

ST MARY & ST PETER
NEWSLETTER

October 2024



CoverPicture Red Kite caught on camera in Lodge Lane, 23rd August as the barley was being harvested; thanks to Andy Hardie.

CHURCH SERVICES

29th September Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity and feast of Michael and All Angels

10.30am at Little Horkesley – Six parishes united service of Holy Communion

6th October Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am at St Peter's – Holy Communion (said)

10.30am at St Peter's – Morning Worship

Refreshments are served at 10.15 between the services

13th October Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am at St Peter's – Holy Communion

20th October Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity

9.30am at St Mary's – Holy Communion (said)

10.30am at St Mary's – Morning Worship

Refreshments are served at 10.15 between the services

27th October Last Sunday after Trinity

9.30am at St Mary's – Holy Communion

3rd November All Saints Sunday

9.30am at St Peter's – Holy Communion (said)

10.30am at St Peter's – Morning Worship

Refreshments are served at 10.15 between the services

3.00pm at St Mary's – All Souls Service

5.00pm at St Peter's – Taize style worship

To check for other services and any alterations email Rev Heather Wilcox –
6parishescolchester@gmail.com



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Deadline for submissions for the November edition: 15th October
Contact the editor via email: lwbnewsletter@gmail.com

Welcome to the October Newsletter.

With a grinding and unavoidable regularity, the wheel of the year has already turned almost full-circle and we are, at the time of writing, on the cusp of the equinox—the ‘equal-night’—when the hours of daylight and of darkness are of the same length. Needless to say, this means that the end of the year is now closer to us than the mid-point and we must all start putting away those floaty linen dresses and sunhats, and drag out the heavy woollen draught-excluding clothing that will keep us comfy for the next six months. In keeping with that train of thought, we already have an advertisement in these pages for the annual pantomime “The Wizard of Boxted” and another for Langham’s customary Fireworks Night event. There is also a Quiz Night on 26th October in support of Operation Christmas Child, the charity which is promoted through these pages and run by our former editor. I hope we can

support these and other projects as the year continues on its course. The harvest is already underway, as the rumbling fleet of huge RIX agricultural vehicles thundering through the villages testifies. It seems these days that fields are worked harder than ever to yield not just one crop in the year but three or more, so the old customs of harvest-time have lost some of their relevance.

Harvest also means large numbers of ‘daddy longlegs’ bouncing off our windows and ending up helplessly floundering any unguarded liquid—e.g. a cup of tea left in the garden while you nip inside for a call of nature. Soon even these will have vanished, and only the occasional bad-tempered wasp or bemused bee will be found in the garden, wondering what has happened to all the greenery. Winter draws on

Steve Pollington,
Editor

BOXTED W.I.



Last month Boxted W.I. members sadly said goodbye to Mary Huke, a long term member and well loved resident of Boxted at her recent memorial service.

Continuing their summer activities and following their summer outing to Woodbridge, members enjoyed an evening of Petanque whilst some paddleboarded.

Additional activities included the September Coffee & Chat morning (which took place at the Nayland Deli) and members attended the Wine Festival at Dedham Vale Vineyard, We celebrated a member's very special birthday at the Hub and by the time this newsletter is

issued will have celebrated W.I. day there (16 September) too.

Our autumn programme commenced with a September Beetle Drive with much laughter and competition, with victory clinched by Maggie and Lorelee.

Next meetings are 8th October & 12 November at Boxted Village Hall 7:30pm, we welcome prospective new members whether you wish to just get to know others in Langham & Boxted, enjoying a cuppa and chat or wishing to actively join in the various entertainments planned.



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It's that time of year again

A sense of slowing down, of conserving energy - a pause perhaps in the busyness of life.

Seeds lay dormant in the ground,

squirrels bury supplies of nuts and other food to keep them going through the winter, hedgehogs lower their body temperature and slow down their heart rates as they hibernate.

It might seem that it's a bit gloomy but it's only a time of waiting, for the cycle of the seasons to move onwards through winter and into spring.

And just as nature has a seasonal cycle to follow, many people will be looking towards Advent (it's on 1st December this year). It's that pivotal moment when Christians enter a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas. And I expect there will be a last-minute dash to the supermarkets to get a chocolate Advent calendar to open each day!

It's a time to give thanks for what has been, and prepare for what lies ahead - to find contentment in the little things and enjoy every moment of the season.



In a contemporary version of the Bible, Jesus says, "Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest.

Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace." I love that phrase 'the unforced rhythms of grace' - each time I read it I take in a deep breath and let it out slowly, and pause to listen to my breathing and my

heartbeat.

Instead of 'hibernating', let's breathe deeply and enjoy the change in the seasons - kicking up the leaves as you walk through the woods, enjoying the freshness of the cold air as you see your breath, being thankful that the sun is shining above the clouds.

And on gloomy days - remember that Jesus is the light of the world. Even if we don't give him a second thought, we are always on his heart and he surrounds us with his love.

May we all know God's constant love and peace, even as the seasons change around us.

Rev'd. Anne

SESAW NEWS

Regular readers and SESAW friends know that chihuahuas (like me) are super characters, full of self-importance, totally unaware of our small stature. Today, I will extol the virtues of those at the other end of the canine spectrum: Lily and Gray are two bonded salukis that have been with us since last summer. They came from a flat which was totally

unsuitable and shortly after their arrival, Lily presented us with five lovely puppies, all happily rehomed. Unfortunately the perfect home still eludes six year old Lily and three year old Gray. They are extremely sociable dogs, they enjoy cuddles and being with people, we often find a missing volunteer snuggled up with them on their sofa! Mum says they are easy to live with, after a good walk they are



quite content to chill on their cushions and watch the world go by. They could have been homed separately long ago but parting these gentle, graceful dogs that depend upon one another is unthinkable.

And so they await their forever home with a secure garden, loving family and luxuriant lounge! They may accept other dogs but probably not cats. If you can tick all the boxes, come and meet, walk and relax with Lily and Gray. Visitors welcome 10-1pm, Thursday to Sunday or by appointment. Please leave a CLEAR

message on 01787 210888 or email info@sesaw.co.uk

Come and see all the other dogs plus cats and rabbits too, if you have a space in your world for another pet. Many find animals are the antidote to modern life, even pesky little dogs like me,

Kenny (the Boss) Chihuahua.

LANGHAM LADIES

At the September meeting an enjoyable time was had by members and guests listening to the speaker Katie Cole, her talk being “Three Women of Special Operations Executive “ during 2nd World War. SOE was formed in 1940 and was an underground army that waged a secret war in enemy-occupied Europe and Asia. Its agents demonstrated incredible courage and resourcefulness. To be an agent you didn’t have to be British but had to speak another language. The first woman Katie spoke about was Nancy Wake who had a five million Franc bounty on her head but still parachuted back into France in 1944 and helped the French Resistance.

Noor-in-Nisa Inajat khan, daughter of an Indian Sufi Leader. She was raised a pacifist but joined S.O.E when they needed fluent French speakers. Her incomplete training led to disaster when she was betrayed to the Gestapo.

Christine Chilver’s work was nothing but rumours until 2016 when her S.O.E record was opened

by the National Archives. Her work helped prove which agents were ready for deployment and which ones were terribly unsuited for spy work.

The next meeting is Thursday October 10th starting at 7.30pm in Langham Community Centre. It is hoped that it will be the talk that had to be cancelled in June. The speaker being Tony Friedlander talking of his search for his Birth Mother who he found out was a Kinder Transport Child.

This will be an open meeting as advertised for the June meeting so guests will be very welcome fee £5 which includes tea/coffee and homemade cakes.

Further information as to if this talk will take place will be updated on *Langham Locals Facebook* and on *Langham Ladies* notice at the Community Centre nearer the time. We look forward to seeing you then.

Langham Community Centre's

100 Club Draw

July's winners were

- 80 John Helliwell
- 57 Diane Kirby
- 14 Michael Firmin
- 88 Gill Salt

August's winners were

- 34 Marlena Lipski £40
- 96 Helen Hewes £25
- 28 Ian Hollands £15
- 9 Bill Durlacher £10

New members welcome. Contact
libbywinter18@gmail.com.

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BOXTED HISTORY GROUP

Kentwell Hall is a stately home in Long Melford. It is open to the public and often holds historical re-enactments. For years it suffered from neglect but has now been restored with period furniture.

There is evidence that the site was occupied from very early times. The first reference to it being in the Domesday Book. The present buildings were constructed by the Clopton family who occupied the site from about 1375. The oldest building is the Moat House which is estimated to have been built in the early 15th century. It consists of three rooms on the ground floor that were used as a dairy, a bakery and a brewery. There are also two rooms in the attic. It is possible that this building was designed to be the principal residence before becoming a service wing when the main house was built.

The main house was constructed during the late 15th century by John Clopton and then wings were added in the 1540's by his grandson, the third William Clopton. Finally an extra level was added by his son Francis in the 1560's.

By the early 17th century the Clopton family was in decline and the house passed through many hands. In the 19th century a fire broke out which destroyed much of the central interior including the dining room.

The owner, Robert Hart Logan, commissioned the architect Thomas Hopper to design the renovation. He also made alterations to the library and billiard room. The Hall with its extensive gardens and moat is now owned by Patrick and Judith Phillips who, while opening it to the public, use it as their home.

The History Group visited Kentwell Hall. For information about future meetings phone Alan 0206 272250

[Alan Ladbrooke](#)



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Have you spotted the road signs?



Sadly we get Hedgehog road casualties in our village. As they are nocturnal, this makes them vulnerable. So we have put up signs to remind drivers to take care and look out for them.

Boxted Wildlife



Family run health & wellbeing clinic on Park Lane,
Langham offering:

- Physiotherapy
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BOXTED EVERGREENS

Boxted Evergreens have been busy with various entertainment arranged throughout this year.

To start 2024 we held our bring and buy sale and thanks to the generous support of our members, the club made a substantial figure. We had an interesting afternoon with a visit from the Essex Pets as Therapy Group and Pauline's dog was very well behaved, aided by plenty of treats from Pauline. A member of staff from Age Well, (Age Concern) visited us in June and left our members with plenty of information regarding more groups which are held in their Colchester premises. At the time of writing we still have Fiddlers Elbow booked for our October meeting.

We always have food on offer throughout the year, starting with Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns. In July we held our Strawberry tea and in November we will be having afternoon tea at the Hub. Finally, to close the year, in December our Christmas meal will be booked at a local venue.

The Committee are currently planning next year's itinerary and as always we are open to suggestions for entertainment which members would like to see.

Should you wish to contact us please call either Linda on 01206 272710 or Elaine on 01206 273183.

Aldercar Wood is a locally run club for any of us wanting to get a good deal for heating oil. To sign up, please provide your name and email address to aldercarwood@gmail.com

Aldercar Wood
Heating Oil Buying Club

Boxted & Great Horkesley



Nominate someone for the 'Gift of Better Hearing'

Do you know someone whose life could be transformed by better hearing?

We are thrilled to announce a special competition to be fitted with state-of-the-art-hearing aid technology! As part of our commitment to the community, we are inviting you to nominate someone for the gift of better hearing.

Why not nominate a special friend, relative or neighbour? Hearing loss can be isolating and challenging,

hearing aids can make the world of difference offering the gift of sound and connection.

If you know of someone that would benefit from being fitted with latest hearing aid technology along with an aftercare package, then we want you to share their story with us.

Submit your nomination and share their story with us explaining why they deserve to win.

The chosen nomination will receive a full hearing assessment, hearing aids and aftercare package.

How to Nominate:

You can send us an email or write us a letter by 30th November to karen@thehearingcarecentre.co.uk or write for the attention of: Karen at 1-2 Langham Barn Business Centre, Langham Lane, Langham CO4 5ZS.

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Langham Lane, Langham CO4 5ZS.

Call: 01206 760839
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LANGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

It's been a while since we provided an update for the Parish Magazine, so here is a summary of what's been happening since the Spring, and a brief look forwards. As ever, we encourage residents to come along to Parish Council meetings to find out more and engage on local issues. Meetings are usually now held on the **second Wednesday of each month (7.30pm at the Langham Community Centre)**.

On 20th April we held a slightly overdue opening event for the extended **Children's Play Area**. There was a good turnout, the rain held off, and there were many positive comments about how smart the playground was now looking after "bedding in" following the construction work. The £120k extension project was funded through a combination of an Enovert Grant, S106 Developer Contributions from

the Vistry Homes estate, and Parish Council reserves.

The Council welcomed two new Councillors to the team in May & June, with Allistair Hunter and Anna Anderson joining us. Martin Bottwood stepped down as Chairman in May after 3 years in the role and was heartily thanked for all his hard work over that period. He remains on the Council as Vice-Chair. Paul Armstrong was elected new Chairman.

Spring and early Summer saw a fair bit of time devoted to the contentious **Norwich to Tilbury Pylons** consultation process, with an organised walk of the full trenching and pylon route through the Parish, which helped us prepare our detailed response to the Statutory Consultation.

In a happier vein, an idea was hatched to trial a **Classic Car Show** on the Langham Recreation Ground, with the help and support of the Clacton Classic Car Club. This went ahead on Sunday

8 th September and seemed to be very well received, so we will be looking to develop this into a regular annual event, probably scheduled around the end of the School summer holiday period.

In the background, we've been monitoring the early stages of CCC's Local Plan Review, which will eventually determine new **housing growth targets** and locations in the village out to 2041. We are particularly mindful of the ongoing sewerage and drainage problems affecting the village, which need to be resolved before any substantial new housing growth could be accommodated. Our engagement with Anglian Water and the Environment Agency continues, but sadly with little sign of urgency apparent in either organisation.

Looking forwards at two of our near-term future activities: We plan to hold a **Local Plan Drop-In session at the Community Centre** in the first half of November (exact date tbc) with support from a CCC planning representative, and the opportunity

for residents to discuss what local infrastructure improvements they think are most important to support further housing growth over the coming years.

Also in early November (Saturday 2nd) we will be holding our annual **fireworks display** on the Recreation Ground. As much as we love hosting this event, it does come with perennial challenges, one of which is finding 30+ volunteers to help run things smoothly on the day. So we're calling out for more helpers please. In return you'll get free entry to the amazing fireworks & a treat or two as a thank you. To register your availability, please email your name and contact details to clerk@langhamparishcouncil.co.uk by the 15 th October and our Volunteer Coordinator will get in touch soon afterwards to discuss available roles and timings. Many thanks!

QUIZ NIGHT

Charity

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 26th
7pm Quiz 7.30**

- * Boxted Village Hall, CO4 5RE
 - * Entry Fee £5 per person
(Under 16 Free)
 - * Teams of 6
 - * Bar & Raffle
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Child Shoebox Appeal
- Contact Tim Clarke on 07792060597

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The Boxted Players present

THE WIZARD OF BOXTED

Join the Boxted Players for their 10th anniversary pantomime with an original take on a classic tale with Dorothy whisked off to a magical place far away from her rural roots....



Friday 13th December 7.30

& Saturday 14th December 4.00 and 7.30

For tickets search Boxted on www.wegotickets.com

or call into Harper's Caffe at the Boxted Hub.

Adults £10 Children (under 16) £5

NEW DARKSKY DISCOVERY CENTRE OPENS AT THORINGTON STREET, SUFFOLK

Thorington Street DarkSky
Discovery Centre opened

at the Studio opposite
Thorington Hall on August 12th.

Welcomed by a meteor shower and a glimpse of the Aurora Borealis, residents and amateur astronomers viewed the sensational display from the garden of the new Centre. Led by professional astronomers and a local grass roots committee, the DarkSky Campaign has created a hub for the hamlet of Thorington Street and an exciting place for astronomy talks, star gazing and astrophotography.

The Centre, owned by the National Trust, has meeting rooms, parking and a dark garden shielded from car lights by high walls. Leigh Freeman, National Trust General Manager Essex and Suffolk Countryside says “Dark skies are often an overlooked part of our natural world. The night sky has inspired science, religion, philosophy, art and literature that has created our heritage today.”



Working in partnership with the Dedham Vale National Landscape, the Campaign promotes astro tourism helping businesses such as hotels and restaurants to attract visitors to the area to witness our dark night skies in winter.

The Campaign aims to make Thorington Street a DarkSky Community recognised by DarkSky International, the US-based charity organising and coordinating anti light pollution projects around the globe. To find out more about forthcoming events and the DarkSky Campaign email edhamvaleastronomy@gmail.com

BOXTED HISTORY GROUP

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

7.30 for 8pm.

Guests always welcome.

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.

A graphic for 'Boxted Bingo' featuring three colorful bingo cards (pink, blue, and green) fanned out. The word 'Bingo!' is written in large, stylized yellow and orange letters with a blue outline. Below the cards, the text reads: 'Boxted Village Hall Every other Tuesday 3pm - 5pm £8 per session (includes 4 games of bingo) For more information Call Dot on 01206 272676'.

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

LANGHAM LADIES

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

BOXTED CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Come and join us for a friendly, enjoyable afternoon playing bowls at **Boxted Village Hall on Friday 2 - 4 pm**, Sept to April

Further info please contact:

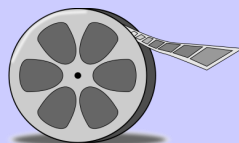
Michael Hubbard 01206 271892

Sue Smith 07465443795

sueronben@gmail.com

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

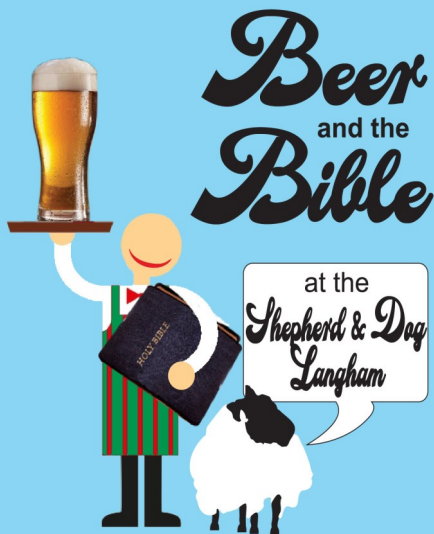
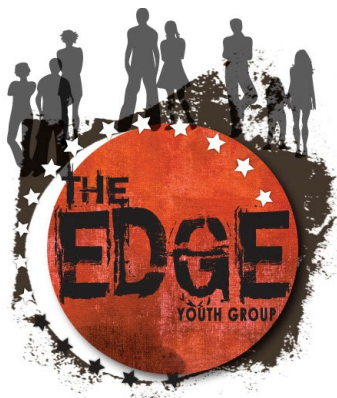
Meet on first Wednesday of each month throughout the year, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm at the Community Centre. Subscription £26 due March and September. Contact Chrissy Todd tel. 07742 131454.

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!*



Every second Monday of the month
from 8pm
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 Linda Sheil 01206 273324

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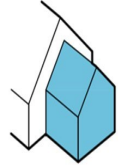
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For more information, or to book a space, please either email enquiries@2ndlanghamscouts.org or contact us via our website.

www.2ndlanghamscouts.org



WHEELCHAIR LOAN

The Short Term Wheelchair Loan Charity (*Reg. No. 112657, www.wheelchairloancharity.com*), based at Clacton Hospital, helps people needing the short-term use of a wheelchair. The chairs are for all ages and reasons. The service is a perfect interim solution if you require a wheelchair for an occasion such as a holiday, a wedding or to help accommodate a visiting relative. The service is funded by donations and is free to users, although a deposit of £40 from borrowers is asked for.

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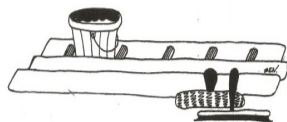
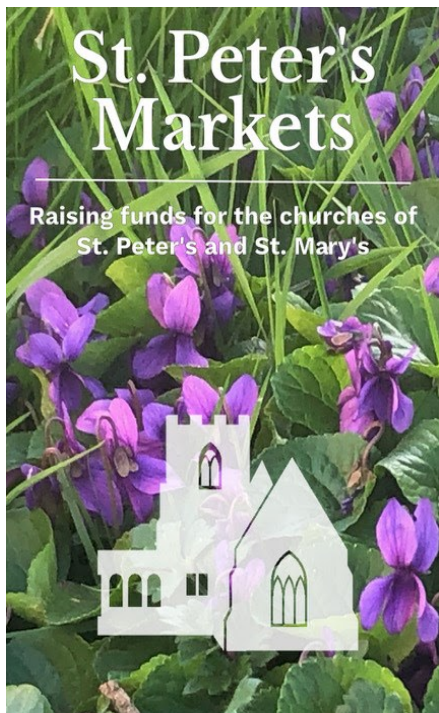
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For further information & an informal chat
Call our Volunteer CoOrdinator
Cath Hine on 07825 952560

BOXTED EVERGREENS

Our Club meets in the village hall every four weeks from 2.00pm to 3.30pm.

Anyone wishing to come along would be given a warm welcome. Our members are always asked for their suggestions before our yearly entertainment programme is arranged, so we do try our best to cater for everyone.

If you would like more information about our club please call Linda on 01206 272710.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Are you elderly, vulnerable or otherwise in need of help, and live in the Parish of Langham with Boxted? We are a group of local Volunteers who can assist:

- with transport to an important appointment, including Hospital, Dentist or Flu/Covid Booster
- with collection of items such as prescriptions
- or make a friendly visit just for a bit of company.

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

Monday.....230525 or 273324

Tuesday.....271813 or 273195

Wednesday....272755 or 272013

Thursday..... 07765 037892 or 323007

Friday..... 272773

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

**THE PARISH OF LANGHAM
WITH BOXTED**

Contact Details

Websites

Boxted – www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6458

Langham – www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6459

Rector Heather Wilcox

01206 240906/07503151715

RevHWilcox@outlook.com

Please contact the Rector with any enquiries

Church Office available by appointment Mon-
Fri: 10am - 12pm

Associate Priest Revd Anne Mason

07895 970834 revdannemason@gmail.com

Curate Revd Emma Barr 07801659345

Lay Minister Denise Hobday 230918

**Church Administrator (for the parishes of
Langham with Boxted, West Bergholt and
Great Horkesley** Donna Luxton (Mon -
Wed) & Jo Russell (Thur- Fri)

Email: 6parishescolchester@gmail.com

Churchwardens

St Mary's Langham

Stephen Garner 272599

Sgarner.22@btinternet.com

Denise Hobday 230918

hobdaylangham@hotmail.com

St Peter's Boxted

Jos Carter 272755

Zone Youth Group

Dominic & Linda Shiel 273324

The Edge Youth Group

Dominic & Linda Shiel 273324

St Mary & St Peter Newsletter

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Email: lwbnewsletter@gmail.com

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Email: boxlangads@gmail.com

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BOXTED VILLAGE HALL

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Contact

Debbie Eley

Telephone:- 01206 870266

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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
November edition:
15th October**

**Contact the editor via email:
lwbnewsletter@gmail.com**

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