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Chris Dow's GrundForce volunteers make a difference again

Our next Grundisburgh spruce-up will be at our much loved but slightly shabby playing field pavilion.

After a magnificent 30+year tenure Richard Garnham has handed over his responsibility for the pavilion's management to the highly capable and committed team of Bryan Laxton, David Keats and John Ellerby.

Allen Dunnett, Martin Kneebone, Brian Hunt and I met with Bryan, David and John recently at the pavilion to run through what what needs to be done.

There is an awful lot, but I am happy to report that none of the tasks are beyond our capabilities.

This spruce-up is part of a long-term plan to redevelop this village asset so that it can be used more widely by the community. Ultimately, it will be an addition to, and not in competition with, our village hall.

The village hall is an amazing success and is largely booked-out year round, so there is a definite need for additional space.

The aim of these two weekend spruce-ups is to clean and paint the exterior brickwork and woodwork, tidy up the paving,



Volunteers behind the Dead Hedge on Lyttleton Meadow, using twigs, branches and leaves for hedgehogs, birds and creepy crawlies

edge the grass verges, paint and freshen up the interior. The plan is to have a refurbished and revitalised pavilion ready for the Grundisburgh Village Show on Saturday 12 July.

Quite a lot to take in I know, but it's a wonderful opportunity for us to make a major and positive impact upon our community.

Chris Dow



Scouts delighted with their their new trailer

See report on page 3



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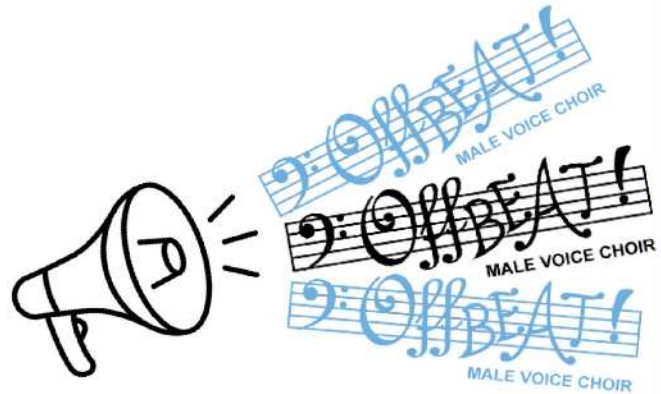
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The Scout Group will be taking part in a

district camp of 650 people in May at Skreens Park in Essex. We also have a team going to the 18th National Scout Archery Competition in Hertfordshire, so we wish them good luck.

The Duck Race is back again and will be on Sunday 29 June on Grundisburgh Green, Stalls and games open at 12.30pm with the race at 2.30pm.

The Scout Group has recently benefitted from a generous donation from the Wood Trust to pay for a new group trailer. (see picture of Scouts and trailer on front page).

This will help us transport the much needed kit we require at the various camping trips and the public events we attend.

Its first use was in March when the Scouts went on an expedition. The trailer transported their luggage as they hiked to Westerfield, caught a train to Felixstowe, then hiked to Newbourne for an overnight stay.

We are very grateful to the Wood Trust and hope to have many adventures with this new group asset for years to come.

We are looking for some fun-loving, enthusiastic adults to help our Beavers aged 6-8 years old with the planned activities provided by the leaders. No experience required - just a smile as you help the Beavers grow in confidence and curiosity, one adventure at a time.

If you cannot attend every week then not a problem; support when you can or team

up with a friend to make a rota. Just being part of the team will make an impact. If you or anyone you know might be able to offer some time, please get in touch with Stuart Ross gsl.grundisburghscouts@btinternet.com or call 01473 735352.



1st Grundisburgh Brownies – Girls aged 7-10 years old

We had a busy Spring Term with all the girls achieving their Baking Badge. Although the evenings were dark, we managed to get outside for a torch-lit scavenger hunt and a wide game, followed by hot chocolate to warm up!

We are corresponding with a Brownie pack in Australia so had an 'Aussie Themed' evening sending off photographs and letters to Australia. The term was quite musical as the Guides came along to an evening where we had some hand-bell ringers come along and teach the girls how to play and we also had a choreography evening when the girls created their own line dancing routines. We were entertained by a magician one evening who taught the girls some of the magic tricks to try out at home and some of the girls attended the Mother's Day Parade at Grundisburgh



Church. At the end of the term, we went on our first Brownie Sleepover



A very busy time was had by all and we even had an indoor campfire! Not much sleep was had but we had a great time.

The summer term is always fun with many activities taking place outside. This term we will be working towards the Hop to It Badge which is based on activities supporting the St Elizabeth Hospice Leveret and Hare Trail in Ipswich. The girls will be 'doing their bit' for the charity, making clay hares, planting seeds and playing many 'hare themed' games. A Rainbow Outing is also on the cards!! If you know any girls who



1st Grundisburgh Rainbows – Girls aged 4-7 years old

The unit is growing in numbers although we are always looking for new members to join in the fun.

All the girls achieved their Animal Lover badge last term including making their own pet turtles! The girls carried out some science experiments, enjoyed tossing and eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and we even managed to get outside for ball games and an Easter Egg Hunt at the end of last term. Lots of crafting and games were enjoyed and some of the girls attended the Mother's Day Parade Service at Grundisburgh Church.

would be interested in joining us, please do get in touch by email to: grundisburghguiding@gmail.com

The Diary will continue to appear on the News website. Information to: Diary editor: Ian McIvor, diary@grunews.com

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Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho Horticultural Society

Summertime Hues



With the plants and trees now sporting their summertime colours, it is time for Hidden Gardens to become Open Gardens in Grundisburgh. This popular event is happening on Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 June from 2.00 pm until 6.00 pm.

Tickets, together with a map showing all the participating gardens, will be available on the Grundisburgh Village Green, or the car park at IP13 6PU. As usual, there will be tea and cakes available, and plants for sale.



The Grundisburgh Village Show will be held on Saturday 12 July from 12.30 pm to 5.00 pm, on the Grundisburgh playing field.

The Show Programmes have been printed and are available

in numerous outlets, including Suffolk Deli, Old Forge Stores, Frankie's and the doctors' surgery. These programmes contain full details of all the classes in which you can enter your produce, baking, floral arrangements, photographs and other categories. Last year we had over 800 individual entries across the various classes. The entry form is in the programme with details of where and when to submit them.

In addition to the entries submitted for judging, there will also be a host of attractions for families on the playing field. Everything from bouncy castles to vintage cars, with refreshments including a BBQ, ice cream van, tea and cake stalls and the licensed bar in the pavilion.

Woodbridge Fire Brigade are returning with a fire engine again, which was hugely popular last year (unless they have to attend a fire of course!).

Entry to the field is free (entry to the marquee is 50 p) and parking is available on the field.

In the evening after the Show, there is the After Show Party in the marquee on the playing field. This will feature the popular local band Larkside, returning after a break last year. Bring your own food and

drink. Doors open 7.45, until late. Tickets are available from Ben & Mandy Cook on 07733 016611 or bencandmandya@googlemail.com and village retail outlets priced at £12.50 each.

We are also repeating last year's successful Art Exhibition on Sunday 13 July from 10.00 to 3.00 in the marquee. Would-be exhibitors should contact Julia Bentley on 07375 065701 or Julia.bentley19@gmail.com. Free entry to the public. Refreshments and car parking on site.

The Evening Garden Party will be on Friday 8 August at 6.30 pm. Details will be published nearer the time.

Finally, please note that dogs are strictly prohibited from the playing field so please do not bring them along to the Village Show, or the other events that weekend.

Paul Whittingham



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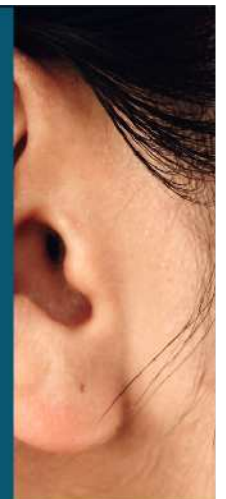
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Report from Charsfield School



We have all been working hard at Charsfield Primary School this term. Year 6 pupils have just finished their SATS tests, and we are now looking forward to putting on a summer performance for our families.

Pupils in Oak class have enjoyed taking part in Forest Schools and were delighted when Mrs Foster brought in her giant tortoises for the session! The children learn many different skills in forest schools and enjoy learning outside the classroom.

The children have also enjoyed designing their own nature books based upon "Where My Wellies Take Me" by Michael Morpurgo. We have been looking for signs of spring and early summer.

Our younger pupils have been learning about toys that their grandparents may have played with, comparing them with the toys they play with today.

They have also been learning about the value of responsibility by looking after the plants and keeping their

outside area tidy. We are still waiting for some bees to find our bee café for refreshments!

Pupils in KS2 have been learning about what it was like to be an evacuee in the war, and I think quite a few of the children were so surprised by how little people had back then! We researched what children would have packed in their suitcase and designed our own evacuee labels.

To keep up to date with school news, please follow our Facebook or Instagram pages, these are regularly updated.

Little City

We are very excited to be hosting "Little City" on **Friday 13 June**. The public session (10.45 – 11.45) is open to all pre-schoolers and their parent/carer and is **FREE** of charge to attend. Please contact the school office to book your place.

If you are looking for schooling in the area, we do have spaces available in some year groups. Visits to the school are always warmly welcomed. Please contact the school office 01473737347 or email

office@charsfieldprimary.org.uk to arrange a visit.

Amie Reeve Head of School

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Grundisburgh Tennis Club

A summer of fun at Grundisburgh Tennis Club.

At Grundisburgh Tennis Club we have been preparing for a busy summer.

A group of volunteers assembled on a sunny Saturday in April to cut the hedges, repair the fences and carry out other maintenance jobs. The newly spruced up courts are now ready for a summer season full of opportunities for players of all ages.

Members and guests can hire courts. We also have sessions during the week when members get together to play socially. For those who are more competitive there are a number of ladies' and men's teams who compete in the local leagues.

There will be coaching offerings for adults and youngsters with the very popular coaching sessions continuing on Saturday mornings. Individual tuition is also available for those who want some one-to-one coaching.

Nick Frost is the head tennis

coach. Nick follows LTA guidelines and sessions for youngsters will be aimed at getting children enjoying tennis.

Equipment is available and the first session will always be FREE of charge! Look out for us at the village show too where you can find out about summer memberships and summer courses.

The courts will be open during the show so it will be a chance to put your skills to the test against a ball machine, join in with some free coaching or try out different rackets.

There will also be the usual tennis club game on the field for those who want to try out their racket skills and maybe win a prize!

For details of memberships and coaching please go to: www.grundisburghtennis.co.uk



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East Suffolk Rural Youth Project

Support for young people in East Suffolk

As part of my role with the East Suffolk Rural Youth Project, I have produced a booklet for young people aged 10-25 living in East Suffolk providing them with details of the support that is available to them within their local community, within Suffolk and online.

The booklet was created in response to data gathered by the project from young people in East Suffolk which showed that many young people do not know what clubs, activities and support is available to them or where to go if they have a specific problem.

The booklet includes sections specific to each of the community partnership areas and wider support on topics such as:

- *Mental health
- *Physical health
- *Education support
- *Minority ethnic groups
- *Careers, employment and volunteering
- *East Suffolk Youth Council
- *Youthwatch
- *Bullying
- *Involvement in crime or gangs
- *Experiencing homelessness/at risk of homelessness
- *Affected by drugs/alcohol (including addiction within their family)
- *Those in the care system
- *LGBTQ+
- *Neurodiversity
- *Young carers
- *Grief support
- *Advocacy and legal representation
- *Healthy relationships

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask!

Jessica Filby
Community Development Officer
East Suffolk Rural Youth Project
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New Team at New Street

Over the years, many readers will have popped into the New Street Market on New Street in Woodbridge (opposite Ye Olde Bell & Steelyard pub), which has offered all kinds of intriguing goods and attractions in the past.

The site closed down for a few weeks recently as the owner decided to do other things and has let the place to Grundisburgh resident Tim Wilson and his business partner Sam Walker.



I met Tim in March, prior to the re-opening of the facility while his team were busy painting walls and building counters and work spaces to find out what he and Sam have in mind. Since then, the heavily revamped building has opened to the public and has a hugely varied array of events and activities already lined up.

I began by asking Tim how he came to be living in Grundisburgh and working in Woodbridge, given that he is the son of an American Dad and an Australian Mum and he was brought up in London.

While Tim was at university in London, he met David Wright whose family ran the Cake Shop Bakery in Woodbridge, which started in Grundisburgh, perhaps Tim's first real contact with this area. After university, and being something of a serial entrepreneur, Tim and David created the Heritage Arts Company which specialised in

producing theatrical events and material using a wide range of collaborators including writers and comedians. In 2007, Tim and David Wright presented a show at Landguard Fort in Felixstowe called "Where Soldiers Sleep". Performers presented immersive re-telling of myths relating to the surrounding coast to audiences in the fort.

They later moved into organising the VAULT Festival under Waterloo Station. To quote an article from The Guardian, "Vault festival, which gave artists a favourable box office split, provided a platform for fledgling companies to put on short runs of show, which often bloomed into hits at the Edinburgh fringe".

Another of Tim's 'under the arches' projects was 'One Night Records', which again used railway arches as multiple venues for musicians of different genres. My family and I actually went there a few years ago and wandered from tunnel to tunnel listening to performances varying from blues bands to duelling pianos. Sadly this closed in 2023.

In 2019, Tim and his wife Annie had their second child and moved to Suffolk. Annie is a psychotherapist and operates from their Grundisburgh home under the name Annie Broadbent. Tim was elected as a district councillor for Rendlesham & Orford a couple of years ago and now has a role promoting economic development and infrastructure projects.



His varied and colourful business history means that he was ideally placed to create a new vision for New Street Market and to turn it into a reality, alongside Sam and the rest of their team. So what is that vision?

The site in New Street is a deceptively large building as the relatively narrow frontage disguises the fact that the building goes back a very long way. This allows it to have multiple uses in different sections of the space.

First up is a café which is open seven days a week, staying open until 5 pm Monday to Wednesday and until 11.00 pm Thursday to Saturday (3 pm on Sundays). Opening at 9 am, they expect to have a lively breakfast and brunch trade.

Additionally, there is a shop. This will specialise in intriguing homeware products from countries around the world including Morocco, Mexico and Japan. The works of local artisans will also be on sale, producing ideas for gifts and home use. The intention is also to sell vintage and antique pieces as well.

Other spaces will be dedicated to a 'wine cave' and a food pantry.

At the back of the building is

what Tim calls "The Square". This is a space in which creative people can come to produce works and demonstrate their skills in an open forum.

As can be seen, this is intended to be a hub for the community and in addition to the permanent features, there is an event space. The website (newstreetmarket.com) is already displaying a range of events from Spanish lessons, to pilates classes and musical performances. Check it out to see if there's something you might wish to attend.

Tim has other ideas for the future such as hosting podcast broadcasters but it seems that he, Sam, Annie and the team have plenty to be getting on with for the time being, given that it only opened at the end of March.

In addition to the website quoted above, there are already plenty of interesting photographs on Instagram under the tag [newstreetmarketwoodbridge](https://www.instagram.com/newstreetmarketwoodbridge).

Many people lamented the closure of the site, so it is very exciting to see the place coming back to life with such an interesting and diverse vision.

Paul Whittingham

Countryside Gates: "Fit and Forget"



virtually maintenance free. A soft wood, however, will require some maintenance. He gives the example of old oak church doors that have hardly been touched over hundreds of years.

beautiful gates and doors, including bifold garage doors, made to measure to suit any opening. The company can supply and install gates and fencing within a 60 mile radius of Woodbridge. It employs its own fencers who are part of the seven person team. Products can also be bought on a supply only basis nationwide.



the housing market, when this crashed in the recession of 2008, Neil had to find a way to adapt and develop his business.

Neil can supply pressure treated soft wood doors and gates with oil, stained or painted finishes. However, for the last ten to twelve years Neil has also been selling

Neil MacDonald, the owner of Countryside Gates and Fencing, has been in business since the early 1990s. Initially based at Barham, then Bramford Road and Capel St Mary, for several years now he has been running his business from Uplandside, Manor Road, Clopton where he employs a team of seven.

As well as gates and fencing, Neil's company is one of the very few national suppliers of show jumps to the equestrian industry. However with the majority of his trade linked to



a more bespoke, sustainable hard wood product. The advantage of woods like iroko, sapele or oak, Neil says is that they are "fit and forget" and

Neil especially enjoys the challenge of talking to clients who haven't been able to find what they want elsewhere and then designing the perfect gate. His website shows a variety of

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Grundisburgh Village Hall is alive with the sound of music - and it raises money for local charities

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- Singing is a natural anti-depressant
- Singing lowers stress levels
- Singing improves mental alertness
- Singing can widen your circle of friends
- Singing boosts your confidence

It most certainly has attracted a large number of our local residents. Grundisburgh has had the benefit of a ladies choir, Upbeat!, for 12 years.

More recently a men's chorus, Offbeat!, has been added which complements the ladies and widens the range of sell out concerts that the choir presents twice a year.

The choir has some 80 ladies, with a waiting list for new members and some 23 men. There is no waiting list for the men who are looking to swell their numbers.

The men and ladies of the choir (are of all ages) are attracted from local residents as well as people from further afield in the surrounding villages. They meet weekly in the wonderful Grundisburgh Village Hall, where the twice yearly concerts are also held.

They are of all ages. Can they sing? Not necessarily to start with, though being able to hold a tune helps. Certainly few can read music, though they do use music for the songs they sing.

One member said: "We have an amazing, and very tolerant, choir master, Carol, who manages to elicit the best from us."

What sort of music? Mainly popular music rather than classical, though not pop music as such. Our contact says: "We recently



had a concert of music from the musicals.

This included some of Andrew Lloyd Webber's musicals and we were delighted to get a good luck message from him personally just before the concerts. He wasn't able to come though as we were sold out."

The men's choir meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 at the Grundisburgh Village Hall, whilst the ladies meet on Thursday evenings, also at 7:30.

They focus on the music for two concerts, one in the summer and one a few weeks before Christmas. Each concert is for two or three performances and they are usually sold out.

Whilst the money raised from the concerts helps to cover the costs of hall hire and music, etc, a portion of the modest entry price is given as a donation to small local charities. Since the original choir was formed they have raised over £30,000 for local charities. Contact:

Carol Joplin : upbeatladieschoir@gmail.com

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Planning Issues: latest update from ESPA



Planning rules, housing targets, various guidelines and local government reorganisation are all on the horizon and these will affect us all in one way or another and residents and parish councils will need to ensure their say is not just heard, but taken account of by the 'authorities' where planning and environmental issues are concerned. That was very much the message I took away from the latest meeting of ESPA, the organisation of, largely, parish and town councils in East Suffolk that has sprung up from concerns that planning decisions are being made in a less than transparent manner. (This article represents my own views and has not been seen by ESPA!)

ESPA has entered into a positive dialogue with East Suffolk planners which, it's hoped, will improve relations between parishioners and those who make planning decisions. The meeting included a

mini-tutorial from three people who have some experience in dealing with complex planning issues.

First up

Michael Reynolds spoke about the Westerfield quarry application (see also p 14). The plan is to extract some 1.7 million tonnes of sand and gravel from the site.

He said that the application appears not to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and that the applicants had produced some rather unclear statistics about HGV traffic flows and disregarded factors like noise and air pollution.

Further work needs to be done by the residents to ensure that open farmland is protected against development.

Next

Richard Ward spoke about the proposal to build houses in Tuddenham, the planning application for which has been on the cards for many months but has suffered from delays outside the parishioners' control.

The conversation in the

room turned to the conduct of site visits by planners, where it was felt that residents did not get the chance to have their say on the ground.

ESPA will look at the whole issue of site visits and come back to affiliates with some firm advice based on their research.

This is very much ESPA's raison d'être and we can look forward to some positive input to help parishes understand the rules and how to work effectively within them.

Finally

Barbara Robinson took the floor with her slot on retrospective applications (often as a result of enforcement by planners), prompted by the plans for development by Wilderness Reserve at Huntingfield.

Barbara also spoke on the vexed issue of the national information requirements for planning applications, often referred to as the 'National List'. It includes basic essentials for all planning applications such as specific plans and drawings, and specific requirements based upon application types.

In addition to the 'National

List', the Local Planning Authority can adopt a 'Local List', in accordance with the NPPF and all planning and planning related applications submitted to ESC must comply with the requirements of this local List.

Any applications submitted without all the necessary information for the application type/proposal will not be validated.

A brief Q&A session followed and included a plea from Rupert Herries for more responses from affiliates as to how, for example, ESPA should conduct its dealings with ESC; what topics most concern parishes and residents; and what info is needed from ESPA.

It could be a case of "we don't know what we don't know" but Rupert's message was - give ESPA a try. In brief: more input, please!

Finally, a personal offer from one affiliate, Julia Ewart, East Suffolk Councillor for Kelsale and Yoxford: "call me on 07823 if you think I can help - I do have some experience in these matters!"

julia.ewart@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Richard Watkinson
Deputy editor

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Cyber attacks: Suffolk village start-up leads the way for individual protection



Brainchild of Grundisburgh resident Paul Finch, the Community Tech Hub has just celebrated its first full year as a Community Interest Company, providing valued IT knowledge, reassurance and protection to people in and around Grundisburgh.

Those not familiar with the Tech Hub may be thinking 'what does it do?'. Paul told me that it enables people to get to know how to use their devices for what they want them to do. In some cases, it is relatively simple things like

helping people how to store information in a cloud or showing how to connect a phone to a car.

At the other end of the scale, the Hub team has helped sort out hacked email accounts and also advises people how to spot and avoid scams and cyber crime.

In the last 12 months, they have had 35 call outs to resolve issues like this and are becoming like the RAC of local technology users.

Since November, they have been holding 'drop in' sessions in the Deli in Grundisburgh on Monday mornings.

Additionally, in the last year, the Hub has held 7 workshop or training sessions on different subjects, with more in the calendar for later this year.

They have also written a new program to log and manage all the entries and prizes for the Grundisburgh Village Show. (Thanks again guys).

The Hub is financed by a number of subscribers, as well as having received grant funding from Grundisburgh's Parish Council and Horticultural Society, and East Suffolk Council.

Future plans include a greater focus on helping parents to ensure their children's online safety, very much a hot topic at the moment. Also, a roll out of a similar hub in Ipswich, with its own team of volunteers.

A date for your diary is Sunday 16 November when the Hub is holding a Scam Awareness Day, a free event at which cyber security experts and Suffolk Police will be in attendance to share their knowledge and advice on keeping safe online.

While we all love our devices and using the internet, online fraud and cyber attacks are amongst the most common crimes these days so the Tech Hub is to be praised for its efforts to increase our safety online as it enters its second year.

Paul Whittingham.

Sir William Brampton Gurdon Cottage Trust Registered Charity No: 210361

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If you would like to know more about Emergency Alarms - please contact the Clerk to the Trustees,

John Ager, 8 Post Mill Close, Grundisburgh
Telephone: 01473-735541. Email: johnager1936@gmail.com.

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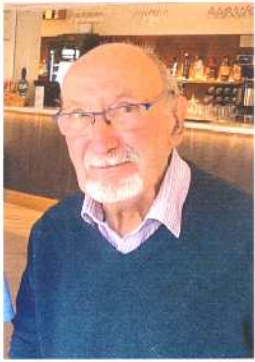
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Tribute

Roy Arthur Girling 20 April 1943 - 7 March 2025



Roy was born in Ipswich and lived his early years at Waltham Cottages, Little Stonham on the A140. An only child, he started school at Stonham before the family moved to Stutton and Lower Holbrook, then on to Ashbocking where he attended Winesham School where he always said he largely learnt to look after pigs, although being dinner monitor guaranteed extra pudding.

On leaving school at 14 he worked for Peter Wright on his farm in Ashbocking. Whilst at Vicon he recalled trying to cycle the ten miles home from a Christmas function with a vegetable box and a chicken he'd won in the raffle on his handlebars - all with some difficulty after an afternoon with a free bar. Ransome Sims and Jeffries came next and while he was there he met Gill at a funeral in Charsfield Church.

In 1972 they married at Freston Church; housing they could afford was scarce, and Roy proudly said there were 26 estate agents in Ipswich and he visited them all every week until he found them a house which needed a lot of work. He treated the dry rot and installed a gas central heating system although Gill recalls taking Claire and I out when the boiler was connected as she was convinced it would blow up.

In 1974 Keith was born, then Claire in 1977. In the lead up to the Orwell Bridge being built, 40 lorries a day were going past the door in Felixstowe Road so Roy and Gill looked elsewhere. They found a bungalow in Grundisburgh, once again needing a lot of work, and the family moved in on 1st December 1981.

Roy joined the Grundisburgh bowls club having previously played at John Player. He was chairman of the club for a while and ran some fund raising events and he regularly helped prepare the food for outside fundraising competitions.

He had a keen eye for antiques and a bargain. When he went to the tip with rubbish from his work in the house he always came back with something that just needed a bit of work.

I can recall many times being sent over the side of a skip to retrieve something in the days before the dump was manned.

After retirement he was a regular at Campsea Ash saleyard on a Monday and hired shop space in Framlingham to sell his treasures. He also loved to fish and, with Keith, belonged to various angling clubs.

When Gill retired in October 2005, Roy too decided he had had enough of work and handed in his notice, hand written on a scrap of paper. By now he was working for GAH in Melton and there too he made good friends. It was not until the day arrived for him to leave anyone took him seriously. They both retired on 27th October 2005: the day before their 33rd wedding anniversary.

He was a great reader and would buy books at charity shops and store them, once read, in the garage. In September, when the church fete took place on the village green, he could be seen loading them into his wheelbarrow and pushing them down the road to donate to the book stall.

Roy was diagnosed with Parkinsons in 2016. For some while he would take himself off to weekly private gym sessions to try to stave off the effects of the disease. His trainer, Tyrone, was ex-military and more used to putting soldiers through their paces. We understand that there was regular verbal sparring between the two as Tyrone attempted to put Roy through his paces.

A loving husband, father and grandfather, he never lost his sense of fun. Many have written in the numerous sympathy cards received by Gill of his wit and sense of humour.

Keith Girling

Abbreviated by editor from text supplied by Gill Girling.

Gill and family would like to thank everyone for the many cards, condolences and kindnesses given to them after Roy's death and to the many people who came to his thanksgiving service. Also for the many donations to his memory. The final total for St Elizabeth's Hospice is £1461.21. Very many thanks to you all.

Sir William Brampton Gurdon Cottage Trust 2024 Alarm Utilisation Report

Method of activation

Call Criteria	Number
Pendant Press	657
Alarm Box Press	81
Smoke Detection	5
Total	743

Nature of alarm call

Call Criteria	Number
Test Calls	451
False Alarms	65
Non-emergency	194
Falls	22
Ambulance Needed	11

Average time from alarm receipt to alarm answer = 10 seconds

Proposed quarry at Westerfield

Stop the Quarry “spread the word”.

The first of two public meetings held by the Stop The Quarry campaign was attended by over 130 people on Monday 31st March at Witnesham Village Hall.

The campaign group gave their reaction to Tru7's Open Day, outlined the work of their research group and explained how the public can object. The recurring message of the meeting was for everyone to “go out and spread the word”. It will be a hard fight, but with the public support, one that can be won.

Should the 16 year project go ahead there will be major implications for traffic on the B1077 and the north of Ipswich. Contrary to what many people have assumed, the sand and gravel is not intended for Sizewell, but will be transported along the B1077 to Tru7's aggregate plant at Sinks Pit in Kesgrave.

This means 400 - 500 lorry movements a week, all turning left on to the B1077, making their way across Westerfield level crossing, then left at the roundabout onto Colchester Road and finally the A1214 to Kesgrave. This, in addition to existing traffic.

Traffic disruption due a closed level crossing in Westerfield will become much worse as freight travelling to Sizewell increases and the Ely Junction Capacity Project brings more containers travelling by rail to Felixstowe. There is no clarity in Tru7's plan about how lorry movements will be enforced or controlled when the road/level crossing is closed.

The campaign group reiterated the fact that the site for the quarry is in a completely inappropriate location. They referred to the County Council's own current Waste Plan which had identified 20 potential sites in Suffolk. Ten of these sites had been rejected as they were poorly located. None of the 9 sites licensed are at full capacity.

By the time The News is published a referendum on Westerfield's Neighbourhood Plan will have been held. The plan refers to Westerfield being “maintained as a small village” and the need to “protect the landscape and rural feel”. This includes Westerfield Hall farm which is a Grade II* listed Heritage Asset. If the Neighbourhood Plan is approved it becomes a statutory part of local planning. The whole project, the group maintains, is “not a public need, but a private want”.

At the time of going to press no Planning Application has been formally submitted and it may still be some weeks away.

Once it has, villagers and the wider public, are being urged to submit their objections in writing. Each objection needs to be individually written and signed to count. Letters need to be factually based and refer directly to the planning application and not to the effect the quarry might have on house prices.

Anyone who objected to Tru7's original scoping request, will need to object again. Community will have to be taken into account so the more objections the better.

The public can also attend the Planning Committee meeting and write to their MP.

The campaign group is still appealing for volunteers and especially those with expertise in environmental science and planning law. It is asking everyone to “spread the word” to friends, neighbours and others who will be affected.

For further information and help with making an objection go to the website for Stop the Quarry at Westerfield, their WhatsApp group and Facebook page.

Rosemary Kneebone

When is a quarry not a quarry?

I have often wondered what goes on at Sinks Pit and was delighted to be able to visit in March and see for myself what goes on just a few miles down the road from our village.

Ben Wale and I ventured over at the invitation of the senior leadership given our interest in gardening, the environment and biodiversity. We had heard rumours of woodlands and bee hives hiding behind the workshop and learned so much about what Tru7 Group are doing.

The first thing we learned is that the site hasn't been used



as a quarry for very many years, long before the current owners took over. Now, it is used mainly to recycle products to sell to local builders and for hire of equipment that companies need to build houses and other structures in the area.

There's also a giant machine used to supply cement mixers and a crusher for breaking down stones which are then screened using mainly recycled water. The materials are then separated so they can be bought locally rather than being trucked into the area from further afield.

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Sinks Pit

Ben and I were particularly interested in the work that is being done to enhance biodiversity, some of which is included in recent government regulations for businesses like Tru7 Group, such as making all cement production and every litre of diesel bought fully carbon offset, but other elements are just good things to help keep our earth in better shape which the company has voluntarily implemented.

Two examples are the woodland area and the bee hives. The woodland area-- which is just to the left as you



enter the site--has been created with the assistance of a local ecologist.

Mud piles and bat boxes are in the works to attract more wildlife to the area. Suffolk Wildlife Trust will be consulted to ensure that the area is properly maintained and optimised to attract all sorts of creatures.

In addition to the woodland, Tru7 Group owns lots of non-industrial land around their HQ in Kesgrave, and in one area they are creating their very



own Bee Colony! They currently have 4 beehives by unused silt ponds which are surrounded by a wildflower meadow.

The company hopes to link up with others to help create the Bee Superhighway which is already underway in Rushmere and other surrounding villages.

Bee Expert, Steve Barrett is overseeing the hives and perhaps one day there will be locally made honey sold in farm shops nearby!

Helen Clarkson-Fieldsend
helenclarksonfieldsend@gmail.com

Photos contributed

Have you spotted the editor's favourite photo of Felixstowe in this issue?

Join the GruNews team!

The Grundisburgh News is looking for an administrator to replace the inestimable Alison Knights, who is relocating from Suffolk.

Duties involve taking minutes at the quarterly meetings, as well as at the March AGM.

A warm welcome and a glass of wine are guaranteed!

Expressions of interest please, to Peter Kendall,

editor@grunews.com

About The News

www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

Grundisburgh & District News is a free community magazine produced by volunteers. Around 3,000 copies are distributed to homes, 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: send to 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 to us on paper or email.

Photos can be sent to the editor as JPGs (**but please not embedded in Word documents**) or as prints. If prints are to be returned, please include an addressed envelope.

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All advertisers will receive a copy of The News in which their advert first appears. Local organisations advertising fundraising events are charged at half the normal rate.

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New adverts for next issue to be sent by **13 August** to: Cherril Clemence, cherril.clemence@gmail.com

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