

The Grundisburgh and District News

Winter
2015
FREE

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

NO - IT'S NOT WHAT YOU MIGHT THINK!

This Bredfield man doesn't normally take his trousers off in public but on this occasion he did in full view of dozens of people. To find out why, see the full story on page 15.



New Village Hall: the latest.

Despite the long silence, things are happening on the development of the new village hall in Grundisburgh! An acre of land opposite the existing hall and £280,000 has been transferred to the Village Hall Management Committee. This followed planning permission being given for housing development on the site, as reported earlier in The News.

After much hard work and skilled negotiating, Barry Zins has stood down from the steering group. Peter Kendall has taken over as chair, supported by John Ager, Georgie Keates, Richard Neall and Paul Whittingham.

Specific objectives for the new hall steering group have been set - see page 7 for full details.



No excuses for speeding!

Speeding through our villages is a continuing problem and there are initiatives to tackle the problem, like SAVID (a progress report appears on page 18) and Otley's '20's plenty' campaign. Grundisburgh cubs were asked if they would clean signs in the village and they clearly relished the task of improving the appearance of the neighbourhood (see right). And leaving motorists in no doubt that 30's the limit! More about cubs' and scouts' activities on page 7.



Long wait for recognition is over

After 70 years, we now have a permanent record of the women of Grundisburgh who helped the second world war effort. Local artist Cyndi Speer was commissioned to produce an illuminated scroll listing the seven women. Looking over her shoulder (above), we can see her at work on this delicate task. To protect it while working, Cyndi wore a stocking on her right hand. The finished scroll is now installed in St Mary's church for all to see. More on page 8.

Hedge hazard

As well as dangers from speeding, overgrown hedges also cause safety problems on our rural roads. Lorry drivers are reluctant to get too close to overhanging branches and overgrown hedges to avoid damaging their 'curtain' sides. This takes them further across to the wrong side of the road than should be necessary. Land and garden owners are reminded that cutting back their hedges along the roadside is their own responsibility.

NEWS DIARY

DECEMBER

Thursday 3

Christmas Party

With Judy Smith and friend playing accordion. GR WI Grundisburgh Baptist Chapel 7.30pm Contact 738838

Friday 4

Christmas Craft Fayre

Charsfield Recreation Ground Committee and Friends of Charsfield School Charsfield VH 7pm Contact 737221 or 737156

Upbeat! Choir Christmas Concert

Grundisburgh St Mary's 7.30pm Tickets £8 Contact 735853 or 07834 984591.

Saturday 5

Christmas Bazaar Otley Primary School 11am Contact 890302

Saturday 5

St Mary's Church Christmas Coffee Morning

GrPR 10.30am Contact 738877

Saturday 5

Upbeat! Choir Christmas Concert

Tuddenham VH 7.30pm Tickets £8 Contact 785682

Monday 7

Talk by Matthew Tanton

Brown Otley & District Gardening Club Otley VH 7.30pm

Tuesday 8

British Red Cross

Talk by Jane Dow Tuddenham WI Tuddenham VH 7.30pm Contact 785583

Saturday 12

Christmas Coffee Morning

Burgh School Room 10.30am - 12noon Contact 738877

Monday 14

Knit & Stitch

Burgh Schoolroom 10.30am - 12.30pm

Tuesday 15

Time Flyers Talk by Joanna Caruth Gr Local History Soc PR 7.45pm

Thursday 17

Bingo Otley 1st Scout Group Otley VH

Thursday 31

Barn Dance Clopton VH 8pm Contact 737417 or 623296

JANUARY 2016

Saturday 2

Coffee morning GrPR 10.30am Contact 735775

Thursday 7

Social Evening Gr WI Grundisburgh School Room Baptist Chapel 7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 8

The Mysteries of Sutton Hoo

Talk by David Phelan Hasketon 2nd Fridays Hasketon VH 7.15pm PBE Contact 735579

Tuesday 19

The Mysteries of Sutton Hoo

Talk by David Phelan Gr Local History Soc GrPR 7.45pm

Thursday 21

Life in the Army Talk by Paul Strugnell Hasketon WI Hasketon VH 7.15pm Contact 738808

Friday 22

Burns Night dinner and dancing with caller GrVH 7pm Tickets £19.50 PBE Contact 735267

Saturday 23

Old fashioned jumble sale Clopton VH 2-4pm. Enquiries to cloptonfete@gmail.com

Friday 29

Alice in Wonderland GADS Pantomime GrVH 7.30pm Tickets at Olde Forge Stores

Saturday 30

Alice in Wonderland GADS Panto Gr VH 2pm and 7.30pm Tickets at Olde Forge Stores

Sunday 31

Christingle service iao Children's Society Grundisburgh St Mary's 11am Contact 735775

FEBRUARY

Thursday 4

Folk and Decorative Art Talk by Heather Price Gr WI Grundisburgh School Room Baptist Chapel 7.30pm Contact 735838

Friday 5

Alice in Wonderland GADS Pantomime Gr VH 7.30pm Tickets at Olde Forge Stores

Saturday 6

Coffee morning GrPR 10.30am Contact 735775

Alice in Wonderland GADS Panto Gr VH 2pm and 7.30pm Tickets at Olde Forge Stores.

Friday 12

Over 60 and still in the Saddle - riding round the Cathar Castles Talk by Peppy Barlow Hasketon VH 7.15pm PBE Contact 735579

Saturday 13

Soup Lunch Burgh Schoolroom 12noon - 1.30pm Contact 738877

Tuesday 16

The Local Recorders Scheme and peep in the GLHS Archive Talk by Janette S Robinson GR Local History Soc GRPR 7.45pm

Thursday 18

Exploring East Anglia by Bus Pass Talk by Pip Wright HasketonWI Hasketon VH 7.15pm Contact 738808

Friday 26

Curry and Quiz, Gr school 7.30pm. Contact FOGS 738944.

MARCH

Thursday 3

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

Saturday 5

Coffee morning GrPR 10.30am Contact 735775

Sunday 6

Mothering Sunday Grundisburgh St Mary's 11am Contact 735775

Friday 11

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

Saturday 12

Easter Coffee Morning iao the Eve Appeal Burgh Schoolroom 10am - 12 noon Contact 735554

Thursday 17

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

Saturday 19

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

APRIL

Wednesday 6

Soup Lunch Burgh Schoolroom 12noon - 1.30pm Contact 738877

Friday 8

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

Thursday 21

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

Saturday 23

Beetle Drive with Sausage Supper Burgh Schoolroom Ticket only Details to follow.

JUNE

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19

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

JULY

Saturday 16

Grundisburgh Village Show GPF 12.30 - 5pm Contact 738267

Friday 29 to Sunday 31

Grundisburgh Art Group Exhibition St Mary's Church Grundisburgh Contact 738066

Key to abbreviations:

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

All codes are 01473 unless given otherwise.

Brief details of events with date, name of event, venue, time and contact phone number should be sent by **3 February** for the next issue to Ingrid McIvor, 21 Thomas Wall's Close, Grundisburgh IP13 6XB or email ingrid.mcivor@btinternet.com

Please indicate if tickets must be bought in advance.

Organisers: send info early to help avoid date clashes.

See page 16 for pubs' Christmas and New Year events.

WHAT'S ON AT CHRISTMAS



Carrie Herries has run and designed Hallo Cards for many years in Grundisburgh with her husband Rupert, and they are pleased to support East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) this year by producing a range of Christmas cards (two examples here) on sale at Grange Farm Shop in Hasketon and Williams stores. £1 will be donated to EACH from every pack sold.



Hasketon 24 Dec - 11.30pm

Otley 24 Dec - 11.30pm

Tuddenham 24 Dec - 11.30pm

CAROL SERVICES

Ashbocking 20 Dec - 4pm

Burgh 24 Dec - 6pm

Charsfield Baptist Chapel 24 Dec 6.30pm

Charsfield St Peter's 20 Dec - 6.30pm

Clopton 24 Dec - 6pm

Grundisburgh Baptist Chapel Family carol service 20 Dec - 10.45am

Grundisburgh St Mary's 20 Dec. - 7pm

Hasketon 20 Dec. - 5.30pm

Otley 20 Dec - 5.30pm

Swilland 20 Dec - 11am

Tuddenham 21 Dec - 6.30pm

CRIB SERVICES

Grundisburgh 24 Dec - 4.30pm

Hasketon 24 Dec - 3pm

Otley 24 Dec - 4.30pm at Warren's Farm

Tuddenham Children's Christmas celebration - 24 Dec 3 pm

MIDNIGHT SERVICES

Grundisburgh 24 Dec 11.30pm

Great & Little Bealings, Great & Little Blakenham, Henley, Kesgrave, Martlesham Heath, Old Martlesham, Playford, Pinewood Estate, Rushmere, Tuddenham, Westerfield, Witnesham and Grundisburgh village.

More information from Pat Ross on 01473 735352 or at the **Collection Points: Williams Stores, Doctors' Surgery and 3 Post Mill Crescent, Grundisburgh; Grange Farm Shop, Hasketon; Woodbridge Library in New Street and Wotsits in the Thoroughfare, Woodbridge.** All cards should have the correct money attached in a sealed bag.

Upbeat!'s 2 for 2

Upbeat! Ladies choir are putting on two Christmas concerts this year and supporting two charities: The Alzheimer's Society and Great Ormond Street children's hospital.

The first concert is on Friday 4 December in St Mary's Church, Grundisburgh, at 7.30pm. The ladies hope to be joined this year by the Grundisburgh Primary School choir. Wine and mince pies will be served during the interval and there will be sweet treats for the children.

The second concert will be on Saturday 5 December in Tuddenham village hall, at 7.30 pm. There will be a Christmas drink on arrival and we will serve light nibbles during the concert. Everyone is welcome to 'bring a bottle' to the evening.

Tickets for each concert cost just £8.00 per person from Anna Greenwood on 01473 735853 or 07834 984591.

Night hawks

Grundisburgh's traditional Christmas walk this year starts from The Green at 6.30pm on Wednesday 16 December,

Otley Grotto

The joyful sound of bells and the clattering of hooves will herald in Otley Primary School's Christmas bazaar opening at 11am on Saturday 5 December. Come with your friends to join us, and our special visitor, to have some festive fun. Santa's grotto, Christmas crafts to buy, lots of fabulous new table top games to play at pocket money prices are some of the offerings at this year's event. Our popular refreshments will be available again alongside cakes to purchase, raffles and prizes to be won.

Vanessa Osborne

SCOUTPOST

Grundisburgh Scouts are participating again in the Christmas card postal scheme which runs until Wednesday 9 December. All cards will be delivered by Christmas Eve. You can send any size card for 25p each to an address in areas IP1 to IP5, plus Barham, Bramford, Claydon, Culpho,

when a shade of grey is just not enough...



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Juliet Bellfield

1942 - October 2015

Although a strong family person, supporting her husband Peter and their three sons, Juliet Bellfield found time to do an amazing amount



of work helping other people. During the 30 years she was the chairman and driving force of the

Woodbridge branch of Macmillan Cancer Support, almost £1 million was raised. Juliet personally spent many hours and drove many miles collecting tins in innumerable local retail outlets scattered throughout rural East Suffolk. Her committee's activities included organising and catering for some ten Christmas or New Year's Eve balls for 500 young people, organising a rota of more than 40 Father Christmases and 120 helpers to run the Christmas Grotto at Wyevalles as well as organising other events such as concerts, walks, marathons, bridge and golf days, and lunches and dinners with speakers for up to 200 people. Recently her committee has been fund raising for a five chair chemotherapy bay for the new Macmillan Woolverstone Centre at Ipswich Hospital, and had funded two new posts for Macmillan nurses.

Juliet supported the Red Cross open gardens scheme both by taking many frailer visitors to

view the gardens and by opening her own garden in Clopton. As a member of the volunteer team at the Elizabeth Finn Care Home at Grove Court in Woodbridge for over 20 years, Juliet visited new residents, helping them to settle in - and it was there sadly that she died from a brain tumour.

Juliet and Peter started their married life in Sussex and moved to live in Clopton Old Rectory in 1978. Peter has served as a county councillor since 2003, and represents 17 of the News' villages. He was also a district councillor before standing down last May.

A service for Juliet was held in a packed St Mary's Church in Woodbridge, conducted by the Reverend Catherine Beaumont of the Carlford Benefice.

Nicola Hobbs

Kathy Clark

1950 - March 2015

Kathy was born March 1950 in Battersea London but spent her early years in South Ockenden, Essex. After finishing school she became an Officer Cadet in the RAF and received the honour of being top cadet in her Flight. Her role in the RAF was short lived and Kathy went back to being a secretary and personal Assistant for a number of shipping companies and financial institutions in the City of London.

Kathy married her husband, Richard in 1976 and was

fortunate to have three children: Rebecca Andrew and me. When Richard moved work locations to Martlesham Heath in 1985 they bought a house in Grundisburgh which became their family home for nearly 30 years.

The children went to the Grundisburgh Nursery and Primary school where Kathy was a Parent Helper. In 1991 she also became Leader of the Grundisburgh Brownie pack.

Kathy



enjoyed working with the younger children and became a special needs teaching assistant at Grundisburgh Primary School where she touched many of the village children's lives always with care, compassion and encouragement.

Kathy retired from school in 2010 and soon took up her biggest and favourite role as nanny to five grandchildren whom she adored.

In early 2014 Kathy was diagnosed with cancer but after extensive treatment at Ipswich Hospital lost her battle against her illness.

Sarah Goddard

Jo Deacon

1923 - October 2015

Jo, named Johanna at birth, was a close friend of mine and of Wally and Bud Mutimer who live opposite her bungalow.

She had lived a very full and interesting life involving moving frequently with her family when her husband was in the Forces, including a stay in Singapore.

She was a most generous and kind person, with a strong independent spirit. She first moved to Hetherset in Meeting Lane over 40 years

ago. She loved all sorts of animals and used to feed the ducks from the Green who visited her garden, stray cats and always had titbits for my dog, Squibby. Jo loved her garden, was a great cook and had been very



good at art. Fiercely independent, she was not a 'joiner' and was very choosy with her friends.

I feel very lucky to have known such a unique person. I shall miss her company and kindness.

Sally Grahm

Gladys Nunn

1926 - October 2015

Gladys attended primary school in Grundisburgh where her father was the local corn and coal merchant but who died when Gladys was only 16. Her mother married Virtue Buxton in 1943 and

then moved to



Willow Farm, Hasketon where she worked full-time on the farm. In

1948, Gladys moved to Warren's Farm, Otley which she completely redecorated but moved back to Willow farm in 1953. A year later, she moved to a new bungalow in Meeting Lane, Grundisburgh.

She worked as a telephone operator with Eastern Electricity in Ipswich and later with the international telephone exchange in London but returned to Grundisburgh when she contracted TB.

She was a member of the WI and took part in plays at the village hall. But her main love was driving out into the countryside and to the coast in her car. She died peacefully in Lowestoft on 28 October 2015

George Buxton

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Well deserved recognition

The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, Clare, Countess of Euston, has presented Inspiring Age Awards to two residents in The News' area: Russell Ling of Otley and Don Ewings of Debach. Here are edited versions of the background to these two winners.

Russell Ling has lived in Otley all his life. He was Chair of the Community



Council for ten years and served on the parish council from the age of sixteen when he was the Clerk and then Chair. Also a church warden and founder member of the Church Preservation Trust contributing towards raising £40,000 for the church building. History is his passion and jointly set up the Otley Local History Group, publishing in 2012 'Otley Past', with proceeds going to the village hall (which he helped to establish). He is now working on a book about the shops, businesses and families of Otley. He encourages students from Otley College to practise ploughing on his land and has worked with Otley Primary School to develop children's understanding of agriculture.

Some while ago, he saw that many local footpaths didn't link up, so single-handedly he negotiated with land owners and the council to redirect them to flow more easily.

Without this hard work, we would not have the network we enjoy today.

Over the last 70 years Russell has undoubtedly help make Otley the strong community it is and a safe and desirable environment in which to live. A remarkable and fascinating man, he is our unsung hero.

Don Ewings: in 1987 Debach was cut off by snow for about a week. Paradoxically, this brought people together and this desire to stay connected morphed into a village meeting.

From the outset, Don was instrumental in plans to erect a



village sign and when sufficient money had been raised, Don, with others, erected it in 1991. That was the catalyst for other projects involving the whole village, including:

- *an internet hut in Don's garden. All who needed it received tuition; youngsters used it for their school work with equipment free to use - all funded by village events;
- * the return of the village font, thrown out when the church

was converted into a home. It ended up as a flower planter in Thorpeness. Purchased by a Debach resident, Don brought it back to the village in his trailer. After three years of negotiations with the church authorities and SCDC, the font was re-erected in the churchyard, protected by a lychgate built by the villagers;

* as village chairman, Don negotiated the purchase of land and raised money for the village orchard;

* a bus shelter/pop up village hall decorated with murals by the youngsters of the village.

Don is extremely good at raising funds from national sources and local companies but he sees himself purely as one who precipitated the innovations.

He has now stepped down from the chairmanship of the village and volunteers at a nursing home in Ipswich. The men there had no space of their own so he set about equipping a room as a 'man cave', with a work bench and TV - plus a small bar!

Grundisburgh Chapel News

Our Seekers Group, which caters for young people between about 6 and 13+, is thriving., meeting on Mondays from 6.30 until 8pm. We usually begin with a talk from the Bible, then have a tuck shop and organise a variety of different activities, including games, competitions, a bonfire with hot dogs, bowling and cooking. Youngsters are very welcome - no fee, just turn up!

We also run a ladies' meeting and men's group on the 4th Wednesday of each month (except December and a break over the Summer) at 2.30pm. The ladies' meeting is more akin to a simple service: the men's group is very informal with a variety of speakers or an occasional DVD. You are very welcome to come and see what it's like. Visit us at: www.grundisburghchapel.org.uk

Colin Grimwood. Tel 738856, mobile 07979 120549 email candgrimwood@fiscali.co.uk

KYSON PROBUS CLUB

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

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Not quite Suffolk village of the year!

Grundisburgh, having been chosen as the Suffolk Coastal Village of the Year, made it into the final three in the county wide competition run by the Suffolk Association of Local Councils. Sadly, we were defeated by Shotley from the south of the county, with West Row from the west, as runners up. However, we received many compliments about our community spirit and initiatives and were awarded a total of £600 in prize money. £450 of this was for winning the Suffolk Coastal heat while the remainder came from winning the Suffolk Wildlife Trust Conservation Award. The latter was in recognition of the importance of Millennium Meadow and the hard work put in by John Dunnett and his small team of volunteers over the years.

John Ager, Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Clerk

ACTIVE PLAYGROUP!

The beginning of this term has been packed with activities: the children made a giant scarecrow from boxes, fabric scraps and straw and he is sitting in the snack- time area, reminding us of the harvest. We all enjoyed a trip to the Chapel to collect some blackberries and we tried not to munch too many while there! We used the picked blackberries to make blackberry and apple muffins for our snack time. Clare the vicar, came to read a story about harvest time and played a game with all of the children at her harvest shop. She shared a new song with the children too.

Our Technology focus week included programming the 'Beebot', listening to rhymes on our magic Talking Pen in lots of different languages, playing with shadow puppets



Members of the winning team - Friends of Grundisburgh School - displaying a successful 'can do' attitude to the quiz.

Photo: Peter Kendall

and using the computer to research pictures of sea creatures. Many thanks to all who contributed Sainsbury's vouchers. We used them to buy some new magnifiers for looking very closely at the insects we have found outside.

We have been making good use of the new kitchen and as well as making muffins, we made pumpkin and carrot soup, using the carrots we grew in the playgroup vegetable garden. We all shared some soup and parents, grandparents and carers joined us for a bowl of soup after playgroup.



Thanks to all who came to share books and stories with us for Literacy Week. Each day we had a visitor or two, and also we went to Woodbridge library to choose some books for Playgroup.

We have been so busy 'learning through play' this term that there isn't enough space to write about it all here. Spaces are filling up quickly for January so if anyone is interesting in joining us please get in touch via our website, phone or just pop in.

Julia Bentley

WI: 100 and counting

As 2015 draws to a close, Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho WI can reflect on their centenary year with pride with many reports in the press and TV covering events in our special year. In fact one of our members, Pat Polley, has been a member of our branch for 58 of those years: she was at one time our youngest member and is now our oldest. What an achievement!

Colin Reeve came to share his passion for metal detecting with us in October. His hobby has resulted in numerous interesting finds - nothing hugely valuable as yet but he has had the satisfaction of helping to reunite several people with their lost possessions - including several wedding rings. Colin stressed that you must always gain permission of the land owner before searching on their land.

Our AGM was held in November, a well attended meeting with two new members and several guests. Barbara King is our new

FOGS cleaned up

Seventeen teams representing our village organisations at the 29th Village Quiz fought hard for the coveted shield on 2 October. The question setter was Phil Bailey and the evening was organised by the Carlford Group, last year's winners. The questionmasters, Mark Sanders and Clive Willetts, exchanged much friendly banter with various team members and finally presented the shield to the Friends of Grundisburgh School. They had accrued 90 points; second were Burgh Church with 88 and equal third were the Baptist chapel and the Wine Club with 85.

£614 was raised to be split equally between the local charity HOPS (Holiday Opportunity Play Scheme) and St Mary's Church.

Please make a diary date for the 30th Annual Village Quiz on Friday 7 October 2016.

Ann Willetts

president and Sally Butler, secretary. Gill Johnson has agreed to be our treasurer for yet another year. We now have a membership of 25 and I think we can say our WI is here to stay! If you would like to come along, we meet on the first Thursday of the month in the schoolroom at the Baptist chapel at 7.30pm. You would be most welcome.

Carol Barker 01473 735838

Advance notice!

On Saturday 12 March from 10am - 12 noon there will be a coffee morning in Burgh schoolroom (IP13 6QA, next to Burgh church) to help raise funds for The Eve Appeal gynaecological cancer research fund charity. There will be delicious homemade cakes and jams, fudge, marmalades and chutneys for sale, plus a variety of handcrafted Easter gift ideas, spring flowers in pots, guess the weight of the cake and a raffle with great prizes.

Eily Buffone 735554

GRUNDISBURGH GLEANINGS

....and so did the Cubs!



Following a plea to the village from Parish Clerk John Ager regarding the dirty and barely readable condition of local road signs, our Cubs did a tour with buckets and sponges to clean some of them and many thanks to the Cubs for this.

SCOUTING NEWS

Many thanks for supporting our stalls at the Pumpkin Festival this year. The Guides and Brownie Groups also had many activities which everybody enjoyed. All Sections have been busy since returning after summer break, the Beavers had a Young Leaders Night, a talk on Canada with maple syrup cookies, a cookery evening where they made flapjacks and a great Halloween party with 'doughnut bobbing', 'flour mountains' and 'glowing jellies'. There will be a campfire night and nature trail with 'bug hotels' and we are taking part in the 'Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal'

Emily Backhouse, our assistant Beaver leader, was presented with cards that the children had signed and lovely presents for her 18th birthday

Cubs had camp at the beginning of October: they hiked from Playford to Martlesham fish shop, had a great Halloween Party in the hut and attended the Halloween



photos: a proud pumpkin carver; floury party game; Emily celebrating!

camp with Scouts. It was a foggy, spooky night: some of them did manage to get some sleep!

Scouts have had 'badge night' and gained a tremendous number - some very obscure: aircraft spotter is a great one to be awarded. Scouts also took part in the hike from Playford to Martlesham and had a Local Knowledge night. Scouts and Cubs joined Leaders on a very

'misty' Halloween Camp. Explorers have had new members join - they took part in a hike from Tuddenham to Martlesham and rock climbed at the centre in Stowmarket.

Many thanks to Emily who has created a fundraising webpage for our new HQ: <https://www.gofundme.com/n1pc6s>

Thanks also to supporters of our textile bin: we know it gets quite full sometimes - that shows how much it is used!

We need more volunteer helpers for both our Scout/Explorer Groups: if you are interested, please call Stuart Ross, Group Scout Leader, or me.

Pat Ross Group Secretary 01473 735352
www.grundisburghscouts.org.uk
www.fynnvalleyexplorers.org.uk

New Village Hall: the latest

Continued from page 1

The New Village Hall Steering Group has set itself five key aims:

- * To deliver a new hall within our available funds and to explore every available source of grant money. We will need to gain village approval to sell the old site and use the money received towards the new hall; we will try to ensure that the hall remains in use until the new one is ready;
- * To ensure that future running costs are kept to a minimum. This involves high levels of insulation and an economic heating system;
- * To keep maintenance costs to a minimum, investigating cladding and roofing materials which look good but which don't need painting or repairing every five years or so;
- * To involve as many people in Grundisburgh as possible. We can save costs by using local skills and trades as well as volunteers: I've had several suggestions already and more would be welcome.
- * To end up with a hall that caters for lots of activities whilst also looking to extend

its future opportunities. We are planning a village consultation to get the views of as many people as possible as soon as we have a design with ground plans and artist's impressions.

I look forward to hearing from you - please do contact me: peter@newvillagehall.com or phone: 07985 492 863.

Peter Kendall
Chair, New Village Hall Steering Group



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GRUNDISBURGH GLEANINGS

The kindness of strangers

Grundisburgh Parish Room was given over to Operation Christmas Child in mid November when Jenny Taylor and volunteers she recruited packed shoe boxes with gifts for children. More boxes were filled by children from Grundisburgh primary school. In all, nearly 100 boxes were taken to St Mary's Church for a blessing before being dispatched to brighten up children's Christmases, many in refugee camps.

The venture is coordinated each year by the charity Samaritan's Purse which started Operation Christmas Child in 1990 and has dispatched many millions of shoe boxes since.



Above: The packing team and packed boxes, with organiser Jenny Taylor in centre. Below: at least one little girl will get a present at Christmas.

Jenny has been involved for the past three years but this is the first time she has recruited others in the area to help, with appeals going out on the



Grundisburgh Google news service. "I have been very moved by the refugee situation and the plight of these desperate people – and I have been thrilled by the response I received" she said. "We will know closer to Christmas exactly where our boxes are being sent – but we know how much pleasure the children opening them will be getting wherever they are".

words: Nicola Hobbs, photos Peter Kendall



THEY ALSO SERVED...

A roll of honour inscribing the names of Grundisburgh people who served in the Second World War was prepared after the war and hangs in St Mary's Church. But it contains the names of only the men - and now this omission has been rectified. A new scroll honouring the seven women from the village who also served has been created by local artist Cyndi Speer and was unveiled at the Armistice Day service this November.

The women whose names feature are: Violet Cooper who served in the NAAFI; J. Dyer (ATS); Pam Harris (WAAF) J. Haywood (WAAF); Jean Last (ATS); Renee Smith (ATS) and May Stone (ATS).

Nicola Hobbs

Photos: top: Rev Clare Sanders and Imogen Wood unveiling the Roll of Honour; below: villagers, including scouts and cubs, attending the Remembrance Day service at the war memorial on 8 November. The memorial has just been listed as a Grade II building.

photos Peter Kendall



What's in a name?



The News is hoping to do a series of stories behind the street names in our villages. To start it off we have Thomas Wall's Close and Salters Gardens in Grundisburgh.



Thomas Wall was a wealthy citizen of London, making his money in the lucrative and - for the time - very important salt trade. He also owned many properties in villages around Grundisburgh, notably Basts. He donated money towards the Lady Chapel at St Mary's and the inscription on the parapet dated 1527 requests prayers for him and his wife Alice.

His merchant's mark and the arms of the Worshipful Company of Salters of the City of London are represented on the corbels inside the church.

We would love people to contribute to this series by sending us stories and photographs of their 'home' street. Please send any information to the editors – editor@grunews.com

Ingrid McIvor

HALL RECALLED

I wonder if anybody knew, or I knew of, Thistleton Hall (mentioned in the Autumn issue of The News)? The Burgh Wellington piece drew attention to the fact that Thistleton Hall was in Burgh, not in Debach. Considering that most of Debach Airfield was situated in Clopton, (all the domestic and administrative buildings were located on Snipe Farm Road) and a large proportion of the actual airfield was in Burgh, I have never understood why it was called Debach Airfield. Perhaps Clopton Airfield or Burgh Airfield did not sound quite right! As mentioned in the piece about the Wellington, it all began in Burgh!

It is a matter of great regret that Thistleton Hall became the US Airforce's Officers' Mess, as a result of which all the carved wood panelling was virtually destroyed. A piece of historic Burgh simply disappeared; it would probably have had Thomas Atherold, a

forebear of George Washington and buried in Burgh Church, "turning in his grave"!

Ronald Last

Curious and curiouiser!

In 1865 Lewis Carroll wrote 'Alice In Wonderland' - the story of a little girl who fell down a rabbit hole and had some remarkable adventures with an incredible number of fantastic characters. Fast forward to 2016 and many of those characters will live again (joined by some others who didn't appear in Carroll's original!) in GADS pantomime 'Alice In Wonderland' by Andrew O'Leary.

The cast is a mixture of known and unknown - and upwards of twenty five children will act their hearts out in the show. There will be the usual mayhem and misadventure but all will be well in the end as Alice helps the good folk of Wonderland defeat the evil Queen of

Hearts so that all can live happily ever after - and Alice marries Jack - a-a-ah!

Directed by John Richards and produced by Nikki Brown this traditional pantomime with a twist will no doubt please young and old alike. Running from 29 January to 6 February - see Diary (page 2) for full details.

Madge Nicholas

Doctors' notes

We have been monitoring the number of appointments wasted due to patients failing to attend. In October, over 38 hours of clinical time were lost – equal to 228 potential appointments. If you make an appointment and later decide you do not need or want to keep it, please let the surgery know so that it can be offered to a fellow patient.

To help staff provide the best possible service and care to patients, we provide regular training one afternoon per month, during which time the surgery and dispensary will be closed. These dates will be advertised on our website and notices put up in advance at the relevant surgeries.

The partners and staff at Debenham Group Practice would like to wish all our patients a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Steve Bloomfield, Business Manager

Patients' notes

I am a member of the Patient Participation Group (PPG) of the Debenham Group

Practice. We work with the practice to provide practical support to help patients take more responsibility for their own health and act as a channel for patients to make positive suggestions about the practice and local hospitals. We also raise funds to provide the three surgeries with equipment not available through the NHS: last year at the flu vaccination sessions £500 was raised towards the purchase of a spirometer for the Grundisburgh surgery. This year £835 was raised by tombola and raffles to buy a foetal heart monitor for each surgery. This equipment may well save a visit to hospital!

The PPG is always looking for new members. We meet at Debenham four times a year: if you can't attend personally, you can become a 'cyber member'.

If you are interested, please contact Jean Housley on 01728 628427 or jbhous1950@btinternet.com

Another service of advice and information for patients is provided by Age UK Suffolk at the Otley surgery on the second Tuesday of the month between 9.30 and 12.30. For further information please contact 01473 351234.

Sheila Snelling

Heart of the matter

Defibrillators - the new must-have accessory for parish councils! I am helping to fund one for Bredfield.

Charsfield and Otley are also planning to install one.

Tony Fryatt

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Wally's wings still flying high

Wally Mutimer's passion has always been flight and flying machines. Born and raised in Hemingstone but now living in Grundisburgh, his father died when Wally was just four so his mother helped him build his first

from crashed aircraft - a rather grisly task on occasions. In his spare time, he continued to make models and indulge in photography. Over the years, Wally has made hundreds of planes, all to scale and capable of flying - in fact he still flies them regularly, including locally at a site at Great Bealings, courtesy of Lord Cranworth. Transporting large models in his Mondeo is no problem as their wings fold to save space, even if the originals didn't. He has even designed and built his own unique planes; radio controlled boats and helicopters are also in his portfolio.

from Grundisburgh. If you'd like to see what shockies do, scan the QR code below! Wally used to give flying demonstrations to schools and for charities, even simulating dog-fights and attacks, complete with explosions on the ground but these shows have been curtailed because of health and safety issues. Even so, the Club carries £25million worth of insurance to cover them in the event of



model plane - and it flew! That was the start: a chance gift of some balsa wood from a neighbour enabled Wally to carry on building models during WWII when it was impossible to buy balsa as it was needed in the construction of real warplanes.



A sergeant in the Air Training Corps at 16 and holder of a glider pilot's licence at 18, there was little doubt that Wally would do his national service in the RAF. Based at Honington, he first worked on piston-engined aircraft then later on jets which he says were child's play in comparison. Part of his job was to salvage reusable parts

Wally is President of the 150-strong Ipswich Radio Controlled Model Club and currently volunteers at the Martlesham Aviation Society's museum. He runs monthly indoor flying club sessions at the Woodbridge Community Centre, ably assisted by Bruce Polley, also



an accident or injury.

The basics of flight have not changed but digital technology has made it possible, with the aid of cameras, to control and

simulate flying from the model's cockpit itself. The downside, Wally says, is that one can easily get lost or run out of fuel! As for getting airborne himself, Wally used to fly with Jim Epton, also from Grundisburgh, in his Piper Cub and four years ago, he celebrated his 80th birthday with a hot-air balloon flight, together with his daughter and 15 other brave souls. The rather rough landing seems to have done him no harm at all!

Richard Watkinson

Pictures clockwise from top: Wally working on a model Walrus seaplane; model pre-WWI German Etrich Taube plane in flight; model Hawker Tomtit trainer plane (1920s); Wally with Wing Cdr Ken Wallis discussing his autogyro 'Little Nellie' which he flew as Sean Connery's stunt double in 'You Only Live Twice'.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=C4jbln9P2KY

TWO TALES OF

India:

Travellers to the Far East will know that there seem to be as many animals in cities as people - monkeys, cows, dogs... - all jostling for survival. Several UK charities help educate the owners of essential working animals into providing veterinary and welfare care to their mules or donkeys, for example, but there are very few organisations that seek to improve the lot of urban feral creatures who, literally, collide with the human population and its vehicles.

On a visit to Thailand in 2013, I was so moved by the plight of street dogs that I resolved to do



From top: Raja as found in the street in India; meeting Eilir for the first time; walking with Eilir in Grundisburgh.

what I could to help them, often diseased or injured - either accidentally or deliberately.

Research

Through Facebook, I found 'Guardians of the Voiceless' - a US-registered not-for-profit organisation with a presence in India, dedicated to improving the education of needy children and the rescuing of street animals, often at considerable personal risk to the volunteers themselves. I made contact with Pankaj Arora based in Patiala, about 200km north of Delhi, and now take an active part in their work, including

F CONCERN - SANS FRONTIÈRES

fund-raising. Together with my husband Charles and daughter Amelie I visited Patiala this summer to meet Pankaj and a (former) street dog that had been rescued after suffering severe head injuries, including the loss of his left eye and who needed rehoming. What could I do but accede to Pankaj's invitation to bring the dog - named Raja - back to my home at The Dog Inn in Grundisburgh? Raja has settled in well and goes on regular walks with me and my two other dogs around the village. Other street dogs are being rehomed in



Canada, the Middle East, Europe and the USA.

Children, too

Guardians of the Voiceless recently held a 'dental camp' at a school in Patiala where 400 children had their teeth cleaned and examined by local medical officers. It also provides tutoring for



children whose parents cannot help them with their homework because they themselves never had the opportunity to go to school. See more about them at: www.facebook.com/Guardians-of-the-Voiceless.

Ultimately, I would like to run my own animal rescue and rehabilitation centre but that's for the future - in the meantime. there's a three year-old daughter to bring up but I continue to fund-raise, maintain the Guardian's

animal treatment records and, of course, look after my eight ex-battery hens, three dogs - and The Dog!

Eilir Rogers 01473 735540

Africa:

My passion for Africa started when I went to work in Kenya in the early 60s, just at the end of the colonial regime. Life was very good and I was lucky enough to get a job in the radio newsroom and then work for the person setting up television. The TV station went up around us and I had a fascinating time.

Back in the UK, I worked for the BBC African Service in London doing their publicity, when I was meeting people from all over Africa.

Years later after I had moved back to Suffolk, I got involved with the African development charity 'Send a Cow' who were looking for an 'ambassador' in the area. This has meant explaining how very poor people are enabled to turn their own lives around as well as raising funds. Ambassadors are encouraged to go on 'study tours' (at our own expense) so we can see the work being carried out at first hand and meet people who have moved out of abject poverty to being able to feed and educate their children - and in some cases start enterprises that give other people employment. Their stories have been inspiring and humbling.

My work with 'Send a Cow' has reduced now but I am still selling plants from our garden and am having a special drive this Christmas to encourage the purchase of 'virtual gifts' as all the income received by the charity during the last three months of 2015 is being doubled by the Government. This is the second time we have been awarded 'matched

funding' - which shows how highly its practical approach is valued.

The virtual gifts, which start at £5 and include 'magic muck', beehives, chickens and rabbits, seeds and tools, and 'clean latrines' as well as cows, are shown in the catalogues.

These are available from Grange Farm Shop and Grundisburgh Post Office. The gifts can be ordered on line from www.sendacowgifts.org right up to Christmas Eve. I am also happy to supply catalogues. Virtual gifts are a brilliant way to solve present problems!

Nicola Hobbs, Ford House, Grundisburgh, 01473 738267, nicola@nicolahobbs.com



Nicola at a 'pass on' ceremony in Ethiopia. 'Passing on' is a Send a Cow principle whereby all recipients of livestock gifts pass on the first offspring to families which have not yet benefitted. Here, it was a rather lively long legged sheep.

Hooked!



Inspired by the chance find of this old photograph of her grandmother, Gill Twissell has written not only an enthralling novel but has been bitten by the genealogy bug. "Rest upon the Wind" is a gripping family saga that



Author Gill Twissell

spans the years between the late 19th and the early 21st century and is the story of someone who could have been her grandmother but is in reality a work of imagination and not based on fact.

However, the characters move through a world affected by genuine historical events in Europe. The descriptions of their circumstances and surroundings are excellent. The story demonstrates the changes in the lives and expectations of women throughout the 20th century and the tragedies that can occur through misunderstandings and social conventions.

The book arose out of Gill's desire to know more about the origins of her family and she has found this foray into genealogy to be an all-absorbing exercise. As a natural writer and, now having settled into her new home in Grundisburgh, perhaps she will have time to write more books for us to enjoy.

Viola Reade

'Rest upon the Wind' is available from Amazon or via Gill's website www.gilltwissellsbook.com where it can be bought directly from the publisher as a paper back for £7.30, or as an e-book, (much cheaper).

n.b. there are two books with the same title - make sure it's Gill's you buy! Alternatively, go straight to the publisher - authorhouse.co.uk or ring Gill on 01473 738451 (copies £7 each).

If you have a personal passion you'd like to share, why not contact the editor.

A man of letters

For John Nicholas it all began when, as a thirteen year old schoolboy at Lavender Hill School in Battersea, he was given for a project 'The Royal Mail'. Around the corner from his home was a VR (Victoria Regina) pillar box and that was where his curiosity first took him. He became intrigued by the design: the curlicues intertwining the royal cypher and crown. Thus was born a life-long interest - almost a love affair - with all matters Royal Mail and, in particular, the pillar box.

Most of us take for granted the ubiquitous red boxes but for members of the Letter Box Study Group (LBSG), including John, the boxes

combine love of words and literature, history, geography, architecture and social cohesion 'representing as they do the living history of communication which forms such an important aspect of our daily lives'. The LBSG issues a quarterly magazine plus a guide to British letter boxes which helps members to identify any and all boxes they find on the street.

Members are always on the look-out for any unusual postboxes no matter where situated; they keep each other informed about sitings and take a protective interest in any box that becomes damaged or neglected. Photographic evidence is obviously necessary and many has been



the time, driving up a winding mountain road or down a narrow congested city street, when has come the request: "Can you stop here, Madge, I've just seen a post box?"

Stop the bus!

On a recent holiday in the Lake District an unfortunate coach driver responded gallantly to a similar request from John in a small busy village street! John is proud to have a photo of a pillar box in Adelaide, Australia which he took in 1964 and shown in the book 'The Letter Box' by Jean Farrugia, archivist at G.P.O. HQ in the 1950s and 60s.

The first pillar box in Britain appeared in the Channel Islands in 1852 following a visit by the novelist Anthony Trollope, then a G.P.O. official and the scheme was extended to the

There are two locally: one at Grundisburgh post office and one in the wall opposite



Clopton church. A George V box on the B1079 at Burgh was removed in 1995 because rain water accumulated in front of it and increased traffic created a safety hazard. There is still a VR box in Culpho and an Edward VII box in Manor Road, Hasketon. John's photographs even include one of an Edward VII wall box in Riobamba, Ecuador, surviving from the days when the British laid the railway lines there.

Souvenirs



Naturally, all John's family and friends are aware of his 'passion' and it's amazing how many of them find Christmas cards and birthday cards featuring his beloved red box. Over the years he has accumulated many gifts and memorabilia including a salt and pepper pot set spotted by two of his young grand-daughters while on holiday in Devon. John is passionate in his support of the red post box as an important part of our national image. Most LBSG members fall into the 60+ age bracket and they are keen to recruit younger members. If you are interested, do ring John on 01473 738824 - he will gladly tell you more.

Madge Nicholas.

mainland in 1853. The first boxes were green, but complaints, mainly from the countryside, that they could not be easily seen led to them being painted what has become an official colour, Royal Mail Red. No variations are allowed except in exceptional circumstances, such as the 110 boxes painted gold in celebration of the London 2012 British Olympic and Paralympic champions.

Boxes taken out of service are sealed and painted black.

Photos clockwise from top: John with a host of his souvenirs; demolishing the box at Burgh; Culpho's Victorian box; the Adelaide box.




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SCHOOL REPORTS

Charsfield's capital visit

The children from class three of Charsfield Primary School enjoyed their visit to the Tower of London before half term. We were amazed to be within a short distance from the crown jewels -including the crown our Queen actually wears! It was also very humbling to stand by the spot where Anne Boleyn was executed; although she did seem to be alive and well when we "met" her earlier that day.



Anne Boleyn 'knighting' her brother at the Tower.

There was a wonderful re-enactment from the day before her coronation on the day we visited. This was all topped off with a treat at McDonalds on the way home. It was a long day but well worth the visit. We are hoping to use our visit to the Tower to inspire some story writing in Literacy.

Amie Reeve, Senior Teacher

Grundisburgh welcomes visitors

Over the past few weeks Grundisburgh Primary School has been lucky enough to have people come to share their careers with us. Firstly, Mr Turner - he's a musician! He used to play in a band called Story Of My Life. He played a song from his band. Children who were there said it was funny! After that, Mr Batchelor came in: he's the Sales Director for Disney!

We also had Mr Beale talk to us. He is a paramedic and football coach. He inspired lots of people to become one of these professions. You may be wondering why all these people are coming in? Well, it's all because of our art week and the theme is 'Trees'. The idea is you start at the bottom (the roots) and then branch out to do different things in life, so we are focusing on ambitions. We hope to be welcoming a lot of other parents in to share their jobs with the school over the next few half terms so don't hesitate to be one of those parents. Please contact the school office or Mr. Lynch.

Books galore

During our book fair at school we sold 120 books and altogether we got £725! We did have to give the company some money but we still got a lot of money to put towards new school books. How awesome is that? All of us have been given the chance to make requests for new books but we must make sure that they are appropriate for our age group.

All the children dressed up and had a terrific time on the Tuesday of Book Week. We got dressed up as our favourite character out of a book. We had a brilliant time and all loved it,

and we hope to do it again next year. Everyone did a fantastic job with getting their costumes ready and we all looked really colourful.

More for less

We also had a selection of stationery: that was quite popular and created some busy mornings for Mrs McKenzie! We all loved book fair and it's a chance for children to buy books and enjoy new stories and information. People love new books but they are a lot of money and, thanks to book fair, we give children a chance to buy new but for a lower price. I personally think this is a brilliant thing for our school to have. We are very lucky and should say a big thank you to Mr Lynch and Mrs McKenzie for organizing this brilliant event.

Rosie Ratcliff

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Hasketon has its pub back



James Foster, bar manager, serving customers at the reopening.

November 4 saw the long-awaited reopening of the Turks Head. Following extensive refurbishment and redevelopment, we are delighted to be open. We are serving delicious food, complemented by an interesting wine list and fine cask ales. The response from our patrons has been fabulous and we have been extremely busy. Reviews for our food have also been wonderful. Due to demand we are now serving Sunday lunch from 12 noon to 6pm. We welcome dogs, muddy boots and muddy children.

Jemima Withey 01394 610343

Moon and Mushroom

A full December programme: **2nd** at 8.30pm Christmas quiz; **5th** at 7.00pm Christmas murder mystery 'Murder Actually'; **11th** at 8pm Suffolk Carol Singers; **16th** at 8.30pm Carols by Candlelight with mince pies; **18th** at 8.30pm Swiland and Ashbocking Carol Singers; **24th** at 6pm

Open for dinner and drinks + Live Smooth Jazz; **Christmas Day** from 12noon-5pm lunch (book now - menu on our website); **Boxing Day:** 12noon-3pm open for lunch only; **New Year's Eve** 12noon-3pm open for lunch; 7pm -1.30am Dinner and party with DJ.

Nikki Gavin 01473 785320

Otley White Hart

Is it too soon to say Happy Christmas? There are any number of reasons to be happy - we are pleased to announce the opening of the White Hart Lending Library containing a wide range of fiction and non-fiction, anyone is welcome to come and borrow some books, keep them if you want, or bring them back and swap for others... perfect for those long, dark nights. Full details are on our website <http://www.thewhitehartotley.co.uk/the-white-hart-lending-library/> and you can download a voucher for an excellent deal on lunch.

The Library is open during

pub hours and there is no obligation to eat or drink. On the website you will also find all the details of what we have planned over Christmas and New Year. Don't miss

Christmas Eve by Candlelight or the **Communal Dog Walk on Sunday 27 December.**

For now, the new season's mussels have just arrived, we have some lovely local real ales on in the bar so come and try them. We are still doing pizzas on Friday nights throughout the winter. Looking forward to seeing you all... and Happy Christmas!

Lynda Saint 01473 890312

Dog events

Our Christmas party menu runs up to and including Christmas Eve. The **Christmas quiz is on 6 December at 7pm** - first prize £50 voucher. Mulled wine or cider and mince pies on arrival, with mid-quiz dish of turkey pot roast and sage herb dumplings. We are donating £1 per quizzer to Age UK Suffolk, so come and have fun - and rummage in Gareth's box for the spot prizes! On **Christmas Day** we will be open for festive drinks from 12noon to 2pm.

We are delighted to be doing the catering and running the bar at the **Burns Night on Friday 22 January at the village hall** with dancing, a traditional three-course meal and a free wee dram, of course! Tickets from The Dog - more details in Diary on p.2

28 January is Indian food evening from 5.30pm; **Friday**

5 February is woodfired pizza night from 6pm There's a special **Valentine's day menu on 14 February** and a Mexican food evening on **25 February.**

Charles and Eilir Rogers 01473 735267

Charsfield Three Horseshoes

We are gearing up for Christmas and the New Year in a big way with open fires, excellent wines, real ales that change weekly and a choice of Christmas or winter menus. Individual or group bookings can be taken and there's a private dining area for small groups. Allergies can be catered for if advised in advance: even without prior booking something on our standard menu should suit.

We are celebrating our third year at the pub with a **karaoke evening and buffet on Friday 4 December** and a **quiz night on Sunday 6 December.** Teams of four can enter on the night and the event supports a nominated charity. **Carols by candlelight on 24 December** when the winners of the Grand Christmas Raffle will also be announced. **New Year's Eve is "Greek style" party night:** please contact us for details. After all the festivities, why not pop in for a midday coffee or light lunch - bring the dog, we supply water for them, too!

Open 12-2.30pm and 6-11pm (closed 25 Dec evening) Open 6pm-1am on New Year's Eve. Contact: 01473 737187 for details of times and events.

Sharon and Jerry Bird

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BREDFIELD BAROMETER

Pants to cancer

Community spirit is alive and well and sporting men's underpants in Bredfield. The village, which has a long history of charity fundraising, is aiming to raise thousands for Macmillan Cancer with the Men in Pants 2016 Calendar.

In September Anne raised £19,748 for Macmillan Cancer by undertaking a sponsored head shave in the pub alongside the auction. Neighbour, Liz Gwillam, won the bid for the photograph, and landlord, Andy, agreed to be photographed in his pants to raise another £100. By the end of the evening, 18 local

brought the village together and we are grateful to those who have given up their time to make the calendar a success."

The calendar, with a print run of 1,000, was officially launched in The Castle Inn on 12 November. With a suggested donation price of £10, all proceeds go to the

local work of Macmillan Cancer Support in building the new £4.7m Woolverstone Macmillan Cancer Centre at Ipswich Hospital. You can obtain copies of the calendar at the

left: the final photoshoot; and below: showing appreciation of lensman Glyn Collins' fine photographic efforts.

photos: Richard Watkinson

Castle Inn, Bredfield village shop and at many other locations. Or via e-mail: meninpants2016@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/MenInPants2016> and Twitter <https://twitter.com/MenInPants2016>

Polly Stephenson 07917 654152.

p.s. logoed pants (XL to small) (without occupants) are also available at £5 each!



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The black and white calendar, beautifully shot by local photographer Glyn Collins, features 24 men from the village going about their usual business wearing just their underpants! Pin-ups include Andy Barker, landlord of the The Castle Inn and villager, Sir Nick

Young, former CEO of The Red Cross and Macmillan Cancer Support. While Andy is playing snooker, Sir Nicholas is picking pears.

Men in Pants 2016 was inspired by a now famous photograph of actor, James Corden, in his pants which was a star lot at the charity auction organised by resident Anne Henderson.



men had also agreed to be photographed in their pants!

Anne said: "Lots of us have been affected by cancer either directly or through friends and family and we have been overwhelmed by people wanting to help.

"So many men have volunteered to be photographed that we've had to turn some away! This whole project has really

Help to keep warm this winter

Winter weather can create serious financial and physical challenges, especially for the elderly, disabled people and families with young children struggling to keep warm in their homes. Last year, there were 400 excess winter deaths in Suffolk, believed to be connected with the cold weather.

But help is at hand.

Suffolk's Warm Homes Healthy People scheme offers support to those most in need of additional help to either keep their homes warm or to be able afford their next home energy bills.

The scheme can help home owners or tenants who privately rent their home and are on a low income and or in receipt of a means tested benefit. The scheme also takes into account age, disability and cold related health conditions.

If you're struggling to keep warm or are worried about the cost of heating your home, you could get help with:

- * Emergency boiler and heating repair costs.
- Winter fuel payments.
- Free home energy survey with advice on insulation, fuel switching and cheaper oil prices.
- Basic draught proofing
- Temporary loan of heaters.

People with vulnerable relatives or neighbours are also urged to help them find out more about the support available.

Eligibility criteria apply. For more information, call the local rate Warm Homes Healthy People helpline on 03456 037 686.

Let's all stay warmer and healthier this winter.

The show goes on ...

Yes, Grundisburgh Village Show will definitely be going ahead next summer - on Saturday 16 July. Several new very welcome volunteers have come forward, following our appeal for help in the last issue of The News.

Details of all the classes for the show are now being drawn up and will be published in January, with copies available in Grundisburgh post office



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and on line to enable exhibitors to start planning.

We have fixed Hidden Gardens for the weekend of 18/19 June and are hoping to hear from many gardeners in Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho willing to take part, particularly people who have not opened their garden before.

The popular dance in the marquee after the show will have an extra attraction - live music provided by John Richards. Our annual evening garden party will be held on Friday 5 August and will take place at Post Mill, by kind permission of Ben and Mandy Cook.

More help with running the horticultural society and our events will still be welcome, particularly with our website and other IT matters. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who might be able to provide support in these or any other areas.

Peter Kendall, chairman, Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society, chairman@gbchs.org.uk, 01473 738267

TUDDENHAM TALES



Autumn Clean Up

On 20 September we held our annual St Martins harvest lunch. Many thanks to all who attended (below) and to everyone who cooked the delicious casseroles and puds!

Six days later, volunteers met to undertake a village clean up - which included litter picking, washing signs, tidying up common areas and sprucing up the village notice boards. (That's me having a go at the postbox) I'm sure that you've noticed the village looking very spic and span!

Thanks to all who helped, not only on the day but at various other times.

Jean Ellinor

TADPOLES Final Curtain ?

Next year (2016) will be our 30th (and very probably our final) TADPOLES Pantomime. We are going to finish as we started - with a production of Mother Goose.

By the time you read this, we will have held auditions and the cast will be busy learning their lines !!??!!

We are still looking for adults to join the chorus and for helpers



"backstage" with the scenery, costumes and a huge number of jobs before and during the shows. If you'd like to be involved, please let us know. If you'd like more information call me on 01473 785682.

Performances will be on Thursday 18, Friday 19 and Saturday 20 February - put the dates in your diary! You may be part of history!

Jean Ellinor



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pictured - top: Jean scrubbing up the local postbox; above: layer of the last golden egg? left: eagerly anticipating this year's Harvest lunch.

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This term the children have been looking at village life, in particular the changes around us as the seasons change. Pictures were created for the Otley village show on the theme of summertime. More recent arts and crafts have focused on using materials foraged on the children's regular countryside walks, including feathers, leaves, blackberries and even mud! The setting's walls are covered in autumnal treats and glittery firework pictures. The blackberry and apple crumbles prepared by the children were especially delicious!

Extra mile

This term we were thrilled to be selected to participate in the 'Golden Mile', a health and physical activity initiative on keeping active. The children often go on walks around the village and we were delighted to join the Ferrel Circus Troupe earlier in the term, learning circus tricks and even taking part in their performances. The mud kitchens and water wall are firm favourites in the garden.

The countdown to Christmas has begun. Father Christmas has promised to visit us in December, much to the children's delight. They will join Class 1 at Otley primary school for a Christmas craft get-together and are busy preparing their Christmas play.

Friends and parents of Otley

Under Fives have been busy fundraising. A fantastic time was had over the summer at our Big Fun camping weekend: live music; face painting; bouncy castle; toasting marshmallows. Preparations are being made for an evening of wreath making on 8 December at Otley village hall – mulled wine and mince pies will be served: everyone welcome. An end of term Christmas party will be held for the children too on 18 December to raise funds.

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

GFC Teamwork

The football season is well and truly under way. Grundisburgh FC had a slow start to the season whilst we were still re-building both the first team and the reserve side. We now have settled sides and are now starting to creep up the table. The first team have been on a great run of five unbeaten games and are in the draw for the next round of the Suffolk Senior Cup.

The club has been working hard on and off the pitch and we are always on the look-out for more supporters and helpers. The pavilion bar is open on Wednesday evenings - and Saturdays for the games and into the evenings. We would welcome anyone who fancies watching the games or having a pint or two at the bar.

Jon Trenter

SWEET CHARITY



A busy scene at the Fair in Hasketon's Victory Hall.

Hasketon's annual Charity Fair in mid November raised nearly £900.

The charities represented this year were the East Anglian Air Ambulance, Save the Children, Traidcraft, St Elizabeth's Hospice, Redwings Horse Sanctuary, East Suffolk Home Start, Goodwill and growth for Africa, St Andrew's Church, Send a Cow, RNLI and Macmillan Cancer Support.

words and photo: Nicola Hobbs

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Campaign for Safer Driving in villages

Following the launch of SAVID in June as reported in the last Grundisburgh News, the group has highlighted a number of actions it wishes to take to address the continuing speeding issues in our villages and in response to the speeding concerns put forward at the launch.

The analysis of the comments received included a wide range of suggestions such as

narrowing the road at village entrances; improving signage and markers to speed limits; more police checks and cameras; more flashing speed indicators; educating drivers to adhere to limits; show more courtesy; speed awareness courses; ensuring clearance of overgrown hedges obscuring signs; more Speedwatch; road humps; collection of data and more 40 limits between 30 limits.



village entry to 30 limits.

SAVID membership now includes Boulge, Burgh, Charsfield, Clopton, Debach, Little Bealings, Great Bealings, Otley, Swilland, Tuddenham and Witlesham.

More information about SAVID can be found at suffolksavid@gmail.com

Pauline Procter

Using this information, SAVID is focusing its attention upon three main areas: the acquisition of a VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) which can be moved around villages; liaising with local businesses to encourage them to join in the campaign and an approach to Suffolk County Council Highways to discuss concerns about signage and

I'VE GOT A LITTLE LIST.....

Most of us are familiar with 'Listed Buildings' - Grade I, II* or II and these enjoy very robust protection in the planning system. But what about those buildings which don't make it to the top 1% but, nevertheless, are really important to us?

These are the so-called 'Unlisted Heritage Assets' and they deserve a level of protection as well - and our planning system can provide it. Suffolk Coastal's Local Plan policy affirms that many of our towns and villages are of distinctive historical and architectural value and that SCDC will seek to enhance and preserve these attributes. After a thorough public consultation, SCDC have now published a list of the basic criteria against which we may assess a building, monument, site, place etc. as having heritage interest. If it meets the criteria it can be placed on a 'Local List' which will be held by the planners.

If a planning application is submitted that would significantly affect such a building or monument (e.g. demolition or substantial modification), the planners would already have a record of the importance attached to it by the local community. This would be regarded as a material consideration when determining the outcome of the application.

The local list can be prepared by parish councils or by interest groups, such as the local history society. It's just a matter of looking around and see what is valuable! To get things started just get the details from the SCDC website.

Tony Fryatt

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Quizmaster: I live in Hasketon and in my former town of Hadleigh, I ran quizzes for many years for charity events and pubs and clubs. I may now call myself 'an award winning quiz master' as I was honoured by the Mayor of Hadleigh for my contribution to charity. However, I won't let it go to my head!

My quizzes are meant to be fun and not too highbrow. If you are part of an organisation

or group or have a cause you would like to raise money for, please contact me and I will be more than happy to set a quiz and host it for you at no cost. I have a PA system that I can also provide FOC. Charlie Ralph 01394 389330

House search: we are looking for a 3+ bedroom characterful home in the villages north of Ipswich (Westerfield, Witnesham, Tuddenham, Ashbocking, Grundisburgh, Culpho, Otley, Bealings, Playford, Hasketon and Henley... or anywhere in between!) with garden and parking, and we are in a position to move quickly. If you are thinking of selling, please do get in touch. n.coward@outlook.com tel 07511612798

The Royal British Legion 2015 Poppy Appeal

I would like to thank everyone in Grundisburgh for supporting the 2015 Poppy Appeal so generously, raising an amazing £2,084.64! Thanks particularly to all the house to house collectors, the shops and The Dog for holding the tins, St Mary's for the church collection and the children and staff at Grundisburgh Primary School. The money raised goes towards supporting the serving members of the Armed Forces and veterans of all ages and their families. Thank you all.

Ingrid McIvor

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About The News

www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

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

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

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TALES FROM THE GROTTO - SANTA'S SECRETS

The time is fast approaching for me to meet all the children in my Grotto.



I look forward very much to meeting them because, on Christmas

Eve, they are all fast asleep - aren't they? Girls have normally made a list of things they would like me to bring them. Often this will extend to fourteen pages of closely written script, although nowadays it is usually typed out on Microsoft Word. On the other hand, most boys are always "about to do it".

Great care is needed when dealing with expectations. In one case a very determined young lady asked for a horse. I explained that I would not be able to get a horse down the chimney. "Ah, never mind", said the girl, "You can bring it through the back door".

"But the back door will be locked when I come around", I answered.

Not to be outdone, she came back with "Never mind, you can use the key my Mum leaves out at the bottom of the garden for my Uncle".

Mum's face turned the same colour as my coat.

Selflessness

Over the years, I have tried to widen out the scope to encourage children to think of others at Christmas. A worthy objective you might think. Having established the basic

criterion that the little blessing has been "more or less" good during the year I ask the children whether Mum deserves a present from me. "Has she been good during the year?" I did not know that there was so much secret smoking or wine drinking going on or the quantities of exotic Belgian chocolates that were being surreptitiously consumed by mothers. Still, they deserve a present from me. "What do you think Mum would like for Christmas?" I ask in all innocence: until recently it was often "George Clooney". This has now changed to "Poldark".

Hygiene

Nowadays, it is very important to have intensely fresh breath. No more lingering aromas of mince pies or cheap Cyprus sherry. The only viable method to ensure this is mints. I did, just once, try chewing gum that had been left over from a delivery. It soon got enmeshed in my beard and I had to have emergency beard surgery at the local barbers.

Sometimes, at the end of a long day, I can get a bit mischievous. It's the elves - they lead me astray.

"Now, young man, what are you going to leave out for me this year?" I ask.

Mostly, the reply is "Mince Pie" but I have been known to accept the odd "kebab" or "KFC" when proffered.

"And for the reindeer?"

It would seem that the younger population have

become familiar with the eating habits of the reindeer.

Normally, "A carrot" is the accepted answer but on a bad day I ask "How many reindeer have I got?" This usually stumps them (although one little girl was able to name every one, unfortunately, she couldn't count) but it can be in the order of twelve.



"They will all want a carrot", I tell them, "Otherwise they will fight and it is very unseemly to have reindeer fighting outside your window on Christmas Eve."

When I do eventually deliver the present, I have a little chuckle to see the great piles of carrots by the fireplace.

As I mentioned earlier, I also have to impose a regulation that they must be fast asleep when I call. "I want to hear

you snoring" I insist. It would seem that few, if any, children snore. In contrast, their mums and dads could awaken the dead with their snoring. But not their offspring. "It must have been them I heard last year", I am told.

I suppose that I'd better go and wrap up a few parcels. Being Father Christmas is a marvellous job: it is regular work and the holidays are good but, as I get older, I find it harder to remember my name!



It's OK, Santa, we know who you are - Ed

We need a year-round Santa!

Following our appeal in the last issue for help in distributing the News, several volunteers kindly came forward to fill gaps. However, Mike Stiff, who has been delivering bulk copies to the door to door distributors in much of Grundisburgh for many years, is standing down after this issue and we now need a replacement for him. We are very grateful to Mike - and to Paul Finch who has also retired as a main distributor. Paul's round has been taken on by Richard and Chris Garnham but please can anyone who could take on Mike Stiff's round contact me. I would also be delighted if anyone would like to take over the overall coordination role which I am doing, hopefully temporarily.

Nicola Hobbs, 01473 738267, editor@grunews.com



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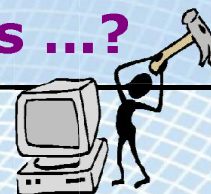
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