

# » Village Voice «

April 2017

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.187

## Doris damages cedar tree



Hinxworth-based Richard Ground Trees came to the rescue when storm Doris brought down a heavy branch of the largest of four cedar trees on Saint Nicholas Church's land on February 23. "It fell into the horse paddock," said Richard, "but fortunately missed the horses, which are all ok. Conor and I cleared it away." The storm, with winds up to 90 mph, caused significant damage and disrupted traffic and communications across the U.K.

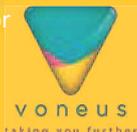
### wide range of work

Richard Ground Trees and Landscaping was established in 2010 and offers a comprehensive service of tree treatment, trimming, removal, planting as well as garden and landscaping design. They also supply and deliver seasoned logs. For further information call them on 01462 742218 or email [rgroundtrees@gmail.com](mailto:rgroundtrees@gmail.com) You can find out more from their website: [www.rground.co.uk](http://www.rground.co.uk)

## Happy Easter to all our readers

### Superfast Broadband for Hinxworth

Voneus successfully delivered superfast broadband into our neighbours Dunton and are now exploring doing the same for Hinxworth. To register interest please contact [sales@voneus.com](mailto:sales@voneus.com) ref HXW. Rapid deployment for the community, flexible packages available. All with speeds of 50mbs up and down. Perfect for realtime activity. Visit [www.voneus.com](http://www.voneus.com) or call our sales team on 020 3026 4123 today



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Voneus leaflets available from The Three Horseshoes, Hinxworth Village Hall, and St. Nicholas Church which is open during daylight hours.

The W.I. 'Big Breakfast' on Mothering Sunday March 26 has been cancelled but.....

**the big lunch**

an eden project

on Sunday June 18 is on

Come along to Hinxworth Recreation Ground with your family and friends any time after 12 pm. Bring everything you need for a picnic: something to sit on; cutlery; plates etc as well as your food and drink, and, ideally, a plate of food, savoury or sweet to share - or maybe more if you're a larger family. Or just bring enough for yourselves. No money needed, just come along. If you are new to the villages, it's a great way to meet people.

**whatever the weather, come and join us**

Get together with your neighbours for a weekend celebrating community and connections. Come rain or shine, you will be welcome. The Village Hall will be open for the loos, and for coffee or tea making in the kitchen. In the event of awful weather, we can use the hall for an indoor picnic.

## Kit and Mary Ann leave Newnham

Kit and Mary Ann Boddington have moved to Bath. They came to Newnham in 1983, having moved from London to Ashwell in 1976. Richard told me, "We had a flat in Chiltern Street, Marylebone, opposite the Fire Station. I was an architect working for Arup Associates. I was invited to teach in America, so we bought a two bedroom flat in Stoke Newington for £10,000. I was visiting professor of Architecture at the University of Kansas. I decided after a year that I didn't want to teach. We had taken our one year old Sophie with us to America, and our second child Kate was born after we came back in 1974. We set up a new practice in Cambridge and London. We bought a new house in Ashwell for £30,000 and moved in 1976. We had two more children, decided we needed more space, and bid for the Old Vicarage in Newnham."



### we were carefully observed

"I remember the first service we attended at St. Vincent, Newnham. It was Harvest Festival and we were carefully observed," said Kit. "The priest was Frank Pickard and he and his wife lived in Hinxworth. "I was shanghaied into being churchwarden on the day Jacquie Birdseye was instituted as Rector in Ashwell. I resigned as churchwarden just before last Christmas. It's been a great house and a very friendly village and lovely people. We'll miss them but we'll be back for the Newnham Lunch." St. Vincent PCC presented Kit and Mary Ann with a drawing by Richard Shirley Smith.

Patrick Forbes

# Hinxworth Parish Council

Notes of a meeting held on March 2 2017 in Hinxworth Village Hall at 7 pm.

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

**1. The Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the meeting of 2 March were agreed by the Parish Councillors and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

**2. Matters arising:** Hinxworth Archers: The Annual Licence Agreement with the Archers commencing April 1 2017 for the period 2017/2018 has now been signed by David Wayman, Chairman Hinxworth Archers and Richard Cobb. A meeting has yet to be arranged between Richard Cobb and the Hinxworth Archers' Safety Officer for the annual review of the Health and Safety requirements of the Licence. An invoice is to be raised for the sum of £459.00 and forwarded to David Wayman for payment. The copy of the Archery Insurance policy will be forwarded to the Parish Council along with the dates of specific home matches.

**3. Finance:** Current Parish Council Funds: Donations for the War Memorial: The Parish Councillors have been made aware there are likely to be donations in the future for the ongoing upkeep of the War Memorial. They therefore agreed these should be shown as a separate ring-fenced item in the accounts.

**4. Planning:** Planning Application 17/00283/1HH - High Street House Hinxworth. The Parish Councillors agreed to "no objection" to this application. Wendy Kitchener has notified NHDC accordingly.

**5. Highways:** Various issues are in the process of being resolved.

**6. Village Hall:** David Osmond reported the breakdown of the figure for the Hall hire will be available at the Village Hall Management Committee AGM.

**7. Recreation Ground:** Play Area: A working party will be arranged in mid-April to clean the play equipment. Dog fouling: The Parish Councillors have agreed to purchase six signs to be placed in various locations in the Village.

**8. The Tennis Court:** This will be cleaned at the same time as the Play Area.

**9. Any Other Urgent Business:** Defibrillator: The power supply has now been connected. The machine has yet to be installed in the cabinet, this will be completed within the next couple of weeks. The local ambulance service will be notified. Details about training have yet to be agreed. The Councillors conveyed their thanks to Russell Lewis for his continuing involvement overseeing and organising the project.

Hinxworth Parish Council Website: This is ongoing.

HYP and the Poppy Day Initiative: Karen Mills has contacted the Parish Council regarding HYP being involved in this year's Remembrance Day Commemorations. The Parish Councillors support this initiative wholeheartedly.

12: Date of the Next Meeting: The AGM Thursday April 6th 2017 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

**Wendy Kitchener, Clerk Hinxworth Parish Council**

*Have you spotted this year's April Fool yet? If so, contact the Editor. There may be a small prize waiting.*

## Friends of Ashwell Museum trip

Coach Trip to Hampton Court Wednesday 26th April. Leaving Ashwell, opposite the Three Tuns at 9am. Advance Booking Essential Cost £35 which includes coach and admission. Please Contact Karen Mills 01462 742155 or Hilary Masham 01462 742416.

## Save these dates.

Hinxworth Village Hall Management Committee is arranging the following: Sunday 2 July - Tea Dance. 3pm – 5.30pm.

Saturday 23 September. Race Night. 7.30pm

Further details in next months issue.

All proceeds from this year's fundraising will be going towards the new kitchen so please come along and support us.

# Lasers thrill HYP members



On Friday 10 March, 10 HYPstars went along to Laser Kombar in Stevenage where they ran around in the dark shooting lasers at each other in an interactive game of combat. Jane Hartree and I sat downstairs in the coffee bar wondering at which point one of them would crash through the ceiling wielding their laser gun considering the level of noise we could hear!

## slush then giant tubes

They all emerged an hour later, red faced and covered in sweat, gasping for drinks. After refueling on multi-coloured Slush drinks they all disappeared into the giant soft play area for half an hour of throwing themselves down giant tubes. Well done to Frankie who was nominated this month's HYPstar for overcoming her fear of the dark.....she was scared to death at first and ended up loving the experience.

## how to find out more and join

Our next session is back at the hall on Friday 7th April. If you are interested in joining HYP and are over 9 years old then please contact me and I can arrange a free taster session. Annual membership is £10 per year which entitles a member to subsidies on all trips and a reduced monthly subscription of £2. If anyone has any grandchildren or friends visiting then they are all welcome to come along: guests are charged £5 per session. Again, please contact me for any further information.

**Jayne Whitfield jayne@ehead.co.uk 07974 572938**

Karen Mills writes: I'm planning an activity with HYP later in the summer that will require lots of milk bottle tops – only red and green ones. I'll have a collection box outside our garden gate if anyone wishes to drop them off. Thank you.

## Photography Course

Would you like to learn more about your camera and the techniques to improve your photos? Come along to our six week camera course run by professional photographer Peter Hoskins. Tuesday 4 April 2017, 7- 8pm at Hinxworth and Edworth Village Hall.

£10 p.p per workshop, or just £50 if you sign up for all six.

Booking is essential. Minimum eight people, maximum 15.

Contact us for further details: 07702 013910 or 07885 766319,

email: peterhoskinsphotography@hotmail.com

www.peterhoskinsphotography.co.uk

facebook.com/PeterHoskinsPhotography

## Dates for your diary

April 4 Photography course begins, Hinxworth Village Hall, see page 4

April 6 Hinxworth Parish Council AGM 8 pm Village Hall

April 7 HYP meet in Hinxworth Village Hall 7 pm

April 13 Hinxworth and Edworth WI Members' Night 7.30 pm

April 20 Copy deadline for May's Village Voice

April 26 Coach trip to Hampton Court. See columns 1 & 2

May 14 Ashwell at Home 11 am - 5 pm. See page 4

July 2 Tea Dance, Hinxworth Village Hall 3 - 5.30 pm

July 30 Newnham Parish Lunch, Newnham Hall Cottage 1 pm

## St. George's Day at Edworth

Join us at St George's Church Edworth for our St George's Day parish communion and baptism at 10 am on Sunday April 23. There will **not** be a service at St. Nicholas, Hinxworth that day.

**Village Voice is published by St Nicholas Church, Hinxworth. The PCC and church members do not necessarily endorse views expressed in Village Voice.**

# Farewell, Jenny Hoffman

**What follows is an edited version of what Dr Martin Hoffman said at Jenny's memorial service in Ashwell.**

"Thank you so much for your huge number of cards, letters, texts and messages. Sarah and I have been overwhelmed. The common theme about her was of her kindness and her smile! Jenny would have hated me going on about her. She was not a self-publicist, she never tried to impress, and never sought to be the centre of attention."

## virgins' retreat

"We both went to separate Grammar Schools in Hitchin. We went to the sixth form dance together as she said "somebody has to go with you!" We both trained and worked at Kings College Hospital, quite by chance. I first met Jenny at the nurses' home. It was called The "Virgins' Retreat" because you had to stand behind a black line and sign a form when you went to meet a nurse! She was a great jiver. I remember her 23" waist and her super legs."



"She progressed to a senior staff nurse after she qualified. My first working contact with her was when I was still a medical student in charge of the "crash trolley" for resuscitation and I ran with it to her ward where they dealt successfully with a cardiac arrest. Following this, with hands on hips, she announced 'You're late!' and warned me it would go in the incident report! She demanded high standards. She once threw the notorious gangster Charlie Richardson out of her ward when he was trying to visit one of his men outside visiting time. The two of them developed a working relationship thereafter."

## mattress on the floor

"We got engaged after I qualified but before I went to Newfoundland for six months. I was lecturing in anatomy at the Royal College of Surgeons and she had taken up District Nursing in Brixton, South London. This was the "sexy time" of our marriage. There was a mattress on the floor and she would go to bed at 10 pm, and I wouldn't get home until 1 am. In the winter she would rise at 5.45, pull on masses of clothing, and ride her bike to Brixton. The 'hard men' there looked after her and arranged a rota to "look out" for her. Brixton was great, shopping was cheap, but I never dared be more than three feet away from her."

## worked hard, loads of fun

"When we moved to a hospital in the King's circuit, she wanted a job in the Intensive Care Unit. I said to her, "you need qualifications for that." You've guessed it. She had taken the necessary course while I was in Newfoundland. We worked hard, studied hard but shared loads of fun and laughs. The only time we really worked together was at a horrific road accident on the A13. She led a team next to mine and I was totally impressed and have always been very proud of how well she led and worked her team."

## high standards, big smile

Then we moved to Hertfordshire and I worked at the Lister. Jenny taught at the School of Nursing. I still have nurses who come up to me remembering her and saying, "I remember Sister Hoffman, and her high standards, as well as the big smile when we got everything right."

"We settled in Ashwell with Sarah. How she was conceived, I often wondered – we were always so busy. She was a fantastic mum. She took part in all the usual young mothers' groups, but declined an offer to join the Church flower arrangers, a lucky escape. She always struggled arranging two flowers in a pot! She was a fantastic cook, as many of you know, and went on many courses."

"She was made a magistrate. Magistrates have a great deal of ongoing training which always seemed to take place during dark winter nights. She hated driving in the dark but was a safe driver, except when reversing even in daylight."

*continued in column 2*

*continued from column 1*

"She went on courses to learn how to translate medieval documents and occasionally worked with the County Records Office in Hertford. There was a spin off from that in that she told Hinxworth Parish Council that they, and not the Church, were responsible for maintaining and paying for the burial ground in the churchyard there."

## golf and mahjong

"For recreation she tried golf with three of her friends, but her progress was slow. I took her to Letchworth Golf Club practice ground and put four balls on the grass and asked her to hit them so that I could see what wasn't going well. She missed them all! She loved and thoroughly enjoyed Mahjong with her friends, she would often come home with a big smile saying she was hopeless at it. She loved adventure and travel and planned our holidays. On safari in Kenya, she saved Sarah's life. We saw a green snake. She kicked it away, recognizing a deadly green mamba. Our driver told us, 'there's anti-venom serum available, but it's 250 miles from here...in Nairobi.'"

## smile always there

"Whenever she went to sea, she would always sing the words of the hymn, 'Eternal Father, strong to save,' thinking it would prevent her seasickness. The last years have not been easy. A scan three years ago, indicated what would happen. She never knew. Thanks to her regular visitors, sitters and fantastic carers and the staff at Milford Lodge. You may not think she took it in. I assure you she did. But her smile was always there. Sarah has lost a mum who always had time for her. Olivia has lost a granny, Luca is too young to know. I have lost my best mate, lover and adviser, without whom anything I have achieved would never have happened. Remember the many fond times each of you had with her. Remember that smile. She was a great, great lady."

## Hinxworth and Edworth WI

Dr Youjin Chang spoke to Hinxworth and Edworth WI about the Hidden Wonders of South Korea,

Her story began in 750 AD and told us about the first books, made from wood, logs which had been soaked in water for two years, dried for two years then sliced to resemble planks on which men spent weeks hand-carving out the Korean characters. End pieces were then fitted to each plank and they were stored in a large building, the end pieces allowing the air to circulate keeping these antiquities in perfect condition.

## mouldy treasure

In 1952 the government, in their wisdom, thought that to house these treasures in a purpose built concrete building with good ventilation would be better than the old building which had served them well for generations. At the end of one year it was found that the precious artefacts had begun to grow mould, so they were hastily re-housed back in the old building where they are today.

## art the size of a rice grain

She told us of the refurbishment of a battered pagoda. During its restoration an antiquity was found to resemble a lantern on which there were several carvings. These were so tiny but were beautifully carved and they were the size of a grain of rice. How did they manage to do such beautiful work without the help of modern technology?

## senior yoga at 4.30 am

She went on to tell us about modern day South Korea. She visits her grandmother yearly, and finds this elderly lady sometimes sitting in the park using her smart phone to turn up her heating or turning on the lights which is so useful if she is out and about. Dr Chang's grandmother is often out at 4.30am doing yoga with other pensioners. South Korea has the fastest broadband in the world. Should we tell BT?

Next Meeting is on Thursday April 13, Members' Night, the night the members run the meeting to give the hard working committee a rest, Village Hall, 7.30pm

Carol Cheney



## On the beat

with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook

### Hare coursing damage

The main thing of note for the team this month has been an increase of criminal damage to farmers' fields overnight. In the last few months there has been a trend for Hare coursers/ Poachers to drive across farmers' field in pursuit of 'game' animals.

By doing this they have left ruts in the land and have churned up the land damaging the farmers' crops and the hedgerows. This problem is not isolated to our area of North Hertfordshire; areas of East Herts., Essex, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire have also been affected.

The team recently took part in a joint operation with East Herts. and Essex police and flooded the areas that have been targeted by the offenders. One of the main vehicles causing problems was located and seized by police and has now been crushed.

When looking through the calls, we often are not made aware that the fields are being damaged until the next morning. By this time the offenders have disappeared out of the area. I appreciate that, it being night time, many people will be tucked up in bed and not witnessing any damage taking place. However, I wonder if one or two people do see vehicles in the fields but are thinking it's a farmer or a game-keeper. Please keep this information in mind and if you suspect any crimes are taking place then please report on 101 and supply any useful information that you have.

### speeding operations

On Friday 17 February and Friday 24 February the team ran speeding operations around the villages. A number of verbal warnings were given and two fixed penalty notices were issued to offending drivers.

### burglaries from unlocked garages

At the end of last month two garage burglaries where Stihl Gardening power tools were stolen were reported to us. Sadly both garages were unlocked and it was very easy for the offender to remove exactly what he or she wanted.

Often people do not only keep their car in the garage, they also store a range of power tools, expensive sports equipment and various other valuables which are highly sought after by burglars. Whether your garage is attached to your property or separated from your house, the contents could be at risk if the garage is not secured.

### 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.



## Dog Carer required

After 10 years of looking after our beautiful George and now young Albert, John Cheney has decide to hang up his boots and we are now looking for someone locally or in the village to look after Albert for 1 or 2 days a week, depending on our schedule. He is a one year old Westie, a lovely affectionate natured dog who adores company, his food and his walks!

Ideally we would like someone to have him in their own home but we would also consider someone reliable picking him up and taking him for a regular walk during the day. If you are interested please pop round or give us a ring on 01462 743209.

Lovely Neptune garden table 66in x 38in. Granite top and steel frame - very heavy! No chairs. Buyer to collect. Donation to East Africa appeal please.

Jan and Elaine Olson Williams, Chapel House, Chapel St.



## Church Services

April 2 10.15 am Family Service St. Nicholas, Hinxworth  
April 9 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth  
April 14 12 pm Good Friday 1pm Words & Music, St Nicholas, Hinxworth  
April 16 9.15 am Easter Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth  
9.30 am Holy Communion, St. Vincent, Newnham  
April 23 10 am Parish Eucharist, St. George, Edworth  
April 30 9.15 am Parish Eucharist, St. Nicholas, Hinxworth

### No Soup lunch in April

Soup lunch in April would have been on Good Friday but you will be welcome to a bowl of soup and some bread and cheese at 12 pm in St. Nicholas Church before words and music for Good Friday.

### April Village Walk

Why not join us for the next Hinxworth Village Walk? We will meet at 10.30 am at The Three Horseshoes, Hinxworth, on Friday April 21. It will be a gentle and pleasant walk followed by a light lunch. What better way to spend a Friday morning? All welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

### Ashwell at Home

Ashwell at Home 2017, Sunday 14 May 11am-5pm Entertainment for all the family with open gardens, free children's workshops, live music and a wide range of street and indoor entertainment, cow milking, fun-fair, lunches and teas and much more. Entry by programme: £6 adults, under 18s free - available on the day at the event, or in advance from the website. Free parking. www.ashwellathome.org.uk

### Boulez-vous win Village Quiz



'Boulez-vous' were the winners of the 2017 Village Quiz in Hinxworth and Edworth Village Hall on February 25. Quizmaster Barry Huber presided over the proceedings and all was going well for the small Village Voice team until the round on pop music!



### Join Onkey on Palm Sunday

Onkey the Donkey will be walking from the village hall to St Nicholas Church on Palm Sunday April 9, leaving at 9 am. He would be delighted if you would join him. He is well behaved and likes to eat the occasional carrot. The walk recalls Jesus's entry to Jerusalem on a donkey at the beginning of Holy Week.

### Newnham Church Lunch

Book this date now. Newnham Lunch will be held on Sunday July 30 at 1 pm. Tickets: adults £14, children under 12 £4.

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