

Autumn
2020
FREE

The Grundisburgh and District News

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DALLINGHOO ■ DEBACH ■ GRUNDISBURGH ■ HASKETON ■ OTLEY ■ PLAYFORD ■ SWILLAND ■ TUDDENHAM ■ WITNESHAM

Village historian appointed for Charsfield

Charsfield Parish Council has appointed its new village historian, John Fox, a resident for 34 years.

John spent most of his career at BT Martlesham. A life-long tennis enthusiast, he has a keen involvement in the revival of the sport in Charsfield.

In fact, his interest in the village's past has been stimulated by participation in many of its organizations over the years, concluding that whether it be the school, church or chapel, the Kersey charity, the pub, or another long-established village society, they all have stories to be explored.

"We are fortunate in having a legacy of material left to us by Peggy Cole which, with the writings of Ronald Blythe, have given us an unromanticised insight into Suffolk village life throughout the 1900s" he says. "We recently scanned in all 846 of Peggy's slides, making them a readily available source to view."

"An early benefit was that it enabled us this May, when we had a necessarily limited Remembrance Day for VE75, to put a photo display on Charsfield's website showing our fuller celebrations of VE50 back in 1995"

On page 10 John describes some of the other possible initiatives for exploring and recording the rural past.



Dr Dan Poulter MP cuts the ribbon to officially open Grundisburgh's new deli in The Dog pub, with Eilir Rogers who runs the enterprise.



Sande Sledmere with her dog Jack at the Otley lockdown memorial she organised with the help of local people. Story on back page.



Saying NO to Chapel Field

Grundisburgh said No very loudly to the government planning inspector Philip Lewis. Of the 554 responses received commenting on the Suffolk Coastal Local

Plan Main Modifications, 160 were objections to MM86 Chapel Field Grundisburgh and Hopkins Homes ill-conceived plan to build 80 dwellings on the wet

agricultural site surrounded by single track country lanes with no footways.

Grundisburgh needs to grow naturally, through windfall sites that occur within the village boundary. Though the village was allocated no residential development in the last Local Plan, since 2010 some 46 properties have been built on windfall sites. East Suffolk planners need to make much more use of brownfield sites -our lovely Suffolk countryside must be preserved.

The parish council still awaits the decision from the inspector. Meanwhile Grundisburgh continues to say NO at every opportunity.

Ann Willetts, chairman of Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council Planning Sub committee

NEWS DIARY

Sadly not enough events are able to take place for us to publish the normal News Diary. But the on-line version of the diary on our website will continue to be kept up to date - so long as diary editor Ian McIvor is kept up to date. He can be contacted on diary@grunews.com.

It is also helpful if organisers advise when events already listed have had to be cancelled or postponed. The diary can be accessed on <http://www.grundisburghnews.org.uk/>

If any organisers do not have access to email, they can supply a copy on paper to me at Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA and I will forward them to Ian.

Details can be supplied up to a year in advance and can help organisers of events avoid clashes wherever possible. One phone number and one email address should be included with the information. We also like to include if tickets need to be pre-booked.

We look forward to normal practice being resumed as soon as possible.

Nicola Hobbs, 01473 738267,
editor@grunews.com

New Year's Eve Dance

Clopton New Year's Eve Dance will not take place this year. This will be the first time it has been cancelled since starting 14 years ago, becoming so popular that over the last few years the tickets

have sold out by the beginning of December. We would like to thank all our supporters over the past years and look forward to seeing you at the 2021 New Year's Eve celebration.

Diana Dawson

Village Show became virtual

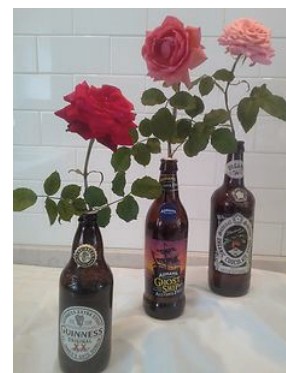
We had a fantastic response to our 'Virtual Show' run by Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society. Well done to all our winners. There were 168 entries over 24 classes, all of which impressed our judges.

Thank you to Will Barber for putting our 'Virtual' together and to Catherine Laxton for the idea and her input. We would also like to give special thanks to Sue Marks who judged the children's entries, and Belinda Gray who took on all the adult classes.

Having had to cancel our open gardens event in June, we had hoped to run it in September, but decided that it would be rather irresponsible in current circumstances. It has now been scheduled for the weekend of 12/13 June.

We all hope to see an end to Covid 19 so we can look forward to next year. The society plans a bigger and better show for 10 July 2021.

The grand marquee will be bigger than ever and we hope to pack the showground with more fun and entertainment. Our class lists will be out by the end of the year and please make sure you check the website for more news www.grundisburgh.show.



Some of the prize winning entries in the virtual show. Clockwise from top left: Sweet peas (Catherine Laxton), Three courgettes (Caroline Warren), Decorated cupcake (Primrose Denny-Pickess), Playdough model of sea creature (Isabel Scrivener), Bottled blooms (Lynette Chapman); Knitted garment (Vivienne Baird), Celebration cake (Orla Whittingham). Results of the other classes are shown on the website.

The dance will be held as usual after the show next year, from 7.30 to 11.30pm. Again details will be on the website.

We have a packed timetable of 'Trips & Talks' which are being planned as we go to press. We very much hope that the pandemic situation will enable them all to take place.

For details contact catherine@laxton-interiors.co.uk.

In the meantime I hope you are all keeping well and happy. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Martin Cripps, Chairman, Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society,
chairman@grundisburgh.show

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A NATIONAL COLLECTION OF PLANTS IN A WITNESHAM GARDEN

For a long time I have been fascinated by the anarchical notion of Ellen Willmott visiting the gardens of friends and scattering the seeds of *Eryngium giganteum* to germinate and ultimately flower long after she has taken her leave; hence gaining the name 'Miss Willmott's Ghost'.

Although this story has been found to be a myth it still

associated with Ellen Willmott: *Scabiosa caucasica* 'Miss Willmott', *Ceratostigma willmottianum* and *Eryngium giganteum* 'Miss Willmott's Ghost'.

This led me to begin to research how many plants did indeed include her name in whatever form: 'Ellen Willmott', 'Miss Willmott', 'willmottiana',



leaves a smile on my face! It was not until I had joined the Suffolk branch of Plant Heritage, and became involved in searches for lost daffodil cultivars at Warley Place, Brentwood, Essex, that I came across what remains of Ellen Willmott's house and garden.

These searches gave life to this important plantswoman and I began to take a much deeper interest in her life, times and gardening philosophy.

This was greatly helped by volunteer members of Essex Wildlife Trust who over many years have collected and recorded much valuable information regarding Miss Willmott and are now recognised as the 'go-to people for all things Willmott'.

Plant notebooks

I also had the unique opportunity to photograph the letters and plant notebooks of Ellen Willmott which are stored at Berkeley Castle, Gloucestershire. The transcription of this material further enhanced my interest.

I began to collect some of the more common plants

'willmottianum' or 'willmottiae'. I was somewhat surprised to discover that the answer was around 40.

But perhaps more surprising was the fact that many of these plants were named both during her life and after her death, with the latest being *Galanthus* 'Miss Willmott' found in the garden of Warley Place in the early 1990s. This variety of snowdrop has the highest flower count per bulb, often producing four, or even five, inflorescences per mature bulb.

Exceptional plans

As my collection grew it became apparent that all these plants had individual identities and were very special in their own right. They were all exceptional garden plants that I felt needed to be conserved to enrich the gardens of others and, although many of them had drifted out of fashion, I did not think that they had been replaced by better specimens.

For me, not being a trained horticulturalist, the challenge came from the variety of plants and their different horticultural needs. *Lathyrus*



Above: *Eryngium giganteum* 'Miss Willmott's Ghost'. Left: Nick Stanley with his sweet pea named for Miss Willmott.

Earlier this year my collection was awarded 'Historical National Plant Heritage' status by Plant Heritage, an organisation which promotes the preservation of garden plants.

My aim is to continue to propagate and give away the Willmott plants to interested people or to share the seeds - as indeed Ellen Willmott was reputed to have done with her 'ghosts'.

Nick Stanley, Hall Lane, Witnesham,
nickpatstanley@btinternet.com

odoratus 'Miss Willmott and Zinnia 'Miss Willmott' need to be propagated by seed saved each year, some such as the tender *Nerine sarniensis* 'Miss Willmott' need to be kept in a cold greenhouse throughout the year, while the majority are happy in open garden conditions.

An additional challenge is that they flower in different seasons. It seems that looking after the 'Willmott's' is a year-round task!

More information about the work of Plant Heritage and the Suffolk Group can be found on www.suffolkplanteritage.com. Among its activities are the twice yearly plant fairs at Helmingham Hall.

The autumn fair this year is on Sunday 20 September. Due to Covid 19 restrictions tickets (£8 per adult, children free) have to be booked in advance. More information about this is on the Helmingham Hall website.

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SCHOOL REPORTS

Charsfield Primary School

Well it has certainly been a year to remember! Firstly, I would like to thank all the children, parents, and staff for their hard work not only during lock-down but also throughout the whole year. Without all their ongoing support, we would not have achieved half of what we have!

During the last 7½ weeks of term, we had increasing numbers of pupils attend school as we opened our door to all year groups that wanted to return. Two thirds attended and were able to be taught in two 'bubbles' whilst we have been supporting those remaining at home, mirroring our 'in school' activities. We were able to provide a diverse curriculum with music, French, art, DT, Forest Schools, mental health and Wellbeing sessions, history, geography as well as maths and English.

Key stage 2 have been reading 'The Ickabog', by JK Rowling, and have entered her competition to have their artwork used in the illustrations of this. We held a sports afternoon where pupils completed sporting activities in their separate bubbles; we are lucky enough to have a large playing field that we sectioned off into zones. Pupils at home joined in too

with one of our parents reporting that she was really chuffed to have won the "Mummy Race" this year!

Mental Health and Wellbeing has been a large focus in this unprecedented time, and we have been looking at what helps us stay happy and healthy in our minds and bodies exploring several types of meditation and mindfulness activities. Chocolate meditation was particularly well received! The pupils in school wrote a group letter to those at home and were thrilled to get replies from some of them.

We joined in with the 'Suffolk Says Thanks' promotion which encourages schools to link and communicate with a local care-home through the lockdown period. We connected with



Handford House Nursing Home in Ipswich, where our children found out about residents in care homes and how they could help them. They made and sent 'thankfulness' posters, and wrote a group letter to the residents telling them about

what school has been like over these last few months. We hope to receive some replies from them and to continue to build on this link in the new term. It is so good for both the children and the residents to have the opportunity to connect and give something to others. The children have all enjoyed these sessions. They



have been amazingly receptive to the ideas and so willing and thoughtful when it came to communicating with Handford House.

Both bubbles had Forest Schools sessions, where our

goal has been to connect with nature to improve self-confidence and independence in an environment where the children feel safe, comfortable and relaxed.

They built a bird-feeder and we were able to mount a trail-

cam to record visitors while we were not at school.

We have recently put a new pond into our nature area which the local wildlife has been enjoying. There have been many other activities including den building, bug hunting and making hobby-horses to name a few, and an all-time favourite of toasting marshmallows round the fire.

The children particularly enjoyed designing and building a pedal operated hand-washing station. They were given an assortment of resources and a brief lesson in levers and then left to build it. After several attempts and some slightly soggy children, they achieved their goal and spent the rest of the lesson taking it in turns to wash their hands. They discovered that if you lifted your foot off the pedal too quickly, you could get a soaking! Armed with this information, they invited our Executive Head to have a go: let's just say it was a good job that he wasn't going to any meetings afterwards!

We look forward to welcoming our new reception pupils in September. October 22 sees our first open morning between 9.30-11.45am. If you or anyone you know would be interested in attending, please find further information about our school on our website. Visits to the school are always warmly welcomed.

Mrs Reeve (Head of School)
01473 737347



CHARSFIELD C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Why choose Charsfield?

- We offer small class sizes with high adult to pupil ratios.
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- We have a family feeling with a caring ethos - our children are happy at school!
- We offer daily breakfast and after-school clubs.
- Charsfield Primary School is situated just off the B1078 Just 5 miles from Grundisburgh and 3 miles from Wickham Market.

Please visit our website: www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk Visits to the school are warmly welcomed - Tel No: 01473 737347

SCHOOL REPORTS

Grundisburgh Primary School

It was a busy but very different end to the summer term at Grundisburgh Primary. Whilst we were able to welcome back to school all our essential key workers' children, Reception, Year One and Year Six, we very much missed those still working remotely. But our dedicated teachers ensured we all kept in close contact using our online learning platform and regular phone calls home.

We also kept our Celebration Assemblies going but sharing everyone's special challenges, adventures and successes online rather than altogether in person in our school hall.

Another special project that involved all our children, whether working at school or at home, can be seen exhibited on the wall of St Mary's churchyard. All children and staff were asked to create a 10x10cm 'tile' to be used by our amazing Art and DT Lead Teacher, Ms Watson, to create the wonderful 'Hands and Heart' now installed in the centre of the village. It was a great way for us all to contribute to this inclusive project and to share our hopeful message with the whole village..



We were so pleased to also have the opportunity to give our wonderful Year Six class a proper send-off during their last week of term. Their teachers devised a highly ingenious and socially-distanced activity week that included a campfire, an escape room challenge (online), Leavers' Assembly (with all Year Six contributing to the online format), an individual afternoon tea and presentation, amongst many other activities.

Our teachers have been very busy over the holidays: making arrangements, preparing the classrooms, sorting individual resources and planning lots of settling-in activities for our children's return to school.

We are really looking forward to September when we will all be back together. It will still be rather different from school as we know it but we will continue to work together, look after each other and as always, do so with a smile on our faces!

Sue Marks, Head, Grundisburgh Primary

The message on the churchyard wall reads "A socially distanced collaborative artwork produced by the children of Grundisburgh Primary School at home and school in summer 2020".



The very good friends ... of Grundisburgh School

Despite lockdown, the FOGs team continued to provide support to the school community. Aside from donating £3,500 towards the new school library and two forehead temperature readers, FOGS arranged for surprise cakes to be delivered to the school for each team of teachers working during lockdown as a thank you for their hard work and dedication. We commissioned the cakes from local baker, B's Kitchen, as we wanted to support local businesses during lockdown.

The Government usually provides a daily fruit scheme for years R-Yr2, but this wasn't running so FOGS responded to a request from the school governors to help. We partnered up with Hasketon Farm Shop and Waitrose to provide fruit for those children who returned to school in June to ensure no-one missed out and that the school routine had familiar elements for the younger ones.

We were also able to provide spare school uniforms for those that needed it, following the requirement that a fresh change of clothes was needed every day for those returning in June. Lastly, we arranged for thank you bouquets to be delivered to NHS workers, Caz and Lucy, who are two of our dedicated FOGs members, and to Debbie Standing who had been working very hard as Acting Chair of Governors whilst Clive was stranded in New Zealand!

What the future will hold for traditional fundraising when we go back to school, we don't yet know, but we have plenty of ideas and we also welcome any help or donations from the local community to help us provide ongoing support that our school will desperately need in the weeks and months ahead.

Emma Dixon, Chair of FOGS (Friends of Grundisburgh School PTA)

Centre for two to five year olds

YMCA Childcare Grundisburgh is ready for a September start, offering 2-year and 3-year funded and fee-paying places, as well as accepting childcare vouchers.

We cater for children aged two to five years between the hours of 8am and 3.15pm and have a wide range of stimulating, enjoyable, play-based activities to help promote all areas of children's development, encouraging individual choices and promoting social and language skills. We ensure children are involved in choosing what activities they would like to do and we always plan around their interests. We have access to an outside area, where children can join in with a range of activities including role play, construction investigation and sensory play.

Please do contact me for more information about the nursery.

Jess Booth, childcare manager, 07395791487, jessica.booth@ymcatrinity.org.uk

The News welcomes hearing from schools and playgroups in its catchment area.
Contact Richard Watkinson 01473 735540, deputyeditor@grunews.com

NEWS TRIBUTES

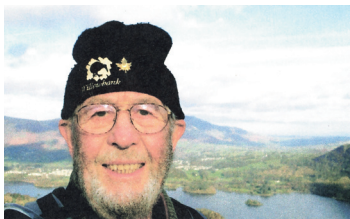
John Goode 1933 - 2020

John has been a well-known figure in recent years walking round Grundisburgh. Perhaps on his way to the 'chaps chat' at Williams store over coffee, something he treasured as Alzheimer's developed.

Walking played a large part in John's life. I found a newspaper cutting praising his second place, as a young scout leader, in the Warwick to Solihull race. He completed the Coast to Coast Path twice and several walking trails in New Zealand. It is how he met me when I joined the Leighton Buzzard Ramblers after my second husband died in 1999.

National Service as a radar fitter (he declined officer training) in Germany was the opportunity for more outdoor pursuits, gliding, sailing, horse riding and going to concerts in Salzburg.

Most of John's career was with British Gas where he rose to a senior post at head office, and a spell with LP Gas



Equipment. When at the latter he helped with the first flights of modern gas balloons by the supply of special hoses and modified gas pumps. He was a member of the British Balloon and Airship Club for 15 years.

After retirement from the daily commute John returned to gliding, and had more time for his activities in his village of Wingrave, Bucks, where he played bowls, helped produce the newsletter, did pen and ink drawings for a publication on the history of the village, sang in a choir, was a group scout leader and drove a steam roller regularly. Quite a polymath! He also played bridge and badminton.

The start of the Covid pandemic was not a good time to succumb to the after-effects

of the massive stroke he had last summer. I was not able to be with him in his nursing home. But he will live on in the hearts of those he touched with his so kind and friendly spirit.

Sue Goode

Sonia Mortimer, 1939-2020

Sonia was born at Gull Corner, Grundisburgh. Her father was Albert Kembal Warne, known as Joe, and her mother Lavinia Grace Warne, nee Harris. Sadly her mother died when Sonia was just four and she and her sister Judy were brought up by their



grandparents, and later their aunt Margaret and Uncle Len.

At Grundisburgh School, Sonia enjoyed sports and played hockey in the girls team, and was goal keeper in the boys' football team. After school, she worked at Saffels Farm looking after the children.

We met when I was a young Merchant Navy officer. We lived in Burgh for 25 years after our marriage in 1964, before moving to Grundisburgh. Our son David was born in 1971.

During our early married life, Sonia had the opportunity to travel with me in an oil tanker on one of my voyages, travelling round ports in Europe, the West Indies and the far east. Unfortunately she was a poor sailor and spent much of the time in rough weather flat on her back.

Some may remember Sonia as a 'dinner lady' at Grundisburgh School which she did for several years.

Sonia lived for her family - sisters Judy in California and Avril in Ipswich, son David, grandsons Dale and Thomas and great grandchildren Fox and Poppy. Sadly she died on 1 July after a short illness.

Eddie Mortimer

Albert Usher 1937 - 2020

Albert was a man of many enthusiasms throughout his life. In Grundisburgh, to where he and Sylvia moved 25 years ago after his retirement, it was the local history society with which he was particularly involved, chairing and organising the group from 2008 until his death. He edited three issues of its magazine.

Appropriately Purbrook House on The Green has its own interesting history, having housed the village butcher's shop until the early 1990s. Their lovely garden was opened for the hidden gardens event several times and for other village events.

All forms of transport had fascinated Albert since childhood. This included sailing and he joined the Deben Yacht Club where his skills as a practical mechanic were much appreciated. He had been a Sea Scout and Navy cadet before doing National Service in the Navy, much of the time in the Arctic circle on fisheries patrols.

Albert had begun train spotting as a young boy, and weekends in the 1960s were spent doing voluntary work on the restoration of the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway, one of the first Heritage railways to reopen in the UK. His very large collection of dvds, videos and vinyl recordings as well as assorted rolling stock and locomotives is going to help raise funds for the Southwold Railway Trust.



It was his love of motor bikes – riding, building, repairing them – for which he was particularly known in Suffolk. On retiring here he found there was no section of the AJS and Matchless Owners' Club in the area - so he set up a new one in East Suffolk, becoming its chairman and eventually lifelong president. Its members were among those riders escorting Albert's coffin from St Mary's Church to the crematorium in a motor bike hearse.

Albert had cared assiduously for Sylvia, even as her condition deteriorated, but when he was discharged from hospital in April it was clear that he would have to relinquish this role. They had a final precious week together in Grundisburgh, while the family found a lovely care home near her daughter Nicola. It specialises in looking after residents with advanced Parkinson's and dementia. There is a beautiful garden and Sylvia is settling in well.

Nicola Hobbs, based on information provided by the family for the funeral service

£380 was donated to St Elizabeth Hospice and £525 to the RNLI in memory of Albert.



SAFER VILLAGE DRIVING

The July meeting of the safer village driving group (SAVID) was via Zoom. Our discussions about traffic and speeding confirmed that all villages had been experiencing reduced traffic volume but increased speeding.

We reviewed the shared use of the SID (speed indicator device) and noted that some villages are starting up Speedwatch again.

Efforts are continuing to increase some shared approaches with the Police and safety camera teams and to request data gathered from the Speed Data Recorder (SDR) via Freedom of Information requests. Recent SDR deployment in several villages had been in place during the quieter periods on the roads leading to either reduced frequency of attendance by Police Enforcement or removal of a site from Enforcement, the latter had since been rectified.

Attendance at our meetings by the Suffolk County Council's Safety and Speed Management Engineer is very helpful as we get updated about the county council's highways activities.

We can exchange information about road safety issues and improvements in and around our villages such as a 30 mph extension in Boot Street, Great Bealings, a study of options in Burgh and

Playford, and additional signage for Charsfield school.

We were reminded that all parish councils have been invited to consider whether 'quiet lanes' could be relevant to their areas (see page 12 for a report on Grundisburgh's survey).

Road Safety week, supported by Brake the road safety charity, is on speed awareness this year. We agreed to consider how we might engage with schools in the SAVID area.

Our next meeting is planned for Wednesday 7 October 6.30pm via Zoom. Any resident who would like to join in should contact SAVID secretary on suffolksavid@gmail.com in advance.

In Road Safety Week (16–22 November) Brake, the road safety charity is sharing the what, the why, and the where of speed, because whether you're walking to school, riding on a country road or driving for work, the speed of traffic matters to your safety.

The formula is simple: the higher the speed, the longer the stopping distance, the

harder the crash and the greater the risk of death and injury. 'No Need to Speed' is a reminder to everyone of how the speed they travel affects other people.

The Brake campaign will be



stressing that every time we're on the road we need to consider what speed is appropriate to keep ourselves and others safe. Everyone knows that roads have speed limits, but do we understand what appropriate speed is, what leads some people to travel too fast, and what are the solutions that can make sure people move at safe speeds

Extract from the Brake website 'Every 24 seconds someone is killed on a road. More than 1.3 million people die on the world's roads every year. Road crashes are the

leading cause of death for young people aged 5–29. Brake's vision is a world where everyone moves in a safe and healthy way, as part of our normal day. We work to stop road deaths and injuries; support people bereaved or seriously injured in road crashes; and campaign for safe and healthy mobility for all.'

Pauline Procter, SAVID chair,
paulineprocter@btinternet.com

SID moves on

After five months in Grundisburgh, the Speed Indicator Device owned by SAVID has now been transferred to Tuddenham as part of the sharing agreement. Tuddenham is also using the other, portable VAS to tackle increased speed issues there.

Sometime within the next few months, Little Bealings and Swilland/Witnesham will have posts in place and be in a position to make use of the SID. As more villages come on stream, inevitably the usage for each village will diminish.

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LOCAL ENTERPRISE



SleepSafe Heating - 14 Years on

Anyone seeing their white vans with their distinctive blue diamond company logo might think they belong to an impersonal, nation-wide heating and boiler servicing firm. But how wrong they would be.

As a company, SleepSafe Heating & Boiler Services Ltd. was born in Grundisburgh in 2006 and has grown up in the same area, and will stay a local company if everything goes to the plan of its creator, Ollie Billsberry.

The company evolved out of Ollie's experience as a self-employed plumbing and heating engineer. He loved the profession and was successful as a skilled sole trader. Work was abundant and soon came opportunities to expand and carry out plumbing and heating for building/construction companies.

Following several years of steady growth and, as is the case with many successful entrepreneurs, Ollie felt that the business was beginning to

take over his life. After a contemplative two-day step-back from the hurly-burly of the daily workload, Ollie decided that rationalisation was the answer and as MD of SleepSafe, he set about concentrating solely on its core business - which was, and remains, the professional installation, servicing and maintenance of domestic central heating installations in the Grundisburgh area.

Being able to provide a dependable service to new and existing customers is Ollie's overriding objective.

SleepSafe places very little paid-for advertising - word of mouth generates nearly all the firm's new business. They don't even have a Facebook page! But don't get the impression that Ollie is resting on his laurels - he is well aware of the likely future demands on us and his company with the need to combat global warming.

If it isn't oil or natural gas - will we be using green electric boilers, heat-pump

The Sleepsafe team, from left: Alex Loveday, Helen Warren, Ollie Billsberry, Natasha Billsberry, Emma Beckett, Paul Minns. All except Alex are from Grundisburgh.

technology or safely piped hydrogen to heat our homes? Worcester-Bosch, for which SleepSafe is an accredited installer, is already developing boilers that can run on 100% hydrogen and also on natural gas, so those who have a 'hydrogen ready' boiler can simply convert without the need for an entirely new heating system.

And talking of new systems, Ollie, taking advantage of lock-down, is currently streamlining the admin of the company by virtually eliminating paper and going over to a 99% IT-based operation. This will help his staff to do what they do best - giving their customers a personal and professional service 24/7. And you've only got to see the smile on his face to realise he really does enjoy his job!

Richard Watkinson

BARN CAFE BACK IN BUSINESS

When I met Alison Youngman, one of four partners at the Barn Cafe, Hasketon, the cafe had just reopened after the coronavirus lockdown. Government regulations and guidelines had been read and digested, and a comprehensive risk assessment undertaken to meet health and safety standards. This is under constant review, as guidelines change, to ensure that the cafe environment is as safe as possible for both customers and staff.

The regulations meant a huge re-configuration of the business. Limited kitchen space meant reduced numbers of staff working together at any one time and two metre spacing resulted in only four tables inside the cafe and three tables on the sunny outdoor decking area.

A marquee was erected and an outdoor seating area created on part of the meadow to allow for the normal amount of seating at a safe distance.

The menu was simplified, with food and drinks sold to customers in takeaway packaging, allowing them to choose



PRE-LOVED BIG NAME FASHION BRANDS APPEARING IN GR

Chanel, Gucci, Burberry, Marc Jacobs. All famous names in the designer clothing world but correspondingly expensive to buy brand new. What if you could buy these brands second hand when they have been worn a few times by the original owner?

This was the idea which Philippa Rudd turned into reality several years ago when she opened a shop in Woodbridge for that purpose. Four years ago, Philippa and her husband relocated to Hill House in Grundisburgh where she opened the Matisa Market showroom.

Philippa sources the clothes, shoes and other designer items from first owners around East



Anglia. She also makes regular trips to London to collect items from there. From her years working within the fashion industry, Philippa knows the likely selling price of these items and when she makes a sale, she shares the proceeds on a 50:50 basis with the original owner.

Having grown up in this area, Philippa moved to London initially to undertake a French secretarial course but seized an opportunity to work for Gucci, where she stayed

LOCAL ENTERPRISE

whether they consumed it onsite or at home.

The cafe now opens on Sundays offering all day cooked breakfasts as well as tea, coffee and cakes. Booking is advised for this as there is a limited number of tables. A new breakfast bap for those wanting breakfast to take away is proving very popular.

The cafe remains closed on Mondays as a baking and preparation day. All of the cakes, scones, sausage rolls etc are made at the cafe and time and space is needed to do this.

The sausage rolls are a particular favourite with customers, made to the cafe's own special recipe. The homemade cakes are also very popular and there is always a gluten free option available.

A new 'permissive path' has been created by William Longe for walkers, allowing access across the land from the cafe towards Seckford Hall. This joins with the public footpath towards Woodbridge.

The cafe is dog friendly, providing they are well behaved, so it

is hoped it will make an enjoyable location to start or end a walk or to break it and

have a cafe stop en route.

The cafe was opened six years ago as a joint venture between Richard and Alison Youngman, and Ric and Jayne Ackland-Snow who at the time ran Grange Farm Shop and Kings Saddlery respectively. It has grown into a popular, cosy cafe with a reputation for good homemade food and friendly staff.

Alison says that, since reopening, the staff have really enjoyed seeing their regular customers returning. "The job retention scheme has been a lifeline to enable us to retain our valued staff. Although the situation is challenging, it is also giving scope for new ideas" she says. "All the partners would like to thank our customers for their support".

Barn Cafe is currently open: Tuesday - Saturday 9am-3pm
Sundays 9.30am-2pm
Mondays closed

It can be followed on Facebook and Instagram @barncafehasketon, and is situated on the Grange Farm site, postcode IP13 6HN. Telephone 01473 738269

Jenness Proctor,

If you run an enterprise within The News' catchment area, why not tell us about it.

editor@grunews.com

Wine shop pops up at Grange Farm

A 'pop-up' wine shop opened at Grange Farm for the month of August - and may well pop up again in the future. Grange Farm Shop, together with their wine dealer Clément Sigaut, founder of Smashing Wines, collaborated to bring a selection of fine wine to Hasketon. The idea formed during a tasting for new wine for the farm shop just a week before opening: Clément was about to go on holiday and Grange Farm had the space and staff - so they jumped at the opportunity.

The most challenging aspect of setting it up was creating a knowledge base for the wines so that the small team of six 'winestars' could help customers discover new wines and get the most out of it, says Grange Farm owner, Will Longe. "We wanted to offer something different to our customers - a taste of the holiday they may not be able to enjoy this year.

"The range of wine has been carefully curated mainly from small vineyards in France created by producers who are passionate about the cultivation and process of making wine. The range includes biodynamic, organic, minimal sulphite and naturally fermented wine", he said. "We are particularly excited about the collection of natural wine from Château Massereau in Bordeaux, as well as the Fonvène range from the Ardèche which comes from a long line of artisanal wine makers."

Together with Clément the team has developed food pairing ideas to help customers choose the right wine or plan for a meal. Tastings are always on offer, because choosing a stellar wine is such a personal process. Or if you can't decide, you can have a glass with a selection of nuts, olives, crisps and various other snacks to go with the wines.

The wine shop opened throughout August from Wednesday to Saturday 10am to 7pm, including the Bank Holiday weekend.

Jenness Proctor

Photo above: Rosie, Matt and Ed, three of the 'winestars'.



GRUNDISBURGH

for about five years. She then had an opening to work for Versace in Miami, which she took for a year before returning to Gucci in London.

Philippa's story then took a totally different course when she went to live in Portugal for 19 years, where she was involved with a British school as a governor. As Porto (where she lived) is several hours away from Lisbon and has many British visitors, the Foreign Office appointed Philippa as an Honorary Consul. In this role, Philippa had to deal with Brits who had lost their passports, run out of medication or got into difficulties with the local authorities. Her first experience of running her own fashion outlet was during this period in Portugal.

Although Philippa operates from her showroom in Grundisburgh, the vast majority of her sales come through

online purchases via Instagram where the clothes are displayed and described - and which makes Philippa a regular user of the post office in Old Forge Stores.

Although pre-owned designer clothes is the main theme of Matisa Market, Philippa also buys new stock of certain items such as bags and baskets made by the Columbia Collective. The Collective emphasises sustainable sourcing of materials and allows traditional artisan skills of that country to be commercialised and exported.

Finally, have you wondered where the name 'Matisa' come from? Philippa has two daughters called Matilda and Isabel and used the first three letters of their names to create her brand name. Mystery solved!

Words and photo Paul Whittingham

Charsfield local history

Continued from page 1

Where Charsfield is less fortunate is that its surviving parish registers only go back to 1727. We do, though, have the somewhat extraordinary "Historia Caresfelda", a sort of scrapbook of historical information started in 1847 under the auspices of the then vicar, the Reverend William Blomfield Bransby.

This relates a story of our village starting from the time of the Domesday Book, taking us on through the Lords of the Manor and clergy up until Victorian times. The baptisms, marriages and burials from the parish registers have been neatly transcribed filling 22 closely written pages. Church memorials and the tithe reforms are amongst many other matters explained, with sporadic entries continuing through the decades until the most recent one dated 2002

We were one of the villages that took part in the 'Deben

Valley Place Names' project and our local researcher, Margaret Elliott, has left us with an excellent resource explaining the structure of Charsfield at the time of the Tithe reforms (1838-1840) and subsequent changes running up to the 1980s.

However, things have moved on. We now benefit from extensive online resources and, come next year, there will be the fourth new release of census details since Margaret's work. So, that gives us one major ambition - to update and publish a new version of this valuable document; it will be a significant undertaking.

There is scope for more research on our village ancestors, particularly those multi-generational families with a long presence, for a century or more. Parish births and marriages provide an initial backbone for establishing relationships whilst census returns help with location and occupations.

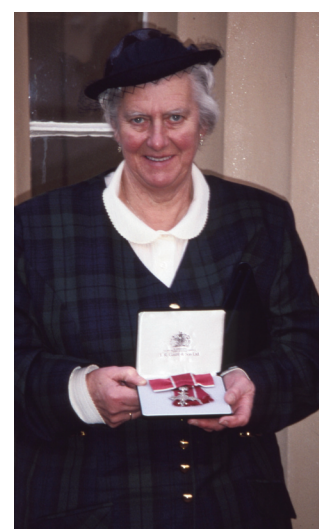
Sometimes inferences can be drawn about the nature of the people, but we need to strike lucky and find other resources



to get true insight into past lives. The county's local newspapers are perhaps the richest source for the type of detail we seek. Whilst their archives have been around for a long time, we have the huge advantage now that they are accessible online and, crucially, are searchable.

Putting "Charsfield" in the search box for the British Newspaper Archives, throws up 2351 results just for those years between 1850 and 1899. Clearly there is a lot out there to be researched! Some findings will be mundane, but others, such as the announcements of village property sales, prove consistently useful.

Every now and then, one comes across an intriguing story. Here is a taste of one with local interest: in 1867, William Smith of Grundisburgh starts litigation, pressing his case to receive the £55 left to him in his father's will. The father had lived his final years with William's sister, Mary Ann, and her husband James Leggett (a Charsfield vet and farmer). But there is an obstacle because the old chap loaned his complete wealth, £200, to James who cannot easily realise the cash. How they resolved it is a longer story to be told.



Top: Peggy Cole's famous council house garden which raised large sums for charity and was visited by royalty. Above: Peggy after being presented with her MBE. Above left: John Fox, Charsfield's local historian.

A different ambition is to increase the physical presence of local history in the village. At its simplest, this can be encouraging a field name to be shown on an entrance gate; often they are characterful and indicate past use (as in Cart Shed Piece, Miller's Pightle). Sites of special interest might be signed (e.g. where a burnt-down farmhouse once stood). And for a display relating to the village's past, there will soon be a new home since the parish council has a project to turn Charsfield's old telephone box into an exhibition centre.

The overall result should be that a walk round Charsfield becomes a more interesting experience.

John Fox, foxdial@btinternet.com

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TUDDENHAM TALES

We are back! Tuddenham Fountain has reopened

It's so nice to be back at The Fountain seeing all of our friendly faces after so long. I have to say we were a little nervous about reopening, we were unsure of what to expect with regards to how busy we would be and of course we had a lot of new systems and regulation to put into practice. After figuring out where best to put the signage and hand sanitiser (they are everywhere!) I can happily say it's been a hit!

Everyone is being very respectful of 'the new way of service', thank you! We now do full table service to the whole of the garden, this includes the lawn. All you need to do is arrive and we will do the rest for you. With regards to reservations, we would now always recommend giving us a call in advance. We are very lucky that we have such a beautiful garden and patio but it does book up quickly. We still have plenty of tables inside that are of course all spaced in line with the government guidelines.

A lot of businesses have cut their opening hours, we have done the exact opposite and extended ours. We are now open all day seven days a week, serving food all day on Friday, Saturday and Sundays. We stay open all afternoon for drinks, crisps, sausage rolls and cheeky chocolate bars. We offer the full menu as a takeaway option if you are not quite ready to visit just yet.

I've like to say thank you to everyone for their support and positivity through this tough time. Oh, and watch this space - someone has been talking about Afternoon Tea!

*Lucy and The Fountain team, 01473 785377, fountainpub@btconnect.com
Photos Lucy Decker and Jean Ellinor*



Manager Lucy Decker and front of house colleagues Pulkit and Abi.



Anyone who is concerned about speeding traffic in Tuddenham is invited to join the Tuddenham Community Speedwatch team. This would involve spending a few hours during one week a month. We are looking for additional volunteers to join our team as we re-establish our work following the Covid 19 'lockdown'.

The Community Speed Watch (CSW) initiative is about becoming actively involved in road safety, monitoring speeds at safe locations with speed detection kit and working with the police to reduce speed in areas of concern.

Volunteers are trained to use the 'speed indicator device' so they can verify and record the registration numbers of offending vehicles. Details are forwarded to the police, who in turn send offenders a letter.

A maximum of two letters are sent to offenders before persistent offenders may be targeted for police enforcement. Follow up enforcement and education by Suffolk Police takes place when appropriate. Anyone interested in volunteering please contact me for more information about what is involved.

*Pauline Procter,
Tuddenham Speedwatch Coordinator,
paulineprocter@btinternet.com*



Revd Charlotte Cook

NEW RECTOR STARTS WORK

I was brought up on a farm in Norfolk and studied at Ridley Hall in Cambridge, and St Melitus in London.

I worked in churches in Birmingham and Cambridge before coming to serve my curacy in Walton and Trimley. I love being in Suffolk and have been working most recently with the Lightwave project out of Otley College.

I cannot wait to start working in Westerfield, Tuddenham and Winesham from 1st September. I am passionate about working with others, serving the community and making the love of Jesus visible.

During my leisure time I enjoy walking, cooking and baking, spending time with my family and friends and I am an enthusiastic gardener.

Charlotte Cook



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WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Our occasional series on road names focuses on Alice Driver Road, Grundisburgh

New houses near Rose Hill were built in Grundisburgh in the late 1990s. A road was made linking Charles Avenue with Grundisburgh Primary School, at which point road access via Post Mill Gardens was blocked off.

This new road was named 'Alice Driver' and, at the time, I had no idea why. However, subsequently all was revealed, when Red Rose Chain put on a trilogy of Tudor plays by Joanna Carrick. One of the plays, called 'Put out the Lights', was the story of Alice Driver, who lived in Grundisburgh in the 16th century.

Alice was born about 1528, married Edward Driver and came to live in Grundisburgh. They were both farm workers and Alice became friends with

Alexander Gooch, who like herself, practised the protestant faith.

When 'Bloody' Mary, a fervent catholic, came to the throne, she outlawed the protestant faith under pain of death.

Undeterred, Alice Driver and



Alexander Gooch continued to read the protestant

version of the bible and, even when her husband pleaded with her to stop, as it was so dangerous, she ignored his warnings. Eventually, Alice and Alexander were reported to Justice Noone, who had them arrested and imprisoned in Ipswich.

After a short trial, both were condemned to death and were burnt at the stake at the Cornhill in Ipswich. The execution took place at 7am

on 4 November 1558, two weeks before the death of Queen Mary. This is the only Alice Driver Road in Britain.

Monica Begg

More contributions to this series would be welcomed, particularly from some of our other villages. Ed

Surveying for 'quiet lanes'

On a glorious sunny day in early August, eleven of us took turns to monitor all 'traffic' at the cross-roads of Chapel Road and Park/Lower Road in Grundisburgh. In this context, 'traffic' includes cyclists, pedestrians and horse-riders.

The object of the exercise was to see if any of the roads concerned could possibly be designated 'Quiet Lanes'. Quiet Lanes are minor rural roads or networks of such roads appropriate for shared use by walkers, cyclists, horse riders and other vehicles. The aim is to maintain the character of these minor roads by seeking to contain rising traffic growth that's widespread in rural areas.

There are three key elements to a Quiet Lanes scheme: community involvement to encourage a change in user behaviour; area-wide direction signing to discourage through traffic; and entry and exit signs to remind drivers that they are entering or leaving a Quiet Lane, a place where they may expect people to be using the whole of the road space for a range of activities.

The Department of Transport

(DfT) considers that only minor roads or networks of such roads which have low flows (about 1,000 per day) of motorised vehicles generally travelling at low speeds (below 35 mph) and which are suitable for shared use by walkers, cyclists, equestrians and motorists are appropriate. Pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians should feel able to use Quiet Lanes safely - e.g. for recreation, social interaction and educational activities.

Preliminary results of our 10-hour survey showed that the busiest hours for motor vehicles were: Park Road from 11-12noon (38 in both directions), for pedestrians - Park road 8 - 9am (9 in both directions), for cycles - none (no more than 2 in an hour - but maybe it was too hot)

Total lorries (all roads) over 10 hours: 9 lorries and 1 tractor

Total motorised vehicles: Park Road 285; Lower Road 269; Chapel Road 159.

I also logged one muntjak walking beside Lower Road!

The work will continue with surveys on Wood Farm Lane/Elm Tree Farm Lane/Gull Lane, Half Moon Lane and Sandy Lane. The parish council will consider the results of the surveys and aims to get grant funding before deciding whether to proceed further.

Geoff Caryl would welcome hearing from potential volunteers to do the counting for an hour at a time. He can be contacted on 738108, geoff@caryl.co.uk

Richard Watkinson

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GRUNDISBURGH GLEANINGS

Local Poppy Appeals cancelled due to Covid 19

After serving for a number of years as one of Grundisburgh's volunteer door to door 'poppy appeal' collectors, and also more recently as the local 'honorary organiser', I was advised by British Legion HQ, that due to Covid, local collections will not take place this year. This news, though disappointing, was probably inevitable.

Last year some 25 volunteers, attempted to knock at all doors in the village, each visiting all residents on 'their patch' - and sometimes more than once in the hope of finding someone in. My patch includes the dangerous B1079 where there are no pavements, and residents, including some very elderly, are effectively marooned if they cannot drive because it is unsafe to walk on the road due to fast traffic in both directions.

Normally in September I order my 'stock' from British Legion HQ, for the contingent of volunteer door to door collectors and for the boxes / selling kits, including 'collecting tins' which I deliver to all the individual collectors and the following locations having liaised by phone; Grundisburgh Village School, Williams Stores, The Dog PH, Hasketon Farm shop

and café etc. Last year for example, when all was safely gathered in, and counted and checked by four volunteers / witnesses, we paid £1,588-96p into the British Legion Poppy Appeal Collection Account.

This year I can only order wreaths, and I will liaise with the parish council re the arrangements for laying these.

Should any local organisation or individual wish to make a contribution this year I can accept cheques (not cash) made out to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and I will pay them in to their head office collection account. Anyone with questions or concerns please email me via my work address graham@charity-fundraising.org.uk or mobile 07889 778543.

Graham Parker

SCOUTING NEWS

Hello everyone, hope you are well, afraid there is not much to tell you this time as all scouting activities have still not been approved to start back again.

Early August would have been our summer holiday break and many leaders and young members were looking forward to a week at a scout campsite in Kent visiting many places and even going on a boat trip to Dunkirk.

The good news is that a new textile bin arrived on 12 August and the old one taken away. It had been there for



WI committee garden meeting

Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho WI members were eventually able to hold a committee meeting in late July – in Pauline Coomber's back garden. But the eight pages of 'do's and don't's' from the national federation made it obvious that that's all they can have for the time being.

Another committee meeting is planned for September to review the situation.

nine years and made over £7800 for our funds. Wilcox has sub-contracted a company in Norwich to collect more frequently being nearer to us than they were in West Midlands.

The bin has a pull down compartment and textiles need to be in sealed/tied bags before deposit. Clothes, shoes, bed linen, towels are accepted, but no duvets, pillows, rugs or soiled rags.

Any problems please call us.

Pat Ross, Group Secretary,
01473 735352

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GRUNDISBURGH GLEANINGS

Parish pantry project continues to meet a need

Grundisburgh's Parish Pantry was originally set up at St Mary's Church as a temporary measure to help people through the lock down period. As we are now out of lock down and businesses are getting back to work again the funding we have been giving has now ended.

Since there are people who are still finding it helpful in their need we have decided that, rather than running it down completely, we will continue to run it on the basis of individual donations of food and other essentials.

If anyone would like to donate to it then please feel free to drop items off in the Parish Church porch. The fridge/freezer will remain in place for any fresh items. Tins and packets can be placed on the table and shelves. As well as food, shampoo and toiletries are also useful.

If we enter another lock down then we may reinstate the funding. I would like to thank sincerely everyone who has contributed to the Parish Pantry whether financially or in kind. I would also like to thank Fare



Share for their regular contributions of food. We even had soldiers delivering it the first time!

For anyone in greater need the Ipswich charity FIND can help with food, furniture, bedding

children's shoes etc. To receive food parcels people need to be referred by a local agency. Their website address is www.findipswich.org.uk

Colin Grimwood

Church building update

Following a temporary halt due to the pandemic, building work is proceeding well on the new toilet and boiler house extension to St Mary's.

The old subterranean boiler house and its chimney were removed, which necessitated much archaeological investigation without finding anything really significant. A lot of concrete has gone into the ground, from which new walls have risen in soft red facing brick. The roof structure and valley gutters are in place, awaiting the roof covering.

Inside, the old blocked north door of the church has been reopened below the wall painting to provide access into the extension. The new floor will be screeded and the internal walls completed. Then the new boiler will be installed and fitting out and decoration can start, hoping for completion in October.

At its next meeting, the PCC will be considering the repairs needed to all the windows in the church, which should secure them for the next 100 years.

Clive Willetts, PCC Treasurer

Record-breaking season at tennis club

This year Grundisburgh Tennis Club decided to offer very low cost membership fees to make the courts available to as many people as possible. It has been wonderful to see such a good uptake of this great annual membership offer, which runs until 31 March:

- * £20 – Individuals (adults and seniors)
- * £30 – Household (living together in the same household – family, couple, group)

Our new online booking system has been a great success and, with all three courts now back in use, we have seen record numbers of people playing. It is now possible for members to book for guests to play with them, and non-members can hire courts using the system too. For more competitive players, the club is offering members the opportunity to play in local winter leagues.

Our LTA accredited tennis coach, Carl Douglas, continues to offer individual 1 to 1 or 'paired' (parent + 1 child or couple) based tennis lessons and has reintroduced some small group based coaching, including for kids.

For more information and updated guidelines go to grundisburghtennis.co.uk. For coaching enquiries contact carl.douglas@talk21.com or text/call 07553 966380.



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Plants - Autumn is the best time to plant perennials ready for next summer. The Send a Cow on-going plant sale at Ford House, Grundisburgh, has a wide range including highly scented white stocks, echinops, hemerocallis,

astilbe, asters ... Nothing priced but donations welcomed. Call by or ring 01473 738267

Epson Perfection 1670 scanner. Good working order but redundant now that my new printer includes a scanner. £20. 01473 738267.

It's free to advertise non commercial sales and wants here. Send brief details to the editor (and not advertising).

Writers wanted

The News needs more volunteers to produce stories - to have ideas for topics and to research and write them up. Or to take on ones that we want covering. Subjects must concern people and activities in one or more of our 18 villages. Anyone interested in doing this on a regular or occasional basis, please contact me.

Nicola Hobbs, 01473 738267, editor@grunews.com

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Grundisburgh & District News is a free community magazine produced by volunteers. Around 3,000 copies are distributed to homes and a range of central locations in Grundisburgh and 17 other villages (as listed below the banner on the front page). Four issues a year are published.

Contributions, comments and ideas are welcomed: Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, editor@grunews.com. All issues are included on our website www.grundisburghnews.org.uk. Information can be supplied on paper or email. If emailed, the *topic* of the article should be shown in the *subject box*. Photos can be sent as JPGs (but not embedded in Word documents) or as prints.

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A small charge is made for originating artwork.

Adverts for next issue to be sent by 4 November to Peter Knights, Garden House, Meeting Lane, Grundisburgh IP13 6UB or adverts@grunews.com. 01473 735887. Earlier booking is recommended as space is limited.

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OTLEY SETS THE LOCKDOWN ARTWORK IN STONE



Above: Peter Sledmere, Maureen Mayhew who helped with the planning and construction, Sandee Sledmere and Ian Liddell, a school governor who was a strong supporter of the project.

At the beginning of lockdown I started painting pebbles (not an original idea I know) to hide around the village to amuse the children in their daily walks. As a retired head teacher the idea of doing something to amuse the children was important to me.

I then received messages from many people saying they had enjoyed seeing the pebbles and it had cheered them up too. Soon the children were adding their painted pebbles and entering competitions that I ran for them.

After building a snake of pebbles I thought a permanent memorial would be appropriate. Andrew Haag gifted me a piece of land and David Ellis built the base and frame for me.

The memorial is now a feature in the village, people enjoying seeing the pebbles they have painted and remembering the strong sense of community that the lockdown has created. It can be seen next to the doctor's surgery in Chapel Road, opposite the school and playground.

Sandee Sledmere



Hasketon scarecrows raise smiles - and funds for St Elizabeth's Hospice

In the midst of all the pandemic restrictions, everyone needs something to bring on a smile.

Clare Rizzo and Elsa McKenzie must have been thinking along similar lines when they organised a scarecrow competition in the the Hasketon area in early July. More than just smiles were raised though: a fantastic £620 was also collected from generous donors for St Elizabeth's Hospice.

Over 20 scarecrows were pitched at various places, many standing guard near the Turk's Head pub. People were invited to vote for their favourites and the standard of the entries was so high that a joint first place was awarded.

Heidi Hughes' entry 'Beatrix Potter' and Ann Turner's 'Sylvia' shared the top spot.

Hilary and Trevor Hill with 'The Woodturner' were very

worthy runner's up.

Pat and Barbara Doyle with the fab 'The Hippies' took third place.

A big thank you is due to all who crafted their wonderful wurzel creations, those who helped support St Elizabeth's Hospice and of course to Clare Rizzo and Elsa McKenzie for organising the event.

*Words: Steve Newton
photos: Elsa McKenzie*

