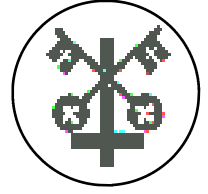




ST MARY & ST PETER NEWSLETTER



February 2009

A free newsletter published by the Church for every home in Boxted and Langham

Good Neighbours

Dear Friends

Ask about the message of Jesus and many people would struggle to tell you what he said. But my guess is that one of his sayings would stand out: "Love thy neighbour as thyself."

It's an easy thing to say, but how easy is it to *do*? How many of us do actually love and support our neighbours, especially when they are in some kind of need? My hope is that from later this spring, we can offer practical care and love can be offered to our neighbours. How will this happen? Well, the churches of St Mary's and St Peter's are setting up a care scheme called **Good Neighbours**. This will offer help, to anyone in our villages who needs it. No residents will be precluded from using the scheme in times of need. However, we have in mind particularly three groups of people: the elderly, those who have serious mobility problems, and families during times of domestic emergency such as the sickness of parents. Services offered will include friendship for the elderly or lonely and transport (for example, to doctor's surgeries or hospitals) A similar scheme in Suffolk offers to change light bulbs and check smoke alarms. What we can offer will depend on the skills and willingness of our volunteers.

In due course cards will be distributed to all households in the villages explaining how to make use of the scheme and to request help or support. At the moment we are recruiting volunteers – not just from church members, but from all those who share our desire to become a loving and caring community. If you would like to know more, or offer your support, I'd be delighted to hear from you.

The Rectory

Yours in Christ
Wick Road

Langham

Tim Bull
CO4 5PG

PARISH DIARY- FEBRUARY

Church services

1st	St Mary's	8.30	Eucharist (BCP)
<i>Epiphany</i>	St Peter's	10.30	Sung Eucharist
4	Methodist Chapel	10.30	Morning Service
		3.00	Band Service
8th	St Mary's	10.00	Sung Eucharist
<i>3rd before Lent</i>	St Peter's	6.00	Choral Evensong (Kelvedon Singers)
	Methodist Chapel	10.30	Morning Service
15th	St Mary's	8.30	Eucharist (BCP)
<i>2nd before Lent</i>	St Peter's	10.00	Sung Eucharist
	Methodist Chapel	10.30	Morning Service with Holy Communion
22nd	St Mary's	10.00	Sung Eucharist
<i>Sunday before Lent</i>	St Peter's	6.00	Evensong
	Methodist Chapel	10.30	Morning Service

Other events

Boxted Parish Council	11th	7.00	Boxted Village Hall
Boxted Footpath Walk	1st	2.00	King George Playing Field
Boxted Coffee Café	3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th	10.30–12	Boxted Village Hall
Boxted Evergreen Club			
Boxted WI	10th	7.30	Boxted Village Hall (Helen Chua: "Chinese Cookery")
Boxted History Group	18th	7.30 for 8.00	Boxted Village Hall (Patrick Denny: "Journey into family History")
Boxted Art & Craft Club	4th	2.00	Boxted Village Hall
	18th	2.00	Boxted Village Hall (Carol Weldon: Demonstration of hat-making)
Boxted Bingo	25th	7.30	Boxted Village Hall
Boxted Lodgers FC	Wednesday	7.00	King George Playing Field
Boxted Pram & Chat Club	Wednesday in school term	9.45–11.15	Boxted St Peter's School
Boxted Pre-School	Monday–Friday in school term	9.30–12 & 1.30–4	The Play Centre, King George Playing Field
Boxted Methodist Silver Band	Wednesday	7.30	Boxted Methodist Schoolroom (Monday in term-time, 7.30: Training Band)
Langham Parish Council	24th	7.30	Langham Community Centre
Langham Footpath Walk	8th	2.00	Langham Community Centre
Langham WI	12th	7.30	Langham Community Centre (Peter Ward: "Best Foot Forward")
Langham Good Companions	4th	2.30	Langham Community Centre (A Social Afternoon)
Langham Badminton Club	Thursday	8.00	Langham Community Centre
Langham Carpet Bowls	Tuesday	2.00 & Friday 7.30	Langham Community Centre
Langham Bridge Club	Monday	7.15	Langham Community Centre
Langham Pre-School	Monday - Friday in school term	9.30–12	Langham Community Centre
2nd Langham Scout Group	Wednesday (times vary)		Langham Community Centre
Langham Baby/Toddler Group	Monday in school term	9.45–11.15	Langham Community Centre

Copy for the MARCH issue

should be with the Editor
Bodinnick Wick Road Langham CO4 5PG
Email: ianhollands@supanet.com
by 8 am on Monday 16 February

THE

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8th FEBRUARY

Boxted & Langham Village News

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Rector The Revd Dr Tim Bull 230666
The Rectory, Wick Road, Langham CO45PG
Email: revdrtim@googlemail.com

Lay Reader Denise Hobday 230918

Junior Church Julie Bull 230666

Churchwardens

St Mary's Langham

Stephen Garner 272599
Ian Hollands 230525

St Peter's Boxted

Graham Pullen 273804
Jocelyn Renouf 272755
Parish Clerk Anne Newman 272351

Enquiries about weddings should be made to the Rector or the Parish Clerk. For baptisms and funerals, contact the Rector.

St Mary & St Peter Newsletter

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(Alt: 01206 210141)
47 Tidings Hill Halstead Essex CO9 1BL
Email: ruth@ridge.clara.co.uk

BOXTED & LANGHAM DIRECTORY: ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The contact telephone number for the Boxted Branch of the Royal British Legion is now
272576,
replacing the number shown in the Boxted & Langham Directory 2008-9.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

St Mary's Church was almost full on 6 December, when harmony group "Times & Seasons" presented a much-enjoyed carol concert in aid of the Children's Society. The concert, which was followed by supper at Langham Hall generously provided by Ann Tolhurst and her family and household, raised £975 for the Children's Society. Collections at the Carol, Crib and Christingle Services amounted to £502, making a fine total of £1,475 for the Society.

The Children's Society home collection boxes will be gathered in a little later this year—in the second week of March. Will holders please be on stand-by to take them then to the local Society representatives:

Boxted: Penny Carmichael
272218
Langham: Ian Sutherland
272486

LANGHAM GOOD COMPANIONS

Members greatly enjoyed a substantial Christmas Lunch at the "Rose & Crown", Dedham, in December. It was a shame that sickness and other causes prevented an equally large attendance at the otherwise jolly New Year Party, when entertainment was provided by "Stage Door Canteen".

The Companions' next meeting will be on 4 February: it will be just a simple and friendly social occasion.

BOXTED LITTER-PICKERS

The first twelve months of the litter-picking scheme at Boxted have been a huge success. If not yet wholly litter-free, the roads and paths of the village have much less than was the case a year ago. The twenty-two volunteers patrol 80% of Boxted's roads every month. They have even managed a small social event just before Christmas, which was great fun.

More volunteers are needed so that the scheme can properly cover 100% of the roads and, equally importantly, reduce the burden on some of the enthusiastic but more elderly volunteers.

If you would like to help, please get in touch with Stephen Whybrow by: Telephone 272773 or Email stephenwhybrow@msn.com

LANGHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Guests from East Bergholt joined members at their New Year Party to partake of a magnificent buffet supper with mulled wine prepared by members themselves. A wonderful entertainment followed, given by Mesdames Marshall-Ward, Panzetta and Friends. Its theme was the Tudor period and all were appropriately dressed in exquisite costumes. To the accompaniment of recorders, the group performed contemporary dances, with an account of their history and music. Some members of course joined in, to the delight of everyone.

BOXTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The scheduled speaker being unable to attend because of illness, Ann Sara stepped in at short notice to speak at the January meeting. She gave a fascinating talk on Quilling, with practical demonstrations to the members. Under Ann's patient guidance, members were happy and willing to make their own attempts at this increasingly popular hobby.

The February meeting members will sample the product of Helen Chua's demonstration of Chinese cooking.

BOXTED VILLAGE HALL

December	Winners	January
£25	Mr I Grimsey	Mrs Mould
£10	M Mason	Mr & Mrs Youngman
£ 6	Mrs P Andrews	O Whitnell
£ 4	Mr J Minter	Mr & Mrs K Scott

If you would like to join the Snowball, ring John Jackson on 272776.

YOUTH WORKER FOR BOXTED & LANGHAM

A longish silence on the subject does not mean that the plans for a parish Youth Worker described by the Rector in the June 2008 issue have been lying idle. Far from it — St Mary's and St Peter's have teamed up with an international organization called "Time for God", which organizes voluntary service overseas, mostly by people in their early twenties. We are the "overseas" for the young man or woman we shall be getting as our youth worker.

The plan is that, through "Time for God", we will find a suitable person from North America or Europe to come and work alongside us. The first Youth Worker will be here for ten months from September and the particulars of possible candidates should soon be at hand. The applications will then be carefully scrutinized to find the right person for us.

The purpose of the project is to develop Christian youth work for youngsters aged from 9 to 14 in the villages and the two schools as well as the churches. This will be achieved by providing engaging, entertaining and educational activities that are both safe and relevant. The hope is that the young people involved can develop their identity and self-worth as responsible members of the community, and in their Christian faith.

The Youth Worker will be liaising with the two primary schools, whose heads are very supportive of the project, as are the two Parish Councils. He or she will help to run clubs in the villages, working with the Sunday School children and the Church youth group, SPASM, and getting involved as much as possible in church and village life.

The outcome of the project will be judged on the basis of attendance at the various activities in the first instance and then feedback from parents, schools, parish councils, residents and, most importantly, from the young people themselves.

Boxted & Langham Village News

LANGHAM 100 CLUB

November	Winners	December
£40 C & R Clarke		Good Companions
£25 Pam King		M & D McKenzie
£15 Gill Salt		Rachael Podd
£ 10 Liz Schofield		Chris Garnett

If you would like to join the 100 Club, ring Sylvia Hemmings on 322336.

BOXTED PRE-SCHOOL

Colours constituted the theme for the Autumn term, experiments being made with paint, water, glue, fabric and other materials. The children made models of penguins, pigs and elephants and baked delicious bread rolls and very red cherry buns. They painted fantastic pictures using many different tools and their art work is now proudly displayed on the wall. Throughout the autumn, everyone enjoyed playing outside whenever possible, watching the leaves change colour and making pictures with the fallen ones. In December the children made Christmas cards and decorations and of course had a wonderful time at the parties, Father Christmas making a special journey to see them.

The Pre-School's experienced and caring staff include two qualified teachers. The afternoon sessions for older children provide structured activities to develop early literacy and numeracy skills. There may still be some vacancies this term: if you would like to have a place for your child between the ages of 2½ and 5 years, contact the Pre-School by email on boxtedpre-school@hotmail.co.uk or by phone on 07712 641553

Operation Christmas Child 2008

The joint efforts of Boxted St Peter's School, Langham Primary School and St Mary's & St Peter's Churches saw a total of 179 suitably filled shoeboxes leave the two villages for the local collection depot. From there they were taken to Eastern Europe to spread very welcome Christmas cheer among some of the many impoverished and deprived children in that part.

The local co-ordinators, Keith and Shirley Groom, and the national organisers have asked us to pass on their thanks to everyone who took part in this wonderful operation.

BOXTED HISTORY GROUP

The last meeting of 2008 listened to an account by Douglas Carter of emigration in the 17th C. Douglas provided a good deal of printed material for members to read, together with photos of Boxted cottages vacated by the emigrants.

BOXTED ART & CRAFT CLUB

The Club's meeting on 18 February will be organised by one of the members, Carol Weldon. Carol runs the hat business "Cappelli di Oggi" and she will be demonstrating her creations to the other members and any visitors.

New members (and visitors) are always welcome at the Club's meetings, which are generally every other Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 4 in Boxted Village Hall. Ask Doreen Jackson (272744) for more information.

LANGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term ended in a flurry of activity. The Friends of Langham School (FOLS) raised over £1,000 for school funds at the lively Christmas Fayre and a Carol Concert, with narrative, singing and recorder music, was presented to an enthusiastic audience of parents and friends; the younger children performed a Nativity Play on the new stage. Recorder players of Years 5 and 6 visited Langham Ward at the Colchester General Hospital; their carols were appreciated by patients and staff alike.

Activities in the new term are in full flow. Notably, a new cross-country club has been started. The art theme for Years 3 and 4 is founded on a skills-based pattern and the children will later visit the Tate Modern Gallery.

From the Parish Registers

Baptism

Claire Hammond

Marriage

Paul Edward Love &

Laura Elisabeth Mundell

In memoriam

Andrew Rickett

LANGHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Grants totalling £20,000 have been received to enable work to begin on improving the toilets and other facilities at the Community Centre. The bodies contributing are the Essex County Council, Colchester Borough Council and Cory Environmental Trust. The work is planned to start in May and to be completed in a month. The improvements will make the Community Centre an even more attractive venue for meetings, parties, dances, wedding receptions and other events.

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