

Spring
2017

FREE

The Grundisburgh and District News

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Referendum gives resounding yes to Great Bealings Neighbourhood Plan

Following the report of the independent inspector, who was very complimentary about our Neighbourhood Plan and its approach, we are delighted to announce that the result of the referendum was a resounding 'Yes' with 96 voting in favour and three against. Turnout was close to 45% - a lot better than normal council elections!

It is a welcome endorsement of all the hard work done by the working group and the parish council over the last four years and will serve as a blueprint for the future in so far as planning applications in the village are concerned.

The parish council would like to thank the members of the working group for all their efforts. Many commentators have said that Great Bealings

should be proud to have written such a sensitive and constructive plan for a rural village: the first small village in Suffolk to achieve this and the first to seek a balance between environmental and planning issues.

We have been supported and encouraged by Suffolk Coastal District Council (especially their conservation and arboricultural officers), by Suffolk County Council (particularly their excellent publication Suffolk's Nature Strategy), and by Suffolk Wildlife Trust whose detailed survey of the parish formed such an important part of the evidence behind the plan. This was all achieved at no cost to the parish council, since the work was either done free by working group members or

covered by grants. It is now up to the parish council to apply the plan in relation to future planning applications.

The parish council will report at each annual parish meeting so that residents can see how the plan is being used. The text of the plan is on our website (gbnp.co.uk) .

Charles Barrington, chairman, Great Bealings Parish Council

Big changes at Forge Stores

Major improvements are being carried out at Grundisburgh's Forge Stores - although it has continued to serve customers throughout. The Post Office will close in its present premises at the end of business on Tuesday 7 March and move into Forge Stores, re-opening in the afternoon of 8 March. The owners are planning a celebratory official opening for 17 March.

Open invitations ..

To people with local connections to Grundisburgh and surrounding parishes to find out about the new affordable homes for rent on the Hopkins site on Ipswich Road. A drop-in event is being held on 1 March. Details on page 15.

To find out the latest information about Grundisburgh's new village hall. Another drop-in day has been arranged for Saturday 25 March between 10am and 4pm in the current hall. More on page 17.

To The Grundisburgh & District News' annual general meeting on Friday 24 March, 7.30pm, in Grundisburgh Parish Room. Your ideas and views are wanted - in return for joining us for a glass or two of wine.



Living history: pupils at Charsfield Primary School experience wartime evacuation. More news of school activities are featured on the back page.

News Diary

MARCH

Thursday 2

Suffolk Tai Chi Winesham
Village Hall 5.45pm £5
Contact 07860 471748

Thursday 2

My Life on the Wicked Stage
Talk by Joyce Kimber
Grundisburgh WI BCR
7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 3

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
Hawthorns, The Green
10.30am Contact 890836

Saturday 4

**St Mary's Grundisburgh
Coffee Morning** Supporting
Fairtrade Fortnight GrPR
10.30am Contact 735775

**TADPOLES present "for
One Night Only"** Tuddenham
VH 7.30pm Contact 785400

Saturday 4

An Evening on Broadway
Bealings Village Hall Theatre
7.30pm PBE Adults £6 under
13 £3 Contact 735153

Sunday 5

An Evening on Broadway
Bealings Village Hall Theatre
4.30pm PBE Adults £6 under
13 £3 Contact 735153

Monday 6

A Clematis for Every Season
Otley & District Gardening
Club Otley VH 7.30pm
Contact 890563

Tuesday 7

Baby Cafe GrPR 9am Contact
735183

Sunday 12

Rubbish Walk 2nd Sunday
walkers meet at Grundisburgh
Green 2pm Contact 738219

Monday 13

**Grundisburgh & Culpho
Parish Council** meeting GrPR
7.30pm Contact 735541

Thursday 16

Craft Group GrPR 9.30am
Contact 735517

Friday 17

**Talk Bredfield's Quaker
Burial Ground** Bredfield VH
7pm. Contact 737605

Saturday 18

**Eve Appeal Easter Tea Party
Coffee Morning** BSR 10am
Contact 735554

Friday 24

Grundisburgh News AGM
GrPR 7.30pm Contact 738866

Saturday 25

**Grundisburgh New Village
Hall information day** GVH
10am-4pm Contact 738267

APRIL

Saturday 1

**St Mary's Grundisburgh
Coffee Morning** GrPR
10.30am Contact 735775

Saturday 1

Race Night Grundisburgh
Football Club GrPav 7.30pm -
11.30pm PBE Contact 735377

Monday 3

**Growing from Seed and in
Containers** Otley & District
Gardening Club Otley VH
7.30pm Contact 890563

Tuesday 4

Baby Cafe GrPR 9am Contact
735183

Thursday 6

Quilts Talk by Valerie
Harrowman Grundisburgh WI
BCR 7.30pm Contact 735838

Thursday 6

Suffolk Tai Chi Winesham
Village Hall 5.45pm £5
Contact 07860 471748

Friday 7

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
Eastbrook House, The Green
10.30am Contact 890836

Sunday 16

Easter Services
Grundisburgh 11am
Hasketon 9.30am
Burgh & Clopton 9.30am
Boulge 11am
Otley 9.30am
Ashbocking 11am
Swilland 9.30am

Thursday 20

Craft Group GrPR 9.30am
Contact 735517

Saturday 22

Soup & Sweet Lunch
Tuddenham WI Tuddenham
VH 12 noon PBE Contact
252315

Saturday 29

Car Boot Sale Grundisburgh
Football Club GrPF 8am-12
noon Contact 735377

MAY

Tuesday 2

Baby Cafe GrPR 9am Contact
735183

Thursday 4

The Philippines Talk by

Bruce and Mary Francis
Grundisburgh WI BCR
7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 5

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
9 Nelson Close 10.30am
Contact 890836

Saturday 6

**St Mary's Grundisburgh
Coffee Morning** GrPR
10.30am Contact 735775

Monday 8

**Winter Vegetables -
Planning and Growing** Otley
& District Gardening Club
Otley VH 7.30pm Contact
890563

Thursday 18

Craft Group GrPR 9.30am
Contact 735517

JUNE

Thursday 1

Garden Party Grundisburgh
WI Contact 735838

Friday 2

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
Chez Onze, The Green
10.30am Contact 890836

Saturday 3

**St Mary's Grundisburgh
Coffee Morning** GrPR
10.30am Contact 735775

Monday 5

Plant Sale Evening Otley &
District Gardening Club Otley
VH 7.30pm Contact 890563

Tuesday 6

Baby Cafe GrPR 9am Contact
735183

Saturday & Sunday 10 & 11

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

Saturday 17

Open Gardens Lark's Hill
Tuddenham St Martin 1.30-
5pm Contact 785248

Saturday 24

Duck Race 1st Grundisburgh
Scouts GrVG 4pm Contact
735352

Saturday 24

Car Boot Sale Grundisburgh
Football Club 8am - 12 noon
GrPF Contact 735377

Sunday 25

**Jazz Picnic with Mike Barry
and the Uptown Gang**
Shrubbery Farm Hasketon
Bring your own picnic. PBE

Contact 01394 383106 or
01473 735579

JULY

Saturday 1

Mid Summer Music
Grundisburgh House 1.30-
8pm Contact 738831

Saturday 1

**St Mary's Grundisburgh
Coffee Morning** GrPR
10.30am Contact 735775

Tuesday 4

Baby Cafe GrPR 9am Contact
735183

Thursday 6

Outing Grundisburgh WI
Contact 735838

Friday 7

Ashbocking Coffee Morning
Old House Cottage, The
Green 10.30am Contact
890836

Saturday 15

Grundisburgh Village Show
GrPF 12.30 - 5pm Contact
738997

Key to abbreviations:

PBE - pre-booking essential
P/VH - Parish/Village Hall
PR - Parish Room
PF - Playing Field
VG - Village Green
Pav - Pavilion
BCR - Baptist Chapel Room
BSR - Burgh School Room
Gr - Grundisburgh

**All codes are 01473 unless
given otherwise.**

The News Diary is designed
to promote events in our
catchment area and to help
organisers avoid clashes.

It is also available online:
www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

Details for the paper version
of the next issue should be
sent by 3 May to Ingrid
McIvor, 21 Thomas Wall's
Close, Grundisburgh IP13
6XB, diary@grunews.com

This should include date,
organisation, name of event,
venue, time, contact phone
number and if tickets need to
be bought in advance.

Details will be included in the
web diary up to a year in
advance and will be added
shortly after they are received.



PLAN AHEAD FOR THE VILLAGE SHOW

This year's Grundisburgh Village Show takes place on Saturday 15 July and class lists are now available; with over 100 adult classes, some old favourites and new ones added for this year, there is something for everyone. The list is now available from a range of outlets including Williams Stores, Forge Stores, The Dog and Grange Farm Shop and online www.grundisburgh.show

Details of childrens and young persons classes will be added shortly. The full schedule will be published in early May.

As last year all adult classes carry a £5 first prize and we are now seeking sponsorship. To advertise your business and support the show by becoming a sponsor please contact Suzanne Gould at suegould444@gmail.com

A number of new patrons have joined us this year and we are very grateful for their financial support. If you feel you can help in this way or would like to volunteer on the day please contact me.

We are looking for a young person to join us as a "blogger", to get our message across and promote your show to your community. Could this be part of a school or study project?

This year's Evening Garden Party will be held on Friday 4 August at Burgh House by kind permission of Bill and Jacqui Mayne. Save the date!

Martin Cripps, Chairman, Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society, chairman@grundisburgh.show, 01473 738997

Opening gardens

The horticultural society's first event of the season is

Hidden Gardens, this year taking place on the afternoons of 10 and 11 June, hopefully with lots of gardens open to visitors in Burgh and Culpho as well as Grundisburgh.

Many of our regulars will be opening but we would also like some 'new' gardeners to be involved. Gardens don't have to be large or immaculately manicured, just have things that other gardeners may find interesting. Please will anyone wanting to find out more get in touch with me. I have been opening at Ford House for 20 years - and thoroughly enjoy it. And what else would spur us on to tidy the garden a bit!

Nicola Hobbs 01473 738267, nicola@nicolahobbs.com

Plants galore

Bealings annual plant sale will be on Saturday 22 April this year, from 10am to 12noon at Bealings Village Hall. Hundreds of plants will be on sale plus raffle, refreshments, cakes and produce. The popular Children's Garden Hub introduced last year is being repeated.

All proceeds go to Bealings churches. Enquiries to Norman Porter, 01473 735565

Talking gardening

Otley & District Gardening Club had a winter break in meetings for January and February and instead arranged an informal lunch get-together in early February at the Otley White Hart.

Our talk on 6 March will be on Clematis varieties for all growing situations, while our short AGM on 3 April will be followed by Bob Booker of Ladybird Nurseries giving us the low-down on seed propagation and gardening in containers. On 5 June we're planning a Plant Sale Evening at Otley Village Hall. All are welcome to attend. More details are available from me.

Alan Trevelyan, Chairman, Otley & District Gardening Club, 01473 890563, atrevelyan62@gmail.com

The Eve Appeal Easter Tea Party Coffee Morning!

Supporters of The Eve Appeal are hosting tea parties up and down the country to raise funds during March. The party in Burgh Schoolroom on Saturday 18 March will take the form of an Easter coffee morning. This runs from 10am to 12 noon. Everyone is 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 01473 735554

Singing sessions in the barn

Age UK Suffolk Forget-me-not groups are inviting people with memory problems and their carers to join informal music and singing sessions in the lovely setting of Nettus Barn near Otley.

They can listen and sing along to favourite songs and benefit from the 'feel good' experience singing can bring. The sessions are led by an experienced singer. They also include a chance to chat with others over a cup of tea and cake afterwards. No charge is made but donations accepted. The sessions are held on the

second Thursday of each month between 2 and 4pm. Nettus Barn is at Moat Farm, Otley IP6 9PE. More information from Vicky Hutchinson, 07841 460379 or 01473 351234, or email vicky.hutchinson@ageuksuffolk.org

"Those who in scorn are called Quakers"

Local historian Val Norrington is giving a talk on Bredfield's Quaker Burial Ground, and those of the surrounding area, giving an insight into the lives of some of the people buried there.

The burial ground on Dallinghoo Road, Bredfield, was recently marked with a sign to show where 235 Quakers were buried between 1657 and 1779.

Though Val has given us some very interesting talks over the years on aspects of Bredfield's history she has never covered the 17th and 18th century Quakers in this area: a subject for which she has done a lot of research.

The talk is at 7pm on Friday 17 March at Bredfield Village Hall. It will be followed by refreshments. There will be no charge but any donations will be put towards a seat for the Quaker Burial Ground.

Anne Henderson

Hasketon jazz

Hasketon's Jazz BBQ has been a popular fixture for almost 20 years. This year it continues on the same site but as a "bring your own" picnic; this change follows the retirement of Gordon and Molly Smith who have been the prime movers throughout.

JazzPicnic with the six piece Mike Barry and the Uptown Gang takes place on Sunday 25 June at Shrubbery Farm, Hasketon, from 12.30 to 4pm. Tickets are £12 per head from 01394 383106 or 383316.

**More What's On
overleaf**

AROUND THE LOCALS

Pubs are a valuable part of any community and The News always invites our 'locals' to contribute news about their activities.

The Moon & Mushroom in Swilland has a monthly quiz night on the first Wednesday of each month. Cash prizes are given, as well as a snack half way through.

The next Men's Group with dinner is on 27 February - and will welcome new men. The Ladies Group will be dining on 13 March (new ladies welcome). A Mexican Night takes place on Sunday 5 March.

Moon & Mushroom, 01473 785320

On 9 March **The Turks Head** in Hasketon will be hosting another 'Progressive Supper' with The Table and the Ufford Crown. It is a fantastic evening with wonderful food and company. We will transport guests between the venues; just call the venue where you would like to start.

We have launched a set lunch menu from Monday to Friday, £15 for two courses, £18 for three. We are hosting our next 'Supper and Quiz Night' on 15 March for teams of four to six people. Our second 'Beer, Cider and Gin Festival' takes place from 28 to 30 April. Dogs, muddy boots and muddy children welcome.

Turks Head, 01394 610343

The community lunches at the **White Hart, Otley**, continue going from strength to strength... a two course meal for £6 and a chance to meet your neighbours and strengthen community spirit. They are now on the fourth Thursday of each month - the next one is 23 March.

Mothering Sunday is our busiest day of the year! We have a lovely menu and a little pressie for Mum - details are on the "news" page of our website www.thewhitehartotley.co.uk.

We've started a knitting and crochet group. We meet fortnightly on Tuesday evenings (alternating with Ukulele) and everyone is welcome to join in and learn, teach or merely knit and natter.

White Hart, 01473 890312

Bookings are being taken at **The Grundisburgh Dog** for Mothers Day when a special menu will be served from 12noon to 9pm.

The midweek two for one offer lasts until the end of March, while the special burger menu continues on Tuesdays and the steak menu on Thursdays, alongside the main menu and specials board.

The Grundisburgh Dog, 01473 735267

Making music

Grundisburgh Orchestra rehearses on Thursdays in Grundisburgh School Hall. From 5:30 to 6:15pm it is for the beginner orchestra (though more experienced players and helpers are welcome). The main orchestra (approximately grade 3 and above) rehearses from 6:15 to 7pm.

More players would be welcome. Any questions please email John Richards, johnateallthepies@hotmail.com, or Sarah Cavanagh Damongo@btinternet.com - or just turn up. Their next public performance will be at Midsummer Music at Grundisburgh House on Saturday 1 July.

Craft workers get together

Anyone interested in craft work is guaranteed to receive a very warm welcome at the craft group which meets at Grundisburgh Parish Room once a month. We have ladies that embroider, quilt, knit, felt and rag rug and who are happy to share their craft.

Dates for the next few months are 16 March, 20 April, 18 May, 15 June and 13 July. The sessions run from 9.30am to about 12noon. Further details from me.

Heather Langdon on 01473 735517 or heather.langdon@btinternet.com

'Scots Wha Hae' at St Botolphs

Shingle Street Folk Band - Stephen Harding, Mike Tyndale Biscoe, Chris Pearce and Jane Burn - presented an evening of Scottish song, Hurdy Gurdy music and poetry at St Botolphs Church in Culpho on 20 January. They were joined by Ellen McAteer, poet, songwriter and Suffolk Poetry Society member, and Stevie Wishart, musician and composer.

The church was full, and the event raised £444 for the church and £160 for Save the Children Syrian Appeal. The band thanks all those who supported the event.

Shingle Street will be performing next at Friston Church on Friday 24 March.



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LOCAL ARTIST: CYNDI SPEER

Cyndi Speer's works are predominately oil onto canvas. Her work is constantly evolving; subject matters change, however her use of colour and abstraction of perspective remains bold and intriguing.

Currently metallic colours are featuring in her work, which also contains a strong graphic element, with composition being at the heart of every piece of work. Cyndi's inspiration lies in many forms, both the beautiful countryside that surrounds us here in Suffolk and also the hustle and bustle of cities. She is currently working on a painting inspired by the flower market of Shoreditch, London.

Greetings cards

Cyndi's work has sold widely and some of her pieces have been adapted into greetings cards by the publishing company Green Pebble.

She was also part of the St Elizabeth Hospice 'Pigs Gone Wild' campaign during last summer, with her pig designs of 'Hamlet' and 'Steampunk Pig'. Cyndi attended the pig auction and was thrilled when

'Steampunk Pig' raised a fabulous £4,100 and 'Hamlet' sold for £3,600. The auction was very well attended and overall the project raised £200,000 for the St Elizabeth Hospice.

Although unsure of where 'Steampunk Pig' is now residing, Cyndi knows that 'Hamlet' has a new home, having been purchased by Rattlerow Farms of Stradbroke,

Cyndi has exhibited widely throughout Suffolk and has also exhibited in London. This year she will be exhibiting at 'The Garage' Gallery in Aldeburgh (18 – 24 May), and at the Quay Gallery, Snape (23 – 29 June and 13 - 19 October).

On view at The Dog

Some of her prints and shadow boxes are gracing the walls of 'The Dog' in Grundisburgh and Cyndi is very grateful to Charles and Eilir Rogers for their support of her work.

Other projects are in 'the pipeline' so do check her website for further information (www.cyndispeer.co.uk). Cyndi welcomes commissions, and continues to work in her studio



Clockwise from the top: Cyndi with canine companions; 'Moonlight' 'Dinner Party' 'Unforgotten Fields' 'Steampunk Pig'.



in Grundisburgh, flanked by her constant companions, two black Labradors. She can be contacted on 01473 738823, e-mail: cyndi@cyndispeer.co.uk

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01473 735575

NEWS TRIBUTES

Joyce Williams 1924 - January 2017

Joyce Cage was born in a small nursing home run by Sister Flora at the top of Meeting Lane, Grundisburgh, and spent her first two years at the off-licence her parents ran at the Barley Mow (at top of Maltings Lane). When this closed, the family moved to the Round House in Burgh, but Joyce came back to Grundisburgh to attend the school.



Starting teacher training age 15, Joyce spent some time as a pupil/teacher at Grundisburgh School and some time studying. This led to her becoming an 'uncertified' teacher and going on to Wall Hall teacher training college in Hertfordshire, and then a range of teaching jobs. She was offered a headship at one school but turned it down.

After meeting Ray at a dance in Woodbridge, Joyce married him in 1952. She carried on teaching until after the first two daughters, Claire and Julie, were born. But even after that Joyce used to respond to calls for help from Grundisburgh School when a teacher fell sick.

When Joyce first came back to Grundisburgh with Ray, he ran a radio and cycle shop in The

Street, which developed into selling and repairing TVs and electrical goods as well.

Then the famous shop on The Green came up for sale in 1968. The new venture was very much a partnership - Ray continued with the cycles and electricals while Joyce took on responsibility for the drapery and confectionery side of the business. During the time they lived there, the third and fourth daughters, Diana and Rosie, were born.

Sadly Ray died in 2003 but Joyce carried on at the shop; she had increasing support from the girls but remained very much in charge.

Joyce was a Grundisburgh institution for so long and will be greatly missed. Her recall of village life and people were second to none.



Her life will be celebrated at a service in St Mary's, Grundisburgh, on Sunday 2 April at 3pm. If the number of cards and messages the family received after Joyce's death is anything to go by, we will be overflowing into the churchyard.

Claire, Julie, Diana and Rosie would like to say a huge thank you for the cards, letters and cake following their bereavement.

Nicola Hobbs

Hopefully the wonderful emporium that Joyce and Ray ran for so long should continue. The shop stocks an amazing range of goods and the Williams sisters have lots of new ideas. Already the end room has been transformed and has a warming fire in the grate on cold days. But they

are dependent on having good support from us purchasing public to keep going. It is a case of 'use it or lose it'

The News will be doing its best to encourage the support and is grateful for the help we receive, including being able to display our tributes folder and copies of back issues.

The store is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 1pm and 2 to 4.30pm; Wednesday 9am to 1pm; Friday and Saturday 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm.

Nick Sim 1982 - November 2016

Nick was the youngest of four children. He grew up in Grundisburgh living at Bridge House on the village green, attending playgroup and the village school with his brother and sister, David and Kate. He joined in all the village activities such as cubs, GADS, tennis and junior football.

Nick attended Ipswich School through to the 6th form, and then studied Computer Science at Nottingham University achieving a First Class Honours Degree. He joined BT at Martlesham where he worked on broadband and multimedia - ultimately leading BT's research team in the field. He formed many lasting friendships at school, university and work.

Nick met his wife Nat when they were 18 and they had 16 wonderful years together. They travelled the world, including visiting all of the top theme parks, and loved going to the cinema (sometimes three times a week). They were blessed to have two perfect sons, Steven and Matthew, who Nick absolutely adored.

Nick enjoyed hockey, football and running at school. He later ran in several Woodbridge 10k events and twice in the Great North Run raising money for charity.

Nick's lifelong interest in theme parks began with his first visit to Pleasurewood Hills as a young boy. This led to his dream job when he left BT to set up a website on theme parks which has grown into a successful business. He loved history and reading and published two books based on his research into the history of Alton Towers and Universal Studios.

Nick's kind and caring nature, selflessness, bravery and humour, alongside his incessant love of life meant he made the most of every single day. He has been an inspiration to all who knew him and will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Steve and Chris Sim

A copy of Natalie's moving tribute to Nick that she read at his service is included on the News' website and in our tributes folder now held in Williams store.



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PERSONAL PASSIONS



Left: Craig and Eddie with local guide.
Above: Waxwing in Chapel Road, Grundisburgh. Below: Siberian Blue Robin.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Sitting down with my cousin, Craig Holden (from Bredfield) and his friend Eddie Marsh (from Grundisburgh), it was difficult not to get caught up in their passion as they described their hobby of birdwatching. Both have travelled the world for their interest, with it taking them to extraordinary places – from childhood onwards, Craig and Eddie have had a fascination for birds.

Craig was diagnosed with haemophilia when very young and he says that bird-watching stopped him from wanting to play football with his friends. He distinctly remembers when his interest was first piqued as a small boy – he found a jay feather in our grandparents' garden and this started his feather collection. His neighbours in Bredfield had an aviary with gamebirds and whenever his Dad took him on trips to Minsmere, the Deben or the zoo, it was always the birds he was drawn towards.

Eddie's passion began at St Mary's Primary School in Woodbridge where his teacher kept a bird feeder outside the classroom window. His Dad worked for Eastern Electricity and he would go with him to the flood defences and wander about, spotting the birds. He

didn't keep lists back then but was always interested, and returned to the hobby after his children grew up. He became hooked after he and his brother took 10 attempts to see a White-Tailed Sea Eagle at Butley in 1989 and this was when the lists began.

Birders versus twitchers

Lists are what differentiates birders and twitchers. Birders will head to reserves or travel abroad to see birds in general whilst twitchers keep lists and 'chase' the rarer birds. Eddie and Craig were both previously twitchers. Twitching involves the thrill of the chase – social media or the Rare Bird Alert is used to provide constant updates and twitchers travel through the night to reach destinations, hoping that the bird is still there at first light.

Both have moved on from twitching and tend to focus on big trips abroad to see birds. Craig stopped keeping a

British list in 2013 when a group of twitchers were chartering a plane to Shetland to see a particularly rare bird. But he had seen the same bird many times in China and so he decided to save the money, stop dashing off to see rare birds and instead concentrate on the foreign trips.

Their adventures take them all round the world. One or both of them have travelled across Europe and North Africa, as well as the United States, Malaysia, India, China, Chile, Brazil, Mexico, Ecuador, Venezuela, Cuba, Israel, South Africa and the Arctic Circle.

For Craig, the foreign trips started in 2006 with Europe (Spain has good birdwatching) and then branching out to Morocco.

Bucket list of birds

Eddie's first big adventure was in 1994 when he went to Texas to visit family and added three weeks of birding to his trip. They have 'bucket lists of birds' that they want to see and so time their trips

around the birds, but also make sure they are holidays as well. They do two or three big trips a year, with perhaps a long weekend to Spain or Morocco added in. They tend to travel as a threesome with their friend, Craig from Stowmarket, organising the trips themselves with the help of local guides.

They both feel very fortunate to live where we do in Suffolk. Craig remembers he always found the kingfishers at Melton the most exciting as a child and Speckled Warblers have been found at Westleton and Langward.

One of Eddie's favourites from childhood is the Red-Backed Shrike which bred near his house near Fen Meadow in Woodbridge.

In Grundisburgh, Eddie had to rescue one of a number of Waxwings which knocked itself out on a window in Mr and Mrs Smith's garden on Chapel Road in February 2012. Apparently it was a great year for Waxwings and the flock in Grundisburgh was 100 or more at times, and they stayed around for a few weeks.

Unusual places

Their hobby takes Craig and Eddie to unusual places, which are often picturesque (although not always!). It enables them to see the world and places in Britain most people would never normally go to, whilst also getting to watch these beautiful creatures.

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Madge explores ... another bed and breakfast

When Mike Allen bought a large derelict barn on the outskirts of Bredfield village in 1978 he wasn't really expecting to build it up into the highly successful bed and breakfast and caravan park business he now owns.

At that time Mike was working in the motor-trade but over the next four years, with the professional skills of an architect and then the help of a friend and neighbour the barn was converted into the impressive seven-bedroomed house it is now.

When it began the bed and breakfast business offered three of the seven bedrooms, since he had a family of four children to accommodate, but as the children moved away the business expanded. Now there are four bed and breakfast rooms - one family room (en suite) one double, one twin and one single.

In 2000 Mike decided to turn his adjacent field, which was being used to keep ponies, into another business venture, a caravan park. This has grown to offer 34 plots and is a Caravan Club site. Once again Mike himself took on

the sheer hard graft involved. Now the two sides of the business function in tandem.

The caravan park re-opens in March and that business is weather related, with no one year being like another, although bank holidays are always fully booked.

The bed and breakfast is open all year including Christmas (although Christmas Day is devoted to the family, with dad Mike as chef!).

Mike finds that often visitors to the caravan park have friends or relatives joining them who prefer the somewhat more luxurious accommodation provided in the house - and it has been known for breakfast to be provided from the house to caravan visitors.

Mike has a very flexible attitude to the provision of

breakfast - he always asks guests what time they would like it to be served and then lists the possibilities: there is the standard 'full English' with a healthy version if desired, there is a vegetarian and/or vegan version; gluten free and other special needs are also catered for. Kippers on offer as are scrambled eggs with or without smoked salmon.



Mike in the breakfast room.

Mike likes to patronise local firms - the village shop - local milk suppliers - sausage and bacon from Bramfield Meats or the 'specialist sausage' shop in Trimley.

Although he does the cooking himself Mike does have help from his housekeeper Kirsty with the servicing of rooms and caravans, plus washing and ironing. Kirsty works 'as required' - how do you know when you are required?' I ask - 'he calls' she says. Usually 'required' are early mornings

and sometimes all the day, especially at the height of the season. Kirsty too seems to need a 'flexible attitude' but since she has worked with Mike for 15 years she is obviously happy about it.

After all these years in the business I wondered what Mike likes best about it - no hesitation - 'meeting interesting people - I like people'. So, 'what is the worst thing?' - hesitation, then 'nothing really - although maybe getting up at 5.30am! Mike explains - the Husky Racing Team from Rendlesham stay at the caravan site each year and want breakfast at 6.30am.

Mike no longer advertises in 'glossy' magazines, preferring to rely on word of mouth, plus a paragraph in the Caravan Club publication and he finds the results quite satisfactory. His website is <http://www.moat-barn.co.uk/> telephone 01473 737520.

Words Madge Nicholas,
photo Peter Kendall

Madge has previously visited Hawthorn Cottage, Grundisburgh, The Granary, Great Bealings, Hillbrow Farm, Witnesham (reports in issue 239) and Church House, Clopton, Apple Tree Cottage, Great Bealings and Oak House, Hasketon (issue 236). All back numbers of The News can be seen on www.grundisburghnews.org.uk.

If you know of other B & Bs in our area that Madge could visit, please let us know.

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THE MOLE MAN - OR RAT MAN OR WASP MAN

Catching moles is in Kim Smith's blood. His grandfather was a mole-catcher and gamekeeper and Kim used to carry his grandad's traps when he went out with him as a small boy. He learnt the trade from his grandad, catching his first mole at the tender age of six and has continued to catch them for over 50 years.

After a spell in the army, Kim started his pest control business in 1985 in Norfolk, controlling deer, moles and rabbits for the likes of the Lotus Formula 1 team, Snetterton race track, schools, highways authorities and Anglian Water. He travelled the country catching moles. And then everything changed about

12 years ago, when rules were introduced, banning the use of strychnine to catch moles and Kim's business altered overnight. He made the decision to go back to more traditional trapping and hasn't looked back.

Kim decided to share the hidden art of catching moles with others through the production of a DVD called the 'ABC of Mole Control', which was followed a year later by the 'ABC of Rabbit Control'. As part of the process, Kim started sourcing and selling traps, which soon led to him using his expertise to design and make his own traps. He also tests traps for manufacturers.

Discounts for local villages

His current business, 'Discount Pest Control' started around 10 years ago, with the move to Grundisburgh. The business mainly operates in a 15 mile radius from Grundisburgh, with discounts available to residents of local villages. Most of his business is by word of mouth, with clients recognising the benefits associated with his more traditional methods. He originally specialised in the use of non-toxins and made the decision six years ago to return to the practice, with 95% of his work now being toxin-free (the remaining 5% is when insecticides are necessary for wasps or when rodenticides are required).

Kim getting rid of the wasps from the loft at Ford House.

The non-use of poisons is something Kim is passionate about. Being up and about at times of the day that the rest of us rarely see, Kim is privileged to see all the wildlife present in the middle of Grundisburgh. There is a fox he often sees playing with her cubs in Orchard End and pine martens (which were exceptionally rare) are now regularly spotted in Woodbridge and Bealings. Add to this the badgers, muntjac deer and barn owls around Grundisburgh and it is plain to see why the use of poisons (which could easily get into the food chain from mice and rats) should be avoided. He warns that the public should always adhere to the labels on pest control products, with even the use of ant powder for wasps' nests being illegal.

He also stresses the importance of protecting bees. Bees are ecologically important and pollinate a third of what we eat. Kim is often called out to residents who have swarms hanging off branches in their gardens but advises them to leave them as the bees will move off on their own. The same is true for bumblebees in lofts – 90% of the time they can be left alone, although he does move them on when required.

At this time of year, Kim gets a lot of call outs for rats and mice (moles are all year round, with wasps in the summer). One warning to residents who have rats is the high levels of leptospirosis amongst the them in Suffolk and he advises people working in their gardens to wear non-porous gloves to avoid contamination.

He shares his knowledge of pest control through the organising and running of courses in the village for independent pest controllers from across the country and also by teaching customers how to control moles through the use of legal traps. He takes people through the use of traps through the ages, demonstrating traditional methods employed with modern equipment.

Facebook discussions

Kim and his wife, Tracy, also run a number of Facebook discussion groups on moles, traps and Lurchers to share information between other pest controllers and the public.

The business deals with everything from mice to red deer, and lots in between. The work tends to be concentrated on rodents, moles, rabbits and wasps - and depending on the time of year, he is known as the 'mole man', the 'rat man' or the 'wasp man'. For help from the mole man (or rat man or wasp man, depending on your needs!), Kim can be contacted via his website: www.discountpestcontrol.org

Tanya Fosdyke

If you run an enterprise in The News' area why not tell us about it: editor@grunews.com

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Taking centre stage...

When it comes to having a fun evening (or afternoon) out without having to travel miles and pay the earth, we here are spoilt for choice with at least four active drama groups to choose from. They cater for all ages and each has its own particular style and strengths but the key ingredient they all have is the enthusiasm of their members and their unstinting efforts to put on a good show (literally) for us theatre-goers.

Alphabetically, they run from Bealings to Tuddenham via Charsfield, Grundisburgh and Otley; so starting with B, the driving forces behind **Bealings Youth Action Theatre (BYAT)** are Roger and Margaret Roseboom who came to Great Bealings some ten years ago with lots of highly relevant experience in theatre and dance in south London which they have put to great effect here. (Margaret was a professional dancer). They actually moved into the house that Elsie Kersey-Wellard, who inspired the then Bealings Drama Group, had lived in.

So the theatrical connexion continued! With a grants from Suffolk Acre and other benefactors for lighting and a sound system in the village hall, they were ready to go, concentrating on getting youngsters on to the stage. Their first public performance was in 2008, with plays and pantomimes in all subsequent years.

Currently, BYAT has 32 members, of which 20 are teens or younger, and they will soon be treading the boards again with a compilation show 'An Evening on Broadway' - a mix of popular songs and scenes from shows such as Chicago, Sweeney Todd, Sister Act, My Fair Lady and Broadway Pirates - coupled with Monty Python's Life of Brian. And 'Streuth', a short detective play, the plot of which demands a high level of acting skills known as 'coarse' - a

trait for which, Roger says, their actors are well known! Also performing will be the young ladies' dance group in 'All that Jazz' and, making their debut, the new 'Young Byats' from Bealings School in Disney's 'Peter Pan' and 'Jungle Book'. What with

'Alas CADS in Wonderland' by local resident Jeremy Gugenheim - very loosely based on the story we all know and love.

CADS are performing in the village hall at 7.30pm on 23 to 25 March inclusive: tickets from The Three Horseshoes



some Ronnie Barker sketches, it should be a fun evening - perhaps nearer to Ealing Broadway than New York?

Net proceeds will go to the East Anglian Air Ambulance, who were called out last year to try to save one of Bealings' sons, and to the benefice magazine. Performances are on Saturday 4 March at 7.30 and Sunday 5 March at 4.30. Call 01473 735153 for tickets (£6 adults; £3 for under-13s) or order them from any cast member you may know.

There will be a licensed bar, aimed not only at relieving you of your money but also to oil your vocal chords as you will be required to join in support of certain numbers. OR ELSE !

If the lights are blazing on a Wednesday evening in Charsfield, it must be CADS (**Charsfield Amateur Dramatic Society**) currently rehearsing their next offering:



(01473 737187) or The Teapot in Wickham Market (01728 748079)

CADS has been entertaining audiences for 40 years, a longevity which stalwart Peter Holloway (age nowhere near 70) puts down to dedication, enthusiasm and working in an environment where everyone can have their say.

He reckons there's a core company of about 28 people providing the mainstay of CADS, including a barrister, a doctor and local farmers - not forgetting Sharon from the Three Horseshoes. These are augmented by an army of helpers - on and off-stage - with some travelling from as



far away as Hornchurch and Birmingham to perform. Unlike other groups, CADS comprises adults rather than children and so does not run into the problem of chaperoning and other requirements that others have to cope with.

All the profits from CADS' productions (usually well over £1,000 from tickets and ice cream sales!) are ploughed back into the community with sizeable donations in recent years to the village hall and the playing field.

In **Grundisburgh**, GADS has just completed its run of its panto 'Showdown at the Hoedown' to enthusiastic audiences in the village hall. Over the six performances, we were treated to rollicking fun with plenty of yee-hahs from the usual suspects, plus some welcome new players. Like many similar organisations,



Top: final line-up at GADS panto; left and far left: BYAT's squad of young performers with Margaret Roseboom choreographing dancers at Bealings. Above and above right: Vanessa Ling in directing mode; Kirby Sheppard, Ian and Martin Liddell in full swing with Tracey Moss applying some finishing touches at Otley. Right: Peter Holloway and cast in deep discussion at CADS, with naughty boys being lined up for a good caning at Charsfield rehearsals.

GADS has to work hard to recruit and retain members: there is always a drop-off factor when it's realised that a show-biz career even in Grundisburgh has to be worked at: stardom doesn't come easy!

The new village hall should provide GADS with a much-improved venue with the building's internal arrangements offering separate changing rooms for boys, girls and adults, now a legal requirement. And that's in addition to GADS having to comply with other strict child protection and chaperone licensing laws administered by Suffolk County Council.

As we go to press, GADS is planning its next production -

their spring play: details will be given in the News. As ever, new members are always welcome at GADS.

Ahoy there!

On Saturdays in January, Otley village hall looked more like a medieval shipyard than a modern community asset with set designers, painters, riggers and carpenters hard at it creating the props for the next **Junior Otley Players'** musical production of 'Treasure Island'. Without taking anything away from the performers, it's easy to forget the hard work that also goes into producing the imaginative scenery a show demands.

There are currently about 22 Juniors aged 8 - 17, coming

from Otley and surrounding villages. The Juniors is run by Vanessa Ling, and is a development of the Otley Players which itself was formed in 1983. Sue Courteney ran a youth club in the village and put on a show that was so well received that she and friends got together to revive the 'resting' drama tradition in Otley.

Every year since then the Players have put on at least two productions in the hall which is now a sophisticated venue with its sprung floor and lottery-funded tiered

seating: no wonder people come from as far away as Cambridge to their shows. Audiences total about 200 per production with their autumn shows including a three-course meal. Their next show will be 'Macbeth Goes Wrong' on 6, 7 and 8 April.

Vanessa admits it's sometimes quite a struggle to keep up the pace as there are only about ten core members in the company and she would love more people to come forward and join the Players. If you are interested (and you don't have to be an Otley resident), please do call Vanessa on 01473 890787

What next?

Uncertainty hangs over the future of the drama scene in **Tuddenham**. **TADPOLES** has lost some of its key people but, thanks to the initiative of Liz and Trevor Beckett's 13-year old son, Hayden, there will be a one-night only show of sketches and songs, plus a ploughman's supper on 4 March in the village hall.

Liz (who has professional experience in theatre costume) and Trevor are in the driving seat of the show and hope that this will stimulate interest in amateur dramatics in the village and that the enthusiasm and successes of previous years can be revived.

Let's hope it's not curtains for **TADPOLES**.

Richard Watkinson



NEW LEADERS FOR GRUNDISBURGH GUIDES

After our recent appeals for a new leader for the Grundisburgh Guide Unit, we are very pleased to announce that we now have not one but two new leaders in training.

Amy Adams has been a part of guiding for 10 years, starting as a Brownie. She has been a young leader three years and now is completing her adult qualification to become a fully-fledged leader.



Natasha Bickers has also joined the unit as a leader in training. She has lived in Grundisburgh for two years and, after hearing of our plea, came forward to volunteer. She has lots of experience working with children of Guides' age and is already a huge hit with the girls. Her many hobbies include craft, gardening and a general love of the outdoors.



The Guides have been having lots of fun this term working towards their badges. They have been doing the 'Film Lover' badge which has of course involved watching films and also learning about the film industry. They have also been completing the 'Love to Love' badge which has involved lots of activities that girls just love to do such as shopping, chocolate, cooking, being active - and will finish the term off with a party.

When the warmer weather returns and the evenings are lighter, we look forward to being able to complete more adventurous challenge and interest badges such as the

Outdoor Cook and Survival badges.

Most of all, with a new and enthusiastic team of leaders, we are looking forward to being able to offer a wider variety of activities and taking up more of the regional opportunities such as camps and activity days.

Debbie Richards

Bell ringing

A number of Guides started training in bell ringing at St Mary's church under the leadership of Stephen Pettman and other regular ringers. Sophie Willshire and Yasmin Haddock have continued to do so and attend the Monday evening sessions, as well as ringing at other churches.

I went to join them in the bell tower on a cold and dark evening in January to see how they get on and take photos of them 'in action'. I also asked them why they enjoy ringing

Sophie told me it was because it was fun and interesting, and different to her friends' hobbies. She says "I have learnt how to ring in rounds and am trying to learn 'call changes' and 'plain hunting'. I hope to join the Suffolk Guild of Ringers and take part in the district striking competition with Yasmin as part of a band of six ringers."



Yasmin says she is glad she decided to try bell ringing because there are many different bells to try. "I have rung at five different churches and met lots of nice people. Once I

Photo left: Yasmin; Above: Sophie.



have learnt something, it is very satisfying to ring it well. I prefer the heavier bells as they are easier to control".

Stephen says, "Both Sophie and Yasmin have done very

well in what is quite an exacting hobby. We are pleased to welcome any other young (or older) people who enjoy a challenge to our teaching sessions on Mondays between 6.30 and 7.30pm at Grundisburgh Church."

Words and photos Ingrid McIvor

Busy time for Grundisburgh Scouts

All sections of our group are looking forward to activities and events in spring, including the Mother's Day and St. George's Day parades, cycle camp and national archery finals.

In January we had 40 members attend the GADS panto with some of the Scout Group in the cast; it was very funny with excellent acting. During the evening Oscar, one of our newest Cubs, was invited up onto the stage to be invested into the Cub Section by our Cub Leader Archie Adams accompanied by Assistant Cub Leader Sam Brown. It was a double celebration for Oscar as it was also his eighth birthday. (See photo below)



A highlight of Beavers' Christmas party was our Leader Zarah bringing her beautiful two week old daughter Kaitlyn. On 30 January we had Chinese New Year night where Beavers made paper 'Roosters' and 'Dragon' Cup Puppets. On Personal Hygiene Night teeth were brushed with toothpaste and hands were washed with soap, properly! We will be studying the sky for our Space Badge, visiting the Suffolk Constabulary Museum at Force Headquarters, having campfires, making Mother's Day gifts, pancake races and having an Easter egg hunt.

Cubs are focusing this term on the 'Our World' Challenge will include a visit to the Buddhist Centre in Ipswich, a walk around the village with buckets, Human Pioneering, a Spy Night, an night hike with sleepover at the hut and an Easter egg hunt.

Scouts will be making 'Creative Pancakes', taking part in Map Skills Training, an Incident Hike with sleepover, an Expedition Challenge starting at various locations, and on 28 April to 1 May will be on cycle camp with other Scout groups.

Explorers are very busy this term with the Tin Can Challenge, Blind Date night, pancakes, campfires, a Monopoly Challenge around Woodbridge, tobogganing at the Ipswich Ski Centre, Easter egg hunt and cycle camp with the Scouts and other groups.

Archery training is going very well and Roman, one of our young Archery members, travelled to France to take part in the World Archery Indoor Cup Stage 3 and competed in the Junior Recurve for ages up to 20. Roman is only 13 and came 60th out of 120 with a personal best - congratulations!

We are once again holding our Duck Race event on 24 June and Fireworks Display on 4 November. A big thanks to all who supported our Christmas card scheme and to our kind sponsors who had a postal bin on their premises. We made £20.

Pat Ross, Group Secretary 01473 735352

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

Local Heroes ...



Keeping mum for grandma

Without prompting ten year old Rosie Blanchard took it upon herself to do a sponsored silence to raise money for Macmillan on the anniversary of her nana's death from cancer in November. It was not an organised event, just one little girl's spur-of-the moment decision. She raised £110 just with sponsorship from close friends and family.

Rosie was silent between 10am and 3pm, and she was supported by her friends in Grundisburgh on the day who helped her communicate with pen and paper!

A cheque was sent with a Christmas card and a hand written letter of thanks from Rosie. So, a big well done to her.

Sue Blanchard, Stoney Road, Grundisburgh

Polly's soft power education in Uganda

This summer 15 year old Polly Haste from Grundisburgh will be flying to Uganda as a volunteer with 'Soft Power Education', working with disadvantaged children in special schools in Jinja. Her goal is to raise at least £500 to donate to the charity. To raise this Polly is offering to baby sit, iron and do other household jobs, all proceeds of which will go directly to the charity. She would also greatly appreciated donations via www.justgiving.com/Polly-Haste, and can be contacted on 01473 738632 or 07925083224, email pollyrose.haste@outlook.com

Soft Power Education is a British registered charity working with communities in Uganda to improve quality of life through education. It supports less fortunate children by enhancing life skills through fun, creative, innovative and hands-on education. For more information see www.softpowereducation.com



Challenges Worldwide take Charlie to Ghana

I am fundraising for Challenges Worldwide, a charity that implements an overseas volunteering programme for 18-25 year olds, funded by the UK Government's Department for International Development. This funding means that my expenses as a volunteer are covered; thus all money I raise goes directly to Challenge's projects.

Building a strong economy is the best way to address poverty, and Challenges Worldwide do this by helping businesses to grow. Company growth creates jobs and a secure income for people living in the city. This also helps farmers who depend upon urban businesses to process, package and sell their goods. Earning your own money is the first step towards reducing the need for aid and helps sustainable development.

Immersed in day-to-day life

During my three-month placement to Ghana starting in February with Challenges, I will live alongside a Ghanaian volunteer, with a local host family, and hopefully be completely immersed in the day-to-day life. Most importantly of course, we will both be placed into a local business, helping entrepreneurs grow their companies through collaboratively assessing, advising and implementing changes to their business.

Though the specific goals will vary with the needs of the business – e.g. financial literacy, better operating practices,



readying for investment – the consistent theme is to leave positive sustainable impact.

I held my main fundraiser on 27 December at Tuddenham Village Hall – a lunchtime curry and raffle. By feeding around 70 people, and, thanks to the amazing generosity of local and high-street businesses, a 29-prize raffle raising £420 by itself, we raised a total of £1,082 on the day, which takes me past my £1,500 target. My immense thanks to everyone who supported the event and my fundraising!

Though I have passed my fundraising target, it is only a target not a limit, so any more donations are very welcome and greatly appreciated! None of the funds I raise will be used for my own expenses, all go towards the projects themselves. You can donate at:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/charlieaulsebrook

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PREPARING FOR UNDERGROUND CABLE LAYING FOR WINDFARM ONE

Preparations for the East Anglia Offshore Windfarm One underground cable-laying route should start on 28 February. This is needed to take the power from wind turbines in the North Sea brought ashore at Bawdsey to the National Grid at Bramford.

Local roads will be closed in rotation to enable passing places to be created and for signage to be placed for large lorries delivering equipment to the temporary depot about to be created just north of Playford.

As soon as this depot is up and running work will start in earnest on the cable route itself (probably in August) to

Bramford via several parishes in The News' area, particularly The Bealings and Playford. However, other parishes will be affected, particularly Grundisburgh and Culpho when the heavy lorries start rumbling through to and from the Playford depot.

Reduce disruption

Some parish councils have been assured that the size of lorries, routing and timings of main deliveries and workers' work times have been considered so as to reduce disruption at peak travel times.

Lorry drivers will be told to adhere to the prescribed routes. Notices will be placed in the area and further

information will be given (probably online), giving a point of contact for complaints about the traffic flow. The four phases for the preparatory work comprise:

Phase 1, 29 February to 6 March: Ipswich Road, Culpho, from the junction with Farrow's Lane to the Tuddenham Hall corner.

Phase 2, 6 to 14 March: Grundisburgh Road, Culpho, from the junction with Farrow's Lane to Manor Farm.

Phase 3, 15 to 19 March: Playford Mount, Playford, from Playford Corner to the junction with Church Road.

Phase 4, dates to be confirmed: Grundisburgh Road, Culpho, from the junction with Farrow's Lane to the junction with Park Road, Grundisburgh.

The bus service from Grundisburgh to Ipswich is having to be diverted to go via Stoney Road after The Green and is not expected to be going up Rose Hill and Ipswich Road during March.

The parishes of Bealings, Grundisburgh & Culpho and Playford are working together to get the latest information on the traffic management plans. They will make sure that up-to-date information is made available online.

Information from John Lapsley, Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council's representative on the wind farm group, and Marian Hedgley, Playford Parish Council

'Affordable' homes to rent



The two bedroom bungalows facing Ipswich Road, Grundisburgh.

Orwell Housing is taking on the new affordable homes currently being built by Hopkins homes on Ipswich Road, Grundisburgh. These homes will be rented out to local families, with a planning restriction ensuring that they can only let to families who can demonstrate a local connection to Grundisburgh and surrounding parishes.

The homes consist of one bedroom flats and two bedroom bungalows, and are expected to be handed over from Hopkins to Orwell around the end of March.

Representatives from Orwell and Suffolk Coastal are holding an information event

in Grundisburgh at the Playing Field Pavilion on Wednesday 1 March between 3 and 7pm. Orwell will be giving further information about the homes, how they will be let and encouraging local families to register their interest and apply.

This will be an informal open, drop in event, where local people can come and talk to the housing team involved in the project and find out more about the new homes.

Anyone unable to attend but wanting more information can contact me on 01473 228636 or Kieran.bleasby@orwell-housing.co.uk

Kieran Bleasby

Restrictions proposed for junction of Doctor Watsons Lane and A1214

Suffolk County Council's Highways is considering enforcing restrictions on traffic making right turns into and out of Doctor Watsons Lane at peak times, to avoid congestion at the traffic lights on the junction of the A1214 with Bell Lane.

Both Playford and Little Bealings Parish Councils have voiced serious concerns over this as the junction forms an important through route for local parishioners and is regularly used by them at peak times. Playford Parish Council has offered a number of alternative suggestions to alleviate congestion as it feels that restricting right turns here would push the problem further along the A1214 in both directions to other junctions which already have similar issues.

Kesgrave Town Council is concerned that the proposal could make difficulties for people attending funerals at All Saints Church Kesgrave on the A1214, to then go on to All Saints Cemetery which is situated in Playford parish in Doctor Watsons Lane.

The proposal is in its early stages at present and we hope that the public will be allowed their say at a consultation before a decision is made.

Marian Hedgley, Clerk to Playford Parish Council

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KYSON PROBUS CLUB

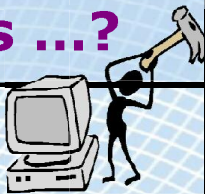
Would you like to meet like-minded, similar aged people in the local area? The Kyson Probus Club provides a forum for retired or semi-retired business or professional men in a friendly setting. We meet monthly at a hotel for a drink and a chat followed by lunch and a speaker. For more information please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

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TUDDENHAM TALES

Soup & Sweet

Tuddenham WI will be hosting this year's annual Soup & Sweet lunch in the Village Hall on Saturday 22 April, 12noon for 12.30pm lunch. Tickets are £6 adults and £4 children from Jackie Lugo - 01473 252315.

Annual Quiz

Calling all eggheads!!! – Organise yourselves into teams of six and come to Tuddenham Village Hall on Saturday 13 May to compete for the famous Tuddenham Toad Quiz Trophy! (If you haven't got a team, come anyway and we'll find you one!).

As well as our magnificent Toad Trophy for the winners there are also novelty prizes for the team who finish the evening at the bottom of the scoreboard, and of course, the sought after prize for the most amusing team name!

Monica and her catering team will be providing the usual delicious ploughman's supper - bring your own drinks. Tickets are £7.50 per person from Jean (785682) and Monica (783272).

Some Tuddenham residents have asked us to place their stories under the Tuddenham Tales banner. Generally The News' policy is to group items with like subjects - whats on, sport, local enterprise, personal passions etc, rather than on a village by village basis.

This time their coloured banner is back with stories we thought just of interest to local residents, while Tuddenham people also feature in our round up of drama productions on the centre pages. Charlie Aulsebrook is in the spotlight for his fund raising activities among the local heroes on page 13.

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Nicola Weldon
Partner
Wills, Tax, Trusts,
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Gotelee Solicitors



Neil Hewitt
Private Client
IFA Director
Scrutton Bland Ltd

Mobile police stations

The Woodbridge Safer Neighbourhood Team's mobile police station now visits villages on a quarterly basis and stops in fewer than before.

The stops in or near our villages are:

11 April & 4 July
Charsfield: Village Hall, 10-11.30am
Grundisburgh: Stoney Road by Old School, 12noon-1.30pm

12 April & 5 July
Westerfield: Village Hall 10-11.30am

22 May & 14 August
Otley: Village Hall 12noon-1.30pm
Winesham: Entrance to Weyland Road 2pm-3.30pm

OPEN DAY INVITATION

The latest update on progress on Grundisburgh's new village hall takes place on Saturday 25 March.

Another open day is being mounted in the existing hall between 10am and 4pm. There will be a chance to see the latest architect plans and 3D drawings of the inside, construction details including innovative eco features and energy efficient heating, landscaping ideas, including



the car park and field areas, details of the user groups and activities identified so far.

There will be handouts to take away, including one on costs and likely sources of funding, grants etc.

Members of the steering group and the village hall management committee will be around to answer questions and hopefully receive more suggestions made by future users. WI members have agreed to provide refreshments.

Peter Kendall, New Village Hall Steering Group chair, 01473 738267, peter@newvillagehall.com

WI reports

We welcomed Erik Punaks to our December meeting. Erik has entertained Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho WI before and we were not disappointed by his Christmas visit. He took to writing poetry when illness forced him to retire from his teaching career at Kesgrave School.

Erik has the ability to find the funny side of the most mundane situations, resulting in a copious collection of unique poems, a selection of which we were privileged to hear. He also had us singing along to a few Christmas songs, before we finished the evening with mince pies,

sausage rolls and Secret Santa gifts.

Magdelaine Snowden paid us a visit to tell us all about the art of hats and flower making. Her story of how she came to be doing this was both interesting and amusing. She lives in Grundisburgh and is very involved in village life, and now has a thriving business selling hats, hairbands, flower brooches and bridal hair pieces, mainly by word of mouth and on-line. She taught us all how to make a ribbon brooch - with very differing results!

Our meetings are very informal and interesting; if you would like to join us, we meet the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the School Room at the Baptist Chapel.

Carol Barker and Brenda Garrett

Come on a rubbish walk!

Our 'Rubbish walk' being held on Sunday 12 March has two aims: to have a walk of about an hour and to collect as much litter as possible on the way. Most of the rubbish in Grundisburgh comes from cars where thoughtless drivers throw it out of their windows.

The worst areas for this are Park Road, the Gull and Lower Road. So we will be walking and collecting as we go! Please book the date so that you can join us to make a difference. All equipment will be provided. Meet at 2pm on Grundisburgh Green.

Sally Grahn, 01473 738219

Annual meeting

Grundisburgh and Culpho's annual parish meeting is booked for Tuesday 2 May, in Grundisburgh Village Hall.

As usual there will be reports from the district, county and parish councils, and a chance to ask questions. A selection of village groups will be invited to report on their activities, and a photographic portrait of village events

throughout the year will be given by News picture editor Peter Kendall.

The evening starts at 7pm and ends with a chance to chat informally over a buffet.

John Ager, clerk to Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council, 01473 735541

Life saver installed

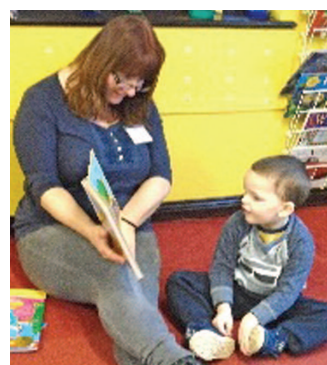
Grundisburgh now has its own defibrillator to be used to help save lives from heart attacks. This device gives a high energy electric shock to the heart through the chest wall to someone who is in cardiac arrest and is an essential life saving step.

Grundisburgh's defibrillator is attached to the side of the parish rooms and a number of local people are being trained in its use. The training is being run by Lisa Barr and Casise Hall, both very experienced nurses.

The equipment was paid for by grants from the Locality Budgets of our district councillor Tony Fryatt and county councillor Robin Vickery. It was installed free of charge by Doyle Electrical. The training is being coordinated for the parish council by Sally Grahn. Further information from her on 01473 738219.

Playgroup invites visits

Grundisburgh Early Years Centre/Playgroup was built by members of the community 25 years ago. It is a charity, run by a committee made up of parents and other



Rupert and Carrie Herries, the team behind Hallo Greetings cards of Grundisburgh. For the second year a percentage of sales from their Christmas cards went to support EACH, the children's hospice. This year they raised £532, well up on last year's donation. Best sellers for Christmas 2016 were the cards designed by Carrie featuring chickens!

local people. We currently have spaces available and take children between two and five years old - from any area. Early booking helps with our forward planning for the group, so please contact us on 01473 735161, grundisp@ gmail.com - or pop in for a visit.

We open on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9.10am to 3.10pm, and on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9.10am to 12.10pm

Julia Bentley

New undies needed

We are collecting new ladies and children's underwear to go to Jordan, where my godmother Pam is involved in caring for Christian refugees from Syria and Iraq. Pam next goes to Jordan in April. If anyone who would like to contribute, please bring your gift of unused underwear to St Mary's Church where there is a box marked for the purpose before the end of March

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SPORTING STORIES



Grundisburgh in blue defending a corner versus Cranes.

Grundisburgh footballers still going

We are now playing in our 36th consecutive season in Senior football, since promotion in 1980/81. After a summer of turmoil and a mass player exodus, we nearly didn't have a team and came close to folding.

We struggled once the season started in August and we had to fold the Reserves after 68 years, with many of its players stepping up into the senior side. After seven straight defeats, we won our first game on 22 October by an unbelievable 6-3 against Leiston St Margarets at home. Another two defeats followed before our second home win against Ransomes 4-2. We then lost our next four games leading up to Christmas. We had a very happy Christmas and new year, winning two games in the league 1-0 at home to Ipswich Athletic and 3-0 away to Wenhamston Utd, followed by a 4-2 win at Leiston in the League Cup. We then lost two games narrowly 1-0 to Coplestonians and 2-0 at Achilles in the Cup,

going on to beat Wenhamston again 3-1 and a well earned 1-1 draw against East Bergholt.

We have played 20 games in the league, with 10 still to play and are currently third from bottom. Please free to come along and watch the football on offer - cheaper and more entertaining than Portman Road!

Home games coming up with a 2.30pm kick off are against Westerfield Utd on 25 February and Henley Athletic on 4 March. We have tea, coffee and a bar open on Saturdays from 2pm on match days and 5pm on non-match days. Car boot sales are coming up and a race night (details in the News' Diary).

Micky Squirrel

Tennis – to burn off excess calories and live longer!

A study undertaken by Oxford University and researchers in Finland and Australia involving 80,000 people for an average of nine years, looked at which sports protected them against early death. It found that those who

played racquet sports regularly were the least likely to die over the study period.

The scientists felt that the difference could be that there was a social aspect to sports like tennis and squash, which often involve clubs which organise activities outside of the game.

Tennis is often thought of as a sport that is only played on balmy summer days, but at Grundisburgh Tennis Club our members are active all year round so you don't have to wait until the build up to Wimbledon to come along and have a go. Our annual membership runs from April.

As well as the more competitive players amongst us, we have thriving groups who like to play tennis at a more leisurely pace. These groups continue to play throughout the year unless it is wet or the courts are icy. If the weather forces us to leave our racquets at home, we generally meet up for a walk and coffee or lunch at the pub. Other social events are organised throughout the year including 'picnic and play', meals out, walks and bowling.

We also have one ladies' team and two men's teams who play in tennis leagues. These matches take place at weekends. The club is always keen to hear from players who are interested in playing competitively.

Anyone interested in joining Grundisburgh Tennis Club should contact Sue Haddock (membership secretary) on 01473 738872 or visit www.grundisburghtennis.co.uk

Ann Lee



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Nellie Felgate

Following our appeal in the last News, we have received some fascinating material about Nellie Felgate, a much loved teacher at Grundisburgh School remembered by many older residents. Peter Kendall would be delighted to receive any further memories of Nellie for his article in a future edition of The News (01473 738267, peter@peterkendall.com).

Fatal anti-freeze

Following the sad death of my beloved cat, Sydney, because of anti-freeze poisoning, I would like to reiterate the warnings of the RSPCA, Cats Protection and other animal charities about the dangers of the substance. Unfortunately, anti-freeze is

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highly palatable to cats and it just takes a couple of licks for it to be fatal as kidney failure ensues. It is also highly poisonous to dogs.

I would like to ask that readers ensure that any spills, however small, are cleared up immediately and that anti-freeze is kept in robust, labelled containers so pets cannot gain access. Thank you!

Vanessa Barker, Grundisburgh

Since the death of Sydney two other cats in Charles Avenue have been poisoned, and the police are investigating.

Thanks

The News would like to thank the Wood Trust, and Tuddenham and Otley Parish Councils for their generous financial support.

The News online: Website changes

The Grundisburgh & District News website has had a few changes over the past year. As well as having all issues from 190 (January 2006) it has an extended version of the News. Diary and copies of the full obituaries where they have had to be shortened in the printed edition. The editions are organised by year of issue with the latest one being available using the QR code on the back of the printed edition. This code does not change and always links to the most recent.

The extended version of the News Diary includes events of which we are aware for the next 12 months to give people as much warning as possible of potential clashes when deciding on dates. Notification of events, whether for the next issue or for further ahead, should be sent to the Diary editor at diary@grunews.com with details of the organisation, name of event, date and time, location and a contact telephone number.

The full obituaries have been copied from those now held at Williams Store, Grundisburgh Green and loaded, together with photographs and maiden names where known/discovered, to give wider access. There is also an index of *all* obituaries in the online issues, i.e. from Issue 190 onwards.

Extra items may be loaded from time to time, such as Rowan Williams' talk at St Mary's, Grundisburgh. Other items which you think could be made available on the website can be sent to diary@grunews.com.

Ian McIvor

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 email. If emailed, the topic of the article should be shown in the subject box. Photos can be sent as JPGs (but not embedded in Word documents) or as prints.

Editor of this issue: Nicola Hobbs (738267, editor@grunews.com);

Editor of next issue: Richard Watkinson (735540, editor@grunews.com)

Diary editor: Ingrid McIvor, 21 Thomas Wall's Close, Grundisburgh, IP13 6XB, (738866 diary@grunews.com).

Advertising: Diane Waters (see box below).

Picture editor: Peter Kendall (738267).

Distribution coordinator: Stephen Cooper (07780 678645, stephen.cooper23@me.com)

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

Treasurer: Sue Haddock (738872, accounts@grunews.com).

Administrator: Ingrid McIvor (738866, ingrid.mcivor@btinternet.com).

Website: Ian McIvor (738866, ian.mcivor@btinternet.com)

Type: Wendy Cole (735923).

Proofing: Viola Reade and Ingrid McIvor

Chair of management team: Beth Taylor (737635, d.taylor900@btinternet.com)

Vice chair of management team: Terry Frost (735275)

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All advertisers will receive a copy of The News in which their advert first appears.

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

A small charge is made for originating artwork.

Adverts for next issue to be sent by 3 May to Diane Waters, 2 New Hall, Carlton Park, Saxmundham IP17 2NJ or adverts@grunews.com 01728 605691.

Scan to see the current issue of The News



Scan to see The News' archive online.



SCHOOL REPORTS ...



Grundisburgh School

Our school runs lots of clubs, over 20 at the last count, which usually take place after school or during the lunch break. We try to ensure that there are a range of clubs to suit all tastes and interests: Running Club and a Knitting Club; Football Club and a Film Club; Drama Club and a Green (Wildlife/Nature) Club and so on.

Recently we have started to establish clubs before school in order to accommodate all of them. We now have a Yoga Club on a Monday morning, a Hip Hop Club on a Wednesday morning and a Running Club on a Friday morning – all starting at 8am.

We are also developing the teaching of French across the school with the children being encouraged to converse in French at all times – greeting each other and when speaking to the cook at lunchtimes for instance. We have also, just recently made links with a school in France – Ecole Primaire Jacques Brel which is in a small village near Saint Omer. We have a display of photographs of the school in our atrium and we have started to communicate with the school via email

John Lynch, headteacher

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The five primary
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catchment area are
invited to send short
reports and photos to
The News



Charsfield School

Among the activities featured in Charsfield's excellent newsletter are Class One's Geography lessons. These have included learning about orienteering and involved a visit to Rendlesham Forest (above) to put these skills into action and learn about map work.

Class 3 pupils have continued with their World War Two topic, writing about the Blitz and experiencing what life was like for children then. This included dressing up as evacuees who were leaving their homes to stay somewhere safe away from the bombing. Their photo is on page 1.

An activity involving all the school was a visit by medal winning sailor Sam Brearey, under the Sports for Schools

scheme. This is designed to encourage more children to take up sport. It included all the children taking part in an intense workout which used similar fitness activities to those used by Sam in his training.



This was a sponsored circuit which raised money for the school to buy sports equipment and also to help to fund the training of GB athletes. Sam also lead an inspirational assembly, answering all kinds of questions - and autographing many different items.



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