



Hinxton News is an independent village newspaper established and run by volunteers.
Our mission is to inform residents of local issues and to maintain and promote community spirit.

Available on line at www.hinxton-pc.org.uk/
or you can be included on the e-copy circulation by sending us your email address

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Taken from the

Hinxton Parish Council web site

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme goes live in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Teams of trained vaccinators will start to vaccinate patients against coronavirus at Addenbrooke's Hospital and Peterborough City Hospital from this week at the start of the biggest immunisation programme in history. People aged 80 and over as well as care home workers will be first to receive the jab, along with NHS workers who are at higher risk. A dedicated team from across our health and social care system have been working through the weekend to prepare for the launch of the programme, with the first vaccinations happening later this week. There are 50 hospital hubs in the first wave, including Addenbrooke's and Peterborough City Hospitals, and more hospitals will start vaccinating over the coming weeks and months as the programme ramps up. We will be starting to call people who fall

into the priority groups over from today to book appointments. Over the coming weeks we will be extending deliveries to local vaccination services, and we hope that later this month the MHRA will allow batches to be split, meaning that vaccination teams can go into care homes to vaccinate those who can't go to other services. You can really help the NHS deliver this effectively to those who need it most.

Our asks are:

1. We will contact you when it's the right time to come forward, so please don't contact the NHS to seek a vaccine before then;
2. Please act on your invite when it comes, and make sure you attend your appointments when you arrange them; 3. and, of course, please continue to abide by all the social distancing, wearing of face masks and hand hygiene guidance, which will still save lives.

You can find out more about the COVID-19 vaccination



This is an extract from our MP's recent general newsletter

Local Plan figures "confirm the worst fears of residents"

I am severely concerned that up to 3,000 homes could be built every year in the Greater Cambridge area under growth plans revealed in initial studies published by the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service. This would fundamentally change the character of our district from rural to urbanised.

I have raised this repeatedly with South Cambs District Council, writing a letter to the Leader in July to ask that the council does not seek to build any more houses than required by national government targets. These initial findings suggest that local planners are contemplating going even further than I feared.

It is vital that we have as transparent a consultation process as possible. Local voices should remain at the heart of any proposals, and I will continue to seek reassurance that residents will be properly informed and consulted as the Local Plan develops.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony Browne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Dear Readers

Our good friend on the Genome Campus, **Marc Folland**, has had to specially set up to print the Hinxton News in time for Christmas. As ever, we offer our thanks to Marc and also to all our wonderful team of door to door deliverers who make it all possible.

December started with a most enjoyable Hinxton event. There were no committees or stressful moments or hurried meetings, simply a random set of circumstances that lead to a really naughty (*but nice*) break from the dystopian reality of lockdowns and social distancing. The whole story and some pics can be seen in the following pages.

The month ended with the tragic news that our neighbour and friend, **Mark Alexander** had died. He has been resident in Hinxton since the late 1990s and was an active parish councillor from 2007– 2017. He will be missed by all who knew him. Our condolences go to his sons, Toby and Josh.

We also discovered that **David Newland** from Ickleton had sadly passed away. David was a local bell ringer and had also contributed to our Hinxton News over the years. Famously, he was the Head of the Engineering Department at Cambridge University from 1996-2002. He part owned the racehorse called Pineau de Re that won the Grand National in 2014. His wife **Tricia** also died recently. Let us hope they are now together in peace.

On the back page you will find an optimistic **Diary of Events for 2021**. These are all things that are in the planning stage and can only be thwarted by government decree.

If you would like to be involved in any capacity in the running of any of these events, please do not hesitate make contact with me, in the first instance, so that I can guide you to the correct organiser.

I have a very good feeling about 2021.

Let's all look forward to a great year.

Mike

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Paul Breen for advice, tips, hints, mental assessments, accounts and bonhomie

Melanie Bright for late night proof reading and big big smiles

And also to our massive group of helpers and contributors.

Kate, Linda, Jane, Janice, Anne, Emily, Alex, Margaret, Julie, Dan, Virginia, Andrew, Nick, Sarah, David, Rosie, Colin, Sue, Mary, Joan, Emma, Emma, Marc, Ros, Chris, Sara, Jill, Julia, Ali, Zoe, Lesley, Philip, Phil, Sarah, Theresa, Steve, Sara., Sylvia. Oh, and one more Sara for luck!



TIM

Thank you
so much...

for my surprise '50' 50th
Birthday messages
around the village.

I had a wonderful day
and was really touched .

Thank you for being
part of my special day.

"LIGHT UP HINXTON"

The True Story

Saturday 5th December

By Mike Boagey

As a last minute, "thrown together" event this succeeded on so many levels. The idea to simultaneously switch on all our Christmas lights at 6pm came from **Jill Garnier** on behalf of the Village Hall. This came up in a casual door step conversation. Within a few minutes, I stopped to chat with **Daniel Jones** and mentioned Jill's idea. Suddenly we discussed using his tractor and trailer to cart the brand new Village Hall sound system down the High Street playing loud seasonal music during the **Light Up**. Soon afterwards Daniel knocked on my door suggesting that we converted his trailer into a sleigh and have a mystery Santa and Elf.

Between the two of us we collected all the materials and within a few hours of inexpert woodworking, upholstery and painting, we had our sleigh. Dan obtained and fitted the lights and tinsel before we attempted a quick run around the village in broad daylight.



After yet another chance street conversation with **Virginia Walker**, she inspired the distribution of children's presents from Santa's Sleigh, normally given by the **Anne Howsden** charity at the Children's Christmas Party which had been cancelled.

Kristina Parkinson succeeded in selecting, buying and beautifully wrapping enough presents for the kids in the village (with a few extras.....Santa cannot run out of presents, can he?)

She also provided us with two very attractive Elves, in the shape of **Sue Brown** and **Emma Senior** to help hand out the gifts.

The hamper for the "Name Santa" was won by the twins **Emily and Matilda** seen here with **Dan the Reindeer**.



The amazing Santa was **Rachel Jones** who was enthusiastically helped by **Conor the Elf**.



The judges agreed **Tony & Mavis Vincent's** house as the winner of the coveted "Illuminations Award 2020"



LIGHT UP HINXTON



*Lots of fun.
Mulled wine.*



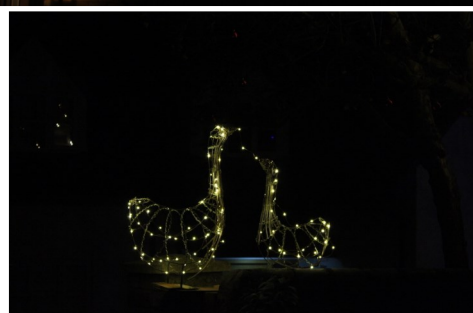
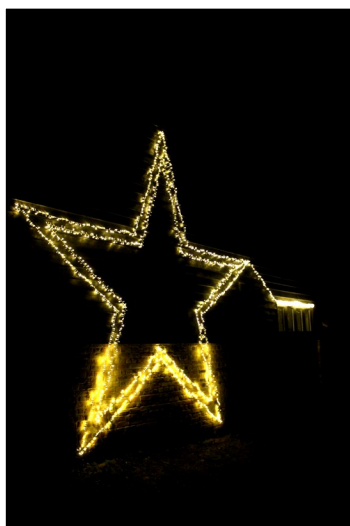
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friends
again*



*Santa's
Sleigh*



*Fabulous
lights*



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Sara Gregson at www.talkinggrass.co.uk

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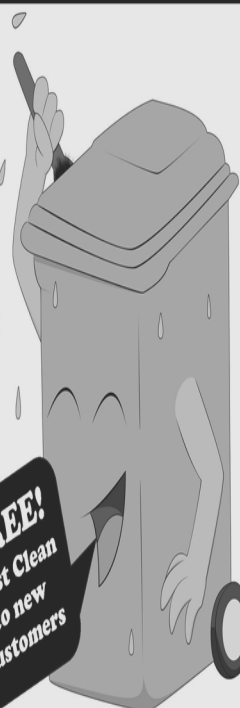
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Please email davidbrooks@btinternet.com with any items for him to consider for the next newsletter or to request that your address be taken off (or added to) the emailing list. Do forward this newsletter to anyone who may be interested.

We welcome signs that our local water companies are facing up to some serious challenges. The Cambridge Independent reported on 23 November that Cambridge Water are 'considering all options to remove pressures on chalk streams', including demand

management, bulk imports of water from neighbouring companies, and new reservoirs. To the south, Affinity Water is already reducing abstraction from the Chalk and has told us that their commitment to end unsustainable abstraction 'applies to all chalk rivers not just those in the Chilterns.' Meanwhile, Anglian Water already has work in hand to transfer surplus water from Humberside to Essex via Ely.

No matter how many new houses Cambridge planners permit, and however extravagant their occupiers, Cambridge Water is required by law to supply all the water they want. We want them to reduce current levels and meet new demand not from the Chalk aquifer but by importing water from elsewhere. Once we get new reservoirs to capture winter flows they can start to reduce borehole abstraction, so that Chalk streams run all year, every year, whatever the weather.

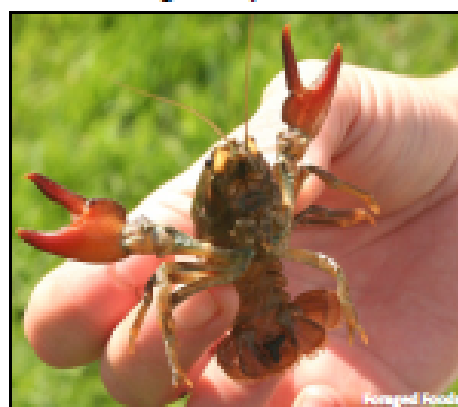
Encouraging customers to consume less should help too, in theory, but what of our own behaviour? Raising the price of water to reduce consumption is politically difficult but the Government has recently told OFWAT and the water companies to find solutions to our water supply challenges that 'provide the best value to customers, society and the environment, rather than simply the lowest financial impact'. That is a significant and encouraging shift in policy.

At a recent Zoom (https://youtu.be/YV8_Ca8CESY) meeting called by local activists, Feargal Sharkey did much to stimulate and inform a large audience. We are having a wetter-than-average winter after five drier ones but more rain cannot be relied upon to solve a crisis created by decades of unsustainable practice. The big challenge now is to help the water industry find solutions that deliver not only secure supplies but also a healthier and cleaner water environment.

Alan Woods



Meanwhile, Signal Crayfish abound. The American,



invasive Signal Crayfish was introduced into the UK in the 1970s, to farm for human food (photo of the crustacean

above). Up to 6 inches long, having escaped from enclosures, it has displaced the small, native White-clawed Crayfish, being much more aggressive, as well as being a voracious predator, consuming almost anything it finds including plants, invertebrates, snails, small fish, fish eggs and, even, its own young. It carries a fungus disease which is fatal to the natives but not itself.

It has reached plague proportions in many parts of the UK, including the Cam Valley, along the Bourn Brook and the River Shep for example. Small surviving outliers of the White-clawed natives in South Cambs are particularly vulnerable to the destructive advance of the invaders. Though thwarted by Covid the River Mel Restoration Group is planning to use traps to assess their density and distribution (but see www.crayfishuk.org/wp for complications arising from the use of conventional traps).

The invaders destabilise river banks by digging burrows up to 3 feet long. The banks collapse, the channel widens, material accumulates on the channel bed, and covers the sand and gravel used by spawning fish. The female incubates more than 250 eggs under her tail, each year.

Stop Stansted Expansion

info@stopstanstedexpansion.com



GOODBYE 2020 - AN EXTRAORDINARY YEAR

Most of us will say good riddance to 2020. Some 70,000 of our fellow citizens will have died from Covid-19 in 2020 and that will be the lasting memory for most of us. The pandemic has also caused many local job losses, closed our local village pubs and taken Stansted Airport back almost 20 years to an annual throughput of less than 8 million passengers.

This prompts an interesting comparison: Aviation and the hospitality industry have both been devastated by the current pandemic and a recent poll asked people which of these they missed most: Not being able to go on holiday or not being able to visit the local pub? Those who responded voted hands down for the local pub. Three cheers for that! A recent Financial Times article helps explain:

"Where else but at the bar of their local can a bishop discuss the news with a local groundworker? Where else will someone new to a town get recruited to the Sunday five-a-side football team? Where else will an unofficial village "mayor" be elected? Pubs are our truly democratic spaces, where we meet and joke and sometimes even listen to each other. You cannot hate a man who gets his round in, however much you may despise his views on Brexit."

Turning to more serious matters, the Stansted Airport Public Inquiry starts on January 12th at the Radisson Blu Hotel, adjacent to the airport terminal.

SSE will be presenting a mountain of technical evidence but it is also vital for the Inquiry to hear the views of local residents. Your contribution needn't be lengthy or complicated. A personal statement from a local resident can be far more powerful than an expert consultant's report. For example, you could provide a local perspective which the Inspectors might not otherwise have been able to hear.

You can give your evidence via video link rather than appearing in person. Applications to speak should be emailed to info@programmeofficers.co.uk who will then advise on the arrangements.



Whittlesford & Duxford Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

Face to face scouting was suspended in November for the national lockdown. Wild Wood Beavers (Wed, 6-8 yrs) continued doing activities from home including Christmas crafts, creating inventions and tidying their rooms. Our other groups met via zoom. Forest Beavers (Fri, 6-8 yrs) looked at railway and fire safety, talked about healthy eating and made cakes in mugs. Forest built towers that had to hold an egg on top. Only 5 eggs broke! Sirius and Javelins Cubs (Mon and Thurs 8-10½ yrs) made poppies for remembrance day. Three of our groups (Sirius, Javelins, and Arrows Scouts; Tues, 10½-14 yrs) learned about and made their own Swedish Fika and Kanelbullar (a traditional past-time involving pastries, coffee and a catch up). Hitchhiker Explorers (14-18 yrs Fri, 7.30-9.30pm) did a navigational Treasure hunt around Duxford. If you would like to get involved, do get in touch via our website www.wanddscouts.org.uk or call Carmel on 07939 507805.

GIGABIT BROADBAND in HINXTON

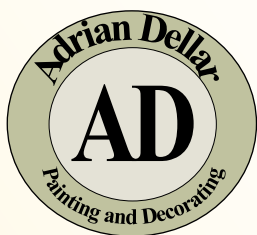
The drive to obtain Government funding for the installation of Gigabit Broadband in Hinxtton got off to a great start, with 31 of the minimum 50 households signing up. This means we need another 19 households to sign up to reach the target of 100% funding, which should make the installation possible. Please consider that this may well be the only chance Hinxtton has to get a fully subsidised installed Gigabit service.

Even if you are happy with your current broadband speed, the world is only going to get more digitally based, with potentially everything being managed and supplied online, so the faster the service the better. Taking a more financial based view, being able to advertise your house has having Gigabit Broadband, will only make it more valuable.

Jeremy Coleman

Your bin collection dates over Christmas

Date	Black Bin	Blue Bin	Green Bin
Thursday 31st December 2020 (Changed collection date)	✓		
Thursday 7th January 2021 (Changed collection date)		✓	✓
Wednesday 13th January 2021 (Changed collection date)	✓		
Tuesday 19th January		✓	
Tuesday 26th January	✓		
Tuesday 2nd February		✓	✓



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Hinxton Yoga has moved online again!
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No charge but you are welcome to give a donation to Mind if you'd like to:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/donate>



Please contact Zoë for latest yoga news
and to register for January classes:

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Granta Medical Practices Update January 2021

As I write this, the COVID-19 vaccine delivery has just begun, with the first vaccines being given yesterday. It suddenly feels like there is hope and a light for us all at the end of this very long, dark tunnel.

The vaccine is currently being offered to patients in priority groups first, namely:

- People aged 80 and over who already have a hospital appointment in the next few weeks
- People who work in care homes
- Health care workers at high risk

It will be offered more widely as soon as possible. For further information on priorities and delivery schedules please go to www.nhs.uk

The general public are asked not to contact their GP surgeries regarding the vaccination programme. The NHS will contact everyone direct when it is their turn to have the vaccine.

In the meantime, thank you all for continuing to abide by all the social distancing, wearing of face masks and hand hygiene guidance.

We will keep our website and social media channels updated with any developments.

Happy New Year!

Sandra East
Granta Communications & Patient Liaison

T. 01223 627743

E. capccg.contact.gmp@nhs.net

W. www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The local pub has long been a focal point of the community. Samuel Pepys in his diary described the pub as “the heart of England”. Beer was once much safer to drink than contaminated water.

Many of our local pubs are centuries old, built when most of the population were illiterate. They had distinctive names and simple signs to identify them.

As early as 1393 Richard II required landlords to erect signs so that ale houses were clearly visible to his inspectors, who judged the quality of the ale. Nowadays, not all have signs but there are many interesting names.

The Saracen's Head in Great Dunmow, opposite the market place, is a 16th-century coaching inn. A Saracen was an Arab Muslim who in the Middle Ages fought against Christians for control of The Holy Land.

The Blind Fiddler in Anstey takes its name from a tale of George the blind fiddler who for a bet entered a tunnel said to run from a pit to the castle mound a mile away. He was accompanied by his dog. A scream was heard, the dog reappeared singing from head to tail, but George was never seen again!

In Bartlow, The Three Hills dates from around 1800 AD and is named after the parish's giant Roman burial mounds which also feature on the village sign.

The Sword in Hand in Westmill takes its name from the coat of arms of the Greg family who once lived in the parish and were generous benefactors. It has an unusual and distinctive new sign.

Let's hope that we can soon all return to fully enjoying the hospitality of our local hostleries. Each of those mentioned here can be found on one of the walks described on the Society's website.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

Westmill



Anstey



Bartlow



Great Dunmow



Hi, my name is Anita Gilchrist and I would like to introduce myself as the new Community Warden for Sawston, Whittlesford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Duxford and Pampisford.

Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been delivering these schemes for 27 years and with the funding support from South Cambridgeshire District Council we are pleased to be in a position to expand the schemes to those living within these villages.

I was working as a warden in Linton and have years of experience working for the NHS and private Health sector. The community warden service assists adults over 60 to continue to live independently and safely at home by providing daily contact (Monday to Friday) and support by a personal visit (COVID19 compliant) or a telephone call to ensure a sense of a security and wellbeing. We can help you on a long or short term basis depending on your needs and wishes. An example of some of the things I can do to help you are;

- Doing small amounts of shopping
- Collecting prescriptions
- Reading post and making phone calls on your behalf
- Spend time with you to have a chat
- Listen to any concerns and help you find a solution

You will receive a 2 week **FREE** trial and after that we ask for a small charge of £9 per week for a single person and £11 per week for a couple. Below are some quotes from people that use our service.

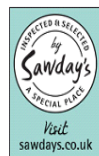
"That phone call every day to check on me gives me such a great deal of security. You can't believe what a phone call can mean at my age"

"I look forward to the telephone call as Anita is always so bright and cheerful to speak to"

If you are interested and would like to know more, I would love to hear from you.



Please call me on 01223 570 837/ or 07812 496 001



January Greetings to Hinxton Villagers from all at The Red Lion Inn

Well, into a new year we go – lets hope for a successful climb off the Tier ladder.

As we go to press we are hanging on to Tier 2. We are just having to get used to a new normal with a combination of distanced tables between households, business meetings and multi-household gatherings in the Gigtent.

Anticipated Opening Times for January:
Tuesday to Saturday lunch and dinner
Sunday lunch.

We have so appreciated all your support over these tough times – lovely to see so many familiar, friendly and cheerful faces.

Thank you too for all the encouraging feedback – it really makes a big difference – congratulations due to the team

(<https://tableagent.com/dashboard/red-lion-hinxton/feedback/>)

As the guidelines continue to roll out, we will plan events that fit in with these and allow us all to keep our chins up during these tough times.

Please continue to book online from the website or drop us an email or phone message if you are planning to visit – with as much notice as possible. This really helps us space and distance everyone.

Keep well and safe.

Alex, Nikol, Shane, Kris and the teams

info@redlionhinxton.co.uk 01799 530 601

www.redlionhinxton.co.uk

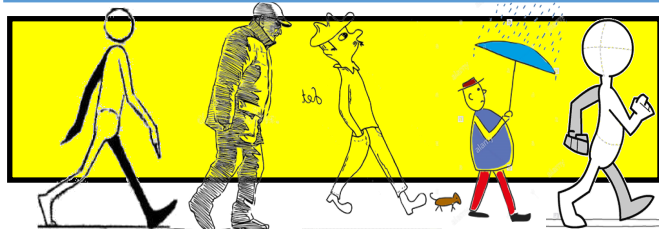
BOXING DAY WALK

This year will be dictated by the Government's prevailing instructions, but until we hear differently, we plan to meet at the bus shelter opposite the war memorial at the earlier time of 10.30.

The route will also be finalised on the day but, in all probability, we will follow the traditional path through the Wetlands to Ickleton.

Alex at the Red Lion has invited us again to relax with a glass of mulled wine after the walk.

It would be good to meet this year's new arrivals in the village



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HINXTON EVENTS 2021

JANUARY

11th Parish Council Meeting

FEBRUARY

5th Hinxtion Walkers

MARCH

8th Parish Council Meeting

5th Hinxtion Walkers

10th Coffee Morning

APRIL

5th Bank Holiday Monday
CAR BOOT SALE & DOG SHOW

Village Tidy Up

Start of Garden Centre

9th Hinxtion Walkers

14th Coffee Morning

MAY

Mill Clean Up

Mill Opening

30th National Garden Scheme

11th Parish Council Meeting

7th Hinxtion Walkers

12th Coffee Morning

JUNE

12th FETE

Peterhouse Choir

4th Hinxtion Walkers

9th Coffee Morning

JULY

16th GARDEN EVENING

8th Parish Council Meeting

2nd Hinxtion Walkers

14th Coffee Morning

AUGUST

Red Lion Party

6th Hinxtion Walkers

11th Coffee Morning

SEPTEMBER

McMillan Coffee Morning

Ride & Stride

11th Parish Council Meeting

3rd Hinxtion Walkers

8th Coffee Morning

OCTOBER

Last Mill Opening

Poppy Collection

Bacon Brunch

1st Hinxtion Walkers

13th Coffee Morning

NOVEMBER

Poppy collection
ART SHOW

Parish Council Meeting

5th Hinxtion Walkers

10th Coffee Morning

DECEMBER

Light Up Hinxtion

Children's Party

Carol Service

Christingles

Boxing Day Walk

3rd Hinxtion Walkers

8th Coffee Morning

ONE DAY SOON

New Telephone Box party

Everything subject to further confirmation nearer the time.

New events may be added as the year passes.