

CHURCH SERVICES



5th December -

9.30am at St Peter's - All-age worship with Baptism

12th December -

9.30am at St Mary's - the Eucharist 4.00pm at St Peter's - Teatime Family Service

19th December -

9.30am at St Peter's - the Eucharist

4.00pm at St Mary's - Parish Carol Service

24th December -

2.30pm at St Peter's - Crib Service

4.00pm at St Mary's - Christingle

11.00pm at St Peter's - Midnight Eucharist

25th December -

10.00am at St Mary's - Christmas morning Eucharist

26th December - No service **2nd January** -

9.30am at St Mary's - All-age worship Celebration of the Epiphany

9th January -

9.30am at St Peter's - the Eucharist Baptism of Christ

16th January -

9.30am at St Mary's - the Eucharist

4.00pm at St Peter's - Teatime Family Worship

23rd January -

9.30am at St Peter's - the Eucharist **30th January** -

10.00am at St Mary's - Three Parishes Eucharist for Candlemas

January services may be subject to alteration



Email Jo Rassell, Church Administrator, for the Zoom link

(wb.wb.gh.parishes@gmail.com)

A recording of each service will be on the website on Sunday afternoon: https://lb-churches.co.uk/streamed-services/



All services are subject to change depending on relaxation of Covid measures. In addition, there is Morning Prayer via Zoom at 9.00 am each Tuesday

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Deadline for submissions for the February edition: 15th January Contact the editor via email: lwbnewsletter@gmail.com

Welcome to the December Newsletter.

Merry Christmas and Happy New to all our readers! We hope that this Yuletide will be filled with happiness and good cheer—with the promise of better things to come in 2022.

The Newsletter has gone from strength to strength in the last few months, with a record 32 pages in the November edition.

Feedback from our advertisers shows that each issue is read and retained for future reference. So if your business is not being promoted within our pages—don't miss out! Meanwhile, have a wonderful Yule and look out for us in February!

Wassail

Steve Pollington, Editor

Introducing the New Priest in Charge

et me introduce myself, I am Heather and am married to Geraint with two adult children. Megan who is 25, married and living with Scott in Long Stratton, where I have been serving for the last 10 years. Megan has a degree in education and is currently studying

for her PGCE with the aim of becoming a Key stage 2 teacher by September.

Our son Luke is 21 and has moved with us to West Bergholt, he has finished college and has been working in various places over the last year as he finds his feet, he is a keen evangelist and recently spent a week with "Through Faith Missions' in Worcestershire.

My husband Geraint, has a nursing

background and went back into the NHS in April last year, as a Health Care Assistant working on the bank.

I qualified as a Registered nurse in 1993 at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Kings Lynn and worked there until 2008 when I was ordained Deacon and moved to Pakefield for my curacy.

I love sharing the gospel with people and reaching out to the whole community with the love of Christ. I look forward to being able to serve Langham with Boxted Parish over the coming months and years. Whilst I am often accused of working too hard, I do enjoy other things too

I love taking walks with the family, although I have to admit not normally with the family dog Benji. I

recently completed the couch to 5K challenge with Luke, although haven't done very well keeping it going, and am a keen swimmer. I also enjoy being creative and have completed many cross stitches, and recently have been teaching myself how to crochet. During the recent lockdowns, I also started jigsaw puzzles and now

have quite a collection, so if anyone ever wants to borrow one, I have quite a library.

There is probably more I could say, but hopefully over the years ahead, as I look forward to getting to know everyone here, you will surely get to know me and the family more.

May God Bless you Heather Wilcox

Share the magic this Christmas for your local hospice

his festive season, St Helena Hospice asking local people to share the magic of Christmas and spread moments of magic to patients and their loved ones, so they can enjoy their favourite traditions with the people they love at this special time of year. The local charity has a number of festive ways you can get involved and raise vital funds to help more local families to create lasting memories of a special Christmas.



If you will be decorating a real Christmas tree this December, have you thought about how to dispose of it after the holidays?

If you live in the CO1 to CO9, CO11, or CO13 to CO16 area, you can register your tree for collection as part of the **Christmas Tree-cycle.** Then on Saturday 8th January, a team of volunteers will be spreading the magic of Christmas by collecting and recycling your tree! All in exchange

for a donation to **St Helena Hospice** that will help to support local people facing incurable illness and bereavement this festive season. Simply register your tree on the St Helena Hospice website.

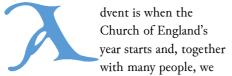
If you're looking for something festive and fun to do at work, school or with your friends or family – why not spread the magic of Christmas by doing some festive fundraising? Whether that's with a sponsored walk, jog or run in your best elf-fit or rocking your favourite Christmas knitwear for the day, there's plenty of ways to get involved and

support St Helena Hospice. Need some more elf-spiration? Find out more and request your Christmas fundraising pack at the St Helena Hospice website.

Or, enjoy a magical evening of Christmas carols at the Magic of Christmas Carol Concert on Tuesday 7th December from 5pm, at Fillpots

Garden Centre. Featuring the Boxted Methodist Silver Band, Concorde Singers and children from Brinkley Grove Primary School, plus kids Christmas crafts, Father Christmas, and delicious refreshments, there's fun for all the family. Buy your tickets via the St Helena Hospice website.

You can find out about all the ways you can sprinkle moments of magic and the difference you will make to patients and families supported by St Helena Hospice at the website, www.sthelena.org.uk/magic



begin the countdown to Christmas. Some people will be looking forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, some to enjoy time with family and friends, and some to have a well-earned break from work! It can be a season of contrasts with bright Christmas lights shining in the darker evenings and gloomier weather. Or a season of the joy of giving and receiving gifts from one another, contrasted with possible financial worries and uncertainly.

When we feel there's darkness all around us – real or imagined – light gives us direction to follow the right path. Light gives us security and makes us feel less lonely. Light helps us to see clearly. Light helps us to see where we are going so we can keep going in the right direction and not get lost.

We are living in a world that is constantly changing – we had no idea that in 2020 the world would be suffering and struggling with the effects of the pandemic. But even among the uncertainty of our world, and even though we change and grow older every year, and never know what each New Year will bring, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (*Hebrews* 13:8).

hristmas comes round just one a year, but year after year, moment by moment, the Christian faith offers us a

continual and constant presence, and Jesus offers us hope even when things seem pretty hopeless. Perhaps when you are putting up, or packing away, your Christmas decorations you might pause for a moment and think about Jesus who



offers us His presence every moment of our lives, not just at Christmas.

My prayer for us all: 'The Advent story of hope and mystery, anticipation, preparation, a kingdom of this world and the next, and a king appearing when we least expect. Heaven touching earth, the footsteps of the divine walking dusty roads as once they did in Eden, and a people, searching for a Saviour, and walking past the stable. Open eyes and hearts, that this might be an Advent of hope to the world.' Amen (www.faithandworship.com/prayers_Advent)

Revd Anne Mason (Assistant Curate to Great Horkesley churches)

BOXTEO HISTORY GROUP

t last month's meeting Gary Egerton gave an enlightening and very humorous review of his the Police in career concentrating on the many years spent looking after VIPs (very important persons). In the UK, VIPs fall into three main categories: high-ranking MPs royalty, in positions, and vulnerable criminals. Gary spent most of his time protecting members of the Royal family.

Worldwide, the protection of VIPs can be traced to before biblical times although the demise of many of many of them was at the hands of their protectors. Gary covered the various levels of protection available, from discreet observation to armed guards. Visits by foreign royalty and diplomats always posed extra problems for the Police, especially when the President of the United States arrived complete with his entourage of over 600.

Life in the Protection Service wasn't always 'on the edge' and he recalled many humorous moments involving some very, very important persons.

Keith Middleton, Chairman

PEWS FOR SALE

We have five pews that have been removed from St Peter's Church, which we would like to offer for sale. We would like to make these available to local village communities before we advertise them elsewhere. We are looking for £250 per pew. If anyone is interested, please contact: Dominic Sheil – 01206 273324 – dominic@poplargs.co.uk





Langham Parish Council

n Sat 4th Dec we are holding a morning 'drop-in' session in the LCC Club Room from 9am - 12noon. Parishioners are invited to come in and have a chat about the results of the Village Facilities Survey, and our early work aimed at moving forwards some of the highest priority items raised.

During November we have run another village survey looking specifically at traffic and road safety issues. Thank you for the responses received by the deadline of 26th November.

Responses from paper-based and online forms are currently being collated for analysis. We will aim to start publishing the results from January.

Just in time for Remembrance **Sunday**, two Unknown Tommy silhouettes were recently

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installed at the Memorial Arch and the Village Flagpole. We are most grateful to the North Essex Men in Sheds group for crafting and donating the Tommy which now stands guard below the Village Flagpole.

iscussions are continuing between the Parish Council, the Environment Agency, and Sir Bernard Jenkin's office regarding the capacity issues at the Langham WRC.

If and when new proposals come forward to revise or discharge planning condition 21 attached to the Vistry Homes development, we will be pushing for Anglian Water to attend a public meeting to explain their plans and take questions from villagers.



Boxted WI

e're delighted to be up and running, meeting in person again after zooming through Covid and meeting outside through the summer.

Here are the results of November's activity - glass painting candle holders - accompanied, of course, with plenty of chat, cake and a cuppa.

We're collecting items in December for the Korban trust.

The aim of the trust is to "Break the cycle of homelessness in Colchester by giving young people a home and supporting them to move on and live independently."

New items from the following list (£10 or thereabouts) can be brought to our meeting at the village hall on Tuesday 14 December. This will be a bring and share Christmas celebration with suitably seasonal entertainment



Pillows

Bath Towels

Mattress protectors (single bed)

Toilet Rolls

Washing up liquid

Bathroom cleaners spray

Kitchen cleaners spray

Hand soap (anti bac pump)

T Towels

Oven dish X4

Cutlery sets of 4.

ms in Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm in Korban Boxted Village hall. New members always very welcome.



East Anglia's Children's Hospices

East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) are looking for volunteers

ould you spend a couple of hours a week or even a hour a month helping a family with a child who accesses our hospices in their own home?

Caring for a seriously ill child or young person can put a lot of extra demands on a family. The aim of the *Help at Home* service is to put a caring individual into a family's home to provide everyday practical support



Thank You.

such as cooking,
sibling support,
cleaning and
gardening. We provide
you with the necessary
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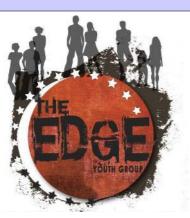
Meet on first Wednesday of each month throughout the year, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm at the Community Centre. Subscription £26 due March and September. Contact Chrissy Todd tel. 07742 131454.

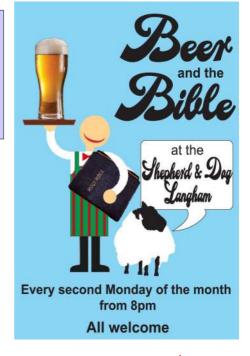
Carpet Bowls Club

Meet every Tuesday afternoon from 3.00 to 5.00 pm at the Community Centre.

Contact Cliff Jones on 07922 156545 or Mervyn Bushe on 01206 230209.

The Art and Craft Club meet on the third Wednesday of each month, 2-4pm at Boxted Village Hall. All welcome - come and join in!





The Zone for 6-11 year olds 5.30pm-7pm and the Edge for 12-18 year olds 7.30pm-9.00pm. Fortnightly during term time. Contact Dominic Sheil 01206 273324

Boxted History Group

The Group's next meeting will be on Wednesday 15th December in the Boxted Village Hall at 7.30 for 8pm when a talk entitled "Sutton Hoo in Context—Light on the Dark Ages" will be given by Stephen Pollington.

Guests always welcome.



BOXTED CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Come and join us for a friendly, enjoyable afternoon playing bowls Boxted Village Hall Fridays 2pm 4pm During the Festive month there be bowls from will no Friday 10th December commencing playing 7th January 2022.

Any information contact Chris Lawrence 01206 272654. <u>chris-lawrence@hotmail.co.uk</u>

2nd Langham Scout Group

Meetings are held each Wednesday evening at the Community Centre.

Beavers: 5.00 to 6.15 pm. Cubs: 6.15 to 7.30 pm. Scouts: 7.30 to 9.00 pm.

Contact Group Scout Leader, Denise Hobday 01206 230918.

LANGHAM LADIES

The October meeting took the form of a Quiz Night which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. As an added bonus, in the interval we were entertained by two members who performed sketches based on puns with the participants suitably dressed for the part whilst the ladies enjoyed glasses of Prosecco and a selection of home made cake. A very entertaining evening for the ladies!

Any ladies wishing to join the group or coming along as a guest, please telephone Gill Brown on 01206 273286.

Hello from Dogs Trust!

our local Dogs Trust branch at Snetterton would like to briefly make you aware of a few services that we provide free of charge:

The first, our Canine Care Card scheme, is a free service for dog-owners whereby, in the event of their death or illness, we will look after their dog, providing them with all the care they need until we can find a responsible, loving new home for

them. This is often a great concern to the elderly, as their dog may be their only friend and companion – Dogs Trust can give them peace of mind, knowing that their canine companions future is safe, should the worst happen to them. Every year, we care for more than 14,000 dogs at our nationwide network of rehoming centres and we never put down a healthy dog

Secondly I wanted to make you aware that we provide free talks to local community groups. I cover the whole of the East Anglia region, to talk about the varied work of Dogs Trust,

where we come from and where we hope to be in the future. There are no speaker fees or travelling expenses so please let me know if you believe that your local club would be interested.

If anyone has any further queries, or would be interested in booking in a talk, please contact me by emailing *emily.mattheus@dogstrust.org.uk* or phone 01953 497912."





DEDHAM PLAYERS FOR DEDHAM

Dedham Players have staged any productions at The Assembly Rooms since October 2019. The pandemic prevented any attempt at during 2020 and staging a show 2021. Following the shutdown of last year it has become apparent to the members of the Dedham Players committee that there is a need to reflect on the future of the group. We feel we are at something of a crossroads in considering the way forward and in our ability to stage further productions at Dedham.

When the **Dedham Players** was formed (more than 50 years ago in its present format) there was a wide pool of talent residing in and around Dedham enthusiastic to join in activities both on the stage and behind the scenes.

In the past we have been able to recruit Dedham residents to help out in meaningful ways, not just on the production being staged, but also the running of the group. However, as the years have gone by there has remained only a small core group of people to keep the **Dedham Players** going.

The **Dedham Players** committee is continuing to meet and reflect on whether we can successfully mount a

production in the future. We now have to admit that unless _there is meaningful involvement from persons willing to join and help to shape the future of this once vibrant group then the task will become increasingly more difficult and ultimately unworkable.

The Dedham Players is at risk of disappearing if we are unable to recruit new members to help us run our club.

The current committee believes the community wants to continue to have a drama group in the village, but we do not know if this is the case. The question has to be asked – should the **Dedham Players** continue?

If the answer is 'yes' then we need willing new participants to step forward. Could you be one of those?

If it is' no', then we will ultimately have no choice but to roll up our stage curtain and close.

We would like to hear your views. Please contact either by email or phone: **David Thompson** (Chairman) at *DavidBThompson58@gmail.com* 01206 393711 or **Rachel Culley** (Secretary) at rachel.culley@btinternet.com 07850 942647



Kenny's SESAW news

t's time to thank all the wonderful people who have

supported SESAW in so many different ways over the last twelve months. Those who care for the animals, carry out maintenance, donate handmade or purchased items, visit our stalls at outside events to mention but a

few. Your efforts ensure the charity continues to care for animals in need. Thanks also to our fundraisers including Jayne and Karen who will be offering pet products and handmade crafts at the Winter Market in Langham Community Centre car park, School Road, CO4 5PA on

5th December.

We hope to hold sales again in 2022, assuming no Covid restrictions prevent it. Please leave a message on our ansaphone or email if you would like to help at events. Applicants to help with animal care are also welcome if you can commit to one morning a week.

Copies of Frank Payne's book, "Here Today, Goon Tomorrow" are

still available, an ideal Christmas present when combined with the next instalment of the Author's biography, "Well Worth Waiting For". Frank details his

wartime childhood, National Service and his career as a Sports journalist. Phone 01206 263006 to order the two volumes for £10, all proceeds to SESAW.

We do not rehome animals over the Christmas period so we will be closed from

10th December to 10th January 2022 except for emergencies. One last big thank you to the Editor for giving us a voice.

Season's greetings to all our readers from my feline friend, Ollie and me, Kenny (the Boss) Chihuahua.

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare, Registered Charity No.1124029, Stoke Road, Leavenheath, CO6 4PP. Tel: 01787 210888 www.sesaw.co.uk



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Boxing Day 9.30 to 11.30 am Monday 27th December 9.30 to 11.30 am Tuesday 28th December 9,30 to 11,30 am Wednesday 29th December 8.45 am to 4pm Thursday 30th December 8.45 am to 4pm New Years Eve 8.45 am to 1.30 pm

2022

New Years Day 8,30 am to 1pm Sunday 2nd January 9.30 to 11.30 am



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Boxted Parish Council Report - November 2021

adly, at the beginning of the November meeting our chair, Cheryl Damen, resigned from the Council. Cheryl was first involved with the Council when she was part of the residents that worked with the Council through the lengthy and detailed process of establishing a Boxted Neighbourhood Plan—by the way that plan is still part of the legal framework for considering planning applications. Cheryl went onto join the Council and has been chair for several years. We will miss her. Without a chair, our vice-chair, Jamie Seakens, steps into the role until the Council elects a new chair. Mr Kelly (Bidwells) spoke at the meeting saying that Mr Wormell is still keen to provide a site for a Rural **Exception Scheme (RES)** in the village and confirmed that it would be an RES and not any other form of low rent scheme. The Parish Council were keen to support a RES because it would tie the low-cost housing to those people with a demonstrated connection to the village, in perpetuity. The site that they would like to take forward for either 6 or 7 housing units would be on land near Newman Drive. Bidwells will now work with a RES Housing Association and Colchester Council to develop plans that will come back to the Council for discussion. During public participation there was a request to provide flowerpots on the



cross triangle; the issue of surface water flooding at Cross Cottages and whether the ditch could be cleared that should help take the excess water away from the area.

here is a public meeting arranged with Colchester Borough Council and Amphora Homes, who own the 'garage site' and plan to develop the site for additional social housing. The meeting will take place on Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 6pm in Boxted Village Hall. All are welcome.

The volunteer biodiversity group has met, and some volunteers have devised a wildflower planting plan for the village green so that some areas of the green are planted with bulbs making it look a lot nicer than it has this year whilst also attracting wildlife. There will also be lawned areas of the green with a new circular bench designed for the central tree. The group will be looking to see what can be achieved elsewhere in the village at future meetings.

A member of the public was hoping that the Parish Council would support a community speed watch group and will investigate how this might be set up.

The Council have a good idea as to what might be achieved in a refurbishment for the Community Hub building, providing showers to the changing rooms, new toilets for the sports side and café side, converting the integral garage into a small meeting space and extending the café space slightly and kitchen/storage area, installing double doors to the patio as well as putting in a decent ramp and steps to the entrance. This will take up the remainder of the Section 106 monies which is already spent/committed to the outdoor gym equipment, installing an artificial cricket wicket, improving the ability to drive on to the field to park along the grass edges helping to relieve the car congestion in and around the

Cross and additional play facilities with a zip-wire, 5 a side football area, rebound wall, sunken trampolines, mega swing, pony rocker, inclusive roundabout and improved timber trim trail items.

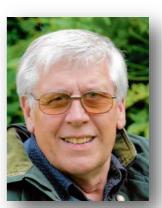
S everal residents have expressed an interest in having an allotment. With enough interest, it is the Council's duty to look to see if it can provide them. If you would also like to have your interest registered please drop an email to the Council. Don't forget if you want to get in touch with the Council, please drop an email to

boxtedparishcouncil@gmail.com, look at www.boxtedpariushcouncil.org.uk and follow the Facebook page 'Boxted Parish Council'.

LANGHAM LADIES

ovember's meeting was a seasonal one with an illustrated talk and practical demonstration by Philip Regan from Kelly Bronze Turkeys. He explained the whole process of turkey production from hatching through to supply of their world renowned poultry. This was followed up by giving tips on how they should be cooked and demonstrated the art of carving a turkey correctly. The resulting beautifully cooked turkey was then sampled by the members! A very informative and enjoyable evening ended with tea, coffee and a selection of home made cakes.

Coming Soon—Actor David Webb



The next meeting which is being held a week earlier than normal on Thursday, 2nd December at 7.30 pm will be a celebration in the run up to Christmas with David Webb speaking of his days acting in *Hi Di Hi*, and afterwards a few seasonal festivities.

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100 Club Draw

The first 100 club draw of the new year was made on the Random Number generator again. Thank you to all those that have joined and the lucky winners are:

- 1. Mervyn & Anthea Bushe (5)
- 2. Dudley & Barbara Arrowsmith (37)
- 3. Ginny Moss (33)
- 4. Liz Winter (98)

Sue Armstrong

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Manager







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Tired of dull weekdays? Want to try something new, learn new skills and meet a whole new group of friends?

2nd Langham Scouts have been providing Scouting in the local area on a Wednesday evening for over 60 years and we have recently restarted our meetings face-to-face.

We currently have space in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and would also welcome any adults who would love to get involved

For more information, or to book a space, please either email enquiries@2ndlanghamscouts.org or contact us via our website.

www.2ndlanghamscouts.org





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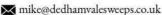




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Cath Hine 07825 952560

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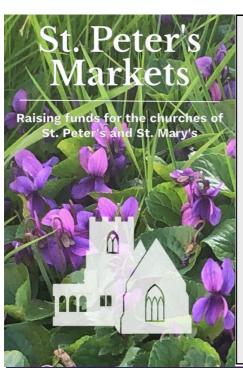
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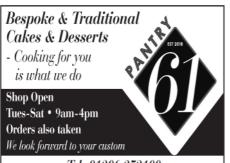
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The Churches of ST Mary's Langham and St Peter's Boxted



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We can give you a lift to your Covid Vaccination Appointment! Call so that we can help you, Monday to Friday, 8am to 7pm

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Please telephone the number(s) shown for the DAY ON WHICH YOU MAKE YOUR CALL (not the day of your appointment). If there is no reply, please do not leave a message but RING ANY OTHER NUMBER.

Revised 13/04/2021. Organiser Arabella Brentnall, 01206 272013

THE PARISH OF LANGHAM WITH BOXTED

Contact Details

Website www.lb-churches.co.uk

Rector Heather Wilcox

Please contact the Church Office with any enquiries Church Office available by appointment Mon: 9am - 12pm; Tue - Fri: 9am-1pm Assistant Curate Revd Anne Mason

01206 851792 / 07895 970834 revdannemason@gmail.com

Lay Minister Denise Hobday 230918

Church Administrator (for the parishes of Langham with Boxted, West Bergholt and Great Horkesley) Jo Rassell 243683

Email: lwb.wb.gh.parishes@gmail.com

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Sgarner.22@btinternet.com

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hobdaylangham@hotmail.com

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Zone Youth Group

Dominic & Linda Shiel 273324

The Edge Youth Group

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BOXTED VILLAGE HALL

Cage Lane, Boxted, CO4 5RE

Contact

Debbie Eley

Telephone:- 01206 870266

Email:- boxted@communitycentre.org.uk

Home to a number of local clubs and regular activities, it is also available for hire for parties and functions, with a capacity of 120 seated in rows or 100 seated at tables.

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

Deadline for submissions for the February edition: 15th January Contact the editor via email: lwbnewsletter@gmail.com

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