

The Grundisburgh and District News

Spring 2016

FREE

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

Bredfield pub's bitter blow

The final pints have been pulled at The Castle in Bredfield.

The pub closed its doors on 20 February for the last time when landlady Sarah Rayner held a party to thank those regulars who had supported the Castle. Even so, the pub had ceased to be a viable commercial venture and it just had to close. She says that she is disappointed that she couldn't keep it going. At the moment she has no definite plans for the future.

One local resident said that it was very bad news for the village as Sarah had tried so hard to make a success of it. A case of 'use it or lose it' and for Bredfield not to have such a community asset, that has been sadly true.

The News is always keen to support the pubs within its catchment area. Information about what's happening in pubs in some of our other villages is included on page 4.

Pants to Cancer!

Bredfield's 'men in pants' calendar, which was featured in the last issue of The News, went down a storm. The calendar with its black and white pictures of local men in underpants raised over £10,000 for Macmillan Cancer. The money goes towards the building the new £4.7m Woolverstone Cancer Centre at Ipswich Hospital.



Priscilla the Goose looking for sweets in Tuddenham's 30th - and possibly last - panto.



The custard pie treatment at GADS - more panto pictures from Grundisburgh and Tuddenham on the back page.

Christmas spirit

Artist and illustrator Carrie Herries produced a range of 15 designs for cards which were sold exclusively at Grange Farm Shop, Hasketon, and Williams Stores and the Post Office in Grundisburgh this Christmas to raise money for EACH, East Anglia's Children's Hospices.

Carrie runs her own greetings card company with her husband Rupert in Grundisburgh. This was the first time Hallo Cards has produced a Christmas range, which the three shops generously sold on a not for profit basis. The sales were so successful that Carrie has already started designing for next Christmas!

More stories of local enterprises are included in the centre pages.



Carrie and Rupert Herries present a cheque for £381 to Gemma Smith (centre) from EACH

An open invitation to ...

The News' AGM

Friday 1 April starting 7.30pm

Grundisburgh Parish Rooms, IP13 6TA

Please come and give us your views and ideas - and have a drink (or two) on us.

MARCH

Thursday 3

Exploring East Anglia by Bus Pass Talk by Pip Wright
Gr WI Baptist Chapel Room
7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 4

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
Otley Hall 10.30am Contact
890836

Saturday 5

Fairtrade Coffee Morning
GrPR 10.30am Contact
735775

Saturday 5

Cleaning for the Queen VG
10am Contact 738219

Saturday 5

Millennium Meadow Work Party 10am - 12.30pm
Contact 735515

Sunday 6

Big Brew coffee morning St Mary's Gr from 10am Contact
735775

Monday 7

Greenhouse Gardening Talk by Geoff Hodge Otley VH
7.30pm Contact 738244

Friday 11

Climate Change Talk by Jo Stokes Hasketon 2nd Fridays
Hasketon VH 7.15pm PBE
Contact 735579

Saturday 12

Eve Appeal Easter Tea Party Coffee Morning Burgh Schoolroom 10am - 12 noon
Contact 735554

Monday 14

Knit and Stitch 10.30am
Burgh School Room Contact
738877

Tuesday 15

Colonel Tomline and the development of Felixstowe
Talk by Phil Hadwen Gr Local History Society Gr PR 7.30pm
Contact 738195

Wednesday 16

The Last Week of Jesus' Life
Talk by Paul Wiffen Carlford Benefice Group Gr PR
2.30pm Contact 738066

Thursday 17

Co-op Juniors Talk by Pauline Walker Hasketon WI
Hasketon VH 7.15pm Contact
738808

Thursday 17

Social Bridge Burgh School Room 7.15pm Contact 738877

Saturday 19

Easter Coffee Morning
Burgh Schoolroom 10.30am - 12noon Contact 738877

Saturday 19

Race Night Supper and Licensed Bar GFC Pav PBE
7.30pm - 11pm Contact
735377.

APRIL

Friday 1

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
Hawthorns, The Green
10.30am Contact 890836

Saturday 2

Millennium Meadow Work Party 10am - 12.30pm
Contact 735515

Monday 4

AGM and Les Jardins du Loire Talk by David Papworth
Otley VH Contact 7.30pm
738244

Wednesday 6

Soup Lunch Burgh Schoolroom 12noon - 1.30pm
Contact 738877

Thursday 7

South African Safari Talk by Hilary Hill Gr WI Baptist Chapel Room 7.30pm Contact
735838

Friday 8

A Bit of a Double Act Hattie Bennett and her Cello
Hasketon 2nd Fridays
Hasketon VH 7.15pm PBE
Contact 735579

Monday 11

Knit and Stitch Burgh School Room 10.30am Contact
738877

Tuesday 12

Grundisburgh Playing Field Committee AGM Gr Pav 7 - 9pm Contact 738866

Friday 15

Spring Quiz Charsfield VH
7pm Contact 737701

Tuesday 19

The Hoxne Treasure Talk by Stephen Govier Gr Local History Society GrPR 7.30pm
Contact 738195

Thursday 21

Remarkable Women of Ipswich Talk by Ann Day
Hasketon WI Hasketon VH
7.15pm Contact 738808

Thursday 21

Social Bridge Burgh School Room 7.15pm Contact 738877

Saturday 23

Beetle Drive with Sausage Supper Burgh Schoolroom
7pm PBE £7.50 contact
738877

Tuesday 26

Grundisburgh & Culpho Annual Parish Meeting GVH
7pm Contact 735541

Saturday 30

Car Boot & Plant Sale GFC
Gr PF 8am - 12 noon Contact
735377

MAY

Thursday 5

Susie from Katie's Garden
Gr WI Baptist Chapel Room
7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 6

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
Ashbocking Hall Farm
10.30am Contact 890836

Saturday 7

Millennium Meadow Work Party 10am - 12.30pm
Contact 735515

Monday 9

Knit & Stitch Burgh School Room 10.30am Contact
738877

Friday 13

Quiz Night Burgh School Room 7.30pm Contact 738877

Tuesday 17

The Garretts of Leiston and the Long Shop Museum Talk by Anna Mercer Gr Local History Society GrPR 7.30pm
Contact 738195

Thursday 19

Social Bridge Burgh School Room 7.15 Contact 738877

Saturday 21

Charsfest Charsfield Recreation Ground 2pm
Contact 737701

Sat 28 - Mon 30

Flower Festival Clopton Church 10am - 5pm Contact
737602

Saturday 28

Car Boot & Plant Sale GFC
Gr PF 8am - 12 noon Contact
735377

JUNE

Thursday 2

Garden Party BBQ Baptist Chapel 7.30pm Contact
735838

Friday 3

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
4 Ashley Grange 10.30am
Contact 890836

Saturday 4

Millennium Meadow Work Party 10am - 12.30pm
Contact 735515

Saturday 4

Visit to Long Shop Museum, Leiston 2.30pm Contact
738195

Sunday 5

Bredfield Church Fete The Old Rectory 2.15pm Contact
01394 385223

Sunday 12

Charity Golf Day Seckford Golf Club 9am Contact
737701

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19

Hidden Gardens of Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho 2 - 6pm Contact
738267

Saturday 25

Car Boot & Plant Sale GFC
Gr PF 8am - 12noon Contact
735377

Saturday 25

Duck Race 1st Gr Scouts VG
4pm Contact 735352

Key to abbreviations:

PBE - pre-booking essential
P/VH - Parish/Village hall
PR - Parish rooms
PF - Playing field
VG - Village green
Pav - Pavilion
Gr - Grundisburgh

All codes are 01473 unless given otherwise.

Brief details of events with date, name of event, venue, time and contact phone number should be sent by 4 May for the next issue to Ingrid McIvor, 21 Thomas Walls' Close Grundisburgh IP13 6XB, ingrid.mcivor@btinternet.com

Please indicate if tickets must be bought in advance.

The diary was introduced to promote planned events and to help organisers avoid clashes of future events. To further enable this all notified dates will be available at www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

The Eve Appeal Easter Tea Party Coffee Morning!

In March, supporters of The Eve Appeal are hosting tea parties up and down the country to raise funds. The party in Burgh Schoolroom on Saturday 12 March will take the form of an Easter coffee morning. This runs from 10am to 12noon. Everyone welcome - and will find:



- * Lots of delicious homemade cakes and fudge for sale !
- * Lovely homemade jams, marmalades and chutneys !
- * A variety of handcrafted Easter gift ideas making perfect presents !
- * Spring flowers in pots !
- * Guess the weight of the Easter cake !
- * Raffle with great prizes !

The Eve Appeal raises funds for research and to save lives from gynaecological cancers by aiming to find better ways to prevent and earlier diagnose cancer in women. Please do come along and support this event ! Burgh Schoolroom is next to Burgh Church.

Eily Buffone 735554



Charsfield's Charsfest 2016 will take place on Saturday 21 May on our recreation ground and will be bigger and better than ever.

Join us for an afternoon and evening full of fun. All the old favourites including the penalty shoot out, shooting range and Tedapult with lots more games and entertainment. Food and drink to suit everyone.

Don't forget to look round the village and spy out our annual scarecrow competition - the winners will be on display on the field.

If you would like an opportunity to raise funds for your organisation book a place on the field - all we ask is a 10% donation from your profits.

Jan Pedgrift 01473 737701 or Janpedgrift@btinternet.com

Invitations from the Chapel

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is planned for Good Friday at Grundisburgh's Millennium Meadow in aid of East Anglian Children's Hospice, starting at 2.30pm, once again there will be a variety of games and activities, and plenty of chocolate! As parking is limited, if you need to drive, park on the chapel car park.

Our Easter Family Service will be at Charsfield Chapel this year at 11am. Everyone is welcome. We will have an Easter service at Grundisburgh in the afternoon at 3pm. You can find out more about us and also download our Sunday messages from our website, www.grundisburghchapel.org.uk

We hope to have a Philippines evening in the spring, when Bruce and Mary Francis will give an illustrated presentation on what life is like in the village where they used to live, along with some Filipino food.

Colin Grimwood, 01473 738856; 07979 120549. colin.grimwood12@hotmail.co.uk

Concert call

Grundisburgh Symphony Orchestra will be mounting a Family Concert on Sunday 10 July. This takes place in Grundisburgh Village Hall at 3pm. The orchestra is looking for more players to join them. Anyone Grade 1 level and above is invited to contact Sarah Cavanagh on 738944 or John Richards.

Garden call

A number of gardeners in Grundisburgh have already responded to the invitation to open during the Hidden Gardens weekend of 18/19 June. We would also welcome hearing from people



Seasonal celebrations in Grundisburgh Village Hall: packed audiences enjoyed 'Elliott's Remedy' (above) before Christmas and "The Outlines' (top) on New Year's Eve. The hall is already booked for Elliott's Remedy on 10 December this year.

in Culpho and Burgh, and particularly from anyone who has not taken part before.

Gardens don't have to be large or immaculately manicured - just be of interest to other gardeners. Hidden Gardens is the first of the horticultural society's events this summer. The Village Show is on Saturday 16 July, and details of the classes can be collected now from Grundisburgh Post Office and Williams Store. Classes are open to people from all areas.

Nicola Hobbs, 01473 738267, nicola@nicolahobbs.com

Burgh Happenings

Burgh Church Schoolroom continued to be a popular venue for a wide range of events in 2015. The Knit & Stitch, Social Bridge Clubs and Quiz Nights are now well established but always

welcome new members. The September and December Coffee Mornings were well attended by both regular visitors and newcomers enabling us to send donations to both Macmillan's and The Ipswich Night Shelter whilst our ever popular soup lunches supported the Ipswich Food Bank and other local charities.

2016 will see a continuation of these regular events - see the Diary for dates. We hope our Beetle Drive and Sausage Supper on April 23rd will be a fun filled evening for young and old alike. Tickets cost just £7.50 (nibbles, soft drinks, prizes and supper included) and are available from 738877 or 735544.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our supporters - hoping to see you at our 2016 events.

Friends of Burgh Schoolroom (FoBS)

More What's On overleaf

Benefice talk

The Carlford Benefice Group next meets in Grundisburgh Parish Room on Wednesday 16 March at 2.30pm. Paul Wiffen will give an illustrated presentation on the "Last week of Jesus's Life" with pictures and maps. The Carlford Group meets only four times a year. There is no 'membership' or 'joining' and everyone (male and female) is welcome. Refreshments afterwards and time for questions. Queries to Ann Barton, 01473 735712.

Wartime play

Debach Airfield's 493rd Bomb Group Museum has a special weekend arranged at the end of May. The Eastern Angles are coming to the museum to perform 'Somewhere in

England' by Polly Wiseman on Friday 27th evening, the afternoon and evening of Saturday 28th and the afternoon of Sunday 29th. The museum will be open before all performances.

On Sunday (28 May) is the monthly Open Day and Vintage Military Vehicle Rally.

www.493bgdebach.co.uk
www.easternangles.co.uk

Village show

A range of activities is being planned for Grundisburgh Village Show on 16 July, to take place on the playing field outside the marquee. These will include local music and entertainment, classic cars and favourite motor bikes, games and tug of war - and food in profusion.

As usual local groups are being invited to book stalls to raise funds for themselves. The large marquee will be available on the Sunday after the show if any individual or group is interested in booking it - in return for a contribution to show funds.

The horticultural society committee which organises the show has had some valuable offers of help - but could always do with more, particularly on show day itself. We have had one particularly welcome offer to sort out our website which we hope will be online again fairly soon.

Another way people can support the show is by becoming vice presidents by making a donation to show funds - or by sponsoring prize money for classes or booking

adverts in the schedule. Sponsoring companies will be given good opportunities to promote their business.

Arrangements are in hand for the post show dance in the marquee and for the evening garden party on 5 August.

Contacts: booking stalls Julia Bentley (735524), sponsorship Suzanne Gould (735835), anything else: Pat Dougan (738420) or Nicola Hobbs (735267). email chairman@grundisburgh.show

Plant sale

Bealings annual bumper plant sale will be held on Saturday 23 April from 10am to 12 noon in Bealings Village Hall. A wide selection of perennials, shrubs and veg plants will be on offer, plus refreshments and raffles. Enquiries to 01473 735565.

Pub news

Fancy running a small village shop? **The Three Horseshoes** in Charsfield is offering a franchise (of up to five years) on part of the premises as a shop. It would be up to you what you sell as long as it doesn't compete directly with the pub.

Jerry and Sharon are also looking for part-time bar staff - and maybe a chef, too. For further, details, ring them on 01473 737187. Meanwhile the pub is as busy as ever with set meals for Mothering Sunday and Easter (when they may well have a quiz evening) and they are planning a unique 'Queen's Birthday Bash' - details and date to be confirmed.

And another innovation: bedding plants and hanging baskets can now be ordered from the pub!

The Moon and Mushroom at Swilland is starting a ladies' group called 'Lunar Ladies' who will meet on a Monday every other month with a speaker and dinner. Any interested ladies are invited to contact the Moon on 01473 785320 - the next event is at 7pm on 4 April.

Other upcoming events include the monthly quiz (next: 8.30 pm on 9 March) with refreshments and cash prize; an acoustic/soft rock music event from 8.45pm on 8 April; and a Mothering Sunday three-course lunch from 12-4pm on 6 March. The pub will be open on Easter Sunday and Monday for lunch from 12-4pm.

Jemima Withey at the Hasketon **Turks Head** is now making plans for the summer following what she called "a fabulous first three months". She is really happy with the reception given by the local community following the pub's reopening last November. The Broadside Boys will be playing there on 3 March when there is a special £12 curry supper from chef Mauli; their next quiz is on 20 April.

The news from The White Hart at Otley is of a special menu for Mothering Sunday - early this year on 6 March - with a little present courtesy of them and Susi's Kitchen in Woodbridge 'for every lovely lady'. The website www.thewhitehartotley.co.uk has more information and

other news of their exploits.

Saints alive! - make your craic at the **Grundisburgh Dog** on St Patrick's evening (17 March) over Irish Stew and a pint of Guinness for £10 and at their St George's Day celebrations with 'Beer and Burgh Beef' on 23 April. Not to mention quizzes (booking advised) at 7 pm on 13 March, 3 April and 8 May or the Easter beer festival from 24 to 28 March, with food all day on Easter Sunday and pizzas in the bar from 12-8 on the Monday.

The wood-fuelled pizza oven will be fired up on Friday 29 April for the summer with service normally on Friday and Sunday evenings (except quiz nights) and Saturday lunchtimes. On 1 May there's live music from 3pm (with pizzas until 5); on 2 May the bar is open (+ pizzas from 12-8pm). The special Mothering Sunday (6 March) set menu is available all day but booking is essential. Check 'The Grundisburgh Dog' on Facebook or call 01473 735267 for more information on upcoming events.

The All-Party Parliamentary

Beer Group and the British Beer and Pub Association initiated a competition to find the best pub chefs in Britain. MPs nominated more than 100 chefs from their local areas.

Dan Poulter MP nominated chef Milan of the Grundisburgh Dog, who so impressed the judges that he was selected as one of the eight finalists. Milan went to London with Eilir and Charles for the final cook-off on 26 January. Milan received the list of ingredients to choose from only one day before the cook off!

At the competition itself, he chose his produce and was given just one hour to cook his final dish: pan fried brill with razor clam and butternut squash gratin, fondant potatoes with an artichoke puree with sprouting broccoli, radishes and a drizzle of basil oil. Eilir says the day went very well and Milan's dish looked extremely professional: the final results will be announced at an award ceremony at the Houses of Parliament as we go to press.

Richard Watkinson

Listing assets to provide protection in the future

Following our article in the last issue, we contacted parish clerks in The News' villages to see what progress is being made towards the listing of so-called 'Non-Designated Heritage Assets': buildings and other features which are worthy of recognition but which fall short of formal listing as Grades I,II* or II. As well as buildings, this can include monuments, sites or landscapes that have a value and merit consideration in planning decisions.

Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council has listed the buildings that, it believes, should be identified as non-designated heritage assets. Two documents provided a sound basis to produce the list. One was 'The History of a Suffolk Village' by Peter Bishop which includes a map dated 1850 naming many of the properties that still exist in the village. The other a booklet produced by Steve Sim for the Grundisburgh Local History Society in 2013 entitled 'Grundisburgh's Historic Houses'.

In Playford, the local historian is currently doing detailed research and is compiling a list of qualifying buildings, structures, etc. in the parish.

Debach has started to look at buildings and sites in the village which are felt to be of interest and important to the character of the area. One of these is the site of a Methodist chapel in which a group of socially minded people gathered to sign papers against slavery. Villagers have been invited to bring their ideas to a special meeting.

Clopton Parish Council has discussed the matter and is making sure that residents were aware of the issue, using the Clopton Enews and noticeboards. The council is keen to establish whether there are old buildings that could be listed.

Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council has not yet submitted details of any buildings or structures for the list of heritage assets. However it was involved with suggestions for the recent Draft Conservation Area Appraisal carried out by Suffolk Coastal District Council for the village. There may also yet be a suggestion of buildings or structures for the list of heritage assets as the parish council is also taking the first steps towards considering a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

It has decided to go ahead with a 'Village Review' public meeting, organised by Community Action Suffolk. This may lead to heritage assets in the village being identified.

Suffolk Coastal councillor, Tony Fryatt said "I am encouraged that some parishes see the real advantages in taking this initiative forward to protect their assets in the future. It is early days but I would urge others to go ahead: local authority planners can provide help and advice."

Words: Richard Watkinson/Nicola Hobbs



Five generations!

The Dees of Grundisburgh were delighted to welcome a new addition to the family shortly before Christmas. George William was born on 17 December and it was great to bring the five generations together for this special photograph.

George's dad, Connor Dee, is from Woodbridge whilst the new grandad, Paul Dee, grew up in Grundisburgh where great-nanny, Ann Dee (former post lady) still lives. Ettie Fox, proud matriarch of the family as great-great-nan, and who was 94 in January, has lived in Otley for the last 50 years. It's not common to have five generations together and it is special that all still live so close to one another.

Tanya Forsdyke

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NEWS TRIBUTES

Pat Polley, January 1934 - December 2015

After growing up in Staffordshire and qualifying as occupational therapist, Pat took up a residential post at St Audrey's Hospital in Melton. It was while there that she met Bruce. They married in 1957 and bought their former farm workers' cottage in Lower Road, Grundisburgh, which they improved and extended over the years.

From the start, they were both very involved with St Mary's Church; Pat joined the choir, each year singing the solo first verse of 'Once in Royal David's City'.



As well as being musically talented, Pat was also a wonderful flower arranger

and craftswoman. She taught floral arts at adult education centres and gave demonstrations across the county, winning many flower arranging prizes at the Suffolk and other shows, as well as becoming a respected judge at village shows for the Suffolk Horticultural and Produce Association.

Her favourite craft was 'tattooing' - a form of knotted lace made with a handheld shuttle - at which she became an internationally respected authority, having her designs published worldwide.

The WI played an important part in Pat's life for over 66 years, since first joining age 15. She was Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho WI's youngest ever president at the age of 30 and its oldest at 81. In all she was president 17 times - and also held office at county level.

But her own family was at the heart of Pat's life. She and Bruce had two sons, Richard and Simon, four grandchildren and recently a great grandson.



Peggy Cole (centre) with fellow actors in a photo taken for The News in 2004 at a special event to mark the 30th anniversary of Akenfield being launched.

Peggy Cole, MBE, February 1935 to January 2016

Film star, East Anglian columnist, gardener, flower show judge, lecturer just a few of the things that Peggy Cole got involved with during a very active life.

When she married aged 18, Peggy and Ernie went to live in Hoo, then Charsfield. They had two sons, Allan and David. It was there that she became involved with the film Akenfield, through the book's author, Ronnie Blyth, who lived locally. Peggy played a major role and also helped director Sir Peter Hall through her local knowledge and contacts.

Her colourful garden in Charsfield became famous when it opened to visitors - who included Princess Margaret. Many thousands of pounds were raised for charity. Her experiences with the film and her garden openings became the subject of talks she gave, not just around Suffolk but as far afield as America and on the QE2. The talks helped fill the gap in her life after Ernie died in 1980 and raised yet more money for good causes.

Peggy's knowledge of Suffolk, gardening and countryside lore were shared every Monday in her regular column in the East Anglian Daily Times for many years. She also acted as a judge at many flower and produce shows for the Suffolk Horticultural & Produce Association.

After 40 plus years in Charsfield, where her roles included chairing the parish council, Peggy realised that she could not continue to look

after the large garden and moved to a bungalow in Melton. But she still continued many other of her activities.

Many tributes were paid to Peggy at a packed memorial service in St Mary's Woodbridge in February.

John Farrow, October 1930 - December 2015

Grundisburgh Village Show has lost another of its great supporters. Over 30 years John Farrow entered vegetable and flower classes, winning many cups including those for his sweet peas, beetroot and pansies, and the over sixties trophy. His wife and children also entered, and he also encouraged others by giving tips on how to grow and display their produce.

John was the youngest of 10 children, growing up on a farm on the edge of Woodbridge, where he looked after horses and learnt to work the land. He and Jill married in 1956 and went to live in a



tied cottage in Culpho, where Mark, Sarah and Claire were born. His work was at Manor Farm, and during his

long career there, John saw many changes; at the start he was working with Suffolk Punch horses; by the time he retired there were tractors with air conditioning and sat nav.

In retirement, John and Jill moved to live in a bungalow in Kesgrave - but the greenhouse went too and John continued growing and showing. He used to make his own wines from home-grown

fruit and vegetables. An even bigger hobby was photography - and he won the cup for best photo in show in its first year. John was much in demand for his gardening skills but limited the work he took on so he and Jill could enjoy days out and entertain their grandchildren - and a great grandchild.

Myrtle Archer, March 1928 - October 2015

Myrtle was the second youngest of the Farrow children and particularly close to her brother John who died only a few weeks later.

Aged 17, she joined the land army and worked for four happy years at Fred Martin's farm in Clopton. It was there that she met her husband Frederick and they married in 1949, moving into a Nissan hut in Manor Farm Road. Hazel and Philip were born there and Jennie was born

after they had moved to Rouse Hall Estate.



Myrtle worked in the fields for a few years, before becoming a home help for 30 years.

Retirement meant more time for involvement in village life, particularly helping with events for the church and the new village hall - and entering the flower show. She was a keen gardener, baker and craftswoman.

In 2004 Myrtle and Freddie moved into a bungalow near their much loved house and she carried on doing as much as she could, despite failing health.

The tributes were written by Nicola Hobbs with help from the families and the East Anglian Daily Times. More information can be seen in The News folder in Grundisburgh Post Office and on the News' website. www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

Footnote: The collection at Pat Polley's funeral raised £1310 for St Mary's Church.

DRIVING HAZARDS

As a lorry driver who often has to travel through our local roads delivering to homes and businesses I was pleased to see the reminder to property owners about their duty to keep their roadside hedges trimmed (front page in last issue).

It is not so much damage to lorry 'curtains' (they are quite tough), but the fact that the uncut hedges can fold the nearside mirrors into the side of the lorry, and in some cases break the mirrors, leaving glass and debris on the road.

As a regular driver through from Otley to the Wyevale roundabout, the worst parts are Otley Bottoms (although some work has recently taken place here), past Clopton Church, the section between Drabs Lane and White Foot Lane, and a short stretch just before the junction with Mill Lane, and in Hasketon between the farm shop and the Bealings junction.

As you say in another article, speeding through the villages is another concern. I have been overtaken by cars between Mill Lane and the bridge at Grundisburgh on a number of occasions. The fact that we live in rural communities means that at any corner drivers could meet a tractor or horse coming the other way and not have the time to react or stop. Could I ask that we all be a little more respectful to other road users, be they cyclists, pedestrians, horse riders or motorists.

Gerry Williams



Coffee, chat & information

You don't have to live in the middle of Wales or the highlands of Scotland to feel isolated, physically or socially. Plenty of people - young and old right here in Suffolk are lonely and feel cut-off from others in their neighbourhood or society more widely.

Thirteen years ago Sally Fogden recognised this and did something about it: she set up a charity and raised money to buy a caravan which then visited local villages, offering a venue for people to meet and talk with one another in a friendly atmosphere - over a cup of coffee. Thus the Rural Coffee Caravan information project was born: it now has a campervan as well as a towed caravan visiting as many as four villages a day in the summer, where they can be seen on village greens or similar spaces. In winter, they hold their two-hour sessions indoors, often at residents' homes.

I dropped in on the campervan's recent visit to Ashbocking where Mick and Linda Ellis were hosting that month's parish coffee morning and met Garry Simmonds (above left) who had already set up his information display on the dining room table.

Telling people how to access services of all kinds is key to the project's success; there are dozens of organisations that the coffee caravan can point

you to to make life easier, warmer, safer, healthier or more fulfilling through just meeting people. At a practical level, caravan volunteers operate a slipper exchange scheme and replace worn-out walking stick ferules; not to mention serving the coffee donated by an Ipswich company.

Garry reckons he has visited 172 out of the 366 villages and hamlets in Suffolk but so far only two in The News' area - Ashbocking and Winesham - so there's plenty of scope for more!

In fact, the caravan is already booked to come to Grundisburgh's Lyttleton Club on 15 March. The club meets at 2.30pm in the Baptist Chapel.

If you feel your village would welcome a visit from the caravan, go to their website www.ruralcoffee caravan.org.uk or contact Garry on 01379 855338 or coffee.caravan@btinternet.com. All they need is a 'village champion' with whom they can make the necessary arrangements.

Words & photo: Richard Watkinson

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PERSONAL PASSIONS PERSONAL PASSIONS PERSONAL PASSIONS

Tertiary Order of the Holy Paraclete

Sunday 9th August 2015 was a very important day for me – it was when I became a Tertiary Novice in the Order of the Holy Paraclete.

I was very lucky that it happened in Grundisburgh because Rev Clare Sanders was able to admit me as a Novice as part of a Eucharist service and I was able to have my family, friends and church family there sharing the experience. I had been unable to get to Whitby where the ceremony normally takes place as I had been unwell.

The Order is an Anglican religious community for women based at St Hilda's Priory in Whitby. A tertiary is someone who has responded to the call of the Holy Spirit to live life according to a 'rule'. This means that I took vows based on those taken by the Sisters: poverty, obedience and chastity; hospitality and



learning are also essential. Each Tertiary personalises his or her rule of life to fit in with life circumstances, so I try to start my day with Bible reading with a commentary, then say either the Morning or Evening Office (service) at the appropriate times, followed by Compline just before I go to

sleep. Linked in with this, I pray regularly, both as part of the Office and outside it.

Normally, Tertiaries meet up in groups on a regular basis, but I am deemed a Lone Tertiary as there are no other Tertiaries in my area.

Therefore, I keep in touch with them by email and by meeting up in retreats and at Chapter (business meeting).

Becoming a Novice Tertiary was one of the best things I have ever done in my life and I am looking forward to becoming a full one, hopefully in a couple of years' time.

Vanessa Barker

Vanessa has lived in Grundisburgh for the past 17 years. She has recently joined The News' editorial team and became a parish councillor last year.

FIRED UP BY TRAINS

It's said that, if you want to know the time, ask a policeman but if you want to know how to maintain a real coal fire, ask Denis Sullivan of Grundisburgh. He had three childhood dreams: to be a railway fireman, drive a London bus and to be a prison officer. He realised all three but this is about the first - firing steam locomotives, mostly on the LNER services emanating from Marylebone station in London from when he was just 16 years old.

Somewhat bizarrely, Denis didn't actually receive formal training as a fireman, it was something he picked up as he went along (literally) by working with the more experienced engine drivers - some of whom were more helpful than others - although there was an initial period (four weeks) when he was engaged in cleaning engines and being instructed on the salient points of railway working. This included basic health and safety matters but in practice it was very

much a case of looking out for one's own safety even though there were rules and regulations in place.

Denis recalls on one occasion he was working underneath a stationary locomotive oiling its heavy mechanism when he heard the driver above call out "Hold tight 60111" (the number of the engine) indicating it was about to move. In one quick movement, Denis closed his feet together and dropped straight down into the inspection pit below. As the engine moved, his oil can and lamp fell down and hit him on the head but his quick thinking prevented a fatality: no wonder he says he was in a



One of Denis's favourites - shown here after preservation.



The engine that Denis worked on more than any other - very similar to those then used on the service from Ipswich to Felixstowe

state of shock and past caring!

Other hazards included getting ash or dust in the eyes - fortunately the eye hospital at Marylebone could treat most incidents, even if it meant popping out the eyeball to clean out the grit!. As for



gloves, you never saw a fireman wearing them for work, despite the heat and dirt: they carried a

cloth in their right hand - much better for grip and protection.

Denis has an encyclopaedic memory of his time on the railway: the camaraderie (or not) of the drivers, the best and worst trips he made and the quirks of the engines he fired. Different locomotives require different techniques to get maximum steam from minimum coal at the very moment it's needed. It's as much an art as a science (little and often seems to be the rule, and Denis's unpublished personal memoirs reveal the tricks of the trade. They're all there - well, nearly all!

Dr. Beeching's reforms of the railways led to the closing of the depot at Neasden and along with it, Denis's job. Not one to sit idly, he went off to pursue dream number two. But that's another story.

Richard Watkinson

A passion for art - and raising money for cancer research

After a year of treatment for breast cancer Belinda Gray of Bredfield was motivated to raise funds for the charity Art For Cure. Together with a friend Sally Gray, who sadly was also diagnosed with breast cancer; they decided through their love of art and sculpture to organize an exhibition which amazingly raised over £100,000 in 2014.

Belinda has plenty of creativity within her family. Her mother paints for pleasure, her sister is a lecturer at a London art school and her daughter Millie has just started a graphic design course. Belinda's own creativity has been directed at home with a love of garden design and interiors.

Belinda has a passion for art and sculpture because she finds it an exciting and emotional thing to experience. She likes the challenge of finding the most appropriate hanging space and light for each piece of work. Outdoor sculpture also needs thought on positioning so that it can be visible indoors too.

Fortunately the driving force has been found to hold a second exhibition at Glemham Hall, from 30 April – 2 May 2016. Entrance is £5 per car to include parking and a programme. The work of 70 artists will be for sale



Top and right: Work from three of the many artists contributing, from the top: Simon Hempzell, Rosemary Vanns and Eliza Southwood.

Below right: Belinda Gray and her daughter Milly who is studying graphics at Chelsea School of Art. Millie illustrated the invitation for the private view party



including Maggi Hambling, Christopher Good, Jelly Green, and Clare Brownlow. The artists have agreed to a percentage of sales going to Breast Cancer Now.

As well as the exciting art and sculpture to there will be a fantastic pop up restaurant with Peter Harrison at the helm, a children's art tent, a celebrity art silent auction, a fantastic raffle, and afternoon tea. Save the date for this spring treat!

Jenness Proctor

More information about the event on www.artforcure.org.uk. This includes details of all the exhibiting artists - and more recently the celebrity contributors such as local pop star Ed Sheeran.



Footnote: Belinda is better known to News' readers for another passion - gardening and growing good produce. She runs courses at her Bredfield home on growing vegetables, and publishes a weekly blog with seasonal guidance, tips and recipes: www.the-grower.co.uk

If you have a 'personal passion' please share it with us - editor@grunews.com

Madge visits more bed & breakfasts

In Grundisburgh

Anne and Robert Hutchison have been running their bed and breakfast business in Grundisburgh for 'about 15 years'. Anne cannot quite remember why - but recalls it may have been the result of a little 'gentle persuasion' from a friend's mother-in-law who had set up what became the very successful Oxfam Bed and Breakfast Scheme. Certainly they contributed to the scheme (whereby hosts donated one third of their takings to Oxfam) until sadly it came to an end following the death of its originator.

They continued to take B and B guests, however, changing from offering hospitality within the family home to the nearby self contained converted barn. The barn offers two twin bedrooms plus a large sitting room (games, TV etc), a bathroom and kitchen area. Breakfast is a convenient 'do-it-yourself' affair with all the makings in the fridge plus bread and cereals and toaster and kettle for tea and coffee. There is



Robert and Anne.

also a micro-wave should guests wish to 'eat-in' at any time.

Anne says that much of their business comes from people in the village who book it for weddings and other such family celebrations. The Newton Hall Equestrian Centre in Swilland also makes good use of Hawthorn Cottage finding it very convenient to have local accommodation to recommend to visiting students.

Situated on what these days qualifies as a 'quiet road', with a tennis court and space for children to play, and ample

parking but within walking distance of all the village amenities - and Millennium Meadow to enjoy just around the corner.

Anne and Robert's venture of 'about 15 years ago' would seem to have developed into a village amenity in its own right.

Contact: Anne Hutchison, Hawthorn Cottage, Lower Road, Grundisburgh, IP13 6UQ. 01473 738199, anne.hutchison@bopenworld.com

In Winesham

When Barbara and Len Chinnery were looking to move from their home in an Essex village they had in mind to buy a fairly small place - a bungalow perhaps. One of their house hunting expeditions brought them to Winesham and a visit to some ex-neighbours who told them of Hillbrow Farm just a short distance away, which was on the market.

A visit ensued, and all thoughts of the small bungalow vanished as they fell in love with this rambling 17th century farmhouse lying in 12 acres of land just above the River Fynn.

They discovered that the farm had been the home of Giles, the famous cartoonist and when they decided to venture into the bed and breakfast business it was a gift to be able to use what had been Giles' studio as guest accommodation.

The studio room on the first floor is large and light and elegantly furnished with examples of Giles' work displayed on the walls plus a photograph of the artist as he worked near the window. The accommodation includes an en-suite shower room and a balcony 'from which the sunrise can be viewed or an evening drink enjoyed'!

On the ground floor is another large room with a kingsize bed and en-suite shower and its own private access just around the corner from the ground

floor breakfast room. Both guest rooms have television and drinks making facilities and central heating. Barbara offers a full English breakfast with bacon and sausages from their own pigs and eggs from their own hens.

Barbara and Len keep three pigs at any one time which they take to an abattoir attached to a family butcher in Long Melford when they are older.

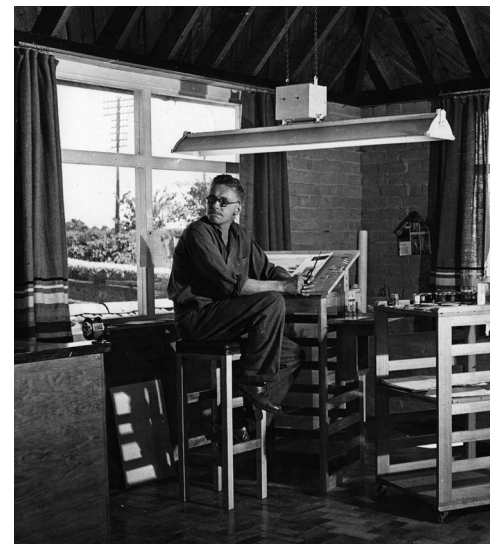


Barbara and Len in the studio bedroom.

All this has been a fairly steep learning curve for them - not only pig management but poultry keeping and more recently bee keeping. They admit to finding bee keeping very complicated - 'there is so much to learn' says Len. They joined the local bee club and Barbara did a short course at Otley College, and they do hope eventually to produce their own honey.

I found it highly entertaining hearing Barbara describe the difficulties of loading three pigs onto a trailer and the lessons learned! - and keeping poultry - how many people have heard of hen-saddles, fitted to protect the cockerel's favourite hens from the feather damage caused by frequent attention! Fascinating stuff told with warmth and humour.

Although so close to Ipswich and Woodbridge and other centres of population, Hillbrow Farm does feel truly rural. It is well used by local families for weddings and so forth for one or two nights, but also often has guests who stay longer, - men working locally who return from time



The photo of Giles in his studio which now hangs in the 'studio bedroom'.

to time, - families - 'the children love to help Len feed the hens'.

Contact: Barbara Chinnery, Hillbrow Farm, Tuddenham Lane, Winesham IP6 9HI. 01473 785146.

In Great Bealings

When I visited The Granary Leah Hinks was just cleaning up in her studio, Leah is an artist, a potter, and the previous evening she had tutored a group of young boys in the art - she admits 'they do make a bit of a mess'!

Leah is passionate about her art and enjoys helping others to develop the skill - bed and breakfast guests are invited to make use of the studio with Leah's guidance should they wish, and she tutors other local groups. I had been wondering how I might relate to this 'well known Suffolk artist' but I was immediately

Below: Leah in the 'Orchard' room. Right: Leah and Julian.



swept up by her enthusiasm and warmth - not only for her art but for people - she says she "loves looking after people" - and it shows.

Leah and her husband Julian Haywood Smith bought their home - then a large barn - from his father 18 years ago and they have converted it into a warm comfortable home while still retaining its intrinsic character with vaulted ceilings and exposed beams.

They began offering bed and breakfast accommodation just five years ago. They decided against using rooms in the family home - three teenage children plus babies which they foster from time to time - might possibly have made more noise than guests would appreciate!

Instead they adapted what had been Julian's office and Leah's original studio into self-contained guest accommodation. This comprises two south facing double rooms with en-suite showers. This has the advantage that guests may get up at whatever time they choose and breakfast in their pyjamas should they wish! Breakfast is brought from the house - not usually the 'full English' but home-made granola, fresh fruit (strawberries, apples and



TEAMING UP IN THE BRIDAL BUSINESS

Two Grundisburgh mothers have joined forces to offer special services to brides, particularly a new bridal hair style featuring 'tiara vines' rather than the more conventional tiaras. This was launched to great acclaim at a wedding and prom fair in Waldringfield at the end of January. They also offer more traditional bridal services such as hair and make up, made to order hats and fascinators to match outfits.

Clare Swann and Magdelaine Snowden are both involved in with village life in a variety of ways. They first met in Grundisburgh School playground where their children are pupils.

plums from their own trees) yoghurts, fruit juice (apple juice from an apple farm in Helmingham), eggs from their own hens and homemade bread. Should guests prefer a more traditional breakfast Leah is quite prepared to vary the menu.

Guests may often find themselves welcomed by the family dog Pippi (named for LongStocking) and Leah takes delight in that welcome. She says she's never had anyone she wouldn't welcome again, and frequently she has people visiting over and over again. People come from all over the world, each with their own story, often arriving exhausted and tense but by day two they will relax in response to the peace and quiet and general warmth. Though only two miles from Woodbridge and the A12, The Granary certainly seems to be a haven of peace and charm.

Julian and Leah Haywood-Smith, The Granary Bed and Breakfast, Hall Farm Road, Great Bealings, IP13 6NY. 01473 735880.

*Words Madge Nicholas,
photos Peter Kendall*

Madge's last report featured in issue 236 which can be found on the News' website.

Clare Swann writes:

"My love for makeup started at age 12. After several jobs in the hospitality industry and travelling abroad I settled down to have a family and started working for The Body Shop at Home. I loved doing makeovers as part of the job and we were able to attend workshops and seminars. I soon built a team and became a manager.

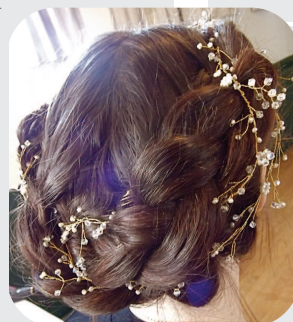
This led me into teaching, initially a BTECH in hair and beauty and then the City and Guilds level 1 course. After having my fourth child I decided to cut my hours teaching and set up my business which went from strength to strength.

Realising there was a gap in the market for makeup artists in Suffolk I decided to concentrate more in this area. I was extremely excited when I secured a place on the popular Pixiwoo intensive makeup course: an amazing experience which led me to specialise in bridal and occasion makeup.

My business grew very quickly and I decided to rebrand to CS Makeup Hair. I have always had a love for hair and attended a couple of courses and with lots of practice added bridal and occasion hair to my skill list. I love seeing my clients' faces light up when their transformation is revealed."



Above: Magdelaine (left) and Clare at the Waldringfield wedding fair.
Below: 'Tiara vines'.



Magdelaine Snowden writes:

"Although a great lover of hats and headwear from a young age, I read Architecture at university (whilst completing millinery courses at night) in

Australia and went on

to work as an architect in Sydney and Singapore for a spell before becoming a Design and Technology teacher.

I took a career break to have my children and it was then that I had the opportunity to study fascinator and tiara making and design at Central Saint Martins in London and Millinery at Otley College.

I started my own business 'Madge Hatter' making all types of hats, headwear, accessories and fabric flowers and have been going from strength to strength since 2014."

*Contacts: Clare, 0780 4895499,
csmakeuphair@hotmail.co.uk
Facebook: CS Makeup Hair*

*Magdelaine: 07951976599,
magdelaine.snowden@gmail.com
Facebook: MadgeHatters
Emporium; www.etsy.com/uk/shop/MadgeHatter*

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Trees have always played an important part in Jack Pynn's life. As a child growing up at Old Rectory West in Grundisburgh, he was surrounded by many very large trees and developed a strong interest in them.

This passion for trees led him to a Forestry and Arboriculture course at Otley College where he trained for two years. He later returned to the college as a lecturer focusing on practical teaching, helping students achieve the NPTC qualifications they needed to progress in the industry. He also gained his own teaching qualifications.

Jack set up his own business several years ago, offering a range of tree surgery services including pruning, crown reduction, thinning, dismantling and felling, planting, woodland management and hedge cutting.

Hasketon is now home to Jack, fiancée sculptor Sarah Pirkis and two year old Chester - who already has his own toy chainsaw! Jack's parents, Deborah and Mike Pynn, were prime movers in setting up Grundisburgh News in 1982 and it was put together at the Old Rectory. Sadly Mike was killed in a car accident when Jack was only two, but Deborah continued to be involved with its production for a number of years.

Jack can be contacted at: Jack Pynn Tree Services,
Mob: 07716952471 Home: 01473738903 email:
jackpynn@yahoo.co.uk www.jackpyntreeservices.co.uk

Words Nicola Hobbs, photos Peter Kendall



GRUNDISBURGH GLEANINGS

Scouting news

All sections of our group enjoyed great Xmas parties and are looking forward to activities and events in the spring. We will be taking part in Mother's Day and St. George's Day parades, cycle camp and National Archery Finals.

In January over 50 of us attended GADS panto with some of the Scout Group in the cast, it was very funny with excellent acting.

Beavers celebrated 'Burns Night' in style at the hut, with thanks to the very talented Albie Willett who excellently played his Bagpipes; we had traditional Scottish food and the 'Address to the Haggis' along with mini highland games. We have an alien-themed night hike planned at Rendlesham Forest and alien modelling at the hut. Beavers are also taking part in an indoor sleepover camp at Thorrington in February half-term, which will be a first time camp for some young members.

Cubs celebrate '100 Years of Cubs' in 2016 and much of our programme is related to this, with 1916 themed cub nights looking at the games they used to play and the skills learned then, such as knots, first aid, fires, cooking, fitness, responsibility and teamwork.

They have recently made totem poles, with wolf's heads which each 'Six' Patrol had then. Then called 'Wolf Cubs', our flag is one of the oldest in the district with a brass 'Wolf'



Above: Albie Willett, bagpiper.
Below: Cubs mark 100 years.

figurine on top. We will also be taking part in a jelly baby night, navigator badge night, a hike and an international night run by two parents.

Scouts have been on a night hike which included cooking and eating hot-dogs at their destination. In March some Scouts will be attending Outdoor Challenge Camp at Boxford and from 29 April to 2 May will be on cycle camp with other Scout groups.

Explorers will have a 'Bin Bag Fashion Show' in the hut; attend Phoenix Camp at Boxford in February, an Easter egg hunt and swimming with a chip supper in March. Some Explorers will be joining Scouts for the cycle camp in April.

We are once again holding our great duck race event this summer - on 25 June.



A big thanks to all who supported our Xmas card scheme and to our very kind sponsors who had a post bin on their premises. We made £214 towards our fundraising.

Pat Ross, Group Secretary 01473 735352

www.grundisburghscouts.org.uk
www.fynnvalleyexplorers.org.uk

WI REPORT

Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho WI began 2016 with a quiz and a tasty buffet. However, the evening was tinged with sadness as it was the day after the funeral of our dear friend and fellow member, Pat Polley. Our new president, Barbara King, requested a minutes silence. This was followed by the singing of Jerusalem.

Pat had been a member of our branch since 1957 and was a close friend to most of us. She was always on hand to help and advise, and was very involved in everything and any thing to do with the WI. Such was her commitment. She will be greatly missed, not only by the WI, her husband Bruce and family, but also by many in Grundisburgh whose lives she has touched.

Our February meeting seemed doomed when our speaker had

to cancel at very short notice. However, a hastily arranged quiz saved the day. Members were soon rattling their brains to solve the cryptic clues and find the names of 20 Suffolk villages. It also gave us the opportunity to browse through archive memorabilia of our branch while we enjoyed home made biscuits and a cup of tea. It turned out to be a happy, relaxed evening with requests of 'more of the same please' from some ladies.

If you would like to join us, we meet the first Thursday of the month, 7.30pm in the School Room at Grundisburgh Chapel. See diary page for details.

Carol Barker, 01473 735838

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GRUNDISBURGH GLEANINGS



Members of the Upbeat! choir rehearsing in Grundisburgh School hall for their noisy concert, conducted by Carol Jopling.

ENJOY A NOISY NIGHT WITH UPBEAT!

Upbeat!, the Grundisburgh Ladies Choir, are busy again rehearsing for their next concert: a Noisy Night in aid of Target Ovarian Cancer on Friday 18 March at 7.30pm at Greshams in Ipswich.

Upbeat! has raised over £8000 for local and national charities since 2012 (St Elizabeth Hospice, Caring for Me, Headway, Eve Appeal, Diabetes Research, Suffolk Carers, Nepal DEC fund, Alzheimer Society and Great Ormond Street Hospital) by putting on concerts in the local area. Two Christmas concerts, one held in Grundisburgh Church and another in Tuddenham St Martin, have now become regular events and the demand for tickets is testament to their popularity.

Started and run by Carol Jopling, Upbeat! is a very inclusive choir that is open to everyone. Numbers continue to grow and there are now over 50 members on the

register, perhaps not so surprising as it is such an enjoyable and rewarding group to be a part of. The choir meets on Thursdays in Grundisburgh School at 7.30. For more details contact Carol on 01473 735812.

Tickets for the Noisy Night at Greshams are available from Anna Greenwood on 01473 735853 or by email at agreenwood63@gmail.com. A good night's entertainment is guaranteed and you will be helping us raise funds for a good cause.

Words & photo Anne Lee

Clean for the Queen!

This year, to clean up for Her Majesty's 90th birthday, a 'Clean for the Queen' event on Saturday 5 March from 10am starting from Grundisburgh Green. This is part of a new countryside event over that weekend to spruce up the UK

In Grundisburgh we have been holding annual litter picks for at least the last 10 years,

organised by the parish council. Usually up to around 15 people of all ages have helped - but it would be great if we could have a really good turnout of helpers this year. This work really

makes a difference to our village as litter remains a problem here, particularly that thrown from cars onto our lanes and into hedges. Can you spare an hour or two to help? Gloves and bags are provided but if you have a litter picker, please bring it.

Sally Grahn, 01473 738219

Royal birthday celebrations

Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council is coordinating a weekend of celebration to mark The Queen's 90th Birthday on 11 and 12 June.

A three day flower festival in St Mary's Church, starting on Friday 10th will be open from 10am to 5pm (12:30 to 5pm on the Sunday). A street party will be held in the school grounds on the Saturday afternoon for members of the Lunch Club and Lyttelton Club, and children of primary school age and below. This will include games and races for the children followed by tea and entertainment from the school choir and Upbeat - and may be more.

The Dog is also going to have a mini beer and cider festival, plus 'Something Extra Special' to be revealed in the next issue.

A special Songs of Praise will be held at 11am in St Mary's. A full programme of celebrations will be published.

I would welcome hearing from anyone who would like to put forward ideas or be involved.

*Ann Willetts, 01473 738831,
ann.willetts@uwclub.net*



John Dunnett and the newly erected sign marking the Wildlife's Trust's award.

Award for Millennium Meadow

It was very pleasing to receive the recognition of our achievements in conservation from Suffolk Wildlife Trust in the 2015 Suffolk Village Of The Year competition.

Since 1997 a small number of volunteers have worked hard to manage and improve our village conservation area off the Lower Road (The Driftway). They have created an attractive area both for wildlife and for those who appreciate this quiet backwater, enhanced by an 'Outdoor Classroom' and information boards detailing birds, butterflies and wildflowers; with the bonus of many benches for restful contemplation.

If you would like to help, we meet on the first Saturday of each month at 10am and work gently until 12.30pm. Refreshments are provided. Please come and make a difference, and learn a bit about conservation operations.

Further information?
Telephone 01473 735515.

John Dunnett, Meadow Warden

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New village hall progressing

Over 40 people attended the Village Hall Management Committee AGM in January and heard an update on the new village hall project. Notes and a draft ground plan were circulated and a lively discussion followed.

The steering group has now received many positive suggestions and these have been included where practicable in re-drafting the basic design. We have also had the benefit of almost 100 returned questionnaires on the activities for which people would like to see provision in the new hall.

Top of the list was films/flicks in the sticks, with 58 votes. Then followed keep fit groups (51), musical events (51), coffee mornings (45), quiz nights (42), birthday parties (40) and local history (40). There was a spread of results all the way down to badminton (10), fashion shows (9), ballet (6) and table top sales (5), with judo bringing up the tail (2) with jumble sales (1). Two of the current users of the hall came in the top third: drama activities (36) and country/line/barn dancing (32).

We are waiting for the outcome of the recent application to Suffolk Coastal District Council for change of use of the current village hall site. We have had expressions of interest from several local people who would like to tender for various parts of the new village hall, and welcome anyone who would like to become involved, at whatever level. It is the aim of the steering group to encourage everyone in our village to make a contribution, however large or small to this exciting project;

I will be giving updated information at the annual parish meeting on 26 April. In the meantime, comments, volunteers and positive suggestions are welcome; you

can contact me by email at peter@newvillagehall.com or by post at Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA. I look forward to hearing from you.

Peter Kendall, Chair, New Village Hall Steering Group

Annual meeting

In addition to the session on the new village hall at the annual parish meeting, there will be updates on two other major village projects: the extension to St Mary's Church and a new HQ for the Scouts and Guides.

There will also be a presentation of photos by Peter Kendall, Grundisburgh News' picture editor. He would welcome receiving photos showing village life during the past year which he could include. These should be sent to him, c/o editor@grunews.com

Grundisburgh and Culpho's annual parish meeting is at the current village hall on Tuesday 26 April, starting at 7pm. It will end, as usual, with refreshments and a chance for informal chats. Queries to John Ager, 01473 735541, j.ager@tesco.net.

HORRID HAPPENINGS

The News has received reports of some very anti-social behaviour. From Grundisburgh Primary School head, John Lynch, comes an appeal about dogs.

"Please can we remind everyone that dogs are not to be brought on to the school premises at all. This dog ban includes the entire school site. Unfortunately, someone is bringing their dog through the grounds and it is fouling the footpaths that the children use every day.

I am sure that everyone is fully aware of the grave health risks associated with dog poo. Considering we have children as young as four coming to school, the potential risks are very worrying. It is also important that residents are



Leigh Adams 'piping in' the haggis held by landlord Charles Rogers of the Grundisburgh Dog at their very jovial Burns' Night supper. The venue was moved to the pub at the last minute because of heating problems at the village hall, but despite this, the evening was deemed a great success. Photo Ingrid McIvor.

aware of the havoc dog poo causes in the school: once a child gets it on their shoe and brings it into school, the entire school grinds to a halt whilst staff check every child's shoes in the school and clean up.

Please walk your dogs somewhere else and do not bring them on to the school site at all. Please also remember that it is against the law, besides being very selfish, not to clean up after your dog. Thank you."

Church appeal

St Mary's Rector Clare Sanders and churchwarden Robert Fletcher have appealed for help in stopping recurrences of three different incidents this winter.

The scourge of dog fouling has hit the church too - well inside, on a carpet.

A wreath laid on a grave at Christmas was stolen - it had been pegged down so could not have blown away. This caused great upset to the widow and daughter who told The News that this had totally ruined their Christmas.

The waste bins in the churchyard have been used again for domestic waste. These are paid for on a trade refuse collection contract and are for the church and churchyard use only.

St Mary's Church extension

The planned extension to the church, to include a meeting room and toilets has been amended. The Parochial Church Council is in the process of obtaining designs for an extension to include toilets and a new gas boiler.

While the plans are being drawn up, permission sought and money raised, a new temporary portaloo, with disabled access, has been positioned behind the church, with easy access via a new pathway. Lighting has also been installed to allow evening use during services and events held at the church.

Clive Willetts

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OTLEY OFFERINGS



Under fives get very active

The children at Otley Under Fives are well on their way to walking the distance from Otley to Legoland, a total of 125 miles. This is the target they have set themselves as part of the 'Golden Mile' initiative the setting was selected to participate in at the end of last year.

The initiative promotes physical activity and good health and plays into the strong focus on the outdoors and play at the setting. The children often go on walks around the village and round their specially marked out 'Golden Mile' circuit. And a new covered sandpit is a great addition to the outdoor space.

This term the children at Otley Under Fives continue to look at village life, in particular the changes around us as spring approaches. The vegetable garden is being made ready for 2016's harvest.

Life skills

A new focus is supporting the children in learning how to self dress, equipping them with the life skills they will need when they start 'big school' in September. Socks are particularly tricky!

Easter is just around the

corner. The children will join Class One at Otley Primary School for an Easter craft get together. In addition friends and parents of Otley Under Fives are hosting an Easter egg hunt in the grounds of Otley Primary School on Easter Monday – please come and join in the fun.

For more information about Otley Under Fives, to arrange a visit and free trial session or to talk to a member of the team please call 07789 468853, visit our Facebook page or our website: www.otleyunderfives.co.uk

OTLEY HALL GOES QUIET

A new series of retreat days is being held at Otley Hall. These provide a space for spiritual refreshment both for people who have been on the spiritual journey for some time and for those exploring spirituality for the first time.

Saturday 2 April
A day with Gordon Melvin 'Reviewing Enneagram, Part two': A workshop for people who have taken part one 10am to 5pm. £28 per person

Wednesday 13 April
Elizabeth Corker – 'Prayer and spirituality for

busy people'.

Wednesday 27 April
Malcolm Guite
Parable and Paradox'. Poetry and reflections on the sayings of Jesus.

Both days cost just £23 including all refreshments and lunch, and run from 10am to 4pm.

Contact 01473 890264 or events@otleyhall.co.uk for further information. The full programme is available on our website www.otleyhall.co.uk

Bronya Tebenham

Royal celebrations

Otley is celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday – Sunday 12th June

We are planning a BIG LUNCH picnic at 12.30pm, after an open air service of thanksgiving. In the afternoon there will be traditional races, birthday competitions and a community tea party – more details to follow; but save the date now!

Rev'd Jane Hall,



What's in a name?

Gibraltar Road is named after an area of Otley, based around a field known as 'Gibraltar' close to the Swilland crossroads. This was probably named in honour of the Suffolk Regiment, or someone who served in the Regiment.

The name Gibraltar Road was used in the 1891 and 1901 census, when Ipswich Road was known as Captain's Road. Road names did not appear in Otley in earlier census records.

The Suffolk Regiment was deployed in defending Gibraltar from the Spanish. The Suffolk Regiment motto 'Montis Insignia Calpe' refers

to the arms of the Rock of Gibraltar (Calpe was the Roman name for Gibraltar). Gibraltar had been fought over for many years in the past due to its tactical position in the Mediterranean.

Footpath called Donkeys Ears



The footpath called Donkeys Ears doesn't have a name board. It starts beside Grange Cottage on the Helmingham Road and goes to the school on Chapel Road. Sometime in the past horse riders began to use this path as a short cut between the two roads.

The path became very muddy and the parish council decided to erect posts at both ends to prevent horse riders using it. Vertical posts were first

put in but the riders just went round them so it was decided to put two posts up in a V formation which would prevent this happening.

The shape of the V gave the impression of ears which someone named 'Donkeys Ears' - and the name has stuck to this day. The posts themselves disappeared many years ago.

Based on information from 'Otley Past' by Russell Ling and Lester Hawes supplied by local historian Sally Whiffing.

Lots of other roads in The News' villages have curious or interesting names. We'd like to hear about their origins or after whom the roads were named. Ed.

GENERAL PLUMBING BATHROOMS, SHOWERS, ETC.

Contact KEN FRAY
Tel: CULPHO (01473) 738190

More volunteers needed for Community Speedwatch

Tuddenham's Speedwatch team has now been operating for about a year; you may have seen us in our 'High Vis' jackets in various locations around the village.

As well as ensuring we are operating safely in the locations identified by the police, we have improved our correct recording of number plates and identifying make and model of cars which are the required details (and the speed of course!) for our returns to Suffolk Constabulary.

The regular use of the vehicle activated sign (efficiently managed by Tony Alcock) has shown that tackling the speeding issue is fully justified. Tuddenham has also signed up to SAVID, the safer village driving campaign.

Thank you to those who have expressed their appreciation for the work we do on behalf of the village; a report late last year and analysis of the statistics also included comments of appreciation from Chief Inspector Matthew Rose, the new head of the Community Safety Unit for the voluntary effort put into the scheme across the county.

We would like to recruit more volunteers to join our team to enable us to operate more frequently when we are allocated the speed detection device and give cover for holidays and other eventualities. You will receive appropriate training and join a team of like-minded members from our community.

Community Speedwatch is regarded as making a valuable contribution to road safety and you will be contributing to this through the use of the speed detection equipment, which monitors the traffic speed, raising awareness of the dangers of speeding and helping improve safety in our

village. For further information please contact me; for details of the Speedwatch scheme go to: www.suffolk.police.uk/

Pauline Procter, Tuddenham Speedwatch
Co-ordinator, 01473 785368,

BURNS SUPPER

Tuddenham Village Hall was the venue for the bi-annual Burns Supper on 23 January, celebrating the anniversary of the birth of the Scottish bard Robbie Burns.

The event was organised by Gill Cruickshank and Monica Pipe, and presided over by Jim Punton - Tuddenham's very own Anglo-Scot.

The Haggis was piped in by Tuddenham-born piper Andy Offord and presented to the top table by Scott Punton. The address to the haggis was



given by Peter Burn (above) and was followed by a feast of cock-a-leekie soup, haggis with neeps and tatties, and Topsy Laird pudding.

The Toast to the Lassies was given by Steve Levinson (a foreigner from Westerfield) and the reply by Jean Ellinor.

Reverends Catherine and Alan Forsdike provided the music and tried (with some success this year!) to organise the Scottish dancing. The evening closed with Auld Lang Syne. Despite the chaos in the dancing – a good time was had by all.

Words and photo Jean Ellinor

Our best kept secret!

George Felgate is not the Oldest Tuddenham resident but he is our longest resident – having been born in the village, and living and working here his whole life!

Well known in the village, George has been a keen supporter of village activities – he's seen 29 of the past 30 TADPOLES pantos! He is also committed to helping others and over the years he has sold



garden produce and kindling to raise hundreds of pounds for charity.

To mark his 90th birthday the village organised a surprise party for him. He thought his wife Jean was taking him to a tea party in aid of church funds - imagine his surprise when he found family friends and neighbours waiting to wish him a happy birthday!

His neighbours organised a collection and bought a garden bench – we hope that we have plenty of sunshine this summer so he can enjoy it.

Message from George:

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who

made my 90th birthday extra special by organising the surprise party at Tuddenham Village Hall on 16 January.

It was wonderful to be able to share the day with family and so many friends. I was also touched by the cards and gifts I received, especially the beautiful garden bench.

Special thanks must go to those involved in the planning who worked so hard to make it such a memorable day for me. I can't believe how good you are at keeping secrets; I never suspected a thing!



Photos: George blows out his candles; George and nephew Brian Whinney with the birthday bench

Words and photos Jean Ellinor

News and photos of what may be Tuddenham's last panto are on the back page.



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Football Club getting back in good form again

Grundisburgh Football Club was formed in 1920. We have played our football at Grundisburgh Playing Field since 1933 and have been members of the SIL (Suffolk and Ipswich League Senior Division) and its predecessors since 1932.

The Suffolk Senior Cup was first won in 1963/64 (some members of that side are still heavily involved with the club to this day). Grundisburgh has enjoyed a long unbroken stint in the top division since 1981, and this makes us the longest serving Senior SIL team now enjoying our 35th season in the top flight.

Last season saw a big upheaval at the club with many stalwarts leaving. We had a lowest league placing of 12th since regaining Senior football in 1981. But this season the club is getting on its feet again on and off the pitch. All the original committee are back, and Micky Squirrell, Stevie Moore and Karl Baldwin (above, celebrating success in the SIL KO Cup in 2014) are managing together again.

The club's fortunes on the pitch have seen an upturn too. With nine games left, Grundisburgh is currently seventh in the league and has reached the Suffolk Senior Cup Quarter Final. This will



be played at home against Waveney on Saturday 12 March, kick off 2pm: just two games away from the finals at Portman Road!

Also that day there will be an ex Grundisburgh players reunion; anyone who has had a connection to the club will be warmly welcomed. There will be another home game, against Framlingham Town, on 19 March and we hope for lots of spectators to cheer us on.

This report was taken from a history of the club printed for match programmes.

Anyone for tennis?

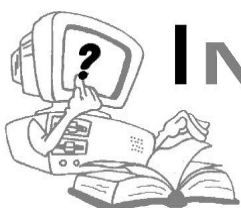
Britain winning the Davis Cup for the first time in 79 years and Johanna Konta, Andy Murray, Jamie Murray and Gordon Reid all achieving great things at the Australian Open have inspired many in the media to predict one of the most exciting Wimbledon tournaments for British supporters for years. Hopefully, it will also inspire new players to take up the sport and others to dust off their rackets and head to the courts.

In Grundisburgh we are fortunate to have three lovely courts and very low membership fees. (Annual membership works out at under £2 a week and many members play throughout the year.) The new membership season starts at the beginning of April and for a small deposit members can have their own key.

There are also club sessions for those who would like to play with other members. These sessions are open to all ability levels. If you are a competitive player there are opportunities to play in winter and summer leagues against teams from other clubs. The club also organises social events such as cycle rides, BBQs, bowling and walks to the local pub for lunch. Family and friends are always welcome to join in.

The icing on the cake for many members is the opportunity to be entered into Grundisburgh Tennis Club's Wimbledon draw for the chance to buy tickets for this year's tournament as local clubs affiliated to the LTA are allocated tickets.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a member, please contact Sue at suehaddock@hotmail.co.uk



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Plants galore available in return for donations to Send a Cow from Ford House garden. Includes cranesbill geraniums, Pulmonaria, Ladies Mantle, Crocosmia, London Pride, blue iris, primroses - and lots more. Call by when the sign is out or ring 738267.

Epson Stylus desktop printer with installation disc. Some spare ink cartridges included. £10 going to Cancer Research. 738195.

Piece of land. Wanted to buy, 01379 678286.

'Debut' table football, 4-foot complete VGC £35; 735540, Set of 11 **chimney/drain rods** £5. 735540. **Rotary clothes dryer** £5, 735540.

Ronseal one-coat FenceLife medium oak, almost 5 litres, £5. 735540.

1100 litre plastic oil tank (single wall) free for collection. 735540

Bottle rack, metal and wood, 62x80cms, holds 48 bottles donation to scouts. 738866.

It's free to advertise private sales and wants here. All phone codes 01473 except where given otherwise. Send brief details to the editor by 4 May for next issue



Peter Brunning with the first issue of The News which was published in May 1981. Now, 238 issues later, Peter has stood down as distributor in the Stoney Road/Cranworth Close area. He deserves a long service medal! And certainly gets our thanks.

Other volunteers have now come forward to help with distribution - but we do still need an overall coordinator/circulation manager. Anyone willing to consider this please contact Nicola Hobbs.

THANKS - 1

The News would like to thank the parish councils of Grundisburgh and Culpho, Tuddenham and Otley, as well as Burgh's Wood Trust, for their generous donations. These are particularly welcome because of a current drop in advertising revenue.

THANKS - 2

A big thank you was sent by the charity FIND to the members of St Mary's Church Grundisburgh for their response to its Christmas Tree Appeal. Committee member Heather Cade said they had been able to pack 1026 hampers for families and organisations as well as individual presents for the recipients - 974 for adults and 1023 for under 17 year olds. FIND operates the food bank for which there are collection points in most local churches.

KYSON PROBUS CLUB

Would you like to meet like-minded, similar aged people in the local area? The Kyson Probus Club provides a forum for retired or semi-retired business or professional men in a friendly setting. We meet monthly at a hotel for a drink and a chat followed by lunch and a speaker. For more information please contact the Club secretary: Ian McIvor on 01473 738866.

About The News

www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

Grundisburgh & District News is a free community publication produced by volunteers. Around 3,000 copies are distributed to homes and a range of central locations in Grundisburgh and 17 other villages (as listed on front page). Four issues are published annually. Contributions, comments and ideas are welcomed: Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, editor@grunews.com. All issues are included on our website by publication date.

Information can be supplied on paper or emailed. If emailed, please indicate topic in the subject box. Photos can be sent as JPEGs (but not embedded in text) or as prints.

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PANTO IN WONDERLAND

Grundisburgh Amateur Dramatic Society, better known as GADS, presented 'Alice in Wonderland' as its annual pantomime at the end of January and the first weekend in February, playing to packed and enthusiastic audiences. It was directed by John Richards and produced by Nikki Brown.



The next production from GADS will be its summer play, 'Stage Struck', directed by Ian Frost. This comedy by John and Yvonne Middleton features a struggling theatrical agency and a thriving detective agency. Performances will be at Grundisburgh Village Hall in mid June.

GADS photos (courtesy Peter Kendall) from the top: Audience members join the cast on stage to join in the mayhem and singing.

Alice (Abigail Radwell), Mad Hatter (Rob Gilbert, making his first appearance for GADS), Mad Hatter (Darin Osborne) and Dormouse (David Franklin in teapot created by Christine Frost).

Stella (Carol Hayes) and Sherry (Sandy Broom).

The Red Queen (Nikki Brown). The Playing Cards.

The photo on page 1 shows Tweedle Dum (Kate Adams) and Tweedle Dee (Adam Kearney) with Dame Delia (Steve Longbottom).

TADPOLES ANNIVERSARY SHOW

2016 marked *TADPOLES 30th and (possibly) final pantomime. In honour of the occasion we decided to reprise our very first pantomime – Mother Goose. However this time we had not just one but two dames! With golden eggs, revolving trees, monsters, ghosts and talking birds – it was a spectacular show!!

For J J Wayland and Elliot Law, it was their first panto, whilst Catherine and Alan Forsdike and Monica Pipe have been involved with all 30. A panto would be no good without its audience – whilst no one has seen all 30 shows, Jean and George Felgate have seen 29 (missing the full 30 because of a stay in hospital!)

Catherine and I are retiring as co producers/directors. And Alan is stepping down as musical director - so there are no plans for a panto next year ... unless someone steps forward to take over!?

Words Jean Ellinor, photos by Jean Ellinor and Sarah Willenberg

* Tuddenham Amateur Dramatic People of Little Experience



Junior chorus (aka talking birds) from left: Daniel Perkins, Eva Wayland, JJ Wayland, Isla Cowley and Elliot Laws.

Jill (Mia Wayland) and Prince Cedric (Fiona Woods).

Paul Jennings as Mother Goose and Dame Nala Ediskrof (aka Rev Alan Forsdike) as the Queen of Hearts.

