



ST MARY & ST PETER NEWSLETTER

February 2012



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

FROM THE RECTOR

Even though I'm not much of a gardener, as winter turns into spring, I do have *one* gardening tip for you. It's lovely seeing all the buds, but I much prefer the actual flowers. So whenever you see a bud, get a sharp knife and carefully slit it open. Then pull the petals outwards until you have a real flower. That way you don't need to wait for nature. You can do it all yourself.

As you'll realise, that's just stupid! We can't open the spring buds ourselves. We must allow nature (or God) to open them from the inside at the proper time. Of course, we understand how futile it is trying to turn a bud into a flower, but we still try to fix everything else ourselves: our lives, our security and even our eternal destiny. On the other hand, a Christian is someone who's come to realise that, like opening a spring bud, there are some things that only God can do. So we wait patiently, trusting that God will turn the winter of our lives into dazzling springtime.

Yours in Christ,

ELIZABETH SCHOFIELD MBE

Congratulations to Elizabeth Schofield, Chairman of Langham Parish Council, on her appointment as a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to the community in Langham.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

The time is at hand for the Children's Society collection boxes in people's homes to be gathered in. Will holders please take their boxes as soon as possible to:

Boxted

St Peter's Church (at a Sunday Service—see Parish Diary)
or

Boxted St Peter's School (Mon—Fri 9.30 am to 3 pm)

Langham

St Mary's Church (at a Sunday service—see Parish Diary)
or

Langham Community Shop (during opening hours)

**It will be helpful if all boxes are handed in by
MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY**

If you have a particular problem, please contact your local Children's Society Representative:

Boxted

Penny Carmichael (272218)

Langham

Helen Sims (323186)

PARISH DIARY – FEBRUARY

Church Services

5th Epiphany V	St Mary's St Peter's Methodist Chapel	10.00 6.00 10.30 3.00	Sung Eucharist Eucharist for Candlemas Morning Service Band Service
12th Epiphany VI	St Mary's St Peter's St Peter's Methodist Chapel	8.30 10.00 6.00 10.30	Eucharist (BCP) Mattins Connect (<i>Contemporary Worship</i>) Morning Service
19th Last after Epiphany	St Mary's St Peter's Methodist Chapel	10.00 6.00 10.30	Sung Eucharist Evensong Morning Service with Holy Communion
22nd Ash Wed	St Peter's	10.00	Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes
26th Lent I	St Mary's St Peter's Methodist Chapel	8.30 10.00 10.30	Eucharist (BCP) Sung Eucharist Morning Service

Other events

Boxted Parish Council	8th	7.30	Boxted Village Hall
Boxted Footpath Walk	5th	2.00	Church Lane car park
Boxted Coffee Café	Tuesday	10.30–12	Boxted Village Hall
Boxted Evergreen Club			
Boxted WI	14th	7.30	Boxted Village Hall
			(Sonya Lindsell: "High Woods Country Park")
Boxted Art & Craft Club		2.00	Boxted Village Hall
Boxted History Group	15th	7.30 for 8.00	Boxted Village Hall
			(Wm Tyler: "Smugglers & Poachers of Essex & Suffolk")
Boxted Bingo	22nd	7.30	Boxted Village Hall
The Point, Boxted	9th	5–6.30	Boxted Village Hall
Boxted Carpet Bowls	Monday	2.00 & Friday 7.00	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
Little Owls Pre-School (Boxted)	Monday–Friday	in school term	
		9.15–11.45 & 12.45–3.15	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	7th	7.30	Langham Community Centre
Langham Footpath Walk	12th	2.00	Langham Community Centre
Langham WI	9th	7.30	Langham Community Centre
			(Linda Gwyther: "Can you Hear me, Mother?")
100 Club Coffee Morning	17th	10.00	Langham Community Centre
			(Hosted by the Scout Group)
Boxted Airfield Historical Group	21st	7.30	Museum, Langham Lane
			(A slide show set to music: "75 Years of Aviation")
Patchwork Pals, Langham	15th	10.00–3.00	Langham Community Centre
The Point, Langham	2nd	5.00 (prov)	Ten Pin Bowling, Colchester
	23rd	5–6.30	Langham Community Centre
Langham Carpet Bowls	Tuesday	2.00 & Friday 7.30	L'm Community Centre
Langham Bridge Club	Monday	7.15	Langham Community Centre
Langham Pre-School	Mon. & Thur	9.15–11.45; Tue, Wed & Fri	9.15–2.30
	In school term		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
Langham Tennis Club Coaching Sessions			Langham Recreation Ground
	Sundays – Pay & Play:	10.15–11.15 (age 5–10); 11.15–12.30 (age 11–17)	

Copy for the MARCH issue

should be with the Editor

Bodinnick Wick Road Langham C04 5PG

Email: ianhollands@supanet.com

by 8 am on Monday 20 February

Boxted & Langham Village News

THE PARISH OF LANGHAM WITH BOXTED

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Clifford Sims 321286

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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The Manse Chapel Lane W. Bergholt CO6 3EF

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LANGHAM COMMUNITY SHOP ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Langham Community Shop will be held at the Community Centre on Wednesday 29 February at 7.30 pm. This is an opportunity to learn about the Shop's progress in the year since moving into new premises. There will be refreshments to follow, and a raffle.

BOXTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The WI's festive season started with Christmas Dinner at the "Yew Tree". The Christmas Party followed a week later, when, after a splendid buffet supper, members were entertained by the Quizzicals Barber Shop group. The festivities ended with a Carol Service at St Peter's Church, at which the WI Choir was a prominent feature.

After voting on the 2012 Resolutions and refreshments, an unusual hush descended on the January meeting while members checked their numbers in the several bingo games. Anne Newman won the flower of the month competition with her Unglarous. Those interested in joining guided tours of Layer Marney Tower (July) and the Van Dal shoe factory at Norwich (August) should give their names to Mary Mould as soon as possible.

POPPY APPEAL

The Royal British Legion's annual Poppy Appeal raised £2,305 in Boxted (a record) and £979 in Langham. The organisers thank both those who helped raise these sums and the many who gave most generously.

DOG FOULING IN LANGHAM

There has been a regrettable increase in dog-fouling in Langham, especially in the most sensitive areas: along pavements, including those near the Primary School, and the footpaths (eg, those at or near the Recreation Ground). Dog-owners are asked to clear away after their dogs to make walking around Langham more pleasant, healthier and less messy. Not clearing up after your dog is both an offence under the law and a known health risk, especially to children.

SHOEBOX APPEAL

A total of 137 well-filled shoeboxes were collected in Boxted and Langham during November and sent off in **Operation Christmas Child** to cheer the Christmasses of deprived children in Belarus. The organiser, Gill Flack, thanks everyone who contributed shoe boxes and helped with their collection.

**GREAT
VALENTINE
DANCE**
LANGHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE
Saturday
11 FEBRUARY
8 pm to 11.45 pm
Music by Kenny Lee
Tickets £9 from
Sue Armstrong (271127)
or
Liz Schofield (272448)
In aid of Community Centre Funds

LAWFORD RECYCLING CENTRE

The Lawford Recycling Centre is now open for only five days a week, being closed on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Xmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

The opening hours are 9 am to 4 pm but from 1 March to 15 October the Centre will open for an extra hour, to 5 pm. From 16 October, closing will revert to 4 pm (1 pm on Xmas and New Year Eves).

BOXTED VILLAGE HALL SNOWBALL

December Winners January

£25 C Hodgson Mr R Andrews

£10 Mr J Howlett K Berry

£ 6 N Welham Mrs V Holton

£ 4 Mrs H Warner Mr R Andrews

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

BOXTED AIRFIELD HISTORICAL GROUP

On 21 February Ron Godbold will be presenting a slide show at the Boxted Airfield Group's Museum and Visitor Centre, Langham Lane. Set to music, the slides will illustrate 75 years of aviation. Non-members will be very welcome at the show, which will begin at 7.30 pm, at a charge of £3. The Museum is on the right (east) side of Langham Lane if travelling from Mile End or Boxted Straight Road.

MUSIC AT ST PETER'S

The Mersea Island Chorus made a welcome return to Boxted on 8 January to lead a carol service for Epiphany at St Peter's Church. Between Bible readings and hymns, the congregation enjoyed superbly-rendered choral pieces by Palestrina, Howells, Stainer and Darke.

The Colchester Chamber Choir has, under its Director Roderick Earle, gained a great reputation in the last year or so. People in Boxted, Langham and elsewhere will have a chance to assess this reputation for themselves on the afternoon of 3 March, when the Choir comes to St Peter's to offer a "Glimpse of Heaven". For further particulars, ring Jeremy Carter (272392) or email him on crispin@aspects.net

LANGHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

After business at the December meeting members enjoyed a Christmas Party with a buffet supper, followed by Christmas songs and rounds conducted by Jean Reynolds and a hilarious 4-minute pantomime.

At the first meeting of 2012, Elaine Cole brought along Ratty, a black retriever cross puppy under her tuition in preliminary training as a Guide Dog. Members were hugely impressed by the dedication required to transform little puppies like Ratty from playful pets into reliable and steady guides for blind people. Members were looking forward to an activity afternoon at the Community Centre; lunch at the Leavenheath "Lion"; and a visit to see "Oklahoma" at the Mercury Theatre.

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