

» Village Voice «

July 2016

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.178

Hinxfest just a fortnight away. Buy your tickets now!

Bring family and friends and join the Village Hall Committee at the recreation ground, Francis Road, on July 16th 2016. We have a great line-up of four very different acts.

Seb Silas

Phil Hobbis

Paul Adams



and local band Jigsaw

They will be singing and playing a wide range of styles including Jazz, Swing, The Beatles, Bon Jovi and much more. There will also be a supporting Disco.

Bring your own food, picnic, and your own drink if you wish but The Three Horseshoes will be providing a licensed bar.

Gas barbecues only please. Gates open at 5.30p.m.

Tickets - £5 per person. Children 12 years and under FREE.

Limited gazebo pitches available £5 per pitch. Pitch to be booked in advance. Gazebos must be erected before 4pm on the day or on Friday evening. Prize for best dressed gazebo or picnic spot.

For tickets contact either Jan Raynham on 01462 742258, Helene Donohoe - 07890 212194 or Debbie Hawthorne - 07446 357556

iTunes Voucher Scam

The scam involves the victim receiving a call at home from a fraudster claiming to be the HMRC tax office. He tells the victim he has an outstanding debt of hundreds or even thousands of pounds, threatening that he will be arrested unless he settles the debt immediately. The caller then instructs the victim to purchase iTunes vouchers at a local retailer to settle the debt.

victims lose life savings

The victims genuinely believe what they have been told by the fraudster and think that they will be arrested if they don't settle their debt. In some cases, vulnerable elderly victims have lost tens of thousands of pounds, possibly their life savings. Recently one victim spent approximately £2,600 on these iTunes Vouchers in four major stores, to pay this fraudulent demand.

Fraudsters are now moving onto iTunes gift cards to collect money from victims because they can be easily redeemed and sold on. The scammers don't need the card to redeem the value and instead get victims to read out the code on the back over the phone.

contact the police on 101

If you know of a resident who may have been a victim of this type of crime, please get them to contact our Police Non Emergency number 101 and report the crime, or ring us on their behalf.

copy date

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

Karen and Nick marry at St Nicholas



Karen Headington and Nicholas Tiffin of Homefield House, Hinxworth, were married at St. Nicholas Church on June 18th. We wish them every happiness.

WGC Choir returns to Hinxworth

The Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir is coming again to St. Nicholas Church on Saturday 9th July at 7.30 p.m. Tickets cost £10 each, including a glass of wine, and are available from Stuart Lillie, 5 Homefield, phone 01462 743755 or Patrick Forbes on 01462 742015. Proceeds to St Nicholas Church and Hinxworth Young People, HYP.

The Big Breakfast Brunch Sunday 10th July 10 am - 1.00 pm

Hinxworth and Edworth WI invite you to join them for the Big Breakfast Brunch at the Hinxworth and Edworth Village Hall. Profits will be given to Denman College, the WI residential adult education college in Oxfordshire. Tickets and further details are available from Sylvia Scales on 01462 742505

Newnham Parish Lunch - book now

Newnham Hall Cottage, Newnham at 1 pm on July 31st. Marvelous food and good company, good music from Seb Silas too. Tickets, a bargain at £12 each, £4 for under 12s, available from Mary Ann Boddington on 01462 742814 and Fiona Hughes on 01462 742709.

Caldecote Church Fuchsia Festival

Saturday July 30th and Sunday July 31st. Fuchsia Festival. 12.00 to 5.00pm each day. Display of fuchsias by the Beds. and Herts. Fuchsia Society. Sale of plants. Cream teas. All welcome.

Hinxworth and Edworth WI

The June meeting of Hinxworth and Edworth WI was members' night, the evening when the members run the meeting to give the committee a rest. Yvonne Tookey was our president for the evening and told us we would be having a fish supper at 8.30 pm. In the meantime several items of business were discussed. Then Yvonne introduced our speaker, Sheila Ashley, an artist well known to the Hinxworth Art Society. She painted a water colour of a member of the retiring committee. Heather Baim was chosen, our retiring president.

at first it didn't look like Heather

Sheila set to with great concentration and the portrait started to grow. We watched with fascination as at first it did not look like Heather, and then she started building the features and slowly but surely Heather appeared! We then stopped for our fish or chicken and chip supper, and after we had eaten, the committee was presented with long woven baskets of growing plants as a thank you from the members for their hard work in the year. Meanwhile the portrait was almost finished, and we had time to sing Happy Birthday to Rosemary Blake, whose 80th birthday it was, and to indulge in a slice of her birthday cake, before looking at the finished picture, which was excellent.

Carol Cheney

Herts. Healthy Homes

Herts. Healthy Homes is a free information and support home-visit service funded by HCC and the NHS, to support vulnerable Hertfordshire residents. A home visit can provide a range of tailored support to help keep residents warm, safe and healthy in their homes, this includes everything from -

- information and advice on energy efficiency and ways to reduce the costs of heating homes.
- help accessing grants for home insulation and new boilers as well as financial support to help cover energy costs.
- installation of draught-proofing and other energy efficiency items such as radiators, reflector panels, water-saving shower heads and much, much more.
- referrals to free services available including fire and home safety visits, falls prevention, smoke free teams, community meals, gardening support.
- advice on staying healthy and hydrated, and information on exercise classes locally with free items including pedometers and cooling fans.

If you, or someone you know, needs help or support to stay healthy and well at home call Herts.Help on 0300 123 4044 and quote HOME 1.

Calls are local rate and cost no more than a national rate call to an 01 or 02 number. Lines are open Mon - Fri 8am to 6pm.



Contact Alex: 07903 058568
ashwellstageschool@gmail.com

soup lunch - best value by miles

July's soup lunch will be served on Friday July 8th 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.

Vintage Barn - an Aladdin's Cave



Vintage Barn at Farrowby Farm is a family business which opened in Hinxworth on June 4th. I went along to meet Lorna Clark to find out more.

"We started off in Hitchin, then went to Knebworth where my daughter Sophie was mainly in charge. We did a lot of sourcing of the items for her. We started feeding in items that we were selling and now we have opened here. We had a good opening, lots of people came, a steady flow. Many of them are Facebook followers. Some from Knebworth said that we were further away from them while others noticed we were now nearer to them. There is the tearoom here and plenty for the children and a car park. It's a really nice location. We've been coming here for some years on a Sunday, having breakfast and then setting off to look for stock. We go all over the place. People come in and offer us things. Occasionally we go to auctions. We visit all sorts of people and have some interesting times. We went to pick up this dressing table in Barton Le Clay. The man was moving and he told us a story to go with the table. 'It came from a very nice house in the country, where Blur wrote their first hit single. He was their manager.' So I said, well, my sister in law was the Deborah in Jarvis Cocker's song.' It's nice when you have a little back story to go with the item."

Gig the builder likes a challenge

"My husband 'Gig' Clark is really interested and he helps as well. He's a builder so he will be here at weekends. He likes to rub down furniture, mend things. He builds extensions, he's just done a shower room. In between big jobs he has time for smaller pieces of work. He likes finding ways through problems and challenges. His number is 07702 458746."

something for everyone

There were items big and small of every kind, from a sled hanging from the ceiling, a crate of six vintage milk bottles, a basket of assorted cushions, a dressing mirror. "We normally have dressers, tables and chairs. We like rustic pine, but we do paint furniture. We also sell Frenchic furniture paint which can be applied without having to prepare the surface. We have hand made soaps which are free of nasty chemicals, vintage decorative items, a screen, a Queen Anne tea-set, glassware, wellie boots with plants inside them, hand made candles." Birthday coming up? Why not go and see what you can find? Opening hours are Thursday-Sunday 10 am - 4 pm. School holiday opening, same as Farrowby, closed Wednesdays. If you are looking for something special or want to know more, ring Lorna on 07913 697946.

Patrick Forbes

Dates for your diary

- July 1st HYP Session Hinxworth Recreation Ground
- July 7th Hinxworth Parish Council, Village Hall 7 pm
- July 8th Soup Lunch Hinxworth Village Hall 12.30 - 2 pm
- July 9th WGC Male Voice Choir Concert St Nicholas Church 7.30 pm
- July 10th Big Breakfast Brunch Village Hall 10 am - 1 pm
- July 15th village walk, meet Three Horseshoes 10.30 am
- July 16th Hinxfest see page 1
- July 30th - 31st Caldecote Church Fuchsia Festival 12 pm - 5 pm
- July 31st Newnham Parish Lunch, Newnham Hall Cottage 1 pm

Hinxworth Parish Council

Notes of a meeting of Hinxworth Parish Council held on Thursday June 2nd 2016 in the Village Hall at 7 pm. Present: Mr R. Lewis, Chairman; Mr R. Cobb, Vice-Chairman; Mr N. Tiffin; Mrs W. Kitchener, Clerk. Apologies:- Eric Sore and David Osmond. Other Person Attending:- Geoff Burrows for the War Memorial item.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting on 5th May were agreed by the Parish Councillors and signed by the Chairman.

2. Correspondence: Fields in Trust Literature: To be contacted in respect of possible grants for the War Memorial repair. Wendy Kitchener to investigate. Ashwell's Celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday: The Parish Councillors, Clerk and their respective partners had received an invitation to attend the Church Service at St Mary's Ashwell on Friday 10th June at 8.00pm.

3. Finance: Annual Accounts 2015/2016: A copy of the annual accounts for 2015/2016 were circulated to the Councillors. These have been audited by the internal auditor. Those Councillors present agreed unanimously to adopt the accounts. These were then signed by the Chairman and the Financial Officer Responsible to be forwarded to BDO Stoy Hayward for the external audit. The Councillors conveyed their thanks to Jayne Whitfield for carrying out the internal audit of the accounts. Annual Insurance Premium: due to the escalating cost of the Council's current insurance provider the policy and the relevant cover has been reviewed. The Councillors decided to accept a quote from Zurich Insurers at a premium of approximately £350.00 less. Barclays Bank Mandate: This has been amended to include Nicholas Tiffin as an authorised signatory.

4. Highways: Further to the "The Walk the Village Initiative" action taken to date is that the manholes/gullies have been jetted in New Inn Road and other areas in the village. Matters outstanding: horse riding signs to be erected in the village; white lining for the roads; speed signage painted on the roads; weed killing between the kerbs and the roads.

5. The allotments: Two allotment plots have been vacated. Jan Woodward, Chair of HAG, has been asked to provide an up to date plan of the occupied plots for audit purposes.

6. Any other urgent business: The War Memorial: Geoff Burrows advised that K. Buckingham Contractors who have revised their quote to the sum of £7300. This, in his opinion, allows for the additional cost of a more durable surface to the external paving area. The Parish Councillors accepted Geoff's advice and therefore agreed to appoint K. Buckingham as contractors for the project. Geoff Burrows will contact K Buckingham on behalf of the Parish Council and report back. The following have kindly agreed to part fund the project: Barry Huber, Chair VHMC, Tony Hunter Hertfordshire County Councillor, Janine Paterson, District Councillor. Grant applications have been made to Tony Hunter and Janine Paterson and a letter has been sent to the VHMC, hopefully £500 from each. Other funds will be from the Robert Clutterbuck Trust £1250.00 and the Parish Council also £1250.00. In total £4000. This will give a shortfall of £3300 which the Parish Councillors agreed to finance in the interim. It is hoped there will be further donations forthcoming and possible fund raising.

Hinxworth Parish Council Website: Wendy Kitchener met with Joe Perricone. Subsequently a written proposal regarding the possible way forward has been put to the Parish Councillors along with his quote.

The Public Footpaths and Rights of Way: These are overgrown in many areas including near to the allotments.

7: Date of the next meeting: Thursday July 7th 2016 at 7.00pm in the village hall. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Wendy Kitchener, Clerk, Hinxworth Parish Council

The Big Lunch on June 5th on Hinxworth Recreation Ground was a bit small, but the 20 to 30 people present enjoyed the occasion, a chance to relax and



picnic with friends. We hope many more people take part next year. It's a good way of bringing villagers together. *Picture by Janet Fair*

Course produces 11 New Archers



Certificates for the Beginners who have completed their six week course were awarded on Saturday 11th June. This year's intake included eight local juniors from Hinxworth, Ashwell, Gamlingay, Baldock and Letchworth, showing how popular archery has become in the local area. Archery is a real family sport and one of the few Olympic sports where the whole family can take part so it is not unusual for grandparents, mums and dads and children to all shoot together.

David and Neil do it again

Hinxworth's David Wayman and Neil Bridgewater were invited to take part in the U.K. Masters Archery Tournament at Lilleshall on the 4th/5th June. They were both ranked in the top 30 or so archers in Britain shooting compound bows with Neil having won the UK Masters outright for the last two years. At the end of the two day tournament Neil again won the top archer title for an unprecedented third year in a row by eliminating all comers in the individual head to head. He ended up with the highest total score of 1372 by winning the WA1440 round. David finished in 16th place overall with a creditable score of 1328. There were 41 archers taking part.

Hinxworth Archers

Ices for WI on Brighton pier



picture by Jan Youngman

It was ice creams on the pier for eight ladies of our WI. who had previously joined 3000 plus other members, from around the country, for the WI National AGM in Brighton.

Two very good speakers, Rhona Fairhead, Chair of the BBC Trust and Baroness Frances D'Souza, Lord Speaker of the House of Lords, spoke eloquently and with enthusiasm about their roles within their organisations.

dementia carers and food waste

Having first been debated earnestly and passionately for and against, the resolutions were unanimously passed; first, allowing carers to stay with dementia patients while in hospital for an unrelated condition, and second, to address food poverty and food waste primarily from supermarkets. The meeting closed in 'Last night of the Proms' fashion in celebration of the Queen's birthday that weekend.

A visit to The Brighton Pavilion was followed by the World Naked Cycle Ride, a spectacle to behold for two entirely different reasons!

It is absolutely true to say we had an informative, enjoyable, fun and memorable weekend.

Viv Hughes *Village Voice is published by St Nicholas Church, Hinxworth*

On the beat

with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook

Theft resistant number plates

To combat 'cloning' and other crimes

If your number plates are stolen from your car you should report it straight away – you might start receiving parking fines, speeding fines or worse as number plates are used to disguise the identity of cars used in a wide range of crimes.

Number plate theft is a big problem – rates have more than doubled in the last five years and there were at least 40,000 cases last year. Thefts from cars are significantly under-reported. According to the DVLA stolen plates are used by criminals to change the identity of stolen cars so they can be sold, or to disguise cars used in activities like ram-raiding or driving from petrol stations without paying, evade congestion charges, parking and speeding fines.

plates stolen? contact the police now

It may seem trivial at the time but it's no fun if you subsequently start receiving fixed penalty notices or are suspected of committing crimes yourself. If you're in the process of buying a new car, ask the dealer to fit theft-resistant number plates when the car is first registered.

new standards

Number plate manufacturers, DVLA and others have developed a voluntary standard for theft resistant number plates. Plates that meet the standard will resist known attack methods for a minimum of three minutes and can be expected to cost around twice the price of normal plates.

The benefits include fewer motorists facing fines for crimes they didn't commit, fewer motorists innocently buying cars that turn out to be stolen and reduced incidents of fuel theft.

anti-social behaviour in Ashwell

Overnight on Wednesday 1st June we received some reports of damage and anti-social behaviour in West End and Swan Street, Ashwell. Eggs had been thrown at properties and vehicles, breaking a window and causing a general nuisance for local residents.

Young voices, possibly both male and female, were heard as the offenders ran away. Due to the age of some of the residences in the village some permanent damage has been caused by the egg throwing and we are now investigating a report of criminal damage.

We ask that the public remain vigilant and report suspicious behaviour to the police, no matter what the time of day or night. We ask the parents of young people within the village to 'know where your child is' and what they are up to. People with information about the incident are asked to contact their local Safer Neighbourhood Police Team, either PC 2787 Mike Hardiman or PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook

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.

Have you seen Flynn?

Our cat Flynn hasn't settled well into his new home in New Inn road and has had to be brought back from various village fields three times, however there have been **no** local sightings of him for the last two weeks and we are desperate to get him back home. Please keep your eyes peeled for him and let us know of any sightings. 01462 743504. Thank you.

Jan Youngman



Church Services

July 3rd 10.15 am Family service, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
July 10th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
July 17th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
July 24th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
9.30 am Holy Communion, St. Vincent, Newnham
6 pm Patronal Festival Evensong, St Mary Magdalene, Caldecote
July 31st 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

Your chauffeur, Sir/Madam?

If you go down to rural Bedfordshire to the sleepy and rustic hamlet of Edworth you're in for a big surprise! What surprise? A chauffeur driven Executive Taxi Service, Lord's Cars.

built for comfort

Run by Steven Lord, who has had over 30 years' experience in the car industry and for whom cars have played a major part in his life. From being a sales assistant to owning and renting camper vans. From having an



Avis franchise to now, plying his trade in a Mercedes Benz E-Class Estate – "newly acquired, built for comfort with loads of luggage space" says Steven. There's not much that Steven doesn't know about the industry, or, for that matter, motorists.

"To obtain my taxi licence, I had to take a driving test, show that I had good knowledge of the local area and be DBS checked" says Steven. "This took about three to four months".

far more practical

Asked what he felt was the future of taxis he said, "there will always be a demand. So often it is far more practical than any other forms of travel and if you can provide a service offering punctuality, safety and the personal touch, the customers will be there. I also find that my customers like dealing with the proprietor – it gives them a feeling of confidence"

Why did you start your taxi service in the first instance, I asked. "Well, I felt there was a gap in the market in airport transfers and longer journeys. I decided to try and fill that gap".

hurrah for electronics

I then asked how he thought the electronic age affected him. "Wonderfully. Everything can be done on line, communication between myself and my clients can be conducted over the internet...so convenient if they are abroad. And even payments can be made electronically in my car. My web site also makes business so much easier."

I then plucked up the courage and mentioned the unmentionable... Uber. "I really don't see them as competition, especially in rural areas where they are struggling. Anyway, they don't offer all the advantages I do"

excellent service fills the gap

So there you have it! A family man with a lovely wife and two lovely daughters, who three years ago decided to fill a gap in the executive private car hire business dedicated to providing excellent service that can be relied upon. Should you want more information please go to lordscars.co.uk or email info@lordscars.co.uk or call 07771 788706

Michael Baim

Walk this way

Why not join us for the next Hinxworth Village Walk? We will meet at 10.30 am at The Three Horseshoes, Hinxworth, on Friday 15th July. A gentle and pleasant walk followed by a light lunch. What could possibly be a better way of spending a Friday morning in summer? All welcome. We look forward to seeing you.