

Winter
2022/23

The Grundisburgh and District News

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

Best small village - accolade for Bredfield

Bredfield was named as the best small village in Suffolk at the awards ceremony run by the Suffolk Association of Local Councils this autumn.

The judges were impressed by the variety of community activities – the village shop run by volunteers, which not only remained open during the pandemic but provided a home delivery service; the village hall which has its own website and social media, and offers everything from Chi Kung to Morris Dancing – even a monthly pop-up bar. The award-winning orchard and meadow project providing a

space to enjoy nature and retreat, in addition to a play area, tennis courts, and a bowls club with family membership, open days and social bowls nights were also applauded. So was the £10,000 plus raised at the church fete, the £1,000 from Macmillan quizzes and coffee mornings, £600 from a scarecrow competition as well as the 10 large boxes of toiletries collected for Ukraine.

The award was collected by Anne Henderson, chair of the village hall committee, and David Hepper, parish council chair (left and right in photo below). Centre in the photo are Dominic Tyler representing the awards group and Baroness Scott of Needham Market. David said that everyone in Bredfield should be proud of the award, particularly those who do something extra, in organising or 'doing their bit' to make the village a great place to live.



This year Grundisburgh-based card company Hallo has a range of over 30 cards with Christmas designs, all Carrie Herries' originals as usual. Last year £1,000 was raised for EACH from the sale of Hallo cards, and Rupert and Carrie are hoping that even more will be raised this year. Grange Farm Shop in Hasketon, Williams Stores in Grundisburgh and Woodbridge Charity Christmas Card shop in The Thoroughfare are generously selling Hallo cards again for no profit. They are also available from Hallo's website: www.hallocards.com. Delivery and postage is free on all orders within the UK.

Help us spend £69,775.69!

Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council recently received £69,775.69 from East Suffolk Council and will be seeking residents' views on how it should be spent.

This CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money comes from charges applied to recent developments: £2908.11 from 5 Post Mill Crescent, and £66,867.58 from land west of Chapel Field. This has to be spent on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure resulting from



Designs in glass: Hassina Khan's work is featured on the local enterprise pages 10 & 11.



Green Bealings pages 13 & 20.

*Seasons greetings to all
our readers, contributors,
distributors and
advertisers*

Continued on page 4

December

Thursday 1

Grundisburgh WI meeting with entertainment from handbell ringers.

Gr Pavilion on playing field 2.30pm. Contact 735394

Friday 2

Christmas Concert

Upbeat! Choir Gr VH 7:30 pm Contact pbeattickets@gmail.com

Saturday 3

Christmas Concert

Upbeat! Choir Gr VH 2:30 pm Contact upbeattickets@gmail.com

Meet Father Christmas

Otley Hall PBE 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Contact events@otleyhall.co.uk

Sunday 4

Lighting the Tree

St Martin's Church, Church Hill, Tuddenham 4:30 pm

Monday 5

Christmas quiz with Matthew Tanton-Brown

Otley & District Gardening Club VH 7:30 pm Contact issywizzy58@gmail.com

Saturday 10

Meet Father Christmas

Otley Hall 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Contact events@otleyhall.co.uk

Tuesday 13

Stepping back in time at Williams Stores - Rosie Venn

Grundisburgh Local History Society Gr PR 7:30 pm Contact geoff@caryer.co.uk

Friday 16

Carols and Pop-Up Bar

Bredfield Village Hall 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm Contact www.bredfieldvillagehall.org.uk

Saturday 17

Christmas Coffee Morning including Fair Trade Stall

The Holme, Gr 10:00 am Contact 735517

Sunday 18

Carol Service

St Martin's Church, Tuddenham 6:30 pm

Thursday 22

Craft Session

Craft Group
Gr PR 9:30 am - 12:00 noon Contact 735517 or heather.langdon@btinternet.com

Saturday 24

Carols on the Hill

St Martin's Church, Tuddenham Church Hill, Tuddenham 3:30 pm

Saturday 31

New Year's Eve Dance

Clopton Village Hall PBE 8:00 pm Contact 737417 or 07929 146689

January

Tuesday 17

Talk on dig in Grundisburgh Churchyard

Gr Local History Society GrPR 7.30pm Contact geoff@caryer.co.uk

Pop-Up Bar

Bredfield Village Hall 6:00 pm - 10:30 pm Contact www.bredfieldvillagehall.org.uk

Friday 27

Pantomime - Cinderella

Gr VH PBE 7:30 pm Contact grundisburghamdrum.com or ianfrost68@gmail.com

Saturday 28

Pantomime - Cinderella

Gr VH PBE 2:00 and 7.30pm Contact grundisburghamdrum.com or ianfrost68@gmail.com

February

Sunday 4

Tea and discussion about formation of film society

Gr VH, 4.30 pm. PBE. Contact peter@peterkendall.com

Friday 17

Pop-Up Bar

Bredfield Village Hall 6:00 pm - 10:30 pm Contact www.bredfieldvillagehall.org.uk

Tuesday 21

History of the Morris Dance

Gr Local History Society GrPR 7.30pm Contact geoff@caryer.co.uk

March

Tuesday 21

Medieval Churches of Ipswich

Gr Local History Society GrPR 7.30pm Contact geoff@caryer.co.uk

Friday 24

Pop-Up Bar

Bredfield Village Hall 6:00 pm - 10:30 pm Contact https://www.bredfieldvillagehall.org.uk/news.html

May

Sunday 7

Free Family Festival

Grundisburgh VH Contact events@gnvh.co.uk

Key to abbreviations

Gr. Grundisburgh

VH Village hall

PR Parish rooms

PBE Pre booking essential

Brief details of events, including contact numbers and whether advanced booking is needed, may be sent up to a year in advance to diary@grunews.com.

These will go immediately into the online version on The News' website (www.grundisburghnews.org.uk).

Early notification can help organisers of events avoid clashes of dates.

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Clopton's New Year's Eve Dance

We're back on New Year's Eve dancing from 8pm until late to the Hosepipe Band at Clopton Village Hall. Please bring your own food and drink because we will not be sharing food as in the past,

Our dance is always enjoyable even if you don't dance, the music is wonderful. We have often sold out before Christmas, so book early. Tickets from me on 01473 737417 or Graham 07929 146689. Adults £15, children under 13 £5. Profits will be shared between the 24th Ipswich Scouts and the Clopton Village Hall improvement fund. Look forward to meeting again.

Diana Dawson

Christmas Fair

Bredfield Village Hall's Christmas Fair takes place on Saturday 26 November. Opened by Santa at 1pm, festivities close at 4pm. Christmas themed stalls will have lots of ideas for presents as well as mulled wine, mince pies and festive baps.

*Anne Henderson, 07802 874397
henny@dircon.co.uk*

Panto time!

It's been a long time coming (three years to be precise!) but it's finally here panto time!! GADS are heading back to Grundisburgh Village Hall in January to perform Cinderella by Colin Barrow.

There will be a performance on Friday 27 and two on Saturday 28 January. Tickets will cost £10 for adults and £5 for children and are available from grundisburghamdrum.com or

by using the QR code on the poster in this issue.

Charlotte Crown and Joel Tatham are the directors and are looking forward to putting on a fantastic family show so please come along and join us to see if Cinders or her sisters manage to pair up with the handsome prince! There will be refreshments on sale and also a raffle.

We're always on the lookout for new members, but if you're not that keen on actually treading the boards, you could always become a GADS patron. There's always quite a lot of cost involved in putting on our productions and by becoming a patron, your £15 annual fee would go some way towards the running of our group which is now in its 44th year! In return for your fee you'll have your name listed in the next performances programme and receive invitations to GADS events. If you're interested in becoming a patron, please contact me and I can give you more details.

We look forward to seeing you in pantoland...!You shall go to the ball!!'

*Ian Frost,
ianfrost68@gmail.com*

Christmas concerts

Following the success of Upbeat!'s summer concert , where the men's choir Offbeat! made their second public appearance, and after a well earned summer break, Carol McConnell-Theobald started working on a new repertoire ready for the ever popular Christmas concerts.

The first will be on the evening of Friday 2 December and the second on the afternoon of Saturday 3 December. As always, following the concerts

the choirs will make a donation to a local charity. This year we are delighted to be supporting FIND (Families in Need) which is a local food bank.

Rather than the traditional 'theatre style' seating, this year we have opted for the more relaxed "cabaret style " with the audience seated at tables. The ticket price will include a welcome drink and a platter of festive nibbles. There will also be wine, beer & soft drinks on sale (cash only).

The repertoire will include a number of festive songs with audience participation. By the time this article is published, hopefully all the tickets will have sold out! However we do sometimes get cancellations, so if you'd like to come please email upbeattickets@gmail.com to check availability.

Jean Ellinor

Bar pop ups

Pop up bar evenings are held regularly at Bredfield Village Hall to which everyone is invited whether they live in the village or not. These take place between 6 and 10pm. The next evening planned is for Thursday 16 December which will also include carols. Further pop up evenings are due to be held on 27 January, 17 February and 24 March.

Anne Henderson

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Grundisburgh Amateur Dramatic Society presents

Cinderella

by Colin Barrow



Grundisburgh Village Hall
Friday January 27th 7.30pm
Saturday January 28th 2pm & 7.30pm

Adults £10 Children (up to 14 years) £5

Tickets available from grundisburghamdrum.com
or scan the QR code



Refreshments & raffle



This photo with Ray and Joyce Williams features on the front cover of the 2023 calendar of old Grundisburgh pictures. This is on sale at Williams Stores for £7.99. Rosie Venn (nee Williams) will be talking about the history of her family's shop at the Grundisburgh Local History Society meeting on Tuesday 13 December. Details of its other meetings are in the News Diary on page 2.

Help us to spend £69,775.69

continued from page 1

the demands that these developments have placed on our area. More money will be received as the Chapel Field development moves to completion.

The parish council voted at its meeting in November to consult every household in Grundisburgh and Culpho. A leaflet will be delivered to all homes in the New Year to ask

for thoughtful ideas on how the council can best spend this CIL money for the benefit of our communities.

The parish council has already spent £3.5K to get our very own speed indicator device (SID). Grundisburgh has had shared access to a SID via SAVID (the safer village driving campaign), but availability is only part-time and depends on the number of parishes requesting access to it.

*Anne Willetts, Chair,
Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council*

Pub Updates

Grundisburgh Dog

The Dog has its Christmas menu and at the time of writing has availability in its restaurant for dining or Christmas parties. It may reinstate the popular 'Carols in the Pub' one evening before Christmas, not possible during the Covid years (watch their social media for details).

Moon & Mushroom, Swiland

The popular Swiland pub has a range of events in the run up to Christmas. They have Carols by Candlelight as a

fundraiser for the charity FIND (Families in Need), details of which will be on their website. There will be an evening of live music with Shannon Adams on 18 December from 7.30. A quiz is held every second Wednesday evening. They are open for food on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year (you need to pre-book for Christmas Day).

Turks Head, Hasketon

The pub has just taken on a new manager who is intending to launch new features, including Fish & Fizz evenings, Steak Nights and silently showing major sporting events. More details will appear on their website.

Tuddenham Fountain

This pub is fully booked for Christmas but be pleased to receive visitors at other times.

Fynn Valley Golf Club

Like the Fountain, the club's restaurant is fully booked for Christmas. They pointed out that they are keen to hire staff across the various departments.

This is a theme which was common to many of the local pubs, reflecting the ongoing difficulty in recruitment.

All pubs in are catchment area are invited to contribute to this column in The News. Not all took advantage of the free publicity this time.

Paul Whittingham



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Hosting a Ukrainian family in Bredfield

Among the Ukrainians warmly welcomed into households around our region are the Volik family, who have been staying with the Bradshaw family in Bredfield for two months now.

Everything was arranged through the Churches Together group in Ipswich. Local hosts are matched to guests and support provided to expedite travel to the UK. Churches Together continues to serve as an invaluable

information hub for all. Tonya and her children, Maksym and Kateryna, come from a town south of Kyiv so rural life in Suffolk is quite a change for them but with the support of the Bradshaw family, they have enjoyed exploring and experiencing a lot of what the area has to offer.

Just a few days after arrival, there was a trip to the community orchard in Bredfield for the annual juicing day. With the help of photos on her phone, Kateryna described how they all picked apples from home, chopped them and took them to the Community Orchard where they took part in the juicing process using the orchard's apple press. She was proud to share a complimentary whatsapp message she had received about her participation.

As the bus timetable from Bredfield is limited the family have enjoyed exploring the

local area by bicycle including cycling into Woodbridge. Tonya commented that any drivers they meet are always very polite. Kateryna was keen to add that the roads are clean and that everywhere is quiet and beautiful. They all

said the people they meet are very kind and helpful.

The children of both families are of similar ages so they can pile into the car together for the school run to Thomas Mills. Maksym and Kateryna have settled in well there and made friends, including amongst the 13 other Ukrainian children currently on roll. Maksym has already been identified as a higher achieving science student and he has been moved up a set accordingly. Away from the classroom, he appreciates the chance to play pool at lunchtimes. All this mixing and socializing for both children means their English is coming on well.

Everyone enjoys visiting the regular pop-up bar in Bredfield Village Hall, a hit again with Maksym because he can play table football there and they all like board games, including Connect 4, which is just as much fun whether you share

the same language or not. It was the first game they played together when the Volik family arrived. Another current favourite is Canine Chaos, a variation on Happy Families, and also Quirkle. Maksym described a card game that they play at home in Ukraine.

The families have been swimming together and discovered that Deben Leisure Centre provides three months free membership of the pool and gym for Ukrainian guests, a generous offer that Tonya, Maksym and Kateryna may well take up.

Another successful weekly outing is to play hockey in Framlingham, a new experience for the visitors but one they enjoyed.

In Ukraine, Tonya ran a small internet business designing, making and selling celebration cake and sweet boxes.

Kateryna showed some of the lovely designs on the website from her phone. Tonya also made cheese so has a good understanding of food hygiene. She has registered at the Job Centre in Woodbridge, written her CV and has worked hard to find a job. She now has a few hours cleaning and will shortly start a part time position as a kitchen assistant but is happy to consider more work. Accordingly, if anything is available that matches her skillset, Tonya would be pleased to hear about it. To improve their English further, the family attends weekly evening classes in St Mary's Church Hall, Woodbridge.

Roswyn Bradshaw emphasised how they all try to eat together even though it's not always easy with the usual teenage comings and goings to clubs and other activities! It's a busy household but thanks to the effort put in by both families, they are all getting on well together.

Words Noelle Hunt, photo Peter Kendall



Kateryna, Tonya and Maksym play Connect 4

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Paul Bruce, July 1944 to November 2022

Painter and sculptor, specialist in 18th and 19th century furniture, chair and then life Vice president of Friends of Christchurch Mansion, yachtsman, and teacher, author, organiser of expeditions... Paul was a multi-talented yet modest man. He never sought the limelight, but preferred to work quietly behind the scenes.



Paul's sculptures in an exhibition set up in his Culpho garden.

Suffolk born and bred, Paul attended the Ipswich School of Art in the 1960s. His early passion was fine oak, walnut and mahogany furniture. At its height, Paul Bruce Fine Furniture Ltd employed eight craftsmen.

His passion for fine furniture and art was reflected in his major role in building up the collections in Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich. He was chairman of the Friends of Ipswich Museums (supporting Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich Museum and the old art school building) for many years and became life time Vice President in 2011.



Paul introducing an exhibition of his students' work in Grundisburgh.

Paul spearheaded the campaign to buy the former Ipswich School of Art building for the town. This included organising a charity auction, persuading well-known artists to donate works for the fund and co-authoring a book on the history of the school. Among other books he wrote was one on the furniture at Christchurch Mansion.

An enthusiastic and encouraging teacher, Paul created an art club in Grundisburgh in 2006 which still continues. His students had the additional benefit of going on visits arranged by Paul to see works of art – sometimes going as far afield as Glasgow, Liverpool, Paris and Amsterdam. A number of exhibitions of his students work were shown in exhibitions in Grundisburgh.

Paul was a keen yachtsman and shared a boat moored at Ramsholt. Another passion was Ipswich Town Football Club. Paul and his wife Sue moved from Ipswich to live in Culpho 22 years ago.

*Words compiled with help from Christchurch Mansion staff and Sue Bruce
Photos Peter Kendall*

A personal tribute from a fellow artist

Cycling to and from my studio in Grundisburgh, I would often park my bike at the Old White House in Culpho to drop in on

Paul. His knowledge of the local art scene was immense. Our shared love of art was varied and it was always a pleasure listening to Paul describing his feelings for the work of Sir Alfred Munnings, Anna Airey, Maggi Hambling, Doris and Anna Zinkeisen, Julie Heseltine and Colin Moss amongst others. He would talk about his Grundisburgh art class and the excursions with colleagues to study exhibitions in other parts of the country.

Sometimes, as he sculptured away in his studio, he would caress a piece of burr walnut. One of Paul's other loves was

antique furniture. I could offer very little in the way of that culture. But he was always appreciative of me painting a boring sparrow or thrush and a friendship was thus created. We did not compare each other's work, it was more a case of mutual understanding of the beauty and pleasure that the creative brush could provide.

I will miss Paul as will do many others but he will not be forgotten just as those that he admired are not.

Reg Snook

Community Partnership: Focus on road safety issues

Road safety remains a priority for our East Suffolk Community Partnership in the local area, and we're working with local volunteers and the Police to recognise Road Safety Week between 14 and 20 November. We're supporting the 'Safe Roads for All' message. This is certainly relevant in our area with cyclists, pedestrians, horse riders and vehicle users all sharing our rural roads.

You may have seen our road side banners along key routes through the villages or our excellent Speed Watch volunteers helping reduce speeds across the area during Road Safety Week. We anticipate around 60,000 vehicles will have seen at least one banner during the week. Alongside this, hi-vis jackets have been provided at Grundisburgh School, and Charsfield Primary pupil have worked with the Police to learn about road safety.

We're also pleased to have

launched a scheme for primary schools to access more Bikeability sessions for their students that will improve their safety on our roads.

We've also contacted all the large businesses in the area, encouraging them to commit to positive action about road safety. This is an ongoing project that continues to develop with support from our parish councillors and other stakeholders.

The Road Safety Forum covers Kesgrave, Martlesham, Rushmere and the Carlford/ Fynn Valley villages and is gathering national attention for the collaboration and delivery of road safety messages. We intend this to grow and enable further successes towards keeping our roads as safe as possible.

More information on our Road Safety Forum and the local Community Partnership can be found at the East Suffolk Council website:

Profile: Commodore Robert Bellfield CBE ADC DL

The first in our series featuring people in our area with particularly interesting jobs and lives

It's not surprising that Rob Bellfield lives here in Suffolk: although born in London, he was raised at Clopton - his father was the much loved and respected county councillor Peter Bellfield and his mother Juliet the tireless chairman of the Woodbridge Committee for Macmillan Cancer Support, where she raised almost one million pounds.

Rob's sea-going career has taken him all over the world in warships, including HMS Ark Royal where he was second-in-command but, with a choice of a permanent residence in prospect, he has chosen his old home county in which to swallow the anchor, although retirement is still some way off!

Rob holds the rank of Commodore in the Royal Navy, a senior role, working direct to the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Ben Key. His job as Naval Regional Commander London and Eastern England, is, in effect, to link and promote the Royal Navy to governments, other service and civilian organisations at the highest levels across London and counties in the East of England. He is therefore intimately involved in strategic decision-making affecting our national security.

I have heard Rob speak publicly: he has a relaxed style and he explains complex situations clearly - key assets of a communicator. Take China, for example: its ambitions are not confined to SE Asia where 'colonisation' of the South China Sea, its effect on free navigation and the overall security of that part of the World, including Australasia, are causing the West some anxiety. Without revealing secret details, Rob explains how our forces are responding to the situation - and

to other developments across the defence spectrum. The 'Ever Given' incident in the Suez Canal last year showed in just six days how dependent we are on the free movement of ships and shipping for our way of life.



But why the Royal Navy? The Bellfield family was - and still is - boat and sailing oriented. He and his wife Zoë keep a yacht at Levington, while their daughters Eleanor and Imogen were Mirror dinghy sailors at championship level. Rob sailed dinghies at the Deben Yacht Club in Woodbridge while a

pupil at Farlingaye and later at Framlingham College where he obtained a scholarship to the Naval College, Dartmouth.

His 30+ years' naval career then took off with his specialising in navigation and anti-submarine operations. His first deployment was to the West Indies and later served in destroyers and has commanded three Type-23 frigates, including HMS Grafton which was adopted by the town of Ipswich and which he had the pleasure of bringing into the port twice in 2005 and 2006.

Rob has been Commander of the Naval Flotilla based at Devonport and of the naval training establishment HMS Raleigh which trains the sailors (male and female) that operate and maintain our ships and aircraft.

Rob is keen that youngsters from all walks of life and social backgrounds are given the chance to get on to the water, even in small craft. He is the President of TS Orwell, the Sea Cadet unit in Ipswich and supportive of the 5th Woodbridge Sea Scouts, who are raising money for a new HQ. He is a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron and Waldringfield Sailing Club and has just had a 14' wooden Dragonfly dinghy, built in 1950, restored and which he intends to race with Zoë next season. He also has an OK dinghy that has more carbon fibre than wood and plans to sail in the World Championships next summer in Lyme Regis.

As for a naval career, Rob says "joining the Royal Navy is a career that doesn't just set you up for life and a good wage from day one. You'll experience travel, adventure, friendships and challenges - no two days will be the same. It offers you more than any job you'll find in civilian life, you'll go places you've never been, experience things you wouldn't anywhere else. And develop skills you don't even know you have yet". When he does have a spare moment, he will try to escape to Portman Road to see Ipswich Town, and is looking forward to supporting them in the Championship next season!"



Well, it certainly worked for Rob and on the day I visited him, he had a really good piece of news to impart - he had just been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Suffolk. As the saying goes, if you want something done, ask a busy person!

Richard Watkinson

Photos from top: Commodore Bellfield at home: With his wife Zoe at Windsor Castle after receiving his CBE; At sea; HMS Grafton arriving at Ipswich.

Report from Suffolk Rural

It's been almost three years since Suffolk New College (formerly Otley College) joined forces with Suffolk Rural. In that time major investment has taken place across many different departments including the farm. Local residents will be able to see how the agricultural facilities have expanded at our annual Spring Family Farm Day on Sunday 2 April 2023.

If you are more inclined to witness the bigger picture of expansion at Suffolk Rural, then our annual Big Day Out is taking place on Saturday 13 May 2023, where all departments team up with local businesses to showcase everything that goes on at an educational facility that was first opened in 1970.

Horse lovers can look out for a series of events taking place at our equine arena. Thanks to a new partnership with British Dressage, we will be hosting a number of competitions both this year and next where the public will be able to come along and watch regional riders in action.

Suffolk Rural is always looking to support the local community we serve and we offer a number of leisure learning courses for people to relax, have fun, make friends and learn a new hobby at our campuses in Otley and Ipswich. With community support in mind, we were delighted to be able to see some of our construction students spend a couple of days working on the development of the village hall in Grundisburgh. What a fantastic facility it is.

From all at the college – have a fantastic festive season. And if any of the information is of interest, you can find out more details via our website: www.suffolk.ac.uk or you can call 01473 382200.

John Nice



Visitors to this year's family farm day.

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Report from Charsfield Primary

At the beginning of term, the whole school visited Whitlingham Adventure in Norfolk to take part in outdoor and adventurous activities. The school uses its PE funding to ensure that all pupils can take part in this annual trip. Pupils in Reception and KS1 did climbing, bush craft and went canoeing (on a special type of canoe called a katakanu). Pupils in KS 2 took part in paddle boarding and raft building. The children had a whale of a time taking part in activities that they normally wouldn't get to do at school. The staff supervising us were brilliant and ensured that everyone taking part remained safe as well as having an enjoyable time.

Like everyone else, we were all deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. As a school, we looked back on the life of Her Majesty and we discussed the events that would take place during the national mourning period. To celebrate her life the children drew pictures and wrote poems. They also created a book with messages of condolence to the Royal Family and these were passed on by two members of staff who went to visit

Sandringham on behalf of the school. The children also discussed what they hoped the new King would bring to the country, and we look forward to celebrating the coronation events next May.

In early October we held our annual Harvest service which was led by Rev. Gary Best and



Lay Elder Jo Reed (who are also governors at our school). Families joined in and it was a wonderful atmosphere with singing and learning all about the harvest. We would like to thank all of our families for donating to the collection,

particularly as times are currently challenging. We are delighted to report that all of the items we collected have been donated to the foodbank in Wickham Market.

We participated against lots of other local schools in the Tag Rugby tournament held at Thomas Mills High school. The children worked really well together and we were very proud of their efforts. We were particularly proud of our Year 6 Team Captain for ensuring that everyone in the team got to play and for encouraging the younger pupils in Year 3 and 4 to do their best. Well done team Charsfield!

Report from Grundisburgh Primary

In our English lessons, pupils have been creating their own stories based upon a class book. In KS 1 pupils read *The Queen's Hat* and follow the journey of the hat across London! In Year 3 and 4 the children loved reading *The Incredible Book Eating Boy* where Henry loves books so much that he eats them! Year 5 and 6 the children read *Rose Blanche* which is about the concentration camps in WWII Germany. The book follows the story of Rose and how she helps the children in the camp by providing them with food. The children's writing is absolutely fantastic and they really enjoy their English lessons.

In November, we took part in Anti-Bullying week by wearing our odd socks to school to show that we are all different, as well as looking at the theme of friendship/anti-bullying in our Collective Worship sessions and PSHE lessons. We will also be raising money for Children in Need, by taking part in the Great Charsfield Bake Off!

After half term, we are looking forward to inviting parents into school for some share mornings and to watch the Reception and KS1 Nativity performance!

To find out more about our school or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office by email office@charsfield.suffolk.sch.uk or call 01473 737347. We are holding an open evening on Monday 28 November from 3:25pm to 5:30pm. Our school website is always being updated www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk as is our Facebook page Charsfield Primary School.

Mrs Reeve, Head of School

It has been a wonderfully busy start to the new academic year for pupils at Grundisburgh Primary School. A varied range of extra-curricular clubs are fully up and running including: dance, coding, football, netball, running and drama. All these opportunities are invaluable in broadening school life for our children.

We have been busy electing our various school bodies including, school council, eco council, fairtrade council and sports council. These groups meet regularly to represent pupil voice and suggest ways in which we can further develop our school.

A key focus across the school is to further extend our links within the local community and ensure that members of the school community have the opportunity to engage in school life. We were very fortunate to visit St Mary's church where the vicar, Katrina, joined us for a Harvest Festival service. Children in KS1 were visited in school by Katrina to talk about Harvest also. We were extremely grateful for the generous food donations made by our school community; these have been sent to the Grundisburgh Pantry. Furthermore, we have enjoyed welcoming parents into school

for our fortnightly celebration assemblies. So far year 6, 5 and 4 have all shared their learning and a number of children have received a headteacher's award which includes a £5 book voucher in recognition of their hard work.

To help further develop our pupils' love of reading, we were fortunate enough to host our in school book fair which gave pupils the opportunity to purchase the latest release. A proportion of the funds raised from this event will go into extending our reading resources in school.

Year 5 and 6 also welcomed the Red Rose Theatre group into school. The actors worked with the children in a workshop; this provided a fun and interactive way of the children understanding 'Macbeth.'

We had some notable sporting success in the first half of the autumn term. A selection of year 5 pupils took part in a mini athletics tournament at Northgate Sports Centre. The 'QuadKids' team finished first



in the develop group. Our boys' football team also competed against four other schools in a recent school games tournament. The boys were undefeated in their fixtures.

The whole school has worked on celebrating elements of our learning through showcasing them within our school atrium. The year 6 children began the evening through performing an immersive dance and then parents were invited to tour the school looking at some of our amazing creative work that has been completed this half term.

Adam Wilson Headteacher

Photo at top: A panel with imaginary graffiti items; Below: The QuadKids event emulating the Commonwealth Games, when Grundisburgh was chosen to represent Canada.



Luke covers the insurance field from his rural base

What better place for a lively and growing business, specialising in farmland estates, commercial and high net worth home insurance, than an office, surrounded by green fields on the Felix Cobbold Trust site at Stanaway Farm, Charity Lane, Otley IP6 9NA.

Luke Broadley, the founder and proprietor of the insurance brokers, loves the rural location, having proactively moved the operation from Manningtree to physically get into the environment where he and his team feel really at home and from which they continue to serve the counties of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk. Luke gained his experience in

driven by achieving client satisfaction. Five years ago, while on a holiday with his wife, he decided to set up Longfields, a totally independent insurance broker. It is proving to have been a successful move and he now has a good team working with him - and more are in prospect.

Longfields specialises in agriculture-related risks: high net worth homes and all things commercial from property insurance, haulage, manufacturers, wholesale and much more, using only those insurance companies rated "A+" as a mark of reliability and first class claims service. He believes that developing business by personal contact is



the insurance industry over many years with various corporate companies. He quickly grew frustrated with the big corporate 'profits first' mentality which continued to distance him from the customer with the intervention of call centres attempting to take over the relationship with customers when it came to claims and other services which Luke believed should always remain at local level.

He wanted to offer clients a local, direct, personal, service

crucially important and rarely advertises: word of mouth is far more important when trying to build a business on traditional lines.

'Local' is important to Luke and he is starting a Christmas campaign to encourage people to shop locally, reminding them that local businesses stayed open to serve us during lockdown and that they deserve being used now that we are free to travel further afield. Another issue important to

Luke is mental health, in particular in farming as this is a demanding and sometimes stressful occupation. He is a keen supporter of the charity YANA (You Are Not Alone) which offers help to farmers and others who may be concerned about the health of a family member or friend. In Suffolk, YANA can fund up to six sessions with a trained counsellor who understands rural life and work. Its helpline is 0300 323 0400.

In addition to YANA, there is the Farming Crisis Network (FCN) and the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI) who offer a variety of support. The three charities complement each other well.

Longfields can be contacted on 01473 784500.

Richard Watkinson



which has been at the centre of glass-making in England and which now houses the National Glass Centre (incidentally, Pyrex was first made in Sunderland exactly 100 years ago). So good was Hassina's work that it has been retained by the museum for permanent public display.

Her work now is focussed on more conceptual items - items with an added dimension: still definitely decorative but with underlying messages.

The magic of glass

I first spotted Hassina Khan from Bredfield at a Makers Market in Framlingham earlier this year. She was displaying her decorative pieces in glass - typically colourful designs intended to be hung in the window, letting sunlight bring out their true nature. Many featured stained glass with seaglass from Suffolk beaches.

I have recently seen Hassina again and things have moved on! She has just completed a Master's degree course at the University of Sunderland, a city

Being bi-racial, Hassina is sometimes confronted with questions which can cause her to feel different or separate or 'other' as she phrases it. She is trying to express her feelings about that by hybridising language in three dimensions by fusing into the glass English words transliterated into Urdu characters, which are themselves shapes in glass. She hopes viewers may be tempted to reflect on their own





experiences. The finished objects may be rectangular, circular, bowl-shaped or 'wavy' but, whatever the end-product, they are certainly

distinctive, unique and attractive.

But why glass? Hassina said she is drawn to glass as a medium because it is strong, yet fragile, and to some extent unpredictable in the way it works and displays itself. She uses a special form of flat glass in various hues which can be blended or fused to create new colours in any desired shape, depending on the formers or tools used in her electric kiln. Some works may require three separate firings to achieve the required shape, colour or finish so a particularly complex piece may take a week to produce.

Hassina will be showing her previous work at Bury St. Edmunds in the run up to Christmas and continues to offer workshops in stained glass. She welcomes commissions and plans to develop her business by creating a website and finding outlets to exhibit her new work. She can be contacted by email at hassina.work@gmail.com or on 07990 931275. Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/hassinakhanglass/>

*words: Richard Watkinson
photos supplied*

Apple trees for rent!

After a successful first year of running their 'Rent An Apple Tree Experience', Alison, Richard and Antony Youngman at White House Farm, Grundisburgh, are looking forward to continuing the scheme next year. They have plans to widen participation for the local community, especially for families and schools.

The orchard is 60 years old and traditionally managed to encourage biodiversity and wildlife. A local beekeeper has hives at one end of it and the bees help to pollinate the trees.

Each of this year's renters has enjoyed the chance to visit their tree during blossom weekends and, for those who chose a day of perfect weather, the profusion of flowers was truly stunning against a vivid blue sky! Refreshments were available and people could wander among the trees or bring their own picnics to eat at tables set out in the orchard.

The weather favoured a good yield this season with the harvest of early Discovery apples starting in mid-August and later varieties of Cox and Jonagored continuing into October. There were several dates made available for picking so that apples could be taken away in manageable quantities and the ripest chosen first.

With Christmas approaching, renting an apple tree for next year makes an original and unique gift. Prices will remain the same at £30 for a Cox or a Jonagored, £35 for a small



Discovery tree and £40 for a large one. Recipients are sent a gift certificate and on visits to the orchard will find a little named plaque in front of their tree. They also receive seasonal updates – full of fascinating information about production and general news of what is happening in the orchard.

The Youngmans are keen to promote the educational opportunities of the scheme. As Antony commented, a lot of people see apples in the supermarket and think that's the end of the story. The family hope to develop a relationship with local schools, welcoming visits to find out how the fruit is grown and cared for.

They have bought an old apple press and, while it won't be capable of producing commercial quantities of juice, it will be useful for demonstrating to visitors how the process works. During next year's blossom weekends, 'bee trail' treasure

hunts are planned for children and families. Fun and learning will be combined as the seekers discover interesting facts with every clue they find. Looking further into the future, there are plans to widen the offer for renting a fruit tree.

This coming winter the family will be planting a cherry orchard of several sweet varieties, including those that ripen from mid to late June and others which can be picked in early August. These trees will be ready for renting in three years time. There is also a newly established plum orchard of familiar varieties such as Victoria and these will be offered for rent in two years.

If you've always fancied having a fruit tree, but aren't lucky enough to have your own, this really is a great idea. The benefits and enjoyment are long-lasting! For more details contact Antony Youngman on 07919924623 www.whitehousefarmgrundisburgh.co.uk

*words: Noelle Hunt
photo supplied by the Youngman family*

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Tuddenham play area progress

By the time this is printed the new items of play equipment will have been installed and the installation of the new accessible roundabout will be completed.

Undergrowth has been cut back to enlarge the play area and a new bench has been sited near the entrance gate. More seating is planned for the future. In the playing field the undergrowth has also been cut back which has substantially enlarged the playing field area.

A bench donated by a resident has been put in place and plans are currently being drawn up for a garden area to surround the bench to make it a pleasant and peaceful place to sit. Work in this will start in the spring to be completed ready for the



David Lugo (accompanied by Bosun) taking a break from installing the new accessible roundabout. Photo by Jim Bird

summer. New signage to the playing field and play area will be installed early next year.

Harvest Lunch

Residents from both Tuddenham and Westerfield attended the annual harvest lunch held in Tuddenham Village Hall on Sunday 2 October. Despite attendance being lower than previous years, it was a very sociable afternoon with folks enjoying good food and good company.



Churchwarden Jim and Tuddenham's "Star Baker" Jackie having fun in the cake & produce stall at the gift day. Photo by Jean Ellinor.

The event raised £133.60 for church funds. Many thanks to Monica and her catering team for the delicious food.

Quiz 2022

Whenever I take to the stage as quiz master at the Tuddenham Village Quiz, I'm always taken aback by the sea of scowling faces looking back at me. It feels quite scary at first, but then I remember that they are just racking their brains trying to remember what the capital city of Ecuador is, or which of Henry's six wives had the shortest reign.

The frowns usually turn to smiles when I read out the answers, and there are always happy faces when Monica's band of helpers serve an excellent ploughman's supper at half time.

As always, I like to throw in a few 'curve ball' rounds where traditional general knowledge

is no help to anyone. So this year, for example we had a round of animal noises, where teams had to distinguish their pandas from their guinea pigs.

The Mixed Grill team, led by Warren Birch and Cathy Watson were this year's winners and they take home the coveted Tuddenham Toad trophy. Village newcomers Ben and Becky and friends were winners of the 'wooden spoon' award. They shouldn't feel discouraged though... they won the 'Fill the margarine tub with things beginning with P' round, hands down! (Oh... it's Quito and Anne of Cleves, in case your brow is still furrowed).

Adrian Frost, Quizmaster

St Martin's Gift Day

This year's Gift Day was on Saturday 29 October. Church wardens Monica and Jim with Tuddenham's 'Star Baker' Jackie were on Church Hill to receive donations and to run the ever popular cake and produce stall. A queue had formed before it was open – The cakes, chutneys and marmalades were as popular as ever but the top seller was Jim's homemade pizzas which sold out within the first half hour! A total of just over £3,000 was raised. Unfortunately Rev Charlotte could not attend as she was suffering from Covid.

Jean Ellinor



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GREEN BEALINGS - PART 4

Question: what is brown but turns green when you add water?

Answer: Colin Hopkins' and Jon Fieldsend's land at Little Bealings where they are working to make it more wild life friendly

Last time we visited in early August, the site was predominantly a crisp golden brown but when we paid our fourth and final visit in late October, rain had transformed the landscape to a welcome green with new shoots appearing on many young saplings which had looked dead three months ago.

Bonus for birds

This year has proved to be a 'mast year': the oak trees have produced an extraordinary number of acorns which crunch as you walk over them and which will give jays and squirrels some exercise over the next few weeks! Jays are members of the crow family and an individual jay may hoard as many as 3,000 acorns providing the bird with food over the coming months.

Jays have an amazing ability to recall the location of their hoarded acorns, although it is known that, during the

summer, they can use the presence of a newly germinated sapling to reveal the existence of an acorn at its base.

The growing conditions at Bealings have stimulated many tree stumps into producing new shoots (we counted at least 30) from what superficially appear to be dead stumps. The willows seem to respond well to the current weather: new shoots are coming up everywhere and Colin and Jon will have to decide which to remove and which to let grow onwards and upwards.

But not every tree has come through this year's harsh summer and some replanting will be necessary. To help trees survive and thrive, mycorrhizal fungi are added into the planting hole when putting in new saplings and they are well watered for the first year.

Mycorrhizae are beneficial fungi growing in association with plant roots and exist by taking sugars from plants 'in exchange' for moisture

and nutrients gathered from the soil by the fungal strands. The mycorrhizae greatly increase the absorptive area of a plant, acting as extensions to the root system. The sweet chestnut tree pictured (on the back page) shows how well this works. Colin has now acquired considerable experience in tree husbandry and is getting to know what grows best where and will be planting any new stock at locations which best suits the tree in



question. On the subject of fungi, we observed many different types appearing on tree bases, on the newly extended 'dead hedge' or just popping out of the grass - as you can see on the back page.

Without any help from Colin (or Jon) the damp area is now producing some fine specimens

of *Equisetum arvense*, commonly known as horsetail. *Equisetum* is a 'living fossil': the only living genus of the entire subclass *Equisetidae* which, for over 100 million years, was much more diverse and dominated the understorey of late Paleozoic forests. Some *Equisetids* were large trees reaching to 30 metres tall. But the Bealings variety are about two metres high and resemble asparagus in that their stems have nodes which are spaced ever closer together as they get to the top of the stem. But we do not recommend eating them!

Over this year's four seasons, we have tried to show how sympathetic and intelligent husbandry can bring new life (flora and fauna) to a neglected area and we wish Colin and Jon every success in this highly instructive venture. And what is the most important thing they have learned? To be patient!

words Richard Watkinso.

Photo: Reuben snuffling behind the *Equisetum* .

All photos for the series were taken by Linda Plant. More from the final visit to the site are on the back page. Reports of the earlier visits are included in the last three issues of The News.



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The search for silver jubilee trees

When the Jubilee Torch Relay came to Grundisburgh on 31 May, 96 year old Keith Burch - who was born the same year as our late Queen - was driven around the village holding the torch in the celebratory rickshaw. This was just a short section of the 588 mile around-Suffolk relay organised by Festival of Suffolk to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee.

To begin with, Mr Burch was reluctant to participate but was persuaded to join in - he enjoyed it, and we are all glad he did!

During conversations with me and Richard Watkinson he told how he has been researching another jubilee which he remembers well - the Silver Jubilee of George V in 1935. A Burgh landowner, Captain Sutton-Smith RN, had donated horse chestnut saplings to every child in the village - pink blossom for the girls and white blossom for the boys. These were planted at the bottom of Drabbs Lane and it was thought they still existed despite some road widening over the intervening years.

Mr Burch recalls some of the children's names. Joyce Cage (later Joyce Williams), Hazel and Daphne Baxter (later Mrs Batchelor and Mrs Foulger), Violet Lambert, Nancy Baker and Sid Cattermole. He thinks that each tree had a name plaque and we have tried to find these with the kind permission of the current landowner, Bob Clarke.

Curious to know if the trees survived I went to investigate. I saw a healthy-looking tree at

the end of the row which had been photographed by Mr Burch one summer covered in pink flowers (obviously belonging to one of the girls!) but it was not so easy to count the rest behind the thick foliage of trees. On closer inspection, the line of chestnuts emerged like magic, all with very individual shapes. An exciting discovery! And wonderful that they all were there 87 years later - and still going strong.

Carrie Herries

But let 10 year-old Amelie Rogers conclude the story.....

As we were told each tree had a plaque on it, I decided to try to find them with my daddy and grandpa. We drove to the field and started searching. We tried nine trees and had no luck. Empty-handed we walked back to the car. And then suddenly the metal detector started going crazy! Beeb, Boo, Beeb. There was something buried below us!

We were digging for about three minutes when the spade wouldn't go any further! I picked up what looked like some sort of farming equipment. And it was. In astonishment, we drove home to wash it.



Right after that we drove to see a man called Brian Bell who knew exactly what it was. He identified it as a bracket from a disc coupler, part of a Ransomes plough made in Ipswich about 100 years ago!

Words Amelie Rogers
Photo Linda Plant

Burgh Schoolroom becomes a 'Place of Welcome'

I recently visited Burgh Schoolroom which has become one of a growing national network of 'Places of Welcome'. These are run by volunteers who want to ensure that people within their community have a safe place to go for conversation and a cup of tea or coffee. The scheme commits to five values:

- to regular opening at the same time every week
- to be open to everyone and staffed by volunteers
- to be a place where people actively listen to each other
- to offer free refreshments
- to be a place where each person will bring talents, experiences and skills that they can share with each other.

There was a lovely friendly atmosphere in the school room and I was made really welcome. People had come from the surrounding villages so there was a host of local knowledge to be passed around and, as a Grundisburgh resident of 36 years, I still found out new things about my village! There were people of all

ages including a homemaker who had dropped in for a chat and a break from working at home alone. With tea, coffee,



scones and cake on offer it made for a most enjoyable morning which passed very quickly. For anyone new to the area or someone just feeling like a friendly chat or needing some local information I would highly recommend a visit.

Places of Welcome Wednesdays 10.30 am to 12 noon
Burgh Schoolroom, Drabbs Lane, Burgh IP13 6QA
For any more details the local contact is Elsa McKenzie 07766 952825 alelsa@aol.com

Words and photo: Roemary Kneebone



Otley Crafting Group

Otley Crafting Group was created in July 2021 as we all began to pick up our lives in a post Covid atmosphere. We knew that it felt challenging for some of us to begin to take up our usual life activities, especially for those who lived in isolation during the pandemic.

We enjoyed knitting and crochet and decided that we would create an opportunity for people to come together with a focus on any type of crafting and also a place to enjoy conversation in a safe, comfortable way. We were fortunate enough to get some funding from Elaine Bryce, our county councillor, which has enabled us to purchase resources for the group.

The group currently has a membership of twelve and we meet at the village hall in Otley alternate weeks from 2pm to 4pm. The cost is £2.50 per session. So far, our members have enjoyed knitting, crochet, Tunisian crochet, felting, water colour painting and quilting. There's always someone on hand to support with working out a pattern or learning a new skill.

We have made items for charity and even made the bunting for the Jubilee celebrations. Our plan for the coming year is to invite speakers to demonstrate new skills and go on a group skills. New members from all villages are always welcome.

Caroline Manning (01473 892134) and Mary Hunt (01473 890518)



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A film club for Grundisburgh?

Our new village hall is equipped with impressive audio/visual equipment, able to show films in high-definition on its cinema screen with surround sound. If you are interested in being involved with a film club, come to a meeting in the hall to share your ideas, watch some clips of various films and enjoy afternoon tea and cakes on Saturday, 4 February at 4:30pm. In the meantime you can contact me at peter@peterkendall.com to register an interest and learn more.

Community fund seeks support

The community fund being run in association with Grundisburgh Village Hall has adopted a protocol to ensure it is run fairly and according to its objectives. This can be seen on the village hall website www.gnvh.co.uk. It exists to make more use of the hall for the benefit of the community.

The fund has so far supported a range of initiatives such as free IT clinics, 'Warm Room Mondays' and to help the charitable element of regular craft fairs. I would like to think that, as we can be seen to do more helpful things, people will be moved to offer more support. I would like to increase the number of people who offer a modest monthly standing order; that will help us to do more. You can contact me on events@gnvh.co.uk, alternatively John Ellerby, treasurer@gnvh.co.uk can sort out bank details with you. Thank you everyone.

David Keates, village hall trustee

News from the horticultural society

Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society held its AGM in September when I am delighted to report that Nicola Hobbs was elected as its president for the coming year. A long serving member of the committee and a major contributor to our community I can think of no better choice.

Our treasurer reported a healthy balance with a small surplus, and we are currently in discussion with village groups how best to use this. Looking ahead, dates for next years events: Hidden Gardens is on the weekend of 10/11 June and the Village Show on 15 July. We are about to put together the class lists. If you have any ideas or suggestions please get in touch. In February we are off to

Chippenham Park to see the snowdrop collection, a reminder that spring is on the way.

The horticultural society is still looking for a volunteer to take on the role of show co-ordinator, responsible for events on the playing field; for more information please contact me.

Martin Cripps, chairman@grundisburgh.show, 01473 738997



The B & Q team of volunteers who laid bark chips and gravel in the beds of Grundisburgh Village Hall's car park. This was part of the company's communities project in support of local enterprises. The company also generously donated the materials.

WI Report

At Grundisburgh WI members' meeting in August, John and Val Bourne, volunteers with the RSPB at Minsmere, gave a very interesting talk on the reserve. As it was established in 1947, this year was its 75th anniversary.

The marshes along the Minsmere river had been drained but during WW2 were flooded to defend against invaders. Use was made of the existing wetland habitats reintroduced by wartime flooding and the area provides a number of important habitats for species such as bitterns, marsh and hen harriers, the numbers of which have increased. There are about 180 volunteers, some of whom have been helping at the reserve for 20 years or more.

We had a talk by Rick Sheepshanks about the Stokes Food Company at the

September meeting. He founded the company in 2004 and started by making high quality mayonnaise, followed by tomato ketchup. The range of products has expanded and their products are now exported to 50 countries.

In October, Jan Ford, a florist and flower arranger, gave us an interesting demonstration of a variety of arrangements. She used mainly flat containers such as plates and her arrangements used seasonal berries, foliage and flowers. Jan very kindly donated her arrangements to the raffle and the winning members were delighted. A very pleasant afternoon was enjoyed by all.

At our meeting on 1 December we have some handbell ringers to entertain us. This starts at 2pm at the pavilion on Grundisburgh Playing Field. Visitors are welcome at all our meetings.

Gillian Leech 01473 735394



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The return of Grundisburgh's village quiz

After a two year break due to covid, Grundisburgh organisations were once more invited to take part in the annual village quiz. The 34th quiz was held in the new village hall on 7 October. The event was again set up by Ann Willetts and organised on the day by FOGS (Friends of Grundisburgh School) members - who had



won the 33rd quiz. This year they were victorious again, with St Mary's 'Preachers' team coming second and Grundisburgh News taking third place. FOGS raised

almost £600 from the event, half of which is being donated to the new 456 Club for Grundisburgh School pupils.

Above: Lucy Shemmings, who chairs FOGS, with winning team captain Magda Snowden and Caroline Warren.

News from Grundisburgh Brownies

1st Grundisburgh Brownies have all enjoyed another fun packed few months with lots of arts, crafts, baking, adventure trails and making our own slime! We took part in the St Elizabeth Hospice Big Hoot Trail in Ipswich and managed to find over 50 of the owls on the waterfront and in the town. We travelled by bus from Woodbridge then had a picnic in Elmhurst Park on our return.

The Brownies ran side shows at Grundisburgh Village Show, raising money for the hospice as well as pack funds. One evening we went out for a walk and picked blackberries and then made apple and blackberry crumbles for the girls to take home and share with their families.

We have looked at environmental and recycling issues and how we can do our bit for the village and our community; following on from this we made monsters from rubbish and did a 'trash' fashion show with outfits made from recyclable items (shown in photo below). Halloween was celebrated with apple bobbing, spooky games in the dark and spider web cakes! We now have 11 Brownies but would love to have some more girls to enjoy all we do. If you would like some more information or would like your daughter to come along to visit us, please email us on grundisburgh.brownies@outlook.com

Caroline Bell & Sharon Proctor



Scouting News

The lovely summer holidays are now a memory as we eagerly look forward to Christmas. The sections started back in September and we had our AGM which was well attended by young members, leaders, parents and Scout Group supporters.



At the AGM Stuart Ross, our Group Scout Leader, presented two Beavers - Jonah and Albie - and Cub William with their Chief Scouts Bronze Awards. Stuart also presented Phil Stebbings with a certificate for 15 years' service to the group, as he is leaving his role as chairman to become our president. Alison Banham was nominated for the role of

chairwoman and was pleased to accept.

We have started Archery practice for the finals next year in Hertfordshire and doing really well. Beavers had den building, catapults, investitures and remembrance tributes. Cubs had chef skills, team games, badge night, knot skills and went on weekend camp to Hallowtree.

Scouts had pitching patrol tents, village monopoly challenge, making steel tent pegs, two weekend camps at Hallowtree and will be visiting the Police museum. Explorers had whittling, pioneering, ropes, branding, pizza oven building and other skills, a monopoly challenge round Woodbridge, and fishing at Felixstowe.

Fantastic fireworks!

Despite the heavy drizzle we had nearly 1200 people come to support us on the playing field where John Richards and his excellent team set off a dazzling display of multi-coloured rockets, catherine wheels, fountains and others. There was a slight hiccup with the music system, hopefully will be OK for next time. The BBQ and hot and cold drinks did tremendously well, and the coloured glowsticks nearly sold out. The total profit was £5458.

Our thanks go to Grundisburgh Football Club for rearranging their matches and having the Pavilion Bar open, also to the Village Hall for use of their car park. Grateful thanks to all who came and supported us. See you next year!

*Pat Ross, Group Secretary,
Grundisburgh Scout Group,
01473 735352*

Photo left: Brownies model their outfits made from recyclable materials.

Quiz fundraiser leads to marathon success

This year, I was lucky enough to win a place at the London Marathon and I personally committed to raise money for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, a charity I have worked closely with for nearly 20 years. I am very pleased to say that I completed the marathon in 5:55, albeit with a knee injury I unfortunately acquired halfway round.



What an experience it was! To have thousands of strangers shouting and cheering you on from start to finish is something I will never forget. There were so many sights and sounds to soak up along the way and to run round some of London's most iconic landmarks was very special. It took around a week for my legs to fully recover but it was worth it.

To help raise money for my marathon I held a quiz night at Grundisburgh Village Hall in September. I was so pleased so many local residents and businesses supported my event either through ticket sales or

prize donations. Everyone had a fantastic time and on the night we raised somewhere around £800. This, added to my existing fundraising pot, brought my total to £3,274. My original target was £2,000 so a huge thank you to everyone who supported me.

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, a UK charity that trains dogs to alert deaf people to sounds they can't hear, as well as helping them leave loneliness behind.

Would I do it again? Well, I'm already in the ballot for next year.

Matthew Coward, Little Bealings

Grundisburgh bowlers

The Bowls Club season in Grundisburgh finished at the end of September after a somewhat hot and dry season. The green this year, despite testing conditions, has bowled the best it has in a long time thanks to the hard work put in by members.

Along with the warm weather many a pleasant evening was spent on the green with fellow bowlers and, afterwards with a social gathering. Before Covid struck we opened the club to the public for a fun day which was extremely well attended. The day included a free BBQ, refreshments, a raffle as well as a chance to have a go.

A lot of people expressed great interest in the club after the event so, we intend to have another open day early in the 2023 season. Should you be interested in joining us or would like more information please feel free to email me kevclark9@googlemail.com

Kevin Clark, Club Secretary



Chris Hendry and Julian Brook on the back row (left to right) and Peter Rolfe and Nick Anthony on the front row

League successes lead to local derby at Grundisburgh Tennis Club

Grundisburgh Tennis Club has four men's teams in the local league and both teams 3 and 4 were promoted last season. This led to a local derby between Peter Rolfe and Nick Anthony (back row in photo) in team 2 and Chris Hendry and Julian Brook in team 3 as they are now playing in the same division. It was a very tight match and the return game promises to be another hard fought contest.

The club has now completed its annual spray washing and moss treatment at the courts and they are looking magnificent. Thanks to hard working volunteers, Chris Hendry, Chris Rush, Mike Harris, Mike Walls, Simon Page and Chris Lee, the hedge has also been cut. They were supported by James Edmundson, who used his tractor and cylinder cutter.

Our LTA accredited coach, Carl Douglas, continues to offer a variety of coaching opportunities, catering for juniors and adults, beginners, improvers and intermediates. Individual and group coaching is available. For information contact: clubspark.lta.org.uk/CarlDouglasCoaching. Reduced membership is available until the end of March. Contact sue.haddock@grundisburghtennis.co.uk for details.



Red Trousers supporting cancer charity

Grundisburgh welcomed Red Trousers Day by donating £50 for Bramley apples offered by Paul and Julia. The new owners of Bramley Cottage in The Street. They founded the volunteer charity in 2016 following Paul's full recovery from Bowel Cancer.

Having completely recovered from a Stage 4 diagnosis, Paul wanted to give back to the clinicians by creating a fund-raising vehicle in support of prevention and early diagnosis. Red Trousers Day was born, to remove the taboo, raise awareness, raise funds and have some fun in the process.

The charity controls how the funds are used with strict governance, with 95% of funds raised going to support research, eg a recent award was made to Raghda Al-Halawani, from the City University of London who is looking into light based technology to help identify bowel issues a lot earlier than is currently possible. For more information www.redtrousersday.com

Coffee record

Wow! Yet again we have beaten last year's total for MacMillan, raising £557 at our coffee morning in Post Mill Gardens, Grundisburgh. A big thank you to everyone who contributed by baking, donating raffle prizes, and of course supporting us on the day. A special thanks to Penny Finch for her donation in memory of her late husband Paul. I could not manage this on my own and must thank my helpers on the day, Wendy Sanders Pugh, Jean Marsh, Monica Boosey and Lynn Tortice.

Debbie Palmer

News from The News

We would like to thank Stephen Cooper who has stood down after organising the News' distribution since 2016 and more recently also acting as our chairman. Thanks are also due to Monica Begg who has been writing articles for us, and is moving from our area.

We have been appealing for a replacement on distribution since Stephen first warned us he was moving from Grundisburgh - but with no takers. My husband Peter Kendall has kindly taken over the role temporarily. The tiered system was set up many years ago and need not take much time for the coordinator.

Peter has also taken on the advertising job - liaising with the advertisers and finding new ones (not usually a problem), liaising with our designer when necessary and with Sue Haddock, our treasurer, before passing adverts on to me.

People to take on either of these roles would be welcomed. Anyone who might be interested can contact us on 01473 738267.

We always welcome people to pass on ideas for stories and/or write articles on a regular or occasional basis. Just so long as they involve one or more of our 18 villages.

Nicola Hobbs, editor@grunews.com

Our dates for 2023

Spring issue

Publication 24 February

Copy date 1 February

Summer issue

Publication 26 May

Copy 3 May

Autumn issue

Publication 25 August

Copy 2 August

Winter issue

Publication 24 November

Copy 1 November

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 and 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. Information can be supplied on paper or email. Photos can be sent as JPGs or as prints.

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Next issue No 267 Spring 2023

Publication: Friday 24 February

Copy date: Wednesday 1 February

ADVERTISING RATES

1/16 page (w.44mm x h.66mm or w.92mm x h.33mm) £15

1/8 page (w.92mm x h. 66mm) £50

1/4 page (w.92mm x h.136mm or w.190 x h.66mm) £110

Booking a run of four entitles advertisers to a 10% discount, provided payment is made within 30 days of invoice date.

Single adverts must be paid for in advance.

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

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

A small charge is made for originating artwork.

Adverts for next issue to be sent by 1 February to Peter Kendall, Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, 01473 738267, adverts@grunews.com. Earlier booking is recommended as space is limited.



Autumn fungi are popping up everywhere at Colin and Jon's plot in Bealings. Recent rain has restored green leaves to the young trees. The fourth and final instalment of the series describing the project to increase biodiversity around a disused sandpit is on page 13.

