



BOXTED ST PETER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Everyone is particularly enjoying working in the recently-completed additional classrooms (pictured, left) at Boxted St Peter Primary School. After the excitements of the Christmas festivities (which included a fantastic Nativity Play), the children have settled in to the new term. Swimming lessons have started for Year 5, while individual music lessons are available for all; there is also a wide range of after-school clubs.

WORLD WAR I CENTENARY: LANGHAM

In the context of the Prime Minister's announcement of national plans for marking the centenary in 2014 of the beginning of the First World War, Langham Parish Council invites everyone to an open village workshop and exhibition, where people can discuss parish councillors' ideas and proposals for marking the centenary in Langham.

The workshop will be on Saturday 23 February, 10 am to 12 mid-day in the Club Room at the Community Centre. Visitors are very welcome to bring along to share with other participants photographs, documents and any other memorabilia associated with the Great War.

For further information, please contact Tony Ellis 01206 231164 or Andy Smith 07720 290589.

BOXTED EVERGREEN CLUB

In December the Evergreens had a delicious Christmas meal at the "New Times" at Tiptree. Later on, Beryl and friends provided sparkling entertainment at a delightful Christmas Party.

The thriving Evergreen Club has a good programme of talks, outings and other events planned for 2013. The club normally meets twice a month, on Thursday afternoons.

BOXTED HISTORY GROUP

The History Group's 2012 programme ended with an entertaining account by puppet-maker Peter Battey, of the history of the Punch & Judy show. He concluded his talk by presenting his own topical and very funny Punch & Judy.

The 2013 programme opened in January with David Ablewhite's well-researched and carefully analysed study of Queen Victoria's nine children and of her influence throughout Europe as a consequence of their marriages. He showed how, although Victoria apparently disliked her own children, she was very fond of all her grandchildren, who were always welcome at Osborne and Balmoral.

MANAGING A MASTERPIECE

Managing a Masterpiece is a three-year programme to understand, conserve and celebrate the landscape of the Stour Valley; February and March see the culmination of the programme with a series of public events to mark the area's rich artistic heritage. The events include: poetry reading by Dean Parkin, Poet of the Valley; an exhibition featuring the work of local artists; a "celebration of light" in Sudbury; and a day of talks, readings, films and music at Stoke by Nayland to celebrate Ronald Blythe's 90th birthday. Details may be found at:

www.managingamasterpiece.org

The first of the concluding events will be "My Stour Valley", an open, unselective exhibition of art by local people at St Peter's Church Sudbury, 1—13 March. The final day for entries is 18 February. For more information and an entry form, go to the website above.

The second event is on 7 March (6 pm) at Sudbury's Gainsborough House, when Dean Parkin will be reading from his new collection of poems inspired by the artistic history of the Stour Valley.

TREES FOR YEARS

The seventh "Trees for Years", sponsored by Office/S, will be at the Colchester Borough Council's Rowan House car park, Sheepen Road, on Saturday 2 February from 10 am to 1 pm. FREE trees will be given away to residents, community groups, schools and parish councils. Residents may receive up to three trees, groups etc up to twenty.

The trees will be bare-rooted. The species given away include soft fruits, field maple, red & yellow stem dogwood, hazel nut, bird cherry and silver birch. They will be given on a first-come-first-served basis and must be planted on private property. For more information, phone 282903 or go to www.colchester.gov.uk.

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