

ST MARY & ST PETER NEWSLETTER

*A free newsletter published by the church
for every home in Boxted & Langham*

AFTER many months of tackling COVID-19 and the restrictions its presence has placed on family and social life in our villages, it is with some relief that we can now begin to enjoy the return to a semblance of normal life.

Shops and pubs are once again able to ply their trades, select groups of friends and family may get together, road traffic is increasing as the wheels of commerce begin to turn.

Sports facilities welcome back their regular users. We are all being urged to shed a few pounds in order to have the best possible chance of fighting off the virus should we be unlucky enough to contract it, as

well as to keep us away from the overstretched NHS.

I am sure many of us have rather enjoyed this reprieve from the noise and pollution of aircraft, cars and lorries. Certainly, being woken by birdsong rather than tyre-noise has made a welcome change. The background sounds of horses and cattle serve to remind us how fortunate we are to live in this rural environment, yet still within minutes of major roads and a large town.

We must now wait to see what the 'new normal' will feel like, and will we enjoy it as much as the old one?

Only time will tell

At the time of publication, Revd. Many Elmes's customary welcoming front-page words are unavailable. We trust that this situation is temporary and that we can look forward to hearing more from her in the near future.

Steve Pollington, Editor

Published by St Peter's & St Mary's

August 2020

With effect from next month, I hope to publish in these pages a short summary of the activities of both parish councils, Boxted and Langham, to keep us all abreast of developments and those matters likely to affect our lives. The councils generally do excellent work—mostly largely unacknowledged, it must be said—and their efforts on our behalf deserve to be shared.

I also have plans for a few more new features for inclusion here, which I hope will be of interest. Watch this space



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Please note that the **second Wednesday** contact number is now **272774** (not **272504** as appears on the leaflets).



Deadline for submissions for the September edition: 15th August

Contact the editor via email: lwbnewsletter@gmail.com



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Boxted Arts and Crafts

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2020

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November 4 & 18, December 2

2021

January 20, February 3 & 17,
March 3 & 17, April 20, May 5 & 19,
June 2 & 16, July 6 & 21.

Contact: anne@naret.plus.com

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The Stratford St Mary and Langham Community First Responders

continue to assist the **East of England Ambulance Service** in getting to patients early and start life saving treatment prior to an ambulance arriving.

Peter and Stephen have continued to be on call throughout this entire Covid 19 pandemic. The number of calls they are getting has been vastly reduced due to the call centres triaging each and every call very carefully so that they are not sent to Covid 19 related incidents. This does mean that an ambulance has a good chance of getting their first, or if there is seen to be a risk, the Responders are not called upon.

As the pandemic was starting the Ambulance service asked for volunteers from the CFR groups, to assist driving for the **Patient Transfer Service (PTS)** and the **Urgent Transfer Vehicle (UTV)**. Both Peter and Stephen volunteered to help. After



NHS
East of England Ambulance Service
NHS Trust

driver training with the Police, a training course in Newmarket and an induction day driving around Essex Ambulance stations they were both ready to take on this new challenge. Both Peter and Stephen had beards and due to the new protective equipment they were being fitted for, had to shave these off. I don't think either of them recognised the reflection that faced them in the mirror. The sacrifices people make, however I think both agreed that it was worth it and a beard can always be regrown.

Two days after completing the induction day Peter completed a shift, Stephen following the next day. Since then they have both completed numerous shifts at various times (11:00-21:00, 06:00-16:00 and even 16:00-02:00). This has also included helping out on front line crews. It appears that they are the only two Community First Responders carrying out this role in Colchester. They are both willing to "do that extra bit" and put other people's welfare before themselves.

So don't be surprised if you see either of them, wearing their bright red polo shirts driving around in an ambulance over the next few months!

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Her contact details are:

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LANGHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL
requires a new SECRETARY

The Community Centre is at the heart of the village and, as well as three rooms for hire, houses Langham Community Shop and Langham Pre-School.

We are a busy Centre with many local and commercial bookings dealt with by our Marketing Manager.

We would welcome someone with fresh ideas and enthusiasm. If you would like to be part of a team of Trustees who volunteer their time to keep Langham Community Centre well-maintained and financially viable, please contact the current secretary, Liz Winter, on 01206 322301 or email libbywinter18@gmail.com

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Rector The Revd Dr Mandy Elmes,
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01206 240906 Mobile: 07872 649967

Email: revmandyelmes@btinternet.com
Assistant Curate Revd Anne Mason
01206 851792 / 07895 970834
revdannemason@gmail.com

Lay Minister Denise Hobday 230918

Church Administrator (for the parishes of
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Email: lwb.wb.gh.parishes@gmail.com

**Church Office currently closed due to COVID19 -
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Churchwardens

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Sgarner.22@btinternet.com

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oOo

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Contact

Debbie Eley

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Email:- boxted@community-centre.org.uk

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If you have any new clubs or events planned in the future, please consider using the village hall as a venue.

**Deadline for submissions for the
September edition:**

15th August

Contact the editor via email:

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