

The Grundisburgh and District NEWS

August/
September
2008

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Council boundaries: HUGE CHANGES ARE ON THE WAY

The Boundary Committee for England has been asked by the Government to advise it on the possible creation of one or more unitary authorities in each county.

It has recommended that Suffolk should be split into two unitaries: an Ipswich and Felixstowe Authority and a Suffolk Authority comprising the rest of the county apart from Lowestoft. There will be 47 councils in the Ipswich and Felixstowe authority including Great Bealings, Little Bealings and Playford. All other villages in The News' area will be in the Suffolk Authority.

The other option the committee considered was a single unitary authority for the whole of the county - which incidentally they have recommended for Norfolk. Either way this will be the end of all district councils in Suffolk as leaving things as they are is not an option being recommended.

Nothing has been finally decided. The Committee is inviting representations from individuals, businesses, organisations, town and parish councils - and in fact anyone who has a comment or point of view to make - by 26 September.

Responses to the draft proposals can be made by filling in an online form at www.boundarycommittee.org.uk, email to reviews@boundarycommittee.org.uk or write to Review Officer, (Norfolk and Suffolk Reviews), The Boundary Committee for England, Trevelyan House, Great Peter Street, London SW1P 2HW.

Continued on page 14



Scenes from summer - so far

Andrew West presents the Gotelee & Goldsmith Cup to overall fancy dress winner the blacksmith, alias Albert Willett, at the Grundisburgh Village Show (more on centre pages);

The Big Drip - a big attraction at Otley Fete (report on page sixteen);

The Scout's annual duck race in Grundisburgh (see page seven)



News Diary

AUGUST

Saturday 2

Hasketon Village Fete 2pm
Contact 01394 388970

Gr Church Coffee Morning
PR 10.30am Contact 735481

Thursday 7

'The Cycling Granny'

Gr Burgh & Culpho WI GPR
7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 8

Evening Garden Party

Gr Burgh & Culpho Hort Soc
Little Thatch, Culpho PBE
Contact 738330

Sunday 24

Otley Hall open day 1-5pm
Contact 890264

Monday 25

Fun Day & Car Boot iao
Gr Football Club PF 2-5pm
Contact 735681

Thursday 28

Tea & Cakes Golden Club
Gr.VH 2.30pm Contact 735650

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 4

'Autumn Cooking' Gr Burgh
& Culpho WI GPR 7.30pm
Contact 735838

'Making Raffia Hats'

Clopton Ladies Group CVH
8pm Contact 737417

Saturday 6

Annual Church Fete
Charsfield VH 2pm-4pm
Contact 737629

Annual Church Fete Gr
Village Green Contact 738866

Gr Bowls Club open day
behind The Dog from 12.30pm
Contact 738918

Monday 8

**Gr & Culpho Parish Council
Mtg** Culpho Church 7.30pm
Contact 735541

Friday 12

Marines in Tights Talk by
Mervyn Lemon Hasketon VH
7.15pm Contact 01394 388970

Saturday 13/Sunday 14

Exhibition Gr Art Group
Culpho Church 10am-5pm
Contact 738265

Tuesday 16

Flying Boats at Felixstowe
Talk by Dawn Harding Gr
Local History Soc GPR
7.30pm Contact 738321

Friday 19

Archive Film Evening iao

Bredfield VH 7.30pm Contact
01394 386977

Sunday 21

Plays on The Green GADS,
Gr VG 12noon Contact
738824

Friday 26

AGM Gr Burgh & Culpho
Hort Soc PR 8pm Contact
735517

Saturday 27

Crossroads Concert
Gr Parish Church 7.30pm
Contact 01394 388970

OCTOBER

Friday 3

Village Quiz GrS 7pm for
7.30pm Contact 738831

Saturday 4

Quiz Clopton VH 7.30pm
Contact 737417 or 737602

Gr Church Coffee Morning
PR 10.30am Contact 738481

Friday 10

Ceilidh Hasketon VH Contact
01394 388970

Tuesday 21

**A Victorian Village: Richard
Cobbold's Wortham** Talk by

Monica Place Gr. Local
History Soc GPR 7.30pm
Contact 738321

NOVEMBER

Thursday 13

Family Portraits Evening
Gr School 4.30pm onwards
Contact 735281

Saturday 15

AGM followed by talk on
History of Burgh Cottage and
supper Gr Local History Soc
GVH 7pm Contact 738321

Key for abbreviations:

P/VH - Parish/Village hall

PF - Playing field

PR - Parish rooms

VG - Village green

S - School

PBE - pre booking is essential

*All codes are 01473 unless
given otherwise.*

*Items can be sent to Heather
Langdon or to the news
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include a contact phone
number.*

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What's On

DISCOVER THE NEW FUN SPORT

Roll up, roll up! The Grundisburgh Bowls Club has its open day on Saturday 6 September, from 12.30pm. If you are visiting the church fete, take a stroll behind the Grundisburgh Dog car park, and try one of the fastest growing young person's sports in Australia. No experience is necessary, come along and throw some bowls and see games in action. People will be on hand with sets of bowls to guide you and start you playing this fun game.

If you have a set of bowls which you no longer use, would you like to donate to the club? Better still, bring them along on the open day and remember how much fun bowling was! For information on playing bowls in Grundisburgh, please call Roger Anderson on 01473 738918 or email grundisburghbowlsclub@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

Gadding about

The next production being staged by Grundisburgh Amateur Dramatic Society (GADS) is the annual Play on The Green and BBQ. This is on Sunday 21 September, starting at 12 noon.

Two short plays will be performed in the open air, on Grundisburgh village green, with a BBQ provided for all

who come along. If it rains, the whole event moves into the shelter of the village hall.

CHURCH FETES

After a successful fete last year supporters of St Peter's Church, Charsfield, are holding another on 6 September. Taking place in the village hall and adjoining private garden from 2 to 4pm, there will be stalls, games and cream teas and, hopefully, a magic show. All are welcome; queries to 01473 737629.

St Mary's, Grundisburgh, is also holding its fete on the 6th, on the The Green and in the churchyard, from 12.30 to 3.30pm. On offer will be ploughman's lunches, teas, ice creams for refreshments, lots of stalls and lots of entertainment for children. The Bungee-Run will make its first appearance in the village.

Dog dinners

Forthcoming events at the Grundisburgh Dog include 'Fish and shellfish - a real taste of the sea' on 26 August, and 'Carnivore - meat, meat and more meat' on 30 September. Details and bookings 01473 735267.

Evening Garden Party

The last fund raising event of Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho's Horticultural Society's season is an evening garden party held at Little Thatch, Culpho, on Friday 8 August, courtesy of Richard

and Libby Cooper. Tickets costing £5 a head, which includes a drink and a bread, cheese and salad supper, must be bought in advance - from Libby (01473 738330), Pauline Coomber (738550) or Forge Stores.

The final event of all is the annual general meeting on Friday 26 September, 8pm, in Grundisburgh Parish Rooms, to which all are invited to have a glass of wine and give their comments.

Following St Botolph

Burgh PCC has organised a project called 'In the Path of St. Botolph', a four part walk from Iken, where St Botolph started his ministry, to Burgh, where he was initially buried.

We will start from Iken on 13 September, finishing this 'leg' at The Green Man at Tunstall for lunch. In the afternoon we walk to Eyke visiting St John the Baptist at Wantisden. On the 14th we will start at the Elephant and Castle, Eyke, and walk to The Castle at Bredfield for lunch. Bishop Nigel will join us on the final 'leg' to Burgh where he will preach at Evensong. Burgh PCC will provide tea afterwards.

Walkers may either do the whole two days or a mixture. They can either bring their own lunch or have a pub lunch. The two morning walks will leave at approximately 10am. For further information please ring me. A voluntary donation to the Burgh Schoolroom Community Project (to provide facilities there) will be appreciated.

Adam Gurdon, 01473 735273

ARCHIVE FILMS

An archive film evening featuring local footage is being held at Bredfield Village Hall on Friday 19 September starting at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5 for adults, £3 for children up to 14 years and include tea/coffee and biscuits. Proceeds are in aid of Bredfield Village Hall. Please call Kath Woods for tickets on 01394 386977.

Note to organisers of events: if you want to be included in the diary on page 2 as well as in these columns, we need the basic information - date, event, venue, time and contact phone number - separately. Also please advise if tickets have to be purchased in advance.

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news tributes

Ivan Howlett, 1942 to 2008

Warm and fulsome tributes to "writer, broadcaster and champion of Suffolk" Ivan Howlett have been made in the local papers, Radio Suffolk, the station which he founded in 1990, and on the net. These have covered his support for local theatre companies, for getting a university for the county, for local history ...

Born and bred in Lavenham, Ivan Howlett's work, first as a teacher and then as a broadcaster, had taken him away from Suffolk. But he was able to return to his roots when appointed managing



editor of the new radio station, and moved to Swiland Hall with Lindsey (above with Ivan) and their four children.

His lasting contribution to Grundisburgh is the oral history CD, which was made to mark the Millennium. He

taught a team of amateurs to interview long term residents about their memories, and then skillfully edited hours of tape and put together 'Grundisburgh Remembered'.

After his retirement from Radio Suffolk in the late nineties, Ivan became nationally known through his 'Making History' and 'The Century Speaks' series on Radio 4. The latter won him a coveted Spoken Word Gold Award.

In addition to his passion for local history, he loved the theatre and gave valuable support to Eastern Angles and the Wolsey. In recent years, even when extremely ill, Ivan wrote kind but insightful theatre reviews for the East Anglian.

Ivan's many friends recall a caring and funny man who loved telling stories and jokes - often in appropriate accents. The Radio Suffolk website has many anecdotes about Ivan (http://www.bbc.co.uk/suffolk/content/articles/2008/07/08/ivan_howlett_obituary_feature.shtml) which recall his great character, his many talents, enthusiasms and achievements, and his wide ranging knowledge.

A memorial service is being arranged in Lavenham Church to celebrate Ivan's life.

Grundisburgh has recently lost two lovely ladies: Pamela Massingham and Liz Wilden

Pam lived in Grundisburgh all her life. She attended the village school until 14 years old, when she then went into service - first at Bealings House (where the favourite part of her work was travelling to Woodbridge by horse and cart for the weekly grocery shop), and then later at The Bank on Rose Hill.



In her teenage years, Pam would bike to the local dances, which is where she met Frank (who had finished his service in the RAF), and after a few years they married. Their first home was with his parents at Kibby Cottage in Burgh, where Bruce was born. This had no electricity or running water - so they were delighted when, in 1951, they were allocated a house in Stoney Road. This house is where Pam spent the rest of her life, and where Wendy and Denise were born.

Throughout her life Pam always worked hard which she found fulfilling and enjoyable. She worked in the fields for years as well as cleaning for various places - only retiring aged 75 four years ago, and had been looking forward to celebrating her 80th birthday.

Liz Wilden left explicit instructions for her funeral in Grundisburgh Church, including information about her life she thought might be useful! A life that included being a soldier's then a publican's and farmer's daughter, a nurse, the wife of her first boyfriend from Stowmarket Grammar School and mother of two.

After her husband Dick died,

Liz moved to Grundisburgh in 1985 to share a bungalow in Woodbridge Road, almost next door to her brother Bob Moore, with John Cubitt, a family friend whose spouse had also died. They spent happy years together there, contributing to life in the village and making many friends.

Family thanks

We have been overwhelmed with the response we have had from so many friends since Liz passed away on 13 June. Naturally, we thought Liz was someone special but the tributes you have paid to her and the sympathy you have shown to us, are beyond belief. We had no idea she was so highly regarded.

We would like to thank all of you who have so kindly been in touch and really do appreciate your support at this very sad time for us. Your wonderful tributes and offers of help are a great comfort.



So many of you have written that it would be impossible to respond to you all individually, but please accept this as a most sincere 'thank you' to you all and also to those who were able to attend Liz's funeral to give her such a wonderful final tribute. We were very proud and know that Liz was so grateful as well.

John Cubitt and all of Liz's family

Bruce, Wendy, Denise and family would like to thank all who attended their dear Mum's funeral, also for the many cards, letters, beautiful flowers, tributes and kind words. Special thanks to Buttons for their kindness, and to Rev. Clare Sanders for a wonderful service.

Sadly space and time constraints mean that only brief tributes can be included.

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Local enterprise 1 ... COOKERY CLASSES FOR MEN

Five gentlemen of - let's say over retirement age - recently sat down together to enjoy a really good lunch.

At least we hoped we were going to enjoy it. In truth we were a bit apprehensive as each of us had cooked and prepared everything ourselves. Few of us cooked at home on a regular basis, with three admitting they were



useless in the kitchen. However on the day, after starting at 11am, by 1 o'clock we were sitting down to Watercress Soup, Seared Salmon with Salsa Verde, Sticky Chicken, and Rhubarb Crunch (also known as Mock Crumble) and Eton Mess. We



had all cooked every dish.

The success of the lunch was due to Eunice Mayhew who runs the HandsOn Cookery School. She had kindly donated a session at her school as a prize in an auction to

raise funds for 'Just42'. Richard Smith who successfully bid for the prize was kind enough to invite the rest of us along.

The meal was voted a great success and enjoyed by all, together with the excellent wine provided by Eunice. We hope to repeat the day and learn how to cook more delicious dishes.

Eunice started the school in Great Bealings because of her interest in teaching children about good food and cooking, but she also runs a variety of other cookery courses. The school website is www.handson-uk.co.uk or can also be contacted on 01473 738620.

Brian Robinson



Left: Eunice with her pupils enjoying the meal they had cooked, from left: Richard Smith and John Dyter from Hasketon, and Brian Robinson, Geoff Wheeler and John Wain from Grundisburgh.

Preparing food, above left: Geoff Wheeler and Richard Smith, above right John Wain.

Local enterprise 2 ... WILLOWMEAD REVISITED

Some two years ago The News carried an item about Julia and William Denny and their herd of alpacas in Otley Bottom. At the time, Julia told me she and William planned to build a house behind the bungalow, and to turn the bungalow into a craft centre. They were as good as their word; the house has been built, the bungalow refurbished, and the craft centre is now open for business.

Inside the centre is a selection of items made from alpaca wool (it is soooo soft!) such as scarves, jumpers and jackets, as well as jewellery and small cloth handbags. Skeins of wool in a rainbow of gorgeous colours, either pure alpaca or a mix, are available.

There are two looms where you can learn to weave, and there is also a little coffee shop run by daughter Holly. Julia hopes that craft organizations will use the centre for meetings, talks, etc. throughout the year.

The centre was open during the two May Bank holiday weekends, and is now open from Wednesday through Sunday until the end of September, and on weekends only thereafter.

It will be available by arrangement during the winter, and Julia plans to open for pre Christmas shopping. Contact 01473 738212 or visit the website www.willowmead-alpacas.co.uk

Words and photo by Wendy Witt



New Youth Work Manager at Just42

Kevin Woods has been appointed as the new Youth Work Manager to replace Baz Wilkinson, who left earlier in the year to join Young Suffolk.

Working recently in Colchester as a youth pastor, Kevin has over 18 years' experience in a variety of leadership roles with young



Just 42 members 'crossing the river' at an African weekend

people. He lives in Felixstowe, is married with two children, and has recently gained an honours degree in Youth & Community Work and Applied Theology through Ridley Hall College.

His main responsibility will be running the various rural youth clubs operated by or through Just42, including Bredfield, Hasketon and

Grundisburgh. There will be many other areas with which Kevin will be involved when he takes up his post officially in late August.

There are exciting new developments, with a new club at Rendlesham and a full summer holiday programme. New session workers are about to join the company to help with expanding children's

work and schools work. More volunteers are always needed and enquiries about this should be directed to Just42 on 01394 380992 or www.just42.org.uk

Supporters brave the bad weather

About 20 plucky people braved the atrocious weather conditions on a June Saturday to take part in the Just42 Rural Ramble, a sponsored walk between Grundisburgh, Hasketon, Bredfield, Melton and Woodbridge. These are all villages where the youth-work charity has either Kidz Klubs or runs youth clubs (or both) and displays of the work were organised at each location.

Over £800 was raised by the few who completed the 10 mile route, which was largely along public footpaths. The money will go towards Just42's work in these villages and adjoining areas of rural isolation.

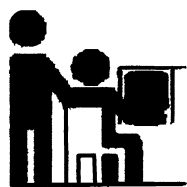
The event was co-organised by Josie Nash, Hannah Blackmore and Beth Johnson as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.



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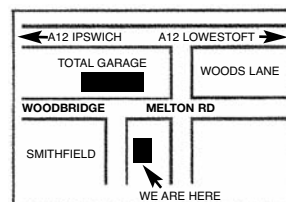
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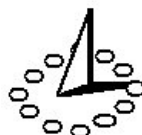
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Grundisburgh Gleanings

SCOUTING NEWS

At our AGM in June we said farewell to Richard Garnham, chairman and committee member of 1st Grundisburgh Scouts for over 20 years, and send our grateful thanks to Richard and wife Chris for their hard work and support over the years. Richard was presented with a Long Service Certificate and Pin Badge by Ann Partridge from the Deben District Team; the group presented Richard with a flowering cherry and a horse-chestnut tree, and Chris was given flowers and garden vouchers.

We welcome Phil Stebbings who is taking over as our new chairman. Phil and his wife Sue live in Grundisburgh and have two youngsters Daniel and Megan. Sue helps out at our events, Daniel is in scouts and Megan in brownies - so it's all in the family!

After the AGM, the scouts and guides camped on the field from Friday night to Saturday, then our cubs joined by Westerfield Cubs camped from Saturday afternoon to Sunday lunchtime. They all had a fantastic time and went home very tired (so did the leaders!)



Top: Richard and Chris Garnham with thanks you gifts; below new chairman Phil Stebbings starting off the duck race.

In September we are looking forward to starting our new Beaver Colony (the first time Grundisburgh has ever had Beavers) - details will be included in the next issue.

The second duck race held on 19 July was an even greater

success than the first - with all 1000 ducks sold and a likely profit of £1200 for the evening's activities.

Pat Ross. Group Secretary,
01473 735352

Grundisburgh playgroup

As the summer holidays approached the children were considering the environment and community in which they live and/or attend playgroup. Great fun was had preparing all the entries for the village show, some of which continued the children's interest in caterpillars and butterflies - along with a walk up to the playing fields to see the marquee and finding time to enjoy the play area!

During July we went on a visit to see to 'Farmer Richard' and his wife at Wood Farm and had a lovely morning watching the mischievous 'gun' dog retrieve her training dummy, climbing up into a tractor and meeting a goat, ducks and some sheep - many thanks to Richard and Chris for making it such an enjoyable morning. Towards the end of term we expanded on a recent interest in volcanos.

Please ring 01473 735161 for details of playgroup or request an application form or to arrange a visit.

A Russian first

Morag McIvor, a former Grundisburgh pupil, has graduated with a First from King's College, Cambridge. Having read German and Russian, she specialised in Russian and spent her third year in Kaliningrad, the most westerly point of Russia. There she experienced life in a country emerging from years of Soviet rule and the population learning to adapt to a western lifestyle. It was all very different to student life in beautiful Cambridge. She has enjoyed her studies of Russian history and philosophy so much that she will be continuing with a Masters at Cambridge, which will mean re-visiting Russia.

Football club draw

The winners in May's 100 club draw in aid of Grundisburgh Football Club were: £50 Lee Grimwood, £35 Alf Flexman, £25 Stan Tampin, £20 Phil Smye.

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Grundisburgh Gleanings

History group out and about

The Grundisburgh Local History Society members have enjoyed two very different outings this summer. First there was a trip down the river Orwell from Ipswich to Felixstowe and back. As a newcomer to Suffolk, this was absolutely fascinating. I had not realised just how busy and important the Orwell had been in the past, with history all along its length. There is of course the added bonus that the views you see from the river are those that you can never see from the land! Once we got down to Felixstowe it

was awe inspiring to get up close and personal to the huge container ships being loaded/unloaded and to see the different places things are coming from and going to.

The second outing was to Glemham Hall. Taking advantage of the 'Invitation to View' scheme 16 members of the society were greeted by the present owner of the hall, Major Philip Hope-Cobbold. A thoroughly entertaining tour followed, which not only gave us a history of the building and some of the people who lived there but also brought home the responsibility of owning one of the 'stately homes of England'. Afterwards we wandered through the gardens, whilst Major Hope-Cobbold prepared tea in the conservatory.

And forward

The programme for 2008/2009 is beginning to take shape. The first regular meeting of the society will take place on 16 September in Grundisburgh Parish Rooms, with coffee at 7.30 pm and a talk about the flying boats at Felixstowe. The October meeting will be on the 21st when Monica Place will talk about Richard Cobbold's Wortham. The AGM takes place on 15 November at

Grundisburgh Village Hall. After the short meeting and supper, there will be a talk on Burgh Cottage.

The Grundisburgh Local History Research Group will be meeting in August to begin work on producing a village scrapbook and a small guide to the history of the village. Anybody who is interested in joining the research group or in any aspect of the history society please contact me.

Sally Williams. 01473 738321

For our July meeting our former president Liz Pettman invited us to her lovely home in Felixstowe, where we had a very tasty BBQ in her garden, ably cooked by Ipswich butcher George Debman. This was followed by large portions of strawberries and cream.

Several of our members submitted exhibits for the WI stand at the Suffolk Show this year. We also had a fund raising stall at the village show.

We have been pleased to see several new ladies at our meetings recently. If you would like to visit us for a 'Taster Evening' (cost £2) you will be more than welcome. All ages welcome - from teens to great grannies. We normally meet first Thursday of the month, 7.30pm in Grundisburgh Parish Rooms.

Carol Barker, 01473 735838

The dictionary says:

Lonely: *unhappy, single*
Bored: *fed up, lethargic*

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Local history society members afloat on the Orwell

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Grundisburgh Gleanings



to all who kindly donated the delicious croissants, pains au chocolat, chocolate cakes and quiches. The French Café raised £206.80 for FOGS and, much more importantly, the lovely customers donated an additional £47.08 towards the Year 5 French Trip Ice Cream Fund. The children visit France in September when they stay at a PGL centre and they will thoroughly enjoy their ice creams. Merci beaucoup!

Karen Wattleworth, 07753 613100

'Encore!' Chez Café Classe Cinq!

The Year Five children from Grundisburgh Primary School hosted a wonderful morning at Café Classe Cinq as the French-speaking waiters and waitresses. The 10-year-olds brimmed with confidence as they demonstrated their newly found language skills and their customers enjoyed the café experience.

Year 5, the school and I would like to thank once again all their customers, the wonderful volunteer helpers (including the incredibly slick kitchen team - who needs Gordon Ramsay when you have these guys?), Balloonatics who decorated the hall, Judy Smith for playing accordion, Grange Farm Shop and Tesco Martlesham. And a very special word of thanks



St Mary's pet service on The Green

The annual service for 'All Creatures Great and Small' took place on The Green in Grundisburgh on 6 July. The non human congregation was largely one of dogs, especially black Labradors, but was joined by one brave three year old tortoise.



The clouds kept moving, the rain stayed away, and there was little in the way of barking or snapping, indeed the Peace was shared by human and canine alike, and we all left rejoicing, as the hymn says that "the Lord God made us all".

*Rev. Canon Clare Sanders
Photos Peter Kendall*

BEST SHOW EVER?

The number of entries for the Village Show on 12 July was up again - justifying Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society's decision to book more marquee space and tables. The judges from the Suffolk Horticultural and Produce Association and visitors running other shows were full of praise for the high standard of entries and the professional way the show is mounted.

The costs of mounting the show are high but sponsors again played a valuable role in helping reduce the loss, through providing enhanced prize money for classes, sponsoring activities, advertising in the schedule and donating raffle prizes. This help in keeping a traditional village event alive is greatly appreciated.

The cups, presented at the end of the afternoon by Clare Sanders, rector of St Mary's Church, were awarded to:

Most points in 'beginners' classes (joint winners) - Marion Penson, Daniel Crown and Bev Berry

Best decorative arrangement of garden flowers - Pat Polley

Best decorative arrangement of sweet peas - John Farrow

Most points in flower arranging classes - Sally Doherty

One specimen rose - Victoria Pegram

Three HT roses - Tom Pasteur

Six pansies - John Farrow

Most points in flower, fruit and vegetable classes - David Warren

Three globe beetroot - David Keates

Most points in preserves classes - Gill Grimwood

Most points in baking classes - Heather Langdon

Men only Victoria Sandwich - Paul Eaton

Most points in handicraft classes - Heather Langdon

Most points in over 60s classes - Sheila Caryer

Best photo in show - Jason Brown

Children: under 5 - Holly Brown; 5 to 7 - Livia Garrod;

8 to 11 - Megan Butcher; 12 to 15 - Emily Grimwood

Playgroup - Holly Brown

Fancy dress - Albert Willett

Best entry selected by the prize presenter - Iain Langdon

The show is run by a group of volunteers who are always looking for more helpers. To support the show, we run fund raising events, in addition to seeking sponsorship. Hidden Gardens in June raised nearly £1700. The dance in the marquee after the show brought us £433, the show cake stall £193 and show raffle £237. Any money not needed for next year's show will be given to our charities.

The last fund raiser of the season is an evening garden party at Little Thatch, Culpho, on Friday 8 August. More details on page 3.

The annual general meeting, to which everyone is invited and really starts the ball rolling for next year, is on Friday 26 September, at 8pm in Grundisburgh Parish Room. The wine is free - but comments and ideas will be expected! The show next year will be on Saturday 11 July.

Nicola Hobbs, secretary, Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society

Photos clockwise from bottom left: Admiring entries in the marquee; David Warren who won the flower, fruit and vegetable cup by a massive margin;

Fancy dress parade, with commentator Kate Adams;

Horticultural Society chairman Martin Cripps shows off Sloe Gin entries to the Evening Star photographer;

Heather Langdon who won cups for most points in baking and handicraft sections, as well as baking for the cake stall, receives one of her trophies from Clare Sanders;

Cammy Cranworth tests her skills on Grundisburgh Bowls Club stall;

Victoria sandwich victors: Paul Eaton who won the men only section for the second year and his wife Amber whose entry came third in the open section;

The best 'floating flowers' entry;

Sue Baines who was responsible for the teas in the pavilion again, making over £240 for show funds;

The winning entry in 'cake judged for the icing' class..





Photographs of Grundisburgh Village Show courtesy Peter Kendall.



Art group spreading its wings

Grundisburgh Art Group has been very active during the spring and summer.

In March, 57 of us left Grundisburgh at 7.30am to see the 'From Russia' exhibition at the Royal Academy. In June we visited Flatford, where our guide took us around to visit the spots where John Constable painted some of his most famous pictures. After a very interesting morning we had lunch in a room especially reserved for us and then went on to the Sir Alfred Munnings Museum at Castle House, Dedham in the afternoon. This proved to be another successful and enjoyable day for all concerned.

From time to time and when the weather permits, we have been able to paint outside. Two or three of our members have kindly allowed us to use their gardens and we also have had the odd visit to Hill Farm, Playford, by kind

permission of Charles Lofts.

After our first successful exhibition last September, we are holding our second show in Culpho Church on Saturday 13/Sunday 14 September, 10am to 5pm, with a Private View on the Friday evening.

I am busy getting our autumn programme together, which will include figure drawing,

demonstrations by myself and other visiting artists and featuring detailed aspects of drawing and painting.

Although we are a very active group with a fair number of members, anyone wishing to join us would be made very welcome regardless of experience.

Paul Bruce. 01473 738265,
pauldbruce@tiscali.co.uk



Bredfield Barometer

Mary Bishop - Artist specialising in Coastal Landscapes

Since Mary Bishop was last featured in The News two years ago, with her exhibition 'Paint and Light', she has gone on to expand her work with stunning, contemporary oil paintings.

The amazing light and landscapes in Suffolk draws many artists, but Mary tries to avoid the obvious and typical subject matter, preferring to look beyond the scenes and to the influence of man on the countryside. For instance, some of her work features the tractor trails in fields of wheat and barley in Bredfield.

Having graduated from Farnham School of Art and Ravensbourne College of Art and Design with a Fine Art Degree, Mary spent many years teaching, latterly adults. Art being the broad topic that it is, meant that she was also teaching pottery skills to adults with learning difficulties.

Having moved on to working for herself, Mary began using watercolour, finding when her children were small, she could continue taking both the pushchair and her portable watercolours out with her. She works from a combination of photos and sketches but finds that she gains more inspiration from working directly in front of the subject outdoors.

Mary is known for her variety of subject matter. The medium chosen tends to alter the work. "Watercolour is a more difficult medium where one has to work from light to dark, whilst oils inspire a more textured, contemporary style on the canvas" she explained. She has exhibited with the prestigious Society of Women Artists in the Westminster Gallery in London and the Aldeburgh Gallery, amongst many others.



Also a keen gardener, Mary has to manage the usual difficulties of working from home - being torn between her art and the art of gardening. She also explores a different medium through driftwood sculptures; the shapes are formed from the figures they suggest but mainly follow a seaside theme.

Mary prides herself in ensuring that her art is not elitist and is happy to sell unframed works to those who prefer to frame themselves. She is holding an exhibition of her various works from 23 to

25 August in the New Rooms at Orford Town Hall, in conjunction with her sister Lorna Harvey-Frank. Lorna specialises in textiles ranging from beautiful throws to cushions and bags, with the focus on colours and textures.

Mary has a studio in her house where visitors are welcome to view her work by appointment (01394 382223). You can also see her work at the Riverside Tearooms in Orford, the Barn Café, Butley, The Taplin Gallery, Woodbridge and Snape Maltings.

Words Roswyn Bradshaw,
photo Wendy Witt



Visitors could try unique games such as Bottle Roulette, Whisky Slide, Scarecrow Shoot, Giant Frog Hoopla or Av-a-go-Jo. Or people could buy from a wide variety of stalls including the White Elephant, Books, Plants, Toys, Cakes and an Auction. No-one

seemed to go hungry or thirsty as teas, ice creams and candy floss did a roaring trade all afternoon. Mr Frog made an appearance and is pleased to report that the Fete raised £5,977 from all these (and more) activities.

We are most grateful to Mr and Mrs Robin D'Arcy who make their beautiful garden available



CHURCH FETE

Oh, the vagaries of British weather! For the first time in memory, Bredfield Church Fete - always held on the first Saturday in June - had to be postponed. The forecast for the new date - 5 July - was also very uncertain, so the organisers put up tents and gazebos galore to provide shelter against possible rain. In the event, it rained in the morning but by the afternoon the sun shone and continued into the evening.

The fete was opened by churchwarden, Nina Nicholson, and the crowds flocked in to sample a truly magnificent English garden fete. There were 41 stalls and games in all, run by families and friends from the village.

for the fete - without them and their family, this event would not be possible. The same goes for all the people in Bredfield and their families, who work so hard to make Bredfield Church Fete a huge success.

Pat Miller

BATS IN THE BELFRY

Most people associate church belfries with bats and Bredfield Church is no exception as the Bredfield Wildlife group recently found out. Cilla Mobley from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust came along one evening to help investigate why there are so many bat droppings found in the church.

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that bats are a protected species and there are large fines if you disturb or harm them so we needed the expert advice from Cilla. First we looked at where the droppings were found as this gave a clue to where the bats roost. A bat can squeeze through a hole or gap of less than 1cm and it is not unusual for bats to get inside the church by the main door by finding a tiny gap around the door frame. The evidence of bat activity in the church was found near the altar and it could be seen that there are many suitable roosting points in the church roof.

As darkness approached it was time to arm ourselves with bat detectors which convert the high frequency ultra sonic sounds emitted by the bats to a lower frequency which we can hear. As we waited in the church yard the first bats out were the pipistrelle which is one of the smallest and common bat in the area. They circled around the church yard in search of insects and the bat detectors helped us pinpoint their location in the failing light. The pipistrelles moved off to find food and shortly afterwards the detectors picked another bat sound at a lower frequency. This was much bigger than the pipistrelle and most likely a serotine bat.

We next moved into the church as it is not uncommon for bats when leaving their roost to fly inside the church for a while before going outside to feed. We all sat in the church in almost complete darkness with the bat detectors on and soon we heard the sound of bats but could not really identify which one, but, with the evidence of the droppings it was likely to be a long eared bat.

This was the first wildlife event arranged for Bredfield and future activities are being planned so we look forward to your support.

Stephen Cook

Report from the parish council

Clopton Parish Council is contacting neighbouring parishes to see if they are interested in joining a community speed watch scheme. Under this volunteers are trained to monitor the speed of vehicles at designated locations using hand held speed detection devices.

The parish council has objected to the removal of the payphone at Clopton Corner. Mobile phone reception is poor in the village and in the event of an emergency at the village hall this payphone could be a vital instrument of communication. In addition this kiosk is of the old design and is therefore of historical interest. BT's decision is awaited.

The parish council is looking at the possibility of producing a leaflet, giving details of the public Rights of Way in the parish, with particular emphasis on circular walks. More details will follow.

At its last meeting, Councillor Lucinda Pennington was elected as Emergency Response Officer for Clopton and she will now be working on producing an emergency plan for the village. Again, more details when available.

The closing date for the parish clerk vacancy at Clopton has been extended to 31 August. The post is for 4 hours per week at a salary of £8.04 per hour. For further details please contact me.

A public meeting has been arranged for Thursday 14 August at 7.30pm in Clopton Village Hall. The meeting will discuss Clopton Parish Plan and the review by the Boundary Committee of local government in Suffolk. The first item on the agenda will be the parish plan, followed by an opportunity for parishioners to express their views to the Boundary Committee draft proposals. (See front page for how to contact the committee).

The next ordinary meeting of Clopton Parish Council is Thursday 18 September at 7.30pm in the village hall. All are welcome.

Janet Clarke, Parish Clerk, 01473 830398, janetinclydon@aol.com

Clopton Ladies Group

Clopton Ladies Group continues to meet on the first Thursday of each month in the village hall at 8pm. As in previous years we have speakers on a variety of subjects and some 'have a go' sessions. The next meeting on 4 September is about making raffia hats! For details contact Diana Dawson, 737417

Quiz Night

A quiz night will be held in Clopton VH on Saturday 4th October. Teams of four are needed. The cost is £5 per person, including supper, and start time is 7.30pm. The profit will be shared between the Clopton Church Tower Fund and Ipswich Alzheimers Society. To book your table contact 737602 or 737417

CHURCH NEWS

What a weekend to have a Flower Festival! However, we needn't have worried for we had lots of visitors, some even coming a second time to read all the interesting information about life in the 50s. People were glad, too, to have somewhere to visit under cover, and we realised the truly magnificent sum of £1,938-60. None of

this would have been possible without the stalwart work of our two churchwardens, Doris and Beryl, with the help of Sue Emmerson, who, together, masterminded it all months in advance. We thank, also, those who assembled the wonderful displays, lent beautiful things from the period, gave cakes, gifts for the stalls, draw prizes, and very generous donations, and, of course, those who came. The people in the tea tent worked tirelessly throughout the weekend, whilst the wind tried its hardest to blow the tent down! On top of it all Doris's family actually camped out in the churchyard in the wind and rain to safeguard everything. What a great weekend it turned out to be. At the end they said "Never again!". But that's what they said two years ago and it rained then too!

The Strawberry Tea at Thamaniya was once again a great success. Doris's family had put everything under cover but, after an early shower, it remained fine and there was a steady stream of visitors enjoying strawberries and cream, and lovely homemade cakes. The result was £305 for the Tower Fund. A big 'thank you' to the strawberry pickers, the cake makers, those who prepared the tables, gave draw prizes or helped in any other way, and, of course those who came to enjoy the afternoon and gave their support, many from other villages. This made it all worthwhile.

Peggy Martin



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Four walks around Bealings

Little Bealings Parish Council has published a three-fold leaflet with a map and directions for four local walks. The initial impetus came from a resident who pointed out that there is some beautiful countryside interlaced by a network of designated footpaths and suggested that we might design and produce a map with directions that walkers could pick up locally.

Parish councillors agreed and set about plotting four routes, north, east, south and west all starting from Bealings Village Hall. Two of our number walked all four routes and composed the text for the directions. Another councillor designed and produced the map and a fourth took pictures

for the front of the leaflet. The map and the directions were submitted to the Public Rights of Way Office at Suffolk County Council to check for accuracy. Now, with a seal of approval and the help of a Great Bealings resident, the layout was designed and then printed. Printing costs were covered by a very kind donation from our county councillor's 'Locality Fund'.

The 'Four Walks Around Bealings' leaflet is available at the Admiral's Head, All Saints Church, the village hall and Woodbridge Library or by phoning 01473 610088. It can also be viewed on www.onesuffolk.co.uk/LittleBealingsPC/Walks/

Ferial Evans, chairman, Little Bealings Parish Council



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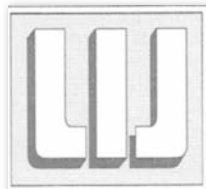


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COUNCIL BOUNDARY CHANGES

Continued from page one

It looks as if the review officer is going to be very busy as the Boundary Committee's draft proposals have been met with a storm of criticism. Very few are happy with what has been proposed.

The leader of Suffolk Coastal District Council, Ray Herring, has been particularly scathing. He told the East Anglian Daily Times "This is a farcical situation whereby the Boundary Committee for England have ignored the solutions offered to them and are instead looking to impose something which has no understanding of the communities of Suffolk".

Ferial Evans, chairman of the parish council for Little Bealings, one of the villages proposed to be joined to the Ipswich/Felixstowe option, is another who has strong views.

"How will what is essentially an urban authority understand the ambience and the character of the rural community over which it will have governance?"

"The projected forecast of accounts has yet to be published although we have been assured that council tax

will not rise. The change in structure of administration from an urban authority to one that has to consider the outlying rural area will be astronomical. Added to this will be the break-up of services between the two unitarians proposed by the Commission.

"This has all happened far too quickly. There has been no time for proper consultation with the general public. These changes are being foisted upon us before we have been able to assimilate and understand the implications, let alone have a proper chance to take part in informed debate."

These changes whether we end up with two or one unitary authorities are massive and are planned to come into force in April 2010 - so time is short. If you have a point of view please make it.

Footnote: A unitary authority is a council responsible for providing all services in an area such as education, police, social services and emptying the bins.

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In brief ...

The next plant sale run by the Suffolk Group NCCPG (National Council for Conservation of Plants and Gardens) will be at Helmingham Hall on Sunday 21 September between 10.30am and 4pm. The £4.50 entry fee gives access to the hall gardens as well as to the displays by specialist plant nurseries.

Chris Davidson, until recently the senior nurse at the Grundisburgh and Otley surgeries, is off to India at the end of August with a group of girl guides. They will be teaching English to children in Puna, near Mumbai. If anyone has any teaching items such as pencil and exercise books they could take, Chris would be very grateful. She can be contacted on 01728 685669.

Having decided to remain in Woodbridge town centre, Dr Taylor & Partners of Little St John's Street, have

chosen to open on Saturday mornings between 8.30 and 11.30. This is mainly to help patients unable to get to the surgery during the week. Patients will be able to pre book appointments, collect medications or prescriptions and contact the surgery by phone.

This decision was made following a patient survey. Home visits on Saturdays continue to be dealt with by Suffolk Doctors on Call. Visit www.woodbridgedoctors.com for more information and updates or contact 01394 382046.

Home-Start Suffolk Coastal supports families who have at least one child under five residing in areas of the Suffolk Coastal District, through volunteer support. Volunteers are needed to join its fundraising committee, which meets monthly and organises events. Anyone interested in this or in finding out about volunteer opportunities should ring 01394 389402 or email office@homestartcoastal.co.uk

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Hasketon Highlights

Our 'Jazz and Barbecue' on a 'summers day' at Shrubbery Farm on 29 June was truly a success this year. The weather was kind to us and about 290 people came to enjoy both the toe-tapping music of Mike Barry and his Uptown Gang and the delights of the barbecue with salads, and a sweet (or two) which followed.

We are very grateful to organisers Gordon and Molly Smith, who had again kindly let us take over their garden and orchard, banishing the geese to a pen by the pond. Gazeboes and marquees had been erected to give shelter from sun or rain as necessary - and gave a colourful look to the event. The parade around the campus of the 'brolly people', with their wonderful array of decorated 'mobile canopies', is always a highlight of the afternoon. We were so grateful to all those who lent a hand in any way, either preparing or cooking the food, setting up the site and clearing up afterwards ... and thank you

to all our visitors for coming to enjoy the day. The last Sunday in June 2009 is another date for your diary!

Our 'second Friday' event on 11 June was a most entertaining view of the House of Commons by Alan Davies, which he called 'Order! Order!' when we learnt about the interesting traditions of The House. We hope that our original speaker Robert Blake will join us next year for his talk about 'Woodbridge of yesterday and the Churchyard family'.

Our next Friday evening will be on 12 September when Mervyn Lemon will give an illustrated talk about 'Marines in Tights' ... the history and stories of the Duke of York and Albany's Regiment, who were the first English Marines. Tickets at £5 include a ploughman's supper, and are available from me. Friday 10 October will be our Ceilidh Dance night with 'Inertia Reel'.

Richard L. Smith, 01394 388970

Otley Offerings

Successful fete and evening event

Saturday July 5th dawned grey and wet but the folk of Otley steadfastly set up the stalls and sideshows for our village fete. The weather cleared and at 2:30pm the sun was shining ready for Ian Beaumont, Chairman of Otley Community Council, to declare the fete open.

There were many stalls including the old favourites. One of the new attractions was thought of by Molly Cutting using a target, a bucket of cold water, a chair, a paddling pool and a person. Put these together and you have 'the big drip' (see photo on front page). Despite the water being straight from a cold water tap, there was no shortage of volunteers to sit on the chair and be doused, sometimes four youngsters sat together!

The teas and ice creams did a roaring trade and people enjoyed watching the events in the arena. A good old fashioned Punch and Judy show started these off, followed by Otley Gym Club. Thirty two energetic gymnasts, 15 of who recently competed in the Kit-E-Kat gymnastics competition where they acquired three gold, two silver and two bronze medals. Their display, mostly choreographed by the gymnasts themselves, showed off moves used in the competition and also included a display of synchronised line and streamed tumbling. The Scouts were next into the arena, appearing with three stout poles and some rope.

From this they created an "A" frame which Nicolas Ling, guided by three ropes controlled by other scouts, walked across the arena and back to where they started - a testimony to teamwork and reliance on each other. Then it was the turn of the 'Fun Dog Show', ably run by two of Otley's young people Emma Liddell and Katie Robinson. Classes included 'the dog with the waggiest tail', the 'hairiest dog', and 'owner and dog look alike'. The arena events ended with an egg throwing competition - with real eggs!

The playing field was then cleared for the evening entertainment. Once again the evening proved popular with many coming from outside of Otley. Local band 'The Outliners' sang and played, and many people danced the night away. During its break we were entertained by a group of 'fire jugglers', which proved popular with the children. The evening wouldn't have been complete without a bar-b-que and beer tent. All-in-all it was a lovely, relaxed evening, enjoyed by young and old alike.

The Community Council's Entertainment Committee would like to thank everyone who made the events so enjoyable and successful. The fete raised just under £1400, which will be added to the money already reserved for the Otley Village Hall play area refurbishment project.

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Otley Offerings

Garden club blooming

The Otley and District Gardening Club was formed by 36 enthusiastic members last March and now has a winter programme arranged for 08/09. We meet on the last Monday of every month from September to April in Otley Village Hall but, as the name suggests, we welcome anyone from the wider area to join us.

Our aim is to have informative illustrated talks by professionals, in a relaxed friendly atmosphere. You can ask the experts' advice, discuss your horticultural successes and disasters, and swap plants and seeds. Annual membership is £10 per person, and £1.50 entrance for each meeting which includes refreshments. Our next one is on 29 September at 7.30pm, when Matthew Tanton-Brown from The Place for Plants at East Bergholt, will talk on Shrubs for Winter Interest.

So whether you're a designing de Thame, a budding Beardshaw, a toiling Titchmarsh or just an enthusiastic amateur do come and sharpen your shears with us!

David Papworth, 01473 890091

News from the Under Fives

In the summer term we continued to grow our beans, peas, lettuces, carrots

and peppers - there was great excitement when we spotted our first few pea pods. We have been tasting vegetables and fruit that we can grow in the United Kingdom, we decided what we liked and disliked. We also did some cooking making apple crumble, fruit jelly and cheese on toast by following simple recipes. We have also been tasting food from around the world from countries such as France, Italy, Greece, Africa, India, and China.

Esther the dental nurse visited and taught us the best way to brush our teeth and to show us snacks our teeth like.

July was a busy month with a visit to Jimmy's Farm and sports day.

A big thank you to the Otley community for supporting our car boot sale; the weather was kind and we raised approximately £300 for Otley Under Fives. For more information and to arrange a visit please contact 07789 468853/ 01473 890302 or visit our website www.otleyunderfives.com

Alison Tiley-Nun

Beaver News

1st Otley Beavers have been very busy with various activities and have completed Air Activities and Friendship Challenge badges, which included visiting Ipswich Fire Station. They all had a very enjoyable time - particularly with the hoses!



During May half term the Beavers visited the Recycling Depot at Great Blakenham, where they thoroughly enjoyed dressing up in high visibility jackets, protective helmets, ear defenders and using walkie talkies. They also decorated fabric carrier bags to encourage their parents/ carers to use less plastic bags.

In September we hope to visit the Cubs and Scouts on their annual group camp. We currently have 12 Beavers in our colony and would like to welcome more if we could find another regular helper; please contact me if you could help.

Helen Quilliam, 01473 890594

Cubs News

The last meeting of term for 1st Otley Cubs was our 'Water Olympics' and Baloo

and I can safely say we have never gone home so wet! We were proud to present Jack and Martin with their Silver Chief Scout awards.

We have been working for our Scientist Badge, making periscopes, watched beans grow and did experiments with magnets amongst other things. We have also been doing our Animal lover badge and had a very interesting visit from the vet from Earl Soham. Miniature gardens, puppet theatre and Halloween hats all went towards our Creative Challenge. The annual 'Pig Roast' was again a fantastic success and raised nearly £700 for Scout funds. Thanks to all who came along and supported us.

Future activities include working for our Outdoor Challenge which involves outdoor cooking, map reading, tracking and shelter building. We are also learning to play golf in the summer holidays. Home Safety is another badge we will be looking at during the autumn term. Group camp will be in September and we are going to Aldeburgh.

Our fantastic committee continue to give us support and the 'Hut' recently had a new carpet and hard flooring fitted.

Numbers in each section are very good and we frequently have waiting lists. These could be reduced if we had more leaders/helpers. Please talk to one of our leaders.

'Akela' (Jayne Vaughan 01473 890057)

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Sporting stories

PETANQUE - A SPORT FOR ALL AGES

Two clubs in The News area are competing in the newly formed Deben division of Coastal Petanque League.

At the time of going to press the Suivre Le Boules team based at Playford Community Hall are in third place and are proving to be difficult to beat on their home piste. The Bealings Exiles, now settled into their newly built terrain at the John Belstead Playing Field, are close behind them. The top two from this division go through to the finals in September to face the top two from the Blyth Division

The sport is really easy to learn; within 10 minutes the basic principles are picked up and novices can then be left to play. And there is very little expense - once you have purchased a set of boule they

usually last years. If a potential venue has a gravelled car park or similar area, then the expense of building a piste is avoided. This makes the concept popular with pub and club landlords. The basic level is social but there is a wide ranging structure of leagues for those enjoying competition. Teams comprise a minimum of four players.

The season is mainly spring to autumn but some hardy people play throughout the year, and some events are played indoors.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Petanque, be it as a prospective player, club, team or pub landlord, then please contact me for further details. We can arrange a 'Learn To Play' or 'Come And Try' event



Joy Elias, captain of the Suivre Les Boules in a recent league match at Aldeburgh.

for any organisation or friendly matches if you already have a group of petanque players.

*Simon Fletcher, i
simonfletcher@mogenlewiskira@sky.com
18 Melville Road, Ipswich IP4 1PN*

Netball success

Grundisburgh Netball Club has just completed a very successful year. After finishing as runners up in Division 7 in the winter league, we have just finished the summer league as champions of Division 6.

Special thanks must go to two players who have just retired - Sally Brayshaw and Kate Startin. As well as their ability on court, they also organised a very successful quiz recently which, together with funds raised at the village show, enabled us to buy new kit. The new season starts at the end of September and we would welcome new players - especially from Grundisburgh or surrounding villages. We play home matches and train on Wednesday evenings (at Farlingaye in the winter and Grundisburgh School in the summer). Please contact me if interested.

Sue Haddock, 01473 738872

Pat Miller B.Sc(Hons) MAR MIFA

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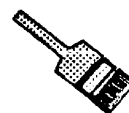
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It's free to advertise in Classified. Entries to be sent to The Ford House by copy deadline date. All codes 01473 unless shown otherwise.

Your letters

Farm shop nominations

Grange Farm Shop Hasketon, has been nominated under the category Best Farm Shop in the EADT Food and Drink Awards. We are fortunate to have such a friendly locally sourced business in our midst. If you wish to support their nomination ask for a voting slip at the Farm Shop or vote on line @ www.suffolkmagazine.co.uk and click on the Food Awards link. Voting closes on 8 August.

Mike Stiff, Grundisburgh

Thanks

I would like to thank most sincerely, all the villages who donated to the house to house collection in aid of The

Arthritis Research Campaign in June, and helped raise a grand total of £1,066-21. The totals raised in this area were: Grundisburgh £123-71, Little Bealings £137-66, Great Bealings £62-80, Playford £77-28, Culpho £25-59, Tuddenham £130-49 and Wivesham £141-47.

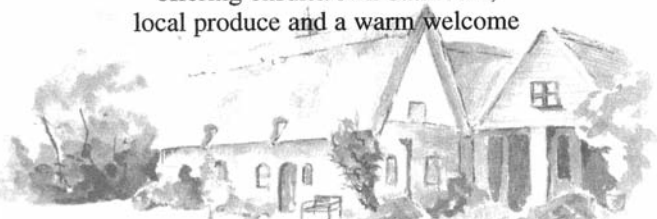
*Ian Craig, treasurer,
Woodbridge branch of ARC*

Christian Aid says thank you to all the people who gave so generously in May. And thank you to everyone who gave their time to deliver and collect envelopes. The totals collected were: Burgh £315.23, Grundisburgh £1629.68, Hasketon £558.23.

Pat Fletcher

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Apologies for having to cut back many contributions due to pressure on space. Ed.

ABOUT THE NEWS

Grundisburgh & District News is a free community newspaper produced by volunteers. Around 2,700 copies are distributed to homes and a range of central locations in Grundisburgh and 16 other villages (as listed on front page). Six issues are published annually.

Ideas, comments and contributions are welcomed: The Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, grunews@fast-mail.net

When e-mailing please include 'News info' and indication of topic in the subject box. Photos can be sent as JPEGs or prints (please include self-addressed envelope with latter if to be returned). All items will be in the internet version unless otherwise requested: www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

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A charge of £10 is made for originating artwork.

Local organisations advertising fund raising events are charged at half the normal rate.

**Advertisements to be sent by
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to Liz Binns e-mail liz.binns@talk21.com**

Misunderstandings galore from GADS

In early June Grundisburgh Amateur Dramatic Society presented 'Out of Focus' by Peter Gordon. The show, the directing debut for Charlotte Church, had a delightful welcome from the always enthusiastic Grundisburgh audience; the strongly lit open stage was cunningly designed by Donna Hindmarch to resemble the village hall setting of the play.

The action quickly got under way and misunderstandings began to multiply. It is always important for there to be real dramatic honesty when playing the consequences of false assumptions, and Maggi

Thompson was thoroughly believable as the single-minded Helen, with Kim Reeve's Sue equally as convincing with the carelessness of youth.

The skilfully constructed play then introduces Evonne, the dotty booking secretary, and Bob and Kath, the squabbling couple. And with each new character comes a new complication to the increasingly knotted plot as treble and even quadruple bookings surface. It says much

for the talents of Adam Thurkettle and in particular the confident stage presence of newcomer Rachel Stock that these apparently impossible coincidences became readily acceptable.

A single direction for the plot gradually emerges from the play's curls and twists. A pantomime is to be staged and those with other interests in the hall's facilities agree to give way, due largely to the tearful pleading of Marion Rosling's

Evonne. Even Phil Bailey's eccentric Leonard, serenely unaffected by the awfulness of



Marion Rosling.



Kim Bassingthwaite and Maggi Thompson

his illustrated lectures, agrees to take a hand in set construction. They are assisted by Adam Bassingthwaite's young twit-about-town, Keith Woodward as the only sane male in the place, and GADS regular Nikki Brown's delightfully libidinous Linda.

So as the action is played out we watch the joinings, the partings, the flirting and the

fury of the company. Here is a play within a play; and all the vulnerabilities of the players brought into the light.

Words based on review by Phil Ling, Photos Wendy Witt



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