hinxworth

4th Dec
6 Homefield, Hinxworth

5th Dec
5 High Street, Hinxworth

6th Dec
TBC

7th Dec
Cantlebury Chapel Street, Hinxworth.

8th Dec
The Vintage Barn, Farrowby Farm

9th Dec
Hillside cottage, Arnolds lane Hinxworth

10th Dec
8 New Inn Rd, Hinxworth (Open house)

11th Dec
16 Francis Road, Hinxworth

12th Dec
3 Homefield, Hinxworth

13th Dec
The Paddock High Street, Hinxworth

14th Dec
14 Francis Road, Hinxworth

15th Dec
Morsegate, (corner of High St & Francis Rd) Hinxworth

16th Dec
Corner Cottage, Chapel Street, Hinxworth

17th Dec
Gainsfield, Chapel Street, Hinxworth

18th Dec
Chapel House, Chapel Street, Hinxworth

19th Dec
The Wolery, The Close, Hinxworth

20th Dec
Orchard House, Homefield, Hinxworth

21st Dec
2 Christy's Yard, Hinxworth

22nd Dec
High Street House, High Street, Hinxworth

23rd Dec
Gordon Cottage, High Street, Hinxworth

24th Dec
The Three Horse Shoes, Hinxworth

Hinxworth & Edworth's
Live Advent Calendar

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to take part in the 2016 Live Advent Calendar.

Each evening, at **6.30pm** a new window will be 'revealed' at the address specified. It would be great to see you at the reveal, or you can pop along to see the windows anytime between the 1st of December and Christmas day.

Hinxworth and Edworth WI

Jan Youngman, one of our members, taught us on November 10th how to "felt". This is a method of needlework called felting. We watched as she picked a heart shaped pastry cutter in to which she placed some rather special merino wool. She then placed the cutter and wool on a pad of sponge and proceeded to stab it time and time again with a felting needle, a long thin needle with barbs down the side. The barbs of the needle caught the wool and very effectively matted or felted it.

making poppies, another skill

As Remembrance Sunday was approaching the members now had a go at making a poppy. This they did with varying degrees of success making four heart shapes and then joining them in a flower shape and putting in a black centre. It was very effective. After an enjoyable evening we *felt* we had learnt another skill, thanks to Jan.

Next meeting, Thursday December 8th, is our Christmas Dinner at George's Hall in Biggleswade, at 7pm. There is no speaker.

Carol Cheney

Early copy date warning

Please send all copy and pictures for January's edition to Patrick Forbes, 18 Francis Road, Hinxworth SG7 5HL, e-mail villagevoice3@gmail.com by December 15th.

Mortier's Fine Ceylon Tea - the perfect Christmas present - 01462 743241

Village Voice is published by St Nicholas Church, Hinxworth, as a service to the community.

The Three Horseshoes Christmas

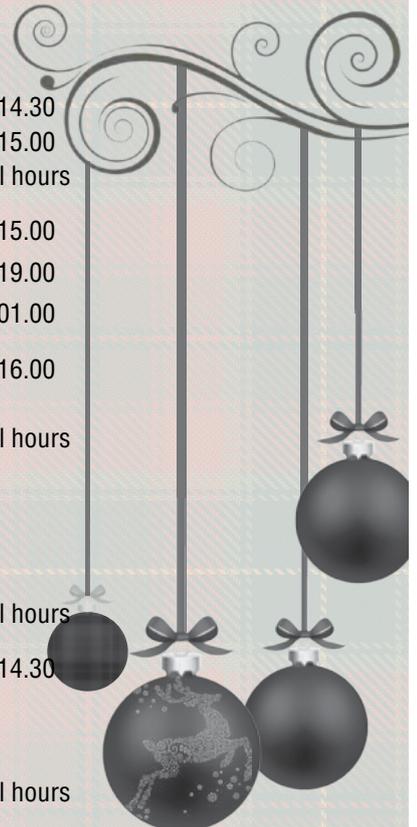
Christmas Hours

Christmas day	12.00-14.30
Boxing day	12.00-15.00
27th-30th	Normal hours
New years eve	12.00-15.00
	17.00-19.00
Ticket only	19.00-01.00

New years day	12.00-16.00
Monday 2nd	Closed
Tuesday 3rd	Normal hours

Kitchen hours

Christmas day	Closed
Boxing day	Closed
27th-30th	Normal hours
New years eve	12.00-14.30
New years day	Closed
Monday 2nd	Closed
Tuesday 3rd	Normal hours



Hinxworth Parish Council

Notes of a meeting of the Council held on November 3rd 2016 in the Village Hall at 7 pm.

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

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 6th October were agreed by the Parish Councillors and signed by the Vice-Chairman. Proposed by Nicholas Tiffin and seconded by Eric Sore.

2. Correspondence: A letter from Alec Stephenson acknowledging the receipt of the Parish Council's annual donation of £500 towards the upkeep of St Nicholas burial ground.

3. Finance: Current Parish Council Funds: The Councillors agreed to the expenditure for the current month. Proposed by Richard Cobb and seconded by Russell Lewis. The annual precept 2017: The Parish Councillors agreed unanimously to "no change" to the precept for the forthcoming year.

4. Planning: The trees behind the War Memorial: planning permission has been granted to fell three of the silver birch trees behind the War Memorial. The Parish Councillors will now decide as to when and how the work is to be carried out.

5. Highways: Having contacted Tony Hunter, County Councillor and Gary Henning, Hertfordshire Highways, in early October the following work is still outstanding. A pothole by Capmore Farm, a pothole by The Close. The gully in the High Street adjacent to junction with Homefield requires clearing. The 30mph speed sign at the entrance to the Village from Edworth, on the left, is obscured by overgrown hedges. These items have been reported to Hertfordshire Highways but no action has been taken. Now, additionally, the kerb areas in Francis Road are becoming overgrown with weeds.

6. Village Hall: A Gift for the Village Hall: Geoff Hoile, a well known local artist, has painted a view of the Village Hall in winter. The Village Hall Management Committee has purchased the picture for the Village Hall.

7. Recreation Ground: The rubbish bin: A contract is now in place for the bin to be emptied every week.

8. The Tennis Court: The netting around the court may need some maintenance in the near future.

9. The allotments: Further to last month's report the allotments now occupied are ten, with ten vacant.

10. Any other urgent business: Defibrillator: The Councillors discussed the siting of a defibrillator in the Village. They agreed the ideal place would be at The Three Horseshoes Pub on the wall where the daily papers are left for collection. Russell Lewis is making enquires for the possible funding for the defibrillator. He will also speak to Gerry, the pub landlord. Hinxworth Parish Council Website: The Parish Councillors agreed to the setting-up of the site. Land within Hinxworth owned by the Parish: The Parish Councillors intend to compile a list of the land owned by the Parish.

12: Date of the next meeting: Thursday December 1st 2016 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

Wendy Kitchener - Clerk Hinxworth Parish Council

Farrowby Farm for Festive Fare

Order your traditional free range pork and poultry in time for Christmas from Farrowby Farm. If you haven't visited the shop recently, you're in for a treat. Why not stay for a cup of coffee or tea and a snack after your shopping? Open 10 am to 4 pm, closed Wednesdays. Our new email address is farrowby.pigs@gmail.com Phone 01462 733700. New Inn Road, Hinxworth SG7 5EY.



HYP News

November's HYP session was another fun night down at the Village Hall where we had a Swap Shop. We welcomed Frankie's friend Kirsty Ann from Baldock and Patrick who came along to take some photographs. The children had raided their bedrooms and brought along some things to swap. There were some interesting swaps going on and Lewis managed to sell his fez to Patrick for £1! Patrick was delighted with his purchase and stayed with us whilst the girls made him a Ginger Bread Milk Shake which he liked so much he took the recipe home. There were also Oreo Milk Shakes being made too.

flirting?

Jonah came to ask me an interesting question whilst I was chatting to Patrick behind the snack bar: "Jayne, are you flirting with Patrick?" Patrick and I were very amused!

We asked Patrick would he choose this month's HYPstar! Well done to Heidi who was awarded the trophy for helping to make Patrick's delicious drink and generally being very helpful.



HYPstar Heidi

Save the Children jumper day

Our next session will be on Friday 16th December which is Save The Children's Christmas Jumper Day. If the children come along in their Christmas Jumpers we will donate their monthly £2 subs fee to this very worthwhile cause and we will take some time to reflect on how our village children lead a much happier, safer and healthier life than a lot of other less fortunate children in the world.

A very Merry Christmas from everyone at HYP.
Jayne Whitfield



Meet the Neighbours



A good number of newcomers came to Hinxworth Village Hall on November 18th. Village organisations had members on hand to explain what they did. There was a welcome glass of wine. HYP had a purple care bear desperate to discover his or her name. Connor Methven correctly guessed the winning name, Anna, and is now her owner. HYP raised £160.27 for Children in Need. Congratulations and thanks to Hinxworth and Edworth WI and all who were involved, especially Gerry, Julie and the team.



Learn about Jewish Festivals

The Mothers' Union will meet on Thursday 8 December at 10.30am in St Mary's Parish Room, Ashwell. We will hear Alan Gilliam talking to us about Jewish Festivals, particularly Hannukah. Everyone is welcome so do come and join us for coffee. More details, Caroline Evens on 01462 742277.

On the beat

with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook

campaign to catch burglars and protect homes

Hertfordshire Constabulary is reminding residents to keep their homes secure and report suspicious behaviour as the clocks have gone back bringing darker afternoons and evenings.



unlit homes invite burglars

This year burglary levels are slightly lower than at the same time last year, down nine per cent. However, burglary tends to increase during the autumn months as the afternoons get darker, making it easier to identify unoccupied homes, as they are often left unlit when people are out during the day.

Throughout the autumn and winter police will be focusing on burglary as a priority, providing residents with advice on home security, property marking and general crime prevention. Safer neighbourhood officers will be holding crime prevention events across the county giving away free burglary prevention packs and offering advice on keeping homes and valuables safe.

make your home more secure

Residents can make their homes more secure by following some basic crime prevention advice such as -

- Make a habit of checking that ground floor windows and doors are closed and locked when you leave the house or go to bed. Upstairs windows should be locked when the house is unoccupied.
- PVCu doors must be locked by lifting the handle and turning the key to ensure all the security features are in place.
- Car and house keys should be kept out of sight in a safe place. Don't leave them on display on window sills, in porches, hallways or kitchens.
- Secure your rear garden by shutting and locking any gates. Burglars can use garden tools to break in, so make sure you securely lock away any tools after use.
- Use timer switches on a lamp, radio or television set so that they turn on as it gets dark in the evenings.

don't be complacent

Police and Crime Commissioner David Lloyd said: "The current reduction on last year's burglary figures is very encouraging, however we cannot afford to be complacent. Whilst the police can take action to catch criminals, residents need to play their part by making sure their homes are secure, reporting suspicious behaviour and joining a neighbourhood watch scheme."

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.



Philip Frenay and Emily Wainright-Lee were married in St. Vincent's Church, Newnham, on October 29th. We wish them joy.

Church Services

December 4th 10.15 am Family Service St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
December 11th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
4.30 pm Carol service, St Vincent, Newnham
December 18th 4 pm Carol Service, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
December 24th 11.30 pm Midnight Mass St Vincent Newnham
December 25th 10 am Christmas Communion and carols St Nicholas.

December Village Walk

Why not join us for the next Hinxworth Village Walk? We will meet at 10.30 am at The Three Horseshoes, Hinxworth, on Friday 16th December. It will be a gentle and pleasant walk followed by a light lunch. What better way of spending a Friday morning? All welcome. We look forward to seeing you.



Zoe Panteli

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Hi, I am a mobile hairdresser in your local area and I currently have a long standing clientele in the surrounding villages and am looking to increase this. Please feel free to contact me with any queries that you might have. I look forward to hearing from you,

Zoe

Beware this "BT" scam

Dear Patrick,

Just a friendly warning in case anyone else has a similar experience. This morning I received a phone call purportedly from BT. The caller stated they had been receiving alarm warnings from my internet router and asked if I could be by my computer. When I said "No", the call ended.

no harm done this time

Suspicious, I checked with BT, to be told no-one had called me - their staff do not contact customers unless in response to a call from the customer, so this clearly was an attempted scam of some kind. Fortunately no harm done this time. I hope no-one in the villages has fallen for this one.

Regards,

Marian Barnett

Dates for your diary

December 3rd Ashwell at Christmas. See page 1 for details.
December 9th Soup Lunch Hinxworth Village Hall 12.30 - 2 pm
December 10th Hinxworth Village Hall Christmas Dinner Party 7.15
December 11th Carol Service St Vincent, Newnham, 4.30 pm
December 18th Carol service St Nicholas, Hinxworth 4 pm
December 16th Village Walk, meet Three Horseshoes 10.30 am
February 25th Village Hall Annual Quiz.

Soup lunch in December

The next soup lunch will be served on Friday December 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.

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