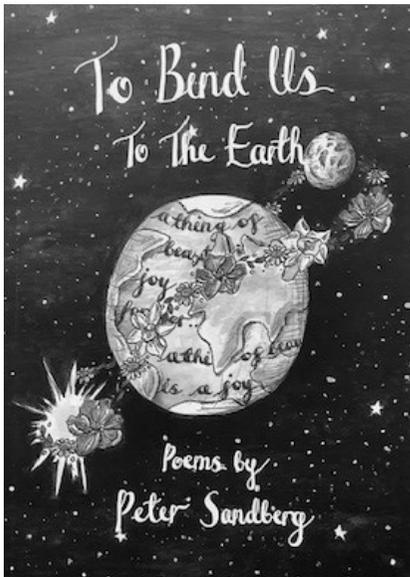


PARISH NEWS

BORLEY : FOXEARTH : LISTON : PENTLOW

March 2020

Well known former Cleric, Peter Sandberg retired from preaching in July 2019. At the time of his retirement, he was presented with a handsome cheque by grateful parishioners at Pentlow and Borley, and other gifts, to mark his retirement and the parishioners appreciation. No one, other than Peter and Celia, knew how he would use his cheque.



The answer is, to publish his poetry. Inspired by the successful poetry readings held during the South Stour Arts Festival and his association with the Sudbury Poetry Cafe and the Sudbury Poetry Society, and always having promised himself that one day he would publish, he now has.

This stylish book of poetry titled “To Bind Us To The Earth” is a magnificent collection of his own work written across the years and reflecting his love of nature, travel, family and life! Some of his poems have been published as individual poems, but they are small in number leaving the anthology with a huge amount of original material.

My particular favourite is *Slow Motion* in which Peter tells the story of a precious bowl which falls from his grasp. The description of the trajectory and the memories the bowl conjures is an absolute delight and surely the feelings we all share when something so dear faces destruction.

Although Peter explains his love of words, it is clear from his writing that he also has great powers of observation. Some of us take for granted the little things in life - nature in particular. These really are special.

Continued over...

... Continued

The book cover has been designed by Peter and Celia's grand daughter, Helen Shirley and is printed by The Lavenham Press

Peter is now offering the book for sale at, a bargain, £8 each and they are available from him at hethersett1@outlook.com or by telephone on his usual number.

Kelvin Hastings-Smith



SPRING FORWARD

REMEMBER
The clocks
go forward
by one hour
on Sunday,
29th March

Make a fuss of
um on
othering Sunday
arch 22nd



Slow Motion

by Peter Sandberg

The faience bowl my mother left to me
falls from my fumbling fingers
and as it slips, my memory fastens on
her frown that often gently said
I'd failed her.

The bowl turns slowly in the unsupported air
offering me a final chance to admire
the delicacy of its decoration
as it approaches the glazed tile floor
and dissolution.

My other hand is chasing it,
but my knees won't bend to help.
My mind anticipates the crack
of ceramic on ceramic
as it tips down to the tiles.

But still there's a fraction of a second
while it seems to hang in space
and my body is frozen
while my mind, fast forward, races
through a catalogue of clumsiness
with things I've dropped before -
Have they always broken?

My eyes close
leaving my ears
to hear...

THE END!

Ruminations from the Rectory.....

Dear Friends,

I am writing this on a very cold (with windchilled) February day. We felt we had to cancel all our church services tomorrow in order to keep everyone safe. But, there are signs of spring, Snowdrops and Crocuses are out and there is the best display of Aconites I have ever seen in Henny Churchyard. Every time I walk Morag, I catch the lovely aroma of our Winter Honeysuckle.

By the time you are sitting reading this, we will be in the season of Lent. Many people, whether or not they go to church, still give up something for Lent. Others try to make time to take on something to help their community or to think more about how much we waste and pollute the planet. Hopefully, we can all try to do our bit and they say, if you make a small change in your normal practice over a certain number of weeks, it then becomes your normal habit.

I was appalled to hear that some of the Bishops (neither Chelmsford nor Colchester) had put out a statement which was distinctly unpastoral, and very rigid in its approach, regarding civil partnerships, sex before marriage and gay relationships, on the day that Civil Partnership were opened to people of either sex. I know that the church at grass roots level here is more open, inclusive and welcoming than the Bishops' statement made out. I resent the fact that it was only a small number of Bishops who made the statement to the media for which they have now apologised but not retracted. This has also angered other Bishops who have distanced themselves from the public statement. I have written to make my views known to our own Bishops. This kind of publicity only serves to confirm people's worst opinions of the church. Our local churches here are all inclusive and want to show a warm welcome to all, despite what some of our bishops may say.

With the love of Christ to you all

Revd Margaret, your Team Rector

<p>CRAFTY WO(MEN) All Welcome</p>	<p>Monday, 16th March 10am - 12noon Spencer's Farm Shop Cafe, Wickham St Paul's Bring your crafty things, enjoy a good natter, a cup of coffee & a cake! More Information: 01787 269385 revd.margaret@northhinckfordparishes.org.uk</p>
--	--

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USEFUL INFORMATION:

Editors: Kelvin & Julie Hastings-Smith, Highlands, Borley CO10 7AE
01787 313579 parisheditor@outlook.com

Team Rector: Revd Margaret H King, The Rectory Great Henny
Sudbury O10 7NW 01787 269385 07989 659073
www.northhinckfordparishes.org.uk *Usual day off Friday*

Team Vicar: Revd Gill Morgan, The Vicarage, Gages Road, Belchamp
St Paul CO10 7BT 01787 584993 revgillmorgan@outlook.com

Team Administrator (North Hinkford Benefice): Fiona Slot
01787 278123 fislot@yahoo.co.uk
www.facebook.com/northhinckfordparishes
Working hours 9am-12noon - Mon, Tues, Thurs

**PLEASE SEND YOUR ARTICLES/PHOTOGRAPHS TO
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All contributions will be acknowledged

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Pastoral Ponderings

Dear Friends

Do you ever wonder what your purpose in life is? I am sure most of us, at some point, have asked, 'what is life all about?' We do not always seem to be able to accept it as a gift, and enjoy it. We want to analyse, understand and question it.

If you have given someone a gift, perhaps you hope they will cherish it, use it, enjoy it and be proud of it. Though, I guess we have all had the gift that we hide in the back of the cupboard, bring out when the person who gave it to you visits or drop it off to the charity shop! Or perhaps we allow it to get overused, thrown around and battered?

Life is a gift for us to accept, what we do with it as individuals, as a community, as a nation, well, that is for us to make the choice.

Lent is a good time for us to reflect on life. For Christians, it is a good time to reflect on life and faith. This year the Church of England sets us a 40 day challenge to care for God's creation #livelent. The first challenge is to give up something for Lent that will help us care for our world.

Creation is part of the gift of life and, as spring starts to emerge, it is the perfect time to notice life renewed and refreshed after the winter sleep. A gift, of course, should not be conditional so, when you are reflecting on life, remember it is an unconditional gift for you to enjoy. All you have to think about is how you respond to the kindness of that gift.

At the beginning of the year I offered you a challenge to live moment by moment and so I offer you the gift of spring to notice all its delights and to be thankful.

May you enjoy the gift of creation and journey toward Easter ready to celebrate a wonderful gift of life.

With prayers

Gill

Rev Gill Morgan

MOBILE LIBRARY SCHEDULE:

11th March
1st & 22nd April

2.10 - 2.40 pm Pentlow Telephone Box
2.50 - 3.20 pm Foxearth Old School

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EMAIL: amdiggerservices@aol.com

OUR WORLD

MORNING LENT COURSE

Finding out the origins of our food, discovering local woodland, exploring a church of a different denomination and remembering those less well fed than ourselves - all topics so pertinent to today - form the basis of this year's Lent Course

Thursday March 5th 10am

Brook Farm, Cock Lane, Brent Eleigh, CO10 9PB

Lavenham Brook Farm produces award-winning Red Poll beef, Suffolk wines and heritage variety apple juices. We shall be introduced to their pedigree Red Poll herd, discussing their cattle husbandry, grass production and beef production. We shall have an opportunity to see the farm shop where they sell products that grow on their land, and we shall hear about the wine and apple juice sectors of the business. At this time of much discussion about the production of our food, this should be an excellent visit. The website of Lavenham Brook Farm is well worth a look.

Tuesday March 17th 10am

Twinstead Wood Lorkins Lane, Twinstead CO10 7LZ

Right on our doorstep, come and see this beautiful wood and all the work going on there. 'A wildlife rich ancient semi natural woodland of more than a thousand years. Its traditional management is being restored to protect and enhance its conservation value. Now supplying local communities with logs, charcoal, fencing timber and hazel for the local thatchers.' The tour of the wood will be less than a mile. £5 fee per person.

Wednesday March 25th 10 30am The Greek Orthodox Monastery of St John the Baptist, Tolleshunt Knights, Maldon CM7 8EZ

The Abbott is kindly welcoming us to tour this monastery, which worships in English. We will see the wonderful artwork and architecture of this small place of peace and, perhaps, of their second chapel. Get a taste of the beautiful icons by looking up their website or even seeing them on Trip Advisor!

Tuesday April 7th St Barnabas Church, Alphamstone from 12 noon
Lent Lunch. Come and share a social time to end our Lent course, with entry by donation of gifts for StoreHouse, our local food bank.

**For more details of any events please
contact Rosemary Ingram on jr@ingram2.plus.com
or call 267969 (telephone only after March 5th)**

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LENT SMALL GROUP

Lent offers an opportunity to explore aspects of life and faith

This year we will look at

'Living Distinctively in our Created World'

based on Genesis

and the #liveLent Care for God's Creation challenge

We will meet on Wednesday evenings, 7.00 – 8.30pm starting on
26th February in Belchamp St Paul

LIMITED PLACES SO PLEASE PHONE REV GILL ON 01787 584993
TO BOOK A PLACE AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

LISTON BORLEY PENTLOW FOXEARH TRUST FUND

Grants for educational development, community projects
and religious purposes are available for individuals and organizations
in our villages

Applications are considered by the Trustees in Spring and Autumn

Requests for support should be made in writing to the Secretary:-

Dr Douglas New at Bunters, Borley CO10 7AE

FOXEARH & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

A.G.M. with Cheese & Wine

Members are asked to bring along
items for a 'Museum Table'

at 7.30 pm on

Tuesday 10th March at Foxearth Village Hall



If you would like to join us please contact

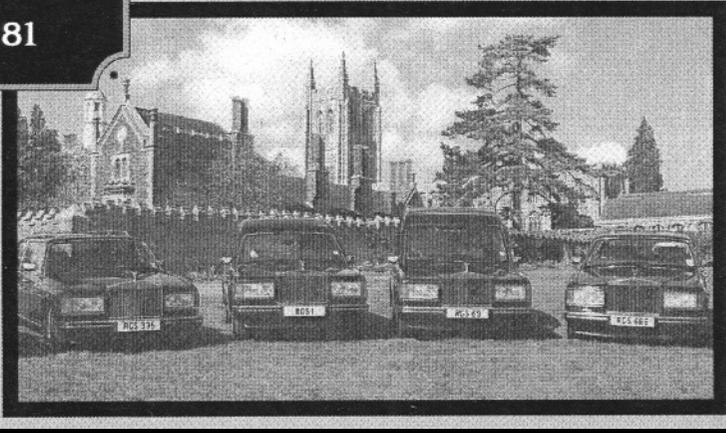
Clare Mathieson 01787 311337/

Lynda Rumble 01787 281434

More information on foxhistsoc@gmail.com

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Friday, 13th March 2020

6.00pm till 8.00pm

Please come & join us for wine and nibbles to get to know your neighbours, and the skills & hobbies that they can offer

If you cannot make it & wish to advertise your business get in touch

ALL WELCOME

For more details contact Pam Pluck

07503940532 / 01787 311326 / pampluck@btinternet.com

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Liston or Borley*

Use oil for heating

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on behalf of members

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and once in summer as required

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ORDER

4th April & 30th May

For more details or to join contact:-

Mike Crome
mikey1805@gmail.com

APCM

at Foxearth Church

6pm on Monday 16th March

PCC AGM for the
re-appointment of church
wardens, secretary and
treasurer, etc

Various reports for the
year will be given

ALL WELCOME



You need to try.....

The Belchamp Walter Village Lunch

Every second Saturday of the month (except April this year).

At 12.00 noon at the Belchamp Walter Village Hall.

Have a scrumptious, freshly prepared 3 course lunch with plenty of choice for just £8.00 per person.

Phone Monika on 01787 378347 to book your place.

March 14th LUNCH MENU

STARTER

Butternut Squash or Spinach Soup



MAIN COURSE

Choose from:

Mild Chicken Korma with rice and Naan bread

or

Warm Sausage Plait with boiled potatoes, Gravy, Peas and sweetcorn

or

Mild Vegetable and Chickpea Korma with rice and Naan bread (V)(LF)

DESSERTS

Choose from:

Chocolate Mousse Cake / Trifle / Apple Pie/ Warm Treacle Sponge

served with Cream or Custard



Tea/Coffee

Subject to food availability we are happy to offer a 'Take-Away' service at a competitive price. Please ask one of the team if you would like further details.

Please tell us if you have any food allergies or intolerances.

CHOCOLATE MAKING DEMONSTRATION and TASTING

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**Borley Village Hall
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£10

Including Tea/Coffee and Cake

**To reserve your place, call Trish on mandtturner@gmail.com
Or Julie on 01787 313579 kandj@jkhastings.me.uk**

SOUNDTRACK TO SIXTEEN

**Special film screening at
at The Quay Theatre, Sudbury
on Saturday, 21st March at 6.30pm**

Tickets £6

First feature by local writer/director duo, Hilary and Anna Shakespeare, followed by a Q&A session with the sisters and some members of the cast.

Tickets can be reserved at www.quaysudbury.com

To find about the Shakespeare sisters go to
www.shakespeare-sisters.com

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Thursdays 9.30- 11am (Term Time only)
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Mums, Dads, Grandparents,
Childminders, Toddlers, Babies and
Bumps all invited. Drinks and Snacks
provided for adults and children. £1.50
per child

Any toy donations very welcome.

The health visitor attends the group once
a month for baby weighing and to
answer questions.

Please contact Verity on 07980993975 or
verity.bridge@outlook.com or join the
facebook group "Belchamp Little Acorns"
for further information.

FOXEARTH MEADOWS NATURE RESERVE

WINTER WORK PARTIES

Work continues apace at Foxearth Meadows Nature Reserve. If you can spare some time to help, join Mark on Friday mornings. The sessions start at 10am and finish at lunch time. If you need to leave early or even stop on into the afternoon, that's fine.

6th, 13th, 20th & 27th March

Please contact Mark to check that any given work party is going ahead before you come. The dates may be subject to change or cancellation. It is also helpful to have an idea of numbers attending.



Foxearth Meadows Information: Mark Prina, Reserve Manager, A Rocha UK, Foxearth Meadows Mobile: 07548 209652 Home: 01223 832530 Email: mark.prina@arocha.org Working hours: Mon/WedThurs/Fri 09:00 to 17:30

THE BONES OF BORLEY



**Friday 3rd April 7.30pm
at Borley Village Hall**



Historian, Andrew Clarke, presents an entertaining talk about Borley Rectory and alleged paranormal phenomena



**£5 Tickets booked in advance -or-
£7 Tickets on the door
Including a glass of wine**



To reserve your place, call Trish on mandtturner@gmail.com
Or Julie on 01787 313579 kandj@jkhastings.me.uk

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(In aid of Foxearth Church)

SATURDAY APRIL 18TH APRIL 2020

7.00pm for 7.30pm AT FOXEARTH VILLAGE HALL

£10.00

Two Course Supper - Chicken, leek & mushroom pie or Ricotta & Spinach Cannelloni in Tomato sauce

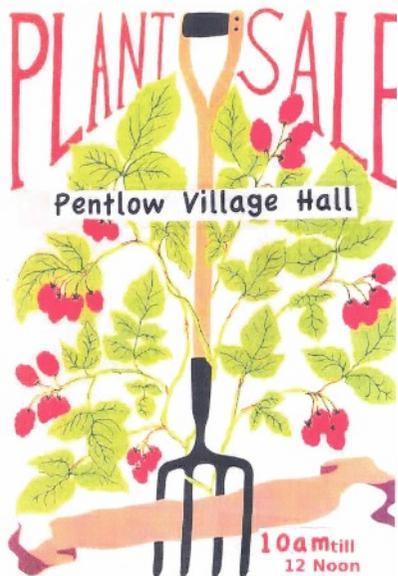
Bar & Raffle

Ring Val (373277) or

Pam (311326/07503940532/ pampluck@btinternet.com)

Max of 6 people in a team.

Booking & full payment to be received by April 11th 2020



PENTLOW PLANT SALE Saturday 16th May

We are in need of a few growers and helpers, are you able to help?

We would like any spare plants you have, annuals, perennial, veg, indoor...

Along with donations of produce, cakes or garden/plant bric-a-brac... all very gratefully received.

Rent-a-Table? Sell your own wares, £5 table inside the hall

CALL MELANIE 07770 321542 INFO, COLLECTION OR DROP OFF

CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Spud (6)
4 Robert Donat film of James Hilton's novel "Goodbye Mr. . . ." (5)
8 In short - device for light application by stimulated emission of electromagnetic radiation (5)
9 Rise and order canned fish! (7)
10 Capital of Libya (7)
11 Cook to partially burnt state contributes to rich aroma! (4)
12 Type of 16 down (3)
14 French soft creamy 28 across (4)
15 Capable - even without the head gear! (4)
18 Spirit - beloved of the Navy - distilled from molasses (3)
21 See 19 down (4)
23 One who certifies financial accounts correct (7)
25 The dessert course of a meal (7)
26 Eskimo people & their language (5)
27 Mournful piece of music (5)
28 Savoury food made from pressed 4 down (6)

CLUES DOWN

- 1 A plate created for the roof of the mouth! (6)
2 Tarte is becoming more flavoursome! (7)
3 Small pie with filling in pastry envelope (8)
4 What is left after the removal of the whey (4)
5 Of Ireland (5)
6 Fortified wine from Spain (6)
7 Clear, savoury jelly made from meat stock (5)
13 English earl who devised use for two slices of bread! (8)
16 Salad leaf (7)
17 Lacking common sense (6)
19 and 21 across Eat all pea pods! (5.4)
20 Her wit makes one squirm in pain! (6)
22 Beneath (5)
24 Creator of Tarzan, Edgar Burroughs (4)



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PRIZE CROSSWORD No. 244

"Food, glorious food" sang the workhouse boys in "Oliver" - and this came to mind as I cooked up this general knowledge competition spiced with just a few cryptic clues! Entries to the Editors by 14th March please. *Ken Nice*

Entry of.....
 Add/Tel.....
 Email.....

1		2		3			4		5		6
						7					
8						9					
10									11		
						12		13			
	14							15		16	
17				18		19					20
21		22				23					
				24							
25								26			
27								28			

FEBRUARY WINNER PRIZE CROSSWORD 243
 Rachel Christmas of Borley Green
Congratulations, a worthy wine winner

Prize Crossword No 243 (February) Solution
Across 1 Ron, 3 Sir, 5 Mate, 7 Samba, 8 Mental, 10 Ludo, 11 Stoppard, 13 Tactic, 14 Fleece, 17 Overture, 19 Spot, 21 Tiddly, 22 Winks 23 Refuse, 24 Nap, 25 Sad.
Down 1 Resolution, 2 Nomadic, 3 Snap, 4 Remote, 5 Monopoly, 6 Tiara, 9 Advertised, 12 Birthday, 15 Expands, 16 Crayon, 18 Exile, 20 Swap.

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John Geddes



John Geddes was a Foxearth resident from 2009 and his death on 7th February 2020 will have been received with great sadness by his family and his many friends in the village and beyond. He was a strong supporter of community life and his career, as an accountant, clearly fitted him for the voluntary "treasurer" roles that seem to appear once one retires. In this capacity he served the Cavendish Bowls Club, the Foxearth and District History Society, the Foxearth Parochial Church Council and the Sudbury Grammar School Old Boys Association - there may well have been others. Each of these connections led to what John described as rewarding new friendships. He was a really friendly chap. Apart from giving freely of his financial know how, John contributed to village life by doing local research -writing it up for the Parish News - and organising quizzes. If there was a coffee morning John would be there taking the opportunity to chat in French or Dutch to a couple of other residents whose mother tongue was not English. He had put his many years of work in Europe to good use!

John made no secret of his atheism and his alleigance to Foxearth church was perhaps surprising but also very touching. He revered the church as a village asset that had brought comfort to generations over the centuries and which must be preserved. His contributions to discussions on the maintenance of the fabric were informed and helpful, and the strangeness of Diocesan accounting systems presented no problem for him. Occasionally he would attend a service and indeed once asked for a hymn, for a Songs of Praise, that reminded him of schooldays.

For almost the last two years John suffered increasing pain necessitating major operations, debilitating chemo and radiotherapy, having to abandon driving and coping with reduced sight that affected his passion for reading. His eventual reliance on morphine as pain relief meant that he could no longer enjoy his fondness for single malts, of which he was a connoisseur. In happier times we shared some memorable tasting experiences! Several months ago John wrote what he called "a little of my own obituary!" Perhaps he would be amused at a possible new word "autobituary" to describe this unusual process. In this he wrote frankly and bravely about his incurable cancer and reflected upon his life, his work and travels, the many dear friends he would be so sorry to leave and his pleasure at returning to the Stour Valley of his birth. His devotion for and pride in his family was obvious and to them we offer our sincerest condolences. We have lost a true friend whom we will remember with affection.

John's funeral will take place in the St Edmunds Chapel at the West Suffolk Crematorium, Bury St Edmunds at 12 noon on Monday 2nd March - and afterwards at the Rushbrooke Arms, Sicklesmere.

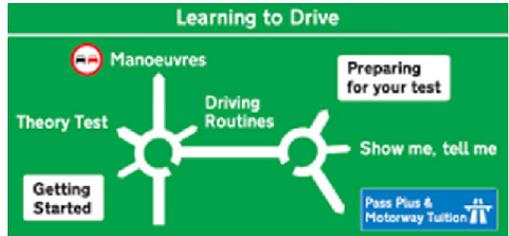
Ken Nice



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PENTLOW CHRISTMAS TREE

For the third year, Pentlow had a fantastic Christmas tree festooned with lights for all to see and this has now become a popular tradition.

The grand lighting up took place on Sunday 8th December at 6.00 pm and was attended by approximately 30 Adults, 10 Children and 5 Dogs, an increase from previous years.

The ceremony was accompanied by the playing of Christmas music and the serving of festive refreshments which were enjoyed by all present.

We look forward to this year's celebrations.

Melanie Davis



PEBBLES IS ON THE MOVE

For the past 11 years Foxearth village hall has played host to Pebbles Pre-school.

Over this time, the school has grown considerably and extended its hours from just 3 mornings a week to the current 5 full days.

The village hall committee, in discussions with the school, have concluded that, as from the end of the summer term, it is time for Pebbles to move to new premises that will afford them improved parking and play facilities, and the possibility of offering longer hours for working mums. This will also mean that the hall will become available to villagers throughout the week.

We will be sorry to say goodbye, it is lovely having children in the village and we will miss the little crocodile walking round the church. Equally, full access to the hall at all times will be a bonus for the village and we look forward to having it more widely used by our community.

MORE FRAUD

Cheap car insurance is available on line! Those drivers looking for very cheap insurance cover have fallen for an online/social media scam.

What looks like a genuine website or advertisement is far from it. Offering very low rates, these sites lure the young driver, those with accumulating points on their licence, those with an unenviable driving record or simply a driver wanting to get a good deal on renewal!

The thing is, that the scam will not come to light until there is a claim, or more likely when the driver is stopped by the police, by which time the scammer will be long-gone and the 'policyholder' will end up uninsured.

Using a vehicle without insurance is, of course, a criminal offence punishable with a minimum 6 penalty points endorsed on the licence and a fine of an amount equal to 75-125% of weekly earnings. In some cases disqualification is possible. Not only will this affect the driver's record, but it will mean a far higher premium when 'proper' insurance is applied for.

The real issue for the scammed driver is that he is uninsured and will be liable personally for any damages for injury or damage should they have been in an accident. If the scammed driver is impecunious, the injured party has little chance of any recompense other than, perhaps, a claim to the Motor Insurer's Bureau.



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To avoid this type of scam, always use the official website of a reputable insurer when buying insurance; avoid buying policies sold via social media; if using an insurance broker, make sure the broker is registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

This type of scam does not just relate to motor insurance, any type of insurance is capable of such a fraud.

Kelvin Hastings-Smith

PARISH COUNCIL FOR FOXEARTH & LISTON

There was a meeting of the Parish Council on 25th January, 2020 when the following principal items were discussed

Fibre Broadband installation: Work continues on this although the latest connection date of March was suggested by Cllr Mark Posen to be optimistic. Considerable concern and frustration was expressed, by councillors and members of the public present, at the time this work is taking. It was recalled that, in May 2019, connection was anticipated in October/November of that year. It was felt that the performance of County Broadband has been disgraceful and that they should be pressed for a programme for the delivery of a service long promised. Also, comments were made about the misleading signs relating to road closures and it was felt that these signs should be more specific in relation to the point at which a road is closed. A sign saying 'Road ahead closed' when the actual closure is perhaps a mile or two ahead, is not very helpful.

Apologies were received from County Cllr David Finch and his update of ECC activity was circulated. A copy of this is available on the Parish Council website. It gives brief details of the budget for 2020/2021, the setting up of a climate change commission, the forestry initiative begun in November 2019, the year-long Essex 2020 programme of exhibitions and creative events, developments in services for rough sleepers, the homeless, children and families, and proposals for housing and highways developments.

Apologies also were received from District Cllr Iona Parker who drew attention in a report to the Braintree DC establishment of a Climate Change working party and the regeneration initiative for Manor Street.

Questions were asked about the cleaning and the trimming of branches around the Foxearth Village sign and the work required to straighten the War Memorial in the churchyard. The Clerk was asked to pursue the first matter and the second is in the hands of the Parochial Church Council.

Several points were raised about the state of some footpaths - mainly overgrowth and, at this time of year, mud.

No objections were expressed to a planning proposal for work on a property in Liston.

Next meeting: Saturday 21st March 2020 at 9.45am in Foxearth Village Hall

Ken Nice

VILLAGE KITCHEN

KITTY'S PEA AND HAM SOUP

A hearty soup to use up the last of the leeks from the garden.

½ lb Green Split Peas - soaked overnight well covered in water

1 Bacon Knuckles

2 med Leeks - sliced

2-3 Carrots - grated

Green leaves from Celery - chopped

2 Bay Leaves

Black Pepper

1. Cook bacon knuckles in large saucepan
2. In another saucepan, bring peas to boil and simmer until cooked
3. Cook leeks until soft then add, with the bacon stock, to the cooked peas
4. Add carrots, celery leaves, bay leaves and ham stock. Bring everything to the boil then simmer till the carrots are cooked.
5. Blend with hand held blender and season with pepper to taste
6. Strip meat from bacon knuckle. Shred and add to the soup.
7. Leave to stand over night, when it will thicken. It freezes well.



PILATES CLASS

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necessary everybody welcome*

Wednesday Mornings

9am - 10am

For more information contact

Charlie on 01787 373174

charliehamp89@gmail.com

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A K SERVICES

In March things are starting to happen, and small things are doing their stuff. The garden is up and running again, and plants are smiling. After the February awakening, the sap is rising.

- Trees, shrubs and flowers in containers benefit from a top dressing: remove the top 2 inches of old compost, and replace with new, mixed with some slow-release fertiliser.
- Start putting slug prevention around, especially, delphiniums and hostas – new shoots are caviar to slugs and snails.
- After flowering, prune *Viburnum x bodnantense* cultivars, cutting one in five of the weakest stems down to the base.
- Finish pruning all roses this month, and then feed with a general or rose fertiliser and mulch well with rotted manure.
- Delay planting summer-flowering gladioli bulbs until next month when the soil is warmer, and then stagger flowers for a succession of blooming.
- Begin planting onion and shallot sets once the soil is workable – 2 to 4 inches between onions, 6 to 8 inches between shallots, not too deep, with the tips showing.
- Tidy strawberry plants now, removing dead leaves, runners and fruit, for a stronger plant later on.
- Start sowing hardy herbs in open beds, and basil and parsley under glass.
- Check the netting over gooseberry bushes, to protect from bullfinches. The birds are beautiful, but they love eating new fruit buds.
- Think of planting perennials: cranesbill (geranium), bergenia species and bugle (ajuga species) are all good pollinators for bees.

Cavendish Horticultural Society:

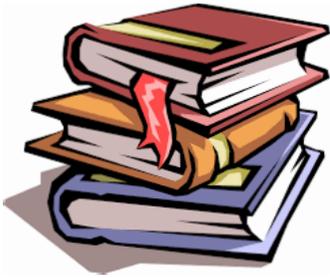
Monday, 2 March 2020: Winter Social for members and friends.
7.30pm at The George £20 for members, £25 for guests.

Monday, 6 April 2020: Attracting Wildlife in Our Gardens, a talk by **Roger Hance.** 7.30pm Memorial Hall.

BORLEY VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE

With an up to date kitchen & plenty of parking, Borley Village Hall makes a perfect intimate venue for all sorts of events. The Hall is heated & fully equipped. Tables, chairs, cutlery, glasses, plates can be hired individually.

Contact: Trish or Julie 01787 881717/313579
mandtturner@gmail.com / kandj@jkhastings.me.uk



World Book Day

March 5th will see millions of children dressed as their favourite book character and skipping off to school, where they will find teachers similarly dressed. Why? Because the 5th is World Book Day.

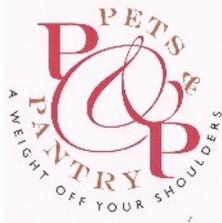
World Book Day (WBD) is a UNESCO initiative and was adopted by the UK in 1995. The aim is to encourage children to embrace reading. As a registered charity WBD has created several other initiatives including 'Quick Reads' and 'Books for Hospitals'.

As well as having fun dressing up, each child in full time education can receive a £1 book voucher which entitles them to exchange the voucher for a specially produced WBD book or £1 off any other full priced book or audio book. The WBD also encourages children to visit their local bookshop where, hopefully, they will be enthralled by the array of books in stock.

This year's titles range from 'Amelia Pang and the Bookworm Gang' to 'Alex Rider - Undercover', covering early learning to young teen. A full list is available from worldbookday.com.

What a great opportunity to spend a few hours in an independent book shop in Clare?

Kelvin Hastings-Smith



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FOXEARTH & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

The meeting of the Society on Tuesday, 11th February opened with a tribute by Clare to John Geddes, who died on 7th February. John was an active member of the Society during his 10 year residence in Foxearth. In spite of a long and bravely fought battle with cancer, John maintained his interest in local history and contributed some valuable research. He also served as Treasurer for some time bringing his expertise as an accountant to good use. John enjoyed taking part in visits and outings, and will be sadly missed for his wise counsels and friendliness.

What the new can tell us about the old is an obvious aspect of historical research and this was explored, in relation to topographical changes in the Sudbury area for about 35 members and guests, by Mark Mathieson. His particular approach was through the medium of old maps related to satellite images of the areas they covered and the changes they could identify. Basing his talk on the facility provided by the National Library of Scotland web site maps.nls.uk/geo/explore Mark showed how comparisons could be made by viewing the maps and aerial photographs overlaid or side by side or by sliding. Satellites, using some form of radar, could produce contour maps thus revealing features existing many centuries before the maps were drawn; for example the traces of Roman camps near Shimpling and the Roman villa at Gestingthorpe. Conversely, the satellites show no signs of Brundon church, said to be in use until about 1700. One feature that did seem clear was that the amount of woodland had hardly changed in the course of the 200 years or so, between the maps and the modern observations. Chalk, clay and gravel pits were abundant in the district accounting for the various brickworks existing at one time. A curious image was the appearance of a Boeing super jet in the grounds of Kentwell Hall, clearly caught on camera flying over the area as the satellite passed.

Although navigation of the web site was felt to be not that easy, Mark demonstrated the effectiveness and use of the facility which covered the whole of the UK and commended it to members. He showed many examples of changing aspects in the immediate villages around Sudbury, including what had replaced redundant buildings, and apparent changes in the river courses - throwing doubt perhaps on the accuracy of the maps? This was a most interesting and useful talk for which Mark was warmly applauded. We are grateful to him for circulating, after his talk, a helpful summary of how to use the NLS website. As usual Lynda organised a well-supported raffle to help the funds along.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday March 10th at 7.30pm in Foxearth Village Hall. This will be the Annual General Meeting with cheese and wine and members are asked to bring along items for a 'Museum Table'.

GREEN BITS

I am waiting for the government to tell us how we can all be persuaded to give up our petrol/diesel/hybrid cars. Grants and discounts are all very well but, the most important aspect of being prepared to drive green, is the ability to charge the electric or hydrogen car. Range anxiety has to be quelled while car manufacturers and scientists work out how to get more life out of the lithium-ion batteries and to promote hydrogen powered vehicles.

If there was an incentive to set up recharging points/hydrogen stations to compliment existing petrol stations, many more people would be willing to invest in alternative powered vehicles. Let us remember that this is all about achieving zero emissions.

Inevitably, there is going to be a war of words in the media, car industry and green lobbies. 2035 is the cut off for the sale of any new petrol/diesel/hybrid cars. If you still have an existing petrol/diesel/hybrid at that date, you can still use it, but don't expect any favours and do expect pressure to change. On the other hand, it is still 15 years into the future!

In horticultural eco news, the new president of the British Ecological Society has urged gardeners to let their lawns grow more wildy. Basically, allow the dandelions to grow and don't mow the lawn to within an inch of its life!

Professor Memmott, the new Prez, says that she mows around dandelions and allows her grass to grow three or four inches before it is mowed. She also urges gardeners to grow flowering plants that produce nectar and not to grow flowers with many petals, which make it difficult for bees to find their way to the nectar.

Kelvin Hastings-Smith

Susi Morrow, long time resident of Liston, is a professional musician and accompanist. She gives piano lessons at all levels to both children and adults, and has taught piano at various schools, including the Guildhall School of Music & Drama and the Colchester Institute.

For more information about piano lessons or Soundbeam, contact Susi on 07753 292919
susievelynmorrow@gmail.com

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FILM REVIEW BY ISOBEL CLARK

Jojo Rabbit

USA/Germany, 2019, 1 hour 48 minutes, 12A

Director: Taika Waititi

Roman Griffin Davis, Thomasin McKenzie, Taika Waititi, Rebel Wilson
General Release

This is an anti-hate satire full of irreverent humour and bold ideas, audacious as only a comedy based on the Nazis could be, and is well worth watching. Jojo is a small boy (10 years old) played wonderfully by Roman Griffin Davis, a lonely German boy living with his mother, and with an imaginary friend, Adolf Hitler. He tried hard to become a good little Nazi in his band of Hitler Youth, but is bullied and given the nickname 'Rabbit' because he cannot kill the animal when ordered to do so. The film tells how he comes to realise that he is not a 'real' Nazi, though he wears the uniform until the last scene, as he falls for the Jewish girl who is hiding in their attic, cared for by his mother; even though he struggles, alone with his imaginary friend, with his wish to conform. There is lots of comedy, for example Waititi's comic Hitler is a delight, but the shadows are never far away: the fate of the Jewish girl, if caught, is never in doubt.

It is a loveable film in the main, beautifully acted, and I do not understand why the main actor, Roman Griffin Davis, did not get the Oscar he was nominated for. It was quite a journey for the Director, Taika Waititi too, to make a film on so controversial a subject. After all, most of us do not find the Nazis funny. My one criticism is that the film portrays them as if they and their views were things of the past, but as we all know, they are alive and well, and kicking.



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HOW SECURE IS YOUR HOME? LOCKED YOUR DOOR?

We are still experiencing, around the county, a number of burglaries that have occurred where, either doors are not being locked or not locked correctly. You can reduce the risk of being a victim of burglary by simply taking the time to ensure you understand how your door locks and keeping your property secure.

It may sound obvious, but **do you know how your doors lock?** There are so many types of doors and perhaps your door may have been changed or you may have moved to a new house. Many types of doors can be fitted with a multi-point locking system that as the name suggests has several locking points compared to the older traditional night latch (Yale lock) and mortice lock that each lock in one point.

Most multi-point locking systems have a latch enabling the door to be held closed on the latch upon closing the door and several bolts or hooks that are engaged when you lift the handle. **The latch** – depending on the type of lock the latch may operate with both the indoor and outdoor handles or just the indoor handle, try your door and see which you have. **The bolts or hooks** - these provide the security for your door but only if you lock them in place with the key. **The method** – upon closing the door lift the handle putting all the bolts or hooks in place, on going out lock these all in place with the key, upon locking up indoors use the key as before or the thumb turn if applicable. Until locked in place, the hooks or bolts can be released by someone using the outside door handle. If you use a key to operate the lock indoors ensure that you store the key close to the door in case of emergency, but make sure that any keys are out of view from windows and doors.

The back door: We have also had some burglaries where the occupants of the house are in their lounge watching TV and in slips the burglar via the insecure rear door, taking what is in that room, the car keys and the car from the drive. Firstly, think about your rear boundaries, invest in good fencing and gate(s) 1.8m high, some spiky bushes or climbing plants and, fit and use locks to secure the gate. If you need to come and go through the gate use a key operated lock to secure the gate. Secondly, if you are not in the room or using the rear door, keep it locked. You can also get fairly inexpensive battery operated PIR alarms to alert you if the beam across the door is broken.

For suitable security products see www.securedbydesign.com/member-companies/accredited-product-search or www.soldsecure.com/search/ , for a Trading Standards approved trader use www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk/ or ring 0345 6037626. For further crime prevention advice - www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention

The Woman in the Window by A J Finn is a debut novel by this former journalist, who has now published in 38 countries and is about to see her novel portrayed in a movie, produced by Fox.

This is a gripping mystery thriller which will keep you up all night. It is an intriguing, spooky novel, not in the supernatural sense, but in the who-did-what-to-whom style of writing. Finn has been very clever in her use of suspense, keeping all the strands of her plot and subplot boiling away. There are very few red herrings although at times the reader may feel she/he is being taken down a cul de sac - stay with it, everything is relevant.

A neighbourhood of brownstone houses in Harlem is the setting and we are introduced to the central character, Anna Fox, as she photographs her neighbours through her window across the street. We quickly find out that Anna is a psychologist and has a daughter who lives with her Dad. Anna lives on her own in her four storey house and spends her day peering into the lives of her neighbours, playing chess on the internet and watching black and white movies, her passion.

Anna is an agoraphobic and some of her neighbours believe she is a worthless drunk. She and her neighbour have a falling out (I cannot tell you more for fear of giving too much away) and Anna turns to her husband, Ed and daughter for help.

Dramatic would not justifiably describe this suspenseful, well written read. The writing is tight and the denouement is worthy of a Hitchcock thriller. If you liked *Girl on a Train*, you will like this.

Things Can Only Get Better by David M Barnett is a novel set in the mid 1990's dealing with the hopes and dreams of a community that has been ravaged by coal pit closures, redundancy, neglect and poverty; the struggle for a better life or just accepting the inevitable.

The plot concerns an elderly widower, Arthur, who lives in a disused chapel at a Yorkshire town cemetery where his wife is buried. He is a war hero, having served in the army and was in Paris for the liberation. His wife, Molly, meant everything to him and he visits her grave daily. Arthur is a caretaker of the cemetery and has no family or close friends. He really hopes his time comes soon as all he wants is to join Molly in the double plot in the cemetery.

The other storyline involves four 14 year olds, three girls and a boy. The boy, Timmy, lives in a private house and his family is what one might call middle class. The girls live in "The Avenues", a council estate in this deprived town. Each of their lives are touched by hardship, theft or poverty. At the local schools no encouragement is given to the pupils, either in

lessons or careers advice, except to encourage the girls to work in the local factory, get pregnant and get a council house! Kelly, has different dreams and ideas and, having been knocked back so many times, she is determined to make a difference to her life. She becomes friends with Gemma, Nichola and Timmy, and encourages them to join her in her dream. Then they meet Arthur.

This is a fabulous read with the social history of the mid 1990's laid bare. The story is told in Barnett's usual easy going style with pathos and humour. Each character is well drawn and the domestic scenes are uncannily real and believable, and certainly not 'PC' as is the case today, perhaps that is what makes this book such a worthy read.

I reviewed Barnett's last book, *Calling Major Tom*, and recommended it to you, dear reader. This book has a similar tone and grasp of social issues.

If you put it by your bedside to read you to sleep, you may be waking your partner as you chuckle along with the text.

The Puppet Show by M W Craven has been publicised as the best thriller of 2019 and a Times best selling list 'must read'. So I have, read it, that is. It certainly is a good read and quite refreshing.

When I first started it I thought I may have been reading an early Peter Robinson novel. Then I thought that the author had taken some liberties with the American soap, 'The Good Doctor', and then I thought I had stumbled into a Peter James novel! Nothing wrong with that.

The three protagonists in this police procedure murder mystery are, Washington Poe, a disgraced former Detective Inspector with the National Crime Agency, Detective Stephanie Flynn, Poe's boss and his former sergeant, and nerdy Matilda Bradshaw, a mathematical genius and shy data specialist with the NCA.

The novel opens with details of what appears to be a ritual killing. Poe, who is awaiting the outcome of disciplinary proceedings and has purchased a Croft in Cumbria, is implicated, as a potential 'victim' and is brought back into the NCA fold to work on, what later becomes, a search for a serial killer.... the investigation is led by Flynn. The painstaking investigation provides the meat of this novel, featuring the interplay between the police authority in Cumbria and the NCA.

The story unfolds like a jigsaw puzzle. Each piece interlocking or, not fitting. Nothing unusual with a murder mystery/police procedure story but the writing is different and the characters are so well developed the reader can immediately identify with them. There are no spare prose or dialogue, and the description of Cumbrian countryside is enough to invite the reader to make a visit!

At one stage I felt the denouement had occurred too early but perhaps there is more than one. You, my dear reader, will have to make up your own mind. This is a great, easy, rewarding and satisfying read.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT A GLANCE		
MARCH		
Fri 6/13/20/27	10am-12.30pm	Foxearth Meadow Work Parties
Mon 2	7.30pm	Cavendish Horticultural Society Winter Sociel at The Georgs, Cavendish
Thus 5	10am	Lent Course Visit to Brook Farm, Cock Lane, Brent Eleigh, CO10 9PB
Tues 10	7.30pm	FDHS – AGM with cheese and wine. Members are asked to bring along items for a 'Museum Table'.
Wed 11		Mobile Library 2.10-2.40m Pentlow/2.50-3.20pm Foxearth
Fri 13	6-8pm	Meet your Neighbour at Foxeath Hall Barn
Sat 14	12noon	Let's Do Lunch at Belchamp Walter Village Hall
Mon 16	10am-12noon	Crafty Wo(men)
Mon 16	6pm	APCM at Foxearth Church
Tues 17	10am	Lent Course Visit to Twinstead Wood, Lorkins Lane, Twinstead CO10 7LZ
Fri 20	10.30am	Chocolate Making Demonstration and Tasting at Borley Village Hall
Sat 21	6.30pm	Soundtrack to Sixteen at The Quay Theatre
Sun 22		Mothering Sunday – Church services at Bulmer, Foxearth and Pentlow
Wed 25	10.30am	Lent Course Visit to Greek Orthodox Monastery of St John the Baptist, Tolleshunt Knights, Maldon CM7 8EZ
Sat 29		Remember to put your clocks forward
APRIL		
Wed 1		Mobile Library 2.10-2.40m Pentlow/2.50-3.20pm Foxearth
Fri 3	7.30pm	The Bones of Borley talk by Andrew Clark at Borley Village Hall
Sat 4		Deadline for Oil Order
Mon 6	7.30pm	Cavendish Horticultural Soc - Attracting Wildlife in Our Gardens
Tues 7	12noon	Lent Lunch at St Barnabas Church, Alphamstone
Wed 13		Mobile Library 2.10-2.40m Pentlow/2.50-3.20pm Foxearth
Tues 14 th	7.30pm	FDHS: Silk's journey from China to the Essex / Suffolk border
Sat 18	7pm for 7.30pm	Foxearth Quiz Night with Supper
Wed 22		Mobile Library 2.10-2.40m Pentlow/2.50-3.20pm Foxearth
Thurs 28		Pentlow Quiz and supper

WEST AND NORTH PARISH MARCH CHURCH ROTA

1st March 1 Lent Purple	Bel Otten 8.45am Communion PG	Bel St Paul	Bel Walter	Ovington 9.45am Communion GM	Bulmer 10.30am Family Service Lay led	Foxearth 10.30am Start the Month! Churchwardens	Liston 6.00pm Compline QP	Borley	Pentlow 11.15am Communion GM
Friday 6th March	2.00pm Women's World Day of Prayer at Henry								
8th March 2 Lent Purple	10.00am Songs of Praise RB	10.00am Communion PG	9.45am Communion GM		11.15am Communion GM	10.00am Family Service MG		11.15am Family Service MG	11.15am Communion PG
15th March 3 Lent Purple	10.00am Belchamps Combined Service at Belchamp Walter MHK				11.15am Communion PG	10.00am Communion (BCP) GM		10.00am Communion PG	11.15am Family Service Lay led
22nd March 4 Lent Mothering Sunday Purple	8.45am Communion (BCP) GM	10.00am Mothering Sunday GM			10.30am Mothering Sunday Service	10.30am Mothering Sunday MG			11.15am Mothering Sunday Lay led
29th March 5 Lent Purple	10.30am Benefice Service at Pentlow GM; MHK; PG								
<p>More information from Revd Margaret H King 01787 269385 Revd.margaret@northhincfordparishes.org.uk Visit our websites: www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/08/315BJ www.northhincfordparishes.org.uk www.explorestourvalley.co.uk</p>									



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