

Wise Words

Langston Hughes (1902 - 1967) was the first black writer in America to earn his living from writing. He was a central figure in the Harlem Renaissance, the flowering of black intellectual, literary, and artistic life that took place in the 1920s in a number of American cities, particularly Harlem. A major poet, Hughes also wrote novels, short stories, essays, and plays. He sought to honestly portray the joys and hardships of working-class black lives, avoiding both sentimental idealisation and negative stereotypes.



Dreams

Hold fast to dreams

For if dreams die

Life is a broken-winged bird

That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams

For when dreams go

Life is a barren field

Frozen with snow.

February Quiz - The Answers & The Winner!

Congratulations to Frances & Simon Marlow who were the winners of February's quiz!!! A small prize will be dropped off by Jan O-W. Thank you to everyone who took part, the answers are:

7 D i a W - days in a week

27 - books in the new testament

26 L i t A - letters in the alphabet

11 P i a FT - players in a football team

15 R B i a G O S - red balls in a game of snooker

3 B M - blind mice

64 S o a C B - squares on a chess board

10 D S - downing street

52 C i a P - cards in a pack (without jokers)

200 P f P G i M - pounds for passing go in monopoly

12 S o t Z - signs of the zodiac

2001 A S O - a space odyssey

18 H o a G C - holes on a golf course

101 D - dalmatians

29 D i F (i a LY) - days in february in a leap year

90 D i a R A - degrees in a right angle

6 B i a O - balls in an over

24 H i a D - hours in a day

180 M S w T D - maximum score with three darts

5 T o a F - toes on a foot

7 C o t R - colours of the rainbow

2 H o a C - humps on a camel or hands on a clock

Cracking Chianti - February's Draw

We had a lovely lot of entries for the Querciabella Chianti Classico red wine last month., twenty-four in total!

The lucky winner was Katrina Hoskins.

Congratulations and we hope that you enjoy the wine !

The surplus funds will go towards the next bottle, watch out for that soon.

Copy Date: Please send all copy/pictures for the April edition by March 20th. E: villagevoice3@gmail.com

The Ides of March - Did you know ?

- The Ides, Kalends and Nones were ancient markers based on lunar phases used to divide the months on Roman calendars. Crescent, first quarter and full moons.

- Ides in Roman times simply referred to the first full moon of a given month which usually fell between the 13th and the 15th.

- The word Ide means the 'middle of the month' corresponding to the 15th of March, May, July, and October; the 13th of other months.

- March 15th, The Ides of March, was when Julius Caesar, the roman general and politician the self proclaimed dictator of the roman empire, was famously assassinated in 44 B.C. during a meeting of the Senate.

- The assassination plot, which may have involved as many as 60 conspirators, and led by Brutus and Cassius.

- Caesar's final words 'Et Tu Brutus ?' literally translate as 'and you too Brutus'. Expressing surprise that his friend had betrayed him also.

- According to the Greek biographer Plutarch, a seer had warned that harm would come to Caesar no later than the Ides of March.

- On his way to the Senate, Caesar is said to have passed the seer and joked: "The Ides of March are come", implying that the prophecy had not been fulfilled, to which the seer replied "Aye, Caesar; but not gone".

- The phrase became especially famous when the words "Beware the Ides of March" were used in Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar. Since then they have been associated with bad luck or impending doom!

Hinxworth & Edworth WI

February's meeting was held on the 10 Feb, just before Valentine's Day which gave us a good idea for the meeting's activity. Firstly though Anki started the meeting and said how lovely it was to see so many members present. She read out some apologies from members who were unable to attend and those present then agreed the Minutes for the last meeting. Business done we could get on with the rest of the evening.

Obviously the theme of the meeting was Valentine's Day. Jan Youngman and Jan Rainham has kindly provided a lovely lot of embroidery materials for us to try our hand at cross-stitch and have a go at making a Valentine's card or a bookmark. Needless to say some of us were better than others at it and produced some credible results. Those of us who were not so good took the opportunity to have a good catch up over a coffee or a cup of tea. A very enjoyable evening all round.

The meeting next month will be on the 10 March. It should be a good evening with the speaker Angel Collins presenting "A Puppets Tale". It promises to be a lively meeting. If you would like a taste of our WI meetings why not give this meeting a go. We are always so pleased to see new faces and potential new members. We are a friendly bunch and will give you a warm welcome. Meetings start at 7.45pm with doors open at 7.30pm.

Chrisi Hook

Soup Lunch Update

The next Soup Lunch will be on Friday 11 March 12.30 to 2pm. Look forward to seeing you all then.

Chrisi Hook

• Village Voice •

March 2022

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.246

Your Church Needs You



Every year, your village church has an annual meeting, in which we review the activities of the past year and elect Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ahead.

This year is no different and the annual meeting of parishioners takes place soon on Sunday 3rd of April in the church at 11:00am (after our 10:15am Family Service).

Especially in our 700th Birthday year, we would love to hear your fresh ideas for how best St Nicholas' can be at the heart of our community, and how our community can support this beautiful old church. Everybody is welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there.

If you can't make it but would like to share your thoughts, or if you'd like to find more about our services, and activities during lent (including our Lent Course), do get in touch! Email: chris@revcc.uk

Revd Chris Campbell, Rector

Jubilee Celebrations



On Sunday 5th June we plan to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee & combine it with the 'postponed' event from 2020 to mark the 100 year Anniversary of our War Memorial. In order to get some idea of numbers so that we can ensure we have sufficient tables, could you please contact Sylvia (sylviamedia@gmail.com) if you and your family would like to join in. We will ask you to bring your own picnic and chairs. An entertainer will be coming along for the children!

We have already had a great response but it will be fantastic to see as many people from the village join us for this historic event!

Richard Cobb, Chairman, Hinxworth Parish Council

Storm Eunice Hits Hinxworth

At the time of writing the Village Voice, Storm Eunice was firmly in Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham. We hope that all of our readers have stayed safe.

There will probably be lots of debris and clear-up in the coming weeks. Most notably was the large tree across New Inn Road in Hinxworth. The Village Voice ventured out for a picture and to say 'thank you' to Ken and Dave for the clear-up which was moved off the road to minimise disruption within twelve hours.



Ken and Dave, 'Clearing New Inn Road'



Photo by Helene Donohoe, 'Dudley and Willoughby were safe inside'

Volunteering in Herts



#TeamHerts Volunteering are excited to announce the launch of our brand-new website, GoVolHerts, for all your volunteering needs.

Whether you are looking for your perfect volunteering role or are an organisation hoping to recruit volunteers, your journey starts here!

GoVolHerts is a straight-forward platform which supports the whole of the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector in Hertfordshire where residents can find bespoke volunteering opportunities with local organisations who need help.

To view local volunteering opportunities near you go to <https://www.govolherts.org.uk/volunteer/opportunities>.

Parish Council Minutes

We have received a lot of requests to reinstate a slot in the Village Voice each month for the PPC minutes; we apologise to those of you who have expressed dissatisfaction and disquiet at the omission of this information. On occasions recently the minutes have been very long and would have taken up too much space in an unedited form.

However, it is obviously important to many of you to see this in an accessible, abridged form each month. Therefore we intend to resume publication with immediate effect.

Full minutes are always available online at www.hinxworth-pc.org.uk.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 6th JANUARY 2022 AT 7.00 PM.

Present: Mr R. Cobb (Chairman) Mr N. Tiffin (Vice-Chairman) Mr A. Lloyd Mr A. Dawson (for Christy's Yard Application only). Mr B. Higgins Mrs W. Kitchener (Clerk)

Apologies: Steve Jarvis, Hertfordshire County Councillor.

Other Councillor present: Tom Tyson, District Councillor.

Twenty one members of the public.

North Hertfordshire Council Planning Application 21/03121/FP: Land Adjoining Christy's Yard.

The Chairman invited the residents of Hinxworth present to make their representations to allowed four minutes to state their position.

(Councillors Nick Tiffin and Brian Higgins "declared an interest" therefore excused themselves from participating in the meeting or voting on this item).

The persons who came forward were:- Ian Alderman, Christy's Yard. Julien Mignonac, Chapel Street. Mark Gammon, Christy's Yard. Jill King, Chapel Street. Tony Lloyd, Parish Councillor, The Close.

They gave a brief resume of their objections.

Please see the North Hertfordshire District Council Planning website for the full text of their representations.

The Chairman summed up the Parish Council's position:-

"Chapel Street is a conservation area of some note. The open view and vistas around two of its important listed buildings Middle Farm and Cantlebury with the pond as a centre piece are unrivalled in North Hertfordshire. We believe that this application will undermine this conservation area, especially with the parking for this proposed development in front of the barn which was part of Middle Farm. The parking of two cars would totally block the view of the pond from one side. The access to the proposed development by foot from Chapel Street alongside the barn gives a clear understanding on what vehicles would be left around the pond area. This would totally undermine the vista from Cantlebury House across the pond and over the gardens of Middle Farm also. Additionally, people embarking from these parked vehicles would embark onto the grass area at some point. so a pavement would have to be constructed, even if not requested in this application. This proposed development would be totally at odds with this environment. This green space with open vistas are very important to this conservation area. We see no benefit to the Village or our many visitors to Hinxworth from this development in such a sensitive conservation area.

The Parish Council objects to this application". This was agreed unanimously by the Parish Councillors.

Correspondence: North Hertfordshire Council Planning Application 21/03121/FP: Land Adjoining Christy's Yard Please note additional letters received by the Parish Council from residents, and as advised by the Chairman, to forward a copy to North Hertfordshire District Council Planning Department for posting on their website.

Planning: North Hertfordshire District Council Planning Application 21/03222/PQN: Prior Approval Class Agric to Dwelling Q: Change of use of two agricultural barns into two 4-residential dwellings (Class C3 Use) including the creation of amenity space and parking. Place Farm. New Inn Road, Hinxworth, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 5HB Re: Parish Councils comments on 21/03222/PNQ. Class Q to Dwellings. Place Farm. (Follow-up from December Minutes under "Any Other Business" as reported to NHDC for posting on their website). Hinxworth Parish Council are aware of Class Q to Dwelling as we have had one in the Parish recently. We are Neutral in our response to the application, but we urge NHDC to take on board the following points as very relevant, given the HCC application for a Care Home also at Place Farm. 1) There is strong concern that these converted Barns to Dwellings could also form part of a bigger Care Home complex by the "back door." We therefore ask NHDC to explore possible restrictions and ensuring that these properties are sold as private dwellings. 2) The Parish Council is very concerned regarding having two four-bedroom dwellings on this land which is surrounded by waterlogged fields. There are no main drains and the additional disposal of domestic water by these new dwellings will cause greater problems. We ask NHDC to take note of the informed comments by Mr Smyth (already on your website) who lives opposite Place Farm and farms the surrounding land. The impact on Jacks House and the water which builds up in the ditch surrounding the property already. As a result, two more houses will/could overwhelm this ditch and a full drainage assessment needs consideration prior to approval. The necessary steps taken to prevent increasing issues in this local area i.e., Investment in new drainage/ ditches must form part of any granted permissions.

Highways: Flooding: Many of the roads in and surrounding Hinxworth are flooded. Steve Jarvis is to be contacted to "Walk the Village" to identify the problem areas.

Village Hall: The Car Park lighting has been renewed.

Any Other Urgent Business: Unknown "Tommy" for Hinxworth: The Royal British Legion has a programme to commemorate the centenary of the War Memorials of the First World War by Towns/Villages the Parish Council is to purchase a figurine of an "Unknown Tommy" next month.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee: Plans will be underway in the near future for the weekend commencing 3rd June. Organisations in the Village will be approached for their input.

Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 3rd February 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. The meeting closed at 7.55 pm

The Three Horseshoes, Dates for March

Here are some dates for your diaries in March – book early to avoid disappointment:

16th March	Pub Quiz
17th March	St Patrick's Night
27th March	Mother's Day



Ashwell & Bassingborn Patients Group

NOTES FROM OUR JANUARY MEETING

- Covid struck down quite a few of our surgery staff at Christmas.
- At the time of writing we have numerous vacancies at the practice. Recruiting nurses and doctors is a concerning national issue which affects us too.
- We have been allocated NHS funds to allow us to increase capacity over the winter and we hope to expand GP availability as a consequence. As mentioned above finding extra doctors is a challenge but we hope to provide some additional appointments nevertheless.
- We have been successful in our bid for NHS funding to replace our creaking telephone system with one which should be much more patient-friendly. All being well we should not have long to wait for the change to take place. Watch this space!!!
- There was a long discussion about the various issues about appointments. Frontline staff are being trained in signposting patients according to their needs. Not all are referred to a GP in the first instance. We have a number of other medical staff who are qualified to deal with a wide range of issues – our nurses, physician's associate and our new pharmacy consultant. And our GPs are always on hand. They will be free to deal with more serious cases as a consequence. Dr Jarvis pointed out that although practices were now offering more appointments than in pre-pandemic times, demand exceeds capacity not only for us but nationally. "Appointments" is a standing agenda item.
- Reports of good and less good experiences were exchanged. These are duly noted and looked into by surgery members.
- It was agreed that a "User's Guide" for patients about how our practice works would be beneficial.

Unfortunately the meeting was curtailed because of technical problems – we are still meeting on Zoom. We shall next meet around the end of March.

NHS Run New Heart Attack Campaign

A new campaign to encourage people to call 999 if they spot early signs of a heart attack has been launched by the NHS. The campaign is set to run from 14th February to 31st March and will show the public common symptoms of a heart attack including sweating, uneasiness, and chest tightness.

A poll of the public has shown that less than half of people would call 999 if they or a loved one was experiencing less well-known symptoms of heart attacks.

NHS medical director, Professor Stephen Powis, said: "Sadly, cardiovascular disease causes a quarter of all deaths across the country and we have identified this as the single biggest area where we can save lives over the next decade.

"This new NHS campaign will be a vital tool in that life-saving mission – helping people to recognise when they or someone around them is experiencing a heart attack and when to seek early medical help cannot be underestimated.

"It can be easy to dismiss early symptoms as they don't always feel severe, but it is never too early to dial 999 in this circumstance – and the faster you act, the better the chance of a full recovery".

For more information go to; <https://www.nationalhealthexecutive.com/articles/nhs-launch-new-heart-attack-campaign-raise-awareness-less-well-known-symptoms>.

Peter Chapman

Green Homes Grants



Save money, energy and make your home more environmentally-friendly

What is the Green Homes Grant?
The Green Homes Grant scheme is a UK Government funded initiative supporting local projects to make energy-saving improvements in your home, helping to reduce household fuel bills, make homes warmer and lower carbon emissions. Warmworks is the Managing Agent in your area who will support your access to this funding.

How does it work?
Following a survey of your property by one of our qualified surveyors at a convenient time, we will recommend a package that is suitable for your home. These improvements could include insulation, double/triple glazing, hot water tank insulation, new thermostats and more.

Get in touch today to find out more about Green Homes Grants

0808 196 8255

surveys.est.org.uk/s/GreenHomesGrantSchemeLAD

Church Services for March

Wed 2nd Mar	16.00	Ash Wednesday, Evening Prayer	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 6th Mar	10.15	Family Service with Baptism	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 13th Mar	09.15	Parish Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 20th Mar	09.15	Parish Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 27th Mar	09.30	Holy Communion	St Vincent, Newnham
Sun 27th Mar	09.15	Parish Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth

Village Hall News

Come along to Yoga with Liz, Wednesday's from 7pm - 8pm, £8 per session - contact Liz at ips.oliver78@gmail.com for more information.

The Village Hall 'Jubilee Quiz Night' will be held on Saturday 14th May - put the date in your diaries, more details will follow soon.

Helene Donohoe



The March Hare from Alice in Wonderland

Lewis Carroll (Charles Lutwidge Dodgson) 1832-1898

"Then you should say what you mean," the March Hare went on. "I do," Alice hastily replied; "at least — at least I mean what I say — that's the same thing, you know."

"Not the same thing a bit!" said the Hatter. "You might just as well say that "I see what I eat" is the same thing as "I eat what I see!"