

» Village Voice «

May 2016

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.176

Village Walkabout



As the newly elected Chair of the Parish Council I decided that Herts. County Council should be made aware of issues in the Village. Grabbing the opportunity at the AGM, Tony Hunter our Local County Councillor was invited to a walkabout with local Parish Councillors to highlight our concerns. This happened on Tuesday 19th April. Tony, along with Gary Henning, also from Herts., were shown around by myself and David Osmond, the other councillors unfortunately being unavailable. Also in attendance was Wendy Kitchener, the Parish Clerk, to take notes on what was agreed.

20 mph speed limit?

Grievances shared were flooding in New Inn Road, the condition of gullies and drainage ditches, the land at the end of Chapel Street, weed killing between the kerbs and the roads particularly in Francis Road. Of great concern to many residents is the speeding through the High Street. The reduction in speed limits was discussed with better signage agreed, together with roundels painted on the roadway either end of the High Street, clearer white lining, horse riding warning signs erected and research into adopting a 20mph limit. A very productive meeting took place with Tony agreeing funding to remedy many of the issues discussed. With that in mind, if there are any issues of concern please bring them to one of the parish councillor's attention so we can act as a conduit to hopefully rectify them.

Russ Lewis - Chairman, Hinxworth Parish Council

HINXFEST

Saturday 16th July 6.30pm - late

Live music from Jigsaw, Paul Adams & more.

£5.00 - Children under 12 free

Gazebos £5.00, limited spaces

Tickets on sale from 1st May

To reserve your tickets + Gazebo plot call Jan Raynham on
01462 742258

Seb to play at Newnham Parish Lunch!

Saxophonist and music teacher Seb Silas, whom we featured in last month's Village Voice, has offered to play at the Newnham Parish Lunch at Newnham Hall Cottage, Newnham at 1 pm on July 31st. So not just marvellous food and good company but good music too. Make sure the date is in your diary. Tickets, a bargain at £12 each, £4 for under 12s, available from Mary Ann Boddington on 01462 742814 and Fiona Hughes on 01462 742709.

The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations

In recognition of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 90th birthday, Hinxworth and Edworth WI invite you to join them in the nationwide initiative of tidying up our roads. Please meet at 10.00 am on Saturday 14th May in the Village Hall, when we will all tidy our roads and pavements in the vicinity of Hinxworth and Edworth.

Refreshments will be offered back at the Village Hall after the clean-up, so the more of us who take to the streets, the quicker we will be rewarded with food!

Please contact Heather Baim, heatherannebaim@gmail.com or ring 01767 315094 if you are able to take part.

Villagers drove to Stotfold to see the 90th birthday beacon lit there in the presence of the Mayor and the Stotfold Salvation Army Band. *Picture Geoff Burrows.*



Walkies?

Why not join me on Friday 20th May at 10.30 am for a gentle walk? We will meet at The Three Horseshoes hopefully returning there for a sandwich and a coffee, or something stronger if needed. I look forward to seeing you there.

Yvonne Tookey

WGC Choir returns to Hinxworth

After two very successful and entertaining concerts the Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir are again coming to St Nicholas Church on Saturday 9th July at 7.30 p.m. They will be performing songs from their extensive and varied repertoire.

Those who have seen them before will vouch for the excellence of their performances and we hope to see you again. If you missed their previous concerts you will be delighted by their musicality and their harmonies. They will perform songs from many genres, including films and musicals, classical, spirituals, folk and traditional Welsh.

We are very fortunate to have a church with magnificent acoustics, and this excellent choir makes full use of them. You will come away with tunes filling your ears.

Tickets cost £10 each, including a glass of wine, and are available from Stuart Lillie, 5 Homefield phone 01462 743755. Rumour has it that Patrick Forbes will also have some tickets to sell.

The Big Breakfast Brunch

Sunday 10 July 10.30 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 Yvonne Tookey on 01462 742439

Book Swap Café, Parish Church Room, Ashwell

Saturday May 14th 10 am to 12 noon. Please come along and swap a book, have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee. No forms, no paperwork, just good books you can borrow and read for free.

Hinxworth and Edworth WI

Members and guests including five brave men were invited to don virtual leathers, helmets, gloves and boots for a pictorial whirlwind trip to the Isle of Man TT races. Our speaker, Anne Garnish, a lapsed – excuse the pun – WI member, embarked on her new career in 2009 as a Formula 2 Sidecar co-rider/passenger. She was 36.

Sidecar racing today bears little resemblance to the iconic motorbike and sidecar of yesteryear, the definition now being three or less wheels.

The job of the co-rider is to act as a kind of tiller come rudder to manoeuvre these strange looking vehicles, that only want to go in straight lines, around the bends and corners of tortuous race tracks like Donington Park and Silverstone. This is achieved by holding onto a platform no bigger than the average tea-tray with one hand, hanging out over the track, inches from the ground, one second then clambering onto the driver's back the next. All while travelling at speeds in excess of 100 mph.



picture courtesy Peter Schiazza

"I was hooked"

A month after her first ever race she competed in the British F2 championships finishing in overall third place with driver Wayne 'Bob the Builder' Lockey. From then on, her words, "I was hooked." In 2011 with driver Dean Nicholls she formed Team Lick Racing and went on to passenger for several other drivers picking up medals and podium positions on the way. Anne was delighted when, in 2013, she was invited to compete with driver David Saunders at the prestigious Isle of Man TT and Oliver's Mount rounds.

crashed on 100 mph lap

Sadly during practice week, on a 100mph lap, they crashed. As a result of his injuries David has not returned to racing but in 2013 Anne returned to short circuit racing, competing in many TT races both here and in Europe. For the sheer thrill of it, this plucky young woman put F2 Sidecar Racing on the map particularly for women in a predominately man's world.

retired then broke her shoulder

The poor cousin of the motorcycling world, sidecar racing receives no prize money or remuneration so relies on sponsorship and self-finance. After all the thrills and spills and broken bones, Anne retired in 2015 then fell off her road bike and broke her shoulder! She is a passionate ambassador of her sport.

Look out, Hinxworth. After such an enthusiastic and inspiring speaker there could be a posse of bikers roaring around the village, but they won't be boy-racers!

The next meeting is the AGM on May 12th when we say thank you to Heather as she completes her term as President. Resolutions will also be discussed.

Viv Hughes

Friends of Ashwell Village Museum

Two coach trips are planned, on June 9th to Rochester and Chatham, and to London on September 17th. For more information on coach trips contact Hilary Masham 01462 742416, or Karen Mills 01462 742155.

Soup Lunch

May Soup Lunch will be on Friday 13th May 12.30 - 2pm. Hinxworth Village Hall. All welcome.

copy date

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

Caravans get small and clever



Richard and Lyn Stark established The English Caravan Company in Newnham some six years ago. Since we featured them in Village Voice they have moved to a larger, brighter workshop in Newnham, a matter of yards from where they were.

When I called a couple of weeks ago they had three teardrop caravans fitted with traditional wood fired clay pizza ovens, equivalent to the traditional Italian pizza ovens, all built to order. "Last Sunday we had a customer here for some five hours. By the end of the day we didn't want to see another pizza – we had so many." said Richard. "They were learning themselves. I think it was the caramelised onion, goat's cheese and sweet potato pizza that was really mouth wateringly delicious."

enquiries from South Korea, USA

"We have had an enquiry from South Korea and one from Australia. We still get enquiries from America, asking if we are exporting to America yet. What's stopping us exporting? There are the different braking standards. Here they are manual, spring and lever, in America they're electric brakes. We are still refurbishing vintage caravans, and converting others to catering trailers for street food and music festivals. Festivals don't want the white plastic burger vans any more, they want the vintage classic kerb-side appeal. We won the first prize for Best Looking Mobiler at the British Street Food Awards in London in September 2013 with our Tinderbox mobile pizza oven."

Lynn said, "We've been working on a caravan called Brigitte for local interior designer Jane Ashton. It's going to be advertising interior design on the South coast of France, 'Bardot's Boudoir.'" We have also had an enquiry from Portsmouth Cathedral about building a mobile pop up cathedral for them."

caravan bound for Tate Modern

"A caravan we built from scratch two years ago is going to be in Tate Modern. It's called the Caravan Gallery. It tours towns and cities. People from the area bring them photographic art as well as water colours and oils, poetry, crochet... anything, which are exhibited in the caravan gallery and then others from that area come and see the local art that is exhibited. It's a real hub. It gets people interested, gets them talking. Operated by a wonderful husband and wife Chris and Jan, it's grant aided and is a great idea. They brought the original caravan, bright yellow, to us about 18 months ago, but it was beyond repair, the chassis was broken, so we built an exact replica for them."

"The English Caravan Company features in a smart book, 'Retro and Vintage Design' by Lisa Hayek. They asked us if we wanted to be included so of course we said 'yes'. We're in there alongside Porsche, RayBan, BMW, and Triumph."

For more information about the English Caravan Company, if you want a caravan built, refurbished, or you want to break into pizza making and street food, contact Lynn or Richard on 07831 176 034, 01462 743 904 or email info@theenglishcaravancompany.com or find www.theenglishcaravancompany.com

Patrick Forbes

Village Voice is published by St Nicholas Church,

Art Exhibition Success

Many thanks to all who came to Hinxworth Art Society's Exhibition held over the weekend of 2nd and 3rd April. We were delighted to welcome over 200 visitors who browsed and chatted, enjoyed refreshments, entered the raffle and also bought paintings. Those who voted for their favourite painting might like to know that it was 'Tiger' (no. 101) by Ian Lockyer. No doubt there were some who would like to have bought it if it had been for sale.



Diane Carr with one of her paintings on slate

high standard

We had many compliments on the high standard of the paintings which were much appreciated. Thank you all for your support and interest.

Betty Thorn

Marathon Hayley runs to raise £9,000



Hayley and Team LA completed the London Marathon on 24th April. It was a first for the Team, Hayley, Alex, Jess and Kieran and despite bitterly cold weather for spectators, the Team gave their all to raise a phenomenal amount of money for the Lymphoma Association, so far £9000. The runners all achieved respectable times, Hayley's was 4 hours and 44 minutes! If you would like to donate, it's still possible by following the link: www.justgiving.com/LAfundraisingteam-London-Marathon2016 or dropping in to Julie and Chris at The Knole, New Inn Road, Hinxworth. Thank you

Dates for your diary

May 12th Hinxworth and Edworth WI AGM Village Hall
May 13th Soup Lunch 12.30 pm - 2 pm Village Hall, Hinxworth
May 13th HYP session Hinxworth Village Hall
May 14th Ashwell Book Café, Parish Church Room, 10 am - 12 noon
May 20th Village Walk meet 10.30 am Three Horseshoes
May 20th copy date for June Village Voice
May 27th Shoes Golf Society day at Mount Pleasant Golf Course
June 5th Hinxworth and Edworth Big Lunch Recreation Ground
June 9th coach trip to Rochester and Chatham see page 2
June 10th HYP Session Hinxworth Recreation Ground
June 27th HYP Trip to Mega Jump Borehamwood
July 1st HYP Session Hinxworth Recreation Ground
July 9th WGC Male Voice Choir Concert St Nicholas Church 7.30 pm
July 10th Big Breakfast Brunch Village Hall 10.30 am - 1 pm
July 16th Hinxfest see page 1
July 31st Newnham Parish Lunch, Newnham Hall Cottage 1 pm
August 8th HYP Session Hartrees' Pool

HYP News - Gus excels on new Swegway

Friday we had a small group at HYP who had a great time on our new Swegway. Gus was the only one who had never been on one before but he took to it very quickly and was soon speeding around the hall.

Dawn scare

Which is not what we could say about our helper Dawn, who got stuck on it and the Swegway was whizzing around with one of her feet on it! I've never seen her look so scared. Perhaps we should keep the equipment just for the use of the children.

We also played lots of table tennis and Gus took great delight in thrashing me!

If you know of anyone age 9 or over who lives in Hinxworth or Edworth who would like to come along for a free taster session then please ask them to email me at jayne@ehead.co.uk

Jayne Whitfield



A grand day out at Kew



Tulip time at Kew Gardens

Six friends from Hinxworth and Biggleswade had a grand day out with 51 members of the Baldock Horticultural Society on St George's Day, April 23rd at Kew Gardens. The Baldock Horticultural Society is a flourishing group - 130 members plus. Attendance is about 60 at each meeting. We usually meet on the third Wednesday of each month at Brandles School, Weston Way, Baldock next to fire station. Some meetings are different according to school holidays, no meeting in August though this year there is a coach trip to Holkham Hall and Sheringham. Places still available. Members' spring show in March or April and open summer Show in July. Schedules now available.

speakers on varied topics

We have speakers on a variety of topics - all horticultural in content. You don't have to have a garden or have expert knowledge to be a member. Trips are organised to places of horticultural interest. Pippa Greenwood, well-known gardening personality - "My Gardening Life" - is coming to Baldock Arts and Heritage Centre on 18th May. Tickets £8 for non-members or £5 for members, available at Baldock Community Centre, or ring Mick or Angela Camp on 01462 893418. Or you can join the Society on the night, membership is just £5 or £4 for seniors for the year, renewable in January.

how about a trip to NEC?

Our next trip is to NEC Gardeners' World Show on 16th June - ring above number to see if there are any places left if interested, and for more information about future meetings and coach trips.

Angela Camp

On the beat

with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook Horse Watch scheme to launch in Hertfordshire

If you ride regularly in Hertfordshire, you could play a vital role in helping your community as part of a new scheme being rolled out across the county by Hertfordshire Constabulary.

Horse Watch will see riders become the eyes and ears of their locality by reporting to police anything suspicious or out of the ordinary that they see while out on regular hacks.

Riders will not be used as an extra resource for the police but will provide intelligence and help support crime prevention – similar to Neighbourhood Watch.

Sergeant Jamie Bartlett, from the Rural Operational Support Team (ROST) said: "Riders can make a real difference to their local community without having to formally volunteer. We hope that by receiving additional intelligence and information from riders we can tackle more rural crime that we may not necessarily be aware of. This scheme is all about having additional eyes and ears in areas that police officers cannot regularly patrol."

contact police to join scheme

An information evening was held at Hertfordshire Constabulary Headquarters in Welwyn Garden City on Wednesday, April 20. Anyone interested in the scheme should register their interest by emailing HorseWatch@Herts.pnn.police.uk with your name and contact details. A free high visibility tabard will be given to any riders who want to take part as well as free tack marking and crime prevention information.

on-line watch liaison (owl)

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. This is a useful tool as it keeps you up to date with current crime in your area and will inform you of this to look out for. If you would like to take advantage of this service, please contact me at chris.brabrook@herts.pnn.police.uk

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.

"The Shoes" Golf Society

Dust those clubs off, search for your shoes and join in our friendly get-together on Friday May 27th at Mount Pleasant Golf Course. First tee-off 12 pm to 1 pm. Coffee and bacon roll from 11.15 am. The day includes a round of golf with bacon roll and tea or coffee, a barbecue meal at The Shoes from 7.30 pm onwards, prizes galore, music, charity raffle. Tickets limited to 24 golfers. Maximum handicap of 28 and 36. **Closing date May 15th 2016. Cost approx £50 to be confirmed.**

book now behind the bar

If interested please complete form behind the bar and pay in full to Gerry and Julie. If you have special dietary needs or would like your partner to join you for the evening meal, please give details on the form. If you need a golf buggy, ring Simon on 07901 513995.



Church Services

May 1st 10.15 am Family service St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
May 8th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
May 15th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
May 22nd 9.15 am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth
9.30 am Holy Communion St. Vincent, Newnham
May 29th 9.15 am Parish Eucharist St. Nicholas, Hinxworth

dog poo distress

Dear Editor,

Tidying up the front of our property next to the public footpath at the end of Chapel Street, I came across nine plastic bags of dog poo, all very neatly hidden under our arranged logs, which have been put in place around the front of our property to protect a BT manhole cover from heavy farm traffic.

Readers, this is your dog, please take the poo home. How would the person concerned appreciate it if everyone started leaving dog poo around their property?

Susan Hillier, Orchard Lodge, Hinxworth

Ashwell Music Festival May 5th - 15th

Thursday 5th May 7.00pm

School's Concert & Compline

Friday 6th May 7.00pm

Impressions - An Evening of
Chamber Music from Ravel to Rota
With Harmoniemusic

And International harpist Danielle Perrett

Saturday 7th May 8.00pm

James Pearson - More Moore!
A Musical Portrait of Dudley Moore

Tuesday 10th May 7.00pm

Phoenix Ladies Barbershop Chorus
Saturday 14th May 8.00pm

The Dolly Parton and Kenny Rogers Experience for those lovers
of country music

Sunday 15th May 6.30pm

Festal Evensong featuring guest preacher Pam Rhodes from
BBC Songs of Praise

**Online Tickets + booking form www.ashwellmusicfestival.org
Booking office: 01462 743289**

Dunton Garden coffee mornings and plant sales, May 20th - 21st

Dunton Garden, Great Close, Church Farm, Church Street, Dunton SG18 8RR present a Coffee Morning and Plant sale Friday 20th and Saturday 21st May 10.30am-12.30pm. Drinks and delicious home baking, flower, herb & perennial plants, vegetable and salad plants, seasonal produce, homemade jams & chutneys, local honey. For children: digging, water play, tents and tunnels, colouring plus games and a toy stall on Saturday.

The March Hare pub in Dunton is putting on a fundraising quiz for the Community Garden on Sunday 15th May, 7.30pm. Teams of up to 6 people or turn up and join a team on the night. Minimum donation of £2.50 per person to participate. Complimentary mid-quiz snacks provided.

Historic Mass at Saint Nicholas Church

Friday April 1st saw between 30 and 40 people meet at Saint Nicholas Church, Hinxworth, for a Roman Catholic Mass celebrated by Father Richard Moroney from St. Peter's Church Biggleswade. It was almost certainly the first such service since the reign of King Henry the Eighth. We hope it will be the first of many. That will be a matter for Father Moroney and local Roman Catholics to decide.