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The Grundisburgh and District News

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**A solid and successful season has just
come to an end for Grundisburgh.....**



**Above: Kiln Farm grows
apace. See p 8**

**Right: Can you tell where
and what? See pp 4 & 5**



See page 3 for full report on Grundisburgh Football Club



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And that's a wrap for Season 25/26



A solid and successful season has just come to an end for Grundisburgh seeing a mid table finish for the 1st team in the Suffolk & Ipswich Premier Division. The Reserves also had a great season finishing 5th in Division 3, both reaching the quarter finals of their respective league cups.

Also narrowly missing out on a top spot was first team manager and (unofficial) groundsman Jules Beaumont who was nominated and received high commendation for Suffolk FA's grounds team of the year award. A team from Suffolk FA and Ipswich Town Football club visited the pitch at the end of April to decide who would win the county pitch of the year.

Several factors were taken into consideration for this coveted prize worth £750 to the winner. Alas, we just missed out on the prize money; however, sincere thanks go to Jules for all his voluntary work. For a public playing field to reach the top 5 pitches in Suffolk is a huge achievement and takes a lot of work.

Fun was had by all at our family pop up bar event in collaboration with the extremely popular Pickled at the Pavilion. It was a fantastic turn out and wonderful to see so many families enjoying the playing field. Families were able to visit the bar for a range of drinks or choose to visit Pickled for delicious treats. The evening proved a successful fundraiser for much needed equipment at the club.



Grundisburgh football club would like to say a huge thank you to Bev Trenter who has stepped back from her many roles within the club after many years keeping us all in check. Bev has worked tirelessly to keep the bar and accounts running smoothly and she will be greatly missed.

Onwards to next season now with friendlies starting in July, follow us on the Grundisburgh FC facebook page for fixtures.

Sandy Page

"Strength will prevail in high places"

I am rarely without words, but found myself quite speechless following the world premiere of Symphony in A.

It was composed and conducted by Grundisburgh's Oliver Laxton and performed by the Anglian Youth Orchestra. The packed audience was spellbound by the sheer musical quality of the symphony.



An achievement made even more impressive knowing that these young musicians pulled off the entire varied charity concert with only three rehearsals. Ollie is 19 years old.

Symphony in A has 4 movements contrasting dramatically and drawing on a range of musical inspirations. The beautiful horn solo was the first melody to be composed by Ollie in an earlier work, finding its home in the Symphony's third movement, the first to be finished in August 2024. The second movement was completed in June 2025, with the first

following in October, and finally the fourth in February 2026.

Ollie, who plays 5 instruments, first appeared on the local music scene aged 8 leading the 'Joyful Strings' in 2015. He has played in various local, school and university orchestras including the Grundisburgh Symphony Orchestra, and the Suffolk Youth Orchestra.

I feel sure we will be seeing much more of this talented young composer in the years to come. I took the precaution of getting my programme flier

signed by Ollie and others, and when his symphony or a future work is played at the Proms one day, I will be there.

Sarah Cavanagh



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ESPA & Stop the Quarry



The third annual conference of the citizen-led ESPA (East Suffolk Planning Alliance - an active affiliation of local parish councils and similar bodies) was held recently in Framlingham.



Unfortunately I wasn't able to attend in person but I have seen some of the relevant paperwork and there is no doubt that there are still important issues that affect us all yet to be resolved. Many of these were put to a panel of experts in their field at their conference and I get the feeling that we are still in a wait-and-see period as far as development and planning are concerned. ESPA is affiliated to the CPA which is a national alliance of communities. ESPA's conference was held on the same day as their national action day so they were a part of activities across the UK. The Zoom appearance of Rosie Pearson from CPA was a significant addition to the conference. She highlighted the strength of community engagement and remarked that it was *"incredible to see the community spirit, and very sad to see what is at risk."* Rosie directed delegates to CPA's campaign gallery illustrating community participation and the landscapes across the UK under threat.

Currently East Suffolk Council has two planning committees, in Melton and Lowestoft, both of which were recently reviewed by the Planning Advisory Service. ESPA studied the PAS report in detail and submitted a critical

response both to the publisher of the report and to the ESC scrutiny and overview committee, which resulted in an inconclusive debate. No doubt further discussions will follow. This meeting can be viewed online - <https://youtube.com/live/3xax5VENpYo?feature=share>

We are likely to have a unitary authority for East Suffolk, probably with considerable planning powers - whether this will mean an improved service from the planners (and other services) remains to be seen. One member of the panel echoed the thoughts and feelings of so many here in Suffolk that our county is being defiled. I pick here a few of ESPA's current concerns as aired at the meeting. There were many more but I hope this gives you something of the scope of the event.

ESPA asked "How will a new unitary authority ensure a planning system that will support the government's ambitious housing targets and uphold [expected] high enforcement standards? Will the current call for sites be redistributed under a new unitary council? What impact could this have on housing numbers to 2044? Have Local Plans effectively overridden community-led Neighbourhood Plans? With water scarcity, how can large-scale growth be justified? Is Suffolk being treated simply as available land for large volumes of often unaffordable housing? Should central government directly fund/build social housing rather than rely on private developers? Is the current model meeting local needs? Are public services now simply subsidising private profit objectives and shelving public 'good'?"

ESPA will be digesting the replies and will publish their reaction shortly. In the

meantime, you might be interested to visit this web site to see what has been submitted to ESC as possible locations for future development: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plans/new-local-plan

Rupert Herries

Incidentally, Charlotte Brinkley, who was the SCC officer dealing with this application 2023 - 2025 left SCC last year and started a new job. She is working for Stephen Daw, agent for the TRU7 application.

Richard Watkinson

Dear all,

Many of you will recently have received an email or letter from Suffolk County Council regarding the



proposed quarry application at Westerfield.

We wanted to send a quick update explaining what this means and what happens next.

To recap the process so far: back in June 2025, TRU7 submitted their quarry application, which residents, organisations, statutory consultees, and the Stop the Quarry campaign group responded to in large numbers. Suffolk County Council received over 1,600 objections to the application.

The application was then reviewed by Suffolk County Council planning officers. As part of this review, officers wrote to TRU7 requesting further information and clarification on a number of areas within the application. This is known as a "Regulation 25" request.

TRU7 have recently submitted their response to those requests, including a number of new technical documents and assessments.

As a result, Suffolk County Council has opened a new consultation period, giving residents and stakeholders the opportunity to comment specifically on this newly submitted information. Importantly:

- Your original objection still stands
- You do not need to resubmit your previous objection

- This new consultation is an opportunity to comment on the additional information now submitted by TRU7

The consultation period is currently open until: Sunday 22nd June 2026

The Stop the Quarry campaign group has been reviewing the new documents in detail over the last few weeks and, as with the original application, we will prepare and share clear public guidance to help residents understand:

- what has changed,
- the key areas of concern,
- and how to submit further comments effectively.

We expect to send this guidance soon.

In the meantime:

- Please do not feel pressured to submit comments immediately
- If you are able to review the documents yourself, you are welcome to do so and, if you feel comfortable submitting comments at this stage, please go right ahead.
- Please continue raising awareness within the community.

The planning documents can be viewed here:

<https://suffolk.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display?applicationNumber=SCC/0093/25SC>

The Stop the Quarry Team

Local enterprise

You can't see it from the road but alongside the esteemed Grange Farm Cafe in Hasketon there is something of a hidden gem - the fashion and homeware shop intriguingly called 'Henrietta Spencer'.

Who she, I wondered? Well, it's actually two people - Jaimie Henrietta and her



husband Spencer Veevers-Chorlton.

It's their boutique selling attractive and stylish ladies' clothing and accessories, and



homeware, such as unusual clocks, jewelry, soaps, lamps, baskets and, notably, bags of all sizes and designs.

Much of their clothing and homeware has a Mediterranean feel, not surprising, given that Jaimie was brought up and worked in Spain.

Spencer has skills in interior design; Jaimie in retail and sales, so they complement each other to run this enterprise new to the area here.

They do also have an online operation and you can see their offer at:

www.henriettaspencer.co.uk

The shop is open seven days a week which gives the couple limited leisure time, given that they have two young children.

They live in Woodbridge but previously ran a similar business in Southwold



however, they decided they spent too much time travelling to and from work and find the Hasketon site much more convenient.

And attractive from a commercial point of view with more serious customers, rather than curious, ice-cream-licking seaside trippers on the coast!

Not helpful have been the multiple road closures we have all had to put up with recently but, hopefully, they can now enjoy a fruitful summer trading in this pleasant "microclimate" - as Spencer calls the Grange Farm complex. (IP13 6HN).

Richard Watkinson

Local nursery



In the last issue, we reported on the expansion planned at Kiln Farm Nursery in Playford.

Well, the new building is now open for business but work is still in progress inside and out to bring the whole thing together.

As you can see, the nursery still grows its own plants and trees and that will remain the ethos of the business - they do not plan to be just a 'gift shop with plants'.

Richard Watkinson





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Summer Celebrations in the 1980s

At this time of year, the weather's brighter (we hope) and there's lots of outdoor events to enjoy. Looking through back copies of Grundisburgh and District News from the 1980s it's encouraging to see that some of these events have been an annual fixture for a long time. Others are perhaps now forgotten but could maybe inspire next year's planners?

On the eve of Summer Solstice



1987, Grundisburgh celebrated with its third annual Lamb Roast. Several hundred attended and, despite indifferent weather, a great time was had by all.

The roasting lamb was presided over by Graham Hudson and as well as many traditional stalls and games, there was more lamb and hot dogs on offer too from the American Friends table.

The Gippeswyk Garland Ladies Dance Group entertained the crowd with traditional English dances and our News reporter, Bob More, briefly mentions enticing attractions such as 'Balancing on the Motorbike' and 'Potty Ball'.

Sadly, there are no photos of either. Perhaps a current reader has a few tucked away

somewhere? A total of over £350 was raised which was divided equally between F.O.G.S. (Friends of Grundisburgh School) and the Church Restoration Fund.

Many of us look forward each year in June to visiting the variety of inspiring Hidden Gardens in and around Grundisburgh.

In June 1985, Charsfield advertised its 'Weekend of Gardens and Flowers' with a small number of gardens open to visit.

Charsfield Vicarage combined the opening of its garden with the Church fete where the added attraction of a tug-of-war was timed for 2.30pm. Letheringham Mill gardens were also available to view.

Grundisburgh Horticultural Show continues to draw lots of entrants in many and varied categories. Visitors to the marquee enjoy the wonderful displays of produce, home baking, arts and crafts.

In 1984 there were 600 entries and prizes were presented by Mr H.S. Nixon who in the 1950s had been among those instrumental in setting up this hugely successful annual event.

A fun night for the fit was held at Hannaway Farm in Otley in July 1982. Over one hundred people danced the night away to 'Spit and Polish', a local folk and dance group.

Hundreds of coloured lights decorated the barn and John Foreman provided excellent hot dogs.

Also in 1982, and with a nod to an enduring British tradition, the Grundisburgh Cub Scout pack participated in 'Tea-Making Fortnight' (May 31 – June 12).

Paul Lawes of Otley Road, Clopton, excelled as the champion tea-maker, brewing a truly impressive 110 cuppas. In total, the pack made 641 cups of tea. The most novel tea-making location was a chicken house owned by Mr and Mrs Grey.

It seems the chickens were out at the time. Nothing is recorded of the quality of each brew but the boys' enthusiasm is impressive! One is also left wondering who drank all those cups of tea?

Archive research by Noelle Hunt

One renowned gardener, Peggy Cole, opened 'Akenfield' at 1 Park Lane with an entrance fee of 25p. Her beautiful garden was widely admired in the area and beyond, and was even once visited by Princess Margaret.

Mrs Cole wrote a number of books, had a regular spot on radio and was also one of the local people who acted in Peter Hall's film of 'Akenfield'. This was based on Ronald Blythe's oral history of Charsfield, for which 'Akenfield' was a pseudonym.

Other gardens open for the weekend were Hoo House where Mr and Mrs Fane offered ploughman's lunches and Hoo Hall at which Mr and Mrs Parkinson provided teas in the garden.





It is with great sadness that I share the news of the passing of Mrs Verdon, a much-loved member of our school community. Mrs Verdon has been a treasured teaching assistant at Grundisburgh Primary, and her warmth, dedication, and kindness have touched the lives of so many pupils and staff members.

Following a period of illness, she passed away, and our entire school community has been deeply affected by her loss. On behalf of everyone at Grundisburgh Primary, I would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to her family during this incredibly difficult time.

The outpouring of support from our community has been truly remarkable. Many of you have generously contributed to a collection to support Mrs Verdon's family, and I am delighted to share that we have raised close to £2000. This generous response demonstrates the strength of our school community and the genuine care and compassion that binds us all together. Thank you to everyone who has contributed and shown such kindness during this sad time.

Whilst we grieve the loss of Mrs Verdon, I am also pleased to reflect on the many wonderful things that have been happening across our



school, and I would like to celebrate these achievements and initiatives with you.

One of the most positive developments this term has been the introduction of OPAL lunchtimes. OPAL stands for Outdoor Play and Learning, and since its introduction, it has transformed our lunchtime experience for all pupils. The range of activities now available has truly enriched what our children can do during their lunch breaks. We have introduced a sandpit, a mud kitchen, a small world play area, and a digging zone, all of which are available to every pupil every lunchtime.

The impact has been wonderful to witness. Children are more engaged, more creative, and are developing their play and social skills in meaningful ways. The variety of activities encourages pupils to explore, discover, and learn through play, which is so



important for their development and well-being.

We have also been fortunate to welcome a range of visitors into our school to deliver assemblies and broaden our pupils' horizons. These visitors have included representatives from our local church, the Police team, the RNLI, Tru 7 Construction Group, and a local GP. Each of these visitors has brought their own expertise and experiences to share with our pupils, helping them to understand the world beyond the school gates and the many different roles and professions that exist within our community and beyond. Our curriculum has been further enriched through a series of trips and visits that have enabled pupils to learn beyond the classroom. Year 4 visited Colchester Castle to

deepen their understanding of the Romans, bringing their history learning to life through direct experience.



Year 6 took part in a Science show focused on electricity, which provided an engaging and interactive way for them to explore scientific concepts. Year 3 completed a local visit to Grundisburgh, where they examined the various different building types in our village and explored how these have changed through history. These experiences are invaluable in helping pupils make connections between what they learn in the classroom and the wider world around them.

I was also delighted to see our Year 5 pupils host the annual French Café. This was a wonderful event where family members came into school to act as customers whilst the children applied their French speaking and listening skills in a real-life context. Events like this are so important because they allow pupils to use their learning in authentic situations, building their confidence and demonstrating the practical value of what they are learning in lessons.

We have also been proud to see 24 of our pupils taking part in the Suffolk Schools Cross Country Event. This is a fantastic achievement, and it reflects the commitment and



determination of these young athletes, as well as the support they have received from our PE team and families. Events like this promote healthy lifestyles, build resilience, and give pupils the opportunity to

Justin Fuller

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represent our school at a wider level.

Finally, I would like to mention our whole school celebration of World Book Day. This was a



wonderful occasion where we came together to celebrate a love of reading. Reading is at the heart of everything we do at Grundisburgh Primary, and it was fantastic to see the enthusiasm and joy that our pupils bring to books and stories.

If you are interested in learning more about our school or if you have a child who might benefit from joining our community, we currently have spaces in some of our year groups.

Please do get in touch with us on 01473 735281, and you can also find full information about our school on our website at:

<https://grundisburghprimaryschool.co.uk/>.

We would be delighted to welcome new families to Grundisburgh Primary.

Adam Wilson
Headteacher

Water quality

R. Deben E.coli map p 16

April and early May saw little or no rain and river levels and flow rates have continued to drop, hence May's results have been impacted by low flows.

E.coli levels of bacterial pollution across most of the catchment remain very low with the exception of the outfall samples taken directly or close to the Anglian Water treatment works.

Levels in the River Lark are within safe limits but levels in the Fynn at Playford were slightly elevated.

Phosphate - there is a similar picture for phosphate in the River Deben. Encouragingly, the upper Deben remains well within the "healthy river" target of 0.1 mg/litre.

However, there is cause for concern at the phosphate levels in the Fynn which continue to be well above those for the rest of the catchment. This issue remains a topic for discussion with Anglian Water.

Nitrate and Ammonia - some further work is needed to produce comparison charts for these pollutants. An initial look suggests a similar pattern to April's results for both nitrate and ammonia.

Richard Watkinson

Local WI

Ashbocking, Swilland and Winesham Women's Institute



Our WI year is off to a good start with talks on cyber security, Suffolk women in two World Wars and the fascinating criminal cases investigated by a forensic scientist. Twenty one members, friends and family spent a Saturday



morning at a glass fusion workshop in Winesham village hall. So many different ideas came together to create individual glass pieces to hang as ornaments.

April was a special month when we celebrated our 78th birthday along with a presentation to four special ladies who have accomplished 50 years and more with ASW



WI. The ladies were presented with certificates, WI mugs and bouquets to mark this amazing achievement.

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in Winesham village hall. Guests are always welcome so come along and give WI a try.

Here's what's happening in the next few months.

In June our speaker is from Wendy Wu Tours, highlighting Japan.

We are visiting the Old Vicarage Garden in Kenton for our annual outing in July.

In August we will learn about fashion on a ration and in September it's eco/green gardening.

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Tribute

**Kathleen Mary Youngs (nee Button) 3rd February 1945 –
2nd October 2025**

Kathleen was born at New Cottages Alderton. After a short time the family moved to 4 Prospect Place Hasketon and Kathy attended Hasketon Primary School. She was only 8 when her father died suddenly from a heart attack. She spent a lot of time at her Grandparents house when she was little as they lived just around the corner in Bealings Road and her mum used to help them.

When Hasketon school closed Kathy then went to St Marys C of E Primary School in Burkitt Road in Woodbridge and then attended Farlingaye High School where she was in the A class.

There Kathy met David and they developed a friendship which was to last for over 60 years. They got engaged when she was 17 and David was 16 and were married at Hasketon Church on 25 September 1965. They began their married life in Maltings Lane in Grundisburgh.

Kathys first job was at Boots the chemist in Ipswich where she made lifelong friends. She had her first child Mark in 1968; he was born with Osteogenesis Imperfecta (Brittle Bones) and they moved up to 43 Stoney Road in 1970. Her daughter Rachel was born in 1978.

Kathy worked for a while for Norman Davis the vicar of the village at the time but taking care of her family and disabled son was her main focus.

Involvement with disabled charities like The Brittle Bone Society and Phab Club meant lots of weekends travelling to different events.

Once Rachel was in high



school Kathy had various jobs including Goldsmiths Garden centre and a wine shop in the Thoroughfare in Woodbridge. In 2006 Kathy and David moved to 3 Salters Gardens.

Kathy was a very active member of the Grundisburgh community. She was a regular member of the church congregation and church choir. She took part, with David and Rachel in a small singing group that used to meet once a month in the Parish Room and she was a long-term organiser and helper with the village lunch club. She was also involved with the Gurdon Trust.

When her daughter had her children, she spent time helping with her grandchildren.

She loved holidays with David and her daughter and grandchildren. She was also an avid reader adding books to the 'to be read' pile all the time and enjoyed puzzles, being out in the garden and walks around the village.

Unfortunately, in the Autumn of 2022 Kathy suffered a stroke and after a stay in hospital moved to Avocet Court Care Home and then to Alice Grange Care Home.

She will be greatly missed by friends and family.

David and Rachel would like to thank everyone for their condolences and to those who attended her funeral. Thanks also for donations received in her memory for the British Stroke Association and a special thank you also for the flower arrangements in the church for her funeral.

Tennis

Fun and Friendship at Grundisburgh Tennis Club

To mark the start of the new season, we held an open day which was well attended by members and non-members



from a wide spectrum of ages and abilities.

It was an opportunity to meet up, play some tennis and enjoy the delicious refreshments kindly provided by members. Nick, our coach, brought along a variety of rackets, balls and a ball machine and was on hand with useful tips and encouragement. The weather was perfect and it was a very enjoyable day.

The winter league season has now finished, and everyone involved enjoyed the chance to play competitively against other clubs. For the first time, Grundisburgh Tennis Club will participate in a summer league.

However, competitive league play is only a part of what the club offers. There are also opportunities to play social tennis with other members. These sessions take place throughout the week and cater for different ability levels.

Alternatively, members can book courts to play with friends and family using the online booking system.

Recently we have been enjoying other social events alongside the usual tennis meet ups. The 'Tennis Titans' have been representing the club in The Dog's regular quiz, and we have had get-togethers for

coffee and meals out.

During the coming months, there will be a coaching open session and tournament during Wimbledon week and our annual walk to The Turks Head for a meal and a game of bowls.

Our annual adult membership fees work out at around £5 per month of play. There are very competitive rates for juniors and families too.

Members can also benefit from discounted rates on our excellent coaching courses. For more details go to: www.grundisburghtennis.co.uk



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Many thanks to everyone who supported the Scout Group, in any way, to let you know that we have eventually been granted permission to build a new Scout HQ! We are very grateful and when it is built we will have a grand opening for you to come and have a look.

Certificates of Service have been awarded and presented to:

5 Years - Alison Banham, Chairperson
5 Years - Dan Turner, Cub Leader
5 Years - Mike Walls, Assistant Cub Leader

Thanks to Alison, Dan and Mike for all their hard work with the Scout Group.



Our fantastic Duck Race is on Sunday 28th June. We open at 12.30pm on the Village Green with many stalls, games, BBQ, ice-creams and at 2.30pm the Races start with the famous 'Golden Ducks' Race first, with great prizes for the Winning Ducks.

We have three girl members who are going to Poland in 2027 to attend the World Scout Jamboree, they will be having a stall at the Duck Race and proceeds from this will help towards their expenses.

Pat Ross
1st Grundisburgh Scout Group,
01473 735352

1st Grundisburgh Guides

Grundisburgh Guides are looking forward to many fun activities this coming term.

Some of our Guides went on an overnight survival camp, making their own shelters to sleep in. A lovely camp with survival skills learnt, starting fires, cooking, filtering water.

Come and join our Guide pack we have a small unit of girls and would welcome more girls to join in the fun.

jo
woodbridgeguiding123@gmail.com

Rainbows and Brownies

Sharon Proctor, a leading Guider of the 1st Grundisburgh Rainbows and Brownies has been nominated to attend a special Girlguiding event in London. This is her invitation:

Dear Sharon,

Congratulations! Some people in your local community have nominated you to attend Girlguiding Celebrates - a party to celebrate the hard work of Girlguiding members.

They told us "Sharon took over running the Brownies in Grundisburgh, but realised that girls were going to other organisations instead of Brownies, because they started younger. So Sharon started, and still runs, a Rainbows unit as well. I don't believe there would be any girlguiding in Grundisburgh without Sharon's tireless drive to introduce girls to the experience."

She has a team around her, including me, but is still at almost every meeting of both Rainbows and Brownies and her skills and imagination give them all a great experience. She gives us, the volunteers, a great experience too."

Someone else told us "Sharon is an incredible leader. She does a lot for the unit and all the girls in Rainbows and Brownies.

She is an inspiration and makes every session enjoyable and fun for the children. She goes above and beyond making sure all the children's needs are catered for."

We appreciate everything you do for Girlguiding. Your nomination means you've got a ticket to Girlguiding Celebrates.

We'd love to celebrate your amazing contributions to Girlguiding at the ODEON Luxe in Leicester Square, London on Saturday 6 June 2026. Doors open at 12:30pm, with the event taking place 1-4:30pm.

There'll be a drinks reception, some snacks, entertainment, and a red-carpet photo moment. You'll be joined by fellow Girlguiding members who've been nominated by their country or region to recognise their amazing contributions to guiding.

There will also be Girlguiding award recipients, including Guiding Stars, Queen's Guides, Laurels awards, and Silver Fish, alongside some Girlguiding VIPs!

As you may know, the Rainbows and Brownies meet at the Village Hall on Tuesday evenings from 4.15 to 6.45 and the Units are thriving.

I think people will be interested to hear how well they are doing.

Janet Whitaker

At this time of the year, we would normally be in the middle of rehearsals for our spring play.

Unfortunately, for a couple of reasons, this year we won't be putting on a play in June.

Instead, we will be performing two radio plays in September. We did this a couple of years ago and they went very well. It's slightly less stressful for those onstage as lines don't have to be learnt - just read off the page - just like they used to do back in the golden age of radio!

The plays that Phil Bailey has chosen to direct us through are the H.G. Wells sci-fi classic, The War of the Worlds and The School for Scandal.

This latter is a witty 18th century comedy by Sheridan that follows a tangled web of rumours and schemes surrounding two brothers. With sharp dialogue and memorable characters, this is a lively and enduring critique of social pretensions.

If you're interested in getting involved, auditions for these will take place later in the year so look out for posters around the village and on social media. It would be great to see some new faces!

Dates for performances are Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th of September. Tickets for the shows will be made available nearer the time. For more information on this or general am dram enquiries, please check our website: www.grundisburghamdram.net our Facebook and Instagram accounts or email chair@grundisburghamdram.net

We hope to see you in the audience or onstage!

Ian Frost
GADS chair.



After 30 months and 64 CTH members, Grundisburgh's Community Tech Hub volunteers enjoyed an Away Day Event.

In the afternoon on Monday 23 February in the Parish Rooms, Gemma from Suffolk Police brought along 'The Lego Game' which was a role play scenario designed to test decision-making, planning and strategy, and how to problem-solve.

This imaginary situation was based around CTH's purchase of a bankrupt hydro-electric company. There were two separate, but linked components: an office and admin department and then the hydro-electric plant and generation area. And of course we had an entire Lego mockup of the business complete with people and kit. We all remember the fun of Lego!



As we acquired things and Lego bits were added, our Company was beginning to look good as well!

The whole game represented a period of 5 years, during which we had an annual budget of £100,000, and an array of

options and solutions with their price tags. Our remit was to decide, plan and install our security equipment. We had to keep within our annual budget; we could not borrow money, but we could carry-over. At the end of each year, there was a review of our actions with positive and negative consequences. Failure to protect or insufficient security meant fines; effective protection gave us income.

It was enormous fun. Having 'survived' our remit, Gemma gave us our final overall review.

Game End. We had successfully completed our 5 years security systems installation within budget, ending with a £10 profit and we were fully and safely operational.

We look forward to seeing anyone who wishes to know more about Community Tech Hub's outreach. CTH is at the Deli most Mondays to help you with tech problems and further information.

Increasing digital awareness and inclusion, reducing isolation while keeping our community safe.

The CTH editorial team

Witnesham and Swilland Family Fair

This is a new venture for our villages. It will be a traditional village fair set in the lovely gardens of Burnbank, Church Lane, Witnesham on Sunday June 7th at 2.30pm.

There will be lots of games and activities for everyone to enjoy plus other stalls. Delicious refreshments will also be available.



You can also visit the friendly donkeys who live there.

There is plenty of on site car parking.

Please put this date in your diaries and come and have fun .

Witnesham Village Hall is hosting a fortnightly **Community Cuppa and Cake** event every other Monday morning from 9.30 to

12.00 at the Hall.

Our goal is to get people together, meet new and old friends, and socialize.

Feel free to



come for the cake, stay for the company; just pop in whenever you can.

We're also delighted to accept donations for the Village Hall Improvement Fund.

Our first event in April was a hit, with nearly fifty people joining us! At future events, we would like to include additional attractions such as table-top and plant sales, raffles, games for children and adults, but we need volunteers to organise them.

The dates for the next events are:

22 June 6 and 20 July 3 August

(If you'd like to help in any way by serving, baking a cake for example, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Please email us via fynntek@gmail.com)

Tales from a cottage garden

My bank offers a free monthly gardening magazine to its customers. Each issue includes a free packet of seeds which I have been sowing and pricking out. Like our GDP, germination rates haven't been high, possibly because I was a little impatient in availing myself of this 'bonus'.

And this spring seems to have been a period of at least 50 shades of grey: not much sun for a lot of the time and not a lot of rain, either, despite the cloud cover. This and some cold mornings haven't done my seedlings much good and things are generally a little behind in the garden.

But the perennial sweet peas have burst upwards and my hostas are now themselves providing shade for their underplantings. However, my *dicksonia antarctica* (thank you, Editor, for the aspirational illustration in the last issue) has thrown up only two new fronds and seems not to have over-wintered successfully although other ferns are doing well now, especially the deciduous ones.

Hellebores put on a brilliant show this spring - long-lasting flowers and good ground coverage, too. Clematis looks stunning climbing over my fence and a tree stump.

Also doing well (so far) are the tadpoles in my pond. There are literally hundreds of the little black squirmers at the margins eating what algae they can chew off the stones - and the insect larvae fish food I now give them daily.



If just 1% of the tadpoles survive, there will be toads galore croaking away when they come ashore and, I hope, eating those slugs and snails before they get to the hostas. Fortunately, toads are arguably at the top of the natural food chain here although I believe crows are partial to them and so are hedgehogs - which I would love to have but the garden is probably too small and enclosed for these lovely creatures to appear here.

I have always regarded alkanet (aka *anchusa*) as a weed,



despite its bright blue flowers, and pulled it out before it gets too straggly and makes the garden look untidy. But following a suggestion from the RHS, I have now been tying it up to form neat pyramids which the bees love - almost as much as they do the comfrey (aka *symphytum*) - which seems to be naturally somewhat neater in its habit (perhaps I should take a sartorial lesson from that!).

text and photo: A.C.Gardener.

PAINTING & DECORATING
Archie (21) & Sam (20) ● References from previous jobs
 Brothers, living in Gn'burgh ● Before and after videos and photos
 Now in our 4th year ● Fully insured
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 07939 242142 (evenings) ● Free quote, overseen by father

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 www.grundisburghnews.org.uk. or via this QR code:



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**).

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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.

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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.

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New adverts for next issue to be sent by **12 August** to:

Cherril Clemence, cherril.clemence@gmail.com

