

Spring
2010

FREE

The Grundisburgh and District News

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

SAFETY SCHEME FOR VILLAGE FORD

A seven year campaign by Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council to reduce the traffic using the lane running from Stoney Road, past the old school and the church, through the ford to Woodbridge Road may be coming to a satisfactory end.

This is thanks to a generous grant from the county council and a contribution from the parish council. A scheme has been devised that permits right of entry only to those who need to get to the Old School and St.Mary's Church.

The parish council had received many complaints about vehicles using the lane as a short cut, racing other vehicles going the 'long' way round and driving through the ford at speed. Some have been seen driving the ford one way, turning round and then returning the other, while convoys of cars have been spotted, obviously on organised outings. There are even websites encouraging motorists to drive through fords. This is all increasing the danger to others, particularly the children who enjoy playing there. More on page 9.



Belinda Gray, whose new vegetable growing school in Bredfield, is among the 'local enterprises' featured on the centre pages. The News sees promoting businesses in the area, and encouraging people to use local services, as one of its main priorities.



Grundisburgh's panto 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star': from left Judith Bignell-Pepper, Joel Tatham, Kate Adams, Brian White and Tessa Bailey. More on page 5.



Fair Trade in Grundisburgh. See page 7.

Police meeting

The next public community engagement meeting run by the Kesgrave & District Safer Neighbourhood team is on Wednesday 17 March at Witnesham Village Hall. The meeting runs from 6.30pm to 7.15pm and provides an opportunity for people to get involved in helping to set the local policing priorities. The News' villages covered by the team are Bealings, Culpho, Grundisburgh, Playford, Swilland, Tuddenham and Witnesham. For more information visit www.safersuffolk.org.uk

Bill for repairing potholes

Suffolk faces the biggest road repair bill in the east of England - and looking at the state of the roads after the severe weather one can see why. The Save Our Rural Roads group (which represents 15 parishes) fears that routine maintenance will be sacrificed to fund the emergency repairs,

and believe that the longterm answer lies in limiting the weight of heavy lorries. "Tens of thousands of cars cause less damage than one 40 tonne, 5 axle lorry. Our roads do have the foundations for such weights" says SORR secretary Tony Fryatt. More from SORR on page 6.

An open invitation

Please join The News' volunteers at our annual general meeting on Friday 26 March, 8pm, in Grundisburgh Parish Rooms. We will welcome any ideas and comments at a short business meeting and over refreshments afterwards.

News Diary

MARCH

Thursday 4

The History & Benefits of Aloe Vera talk Gr Burgh & Culpho WI, PR 7.30pm
Contact 735838

Friday 5

Quiz and Curry Night
7.30pm for 8pm start. Gr.S
Contact 01394 421694

Saturday 6

Coffee Morning iao St. Mary's Church GPR 10am
Contact 890271

Monday 8

Gr & Culpho Parish Council Mtg PR 7.30pm Contact 735541

Friday 12

Bayeaux Tapestry talk Mark Mitchels Hasketon VH supper 7.15pm PBE Contact 01394 388970/610214

Saturday 13

Table Top & Coffee Shop
Angela Cobbold Hall Little Bealings 9am - 12noon
Contact 620213

Sunday 14

Parish Walk GrVG 2pm
Contact 738219/735481

Monday 15

Otley Parish Council Meeting OVH 7.30pm
Contact 890271

Tuesday 16

Unusual Suffolk Graves talk Robert Halliday iao Gr Local History Soc PR 7.30pm
Contact 738195

Wednesday 17

Bridge Drive Bredfield VH 2pm iao MacMillan Contact 614858 or 735688

Communion Service

Mother's Union St. Mary's Church Gr 2.30pm Contact 735604

Thursday 18

The Fishermen's Mission, Bealings WI, VH 7.30pm
Contact 623985

Wednesday 24

Otley Quiet Day with Rev Martin Davies Otley Hall 10am – 4pm PBE Contact 890264

Friday 26

AGM Grundisburgh News PR 8pm Contact 738866

Monday 29

All You Need To Know About Fuchsias talk Eric Bromley & Bob Bartrum Otley & Dist Gardening Club VH 7.30pm Contact 890991

APRIL

Thursday 1

Humour is Medicine talk Gr Burgh & Culpho WI, PR 7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 2

Easter Egg Hunt Gr Chapel Millennium Meadow 2.30
Contact 738856

Saturday 3

Coffee Morning iao St. Mary's Church Gr GPR 10am
Contact 890271

Friday 9

Molly Smith's Quiz Night
Hasketon VH supper 7.15pm
PBE Contact 01394 388970/610214

Thursday 15

For the Love of Books
Bealings WI, VH 2.30pm
Contact 623985

Monday 19

Otley Parish Annual General Meeting OVH 7pm Contact 890271

Tuesday 20

It Happened in Suffolk talk Pip Wright Gr Local History Soc PR 7.30pm Contact 738195

Otley Quiet Day with Rev Gordon Melvin Otley Hall 10am - 4pm PBE Contact 890264

Friday 23

Quiz Charsfield VH 7.30pm
Contact 890271

Saturday 24

Bealings Annual Plant Sale BVH 10am – 12noon Contact 735565/610219

Monday 26

AGM & Quiz Night Otley & Dist Gardening Club VH 7.30pm Contact 890991

Wednesday 28

Otley Quiet Day with Rev Catherine Beaumont Otley Hall 10am – 4pm PBE
Contact 890264

MAY

Monday 3

Plant & Book Sale Hasketon VH 2.30pm Contact 01394 383106/388970

Tuesday 4

Otley Quiet Day with Rev Margaret Keeling Otley Hall 10am – 4pm PBE Contact 890264

Thursday 6

Members Meeting Gr Burgh & Culpho WI, PR 7.30pm
Contact 735838

Monday 10

Gr & Culpho Parish Council Mtg PR 7.30pm Contact 735541

Friday 14

Mercy Ships Charity talk Hasketon VH supper 7.15pm
PBE Contact 01394 388970/610214

Tuesday 18

Sutton Hoo talk Robert Simper Gr Local History Soc PR 7.30pm Contact 738195

Thursday 20

Planting Hanging Baskets & Tubs talk Bealings WI, VH 7.30pm Contact 623985

Saturday 22

Charsfield Fun Day Alan Pedgrift Memorial Field 11am
Contact 890271

JUNE

Thursday 3

Family History Research talk Gr Burgh & Culpho WI, PR 7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 11

Butan – Land of the Thunder talk Chris Parfit Hasketon VH supper 7.15pm
PBE Contact 01394 388970/610214

Saturday 12

Hidden Gardens Gr Burgh & Culpho Hort Soc Contact 738267

Tuddenham Fete Poplar Farm 2pm Contact 785415

Sunday 13

Hidden Gardens Gr Burgh & Culpho Hort Soc Contact 738267

Monday 14

Otley Parish Council Meeting OVH 7.30pm.
Contact 890271

Thursday 17

Investments & Money Matters talk & Quiz
Bealings WI, VH 2.30pm
Contact 623985

Saturday 19

Concert by Ipswich Choral Society at St. Mary's Church, Grundisburgh iao St. Mary's 7.30pm. Contact 735481

Sunday 20

Open Air Meeting Gr Chapel GVG 3pm Contact 738856

Sunday 27

Hasketon Jazz & BBQ
Shrubbery Farm 12 noon
Contact 01394 383106

JULY

Friday 2

History of Felixstowe Docks talk Hasketon VH supper 7.15pm PBE Contact 01394 388970/610214

Saturday 3

Strawberries & Bubbly 2 St. Peters Close, Charsfield 2pm
Contact 737701

Saturday 17

Village Show & car boot Gr Burgh & Culpho Hort Soc GrPF Contact 738267

Saturday 24

Duck Race iao Gr Scouts, GrVG Contact 735352

AUGUST

Saturday 14

Hasketon Fete VG 2pm
Contact 01394 388970

Key for abbreviations:

P/VH - Parish/Village hall

PF - Playing field

PR - Parish rooms

VG - Village green

S - School

PBE - pre-booking essential

iao - in aid of

All codes are 01473 unless given otherwise.

Diary items to be sent to: Heather Langdon, The Holme, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, heather.langdon@btinternet.com. Now that The News has gone quarterly, an updated version will be published at the end of each month for display on notice boards, websites etc.



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What's On

Looking ahead to summer

Gardeners in Grundisburgh & Culpho willing to open up to visitors over the weekend of 12/13 June are being sought by the horticultural society. "We'd like this to include some which have not opened before. They don't have to be large or meticulously manicured, just likely to be of interest to fellow gardeners" said society chairman Richard Cooper.

The main event in the horticultural society's calendar is the Village Show on 17 July, and lists of all the classes are available in Grundisburgh Post Office and on the website. The most popular category at last year's show was photography. The topics this year are 'A spring day', 'Out and About in Suffolk', and 'Too Hot!'. The well supported men's baking classes will be back, as will other hotly contested categories for 'Sloe Gin' and 'Other fruit based alcohol'.

The show costs a lot to mount, particularly hiring the large marquee for the playing field. The society is always looking for support - from companies by taking advertising in the show schedule or sponsoring one or more classes, or individuals becoming vice presidents and making an annual donation.

Anyone who would like to become involved in any way, including by opening their garden, can contact me in the first instance.

Nicola Hobbs, secretary, Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society, 01473 738267, nicola@nicolahobbs.com

BEALINGS PLANT SALE

Now in its 18th year, Bealings Annual Plant Sale gains in reputation and popularity with the range of plants growing wider: shrubs, vegetables, herbs, flowers, saplings and so much more.

Of special note are the perennials many of which are not available in local garden centres.

The sale takes place on Saturday 24 April, from 10am to 12noon at Bealings Village Hall. Admission is £1 including refreshments. Afterwards why not stroll down to the Admiral's Head to enjoy a leisurely lunch? For families, there is a playing field behind the hall to keep children amused leaving their parents free to browse. Parking is also available.

Proceeds are in aid of Great and Little Bealings churches. For further details contact Norman Porter 01473 735565 or Geoff or Paddy Bills 01473 610219

Bridge for charity

There is to be a Bridge Drive in Bredfield Village Hall on 17 March at 2pm in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. Tickets can be purchased in advance from Wendy Wilson 01473 614858 or Biddy Watson 01473 735688. They cost £6 and include afternoon tea.

More barbecue with jazz

Though we find it difficult to believe, it is 14 years since we started the barbecue and jazz event at Shrubbery Farm in aid of Hasketon's historic round tower church. It has become something of an institution and we can't see it stopping until the oldies drop!

I've booked the excellent traditional jazz again; this year the popular Mike Barry (who was with us two years ago) returns, this time with his 'Fervent Six'.

A well seasoned bunch of players so book early. The usual timing: last Sunday in June (27th), midday until 4 pm. Fabulous food from the barbecue and great traditional jazz. Tickets from the farm or phone 01394 383106 or 388970.

Gordon Smith

A host of events in Charsfield

Charsfield Recreation Ground Committee has arranged its fund raising events calendar for 2010. We kick off with a St George's Day quiz on 23 April in Charsfield Village Hall, including a two course supper.

There will be family fun days on the Alan Pedgrift Memorial Field on 22 May and 4 September when the sports equipment and pitches will be available free for organised games, followed by a BBQ. On 3 July you are invited to a 'Strawberries and Bubbly' afternoon at 2 St Peters Close and on 17 October come and join us for a lazy Sunday morning 'Big Breakfast' in the village hall.

Finally, back by popular demand, our wonderful Suffolk Night on 13 November with a host of well known local celebrities. Look out for further details of all these events.

Jan Pedgrift, Secretary, Charsfield Recreation Ground Committee, 01473 737701

TURNING THE TIDE

Burnt out and confused by climate change doom, gloom and deception? Then come and enjoy 'Turning the Tide', a 30 minute fun and funny fantasy from the Open Space Theatre Company. After the play join in an audience discussion. The event is free - just turn up, families (and climate change sceptics) especially welcome. It takes

place in Otley Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 24 March, organised by OtleyGreen. More about Otley's environmental group is featured on page 17.

Pub quiz nights

The Moon and Mushroom at Swilland is continuing its monthly quiz nights, with next one on 17 March at 9 pm. Sandwiches are served at half-time and a gallon of real ale is awarded to the winning team!

A Chocolate Fair

Saturday March 27th, 2010 at 2.00 p.m.

at the Playford Parish Hall

Come to a Chocolate Fair at Playford and bring the children.

Easter eggs hunt for the children, plus decorating your own Easter egg to win a prize.

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News tributes

Sue Baines, June 1948 to October 2009

Sue and her husband Ray moved to Grundisburgh 11 years ago. An enthusiastic cook, Sue regularly made cakes and sandwiches for the village show, and did the catering for the cheese and wine parties to raise funds for the horticultural society. She thoroughly enjoyed village life and I am sure that her cakes, hugs and smiling face will be missed by all who knew her.

Sarah Baines, daughter in law

Doug Sheldrake, September 1949 to December 2009



Doug and his wife Kathy came to live in Grundisburgh in 1976. He had a variety of jobs including foundry man,

groundsman and mechanic. He was good with his hands and liked to 'tinker with motorbikes' - he once built his own. They had three daughters; Mandy born in 1974, and Joanne and Monica in the same year, 1978,

(although they are not twins!) All three were very much 'Daddy's Girls', says Kathy, and he was very fond of his grandchildren.



Doug suffered from muscular dystrophy for many years and last October had a second heart attack. Kathy would like to thank Rev'd Canon Clare Sanders for all her help and support, and for a beautiful funeral service - to neighbours and friends for their help and sympathy.

Madge Nicholas

Ron Grout, March 1930 to January 2010

Ron was 12 when his school was bombed and it seems he never went back, instead working with his father. At 16 he joined the Royal Navy, stationed at Chatham, and it was there he met Jeanne who was a Wren. When he was 19 they left the navy so that they might marry, and went to live in Jeanne's home county of Yorkshire. Ron's interest in nursing had



been sparked by the navy, and he and Jeanne both trained at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. Ron decided to specialise in psychiatric nursing. Thus they came to Melton, to St Audrey's Hospital, and in 1960 bought a bungalow in Post Mill Gardens, Grundisburgh. Their daughter Mel - who now works at Grundisburgh School - was born there.

In the mid 70s Ron was instrumental in setting-up and running Minsmere House, the psychiatric unit at Ipswich Hospital, and he was responsible for running the unit for many years, before moving to St Clements Hospital from where he eventually retired.

Ron never lost his love for the sea, and sailing his boat moored at Woodbridge. At his request his ashes are to be scattered on the river Deben,

Madge Nicholas

Pat Gray 1920 to January 2010

During the war Pat trained as a milliner but due to the bombing she got involved with building repair work. After many moves, living on boats and on firm ground, she and her husband Bernard came to Woodbridge, then Playford and finally to Grundisburgh.

Pat had been interested in painting all her life, and it was in Woodbridge that she really started taking it seriously. She often exhibited locally and took many commissions,



painting wonderful portraits of people and of their pets. It was in the early 90s that she was invited to show several paintings at a London exhibition, which she felt was the highlight of her career.

Pat's last home was in sheltered housing in Ipswich where she settled well and found new friends. Sadly she fell victim to Alzheimers, but she continued to paint for most of her time there.

Rupert Herries

The part of Grundisburgh News I find the hardest is the obituaries. I am given a lot of information about people who have led interesting and valuable lives. With The News covering 17 villages and only now coming out four times a year, the problem increases.

Mainly I try to concentrate on the person's local community activities. The extra fascinating details are placed in The News 'Tributes' folder kept in Grundisburgh Post Office, where they are available for everyone to read.

Nicola Hobbs, editor

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Grundisburgh Gleanings

nutritionist. Originally

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Stars

The stars were certainly twinkling over Grundisburgh for the duration of GADS' Panto this year. A very lively performance of local talent including many children from Grundisburgh Primary School and some from Farlingaye High School too, was enjoyed by large audiences.

We were expertly guided through the show by the ancient Wizard Maz (Ian Frost) and the voluptuous, audacious Wizzo Gran (Joel Tatham) who quickly gave us the impression that Americans had been playing Panto dames for years!

Good portrayals of the main characters: Prince Valiant (Vicky Hart), Princess Twinkle (Charlotte Tatham) and Christa the wannabe Wizardess (Nikki Brown) were enacted in words and music with a high standard of singing enhanced by the new sound equipment. The music (played by John Richards) was well-chosen and aptly fitted into a variety of scenes and emotions as did Charlotte Tatham's choreography. Comic duo of Wiggle (Kate Adams) and

Wobble (Judith Bignell-Pepper) brilliantly relieved the tension from the menacing moments of Steve Newton's scary performance as the Dark Creeper and of his sidekick Scag (Adam Kearney) while Brian White's portrayal of Doom together with his faithful hound Yapper (Tessa Bailey) amused us all. The children's roles were all confidently played with obvious enjoyment which was

infectious; in fact all the roles were well-cast and produced a dramatic effect, helped by a good wardrobe and scenery team. Madge Nicholas as director must be proud of them all.

Three of GADS members were concurrently appearing in The Company of Four's production

of Cinderella – how *do* they learn their lines without getting mixed up?

GADS' next production is "Home is where your clothes are", a comedy by Anthony Marriott and Bob Grant will be directed by Charlotte Crown, and performed in Grundisburgh Village Hall on 3, 4 and 5 June.

Words Marian Rosling, photos Brian Robinson

Apologies for cutting to fit in available space. Ed



Father and daughter act: Joel and Charlotte Tatham.



Some of panto stars on Grundisburgh's new bridge. Photo Peter Kendall

NEW BRIDGE OVER THE FORD

Gone is the old footbridge across the stream near Williams' shop on The Green at Grundisburgh. It frequently caused water to back up behind it after heavy rain with the potential to flood nearby properties: the new pre-cast

concrete bridge has no middle post which should allow the water to flow much more freely. It was installed very efficiently in a few days in February by Suffolk Highways at a cost of about £3,000.

Conservation area consultation: more time for comments

Suffolk Coastal is currently putting the spotlight on conservation areas in its district. The latest appraisal includes parts of Grundisburgh and Burgh. It has published a 34 page document which can be seen on its website (see below) and at the Melton Hill offices. The consultation period has been extended until mid March to enable more people to comment on the document, which includes a lot of photographs and interesting information, and on its proposals. The conservation area includes the properties around The Green, some adjacent roads and fields, and the edge of Burgh.

www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/planning/conservation/appraisals

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Slow progress on the roads front

Save our Rural Roads (SORR) continues its efforts to improve the quality of life for local residents by reducing the amount of heavy lorries on our roads. We have been challenging decisions made (or not) by our local authorities. But progress is slow on the key cases previously reported in The News.

For example, we originally

complained in May 2007 to Suffolk Coastal about Gressingham Foods' unauthorised development. Nearly three years later, little has happened except that the company has now applied for a Certificate of Lawful Development which, if granted, would give them the green light to carry on, bringing more heavy vehicles onto small country roads.

In November 2009, SORR formally complained to the Chief Executive of Suffolk Coastal about their handling of this case and we have now referred the issue to the Ombudsman

SORR has lobbied for a fair and open discussion about the planning service. We have also enlisted the support of local MP Sir Michael Lord who has written our behalf to the Leader of Suffolk Coastal to recommend that our request for a public hearing be granted.

Tony Fryatt, secretary, SORR, 01473 737218, a.j.fryatt@btinternet.com

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Grundisburgh Gleanings

GRUNDISBURGH CHURCH PROMOTES FAIR TRADE



The 'Fair Trade' logo has become increasingly familiar in shops, indicating that part of the amount paid is returned to the growers so that they earn more for what they produce. The Fairtrade Foundation was set up about 30 years ago to create opportunities for poor producers and ensure fair trading practices both in terms of payment and prices, to ensure that children are not

and items on sale in a supermarkets, but sells a variety of other products such as hand made cards, jewellery, cotton goods, candles, toiletries, and even wine, as can be seen in its catalogue.

For some time Grundisburgh residents Pat and Robert Fletcher have obtained goods from the group selling Traidcraft items from the Methodist church in

Woodbridge. Now

Pat has formed a separate Grundisburgh unit with six members operating from St. Mary's Church. There will be a stall in the church to sell Fairtrade goods after Sunday services, and also at the monthly Saturday coffee mornings in the parish rooms.

Traidcraft is running a national

Fairtrade Fortnight from 22 February to 7 March. The theme of the fortnight is 'The Big Swap' which aims to encourage the purchase of Fairtrade items in preference to commercial brands in the marketplace. The Grundisburgh unit is also taking part in 'The Big Brew' on 7 March in St. Mary's which will serve Fairtrade tea at 10.15am before the morning service.

Pat and her group hope local people will support them as they provide Fairtrade alternatives to the commercial brands many of us still buy.

Words and photos Wendy Witt



Pat and Robert Fletcher.

being exploited, that there is no discrimination, and that working conditions are safe.

'Traidcraft' was a founder member of the Fairtrade Foundation and, of course, supports the aims of fair trade; but it goes further by focussing on trading with poor producer groups and helping them to develop their skills for the long term. It provides credit when needed, pays fair prices and works to encourage fair treatment of workers, and good working conditions.

As its name implies, Traidcraft is not just concerned with food



Reverend Canon Clare Sanders and beavers.

SCOUTING NEWS

As always Grundisburgh Scout and Explorer Groups have been really active. We are hoping to receive another Growth Certificate this year as our numbers in the scouts are up to 72 (and this does not include Fynn Valley Explorers whose own numbers are also increasing).

The beavers visited Woodbridge Fire Station for a talk, to look at the fire engines and play with the water hoses; they also went bowling at Kingpin and tobogganing at Wherstead.

Reverend Canon Clare Sanders gave a talk to the beavers about their Friendship Badge. In March they are having a sleepover at Sizewell. Some of the cubs took part in the district night hike at half-term and camped overnight at Grundisburgh.

The scouts are doing very well with the Global and Creative Challenges. Matthew Blackie, Rhys Gratton, Robert Taylor

and Jessica Townley came fifth in the County Cooking Competition at Kesgrave, creating a lovely three course meal. Some older scouts joined explorers on Phoenix Camp. In March the scouts will be taking part in a troop camp at Boxford and explorers are camping in Thetford Forest at Easter. Some members are joining with Kesgrave on the Cycle Camp at end of April.

Thorpey, our assistant scout leader, has been awarded Scout and Red Cross First Aid Badges. We would be grateful for more volunteers to help with our group: in particular we need an assistant cub leader.

There are two parades: for Mother's Day at Grundisburgh Church on 14 March, and St George's Day at Leiston on 25 April. The ducks will be racing again on 24 July.

More information about our activities on our websites: www.grundisburghscouts.org.uk www.fynnvalleyexplorers.org.uk

*Pat Ross, group secretary/troop assistant
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Grundisburgh Gleanings



LUNCH CLUB CELEBRATIONS

The end of year Christmas celebrations for Grundisburgh Lunch Club were enjoyed by 15 members and 16 helpers. Glasses were raised to the festive season and another year of good food and friendship.

The Revd. Canon Clare Sanders said grace and helped pour the wine, then members together with helpers and car drivers all sat down to a splendid traditional Christmas lunch provided for us by the 'The Dog'. We owe a sincere debt of gratitude to James and

Charles Rogers for their support throughout the year, and to all the staff in providing the delicious meals for us at the parish rooms. Without the lunches there would be no lunch club!

After lunch the group were entertained by members of The Kesgrave Singers. We thoroughly enjoyed the foot-tapping medley of wartime and Christmas songs, the comedy sketches and poems, and joined in the finale of traditional carols. The lunch club year ended with two more outings; to Farlingaye High School for a concert tea and carols and the Snape Christmas Spectacular.

Irene Brunning

Santa Special

Once again Santa visited Grundisburgh and enjoyed seeing lots of children in his grotto

on 12 December. Our thanks to Martin Hunt for providing the steam traction rides, Ann Willetts for face painting, and many other helpers. The support was much appreciated, raising £502 for the RNLI Aldeburgh.

Marion and Dennis Pratt

history evening, a talk on the benefits of aloe vera, our summer outing, a harvest supper and a talk about Japan to name a few (see diary page for details). Visitors are always welcome.

From information supplied by Carol Barker, 735838

WI report

January saw Grundisburgh transformed into a winter wonderland. However, this also meant, along with most other events, that the WI's new year meeting had to be cancelled. The desert island discs evening may be resurrected at a future date.

Our February meeting went ahead as planned and Sally Doherty came along to talk to us about the Red Cross. She arrived looking extremely smart in her ceremonial uniform. It transpired that it had been specially made for her to attend the 2006 remembrance service at the Cenotaph, London, when she was one of only two representatives from Suffolk.

We have an interesting year ahead of us covering many subjects, including a family

BAPTIST CHAPEL

Grundisburgh Baptist Chapel extends a 'big invitation' to its Easter events: Good Friday - Family Easter Egg Hunt at the Millennium Meadow. 2.30pm. 50p per child, in aid of African children (parking available at the chapel).

Easter Sunday - 10.45am Service to celebrate Christ's resurrection, and 4pm Family Service, followed by tea.

Jungle Club - a holiday club for primary school age children. Tuesday 6 to Thursday 8 April, 10.30am to 12noon. Admission free.

If you would like any pastoral counselling or support or if you know anyone in hospital who would appreciate a visit, please do not hesitate to ring me.

Colin Grimwood, 01473 738856, 07823 339150

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Photo by Alan Walters with the suggested caption "The lengths some people will go to get a drink at The Dog!"

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Grundisburgh Gleanings

PARISH PLAN

Back in 2003 - at the annual parish meeting - it was agreed that we should embark on the task of producing a parish plan, which would enable local people to take stock of their community and identify ways of improving it.

A steering group and several 'focus groups' were formed to look at the various issues. Questionnaires were sent to all households, local clubs and organisations. A vast amount of data was collected which, after processing, gave a clear consensus of what people wanted to see achieved by way of development and facilities in both the villages of Grundisburgh and Culpho.

A final report was published in 2006 with the requirements tabled as 57 'actions', ranging from simple but important matters to ambitious and costly schemes requiring dialogue and support from other agencies.

I am pleased to report that 41 of these have been achieved, which is a very good outcome. Nine more actions are still being pursued by various committees. The remaining seven are currently considered to be unachievable and will only be revisited should the financial position or other circumstances greatly improve.

Full details of the 57 actions and the progress made in each case can be found in the Parish Plan Action List Progress Report published on the parish council website

(<http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/GrundisburghPC/>). A paper version of this can be seen in Grundisburgh Post Office.

Dennis Crowe, Chairman, Grundisburgh & Culpho PC

Safety scheme for the ford

Continued from page 1:



The proposed measures for improving safety at the ford behind the parish rooms are:

- ❖ No entry signs at the Woodbridge Road entrance
- ❖ Access only signs to old school and church at the Stoney Road entrance
- ❖ Centre lines to be painted on the Stoney Road approach
- ❖ The path on Stoney Road past the old school to be extended with a white line
- ❖ Two pedestrian crossing points marked on the road at the old school and church
- ❖ Wooden posts installed to protect the grass verge behind The Coach House
- ❖ The footpath over the parish room ford to be re-surfaced.

A Traffic Regulation Order has been published to allow for a period of consultation. A copy of the draft order and a map may be inspected in Grundisburgh Post Office, Ipswich Library or the county council offices in Ipswich.

Representations concerning it must be in writing and sent to Heather Miller, Suffolk County Council, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich IP1 2BX by 23 March.

Grundisburgh historian Keith Burch says the lane was once known as 'Sandy Walks'. This could be a good time to restore the name as it describes exactly what the lane was intended to be used for - and we hope will be returned to in the future.

John Ager, parish clerk,

Grundisburgh & Culpho's annual parish meeting this year will be held on Tuesday 20 April. It starts at 7.30pm and takes place in Grundisburgh Village Hall.

Parish council vacancy

There is a vacancy on the parish council which can be filled by co-option. Candidates need to be 18 or over, live within three miles of the villages, or work in them, be on the electoral register - and interested in helping to improve the quality of life. To be considered please contact John Ager, the parish clerk 8 Post Mill Close, Grundisburgh IP13 6UU, 01473 735541 j.ager@tesco.net by 5 March.

HOW THINGS WERE

Adam Gurdon is contributing a series of articles about 'how things were' in Burgh and Grundisburgh when he came to live in Burgh House as a

small boy in 1942. The next two will focus on farming and wartime.

The News would welcome the loan of any photographs to illustrate these, together with information about them. Please drop these in to Ford House with a self addressed envelope so I can copy and return them.

The first article received an enthusiastic response from our faithful 94 year old reader in Australia. Millie Harris says it brought back many memories of her childhood in Grundisburgh. Her father had been landlord of the Half Moon, while Pipe's Corner was named after her Uncle Walter at the basket works.

*Nicola Hobbs, Ford House
(by Grundisburgh church)*

Former guide leader and postie Gill Girling sends her thanks for the good wishes and gifts during her recent knee operation, and says she is recovering well.

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THE BED & BREAKFAST BUSINESS

A large furry sloth which starred as a handbag in 'The Goodies' and a SPFX cow's head made for the film 'Rob Roy' are among the embellishments at the new Church House Bed & Breakfast in Clopton.

These and other items come from Richard Pirkis's past as a designer for film and TV. He and Sally moved from London some 20 years ago to what was then a rather derelict bungalow - probably built by German POW's in the 1940's - as a home for themselves and their sons Oliver and Louis. Over the years, which often involved periods of camping



Top: Queen Mary sat here - the chair always used by the wife of King George V when she visited the shop run by Richard Pirkis's grandfather in London.
Left: Sally Pirkis.
Below: Richard and film star.

in other B&B's to get ideas as to what makes a really good stay. Breakfasts for Church House guests are served in the farmhouse style kitchen using pottery made by an accomplished local potter and includes home-made bread, preserves, and yogurt together with, where possible, organic homegrown, locally produced or fairtrade products.

Words Nicola Hobbs, photos by Peter Kendall

Contacts: Sally and Richard Pirkis, Church House, Clopton, IP13 6QB, 01473 735 350, sallypirkis@gmail.com, www.churchhouseandbsuffolk.co.uk.



for the family, the bungalow has been transformed into a very stylish and comfortable two storey house which is now taking its first bed and breakfast guests.

Virtually all the work has been done by Richard, an architect, supported by Sally's designer eye (she designs and makes silver jewellery.) As well as pieces from his grandfather's antique business, much of the furniture and fittings have been made by Richard. Nearly all the paintings and sculpture are by friends, some of whom are noted artists - and much of the art is for sale.

Before they opened, Sally and Richard made a point of staying

co.uk

Other bed and breakfast in The News' area include Little Thatch in Culpho, where Libby Cooper also specialises in home made produce for her guests' breakfasts. They can also benefit from the large garden and busy birdlife. (www.little-thatch.co.uk, 01473 738330).

Sharon and Martin Cripps have notched up 50 years in the hospitality trade between them and can add eggs from their own hens to their local produce on the breakfast table. Their Apple Tree Cottage B & B in Great Bealings has just been awarded 3 stars from Visit Britain scheme for a fifth year running.

(appletreebedandbreakfast.co.uk, 01473 738997).

Robert and Anne Hutchison at Hawthorn Cottage, Lower Road, Grundisburgh, have converted a barn into self-catering bed and breakfast facilities which are particularly suitable for children. Being all on one level, it also appeals to elderly people. (01473 738199.)

Slimming successes

Lisa Miller (right) from Little Bealings was one of the models at a charity fashion show in November organised by Dawn Quantrill, the Rosemary Conley franchisee in East Suffolk. The show, held in Playford Village Hall, raised £1,400 for the St Elizabeth Hospice and Diabetes UK.

Dawn and seven of her successful slimmers who modelled at the show had between them lost almost 17 stones. Lisa herself had shed one and a half stones since joining the classes.

Dawn runs 11 classes in the area, including one in Grundisburgh Village Hall every Wednesday morning. Anyone interested in joining this or other classes should contact Dawn on 07836



Learning the art of ve

Suffolk was a holiday destination for me as a child with lively, fun-loving grandparents in Southwold. An exchange of life eight years ago, moving to just outside Bredfield, was unexpected and never regretted.

Exhausted by years in a city and now bringing up young children; space, fresh air and nostalgic memories led us back here. Suddenly we had a garden: a garden we had dreamed of, yet naively never realised its ability for such rampant growth. The house had an old, Victorian walled garden where espalier fruit



539508, dawn.quantrill@rosemaryconley.com

Such was the success of Dawn's fashion show that Lisa is going on to organise her own, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. It takes place on Friday 5 March in Martlesham. Details are available from her on 07946 811236. Lisa will also be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro later in the year as part of her fundraising campaign for Macmillan.

Photograph Tony Franklin



Vegetable growing

trees lined the walls and vegetables and herbs grew in ordered rows, a glasshouse with ancient vines trailing the roof and succulent peaches ripening on its south wall.

It was horticultural sink or swim, so I rolled up my sleeves, bought some shiny tools and started growing. Watching seeds develop into succulent vegetables and nurturing them along the way was a revelation, the soil was rich and loamy and soon the challenge of growing almost everything had captured me.

A year at Otley with the inspiring Rick Staines, following the RHS course, and a design course at the Chelsea Physic garden in London, filled in the academic blanks. The seed for the idea of an on-site vegetable gardening school was quite literally sown.

With a passion for growing and cooking, the desire to pass on skills and inspire others to grow has created the business, The Grower. Many people start growing with enthusiasm and abandon their plots due to problem attacks, lack of time and insufficient preparation.

Knowing the vegetables to suit your soil, knowledge of early, mid and late season crops, avoiding gluts and growing for every month of the year as well as delicious recipes to make the most of your harvest, are all aspects of my courses. Having a seasonal lunch from the garden, meeting other enthusiastic beginners and seeing what is growing here, contributes to a special day.

Part of the business is also a

visit to your plot or potential growing site, understanding what you like to eat, the time you have and the growing site available, then designing a kitchen garden to suit your individual needs. Designs are presented in a folder with extensive information on managing your garden. This has proved a wonderful gift for a special occasion, such as birthdays and retirements. For more information do please contact me.

Belinda Gray, 01394 384712, www.the-grower.co.uk

Newton Hall marks 50 years

March 18th marks the 50th anniversary of Newton Hall Equitation Centre (NHEC) at Swilland which the proprietor Rossie Theobald BHSI began by offering riding tuition in 1960. The anniversary party is being celebrated at the Elizabeth Hotel Copdock from 7pm on Saturday 27 March, and everyone who has been associated with NHEC is invited to attend - tickets at £15 each are available from the office.

Whilst equitation skills remain at the core of the business, Newton Hall has grown considerably since then and is now one of the leading riding centres in the region. It is an approved British Horse Society (BHS) training and exam centre and livery yard and has several BHS qualified instructors.

Set within 70 acres of grassland the centre has an large indoor arena, two all-weather outdoor arenas, an indoor school, cross country fences and a number of fenced paddocks. The indoor arena is large enough to stage affiliated competitions, national qualifiers and BHS training days all year round, with riders regularly travelling from all over East Anglia and beyond to take part. It has a judges' box at first floor level for good visibility and a livery yard with 26 indoor loose boxes. Livery owners have appreciated the facilities and schooling at Newton Hall and as the livery is next to the arena, it means that they can

turn up and ride on site whatever the weather.

The continuing success of Newton Hall is assured by offering the best facilities to young and old riders alike with a full and varied programme and a choice of over 50 well schooled horses and ponies. Young riders are offered tuition which is safe, fun and interesting, and children can learn to ride with confidence on the well-mannered ponies. Experience can be then gained by hacking out, jumping and taking part in competitions, and the tuition is backed with practical and theoretical stable management.

Adult beginners of any age are also taught in a controlled and safe environment whilst advanced tuition enables the more experienced riders to take part in regular competitions at Newton Hall and off site which include

show jumping, dressage, cross country and showing.

A key part of the activities is the educational and practical training offered. Residential and day students study for qualifications recognised and endorsed by the equine industry. Regular BHS courses are held and examinations take place on site as well as riding and road safety training and tests.



Rossie Theobald

For details of our latest programme and contact details, please visit www.nhec.co.uk or phone 01473 785616. Or take a look at our Facebook page.

Chris Miller, Newton Hall Equitation Centre, Swilland

Among the local enterprise features in our next issue will be one on Nicky Seabrook, who lives in Portland House, Grundisburgh. She has just set up in practice as a child nutritionist.



the Grower



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BRIEFLY ...

LINKs have been set up nationally give people the power to question health and social care practice within local communities and investigate specific concerns. Anyone can join a LINK, the more people involved the stronger it will be. Membership is free and members decide the extent of their involvement. Ferial Evans of Little Bealings (01473 624141 or ferial.evans@virgin.net) represents the area on the Suffolk Board and is happy to discuss what's involved.

Plant Heritage's Suffolk Group is having its two plant fairs at Helmingham Hall again this year - on Sundays 30 May and 19 September, from 10.30am to 4pm. The £6 ticket price includes entry to the hall's gardens. For details visit www.nccpgsuffolk.org

Suffolk Police Authority is appealing for more Suffolk residents to become involved in policing matters by joining the Independent Advisory Group (IAG). This provides independent advice on a range of police issues. 01473 782774, www.suffolkpoliceauthority.org.uk

Hasketon Highlights

Fight to save green for village use

Despite Hasketon Parish Council's fight to protect the Village Green from house building on the part that we also use for a car park, a 'for sale' sign has recently appeared. So the battle begins again to save this site from development, with its 24" gas main running underneath and this after already many years of argument and negotiation.

The other matter that concerns the parish council is the Manor Road 'rat run' between B1079 Grundisburgh Road and the A12. This is a narrow road, with parts that are invisible where the road dips, and is frequently used by Hasketon residents when going to Woodbridge. It is persistently being exploited by drivers of buses and becomes very dangerous. Our parish clerk has again contacted Suffolk County Council asking for its help.

PUB NEWS

The Turks Head is now a very popular village meeting place, welcoming

visitors from the surrounding area. It opens each evening for drinks and on Fridays and the weekend for delicious lunch food, with evening meals on Friday and Saturday. On Mondays when the Fish & Chip van calls at 7pm for an hour or so, you can take your meal into the pub and have a drink too.

STAY AND PLAY

The Caterpillar Children's Centre runs in the Victory Hall on Tuesday mornings between 10 and 11.30am, when sessions are run by Suffolk County Council for children between 0 and 5 years old, and their parents. 'Stay and Play' is their slogan.

Visitors are offered a free play session with crafts, toys and fun ... and a healthy snack is provided. There is no need to book, but if you want to speak to the organisers, phone 01394 462191.

Growing support for 2nd Fridays

Chris Place's February talk about 'Drug dogs and their handlers in the Prison Service' was enthusiastically received by an 84 strong audience, who enjoyed the humorous description of his work with Rusty and Buzz.

The following four '2nd Fridays' promise to be good

entertainment, and they will all start with a ploughman's supper at 7.15pm - where else can you get a tasty meal and an interesting talk for just £5?

On 12 March we shall have a return visit by Mark Mitchells who will tell us about the Bayeux Tapestry. Molly's quiz night will be on 9 April, when you will need a team of four, which we can help you with if necessary.

On 14 May the subject will be the charity 'Mercy Ships', who give help in a multitude of ways to the people in the world's poorest countries. Ase Baldwin will tell us of their work, and ask us for our support - so please bring some extra cash. Chris Parfitt is our speaker on 11 June when he will describe his visit to 'Bhutan - Land of the Thunder Dragon'.

I have had to bring forward the date of our July talk about 'The History of Felixstowe Docks' to Friday 2 July, as my daughter is to be married on 10 July and I expect we shall be rather busy the previous evening!

Because of the snow we had to put off Tom Tyler's January talk about the Solomon Islands and have added it as an extra event on 24 September.

Richard L. Smith

Crossroads Care is the new name for the charity which cares for carers. Among its fund raising is the 100+ Club organised by Katherine Smith (01394 388970)

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Bredfield Barometer

THE BREDFIELD CHARITIES

Two charities were founded many years ago for the benefit of the people of the parish of Bredfield. The Bredfield Town Land Trust was originally founded in 1812 for 'general charitable purposes', essentially to benefit the parishioners of Bredfield, whilst Marjoram's Charity dates from 1935 and was to be applied for the benefit of the poor or sick persons residing in Bredfield or Boulge.

Until recently these have been separately administered, but at a public meeting in November 2008, it was decided to restructure the two charities. In April 2009, the first meeting of a new group of trustees was held, who agreed to combine the two charities, under the name The Bredfield Charities. It is currently administered by a small group, drawn from the parochial church council, the parish council and the village hall committee. Income for the charities is derived from an investment fund which has been producing reasonable returns over several years.

Applications for grants can be made at any time, but are only considered at a meeting usually held in the autumn - money granted should be for capital items, and not towards the day to day running of an organisation. During the last

year the recently formed youth group in Bredfield has been able to use the charity to purchase equipment. If you think that you or your group may benefit from a grant, or need more information please contact me.

David Hepper, secretary to the charities at Djhepper@aol.com or on 01394 386565

Improvements to village hall

For some time the village hall committee has been working to gather funds to update and improve the hall. This is now showing results.

A good deal of work was carried out during 2009. The flat roof and fascia boarding has been replaced and a new floor, using vinyl strips and carpet tiles has been laid; the toilets have been completely refurbished and the entrance has been repainted. Baby changing facilities have been installed in the disabled toilet area. All this has been thanks to a mixture of grants made by a number of bodies, and fund raising efforts by the committee - more quiz nights are planned to boost this.

For 2010 more work is planned. At the top of our priority list is the car park - the recent bad weather served to highlight the poor state of the surface. Hopefully in the course of the next few months the car park will be re-surfaced and the drainage improved, which should make things much better. A new disabled ramp will also be

installed at the main entrance. The elderly boiler will be replaced by a new, more efficient condensing boiler. The committee is also looking at purchasing new chairs. It is realised that work on the car park will inevitably cause some disruption, but the committee will try to keep this to a minimum.

David Hepper, Treasurer, Bredfield Village Hall

Shop (very) local

It is now nearly four years since Bredfield Village Shop became a Community Interest Company - although this has not changed the ethos of the shop. It is still staffed by 30+ locals on a rota basis, as it has been over the past 20 years. Although run as a community business the shop makes a profit which is used to pay the overheads and ploughed back into investment.

Also the shop makes donations to support local activities such as the village hall, youth club and church. The stock is still growing and turnover increasing, which has recently been enhanced by a decision to source the vegetables from Newbourne, which have proved very popular. The recent cold snaps have proved how popular our village amenity can be with takings up as people realised how convenient it was to shop locally and not face icy roads to a faceless supermarket.

We can only hope that once shoppers have experienced the friendliness and convenience of Bredfield Shop and also realised the value then they might shop with us more regularly. Opening times for the shop are 9.30am to 12.30 pm Monday to Friday, also Wednesday 2pm to 4pm and Saturday 9am to 12 noon

Roswyn Bradshaw.

THE CASTLE

Bredfield has got its pub back from closure under a holding arrangement - with Roy Rodger as its manager.

Food will be available again as soon as the pub's future is more secure and already Roy is putting on events to draw people back to The Castle. Quiz nights on the last Thursday in the month raise money for the local bowls club and there is a 'Children v Parents' quiz on 10 March to support the Youth organisation Just42. Why not drop in on 5 March to hear the 5-piece band 'Infra Red'?

As with so many local pubs these days, it's a case of "use it or lose it" - unfortunately, Bredfield is no exception!

Richard Watkinson

Mary Bishop is holding an exhibition and sale of her paintings at the Ancient House Gallery, Buttermarket, Ipswich, from 13 to 17 April, 10.30am to 5pm. She has two further events planned in Forford Town Hall on 30/31 May and 17/18 July



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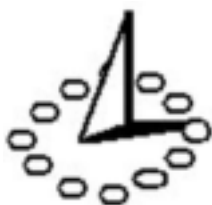


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Otley Offerings

An Otley Local History Group?

Have you ever wondered who lived in Otley in the past? What did they look like? What were their lives like? When do the buildings that we see today date from, what was there before them? What links did Otley have with the rest of Suffolk and beyond?

Would you like to help to collect and record fascinating facts about the history of Otley, and preserve it for the future? If so, would you like to be part of a local history group for Otley? No special skills are needed, just an interest, or perhaps memories of Otley when you were younger.

If you are interested in forming a local history group for Otley, please get in touch with me - Sally Whiffing, either by e-mail sally@whiffing.freemove.co.uk or phone 01473 892030.

New projects from OtleyGreen to save money and energy

Working with the Suffolk Coastal District Council, OtleyGreen is managing the Greener Homes DIY initiative. This is a fantastic scheme that provides free materials and equipment to help save energy and money. Everyone gets £50 worth free and it could be as much as £350.

Even if you have plenty of insulation you could have draft excluders, a new waterbutt or one of those brilliant monitors that sits in



Otley Mill which was near the junction of Church Road and Chapel Road, and probably known as Davey's Mill.

your kitchen and shows you just how much your electricity is costing you.

Everyone in Otley has been given a wish list. For the wish to be granted the forms must be returned before Monday 8 March (directly to Suffolk Coastal or dropped into the White Hart pub or Otley shop).

Although we are Otley-centric we are happy to receive requests from surrounding villages. We are beginning to work with a number of similar local organisations and would love to work in partnership with others in The News area. Grundisburgh's environmental group (GrEG) has folded but maybe there are other people there who would be get involved?

WHAT'S ON IN OTLEY

Part of OtleyGreen's remit is reducing the need to travel; so we strongly support local events. To tackle both we have launched a new website that aims to list all

local activities. The website is also a growing mine of information on, and links, to grants, initiatives and Suffolk wide green events.

If you have a local event you want to advertise please send details in an email to stephen@czarnota.freemove.co.uk. To have a look at the website just put OtleyGreen into your search engine or type www.otleygreen.org/

New green incentive scheme

The government has introduced a new incentive to encourage people to generate their own power and it is very generous. If you install solar panels to generate electricity you will get paid 41.3p for every

KWhr you generate. This is up to five times more than you are probably paying for electricity. What's more this rate is inflation-protected, guaranteed for 25 years. And you get it even if you use the electricity yourself. Suddenly it becomes financially attractive to install solar panels. In the near future you will also get paid for generating heat by installing solar for hot water or a heat pump to heat your house.

A number of us in Otley are putting a bulk buy for electricity and hot water solar power. It's not too late if you would like to join us.

*Tony Barrett, 01473 890384,
tonypbarrett@yahoo.co.uk*

Quiet days at the hall

Otley Hall's Quiet Days start again in March. These mostly cost £18 per person including refreshments and lunch. They begin at 10am, finishing at 4pm.

More information can be found on www.otleyhall.co.uk or by ringing the events manager Louise Rutherford on 01473 890264.

The series starts on 24 March with Revd Martin Davies on 'The wisdom of the desert': An introduction to the desert fathers and their relevance for spirituality today. On 20 April the Revd Gordon Melvin will lead on 'The inner life we are discovering and the exterior life we present to the world'.

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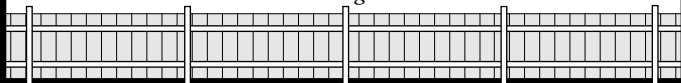
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More observations from Reg Snook

Rosemary Hartfall told me of an event that took place in her garden at Culpho last summer. A stoat was prancing about on her lawn and nearby was a petrified rabbit. No one really knows how a stoat mesmerises its prey but the outcome was inevitable - the stoat killed the rabbit and dragged it across the lawn and through the hedge.

I say that the outcome was inevitable, but it does not always happen like that. Some years ago I saw a stoat in a field dancing around a rabbit -

flicking its black tipped tail and leaping into the air getting ever nearer the bunny. When the attacker closed in for the kill the rabbit - I'm sure it was a doe - sat on its haunches and unleashed a furious flurry of blows at the stoat. The stoat was bowled over but again came in for the kill, where it again was met with a series of blows that Muhammad Ali would have been proud of. The stoat turned and beat a hasty retreat, still flicking its tail from side to side.

Cycling towards Culpho in the spring of last year I saw several large holes by the side of the road. Closer examination revealed that something had dug these holes to get at baby rabbits. The holes were empty - only the

doe's fur was visible. Obviously the baby rabbits had been eaten - but by what? At first I thought a fox was to blame but, coming back to Ipswich one night I saw, much to my surprise, a badger furiously digging by the roadside with its powerful front claws. So the badger was

the culprit. Obviously badgers do not survive only on a diet of worms and peanuts. Brock and I have something in common - we both like to eat rabbit!

Last December I saw my first snowdrops of the spring and, by the time you read these notes, the

days will be 'pulling out', rooks will be nesting and spring will be on its way. How joyous it will be to hear the nightingale's song once more and our hearts will be lifted by the sight of the first swallow. Keep your fingers crossed and maybe the cuckoo will come back to our 'neck of the woods'. The cuckoo's song is usually described as monotonous and repetitive, but amidst all the doom and gloom of present day life, this bird will surely bring pleasure.

Reg Snook

Artist Reg Snook regularly bicycles between his home in Ipswich and his studio in Grundisburgh and observes much wildlife in his journeys.



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Sporting Stories

Petanque: a growing sport in the area

The Suffolk Coastal Petanque League would like people to get in touch about playing one of the country's fastest growing sports. The 2009 season ended in September and a recruitment drive is on for 2010.

Last season, Suivre Les Boules, based at Playford, narrowly missed winning the Deben Division and qualifying for the play-off matches. Playford achieved second place in the group, one place above The Exiles Bealings, whose home piste is located behind the Bealings Village Hall on the Lord Belstead Playing Field. Both sides were in the same group as divisions are organised geographically and they would love to be joined by other local teams.

Personal invitations to join the league have been sent to the local pubs. The Turks Head in Hasketon is already in the process of putting together their piste (playing area) and will be looking to get some pre-season coaching, before the actual season starts in April. For further information please contact me.

Simon Fletcher, League Co-Ordinator, 18 Melville Road, Ipswich, IP4 1PN, imogenlewiskira@sky.com

NEWS FROM THE TENNIS CLUBS ...

Bredfield and District Tennis Club has the exclusive use of two hard courts at the Bredfield Village Hall playing field. Membership for adults is just £30 for one year, £15 for students and £5 for juniors, and gives unlimited use of the courts throughout the year. Club nights are held once a week where members meet up for informal doubles; for those

who are interested, regular matches are arranged with other local clubs during the season which starts in May. Please contact me if interested in joining, as new members are always very welcome.

Therese Gant, Club Secretary, 01394 386535

The AGM for **Grundisburgh Tennis Club** takes place on Wednesday 17 March at 8.30pm in The Dog. All welcome and refreshments will be provided.

The summer season kicks off on Sunday 28 March with an invitation for everyone to try out our facilities. There will be a playing session starting at 10.30am. All you need is a tennis racquet, as the balls are provided by the club. This is a chance to play doubles tennis with existing members and see if you are happy to join us for the new season. Leaflets giving full details of membership benefits, costs etc. will be available shortly in The Olde Forge Stores..

Chris Lee, 01473 735270/ Monica Begg, 01473 -738830

... AND FROM THE BOWLS CLUBS

Bredfield Bowls Club plays in five leagues: Samford on Monday evenings, Woodbridge Tuesday evenings, Samford Wednesday afternoons, Ipswich Thursday evenings and the Fynn League, mostly Friday evenings. We had a fairly successful season last year, getting promoted in two of the leagues but, more importantly, we all enjoyed the social side and the friendship generated in the club.

A considerable amount of money is being spent on the bowling green, which will hopefully make it even better. Our chairman, Paul Brown, has moved: his work and commitment to the club will be sorely missed

As well as dinners during the winter, a club night is held on the first Tuesday of every month with darts, cards, putting and various other competitions, starting at 7pm. Why not come along and see what a friendly lot we are!

We are always looking for new members. On Saturday 17 April we will be holding our open day, to which anyone is invited at any time between 1pm and 4pm to see if bowls is for them. All they need are flat shoes. For more information ring me or Tony Horn, the secretary (01394 383175).

Terry Green, 01473 240149

A lot of work was carried out at the green at **Otley Bowls Club** at the end of last season and it will now be prepared for this year's opening, probably be 24 April, weather permitting.

Now that car park is surfaced we have been able to use the pavilion during the winter. Our first event was a quiz night in January which attracted 36 members and guests and it was won by David Wilkins' team.

Throughout the winter we have lunch meetings every two months when we visit a pub. These are usually enjoyed by about 26 members. Our next fund raiser is a dance in Otley Village Hall in conjunction with Melton Bowls Club on 6 March, dancing to Pat James, 60s and C&W. There are a few tickets remaining at £5 each (890277).

Like most clubs, we will be trying to attract new members for next season. Anyone interested please contact me for details - instruction for new bowlers will be available.

Bill Kemp, Secretary, Otley Bowls Club, 01473 890277

The end of April brings the start of the outdoor season for **Grundisburgh Bowls Club**. This year is promising to be an exciting one with hopefully more friendly matches with our neighbouring clubs, led by the

captain Mick Jones, and the popular Jubilee Shield later in the season which is open to all Grundisburgh clubs (last year won by the tennis club).

On top of all this, there are the various in-house competitions/trophies to be played for.

The social side, headed up by Laura Kavanagh and team, is starting to take shape with many activities planned throughout the year. We are a very friendly bunch and always looking for new members, so, if you think you'd like to join in the fun on a summer evening or maybe an afternoon bowl why not give us a call.

We are also very interested to hear from anyone with any history relating to the club with either pictures, news or trophy presentations/dates.

Contacts for Grundisburgh Bowls Club are Kay Fitzsimmons, 01473 738768 and Jean Broad, 735393.

Marathon runner



Catrin Harston of Gurdon Road, Grundisburgh, is running the London Marathon on 25 April to raise money for St John Ambulance. If anybody would like to sponsor her, they can do so by visiting www.justgiving.com/catrin-harston.

With her fiancé, Richard Branch, Catrin ran a quiz at Grundisburgh School on 6 February which raised £400 for the charity. In the photo above, she presents the prize to two members of the winning team and she thanks everyone who attended.

More sport overleaf

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Sporting stories

Grundisburgh Football Club in roller coaster season

The current season for Grundisburgh Football Club is certainly like a roller coaster. Not just results on the field but also with personnel. The summer saw John Trenter take over as chairman, and ex-Ipswich Athletic manager

Glen Bradlaugh come over to lend his help to the management team. There were a number of changes to first team players. The reserve also had several ins and outs, and a change in management sees Rob Juby assisting Wayne Souza.

The quality of our squad is no stronger than previous seasons but certainly no weaker. The league as a whole saw many teams strengthen with many players from higher standards stepping down to strengthen their local sides. Strong pre-season friendlies saw us gain some excellent results and show the kind of football we were looking forward to performing regularly on a Saturday afternoon.

But the season has not panned out as expected, with six wins, six defeats and two draws from the first 14 league games. However, we have played fewer games than any other team and currently sit mid table in the league. If we can turn those games in hand to points then we will join the chasing pack challenging for the championship. The title is still wide open and any of the top ten have a chance of pushing for it.

The Omnico league cup saw us with an early exit after a thrashing by Ransomes. Clearly the worst performance of the season where the players let themselves down.

The first team have been hit by some big injuries this season which has seen five players all miss long spells. The big freeze didn't help and saw many games postponed. Hopefully most of these players are getting back to fitness at the right time.

On a positive note we are still in the Suffolk Senior Cup and, after some excellent displays, are now in the semi final where we face Bury Town reserves at Ram Meadow, Bury, on 27 February.

Our reserves have also had an up and down season. They currently sit mid-table and with a good run they, too, could push for the championship. An early exit in two of the cups were disappointing but they still remain in the JR Travel cup where they face Ransomes Sports in the quarter final.

Car boot sales are again being run monthly at the playing field to raise funds for the club on the last Saturday mornings from April to July, with the yearly Fun Day Car Boot on 30 August.

Jamie Sandilands

Football club 100 club winners for November £50 Doris Grey, £35 Bev Wilson, £25 Elaine Smith, £20 Neil King.. December £50 Bobby Crimble, £35 Wayne Souza, £25 Danny Frost, £20 Nobby Lambert. January £50 Bev Wilson, £35 Marian Walmisham, £25 Peter Girling, £20 Violet Garrod.

More sport on page 17



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For Sale: Full set of ladies graphite golf clubs including 3 Mizuno graphite woods plus bag and trolley. £75. Single firm 3ft Rest Assured mattress. Good condition. £25. Single 3ft mattress for electric bed with zipped cover. Barely used. £75. Victorian mahogany balloon backchairs. Set of 4. Excellent condition and completely re-upholstered. £200. Items delivered locally. 626743.

For Sale: Computer work station in light wood on wheels. Pull-out keyboard shelf, detachable side shelves, bottom shelf for printer. £15 ono. Yamaha PSS-31 musical

keyboard in box with instructions and music book, uses AAA batteries (supplied) or electrical adaptor (not supplied). £25 ono.

A1 portfolio cases. 1 leather effect zip-up with and 15 plastic inserts, £35, 1 black plastic, £15ono. Photo/picture frames, 'Tate' make, aluminium silver, with thin outer edge, approx 16" x 20", 18 in total, will sell separately. New. £5 per frame. All items vgc. 735352.

Plants - perennial, herbs, etc available for donations to Send a Cow. Ring 738267 or call at Ford House Grundisburgh when the sale sign is out.

For Sale: 4' 6" double bed. Vi-Spring Herald pocket sprung divan with 4 drawer storage - excellent condition £100. Glenn Panel heaters 1200 watts model 2158 £15 each. 735321.

For Sale: Dreamland electric underblanket for single bed. New and unused (bought in error). For sale at half price. £20. 890672.

For Sale: Large electric propagator with trays £10. 738819

It's free to advertise in Classified. Send entries to the editor at Ford House (not to advertising) by 5 May for next issue. All codes are 01473 unless given otherwise.

News of The News

The News has been awarded a £250 grant towards buying computer equipment by Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council. We are now looking for a reconditioned Apple Macintosh for use by Richard

Watkinson, who has kindly agreed to become a relief editor. Once he has got to grips with the Quark Xpress software, he will take over lead responsibility for some issues each year.

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About The News

Grundisburgh & District News is a free community newspaper produced by volunteers. Around 3,000 copies are distributed to homes and a range of central locations in Grundisburgh and 16 other villages (as listed on front page). Four issues are published annually. Ideas, comments and contributions are welcomed: Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, editor@grunews.com

Items can be supplied on paper or emailed. If emailed please give an indication of topic in the subject box. Photos can be sent as JPEGs (but not embedded in Word documents) or as 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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Picture editor: Peter Kendall.

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

**Adverts for next issue to be sent by
Wednesday 5 May to Liz Binns,
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Earlier booking of space is advised as demand is high and there is often a waiting list for inclusion.

THE FUND RAISERS

Caring for Me

I have lived in Grundisburgh for 12 years and until last summer was in sixth form at Farlingaye High School. I was diagnosed with cancer when I was 18 and it was a huge shock. To help me to come to terms with the illness and the treatments I had counselling and complementary therapies. This helped me in dealing with all the different emotions, the anxiety and the stresses. They are still important to me now as I am recovering from chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

I wanted to be able to help others living with cancer to benefit from complementary therapies too. My mum, Corinne Peacock, and I set up a fund called 'Caring For Me' in November 2009, from our home in Stoney Road. The aim is to raise a minimum of £4000 to establish a service offering *free* complementary health therapies at the Woodbridge Complementary Health Centre. This will include counselling, acupuncture, reflexology and massage. Recently we have joined forces with Cancer Campaign in Suffolk, who are an established charity providing high quality information and support to the people of Suffolk (registered charity number 1073241)

Farlingaye High School held a non-uniform day for us to

raise funds but we would be interested to hear from anyone who might like to fundraise or would simply like to make a donation to such a good cause.

Terri Lee, 41 Stoney Road, Grundisburgh, IP13 6RD, 07921146751, email corinne.peacock@btinternet.com



Corinne and Terri

Anthony Nolan Trust

Olly Rofix from Clopton is raising money for - and awareness of - the cancer charity 'Anthony Nolan Trust' which helps match leukaemia patients with potential donors.

The charity is dear to Olly's heart because he suffered from a rare form of leukaemia five years ago and is now enjoying a completely full life thanks to a life-saving bone marrow transplant arranged through the trust. Olly met the marrow donor last month at Suffolk Yacht Harbour at Levington amid much welcome TV and press coverage.

Why Levington? That's where Olly plans to launch his boat 'Jolly Olly' at the start of a two-year fund and awareness raising adventure. This year, Olly plans to sail single-

handed to London and the south coast as preparation for his solo 'Round Britain' challenge starting from Levington in 2011.

His sailboat is a 'Valiant 18' - just 18 feet long with accommodation for two and which will be equipped with a new 14 hp auxiliary diesel engine and essential electronic navigation and other equipment. But Olly still needs £8,000 - and a lot of time and effort - to complete the virtual rebuild of 'Jolly Olly' by the launch date in May 2010.

If anyone can help Olly with time and skills (particularly wood-working and fibreglass) for just a few hours at weekends, he would be more than grateful. Olly can be contacted on 07749 528455.



Olly examining the new engine.

The News hopes to track Olly's progress over the next two years. For more background to his voyage and the Anthony Nolan Trust, log on to www.olivers-travels.co.uk and www.anthonynolan.org.uk

Words and photo Richard Watkinson



Libby Cooper, Heather Langdon and Linda Bridges raised £484 with a cake stall at Grundisburgh Green on 20 February for the Haiti Relief Fund. Photo Peter Kendall



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