

Summer
2021

The Grundisburgh and District News

Serving ASHBOCKING ■ THE BEALINGS ■ BOULGE ■ BREDFIELD ■ BURGH ■ CHARSFIELD ■ CLOPTON ■ CULPHO
DALLINGHOO ■ DEBACH ■ GRUNDISBURGH ■ HASKETON ■ OTLEY ■ PLAYFORD ■ SWILLAND ■ TUDDENHAM ■ WITNESHAM

SPEEDING IN VILLAGES

The apparent reduction in traffic volume has led to some motorists putting their right foot down too hard, so Speedwatch and other road safety measures are up and running again.

Suffolk County Council, together with the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Suffolk Roadsafe Partnership, are trialling the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras to tackle speeding hotspots across the county.

This pilot will run for two years and locations already agreed for Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) will be considered as possible locations for the trial.

Speedwatch and the SIDS will be popping up at various locations over the coming weeks and months. Regular visits by the Safe Cam enforcement team confirms that excess speed is still a significant issue through villages such as Tuddenham. Grundisburgh, Charsfield, Great Bealings and Westerfield are also active in checking speeds.

Continued on page 14

Chapel Field hearing fixed

East Suffolk Planning Committee is due to make its decision on the planning application from Hopkins Homes for 70 dwellings on Chapel Field, Grundisburgh on 29 June. This will take place at the council offices in Melton face to face. The limited space inside will need to be booked but there is plenty of safe space outside. More information about Grundisburgh's objections is included on page 14.

Ann Willetts, chairman of Grundisburgh & Culpho Planning Committee



Photos clockwise from top right: The new High Sheriff of Suffolk, Edward Creasy (story on page 5); Eve Hughes and her unusual walking companion (page 13); Catherine Laxton's edible tree avenue (page 11); Eilir Rogers and Margie Reeve in Grundisburgh's new deli in the old post office (page 7); Charsfield School pupils mark World Book Day (page 9).

WHAT'S ON

June

Sunday 6

Flora Explorer Event

Sinfield Nature Conservation Trust

White House Farm nature reserve, Hasketon 10:30 am, 12.00 noon and 1.30 pm. Contact Sinfieldtrust. eventbrite.com or 01394 382992

Saturday 12

Hidden Gardens

Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society

Gr VG 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm Contact 735228

Saturday 12

Tuddenham Open Gardens

St Elizabeth Hospice & St Martin's Church

Tuddenham Village Hall 11:00 am to 5:00 pm Contact 785582

Sunday 13

Hidden Gardens

Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society

Gr VG 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm Contact 735228

Dallinghoo Gardens Open Gardens

iao Dallinghoo Historic Church Appeal

Dallinghoo Village Hall IP13 OJX 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm Contact 07922 652 992.

July

Saturday 3

Church Fete

St Martin's Church, Tuddenham

Poplar Farm, Westerfield Lane, Tuddenham 2:00 pm Contact 784545

Saturday 10

Village Show

Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society

Gr PF 12:30 pm to 5:00 pm Contact 738997

Summer Dance

Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society

7.45 pm show marquee GrPF. PBE Contact 07733 016611 grundisburghsummerdance@yahoo.com,

Sunday 11

Woodworking Workshop

Sinfield Nature Conservation Trust

White House Farm nature reserve, Hasketon 10:00 am, Contact Sinfieldtrust. eventbrite.com or 01394 382992

August

Tuesday 10

Forest Bathing

Sinfield Nature Conservation Trust

White House Farm nature reserve, Hasketon PBE 2:00pm. Contact forestbathingsuffolk.com/my-services or 07711 604512

September

Saturday 11

Garden Party

Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society

4.00 pm Contact 738997

Key to abbreviations:

Gr – Grundisburgh

iao – In aid of

PBE – pre-booking essential

P/VH – Parish/Village hall

PF – Playing field

VG – Village green

All codes are 01473 unless given otherwise.

Brief details of events with organisation, date, name of event, venue, time and contact phone number can be sent up to a year in advance via email to diary@grunews.com.

Paper copies can be forwarded if sent to the editor, Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA

Please indicate if tickets must be bought in advance.

Organisers of events are invited to send information early to help avoid clashes.

Learning to Tap Dance

The classes run by Jill Streatfeild in Otley and Grundisburgh under the Suffolk Tap Dance banner have resumed in the two village halls, having been limited to Zoom for some time. These are on Wednesdays in Otley and Thursdays in Grundisburgh, covering advanced, improvers, beginners and mixed ability.

Details from Jill on 07778 746315/01394 384557.

Grundisburgh resident dance teacher Carol Hayes is due to start running another series of her tap dance classes at Grundisburgh Village Hall in mid June. These will be taking place on Mondays. She can be contacted on 07707 868972.

Exercise classes for women

Nicky Wilson from Hasketon has recently launched a new fitness class for women at Barn Fitness in Grundisburgh. This is being held on Wednesday evenings at 8pm and Sunday mornings at 9am. Her goal is to help women feel fitter and stronger, improving their physical health but also providing a little slice of calm.

“It’s low impact, suitable for all levels of fitness and stages of life – no jumping or running involved. But this doesn’t mean it’s not hard work. Bring a blanket and cushion as you’ll get a chance to relax at the end - and there’s often a post work out snack to be had” she says.

The first class is always free, numbers are limited to eight people a class. Nicky can be contacted via the website she has also launched, www.lemonade-collective.co.uk, or by ringing 07867 428 018.



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HORTICULTURAL EVENTS BACK AGAIN

Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society is planning to hold all four of its events this summer, starting with Hidden Gardens over the weekend of 12 and 13 June.

Some 30 gardens will be open across the three villages on both days, all for just £5 per adult. There will also be a sculpture exhibition at Grundisburgh House, plant sale, cake stall, teas and our sponsor, The Dog, will be open all day. See you there!

Over the same weekend The Great Grundisburgh Snail Trail will be running, sorry crawling, through the village. Details can be found at snailtrail@tbinternet.com. So get creative and enter, there are prizes to be won. Keep

including a horde of Anglo Saxons from Sutton Hoo. Help support village groups by having tea with FOGS; profit from the games will go towards new play equipment for the village playground. The Football Club bar will be open and the Bar-B-Q too.

We are hopeful that the dance will go ahead after the show. Music will be by 'Lark Side' and a fish and chip supper is included, with tickets priced at £13. Bring your own drinks and glasses. To book email grundisburghsummerdance@yahoo.com or telephone Mandy on 07733 016611.

This year's garden party has had a refresh. We are planning afternoon tea with Fizz/Pimms on Saturday 11 September at 4pm, to be held in a beautiful



An invitation to Dallinghoo gardens

Sunday 13 June marks the first time we are opening our gardens in Dallinghoo and we are planning with great enthusiasm.

Between 1.30 and 5.3pm come and walk, cycle or drive round the lanes of delightful Dallinghoo and see a variety of gardens. These include a large and beautiful 'beekeepers' garden, a farmhouse garden originating from Tudor times, a large garden created more recently from farmland, several impressive cottage gardens, and more.

The Jubilee Hall (Sat Nav IP13 0JX) will be the centre of operations - selling the tickets, programmes and serving delicious tea and cakes. Proceeds will be going to The Dallinghoo Historic Church Repair Appeal. There will be plants for sale in several gardens, all grown by villagers.

The cost to visit all the gardens is £5 for adults, accompanied under 16s free. Dallinghoo is a widespread village about three miles north of Woodbridge. It is approached from the south off the A12 through Bredfield, from the north by the B1078 near Charsfield or from the east off the A12 through Pettistree or Wickham Market.

More information from the organisers on 07922 652 992, dallinghoo.appeal@gmail.com

.... and to Tuddenham gardens

Tuddenham Open Gardens in support of St Elizabeth Hospice and St Martins Church

Date/Time: Saturday 12 June, 11am to 5pm

Open: Seven village gardens and St Martin's Church

Parking and trail maps: Tuddenham Village Hall, Westerfield Lane, IP6 9BH

Refreshments: Available at St Martin's Church

Cost: £5 each, under 16's free.

Tickets and trail maps available from Village Hall from 10.45am

More information from Cathy Watson 01473 785583.



checking Williams Store window to see the progress of Sebastian the snail.

The return of The Village Show on Saturday 10 July is something we can all look forward to. Show schedules are now available from a wide range of outlets, complete with class lists, entry form, hints and tips - and much more.

We plan to have live music on the showground, a funfair, games, stalls of all sorts, car boot sale and lots more

garden in Grundisburgh. Tickets will be £10; again please check our website for details nearer the time.

Having missed all our events last year I am sure you are all looking forward to catching up with old friends and family. Sharon and I and all the committee look forward to seeing you.

Martin Cripps, Chairman, Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho Horticultural Society, www.grundisburgh.show
Photo Peter Kendall

Special advertising offer!
The News has reduced the price
for this size advert to £15 per issue.
Contact Peter Knights, 01473 735887,
adverts@grunews.com

NEWS TRIBUTE

Frederick Valentine Copping 1927 to 2021

Fred was born and grew up in Charsfield, one of the five children of Mabel and Edward Chopping, a loving happy family.

His first job was as a delivery boy for the local shop, before working on the land for a local farmer. He was up and out at 5am, often spending long hours



alone on his tractor. But he told me he was never lonely - he enjoyed being on his own, appreciating the countryside and with the satisfaction of delivering a skilled job well done.

He met the girl who became his wife Muriel at a dance in Grundisburgh Village Hall when she was just 16 and he was 19, and would cycle over to Grundisburgh to see her several times a week. They married in her village church in 1955.

Fred realised he now needed to earn more money than farm work brought in, and he took employment with the Jackson civil engineering group. This was obviously another job he enjoyed and to which he again strived to deliver the best he could. His employers found him a "serious grafter who could do the job of six men".

Fred was a keen footballer and in his time captained his village team as a defender. When package holidays opened up travel possibilities, Fred and Muriel took full advantage.

Later they enjoyed family holidays in this country, and always spent Christmas with niece Jane and her family and Muriel's brother and wife, playing cards before going off to midnight mass.

Fred's garden at the corner of Meeting Lane and Orchard End was his passion, a real joy which benefited other garden owners in the village too. He also developed an interest in cooking and until the end of his life produced a fresh meal from scratch every day.

Following Muriel's death, Fred was greatly supported by Baptist Chapel members in Grundisburgh and Charsfield, and he took pleasure in renewing his acquaintance with people and places in Charsfield he had known in his youth.

To this end Fred took on the responsibility for the weekly coffee mornings in the chapel. Every Tuesday morning until lockdown his friend Paul took him to open up, brew, serve and clear up - no half measures for Fred.

He died peacefully on 20 March and his family would like to thank all those who 'rallied round for Fred'. All agree that over his 93 years he touched many hearts.

*Madge Nicholas with thanks to
Jane and Andrew*

NEW RECTOR FOR CARLFORD

I think Suffolk has been something of a revelation to Katrina Dykes, our new Rector for the Carlford benefice.

You might think that, moving from rural parishes in Hampshire, she might not notice much difference in her environment but she expresses her delight in the Suffolk scene. Good (dog) walking country and a strong get-away-from-it-all feeling. Her nine villages are all different and keen to remain so, and she has found people

be seen. Katrina is open to new and creative ideas for moving forwards in partnership with local people.

Katrina comes from a family where listening, discussion and questioning were part of the daily fare: her father was the deputy head of Letchworth Grammar School and encouraged her to state her case (politely, of course) if she disagreed with received wisdom. This strengthened her belief in God and reaffirmed her view that we are custodians of His creation



friendly and welcoming. But before she can really make a difference as a minister, she is relishing the opportunity to meet parishioners in their communities and listen to what they have to say. Katrina would welcome invitations from local groups and conversations with individuals who would like to meet her.

Post-Covid, the world may have changed and what was commonplace last year may not be so next year. Katrina thinks that people's priorities may have changed - with a greater appreciation of localness, relationships and a quieter physical environment.

How this manifests itself in villagers' habits, whether church-going or not, is yet to be discovered but it will influence how Katrina serves her flock. Zoom services may have brought the church directly into people's homes, enabling them to participate more fully, but whether this will ultimately mean higher church attendances remains to

and should do our best to protect it.

Much of her previous work has been with and for children, young people and their families, something which will surely be of use in this area and I'm sure we will benefit from an application of that experience.

Sport and the great outdoors feature large in the Dykes' household. Her husband, whom she met while studying at Trinity College, Bristol (they married in 1990), is an ardent Leeds United supporter: he and their two sons are therefore compulsive Match of the Day viewers. So, the delights of Portman Road await them. Or Carrow Road if/when Norwich play Leeds next season.

Her contact details are: Rev'd Katrina Dykes, Rector Carlford Benefice, The Rectory, Woodbridge Road, Grundisburgh IP13 6UF, Tel: 07922 153765, email katrina@carlfordchurches.org

Richard Watkinson

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Top photo: The swearing in ceremony
Back row from left: Retiring High Sheriff, Bridget McIntyre; HH Judge Martyn Levett; and Edward Creasy;
Middle: Brynn Byman, the High Sheriff's Chaplain and Jonathan Mathers, the Under Sheriff;
Front: Jill Stuchfield, Chair of the Magistrates' Bench; Penny Creasy; and Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk Lady Euston.
Photo below: Edward outside Burgh Mill.

New High Sheriff for Suffolk

Burgh resident Edward Creasy has been appointed as the new High Sheriff of Suffolk. He was 'sworn-in' at a small socially distanced ceremony at Ipswich Crown Court on 9 April.

This role is an independent non-political Royal appointment dating back to Saxon times when the 'Shire Reeve' was responsible to the king for the maintenance of law and order within the county. Whilst the role has evolved over time, supporting the Crown and the judiciary remain central elements today.

The main priority for Edward during his year of office will be to help Suffolk organisations recover after Covid. As a long-term member of Pilotlight, a London-based charity which brings together experienced managers and small charities to help the charities become

more effective and sustainable, Edward will be working to set up a Pilotlight programme in Suffolk.

"Charities have suffered really badly during the pandemic and need all the help they can get to get back on their feet" he says.



His nomination for the High Sheriff role – over three years ago though not announced until recently – came as a big surprise to Edward.

He was born and bred in West Suffolk, but has lived in East Suffolk for the last 35 years

and for the past 21 in the historic Burgh Mill. He was chairman of Burgh Parish Meeting for some 10 years until recently.

He sees his year as High Sheriff very much as a partnership with his wife Penny and she will be involved in many of the High

Sheriff's activities. Her charitable work has mainly been in the mental health field and with FineCell Work, a charity teaching prisoners high quality needlework.

After working in the Lloyd's of London Insurance market for 43 years, Edward retired from working full time (and the daily commute) 11 years ago, but still has two part time jobs there. He now focuses more heavily on charity and local work, holding non-executive and trustee positions for several local companies.

Edward's leisure interests

focus very much on the countryside. He is a keen walker and has helped organise annual charity marathons in Sierra Leone over the last decade. Both he and Penny are avid birdwatchers, as well as being regular visitors to the races at Newmarket.

*Words Nicola Hobbs,
photos Paul Nixon Photography*

The News plans to feature some of the charities with which Edward Creasy is working during his year of office in future issues.

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TUDDENHAM BUSINESS PARK THRIVES

There is definitely a feeling of friendliness around Tuddenham Hall. The new owners of the hall, Jemma Stennett and Adrian Dyter, have not only acquired a beautiful old building but also a small private business park created largely from redundant farm buildings. Most of the units are being used by individuals or husband and wife teams: here is a selection.

Foulgers Dairy

Having delivered milk in Grundisburgh for 17 years as part of the family business, NJ Foulgers and Sons, Adrian had the opportunity in 1999 to purchase the milk round, making door-step deliveries to some 450 customers in the village.

Buying habits have changed since then, with supermarkets now dominating the industry but there is still a market for home deliveries which Adrian has been astute enough to address. He benefited from the decision by the company 'Milk and More' insisting that all their customers' orders are placed on-line. Not everyone has a computer or wants to use the internet and Adrian's customers can still order and pay the milkman traditionally.

The key to success is personal service and giving the customer what she (or he) wants: Foulger's Dairy now has 16 milk rounds plus school contracts across

Suffolk and south Norfolk, operating out of Tuddenham and now also Bungay. His original site at Grundisburgh was too small for expansion so he moved 'head office' to unit 6 at Tuddenham Hall.

All this means he now has 21 vehicles and a staff of 26 delivering not just milk but also eggs, fruit juices, groceries, bird-food and compost. This amounts to some 320,000 vehicle-miles a year with a diesel bill of £1,500 a week! Going electric? The economics don't favour a switch at the moment but it is certainly something Adrian is watching.

For the future, Adrian aims to keep things as local as possible, including his vehicle servicing by Vehicle Surgeon at Hasketon. He wants to remain in control of his business and plans to grow organically - not by debt-laden acquisitions. A sensible approach which has served him well for 22 years.

Foulger's Dairy can be reached on 01473 784999 or email: doorstep@foulgersdairy.co.uk.

Skippy's Roof Racks

Next to Foulgers' site is the husband and wife team of Angela and Steven Fulcher who run Skippy's Roof Racks Limited in units 3 and 4.

They started the business ten years ago, moving into Tuddenham in 2017 and specialise in all types of car roof racks, carriers and boxes - for cycles, kayaks, you name it.

Steven majors on the Thule brand made in Sweden which

easier to load than roof-mounted ones.

Much of Skippy's business is done via eBay and he employs two people to help with boxing up and despatching orders - a happy team, ably assisted by Violet, the six month-old golden retriever.

I had to ask: why 'Skippy's'? Nothing to do with kangaroos - it was a nick-name Steve acquired when he was young - always on the move, skipping included!

Contacts: 01473 785810, info@skippyroofracks.co.uk



he considers to be the best on the market. Cheaper versions may be available but they can fail structurally at a crucial moment with potentially disastrous results, Steven asserts.

He will fit racks on site and show you how to place and remove equipment correctly and safely. Not only roof racks but also tow-bar mounted carriers which are

TMG Car Sales

Round the corner at unit 1a at the Tuddenham Park centre is TMG Car Sales, run by sole trader Terry Gaskin. Actually, Terry does buy and sell cars but the name conceals the fact that he is a highly skilled mechanical engineer, serving his apprenticeship at Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies and working later at BT





workshops at Martlesham.

Terry has always 'been into cars' as a hobby but a few years ago, grabbed the opportunity to do his own thing. He set up his workshop at Tuddenham in 2016 and his skills are now fully deployed on all sorts of car-related facets from simple servicing, with computer diagnostic capability to complex restorations of almost derelict vehicles.

Terry's main love is the MG and when Steve Newton and I visited him, there were several being worked on, including his own mid-engined MGF.

Fortunately, it is still possible to obtain parts for many quite old vehicles, so never say

'never!' in fact, as a lay-man, I would have thought that one particular Land Rover there was beyond surgery but, no, there was a gleaming new chassis alongside it - just waiting for the transplant.

Terry can also arrange for MoTs to be undertaken and will put right any defects found by the testers to enable the vehicle to 'pass'.

Clearly a man of many parts!
Contacts: 07935 118723,
www.tmg-carsales.co.uk

*Words Richard Watkinson,
photos Steve Newton*

*More enterprises in the
Tuddenham Hall complex will
be featured in future issues.*

Old post office transformed into deli

The Covid pandemic has produced many changes in people and their routines. During Lockdown 1, when it was difficult to obtain greengrocery, I set up a small honesty stall outside The Dog pub in Grundisburgh to serve the local community.

Things got busier and, with a demand for an expanding range of groceries, it was more sensible to move my stall inside the pub. The shop as it then was, sold a range of deli-type foods, majoring on cheeses and Italian ingredients and having identified a

demand for high-quality foods and drinks, it made sense to expand the business to meet that demand. Earlier this year, I decided to rent the former post office in

Grundisburgh and, literally, to set up shop there. I named the business 'The Grundisburgh Dog Deli', giving it the distinctive silhouette logo of a dog carrying a basket of goodies in his mouth!

I try to source as locally as possible with coffee roasted in Bury St Edmunds, juices and cheeses from East Anglia, pastries and savouries made daily at the Dog pub, and fruit, fish and bread from this area. Additionally, we serve coffee-to-go, sliced ham (yes, there is a meat-slicer back in the village!) and a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. But, of course, for genuine pasta-type products and oils, I have to sell only the genuine Italian stuff. And we continue to offer our 'made-to-measure' hampers for that special occasion - or just a slap-up picnic!

I am ably assisted by Margie Reeve and we opened for business on 12 May. The reaction from the public has been very positive: I think they are pleased to see the building back in use once again as a living entity, complementing the other enterprises in the village. And the shop is just as (legally) dog-friendly as the pub!

Eilir Rogers, Grundisburgh Dog Deli 01473 738916, photos Peter Kendall



NEWS FROM OUR PUBS

During the lockdown the **Tuddenham Fountain** was closed but not deserted - a new roof and heaters were being installed on the patio area. When the pub reopened for outdoor dining in a cold wet April, it was very much appreciated by customers.

During lockdown sous chef Vladi set up a new business, Vlads Patisserie, making delicious tarts and pastries which can be ordered through his Facebook Page and collected from The Fountain.

At Hasketon, **The Turks Head** will be open all day seven days a week again from 21 June, serving food every day. They won't be hosting any events for the time being but will revisit this when they are comfortable that we are on

the other side of COVID. The fabulous garden is a great asset for the summer and the large top terrace is covered and has heat and lighting. The menu focuses on local seasonal produce and everything is homemade. The Turks Head is particularly renowned for roast on Sundays which features Sutton Hoo chicken and 28-day aged Suffolk beef.

The Barley Mow, Witesham, fully re-opened on 17 May. There will be live music every Saturday night, fortnightly, there will be quizzes on Thursday nights and bingo on Wednesday nights. There is also a folk session on Friday nights, which anyone can join.

The Grundisburgh Dog has been open for some weeks for drinks and food outside in

the marquee but has now reopened the indoors bar and restaurant and is taking bookings on 01473 735267. The pub is also supplying the Dog Deli at the

former post office with daily home cooked pastries and savouries.

Jean Ellinor, Monica Begg and Richard Watkinson from material supplied by the pubs

SCHOOL REPORTS

Charsfield Primary School

The spring term at Charsfield was different from what we initially expected: staff had been busy preparing for a full return to school in January, but we then found ourselves faced with several weeks of home learning for a number of pupils.

We were delighted to welcome back all pupils to school on Monday 8 March. Despite the challenges that we faced, our pupils all had daily online live lessons with their teachers and have been able to progress with their learning in all areas of the curriculum.

World Book Day

Having settled into the daily routine of school life, the first exciting event we celebrated was World Book Day: pupils and staff dressed up as book characters - ranging from Puss in Boots to Harry Potter - and took part in different book-related activities in their bubble groups. The day was rounded off with a session of 'Share a Biscuit, Share a Story' where the children find a comfy place to sit, and enjoy a biscuit whilst listening to a story.

We took part in the Suffolk Libraries Scarecrow Trail during the Easter holidays, and chose to use our love of Julia Donaldson books and the morals that these books teach us.



On 4 May, the pupils dressed in something green supporting the Ipswich Deaf Children's Society (IDCS) 'Green Day' event to coincide with Deaf Awareness Week. Some wore an item of clothing or simply something green like a hairband.

The pupils had an assembly looking at the invaluable work that this society does and about the importance of sign language for those that are hard of hearing. All donations went directly to the IDCS and the work that they do.

As part of our commitment to mental health and wellbeing, we hold weekly Forest School lessons for all pupils in our wonderful school grounds, giving pupils the opportunity to learn about different aspects of nature and to take risks in a safe environment. And we continue to link with the Activities Leader at Handford House, a nursing home in Ipswich that has 54 residents with both dementia and physical disabilities.

This is used as part of the

focus for the pupils PSHE and mental health and wellbeing lessons. They understand the type of difficulties that the residents struggle with and have kept in touch with them since summer last year.

This term, the pupils have been looking at how making mistakes

isn't something to worry about and how we can learn that, if something goes wrong, you can make it into something new - or have another go. The pupils created a 'Beautiful Oops' handmade folder, making lovely pictures from mistakes such as coffee cup rings, ink spills and a bit of torn paper.

The 'Beautiful Oops' folder has gone to the home for residents to thumb through or use as a source of an activity. The pupils were also very aware that some of the female residents might not receive a Mother's day card and made some extra beautiful flowery cards to be given out, even to those who perhaps aren't Mums or who might have lost a child.

If you would be interested to find out more about our rural primary school, please do call us on 01473 737347 or look at our website www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk

Mrs Reeve, Head of School

Otley and Winesham



Lockdown has been hard on all of the children but, as we start to return to something resembling normality, we have enjoyed seeing the development of the school grounds. We are incredibly fortunate to have large school grounds and are continually striving to make the most of this.

Outside classrooms have been developed at both schools to enable safe learning in bubbles, but also the opportunity to develop healthy lifestyles. This way, children can enjoy outside learning in all weathers as well as partake in physical exercise to boost health and wellbeing.

At Winesham Primary School, in addition to the outside classroom, we have a new daily mile track and a solar powered stopwatch so the children can see their personal best improve. This reflects the positive attitude to personal development in our vision of Passion + Pride = Progress.

At Otley Primary School there is a new trike track aimed at the younger children, but the older children have been enjoying it too! The beautiful roadway provides a 'real life' scenario to role play in and older ones are enjoying the responsibilities involved in setting up the bikes and



Partnership



scooters each day. We have already seen so many smiles and some fantastic Teamwork Tigers too.

If you would like to know more about the schools in the Partnership, please visit our new website: or contact the school offices on 01473 890302 (Otley) or 01473785252 (Witnesham).

*Michaela Harris, Executive Headteacher,
Otley and Witnesham Federated
Primary Schools*

Grundisburgh Primary School

We are all delighted to be back at school together again and are enjoying an exciting summer term of fun learning activities, with an emphasis on learning in the outdoors.

As a school, we see our community welfare and good wellbeing as central to our ethos and use the Thrive approach as the basis for our pastoral work. Thrive is an emotional and social development programme that can be used across the whole school for whole class, group and individual emotional, social and wellbeing development.

We have a pastoral lead, a mental health first aid lead and two trained Thrive practitioners in our school

along with further staff trained to carry out Draw and Talk, Lego Talk, Detsy, Might Mo and other focused wellbeing support programme

Over the last two years, the Friends of Grundisburgh School (FOGS) have offered unswerving support to the provision of these programmes in our school, providing both funds for the completed refurbishment and resourcing of our pastoral or Thrive Room and enabling links to John Lewis who completely redecorated the room for us. It is now a light, colourful and comfortable space for our children to use and we are looking forward to resuming its use for the whole school once Covid restrictions have been lifted.

Wellbeing check-ins

We continue to have weekly wellbeing check-ins for all our children and staff to enable us to continue to support everyone appropriately and celebrate the good things in our lives. Our Personal, Social and Health Education provision is based on the Jigsaw programme which matches our ethos and promotes a mindful approach to wellbeing which our children thoroughly enjoy.

We also have a trained Paws B Mindfulness teacher on our staff along with a bereavement trained practitioner.

Family Thrive

This summer term, we are extending our wellbeing

provision with a member of staff being trained to deliver Family Thrive. Again, with the amazing help and support of funding from FOGS, we have been able to develop our Outdoor

School provision and made it accessible across the whole school.

Thanks to a knowledgeable volunteer, two separate woodland areas have been cleared (one with a pond) and made safe for children to use,

with FOGS successfully applying for grants and providing school with substantial funds for fencing, wildflower plugs, woodland bulbs, a fire pit, cooking equipment, clipboards (to enable work to be carried out outside), tools and many other resources.

Outdoor day

All classes have a dedicated Outdoor School Day when they come to school dressed for the outdoors ready to take their Maths, English, Science or whatever learning outside. The children are really benefitting from learning in the outdoors and look forward to these sessions each week.

In our Arts and Crafts focus week many of the activities were completed outdoors. Children have created colourful wooden poles to decorate the Outdoor School fences, learned about and made Tibetan prayer flags to hang from our trees, designed a giant collage, completed chalk pavement designs, studied the work of various artists and composed work in their style, amongst many other exciting and creative learning opportunities.

We have further plans in store, as soon as the Government guidance safely allows but in the meantime the children at Grundisburgh Primary School have already made a super start to a summer of fun and active learning together!

Sue Marks, Headteacher

Friends fund raising

The Friends of Grundisburgh School (FOGS) have signed up for an online balloon race to raise the funds for an outdoor eating area as part of their Creating Safe Spaces campaign, with all funds going towards purchasing the school some fabulous recycled plastic picnic benches.

The virtual balloon race system offers a 100% eco-friendly way to raise money,

using a seven-day computer simulation race where everything is real except the balloon. The software uses current live weather data to determine the progress of each balloon and each entry can be tracked on Google Maps and Satellites once launched.

It has no negative environmental impact on all wildlife, climate change, plastic waste or litter."

You can buy a virtual balloon for £3 and give it a name, colour, shape and pattern. In addition to this, you can select different features of your balloon, such as weight, which will determine its flight performance in order to enhance your chances of winning. This is a fun and easy way to raise funds for our school and we are sure the kids and adults alike will love it.

Big prizes

The race, titled Coronation Race, will 'set off' from Westminster Abbey on 2 June. First prize, for the balloon that travels the farthest, is £500 cash, second prize is an Apple iPad and there will also be 10 lucky winners of £10 book tokens. FOGS will also be providing prizes for the farthest and shortest flying balloons!

To get your balloon, go to <https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1714> or search for FOGS. Entries close when the race starts at 12noon on the 2nd.



The News welcomes contributions from all schools in our catchment area. Contact Richard Watkinson, deputyeditor@grunews.com 01473 735540, 07983977979



Creating a wildflower patch in Bredfield churchyard

Bredfield Parish Council has launched a project to help make the village more wildlife-friendly. Details, and lots of advice and news, are to be found on the village's wildlife friendly website (<https://bredfieldwfv.org.uk>). Schools will be invited to visit the orchard, for wildlife-friendly learning, once the Covid 19 restrictions loosen.

On Sunday 11 April, the community arranged for a wild flower patch to be dug in the churchyard. Six residents of the village came to dig (following the Covid restrictions). There were three adults and three of the next generation. We dug up a patch of turf towards the back of the churchyard, having been given permission by the Parochial Church Council.

After a light raking and flattening, a variety of wildflower and wild grass seeds were sown. The flower seeds sown were Lady's Bedstraw, Birds Foot Trefoil, Meadow Cranesbill, Knapweed, Selfheal, Tufted Vetch, Yellow Rattle and Perforated St John's Wort. The wild grass seeds sown were Crested Dogs Tail and three varieties of Fescue and Highland Bent.

This large spread of pollinators will attract bees and butterflies in abundance as well as a range of other insects. In future months, we'll be monitoring what comes to the wild flower patch.

Being one of the younger helpers, I am very happy that we have taken a step towards a greener future for the next generation. So please get outside make a wildflower patch of your own, plant some seeds and you will reap the rewards mentally and physically. I know we all need some joy in these COVID times!

Francis, aged 12

Creating an edible avenue along a footpath in Grundisburgh

Walkers along a footpath from Grundisburgh towards Burgh will be encouraged to pick apples from trees which have recently been planted along a section of the route. Catherine Laxton has so far planted 14 trees either side of the path near its entrance off Woodbridge Road near The Rectory. Several different varieties of apple have been chosen to ensure good pollination – and naturally include Laxton's Superb.

The idea for this came from a visit Catherine paid to Feeringbury Manor in Essex, but she has also been inspired by the writing of famous French chef Raymond Blanc who is passionate about traditional varieties of apples and their preservation.

Elegant name plaques identifying the varieties have been screwed on to the wooden support posts. These were kindly made for Catherine by her neighbour Simon White who has recently moved into Burgh Croft, and were created using pyrography.

Apples were chosen as the best fruit for walkers to enjoy – pears would probably be too hard to bite into and plums attract wasps. Two crab apples have been planted because of their properties as pollinators and one cherry – for the birds to enjoy! The saplings should start bearing fruit in a couple of years.

Catherine and Bryan have lived at Finndale House for the past 12 years. She is a keen gardener and runs the Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho Horticultural Society's talks and visits programme and its Hidden Gardens event (details on page 3). Their garden was open under the National Gardens Scheme earlier in May and can also be seen as part of Hidden Gardens.

Words Nicola Hobbs, photos Peter Kendal





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REWILDING BURGH HOUSE FARM

Jacqui and I bought Burgh House in 2006 which included 35 acres of ancient water meadows. We were able to acquire another 70 acres of arable land from the estate of Lord Belstead shortly afterwards

Until a couple of years ago we ran our own herd of Red Poll cattle on the water meadows producing our own beef which we sold locally. The arable land was farmed with an arrangement with local farmer

only receive support if they perform a public good and improve the environment or encourage biodiversity and wildlife conservation.

So we decided to change the way our small farm operates and over the next few years we intend moving away from an arable rotation towards more grass. We are already working with Lee Byam and his partner Becky Spry who have a herd of Limousin beef cattle and they are interested



John Taylor who carried out all the cultivations and harvesting.

The water meadows in particular are rich in wildlife and plants. We have a number of rare plant species including southern marsh orchids and mammals including water voles and otters. Bird life is abundant with nesting barn owls, kingfishers, skylarks and yellowhammers to name but a few

The changes in farming policy by the government mean that farmers will no longer be paid simply to farm their land and the single farm payment system is already being phased out. In the future farmers will

in expanding their herd as we increase the area of grassland in the farm rotation.

Unfortunately DEFRA have yet to publish the new farm stewardship scheme but we decided to press ahead with our plans. So this winter we have started by planting 2.5 hectares of woodland in several blocks across the farm supported by the Woodland Trust.

We have divided the big arable fields into a number of smaller fields and planted 1 kilometre of new hedging. Two of the larger woodland blocks have areas for rewilding where we have planted grass and millet for

Above: Bill checking for Muntjak damage near Woodbridge Road.
Below left: Bill, Jacqui and Sam in their garden

birdlife and small mammals and wild flowers such as birdsfoot trefoil, vetches and oxeye daisy. Hopefully as the woodland and hedges grow and the rewilded areas establish themselves we will create a thriving habitat for wildlife.

Given the Covid lockdown we were working hard all winter repairing fences restoring hedgerows and replanting the Spooky Wood well known to our dog walkers.

We have also replanted the banks on the edge of the water meadows with native trees with support from the Sicon Foundation a Suffolk based IT company who are keen to provide trees to landowners.

Finally we have seeded a new green lane across the farm which will allow access to all the fields for farm vehicles and moving cattle.

Jacqui and I hope that Burgh House Farm will develop into a special place for wildlife giving even greater enjoyment to us as custodians of the farm and to those who enjoy walking on our public footpaths

However, we do ask that walkers please keep to the public footpaths which will be clearly marked as it is important to maintain the wild areas for wildlife species to become established.

*Words Bill Mayne,
photos Peter Kendall*

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GRUNDISBURGH VILLAGE HALL

We are delighted to confirm that the existing hall is now open again, so anyone wishing to book the hall, please contact Michelle Sanford on 07874 055746. There are new Supplementary Hire Conditions which need to be completed to comply with the Government's Covid regulations – these are on our website.

The new hall will hopefully be finished at the tail end of this year and therefore available for hire from early 2022. We are formulating the plans for the new hire charges and these will be published shortly.

We have raised sufficient money to complete the new build, but are still looking for funds to provide new chairs and tables as well as crockery etc. We are hoping for a new audio visual system which also needs funding - and solar panels - see Julian Brook's appeal

A number of activities are

planned for the summer to raise funds, such as cake stalls and a cycle ride. However, if anyone wishes to make a personal donation, we would be very grateful and that has the added advantage that we can claim Gift Aid to increase the value of your donations by 25%. We are within touching distance of completing and fitting out a wonderful new hall and the last few donations will make a real difference!

Bryan Laxton, Chair of Trustees

Solar panel appeal

The Grundisburgh Village Hall is fundraising to install solar panels as part of the build.

Solar PV panels produce electricity onsite from the sun. They reduce the amount of electricity the village hall will require from the electricity grid and the amount of electricity it will need to pay for. Additionally, the village hall will be able to sell any surplus electricity to the grid which will create a small income. This will help to reduce the village hall's running costs.

Solar panels, combined with the planned high levels of insulation, modern building techniques and the use of a heat pump will reduce the energy needs and carbon footprint of the village hall. Doing this during the initial build minimises the install

costs and disruption, and maximises the carbon savings and cost savings achievable. You'll also get the warm fuzzy feeling that some of the electricity used in your home over the year will be coming direct from your village hall!

We would welcome donations to contribute specifically to this part of the village hall build. If you would like to donate or have questions, please email info@gnvh.co.uk or go to www.grundisburghvillagehall.com/donate.

Julian Brook, 07983 708569

Raising funds with cakes and art

Among the individuals raising money for the new hall are two members of the hall management committee, Stephen Cooper and Heather Langdon:

Stephen is creating and selling artworks. He explains: "as treasurer, I have been so impressed with the various fundraising efforts, so I thought I would post some of my digital pictures and sell prints for £10 each.

"I can draw on my iPad anywhere. It's a hobby. Often early in the morning. I like drawing portraits, flowers and natural views. I look for texture with



shade and colour. I have never had time until recently to do much, but have now done a number of portrait commissions. I normally post my pictures on Instagram and up to now I have sold them in the UK and USA.

"As a technique, the iPad was recommended by David Hockney, so if it's good enough for him.... It took me a bit of time to teach myself how to do it and develop my own style."

You can view and purchase Stephen's works by visiting <https://stephenjohncooper.wordpress.com/2021/05/02/online-exhibition-raising-funds-for-grundisburgh-village-hall/>



Heather's baking skills are well-known. During April and early May they raised £1,000 for the village hall. This was from her latest Virtual Cake Stall, when all ingredients were donated, and the cake stall when Finndale House garden was opened as part of the National Gardens Scheme.

Richard Watkinson, News deputy editor who doing his bit by eating plenty of Heather's cakes,



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SCOUTING NEWS

Grundisburgh Scout Group was overjoyed to meet again from 29 March - though still with social distancing in mind. We had not seen our friends for three months, although Group Scout Leader Stuart Ross had held many Zoom meetings with all sections to keep in contact with everyone.

At the Beaver meeting on 30 March Lorna Banham was invested as Assistant Beaver Leader and, a month later, Lorna herself invested 19 young Beaver boys and girls. We have never had this many new members invested all at once.

It was a lovely evening with proud parents, grandparents and siblings looking on with the young members standing round in a large circle (see photo at top of page).

Cubs and Scouts are looking



forward to hiking (on separate nights) from Grundisburgh to

Above: Beavers investiture; Left: Gus Backhouse tells the Scouts about his walk from John o' Groats to Lands End.

Woodbridge, finishing at a fish shop for much-needed refreshments! On 26 April Scouts had an excellent talk by Gus Backhouse, ex Grundisburgh Cub, Scout, Explorer and Young Leader, who had walked from John o' Groats to Land's End in two months, raising money for charity (as featured in the autumn issue of The News). Gus said that without the skills

he learnt from scouting he would never have dreamed of doing it.

This will be the second year without our popular Duck Race and we're not sure if we will have our Fireworks Display either - but we will let you know. Looking forward to our next activities and news. Take care.

Pat Ross, Group Secretary 01473 735352

LILY THE LAMB WHO THOUGHT SHE WAS A DOG

Eve Hughes has taken in many animals in need of rescuing over the years - hedgehogs, bats, rabbits - which had to be handfed and reared. But Lily was the first lamb to come into her home.

She had been helping Swilland farmer John Waspe and, when Lily was rejected by her mother, Eve took the three day old lamb back to her home in Grundisburgh and bottle fed her. Soon Lily had become part of the family, forming

close relationships with Eve, Amy the resident dog and the two cats, often curling up on the sofa with them and going for walks around the village each afternoon.

Lily became a familiar sight on these walks, causing quite a few double takes and several queries about what sort of dog she was. But after five weeks, it was decided that Lily was getting too used to being a human - and rather too big for the house.

So she was taken to live with other orphan lambs (she would have been rejected by the

original flock after her contact with humans). Eve says she has settled down well and got used to being a sheep again - but is really pleased to see her when she visits.

Amy went downhill when Lily first left but has perked up and wags her tail vigorously when she sees her again.

"Lily was very cute. Having her in our home was a lovely experience but she became very demanding" Eve says.

Apart from helping with animals, Eve works with young adults with learning disabilities and a client with dementia. She also runs her own small business making

clothing and crafts. This enterprise started because of her love of sewing.

During the early days of Covid, Eve had made over 1,000 masks and other protective items for the NHS. Now, after holding two pop-up shops in December and April outside her home at 4 Rosehill Cottages, Grundisburgh, she hopes to have regular events every four to six weeks. The next will be over the weekend of 12/ 13 June from 10am - 3pm.

Eve also has an online shop: www.madame.co.uk.nellie-noodles.

Words Nicola Hobbs,
photos Peter Kendall & Eve Hughes



Road safety matters

Continued from page 1

The safer Village Driving group (SAVID) to which a number of the villages in The News area belong will be meeting next on Friday 18 June at 6.30pm. Details will be confirmed on its website.



road as a Quiet Lane was sent to residents of Meeting Lane, Chapel Road/Lane, Half Moon Lane, Park Road, Lower Road and the lane in front of St Mary's Church in Grundisburgh.

SAVID aims to run a shared approach 'campaign' across our villages on speeding and enforcement and plans for this are being prepared. We agreed each village would consider applying for the ANPR (Automatic number plate recognition) cameras system as mentioned above. We are being invited to join the East Suffolk Community Partnership when issues around transport and road safety are being addressed.

Quiet Lanes

As part of Wave 1 of the Quiet Lanes project, a formal notice informing recipients of the intention to designate their

As a result of this notice, one response was received: from Hopkins Homes' agent. Although supporting Quiet Lanes, they proposed excluding the section of Park Road from Ipswich Road to a point just past the entrance to the proposed development. A reply was sent to Suffolk County Council Highways analysing the response and declining to accept the proposal.

Two roads, not wholly in Grundisburgh, are being progressed in coordination with other parishes. The road between Park Road/Lower Road junction and Bealings (Grundisburgh Road) will be

considered as part of Wave 2 of the scheme and Newton Hall Lane will be considered as part of Wave 3.

At Tuddenham, the public consultation and meeting produced valuable feedback of residents' views and those of local cycling and walking groups. The parish council has agreed to put forward Westerfield Lane for possible Quiet Lane status designation. A traffic survey has been recommended by Highways and the outcome of this is awaited.

Richard Watkinson from material supplied by Geoff Caryer and Pauline Procter

Chapel Field

Continued from page 1

There were 337 objections submitted to East Suffolk Council in the autumn of 2020 against the proposals by Hopkins Homes to build 80 dwellings on Chapel Field, Grundisburgh.

But the local authorities and the developer didn't listen to common sense. Hopkins

Homes submitted revised plans to build 70 dwellings on the same site in February 2021. The access was still from Park Road/Lower Road, there were still no adjacent footways for the existing residents living on those narrow roads, there was still no safe direct access to the village school and centre.

A magnificent further 972 objections were submitted by residents making it very clear that no safe access to Chapel Field is available, nor can be contrived for vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, equestrians, wheelchairs and pushchairs. Grundisburgh again said NO to Chapel Field.

Ann Willetts

Posting The News

Grundisburgh News maintains a mailing list for people wanting printed copies sent to them. The cost is being increased slightly to cover higher postal charges. Four issues a year will now cost £4.50 within the UK, £17.50 worldwide. The price for Europe stays the same.

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Tennis Club swings into action

It has been a busy start to the new season at Grundisburgh Tennis Club with record numbers renewing their membership and some new members joining too. There are now regular club sessions most days when members can get together with others for social play. However, there is still plenty of court availability for those who wish to play with friends and family and non-members can book courts as guests through our online booking system.

Our coach, Carl Douglas, is continuing to run some great coaching courses. He is an experienced award winning coach (Suffolk LTA Development Coach of the Year 2018 and 2020) and he delivers the LTA youth coaching programme at our club. He also runs other group programmes aimed at adults and older juniors as well as offering individual 1:1 coaching.

The club has followed and will continue to follow all government and LTA guidance and advice on whether and how tennis can be played during the Covid-19 pandemic. For up to date information on this or to find out how you can become a member, use the courts as a guest or book some tennis coaching, please go to: grundisburghtennis.co.uk.

Anne Lee

Grundisburgh Playing Field

The Playing Field Committee request that the 'No Dogs Allowed' ruling on the playing field continues to be observed. It would also be much appreciated if dogs were kept on leads along the footpath.

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

Contributions, comments and ideas are welcomed: 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 on paper or email.

If emailed, the *topic* of the article should be shown in the *subject box*. Photos can be sent as JPGs (but not embedded in Word documents) or as prints. If prints are to be returned please include an addressed envelope.

Editor: Nicola Hobbs, Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, 01473 738267, editor@grunews.com

Deputy editor: Richard Watkinson, 01473 735540, deputyeditor@grunews.com

Diary editor: Ian McIvor, diary@grunews.com

Advertising: Peter Knights (see below).

Picture editor: Peter Kendall, 01473 738267, peter@peterkendall.com

Distribution coordinator: Stephen Cooper, distribution@grunews.com

Subscription service: Pat Hall, Crest Cottage, Chapel Road, Grundisburgh IP13 6XL, 01473 735319.

Treasurer: Sue Haddock, 01473 738872, accounts@grunews.com

Admin: Alison Knights, admin@grunews.com

Website: Ian McIvor, ian.mcivor@btinternet.com

Checking: Richard Watkinson and Viola Reade

IT consultant: Will Barber, wbarber.ths@gmail.com

Chair of management team: Stephen Cooper, distribution@grunews.com

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A small charge is made for originating artwork.

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

LOCKDOWN WALKS

One of the advantages of our lockdowns has been the chance to explore our paths and bridleways. Not being able to play golf or tennis, but badly in need of exercise, Danny and I decided to explore some of the countryside around us. As we were not very good at map reading, we got lost several times at the beginning but are now much better at following the maps and got to enjoy some favourite walks several times.

When we started walking in March last year, the blackthorn blossom had just begun and during the spring we witnessed the cherry, hawthorn and crab apple coming into bloom along with the horse chestnut and, sometimes, it was just a riot of beautiful colour.

In the summer we enjoyed the wild flowers, accompanied by the numerous species of butterflies. Autumn brought us a variety of berries and the amazing colours of the leaves.

During all this time, we were fascinated by the crops in the fields, learning the difference between wheat and barley and a broad bean crop grown specially for cattle food. We envied the farmers able to pursue their task, without any worry about social distancing.

It was amusing to watch the 'gatherings' in Grundisburgh's



Meeting Lane, very aptly named. It seems that so many walks cross this road, so you were bound to meet other ramblers and stop for a social distanced chat.

The local churches have been a godsend for walkers this year too. While most of the buildings were closed, the churchyards remained open

for a spot of respite and even a coffee and cake break, social distancing permitting.

One of our favourites we called the five villages walk, when we start in Grundisburgh and cross the fields to Great Bealings. There we can stop in the church, but usually continue further to Little Bealings' church, where there

are handy benches for a coffee stop.

Then we follow the Fynn Valley valley which takes us to Playford. Crossing over the road, we then continue to Rushmere, arriving near the Baptist Chapel. From there we take the Holly Lane Road, where we go through the woods, then under the railway bridge, before coming out in the Fynn Valley again and heading back to Playford.

At Playford church (top photo) we can stop again and admire the monument to Thomas Clarkson, 1760 to 1846. Thomas Clarkson, the leading anti slavery abolitionist lived in Playford Hall and his family plot lies in the churchyard.

Then we continue on the road between Playford Church and the amazing house, with a blue plaque where the artist, Anna Airy lived and where in the 19th century, her grandfather, Sir George Biddell Airy, Astronomer Royal lived (middle photo).

The road eventually becomes a bridleway and takes us back to the village via Hill Farm and Grundisburgh Hall or via the Millenium Meadow.

In the last lockdown, the churchyards were all covered in snowdrops and later daffodils and primulas. What a beautiful sight for us on our walks!

Words and photos Monica Begg

Directions for this walk can be found on The News' website: www.grundisburghnews.org.uk



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