

A TRAGIC WARTIME EVENT

On the evening of 24 April 1944 Avro Lancaster bomber UM-K2, serial no. DV 177, took off from RAF Wickenby, Lincolnshire, to take part in a massed raid on the German city of Karlsruhe. On board was a crew of seven, four British and three Canadians, the oldest of whom was 29. As the Lancaster returned over north Norfolk early the following morning, it was attacked by a German plane, damaged and set on fire. For some reason it then flew southwards and the pilots attempted to land it at Boxted Airfield. Despite the risk of exposing the airfield to enemy attack, the Americans lit the flare path but the aircraft went out of control and crashed to the south-west of the airfield, none of the crew surviving the impact.

For some time a small group led by Chris Stanfield of Mile End has been working to identify the burial places of those killed in the crash, trace their surviving relatives and to erect a monument to the young airmen. The group's efforts have been largely successful and a small memorial to the seven will shortly be erected near the crash site, which is to the west of Ipswich Road, Colchester, on land generously made available by Space Savers. The memorial will be unveiled on Wednesday 25 April at 11 am.

BOXTED EVERGREEN CLUB

The Evergreens had a most enjoyable afternoon in February when they were entertained by N C Moore singing to his own guitar accompaniment. He is the son of Evergreen Barbara Woodmason, although nobody could guess whose son he actually was. March saw further entertainment, this time in the form of songs and poems by "Quizzical".

LANGHAM TEEN CINEMA

Langham Teen Cinema is a new venture promoted by Langham Film Nights but run by teenagers for youngsters and teenagers. The next Film Night, on 13 April (see the flyer with this issue of the Newsletter), is aimed at this age group and is starting to get youngsters involved. Readers' support is invited by their buying tickets for the show and spreading the word among young people. Doors open at 7 pm; drinks and snacks are available to buy and there is a licensed bar for adults.

BOXTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Under the chairmanship of Vice President Mary Huke, Boxted WI hosted a memorable Spring Valley Group meeting in March, members of many local WIs attending. The lively entertainment in the first part of the occasion was by students from the Colchester Institute's Centre for Music and Performing Arts, who sang a variety of solos and duets. After a pause for refreshment, those present heard a most amusing talk by the amazing Ray Burman, a former policeman and a veteran of 25 marathons, 158 half-marathons and a cycle-ride from Florida to California, all in aid of charity.

From the Parish Registers Baptism

Charles Anderson Hull
Megan Anderson Hull
Guy Sebastian Oakley Mason

RUSTY RACQUETS

Langham Tennis Club is holding a **Rusty Racquets Tennis Day** from 1 to 5 pm on Sunday 28 April. Anyone, any age—all are welcome to start or return to tennis on the all-weather courts. Coaches Mark Kleingeld and Ed Rudge will be present to help and advise.

LANGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the 5 March meeting

Planning

The Borough Council has approved planning application 122249 (side and rear extensions to Birches, Moor Road) but refused applications 122256 (attached pool room and sun lounge at Willow Grove, Grove Hill) and 120362 (Whitnells' appeal against refusal).

Broadband

A consultant from Essex County Council addressed the meeting and recommended that to stand the best chance of gaining superfast broadband, residents should respond to "Make the Connection" online to express an interest and put pressure on their Borough and County Councillors.

Potholes

It was agreed that Councillors would each adopt specific roads.

World War I Commemoration

A questionnaire will be distributed with the April Newsletter seeking residents' views.

Mother & Toddler Group

The group has asked to use the children's play area originally used by the pre-school. Once the fencing has been replaced the Parish Council will come to an agreement with the group.

Defibrillator

A parishioner has asked about the possibility of keeping a defibrillator at the Community Centre and the matter is being investigated.

Essex Heritage Trust

The Trust is a possible source of grants. The details may be obtained from the Clerk.

Annual Meeting

The next meeting, on Thursday 17 April at the Community Centre, will be the Annual Parish Meeting. James Wills, Editor of the Essex County Standard, County Councillor Anne Brown and Borough Councillor Mark Cable will be speaking. Residents are encouraged to attend to hear about the work of the Council over the past year.

THE DEDHAM PLAYERS present **BREAKING THE CODE**

A witty, moving play by Hugh Whitmore about Alan Turing, the Enigma code-breaker

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