

The Grundisburgh and District News

Spring
2026
FREE

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



makes a splash!



Four owners, five pools, 40 teachers and 1000 children.....See p3 for full report

Think before you swim elsewhere..

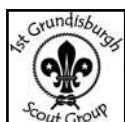
We suggest you read the latest water sampling report by our deputy editor, Richard Watkinson.

He describes the major discharge of storm water and raw sewage by Anglian Water into the Deben river.

See page 16 for full details and the implication for future investment to improve storm drains in the area.

He also features the three citizen scientists who carry out the water sampling tests.

Editor



The Scout Group received a grant from the Grundisburgh

Horticultural Society which enabled us to buy cooking boxes, pots, pans, utensils,



bowls, etc for using when we go on camps and also use at the scout hut. We are very thankful to the society.

Our Beaver Leaders Zarah and Geraldine have been awarded the Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service. They have been leaders for 10 years working with our youngest members in Scouting at 1st Grundisburgh and this award is very well deserved.

Our fantastic Duck Race is on the Grundisburgh Village Green Sunday 28 June, stalls open 12.30pm, Race at 1.30pm, with the exciting 'Golden Duck' Race at the start with over 3,000 ducks then following behind. There will be

a BBQ, games, raffle, food, drinks, ice-creams.

The girls who are going to Gdansk in Poland, for the World Scout Jamboree in 2027 will be having a stall at the duck race in order to raise money towards their journey.

Our 'Rocking into Spring' with Ed Gasket and The Rockers Dance will be helping the Scout Group raise money towards our new HQ and the girls going to the Jamboree.

This will be at Grundisburgh Village Hall on Saturday 28 February, for details see posters.

Pat Ross
Grundisburgh Scout Group



000

Fast EV Charging Solutions



We provide state-of-the-art charging stations that deliver rapid and efficient charging for your EV at **competitive rates**, ensuring you're back on the road in no time!



Advanced Technology

We use the latest technology for the fastest and most efficient charging for both domestic and commercial environments.



Experienced Technicians

Our friendly team of experts offer top-quality installation and service of your EV charger



Eco-Friendly Solutions

Support a greener planet with our sustainable charging options.

CONTACT OUR TEAM TODAY!

01473 744 801

www.danceanddean.co.uk

admin@danceanddean.co.uk



FARTHING

FUNERAL SERVICE

• Est. 180 Years •

**CREATE HOUSE, 2 STATION ROAD,
WOODBIDGE IP12 4AU
TEL: 01394 331337**

farthingfunerals.co.uk



Tuddenham Road Dental Surgery

Mr I.Paraskevopoulos BchD Msc RAAD

Mr W.J.Hendriks BChD (Stell)

Mr Anis Jaleel BDS (Lond) LDS, RCS (Eng)

We aim to provide excellent dental care for you and your family with a focus on prevention rather than cure. Our whole team is committed to making your patient journey as pleasurable and comfortable as possible.

Now accepting new private adult patients.
NHS waiting list for children under 16.

We provide a wide range of procedures including:

**Tooth Whitening
Veneers
Crowns and Bridges
Implants
Adult Orthodontics (Braces)
Dentures**

**11A Tuddenham Road
Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 2SH
01473 252400
tuddenhamroadpracticemanager@gmail.com**



BOOK YOUR CONSULTATION NOW

Pauls Tree Services

**Lazy Acres, Lower Road Falkenham, Suffolk
Tel:01394 277776 | Mob:07979 226497
Email: paulstreeservicesltd@hotmail.com
Visit: www.paulstreeservices.co.uk**



- All aspects of Tree Surgery & Felling
- Hedge Trimming
- Pruning & Reshaping
- Stump Grinding
- Emergency services available
- Fully insured
- All waste chipped and removed from site
- Free quotes
- Professional work at a fair price



Local enterprise



If you were to make a list of essential life skills, you would probably start with reading and writing. You wouldn't get very far down the list before adding swimming. Not only is it a healthy sport but, unlike most sports, it is one which could save your life one day.

Most of us who have children are eager to ensure that they can learn to swim while they are young, whether through teaching them ourselves, or by getting swimming tuition for them. This is where iSwim fulfils a need.

Started in 2002 with one pool in Clopton, iSwim has grown over the years and now has five pools available, all of which are all in locations in the area of Woodbridge and Ipswich.

The current owners of iSwim took over in 2014 and although each of them has their own role in the company, they all teach as well.

Alice Ager is the youngest of the four owners and is the daughter of one of the early members. Alice does all the administration which doesn't fall to any of the others. Sandy Page makes sure that the

maintenance of the pools and facilities is kept up to scratch, while Ann Minter takes responsibility for the accounts. The fourth member is Sarah Tait.

When I interviewed three of them, they displayed great enthusiasm for the task of enabling children to acquire the great asset of being able to swim, as well as deserved pleasure in seeing how the business has grown.

That growth has resulted in a business which now provides tuition to nearly 1,000 children each week across the five pools! Also, as most of the teachers are part time, many with other jobs, it takes a team of 40 to deliver the tuition to that number of children.

On the downside, running a business like this has become increasingly expensive. In addition to the rent payable for all the pools, a major expense is the energy cost involved in keeping pools heated to between 31 and 33 degrees, as well as running large de-humidifiers in some locations. Not cheap!

Additionally, the cost of the chemicals used to keep the water safe has increased quite dramatically, as has some of the equipment they need to buy such as flotation devices. "When we see a five year old attempting to take a bite out of a £75 float, we have to stop them fast, and not just for safety reasons", says Sandy.

As well as the group tuition, iSwim let out their pools for private hire. This might be if a family or two want to have exclusive use of the pool for example. Local schools also book slots and bring their pupils in for swimming lessons or practice. The owners stressed to me the importance of having properly trained and qualified instructors. There are two

levels of qualification, rather unimaginatively called Level 1 and Level 2. Typically, a class will have two teachers, in which case, at least one of them will be at Level 2.

A class needs to include a teacher who has a lifeguard qualification so in smaller classes with just one teacher, that teacher has to have the qualification. I recall taking my

own kids, now in their 20s, to the Clopton pool back in the day. Seeing them progress and get their competency certificates was very rewarding. If you are interested in doing the same for your children, iSwim can be contacted on 01473 277085, or by emailing: iswim@live.co.uk

Paul Whittingham

KEYHOLE SURGERY LOCKSMITHS

SIMON CHITTOCK

NO CALL OUT FEES - NO VAT
FREE QUOTES - BEST PRICES IN THE AREA
01473 715794 - 07599 538917
www.keyholesurgeryipswich.co.uk



Mob: 07913376632

over 25yrs experience Free Estimates
stuartcatchpole39@gmail.com

SPECIALIST MUSCULOSKELETAL PHYSIOTHERAPY 20 YEARS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE ACUPUNCTURE PILATES SPORTS TISSUE MASSAGE



Is your injury stopping you doing what you love? Do you suffer with a long term condition? Don't let discomfort hold you back. Book your Physiotherapy assessment today!

Vida Haus Pettistree IP13 0HW
ruth.may.pilates@gmail.com

07985600176
 [ruth.may.pilates.physio](https://www.instagram.com/ruth.may.pilates.physio)



PRIVATE HIRE TAXI

07928 901434

GRUNDISBURGH

Your local Taxi service
covering the 'News'
area and beyond

Locally connected artist Nigel Moores



Having often admired a spectacular sunset, I don't usually

stay (especially in winter) to experience and enjoy that period of lingering twilight when day turns to night and, as described by the abstract landscape artist, Nigel Moores, 'brightness fades, form softens, and the world hovers between presence and disappearance'. It's the focus of Nigel's exhibition *Vanishing Light* which will be held at the Grundisburgh House Gallery from 7 to 12 May.

Drawing on the use of colour and texture, Nigel explores perceptions as light becomes dark. None of the paintings are preconceived or fixed in meaning and he would love observers to give it their own

interpretation, welcoming conversations about shared experiences and new insights.

Nigel lives in Devon but has local connections, a sister in Grundisburgh and mother in Woodbridge. He was born in Manchester but from the age of one grew up in West Africa, an experience which had a profound influence on his early development. Nigel remembers the strong contrasts of light and dark and the saturated colours of

nature and of local fabrics.

His creativity largely comes from his mother's side of the family. His grandfather was a sculptor in Manchester and Nigel's daughter is a print designer and artist in Sweden. There were early signs of his future destiny as an artist. Before he could even read, Nigel would pick out books about art and enjoy sitting with them, turning the pages. At school, he was keen on drawing and says he would have loved it if art

for many years, Nigel has exhibited widely in the UK and been selected for many open submissions such as the Royal Institute and Royal Watercolour Society in the Mall Galleries, home of the Federation of British Artists. He was recently longlisted for the Jacksons Art Prize.

Throughout his development as an artist, Nigel has remained consistent because early on he found an approach that suited him. He operates in a spirit of play and experimentation and relishes not knowing what will happen as he starts painting a new canvas. Surprise and uncertainty rather than conscious deliberation and rational thought feel more authentic to him and true to life. Art is all about discovery and Nigel asserts that to be an artist isn't a unique gift but a possibility for all.



Do you want to mobilise aching stiff joints?
Improve your posture?
Strengthen your core?

Come along to Pilates Please

at Grundisburgh Village Hall.

AH levels of ability welcome

No block bookings required

£12 per class

Inquire about a free taster session today.

Lucy Bowditch 07879 845 719

pilatesplease@outlook.com



and sport were the only subjects he had to study!

From school, Nigel went on to art college at Cheltenham and then London. He had many influences, including teachers, lecturers and other artists but among all the many he has been fortunate to meet, Nigel cites the artist Howard Hodgkin as a particular highlight.

With age has come the realisation that any creative journey is a collaboration. Recently, Nigel worked with a Devon friend and poet, Gordon Ellis, who he feels understands his work and can give it verbal context.

As well as teaching art and mentoring groups of artists

Visitors to the exhibition will be warmly welcomed. Bring your own sense of playfulness and curiosity to engage with the work and to celebrate that magical time of day when light fades and night falls.

Exhibition details:

Grundisburgh House Gallery, Grundisburgh, Suffolk, IP13 6UD

Dates 7 May to 12 May
Open 10am till 5pm.
Private View Friday 8 May.
6pm till 8pm.
Website.

www.nmoores.com
Instagram. [moores.n](https://www.instagram.com/moores.n)
Mobile 07912413825

Noelle Hunt

Local artist Sara Hornby



The speed and dexterity that Sara Hornby displayed at the Grundisburgh Art Group when drawing her subjects was amazing. No sooner than pen and paper meet, a brilliant image appears.

As an established artist and illustrator Sara has recently moved into Grundisburgh and I was pleased to meet her at her home a few days



ago and see some of her work, principally in ink, pencil or water-colours.

Sara comes from a creative family and has something of a cosmopolitan background, with a Portuguese grandmother and studied at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris and at Abingdon and Witney College. Her cousin is Nick Hornby, the

sculptor. Her first job after university was working for a London company specialising in Flemish medieval tapestries.

But Sara's major interest now is in botanical subjects where she says the fine detail is so important and which she brings out in her works.

She adores nature and loves to work 'en plein aire'. "If you see beauty around you in nature, you can create something with your vision" she told me. Here is one example of just that.

Of course, Sara's work is as a professional artist and she takes commissions to

illustrate books, academic and general, wedding invitations (on-line or printed), magazine articles as well as one-off pieces for private or commercial buyers.

She does not restrict her output to nature - she recently showed me a detailed painting of a client's house in the Thames Valley that she was working on.

If you have a subject that you would like Sara to apply her skills to, she can be contacted on:

07534629286.

Instagram: @sarahornbyart or:

sara.hornby@gmail.com

Richard Watkinson

Local composer: Oliver Laxton

The Anglian Youth Orchestra are excited to announce our first concert as an ensemble, taking place in St Mary's Church, Woodbridge, on Saturday 18 of April.

We will be performing some well-loved classical favourites in the first half, followed by a newly-written symphony that I have been composing over the last two years, and which I am very excited to have performed for the very first time!

The orchestra comprises around 50 young people from all over Suffolk, many of whom have played in orchestras at Woodbridge School or in the County Music Service.

We are delighted to announce that all proceeds

will go to a number of charitable causes.

These include Suffolk Mind, SMART, which is the County Music Service's initiative to provide children from disadvantaged backgrounds with musical educations, and St Mary's Woodbridge to help with refurbishments. We hope to see you there!

Oliver Laxton

For more information:

Suffolk Mind:
www.suffolkmind.org.uk

Suffolk Music and Arts charity:
www.suffolksmart.org

Editor

A concert poster for Oliver Laxton. The background is a painting of a man in a black tuxedo and a woman in a yellow dress dancing. The text on the poster includes:
Oliver Laxton
Symphony in A
Johann Strauss
Die Fledermaus Overture
Malcolm Arnold
Little Suite for Orchestra
Conductor: Oliver Laxton
Leader: Millie Wood
St Mary's Church, Woodbridge
Saturday 18th April, 7:30 PM
All proceeds to charity!
Tickets: £8/£12
Logos for Suffolk Mind, SMART, and A.O. are at the bottom. A QR code is in the bottom right corner.

Grundisburgh Football Club



A successful season in 2024 saw Grundisburgh regain their place in the Suffolk and Ipswich Premier Division (previously SIL Senior for us old school) after a long awaited 6 years.

The first season returning to the top division was a challenge, however with some changes and hard work Grundisburgh 1st team are currently performing well sitting in 8th place. The Reserves are current contenders for promotion in Div 3 sitting in 3rd with games in hand. The turn around over the last two seasons has been helped

by some new faces at the club. 1st team managers Jules Beaumont and Adrian Mcallister who have served the club through both playing and



managing for 30 years have been joined by Chris Shemmings as coach. He is well known in Grundisburgh for his involvement in The Uptowns, The Larkside, Upbeat, FOGS and HORTSOC

to name but a few. Chris is a high level coach with vast experience so his knowledge has been invaluable to the team. Rob Buck has also come on board to run the reserve squad and they have gone from strength to strength under his guidance.

We are privileged at the club to have so many local supporters attending the games with numbers reaching up to 150 spectators. Lovely to see so many villagers young and old turning out to cheer the team on and to stop for a beer afterwards.

The club management and committee, led by chairman Neil King, rolled up their sleeves to help the wonderful GrundForce team with the pavilion makeover in the summer which has proved a hit with visitors.

Team captain Paris Merrick also got involved providing us with the lovely new flooring in the ladies and gents toilets. Sincere thanks must go to The Wood Trust who kindly funded the revamp of the historic

football photos dating back to the 1940s which now hang near the bar and the originals safely in albums available for anyone to browse. Several generations of villagers can be spotted so please feel free to come and browse!

We would love you to join us on match day for some great entertainment and a cuppa or a pint, served by our friendly volunteers.

For details of fixtures, results



and up and coming events have a look at our facebook page Grundisburgh FC.

New for spring will be a Friday evening monthly Pop Up Pub allowing families to enjoy full use of all the new facilities.

Photos: Connie King

Words: Sandy Page





Looking forward to spring at Grundisburgh Tennis Club

Despite an unusually wet and frosty winter, members have been continuing to find opportunities to meet up for social and competitive tennis as well as coaching. We have also been getting together socially for coffee and lunch.

The Wednesday ladies' group enjoyed a lovely lunch at The Dog in January and have been taking the opportunity to warm up over a coffee at the Suffolk Deli in Grundisburgh.

The men's social tennis groups enjoyed a festive meal at The Dog in December.

The newly refurbished courts have also meant that we have been able to play more often through the winter. We are now looking forward to better weather and lighter evenings.

Look out for details of membership rates for our new season starting from April. Our annual adult membership fees work out at around £5 per month of play. There are also very competitive rates for juniors and families.

Once you are a member, you can book available courts online and you can come along to any of our regular social play sessions to play with other members. You can also benefit from discounted rates on our excellent coaching courses.

For those who like to play competitively, you could join a competitive team and play in a local league. For more details go to: www.grundisburghtennis.co.uk

Grundisburgh Bowls Club

Welcome everybody to a season of outdoor bowls at Grundisburgh Bowls Club. We are a small but very friendly club and would be delighted to welcome all newcomers who fancy coming along and having a go. We have plenty of spare woods and welcome all ages to give it a try!

The club is situated behind The Dog Inn (most handy !) and are looking to start the season mid to late April, weather permitting. We usually meet twice a week for a friendly roll up and of course some social refreshment along with a good laugh.

We are not a league club but, a very fun social club who just just enjoy the challenge of bowls. If you would like to meet up with us, the first three visits are free! Yes you read that correctly: free!

For more information please contact me at: Kevclark9@googlemail.com
Here's looking forward to meeting new friends.

Kevin Clark

Carpet Bowls

Just to remind everyone that Carpet Bowls is now running on a Thursday from 2-4 at Grundisburgh Village Hall. All welcome. Come along for some easy exercise and fun. All abilities from beginners upwards.

Heather Langdon
01473 735517



Wellfare Builders

Family run business with over 30 year's experience

Based in Grundisburgh

Contact Ben Wellfare on 07769 309282

or info@wellfarebuilders.co.uk

QUOVE ACCOUNTING

Contact us.

hello@quove.co.uk
01284 845120
quove.co.uk

3 Brickfields
Business Park,
Woolpit, IP30 9QS

Flexible Accounting.

For business and personal accounting solutions.

Big enough to cope, small enough to care.



The Grundisburgh Pavilion: bringing it up to date



Grundisburgh Playing Field and Pavilion Developments.

Improvements have continued apace at the Pavilion. After redecorating recently, more works have been completed to raise safety standards following a recent fire risk assessment. Shortly the heating system will also be upgraded.

We are pleased to announce a new website has been launched. www.grundisburghplayingfield.co.uk includes an online booking system. This will be familiar to anyone who has booked the village hall because we have adopted exactly the same system.

You can now see the online calendar which will show you details of public events and when there are spaces available for you to book a meeting, a party or a regular activity in the pavilion.

Our sincere thanks to the parish council, Grundforce and so many people in the community who have contributed to make all this possible.

David Keates,
bookings@grundisburghplayingfield.co.uk



*Photos courtesy of the
GrundForce team*





Before



After

Saturday 25th April

2:00 – 4:00 pm

**Plant
and
Cake**

Dallinghoo Village Hall

Car boot pitches available @£10: enquire 01473-737700

IP13 0JX



Sale

In aid of The
**Dallinghoo Church
Repair Fund,**
Charity No. 803135

Maid2Clean

Maid2Clean is the largest domestic cleaning agency in the UK. Cleaners are paid cash on the day they clean (from **£12.50 ph**).

Regular permanent part-time work for good, reliable, honest people who take pride in a job well done, to clean for our domestic clients in IP13 & IP12.

TO APPLY:
www.maid2cleansuffolk.co.uk/looking-for-work/
0843 289 6858 (24/7) text 0776 970 0258

TD PAINTER & DECORATOR

INTERIOR • EXTERIOR • FREE ESTIMATES

Over 30 years experience
Quality Workmanship
Interior/Exterior work

Free estimates and advice

Competitive & reasonable fixed
price quotations

Friendly & reliable



Tony
01473 712664
Mobile
07926 723192

Justin Fuller

07960 032706

ashechimneysweep@gmail.com

NACS approved chimney sweep
Chimney unblocking
Bird guards supplied and fitted
Camera inspections
Fully insured

ASHE
CHIMNEY SWEEP LTD

GADS: Little Red Riding Hood



Hemlock: Sam Osborne



Granny, Red & Prince Jasper: David Cranwell, Amy Rolland & Charlotte Crown



Red & Peter: Amy Rolland & Samantha Harvey



Tim: Phil Bailey



Peter & villagers:
Samantha Harvey

GADS

Grundisburgh Amateur Dramatic Society

This year's GADS panto was Little Red Riding Hood, written by Debbie Osborne and directed by her husband Darin. It was thoroughly enjoyed by those who came to watch the four performances, with lots of cheering and booing (of the baddies of course!).

Red, played by Amy Rolland, overcame the evil Hemlock (Sam Osborne) with the help of all her friends and the villagers of Little Snoring.



Sprout: Brian Hunt



Brutus & Fifi: Darin Osbourne & Kate Adams

All lived happily ever after! A huge thank you to all who came along and also to everyone involved in putting the show on.

Special thanks to Debbie, Darin, Samantha Harvey and Nikki Brown for stepping in at very short notice to fill in when original cast members had to withdraw.

For a detailed review of our panto from our NODA area rep, Catherine Dixey, you can follow this link:

<https://www.noda.org.uk/show-reports/little-red-riding-hood-1769878889>

We hope to be back on stage with our spring play in the not too distant future. Lookout for more details in the village, on our website and across our Facebook and Instagram social media pages.

www.grundisburghamdram.net

Ian Frost

Tim &
Priscilla:

Phil Bailey
& Ian Frost





The school has been a hub of activity since returning

after Christmas.

Our younger pupils have enjoyed a variety of hands-on learning experiences. In literacy, we took part in both sweet and savoury cooking activities. The children wrote shopping lists, sorted vegetables by colour, and created their own recipe before making a delicious stew to share. We also used windfall apples to



bake a tasty apple and cinnamon crumble, making the children very proud.

In science, our focus has been habitats. We class carried out lots of research and investigations to learn where different animals like to live and why. After studying worms and their preferred environments, children worked together to create a classroom wormery, which they continue to observe and record during their independent time.

Pupils in KS 2, have been investigating the differences between solids liquids and gases in terms of their structure and characteristics. We've also been testing the properties of different materials, such as conductivity, magnetism, absorption, reflection and

transparency. In a recent lesson we had lots of fun investigating ways in which we could separate several different heterogeneous mixtures!

Our oldest pupils have been working hard with their writing and looked at making our writing more descriptive, using a section from an episode of Doctor Who to inspire us. We then took part in the BBC 500 Words live lesson and wrote our own story. A number of our pupils entered their stories - sadly, none of our entries were chosen for the next round, but there is always next year to try again!

More recently, we have been thinking about the environment and the devastating impact that plastic is having on our oceans and wildlife. Pupils were excited to find out about Stroodles (straws made from pasta!) and have written persuasive adverts and posters to encourage people to consider alternatives to disposable plastic items.

Forest Schools has been a big hit with all of our pupils; we are lucky to have a forest-school trained member of staff and an onsite forest-school area. All pupils take part in forest-school sessions throughout the year even on the wettest days! Please see our Facebook and Instagram pages for more information about what our children get up to in these sessions.

Pupils in Oak Class shared some maths learning with their parents. We had great

fun tackling some challenging shape puzzles and number problems. We look forward to holding more 'share events' with parents/relatives across the school throughout the year. The next one will be World Book Day in March!

If you are looking for schooling in the area and would like to book a tour to see us in action, please contact the school office on 01473 737347, or email: office@charsfieldprimary.org.uk We would be delighted to welcome you to our friendly school.

Amie Reeve, Head of School



As we move through this winter term, I am delighted to share

with you some of the wonderful experiences and achievements our pupils have been enjoying. The festive season brought us some magical moments, with our Early Years and Key Stage 1 pupils performing absolutely delightful winter plays. Their creativity and confidence shone through, warming everyone's hearts. We also came together as a whole school community to visit St Marys Church, celebrating Christmas in a meaningful and collaborative way.

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils demonstrated remarkable community spirit by performing at the Community Carol Concert and singing to the Grundisburgh Lunch Group. These performances not only showcase our pupils' musical talents but also highlight the importance of connecting with our local community.

Learning has been vibrant and engaging across our school. Year 2 concluded their history topic on the Great Fire of London with an extraordinary experience - a visit from the fire brigade who helped them burn their model village. This hands-on approach brings history to life and makes learning memorable and exciting.

Our Year 5 pupils expanded their historical understanding with a visit to West Stow Anglo Saxon Village. This immersive experience allowed them to deepen their knowledge of Anglo Saxon life, transforming classroom learning into a vivid, tangible exploration of the past.

We also marked Anti-Bullying Week with enthusiasm and purpose. The whole school participated in 'odd sock' day and a range of events designed to promote kindness, understanding, and respect for one another.

A special congratulation goes to our Year 6 pupils who successfully completed their bikeability course. This important programme supports our pupils in developing crucial road safety skills, giving them confidence and independence as they learn to cycle safely.

These experiences reflect our commitment to providing a rich, varied, and supportive learning environment where every pupil can thrive. We currently have spaces in some of our year groups, so if you're interested, please contact the school on 01473 735281 for more information. Full information about our school can be found on our website <https://grundisburghprimaryschool.co.uk/>

Adam Wilson
Headteacher

Tuddenham St Martin WI

We are a small friendly group of women who meet at Tuddenham Village Hall on the second Tuesday of most months at 7.30pm.



Being part of the National WI, we have the opportunity to participate in resolutions and campaigns as well as meeting up with other local WI groups.

During the past year we have not only listened to a variety of interesting speakers but we have also got together for



meals out, theatre trips and spent a wonderful evening in a member's garden.

We have supported charities by

helping with refreshments at our village open gardens which raised funds for St Elizabeth Hospice and St Martin's Church. We also hosted a demonstration of CPR and the

use of the defibrillator at the village hall with donations being passed to East Anglian Air Ambulance.

If you would be interested in joining us or would simply like to come along as a guest for an evening, we would love to hear from you.

For more information, please email me: cathy.watson62@btinternet.com

From the Editor

Grundisburgh News welcomes contributions from branches of the WI in other villages.

Feel free to add photos of activities you've undertaken and we'll try and fit in as many as we can.

Please send your information by email to: editor@grunews.com

Editor



I was privileged to attend the most recent meeting of the

community engagement group (CEG) - essentially interplay between the planners at East Suffolk Council and ESPA, the planning watchdog organisation to which 68 local councils and individuals are now affiliated. This article is not an official note of that meeting - it's just my take on it.

In some respects, this meeting was something of a care and maintenance event as the background to the planning scene has evolved only slowly since the last such meeting in October and overall local government reorganisation is in a state of flux, too.

While the government is in the process of developing a new national planning policy framework this, ESC say, is making things difficult for them as the goalposts are not yet firmly stuck in the ground. The consultation process ends on 10 March, after the publication of a draft 123 pages long!

No-one yet knows what the planning arrangements will be after local reorganisation (which will affect not just planning). We still don't know what Suffolk will look like (electorally) in a year or two's time.

But planning applications will not stop coming in just because of reorganisation and ESPA expressed concern that ordinary citizens are either not aware of what's going on or find it difficult to express views one way or the other to the planners.

Every parish has its local district councillors; it seems to me that if you or I were more aware of specific planning

applications, letting your councillor(s) know your views (either directly or through your parish council) would help the planners determine issues faster and less controversially.

I think parish councils could play an important role here by publicising applications (as seen on the ESC website) within their area through organs like Google or Grundisburgh News.

But timeliness is of the essence - we don't want deadlines to expire before we know about them! And ESPA itself is always willing to raise specific issues directly with ESC - you can contact them at: eastsuffolkplanningalliance@gmail.com

Richard Watkinson
Deputy editor

S.G.Parker

Painting & Decorating

Interior & Exterior

City & Guilds

Over 30 years experience

Reliable & friendly service

For a free estimate

Please call:

01728685980

Or

07572966167

DISCOUNT PEST CONTROL

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PEST CONTROL

MOLE CATCHING

SQUIRREL CONTROL

WASP REMOVAL

RABBIT CONTROL

VERMIN CONTROL

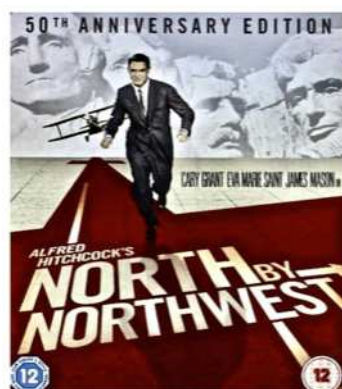
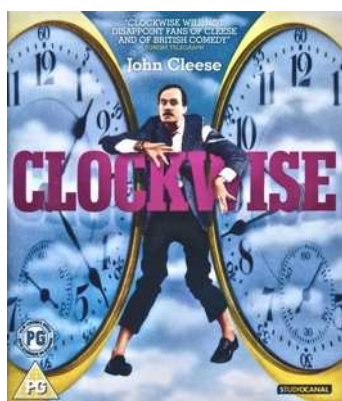
AOPMC

01473 735168

www.discountpestcontrol.org

GRUNDISBURGH FILM CLUB

During the last year we've watched a wide variety of films including:



The film chosen for our March Film Club meeting is Airplane, voted "one of the 10 funniest movies ever made" by the American Film Institute, and contains this memorable exchange:

Surely you can't be serious?
and the retort:
I am serious and don't keep calling me Shirley.



One recurrent question reflects uncertainty from some members about future dates for our meetings. I always send out a poster using the very helpful service:

grundisburgh@googlemail.com

This covers over 600 people in Grundisburgh and is free to use. The two voluntary coordinators are Martin Hough and John Ager.

An alternative source of information is the Grundisburgh Village Hall website where you can see what activity is booked on any day. Click on this to find out:

<https://app.myhallwizard.com/grundisburgh-village-hall/iframe>

Preschool and daycare



As reported in the last issue of The News, there is a new preschool and daycare centre next to the primary school in Grundisburgh: they are two separate operations but clearly complementary.

The Bloom childcare group opened for business last November and now has up to 16 children to care for on a busy day! The age range is 12 weeks up to school-age. I called in to see how the centre is getting on.

It is secure, of course, with a locked gate and doors to keep out unwelcome visitors but once inside I got the vibes of a warm and cheerful place with children active, happy and willing to chat with me (as an ancient adult). There were seven toddlers being cared for by three staff when I called.

Hayley, the manager has nearly 20 years' experience of childcare and clearly relishes her job. She has a degree from the University of Suffolk in Early Childhood Studies and is now training to lecture in the subject. She told me that they were inspected by OFSTED when they started here and expect to be reinspected soon.

The centre isn't just a parking place for children with busy parents. It's a place where they have to follow the explicit government early years framework covering the period of a child's life from birth to age five which is considered critical for building foundations in language, social-emotional wellbeing and cognitive development.

The framework is used by nurseries, childminders, preschools and school reception classes in England, recognising

that children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates. The curriculum is divided into seven areas including communication and language, physical, personal, social, and emotional development. From what I saw the children looked to be well on their way to being happy, independent and fulfilled people.

Parent Nicky Wilson has said of her 3 year old daughter: "she is always talking about the dancing and singing she does during the day and it's lovely to see her grow socially and emotionally".

The centre encourages outdoor activities and has a Forest School element to it. They also have yoga sessions and dancing for the children and can deploy the Makaton signing system to help develop speech. The centre benefited from the pre-Christmas Fair at the school and would like to further develop links with the school. So, watch this (outdoor) space!

For more information visit their website:
www.bloomchildcaregroup.co.uk
or email:

**Hyde**
HEATING & PLUMBING

*Over 15 years' experience
specialising in boiler
faults and repairs*

- Servicing, repairs and installations
- Boilers, gas appliances, bathrooms and domestic plumbing

07885 720736
contact@hydeheating.co.uk
www.hydeheating.co.uk
32 Gurdon Road, Woodbridge IP13 6XA



COUNTRYSIDE *Quality Gates & Fencing*



Hardwood and softwood gates and fencing installed or supply only
countryside-gates.co.uk Free quotes 01473 735005



Kiln Farm Nursery

If you've driven to Ipswich on the A1214 lately, you can't help but notice the activity at Kiln Farm Nursery, Playford. A large building under construction and associated groundworks - I just had to ask owner Ruth Goudy "what's going on?"

Up to now, the business has grown organically but she and her husband Paul feel that the time is right to take the operation to the next level: more selling space to reach the public with all their plants still grown on site. An "all-weather" coffee shop, new



office and staff-room, too, utilising the space that's currently used for almost everything!

But this is not at the expense of their growing acreage as they have brought into production areas that were previously under-utilised. Christmas trees,

pumpkins as usual. Ruth emphasised that the ethos of the business will not change - they are not becoming a gift shop that sells plants. Plants are and will remain their prime focus. But they will take the opportunity to create a 'quiet room' where people who wish to sit in a bit of peace and quiet can do so. Ruth intends to restart the 'Forget-me-not Club' for dementia sufferers.



As you can see from the pictures, in the area near the road there will be a bigger car park with a two-way cherry tree-lined access driveway. Paul has just planted nine such trees - all different varieties.

Ruth emphasises that none of this could be done without the help of a skilled and willing work-force which they currently have and are likely to expand in time. And she recognises, too, that the support they receive from their local communities has been a big morale-raiser and says that her local parish councils have been particularly supportive. So, we await with great interest the opening of the new facilities - Ruth is reluctant to give a date: no hostages to fortune here!



Richard Watkinson
Deputy editor

Taking the waters

Volunteer citizen scientists in our area were out in force in early February testing the quality of the water in the Lark and Fynn, tributaries of the River Deben.

The sampling followed several days of rain the week before, notably with around 25 mm on Tuesday 27 and a further 10 mm on Friday 30 January. (Woodbridge rainfall data).

River levels were high on sampling day and fields were still flooded in places; several of our sampling points at Anglian Water outfalls were underwater, which has affected the results below.

EColi levels differed little from previous samplings but as for other pollutants, high river levels and faster flows had a dramatic (beneficial) impact on phosphate numbers. None of the usual "red flag" sample points close to (or at) sewage treatment works in the non-tidal section, showed significant phosphate levels.



With nitrates, none of the usual spikes at these points were evident but nitrate levels in the rivers generally are almost all at or above the danger 50 ppm level in spite of the fast flow and close to flood conditions. This is almost certainly due to run-off from agricultural land and from other natural sources.

With river levels higher than in previous months and with faster flow, it is not surprising that ammonia levels recorded were low and mainly within WFD guidelines for "good ecological status".

WFD is the European Water Framework Directive which aims to protect surface waters including rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters and groundwater and to prevent further deterioration of their ecosystem.

Hopefully once river levels have returned to something like normal we shall get a clearer picture of the real levels of pollution and the efforts of Anglian Water to clean them up.

Richard Watkinson
Deputy editor

Water, Water Everywhere!



Storm Babet: the Fountain pub, aptly named, winter 2023, Tuddenham St Martin

Storm Babet will live long in our memory and a recent spell of dismal, wet weather with consequent flooding and disruption on roads around our villages meant a related item in the Grundisburgh and District News of September 1992 caught my eye as I trawled through the archives.

Newly erected flood markers on either side of the ford at Grundisburgh in 1992 caused comment in the village and stirred memories among older residents of a catastrophic storm that struck this part of Suffolk in May 1924, now over a hundred years ago.

Hilda Tuck, The News 'Roving Reporter', put together an article about it, most of it reprinted below.

Keith Burch was reminded of an account in the East Anglian Daily Times:

The storm raged ferociously for about an hour in the Grundisburgh District and surprisingly large hail-stones fell, breaking windows and glass roofs. The lightning struck and dislodged tiles on the roof of the Sun Inn and trees in Grundisburgh park were struck.

The small stream crossing the green, normally only a few inches deep, within a few minutes became impassable being from five to six feet deep, swamping many of the houses in the vicinity. The occupants had no time to save their belongings and were compelled to take refuge in upper rooms.

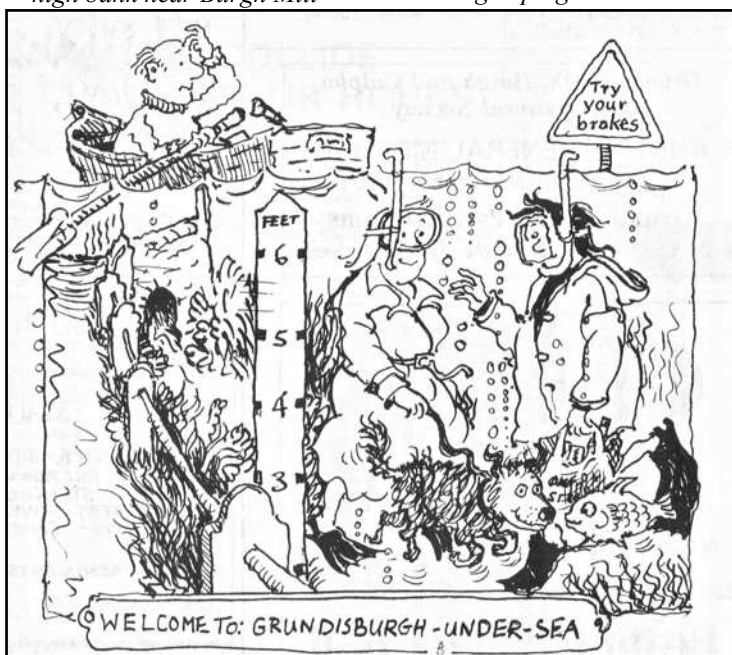
Poultry-keepers near the stream were big sufferers and many hundred head of poultry were drowned and washed away. Pigs with difficulty were loosed to save them from drowning whilst horses up to their bodies in water were released from stables.

At all points where the stream is normally crossed, traffic was necessarily suspended for several hours and the service of buses could not complete the evening journey. Part of the high bank near Burgh Mill

and then over the two wooden bridges each end of the green.

By this time, we had been sent to bed but during all the excitement nobody thought of us and we watched from the bedroom windows. People wanting to get across had to wade through a foot of water and one man gallantly took off his shoes and socks, rolled up his trousers and piggy-backed women across.

We rushed to the window next morning hoping that the



collapsed, making the road impassable for vehicular traffic. Much damage to the roads in general is reported.

Edgar Smith, writing from Canada some years after, recalled the event when he was a child in the Children's Home opposite the green:

The greatest and most exciting things that happened during my stay at the Home occurred on the village green and I think it happened in the spring of 1924 when we had a flood. That small stream flowing through the village which was seldom more than a foot deep anywhere grew into a monster. It rose and rose gradually spreading over the whole green

bridges would still be flooded so that we could not go to school but the water had dropped so that hope had quickly gone.

Mrs Hilda Finch filled in more detail of the flood:

The manure heap behind Mr Foulger's cottage was washed away, adding its muck to the water. Mrs Parker of Rose Villa (now the Coach House) was stranded on her kitchen table with a cake in the oven which also joined the flood, and Mr Dunnett, the wheelwright, in Folly Cottage, made use of a rowing boat.

The water covered the steps of the Dog Inn, and the keeper of

the poultry that got washed away and drowned was the daughter of the Reverend Sutton at the Rectory.

Miss Marjorie Smith taught at Otley School and lived at Hawes Farm. She had to come home on a bicycle, and every bridge she came to was deeply covered with water.

While she was wondering how she could get through, a man came along with a motor cycle who also could not get through. They noticed that the bank was higher on each side and he suggested he should push her bike through the water and carry her on his back.

She agreed to this, but half-way across he slipped and they both went head first into the water. Finally she reached Bridge House corner and found that was flooded so she came through the farmyard and garden. Miss Smith's mother told Hilda's mother that her underclothes were soaked with muddy water.

Miss Robinson kept the Martlesham Post Office. The water burst into her house and knocked her down. Sadly, she was found drowned.

Archives research by Noelle Hunt
Illustration in 1992 by Bruce Hobbs



ACE CARS

PRIVATE HIRE TAXI

07928 901434

GRUNDISBURGH

Your local Taxi service
covering the 'News'
area and beyond

Tributes

We welcome short versions of tributes of people who have died for inclusion in Grundisburgh News; longer versions can be sent complete with photo if desired to:

diary@grunews.com

where Ian McIvor will put them on our website which also has the current and past issues. You can visit it at:

www.grundisburghnews.org.uk.



or click on this QR code:

Dogs

We all take great pleasure in our dogs and are careful to clean up after them and use the bins provided around our villages. However, a few owners don't, and this not only fouls paths and pavements, but increases the risk of the disease *toxocariasis*, especially in children. In extreme cases this can cause loss of sight in one eye.... You can learn more at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/toxocariasis/>



GruNews website

The diary continues with no real problems. There are few organisations that let us know of future events and those mentioned on the Grundisburgh Google mail are normally for events in the near future, e.g. 1-2 weeks.

The website has migrated to a new provider - the same as our email, but saving us money:

diary@grunews.com

Transfer of pages to the new site was easy, I have done a reasonable amount of testing of the issues and the obituaries, and am fairly confident that all is working as it should.

Ian McIvor
Diary editor

GruNews AGM

The annual general meeting of Grundisburgh News takes place in the Parish Rooms on Friday 20 March at 7.30 pm.

All are welcome to join us there; drinks and nibbles will be provided and it will be an opportunity to talk to members of the team, ask questions and make suggestions for topics in future issues of the magazine.

Grundisburgh Village Show

The show takes place this year on Saturday 11 July.

Details of classes and a sponsorship form can be obtained from:

georgiekeates@hotmail.com

Deadlines

Deadlines for adverts and articles are always detailed on the inside back page of each issue, **printed in red to catch the eye. So too is the publication date.**

Taking the waters

Volunteer citizen scientists in our area were out in force in early February, busy testing the quality of the water in the Lark and Fynn, both tributaries of the River Deben.



at or above the danger 50 ppm level in spite of the fast flow and close to flood conditions.

This is almost certainly due to run-off from agricultural land and from other natural sources.

The sampling followed several days of rain the week before, notably with around 25 mm on Tuesday 27th and a further 10 mm on Friday 30th January. (Woodbridge rainfall data).

River levels were high on sampling day and fields were still flooded in places; several of our sampling points at Anglian Water outfalls were underwater, which has affected the results below.

EColi levels differed little from previous samplings but as for other pollutants, high river levels and faster flows had a dramatic (beneficial) impact on phosphate numbers.

None of the usual "red flag" sample points close to (or at) sewage treatment works in the non-tidal section, showed significant phosphate levels.

With nitrates, none of the usual spikes at these points were evident but nitrate levels in the rivers generally are almost all

With river levels higher than in previous months and with faster flow, it is not surprising that ammonia levels recorded were low and mainly within WFD guidelines for "good ecological status".

WFD is the European Water Framework Directive which aims to protect surface waters including rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters and groundwater and to prevent further deterioration of their ecosystem.

Hopefully once river levels have returned to something like normal we shall get a clearer picture of the real levels of pollution and the efforts of Anglian Water to clean them up.

Richard Watkinson
Deputy editor

Tales from a cottage garden

I'm writing this on 2026's official World Wetlands Day. How appropriate!

Everywhere the garden is struggling to dry out and the water butts are all full, ready for use in what may well be a dry summer but the weather is so unpredictable that anything could happen.

I planted 100 gladioli a few weeks ago and I just hope that bulbs and corms in the wet soil aren't going to rot in situ before they bloom.

The good thing about this current damp weather is that it's not cold - frost-free nights save me a lot of work by not having to fleece up the tender plants although I am taking no



risks with my sole *dicksonia antarctica* tree fern.

The hardy hellebores are doing well without a lot of help from me, except cutting back some of the lower and/or dead stems to reveal the beautiful and prolific purple flowers

which so brighten up the flower beds at this time of year.

The bird-feeders are busy with a variety of tits, hedge sparrows and a pair of robins keeping up an almost continuous presence.

Blackbirds, too, but they are canny: they stay on the ground waiting for food to drop from their smaller chums' activity above them. I've noticed a reduction in the number of blackbirds here of late, possibly due to the usutu virus which is carried by mosquitoes which benefit from a warmer climate. The effect has been particularly noticeable in the London area and may well spread.

Winter jobs on the 'to-do' list have included pruning the grape vines. The prunings make good kindling when they have dried out and last year's crop of grapes should give me half a dozen bottles of Chateau Carlford Red. in a few months' time.

I'm getting ready to make a short archway over the garden path for the sweet peas to climb over: most here are self-sown and do well in the slightly alkaline soil.

Mulching roses and shrubs with the proverbial 'well-rotted' is on the list, too: my ex-next door neighbour has moved to a former stud farm which has a seemingly inexhaustible supply of the stuff so it's time to get my boots on and start digging!

Cottage Gardener

About The News

www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

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

Contributions, comments and ideas are welcomed: send to Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, editor@grunews.com. All issues are included on our website or via this QR code.
www.grundisburghnews.org.uk



Information can be supplied to us on paper or email. Photos can be sent to the editor as JPEGs (**but please not embedded in Word documents**) or as prints. If prints are to be returned, please include an addressed envelope.

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

Editorial consultant: Nicola Hobbs

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

Advertising manager: Cherril Clemence, cherril.clemence@gmail.com

Diary & website editor: Ian McIvor, diary@grunews.com

Distribution coordinator: Patrick Keep, patkeep@yahoo.com or text to: 07766 109701

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

Treasurer: Sue Haddock, accounts@grunews.com

Administrator: Rosemary Kneebone, admin@grunews.com

Proof reader: Richard Watkinson

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

Chair of management team: Tom Allen, tomallen0608@gmail.com

Next issue No 280 Summer 2026

Copy date: Wednesday 13 May

Publication: Friday 29 May

ADVERTISING

1/16 page (w.44mm x h.66mm or w.92mm x h.33mm) £20

1/8 page (w.92mm x h. 66mm) £55

1/4 page (w.92mm x h.136mm or w.190 x h.66mm) £120

There are two ways to advertise in the News.

Either: book a run of four and receive a discount of 10% if paid within 30 days of invoice date.

Or: book a single advert.

Invoices will be sent for **both** around the publication date. All advertisers will receive a copy of The News in which their advert first appears. Local organisations advertising fundraising events are charged at half the normal rate.

A small charge is made for originating artwork.

New adverts for next issue to be sent by **13 May** to:

Cherril Clemence, cherril.clemence@gmail.com

BRUSH RIGHT

PAINTER AND DECORATOR
Interior and exterior

Call John on 07719 260459

Increase your independence,
enjoy a better day

felgains



- ✓ 48 Years' Expertise
- ✓ Products In Stock
- ✓ Aftercare In-House
- ✓ Family Run Firm

Which?
Trusted Trader

Visit Your Local Mobility Superstore



01473 741144 | **33 Knightsdale Road, Ipswich, IP1 4JJ**

Open Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm | Accessible Showroom with Parking

- ✓ Scooters
- ✓ Wheelchairs
- ✓ Profile beds
- ✓ Riser recliners
- ✓ Bath lifts
- ✓ Stairlifts
- ✓ Living aids
- ✓ Bespoke

Bed & Breakfast

Self-contained accommodation in large converted barn in tranquil surroundings.

Big sitting room with TV and games, fridge, kettle and toaster plus two twin bedrooms, all at ground floor level.

Continental breakfast provided.

Tennis court. Child friendly.

ROBERT & ANNE HUTCHISON, HAWTHORN COTTAGE,
LOWER ROAD, GRUNDISBURGH IP13 6UQ, 01473 738199
anne.hutchison@btopenworld.com

New boilers, maintenance & servicing

EST 2006

All central heating work

Hot water cylinders

SLEEPSAFE

All general plumbing & maintenance

PLUMBING & HEATING SPECIALISTS

Email: info@sleepsafe-ltd.co.uk
Tel: **01473 277 073**
www.sleepsafe-ltd.co.uk

safe REGISTERED 222418

WORCESTER Bosch Group Accredited Installer

OFTEC C7985

RMC WINDOWS

Local family run business based in Great Bealings with over 25 years experience.

Installing Windows, Doors, Conservatories, sealed units, Fascias, soffits, Barge boards and Cladding

Tel: 01394 448403
Mobile: 07766228552

www.rmccwindows.co.uk
Email: info@rmccwindows.co.uk

FENSA
APPROVED WINDOW & DOOR INSTALLATIONS

VEHICLE SURGEON

• MOT's • SERVICING • TYRES

01473 735575
01473 738975

Grundisburgh Road
Hasketon, IP13 6HJ

CAR SALES & PAINT WORKSHOP ON SITE

Expert hearing care & earwax removal

Clinics in Ipswich, Framlingham & Woodbridge

All About Hearing are your local, independent hearing specialists. With over 70 years combined audiology experience, you can rest assured your hearing is in good hands.

Better hearing starts here!
01473 946444 allabouthearing.co.uk

ALL ABOUT HEARING

Karen Finch RHAD FSHAA FRSA