

ST MARY & ST PETER
NEWSLETTER

February 2023



CHURCH SERVICES

5th February - *Third Sunday before Lent*

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

6.30pm at St Mary's - Holy
Communion

12th February - *Second Sunday before
Lent*

9.30am at St Peter's - Holy
Communion

19th February - *Sunday next before Lent*

9.30am at St Mary's - Holy
Communion

4.00pm at St Peter's - Tea-Time
Family Service

22nd February - *Ash Wednesday*

10.00am at St Peter's - Holy
Communion

26th February - *First Sunday in Lent*

9.30am at St Mary's - Holy
Communion

5th March - *Second Sunday in Lent*

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

6.30pm at St Mary's - Holy
Communion

‡

Email Jo Russell, Church
Administrator, for the Zoom
link

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

NOTE: services will no longer be zoomed
from West Bergholt, only gathered.



Deadline for submissions for the March edition: 15th February

Contact the editor via email: lwbnewsletter@gmail.com

Welcome to the February Newsletter.

So—a New Year is upon us, and it is customary at such times to resolve to do better than last year; to seize the best opportunities, to forge ahead with those side-lined projects, to finally get those shelves put up that have stood accusingly propped against the wall for the last twelve months.

It is also customary to have a long, hard look at the garden and reflect on the lack of foresight which stopped us getting bulbs in while the ground was in a condition where you didn't need a pickaxe to get a hole made. Make a note for next year to do better.

No doubt Fillpots Garden Centre (other suppliers are available) will do a brisk trade over the next few weeks as we try to work out how to deal with the various fungal coatings and mouldering blights that have attacked our blessed plots since we put aside mower and

trimmer, spade and fork in the golden days of autumn past.

This is also the time to start thinking of travel plans and holidays, family get-togethers and long-put-off trips to important places. My letterbox has received its fair share of travel -agents' bumf of late, and the cruise market seems exceptionally buoyant if my email inbox is any guide.

On present showing, we can expect temperature variations that make planning quite tricky: it was only a couple of weeks back that short-sleeves could comfortably be worn outside while at the end of January we have a deep frost and a lot of scraping of windscreens every morning.

Whatever comes our way in the next few months, it is likely we will be in much the same position when 2024 dawns. *Plus ça change* as our Gallic neighbours say.

Steve Pollington,

Editor

Boxted Parish Council Report – January 2023

At the January meeting of the Parish Council the Council, as the sole Trustee of the **Boxted Village Hall** confirmed that hire fees for the Hall would remain the same for 2023/24. We are lucky to still be benefiting from a fixed price contract for electricity and the trustees felt that the increased running costs could be absorbed. If you are interested in booking the Hall, please call the Community Halls in Partnership team, that manage hall bookings on 01206 870266 or email admin@community-centre.org.uk

Well done **Boxted Drama Group** – a brilliant panto in December.

The Hub café should be open now after the refurbishment. The old wool carpet has been replaced by a nice clean floor, there are fantastic large bi-fold windows on to the patio and field and Doug has a bigger kitchen space in which to work. There is a large disabled toilet and a new improved ramp and access. The coffee is still a lovely Italian blend and the cakes full of delicious calories. For those on the

post-Christmas diets Doug usually has a low-cal option on the menu.

The sports side **changing rooms** have also had a major refurb. We have individual showers, new toilets, two officials' rooms to cater for female and male officials. The old, dilapidated garage has been converted into a small meeting room which can be hired out.

Colchester Borough Council are running pop up sessions in the Café in January, February and March where advice will be available on helping with the cost-of-living pressures.

The council has agreed its budget for the forthcoming year which will see an increase in the amount of your council tax bill that comes to the parish council increase by £8.77 per year for the average Band D household. This budget manages the price increases we face but also allows for an additional dog waste bin on a public footpath and also to establish a garden area with petanque/table tennis between Little Owls and the Community Hub.

Cllr Barber reported that First buses should have in place their improvements to the Botted bus service. It is



Is it time to start talking about the elephant in the room?

Have you considered your plans for future care?

Talk to your loved ones about your priorities for your future healthcare, then ask your GP about the **My Care Choices Register**.



MY CARE CHOICES REGISTER

www.mycarechoices.online

important that any problems should still be reported to First Buses but also please copy in the council as we will push via Cllr Barber.

boxtedparishcouncil@gmail.com

Essex Highways still plan to decide the planning application which would see the replacement of the heritage **Boxted bridge** with a large structure capable of 40T traffic. We

are waiting to hear when the application will be heard by the planning committee.

Please get in touch with the Council by dropping an email to

boxtedparishcouncil@gmail.com , look at

www.boxtedparishcouncil.org.uk and

follow the Facebook page 'Boxted Parish Council'.

Langham Parish Council Report – Nov. 2022- Jan. 2023

The next few years will see some significant changes in our village as it expands to accommodate the three major new housing developments that were approved in Colchester City Council's Local Plan for 2017-2033. This growth brings both opportunities and challenges for our local community, and your Parish Council will work hard to try and make the best of the new opportunities whilst seeking to minimise any difficulties and growing pains that may arise.

An early milestone on this journey was reached just before Christmas,

when the first home on the new School Road development was occupied, thereby triggering Colchester City Council to request payment of S106 contributions from the developer, Vistry Homes. Langham Parish Council will now work closely with the City Council to release this funding against specific improvement projects, in line with the resident priorities expressed through the 2021 Village Amenities Survey.

It is really important that new residents are welcomed warmly into the village and invited to get involved in our local community, particularly in view of the ageing profile of the existing village population!

For many years, volunteers within the Community Shop have provided Welcome Packs to new residents, which is a great initiative. Cllr Ogawa has recently been liaising with the Shop to explore new ideas for further development of the Welcome Packs, including Parish Council funding of the printing costs.

In November, the return of the **Langham Fireworks Display** was (according to 99% of the feedback received!) a great success after a three year hiatus. Cllr Palmer did a grand job in assembling and coordinating a wonderful team of volunteers to re-launch the event. The actual fireworks display was perhaps the most impressive ever, and the bar and food vans did a roaring trade which helped raise an overall event profit of about £7k for use by the Parish Council to support Community projects.

In January, we were delighted to receive Certificates of Merit from the **Essex Playing Fields Association**. A **Gold** for the playing fields, and a **Silver** for the children's playground. Hopefully we will receive an upgrade to Gold for the children's playground

next year, after completion of the major expansion project which is now scheduled for completion this Spring!

In other news, the very prominent green Gigaclear cabinet at the Moor Road/Park Lane junction is to be surrounded with young plants which Gigaclear have agreed to pay for this Spring. Over time this should provide nice screening.

Following on from the November public meeting with **Anglian Water**, our MP Sir Bernard Jenkin has written to the CEO of Anglian Water and will indeed now be meeting personally with him in the near future. In the meantime, we are continuing to apply pressure via multiple avenues to try to protect Langham from the risk of sewage overflows resulting from premature housing growth.



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Or email communityshoplangham@gmail.com

For more information

A DANGEROUS INTRUSION

In the evening of Sunday 18 December peace at 'Chimneys' in Park Lane, Langham, was shattered when a large articulated truck crashed into the side of the bungalow. It appears that the truck had been turning into Park Lane from the A12 at Langham Oak. Two weeks later, the truck was still embedded in a 'Chimneys' now supported by scaffolding.

This is by no means the first time a vehicle has careered across Park Lane when turning in from the A12; people driving out from Langham are well practised in swerving to avoid incoming vehicles crossing over the centre line.

Happily, nobody is reported to have been injured on this occasion but one day.....?

Ian Hollands



Photos: Duncan Hollands

BOXTED HISTORY GROUP

Colchester may be Britain's newest city but in Roman times it was their first city and for a time the capital of *Britannia*.

At the group's November meeting Patrick Denney revisited some of today's well-known sites including the temple to Claudius (beneath the present castle) and the Roman theatre in what is now known as the Dutch Quarter. He covered in detail the discoveries made since the sites were first excavated. It was usual for the Romans and more important Britons to live within the city walls, but they built their cemeteries and sports arenas outside.

The successful excavations within the walls gave the archivists the impetus to look for further sites outside. One of the first 'new' sites to be found was the Circus Arena just south of the city but further west in Stanway and even larger arena has been found—at present there are just five known circus arenas in Britain and Colchester has two! In the same area a number of cemeteries have been found containing the usual grave artefacts but also some board games never seen before. Now all the experts have to do is work out how to play them.

In many ways 2022 was a difficult and stressful year so in complete

contrast to the usual format, December's meeting was more of a light-hearted social get-together. The success of the evening was down to Programme Secretary Derek Kirby who organised and compered the event which included a mini-historical quiz, amusing period songs and refreshments with a Christmas flavour.

The programme for 2023 is now available and promises ten interesting meetings in the village hall (including the usual refreshments) and two visits for only £15.

Like most organisations, the membership of the History Group has declined and, to survive in the long term, it needs new members so please consider joining if you have any interest in history—I am sure you won't be disappointed.

The next meeting of the History Group in the village hall (Sat.Nav ref: CO4 5RE) will be on **Wednesday, 15th February** at 7.30 for 8pm. Mike Hogg will be recalling the **Story of the Moot Hall, Maldon**, which will be followed by the usual refreshments. Enquiries: 01206 272774.

Keith Middleton
Chairman

Open Morning Saturday 4 March 10am - 1pm

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Other Admissions Events

- Year 3 & 4 Journey Around the World Event - Saturday
4 February 9.30am - 11.30am



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SESAW NEWS

Anyone remember last summer's heatwaves? Me neither, but there must be some sunlight getting through the clouds, judging by our quirky mascot outside.

A few years ago, a small plastic solar powered Pug was left at our gate. Perhaps a dog lover thought he would bring us more luck than the traditional waving cat. Apparently these Chinese talismans are actually Japanese and not waving but beckoning. The right paw invites good fortune but our Edmond beckons friendship with his left paw, perhaps suggesting true friends are worth more than money? We are certainly blest with wonderful people who come in each day to care for the animals awaiting new homes, including dogs like seven year old Buster who cannot see.

His sense of space and touch is fantastic but he likes his world to remain static so that he can negotiate it accurately. Buster enjoys his walks, he knows the exact whereabouts of

his dinner - and the treat you are offering him! Slowly build up trust, talk to him as you approach so he is not frightened and a rewarding relationship will develop.



Please leave a phone message or email if you would like to meet this special boy, or if you would like to become a volunteer. New adults are always welcome to help with feeding, walking and cleaning the living quarters. All we ask is commitment to one morning per week. There are lots of grateful animals waiting to meet you, including 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

LANGHAM LADIES

At the December meeting members enjoyed entertainment by Rev. Keith Lovell and then social time chatting and at the same time enjoying hot savouries, delicious desserts made by the members and a Christmas drink. We finished the meeting singing a few carols.

A very interesting talk in January was done by one of our local ladies who lives in our village of Langham, her name being Brenda Eysers. Brenda worked for a time for "*Outdoor Girl Cosmetics*" it brought back so many memories about the makeup us ladies started using years ago. The prime seller of "*Outdoor Girl*" was Woolworths. She then went on to tell us the History of Max Factor, Elizabeth Arden and Helena Rubinstein, all three had very complicated lives when they were young. Max Factor escaped from working for a Russian Tsar and went to America. He did the makeup for films and the rich and famous. When he died he was the richest man in the world. Elizabeth

Arden went on to own many race horses. The horses' names all included Arden.

The next meeting is Thursday February 9th. 7.30pm start in Langham Community Centre. The speaker is Lewis Rabett an auctioneer from Reeman and Dansie. This meeting will be an open meeting where husbands and friends will be made very welcome. A fee of £5 includes refreshments. Lewis will look at a few items brought in by the members only but obviously he will not be able to look at everything because of the time factor.

We are always looking for more ladies to join our meetings for a lovely social time out with other ladies and you will always be made very welcome. You do not have to be living in the village. The subscription is £25 which covers every meeting throughout the year including homemade refreshments. For more information phone Gill 01206 273286.



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Borough Council

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Including financial assistance, long-term financial & debt advice, ways to reduce your living expenses, warm welcome spaces, mental health & emotional wellbeing support...

The cost of living crisis has put most households under financial pressure. If you are struggling now or if you are worried about increasing costs in the future, there is help and advice available.

Our specialist teams can help you apply for financial assistance, support you to get employment or can help you understand what other help you could be eligible for.

They will look at everything from benefits, discretionary support, help with food costs as well as accessing local charities or community initiatives.

winter
LANGHAM COMMUNITY SHOP
cosy cafe

Love is all around me

'I feel it in my fingers, I feel it in my toes, Christmas is all around me and so the feeling grows' say the lyrics of the Christmas film, which has just celebrated its 20th anniversary, *Love Actually*. It doesn't seem five minutes since we were celebrating Christmas, and yet in the world of advertising and card manufacture, we have definitely moved on, into a season more appropriately linked to the original lyrics of the song, first performed by the Troggs in 1967 '*I feel it in my fingers, I feel it in my toes, Love is all around me, and so the feeling grows.*'

Love is all around me ... well as we celebrate Valentines Day in February, it can certainly seem like the shops are full of heart shaped gift boxes, cards with suitably romantic, some might say 'soppy' sentiments, and roses selling at vastly inflated prices, ready to give to our beloved.

But for most of us, perhaps it doesn't always feel like, love is all around me. I am blessed to still be married to my husband, to still share a loving home, but it is not always a bed of roses, and for some sadly, when there has been a break down in a marriage, a death of a loved one, or the sense

that that long term loving relationship has simply passed you by ... it might be hard to believe that Love is all around us.

And yet of course it is. Not necessarily the love of friends and family, but more importantly the love of God, a love which as they lyrics go on to say, is written on the wind, and everywhere I go. We cannot escape the love of God, try as we sometimes might. He is the loving heavenly father of the prodigal son, who is always there waiting, to embrace us and welcome us back into his all-encompassing love.

Paul puts it like this, in his letter to the Ephesians '*I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*'

So as our shops are full of Valentines gifts and cards, remember that love is always all around us, we are always totally surrounded by the love of God, I pray that we will recognise that love day by day in our lives.

May God Bless you

Heather

BOXTED HISTORY GROUP

Meeting every third Wednesday of the month at Boxted Village Hall.

7.30 for 8pm.

Guests always welcome.



Boxted Bingo!

Boxted Village Hall
Every other Tuesday
3pm - 5pm
£8 per session
(Includes 4 games of bingo)

For more information
Call Dot on 01206 272676

The poster features a blue background with radiating lines. At the top, it says 'Boxted Bingo!' in large, bold, black letters. Below this, there are three overlapping bingo cards in blue, green, and pink. The word 'Bingo!' is written in a large, yellow, bubbly font with a black outline. At the bottom, there is text in white and yellow providing details about the event.

BOXTED CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Come and join us for a friendly, enjoyable afternoon playing bowls at **Boxted Village Hall** **Fridays 2pm - 4pm**
Any information contact Chris Lawrence 01206 272654.

chris-lawrence@hotmail.co.uk

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.

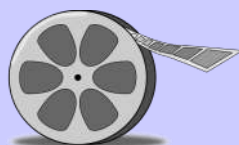
Contact Group Scout Leader, Denise Hobday 01206 230918.

LANGHAM LADIES

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

LANGHAM FILM NIGHTS

For details of films and screening times and to book tickets, go to www.langhamcommunitycentre.org.uk/next-cinema-screening/



Crafty Ladies

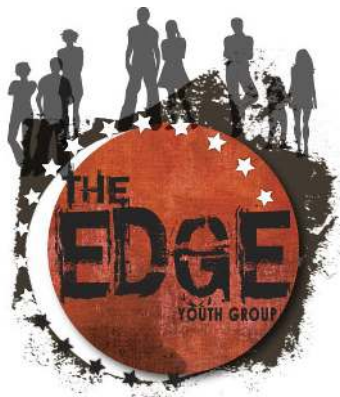
Meet on first Wednesday of each month throughout the year, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm at the Community Centre. Subscription £26 due March and September. Contact Chrissy Todd tel. 07742 131454.

Carpet Bowls Club

Meet every Tuesday afternoon from 2.00 to 4.00 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 advertisement for 'Beer and the Bible' is set against a light blue background. On the left, a cartoon waiter in a white shirt and green striped apron holds a tray with a tall glass of beer. Next to him is a cartoon sheep. A speech bubble from the sheep contains the text 'at the Shepherd & Dog Langham'. To the right of the waiter is a large, stylized title 'Beer and the Bible' in a black, cursive font. Below the title, it says 'Every second Monday of the month from 8pm' and 'All welcome'.

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



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100 Club Draw

The **November** winners are:

1. Darren Doyle (94)
2. Gill Flack (4)
3. Sylvia and Ken Hemmings (70)
4. Carol Grime (63)

The **December** winners are:

1. Liz Winter (98)
2. Helen Hewes (96)
3. David Morrell (24)
4. Dave Gill (17)

Sue Armstrong
Commercial and Marketing Manager
Langham Community Centre
School Road, Langham
Colchester CO4 5PA

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Rebecca Sheil
PHOTOGRAPHY



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The best thing you'll do this week (and that's a promise.)

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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 enquires@2ndlanghamscouts.org or contact us via our website.

www.2ndlanghamscouts.org



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SATURDAY..... 15:00-00:00

SUNDAY..... 13:00-21:00

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WEDNESDAYS

8th February & 8th March 2023

10.30am to 2pm, Langham Community Centre

If you would like to come & need a lift,
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Representatives will be joining us to talk to you & offer

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LANGHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL
JOB OPPORTUNITY.

Our Charity is looking for a new **manager** for our Village Hall in School Road, starting **early Spring 2023**.

The role consists of generating new business, meeting hirers, invoicing and general monitoring of essential maintenance. The new manager will work closely with the current caretaker, plus report and attend all finance committee and Trustee meetings.

This is a paid position offering 40 - 60 hours per month on a flexible basis and paid monthly into your bank account. The applicant needs to live in Langham or nearby as the role may entail frequent short attendance at the hall to meet hirers and others.

A sound knowledge of technology is required to maintain our Website, Microsoft, Word/Excel, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Please apply in the first instance to our Chairman, Alan Cadman at Alancadman@cadmanandson.co.uk

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Queries, contact

Paul Armstrong

boxlangads@gmail.com

Tel: 01206 616604

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Call so that we can help you, Monday to Friday, 8am to 7pm

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Wed 272755 or 272774

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Please telephone either number 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.**

This scheme is associated with the Churches of St Mary's Langham and St Peter's Boxted

Any queries ring the organiser Arabella Brentnall on 01206 272013

Rev 4.5/10/22

**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

07895 970834

revdannemason@gmail.com

Lay Minister Denise Hobday 230918

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

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

Churchwardens

St Mary's Langham

Stephen Garner 272599

Sgarner.22@btinternet.com

Denise Hobday 230918

hobdaylangham@hotmail.com

St Peter's Botted

Dominic Shiel 273324

Zone Youth Group

Dominic & Linda Shiel 273324

The Edge Youth Group

Dominic & Linda Shiel 273324

oOo

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BOXTED VILLAGE HALL

Cage Lane, Botted , CO4 5RE

Contact

Debbie Eley

Telephone:- 01206 870266

Email:- boxed@community-centre.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
March edition:
15th February
Contact the editor via email:
lwbnewsletter@gmail.com**

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