

Spring
2022

The Grundisburgh and District News

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

Chapel Field: help still needed

Grundisburgh lost the fight for Chapel Field when government planning inspector Patrick Hanna allowed the appeal by Hopkins Homes to build 70 dwellings on the field.

However 29 conditions were attached to the approval. One, condition 13, was the submission of a Construction Management Plan (CMP). The CMP contains seven sections which would have to be approved by the planning authority before any development or demolition can take place. It includes setting out defined HGV routes and timings for all deliveries to be adhered to throughout the construction period. We know

East Suffolk Council does not have the manpower to police the site. So it will be up to residents to keep eyes and ears open, cameras at the ready.

But before we get to that stage Condition 20 states that no part of the development shall be started until:

- * the proposed surfacing improvements and links to Footpath 20 have been built;
- * Park Road has been widened;
- * the junctions at Ipswich Road/Park Road and Lower Road/B1079 have been improved;
- * Plans for the passing place in Chapel Road and a cycle connection between the internal road and Chapel Road have been approved in writing by East Suffolk.

Continued on page 6.

See the supplement in our four centre pages for more on Grundisburgh's new village hall.

An invitation to The News' ...

Annual General Meeting

Friday 25 March. 7.30pm

Grundisburgh Parish Rooms (opposite Forge Stores)

Please join us for a glass or two of wine and give us your ideas



Gloves on for the 'Box fit' class in Grundisburgh's new village hall. Ashley Phillips (left) trains Anne Hutchison. Details on page 3. Photo by Peter Kendall.

Below: The main hall on the 'open day' which attracted several hundred visitors and many enthusiastic comments. Photo by Kevan Gosnell.



March

Saturday 5

1940's Radio Plays

GADS New Gr VH 7:30 pm
Contact
grundisburghamdram.com

Saturday 12

Spring Artisan Market

Nelly Noodles New Gr VH
10:00 am – 1 pm
Contact 07513 832734

Sunday 13

Sunday Walk

Gr VG 2:00 pm Contact
738108 or geoff@caryer.co.uk

Tuesday 15

A Voyage round the coast of East Anglia

Gr. Local History Society
Gr PR 7:30 pm. Contact
738108 or geoff@caryer.co.uk

Thursday 17

Craft Session

Gr PR 9:30 am - 12:00 noon

Contact 735517 or
heather.langdon@btinternet.com

Saturday 19

Fair Trade Shop

Gr PR 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Friday 25

Grundisburgh & District News AGM

Gr PR 7:30 pm. Contact
admin@grunews.com

April

Saturday 9

Easter Artisan Market

Nelly Noodles New Gr VH
10:00 am - 1:00 pm Contact
07513 832734

Sunday 10

Sunday Walk

Gr VG 2:00 pm Contact 738108
or geoff@caryer.co.uk

Tuesday 19

A Voyage round the coast of East Anglia

Grundisburgh Local History
Society Gr Parish Room 7:30
pm Contact 738108 or
geoff@caryer.co.uk

Thursday 21

Craft Session

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

Tuesday 26

Horticultural Society

Visit to Marks Hall and Ulting
Wick gardens. Contact
catherine@laxton-interiors.co.uk

May

Sunday 8

Sunday Walk

Gr VG 2:00 pm Contact
738108 or geoff@caryer.co.uk

Tuesday 17

Stepping back in time at Williams Stores

Grundisburgh Local History
Society Gr Parish Room 7:30
pm Contact 738108 or
geoff@caryer.co.uk

Thursday 26

Craft Session

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

June

Thursday 2

Beacon lighting

Clopton 7:00 pm Contact
07833 713174 or 07771 558333

Friday 3

Jubilee Fete

Clopton VH 2:00 pm Contact
07833 713174 or 07771 558333

Friday 3

Jubilee Baton Relay

Helmingham Hall start/finish
PBE 11:00 am Contact
henleysteve@btinternet.com

Friday 10 & Saturday 11

Spring Play

GADS Gr VH 7:30 pm Contact
ianfrost68@gmail.com

Saturday 11 & Sunday 12

Hidden Gardens

Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho
Horticultural Society
Gr Village Green 2:00 pm -
6:00 pm. Contact
catherine@laxton-interiors.co.uk


Key to abbreviations

Gr. Grundisburgh
VH Village hall
PR Parish rooms
PBE Pre booking essential

All phone numbers are pre-
fixed 01473 unless shown
otherwise.



Brief details of events
including contact numbers and
whether advanced booking is
needed should 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.grunews.com).

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



DANCEASY

Ballroom and Latin American Dance Classes/Lessons

KESGRAVE: Monday Evenings
Beginners Class: 7.15pm Improvers Class: 8.15pm
Venue: Kesgrave High School Hall, Main Road,
Kesgrave, Ipswich, Suffolk. IP5 2PB
Price: £7.50 per person

HASKETON: Wednesday Evenings
Beginners Class: 7.30pm Improvers Class: 8.30pm
Venue: Hasketon Village Hall, Tymmes Place,
Hasketon, Suffolk IP13 6JD
Price: £7.00 per person

Graham: 07790 230651 Sharon: 07946 347167
Email: danceasy123@gmail.com www.danceasy.co.uk



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Grundisburgh actors back on stage

At last, it's time to get back to the stage - and a brand new one this time! GADS first appearance at the new village hall will be another first for us. We will be performing two radio plays from the 1940s on Saturday 5 March at 7.30pm.

We'll be in period clothing, sound effects will accompany the actions and we'll also be reading from scripts so at least we should be word perfect! The plays are 'Chicken Heart' and 'Take Me Out to the Graveyard'.

Tickets are £8 each and are available via the website grundisburghamdram.com or by scanning the QR code on our posters and banners. There will also be a raffle and licensed bar. If any tickets remain we will be selling them on the door.

More performances to look out for are our Spring Play on June 10 and 11, and then looking further ahead to next year, our pantomime will be performed on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 January 2023.

As we start a new era in the fantastic new village hall it would be great to see anyone who may be looking to get involved in amateur dramatics. Come and see us at the hall on Wednesday nights from 7.30pm.

Ian Frost,
ianfrost68@gmail.com

Local history talks

Grundisburgh's Local History Society's monthly talks have re-started after the covid break. These take place in the Parish Rooms (opposite Forge Stores) starting at 7.30pm, no pre



Otley Hall gardens re-open on Tuesday 29 March – opening hours are 9am-4pm, Tuesday to Friday.

booking. Entry is free for members and £2 to non-members, payable on the door.

On Tuesday 15 March, Robert Simper will be taking us on a 'Voyage' round the coast of East Anglia. The history of RAF/USAF at Martlesham Heath from 1917 to 1963 will be Howard King's topic on Tuesday 19 April while on 17 May, Rosie Venn (nee Williams) will be talking about her family's famous stores on Grundisburgh Green.

Geoff Caryer, 01473 738108
geoff@caryer.co.uk

Fitness training

'Box fit' is one of the new sessions on offer in Grundisburgh's new hall. Ashley Phillips describes her women's only classes as a 'fun cardio based full body workout – which relieves stress, aids weight loss and improves fitness'. These take place on Wednesdays starting at 9am.

Pads and gloves are provided. Sessions cost £8.50 and must be booked in advance. Ashley can be contacted on 07722042419.ashleyvphillips88@gmail.com

Tap dancing in trainers

"Come along and keep fit, and have some fun learning to tap dance in trainers!" says Carole Hayes. She asks anyone interested to contact her on 07707868972 and tell her which day is most convenient for them, either Mondays or Thursdays, after Pilates and Yoga - or maybe both days if there is enough interest.

The tap dance classes run by Jill Streatfeild in the old village hall have moved to the Angela Cobbold Hall in Little Bealings. There are two sessions, one for less

experienced tappers at 9.30am, and a faster class at 10.30am. More info on 07778 746315, woodbridgetapdance.weebly.com



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Preparing for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Clopton

Celebrations are afoot in Clopton to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with a packed weekend and everyone is invited – from within the village and beyond..

We are planning two events, a beacon lighting on the evening of Thursday 2 June, culminating in the lighting of the beacon at 9pm. coinciding with thousands of others across the UK and the whole Commonwealth.

Then on Friday 3rd, a fete will be held at Clopton Village Hall. This will be a fun day for all the family with a multitude of traditional fete stalls and games to entertain, as well as an appearance from local band Aartwork and a guest appearance by the Jitterbugs, a swing dancing group who will also get you up and dancing.

We will be hosting our first Pram Race at the fete and want to invite teams from Clopton and the surrounding villages to take part. Teams should be of three people or more, prams can be of any non-motorised style and design and there will be many prizes on the day.

We are also looking for volunteers of all kinds to help out - to man the stalls, make the tea or manage the car park. Or if you prefer, we are calling for all cake bakers, tea brewers and bunting makers to help with the preparation. Anyone who would like to volunteer please reach out via the Clopton Facebook page, or contact one of the team.

The plan is to involve as many members of the community as possible and you can start today. Budding artists are invited to show off their artistic talents by creating a display in the village hall for the two days. Any subject, any media, any age - the only limit is your imagination.

We have huge support from many local businesses already, donating prizes and providing their time and services in support of the event and we will be raising money for the RDA, Suffolk Air Ambulance and the village hall.

For further details, keep your eyes out for announcements on Facebook and notice boards. To offer, please contact cloptonjubilee@gmail.com, or call any of the team: Susanna Lye - 07833 713174, Amanda Pitt - 07771 558333, Julie Gittoes - 07896 669549, Gary Bright - 07748 117971, or Gemma Austin - 07891 915813.

Seven village relay

Seven villages come together to create the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Baton Relay. This is in line with other baton relays which I have organised in the past - for the Olympics 2012 and Commonwealth Games 2014. However, because of the royal connection this time we have been in talks with Helmingham Hall events organisers to agree for the relay to begin and end at the hall. The Friday is their big day so the final run, when we hope all runners will be gathered together, will be down the main avenue with presentation of the medals by members of the Tollemache family.

The run will begin at the North entrance and head towards Otley. The first stop will be the White Hart for drop offs and pick ups.

Participants will be dropped off at various pre marked places on the road ranging from 100 to 880 yards, depending on the wish of each runner. The options will probably be 100, 200, 400, 600 and 880 yards. We will have an Olympic torch

available for the day and each runner will have the chance to take a photo holding it. The actual torch we run with will be different as we can't risk the chance of damaging the real thing. Therefore, at each drop off during the

relay photograph opportunities will take place with the Olympic torch – in return for donations for the East Anglian Children's Hospice (EACH).

Moving on from the White Hart the next stop will be the centre of Otley with the shop and coach company and from there to the college. Then to the Moon and Mushroom and school in Swiland to the Barley Mow at Witnesham, on to the Tuddenham Fountain and village hall before heading off to the Westerfield Railway back towards the Swan and on towards Fynn Valley Golf course in Witnesham past the Barley Mow and up to Ashbocking, before heading towards Hintlesham Hall. The total length is around 16 and a half miles. The likely starting time is about 11am with the finish aimed at 3pm. Entry forms will be available throughout the villages but people are welcome to let me know directly - on henleysteve@btinternet.com

We are arranging for T shirts displaying the event and date along with the official logo of the Platinum jubilee, plus engraved medals for each competitor. The cost will be notified on the entrance form once we know it but, we are trying to keep it to a minimum, of course if a competitor does not want to purchase any of the items that will be fine. The engraved medals will be free thanks to donations.

Tuddenham

Plans are in hand for our village Jubilee celebrations for June and whilst we are still in the early planning stages – this is what has been proposed.

We are looking for residents to decorate their houses with Red, White & Blue (flowers, bunting etc) and also to take part in a Kings & Queens trail by displaying a scarecrow or drawing of a British Monarch.

Events are planned for the weekend are:
Friday – a Jubilee social event at the village hall, probably a cabaret style variety show with Ploughman's Supper.
Saturday – No planned events but an opportunity to walk the village Kings & Queens Trail.
Sunday – Service at St Martins in the morning, fun family sports events at the playing field in the afternoon followed by a "bring & share" Jubilee Tea Party at the village hall.

We will also be taking part in the Round the Villages Jubilee Baton Relay.

Everyone is invited – further details to follow nearer the time. Anyone who would like to help with the proposed events please contact Holly (785918), Monica (784545) or Jean Ellinor on 785682.

Grundisburgh

The village's celebrations will be starting on the Thursday with a coffee morning and flower festival in the church and music from the Queen's reign on the village green outside.

During the day a town crier will be touring the village announcing the beacon lighting later that evening. The lunch club and helpers are being invited to a tea party with entertainment at the village hall. In the evening the action moves to the playing field for

Steve Henley

Continued on next page

the Scouts camp fire with entertainment and camp fire songs before the lighting of the beacon at 9.09.

Friday will include races, tug of war and games for children on the playing field.

On Sunday 5 June the Songs of Praise at 5.30 pm will have hymns chosen by people from each decade of the Queen's reign, followed by a barbecue on The Green and fireworks with music.

Grundisburgh's plans are still being finalised and details will be widely publicised by the parish council later.

Ann Willetts

Bredfield

The Jubilee bank holiday weekend is going to be a busy one in Bredfield.

We have not been able to have a church fete since 2019 - people come from far and wide for the Bredfield Church Fete. Wonderful stalls selling everything from plants, bric-a-brac, clothes, to books and of course cakes. Stalls with games, a great auction and an amazing raffle. Oh and don't forget the best tea and cakes in Suffolk.

The fete is on Saturday 4th June. On Sunday 5th, the parish council and village hall are organising a Jubilee BBQ for the village at the Village Hall Playing Fields. The bar will be open for refreshments.

We will be dedicating a tree for the Jubilee and every child in the village under 16 will receive a Jubilee Mug.

We have a few more ideas in the pipeline and will let everyone in the village know nearer the date.

We guarantee a weekend of fun in Bredfield.

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

High Sheriff reviews his year of office

Our local High Sheriff, Edward Creasy, has very nearly finished his year, and has kept himself busy despite the restraints of Covid. Apart from playing a role in the Inspiring Angels Ipswich Christmas project (see photo), and supporting the police, fire and rescue services, and all those involved in the county's judicial institutions, he has spent much of his time visiting the charity sector in and around Woodbridge and Ipswich.

Our local charities vary from large groups such as Suffolk Family Carers, who provide respite care for carers, to much smaller organisations such as Rock Paper Scissors and PLOT – both of whom look after children who need extra help, but in very different ways – and FIND in Ipswich and the Salvation Army in Woodbridge – providing vital and essential support for families in need.

Edward has been enormously impressed by the dedication and hard work put in by all our local charities and the

Charity Christmas card success

Carrie and Rupert Herries raised a total of £1,000 from the sale of their Hallo cards this Christmas. This brings their total raised over recent years for the children's hospices to £4,133.

They are grateful to Grange Farm Shop, Williams Stores and Woodbridge Charity Card Shop, all of whom generously sold the Hallo Christmas cards for no profit.

Hallo cards are designed by artist Carrie Herries and the production and marketing are organised by Rupert.



Edward as one of Ipswich's 'Inspiring Angels'.

volunteers who support them. In his words, "Whilst volunteering is inevitably a time-consuming commitment, it has huge advantages; doing good feels good, there is an amazing community spirit in the work, and our towns and villages would be much less vibrant, were it not for the efforts of all these special people.

"Everyone who volunteers in our local Carlford community deserves a huge thank you."

One of the final events of Edward's year will be the High Sheriff's Awards Ceremony at Wherstead, organised by the Suffolk Community Foundation, where he has the privilege of recognising and rewarding charities and volunteers from across Suffolk for the amazing help that they have been able to give people who need support and help.

Edward Creasy, who lives in Burgh, ends his year of office in May.

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Matters horticultural

Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho Horticultural Society is not just about Hidden Gardens and the Village Show. Members and a number of other volunteers are involved in other village projects.

We had a very successful morning planting bulbs at Grundisburgh's new village hall. Susie from Katie's Garden had not only very generously donated them but she had also potted them up as the site wasn't ready for planting until January. Over 1,000 bulbs were planted, the shoots are starting to show and in a few weeks

there will be a lovely display which will get better and better in years to come. Many thanks to all who volunteered and to Susie.

We are also involved in Gundisburgh's new playground, incorporating plants for all to enjoy throughout the season. We have been working alongside Susie from Katie's Garden who will be supplying shrubs and perennials and these will be planted over the next few weeks. If you would like to help out, please contact catherine@laxton-interiors.co.uk. The beds will be dug on Sunday 6 March, shrubs are being planted on Saturday 12 March and perennials on Saturday 16 April. Small plugs of

perennials will be distributed in March to be nurtured and grown on, ready for planting in April. This is a wonderful project benefiting the whole village so please come and lend a hand!

The horticultural society's next trip takes place on Tuesday 26 April to Marks Hall and Ulting Wick. The walled gardens and arboretum at Marks Hall form part of a 2,200 acre estate. A guided tour has been organised and there will be time for lunch before we head on to Ulting Wick which is well known for its fantastic tulips.

Plans are well underway for Hidden Gardens over the weekend of 11 and 12 June. Catherine Laxton would welcome hearing about new gardens. The highlight of our year, the Village Show, will take place on Saturday 16 July. This year's class lists are on our website and in Williams Stores.

Local groups or organisations wishing to take part or have a stall on show day should contact the secretary - as should anyone who would like to volunteer to help in any way.

It will be three years since our last show was able to take place, so if you are new to the area check out our website and look at the video or contact secretary@grundisburgh.show.

*Martin Cripps,
chairman@grundisburgh.show.com
01473 738997*

Chapel Field Continued from page 1

The community of Grundisburgh demands that the conditions be adhered to to ensure that the existing residents of Grundisburgh are kept safe as they make their way around their village, be it on foot, cycle or vehicle.

*Ann Willetts, chairman
Grundisburgh and Culpho
Parish Council.*

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TRAFFIC MATTERS

Lorry Route Review

Initiated by parish councils, concerns can now be raised in relation to HGVs using unsuitable routes and narrow roads around Suffolk.

Communities have been approached to have their say and parish councils have submitted the top three issues affecting their area.

Locally, a request for HGV problems was circulated on Grundisburgh Google, the Grundisburgh Village Face group and Mark Rankin distributed notification leaflets to properties around the B1079. Analysing the responses the three main concerns related to Lower Road, Otley Road and Charity Lane, along with the B1079.

The issues with Lower Road, Otley Road and Charity Lane related to HGVs still using the roads, despite the presence of 'unsuitable for HGVs' signs. Also reported were: road safety for pedestrians and other road users, damage to road surface, damage to property and damage to verges because of inadequate road width. The same can be said for vehicles travelling along the B1079 plus the volume of HGVs and speeding issues.

The collated survey responses will be raised at a meeting planned for 17 February with representatives from the Suffolk Police and county councillors. Anyone can report a problem or incident with lorries and their drivers via www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/lorry-management/report-a-heavy-goods-vehicle-incident/

Traffic Survey

To further support the lorry route review local resident Mr Gulotti of Hill House commissioned an independent traffic survey on the B1079 Woodbridge Road in

Grundisburgh. This road forms part of the southbound route for the Clopton and Debach commercial areas, as marked on the Suffolk Lorry Route Network Map.

An analysis of the data produced shows that the number of vehicles on the B1079 is up to 2,800 per day in each direction. With the number of HGVs on the B1079 being similar in both directions. Around 1 in 8 of the vehicles on the B1079 are HGVs.

Around 60% of vehicles travelling to Woodbridge were travelling at over 30mph, with up to 12 a day at over 50mph. Of the vehicles from Woodbridge around 80% were travelling at over 30mph with up to 7 per day at over 50mph. The traffic survey has been forwarded to Suffolk County Council's Lorry Route Review team.

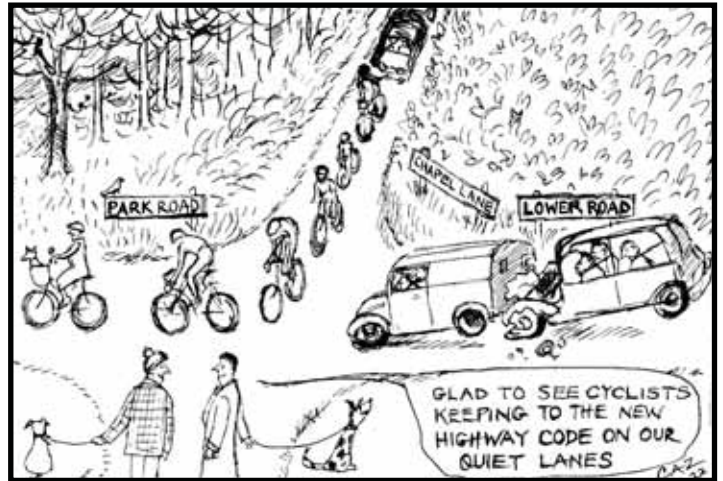
Highway Code

Eight changes for all types of road users have been made in the Highway Code to improve the safety of people walking, cycling and riding horses.

One major revision is the introduction of a road user hierarchy which places those most at risk in the event of a collision at the top of the hierarchy, as listed below:

- Pedestrians
- Cyclists
- Horse riders
- Motorcyclists
- Cars, taxis, vans, minibuses
- Large passenger vehicles, HGVs.

This change to the Highway Code encourages all road users to share their space whilst protecting the most vulnerable but it does not remove the need for all members of the public to behave responsibly. Full rule changes can be seen on the GOV.UK website.



Quiet Lanes

Tuddenham St Martin's Quiet Lane submission has, following their traffic survey, been passed for approval to be included in the WAVE 4 of the project and the full Highways consultation will follow in due course.

Community Partnership Update

Funding for a number of road and safety projects has recently been secured for the benefit of our residents in local villages. This includes improvements at Gibraltar crossroads, Ashbocking (a junction described as lethal for its risk of near-miss incidents due to this section of the B1078 highway remaining at the national speed limit). Featured changes will include lowering the speed limit to 40mph, along with warning lines and signs, with the aim of keeping traffic at a safer level and making using the junction easier.

Bealings Primary pupils will be provided with high-visibility vests in a move to improve safety walking to school. Students and families in the village walk on public roads where there is no opportunity to create a footpath. Finally, Safer Village Driving (SAVID) has been awarded funding to purchase an

additional Speed Indicator Device to share across villages, plus funding for another mobile SID which will increase the site options, bringing more villages into the scheme.

Appreciation goes to Steve Barron for his work with SAVID over the last five years as secretary, with Tracey Herrington from Playford now keenly taking up this role. To find out more on SAVID activities please contact suffolksavid@gmail.com

Linda Plant from material supplied by Geoff Caryer, Pauline Procter (SAVID), Andy Jolliffe (East Suffolk Council). Cartoon by Carrie Herries

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Recording for the future

My name is Heidi Hughes and I am the Local History Recorder for Hasketon. The scheme is run by Suffolk Local History Council (SLHC).

I keep notes on local events, collect the parish newsletter, newspaper articles, and take photographs (which are particularly useful before buildings are altered, when planning permission has been granted) SLHC request a short annual report to be submitted

which is deposited at Suffolk Archives. The aim is to record what is happening in the 'present' day in your community, especially any changes, so the information can be consulted by researchers in the future.

As a recorder you may also be in a position to be able to look out for local historical records which might be lost forever, but that is not now the primary aim. You don't have to be a historian or need any qualifications at all, but purely have an interest in your local parish.

If you would like to volunteer to become part of this countywide network of people, who are interested in the survival of valuable material for future historians, please contact recorders@slhc.org.uk.

You will receive a copy of the SLHC Newsletter and be invited to the annual conference for local recorders.

There are vacancies for recorders in Great Bealings, Little Bealings, Boulge, Charsfield, Culpho, Dallinghoo and Debach. Anyone who might be interested in taking on the role in any of these villages should contact Janette Robinson from Suffolk Local History Council, recorders@slhc.org.uk.

Pub round up

Pubs play an important role in village life, and far too many have gone out of business in recent years. Here is The News' latest round up of what's happening.

Barley Mow, Winesham (01473 785395)

Quiz Evenings are held every other Thursday and live entertainment on some Saturdays. Food is served from Wednesday to Sunday.

The Turks Head, Hasketon (01394 610907)

The Turks Head is excited about their new chef, Dan Flory, who joins them from

Bistro on the Quay in Ipswich. The monthly quizzes are on Thursdays. In addition, there will be a very special meal for Mother's Day. Reservations should be made in advance to avoid disappointment.

The Moon and Mushroom, Swiland (01473 785320)

A take away service is available every day of the week. In addition, Fish and Chips is a favourite option on Fridays, eat in or take away. Sunday roasts are very popular.

The Dog, Grundisburgh (01473 735267)

Pascal's food continues to delight customers at The Dog. Do book up for a Moules Frites evening on 2 March and a special menu, including porcetta, for Mother's Day on Sunday 27 March.

The Fountain, Tuddenham. (01473 785377)

Breakfasts are still being served from 10 to 11:45am and afternoon tea between 2:30 and 4:30 Monday – Saturday. These have to be pre ordered 48 hours in advance.

The White Hart, Otley (01473 890312)

You can check opening times on Facebook or ring in advance. Food and drink served.

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GRUNDISBURGH VILLAGE HALL

Grundisburgh's new village hall has been many years in the making with a huge effort made by countless people over those long years. It has involved two previous possible locations in the village before the current location proved viable.

Even with the site secured, there was a major challenge to get the finance necessary to build the hall that now stands on the site. This story has many complex and involved chapters but for these purposes it has been condensed down to a manageable size, but with apologies to those who have been involved in the many elements which have not been fully covered here.

Fund raising

Fund raising is often the single most difficult stage of the building of a new community facility. We were fortunate that a planning gain agreement provided us with around £200,000 from the developers of Felgate Way, plus a 1 acre site on which to build the new hall.

In addition we obtained planning consent for the construction of two detached houses on the old hall site, which gave us a further £200,000.

We made an application to the National Lottery Community Fund which took over a year to run through the process including the final submission comprising almost 30,000 words on 75 pages! We were very fortunate to obtain a grant of £200,000 from the Community Fund.

We also approached a large number of varied grant giving entities and were fortunate to obtain a total of £50,000 from The Garfield Weston

Foundation, the Bernard Sunley Foundation, B&Q and others.

Probably the most satisfying part of the fund raising was the local community's efforts. An individual started the creation of a fund which then attracted a handful of others to commit a total of over £50,000 to the project. This sum was used as "match funding" for any other funds raised by the community. The effect was to double the amount raised by any local event.

This created much excitement and activity which included a village cycle ride, performances by the Grundisburgh Symphony Orchestra, cake sales, a "safari meal", a "tea dance" and numerous personal donations by generous local individuals and groups. In total, this local effort raised almost £100,000 – a huge sign of support and commitment from the local community.

In order to make it as "green" as possible, we decided upon solar panels once a kind resident offered to top up any shortfall after our local fund raising. We were delighted at the response to our public request for donations and we collected the £15,000 necessary to put a significant number of panels on the south facing roof.

Construction

We worked with a Quantity Surveying firm (Castons) and Architects (KLH) for a number of years to produce various options for the new hall. After much research and invaluable help from our professional team, we pursued a design that had been used in Offton & Willisham as well as Monks Eleigh, but with our own tweaks and changes. We believe the new hall is a very

efficient design for the user as well as being cost effective. We were keen to be as sustainable as possible so opted for a timber framed construction with an air sourced heat pump and solar panels.

We went through a tender process to obtain quotes to build the new hall as well as offers to buy the existing hall site. The local group, DAB, won the tender and we have found them to be excellent partners in this project. They have helped us improve parts of the build as well as accommodating a number of our design tweaks during the construction. We feel very fortunate to have teamed up with David Bates and his company (DAB) as this can be the stage where costs and time can run away with you to disastrous effect.

Opening

The new hall was handed over at the end of January and on our first day, we had two birthday parties booked for the one day! This immediately preceded our Open Day which was an opportunity for over 20 local groups to showcase their activities and we had several hundred people attend during the course of the event. They were keen to see the hall they had waited so long for, and we had very many compliments about the facilities.

In addition we have a formal Opening Ceremony on 5 March where the Lord Lieutenant: Clare, Countess of Euston (the Queen's representative in Suffolk) will open the new hall.

Coming up

We are lucky enough to have a very busy diary with an activity taking place in the hall every weekday morning and evening. These evenings are booked by the Youth Club, the Carpet

Bowls Club, the Folk Dancing Club, GADS and the ever popular Upbeat! ladies choir. In the mornings we have some very fitness orientated groups including Pilates, Yoga and Box-Fit along with the rather more sedate Art Club which has been revived by popular demand.

Bookings are coming in thick and fast for the weekends including numerous birthday parties and a number of wedding receptions which are already booked in.

Throughout the year we will be holding some fund-raising events to ensure we are able to not only pay the regular running costs, but also build up a reserve to maintain the hall in the future.

Pricing

The pricing is pretty simple with the hall costing £15 per hour and the meeting room £8 per hour except at peak times on a Friday and weekend evenings. A full card of prices is available on our website Grundisburghvillagehall.com

Thanks

This has been an enormous effort over many years with a huge number of people putting in their time, energy and expertise to make it happen. It has shown the community has a beating heart determined to overcome many obstacles and provide Grundisburgh and the surrounding villages with a community facility to be really proud of.

Bryan Laxton, chair, village hall trustees



GRUNDISBURGH VILLAGE HALL

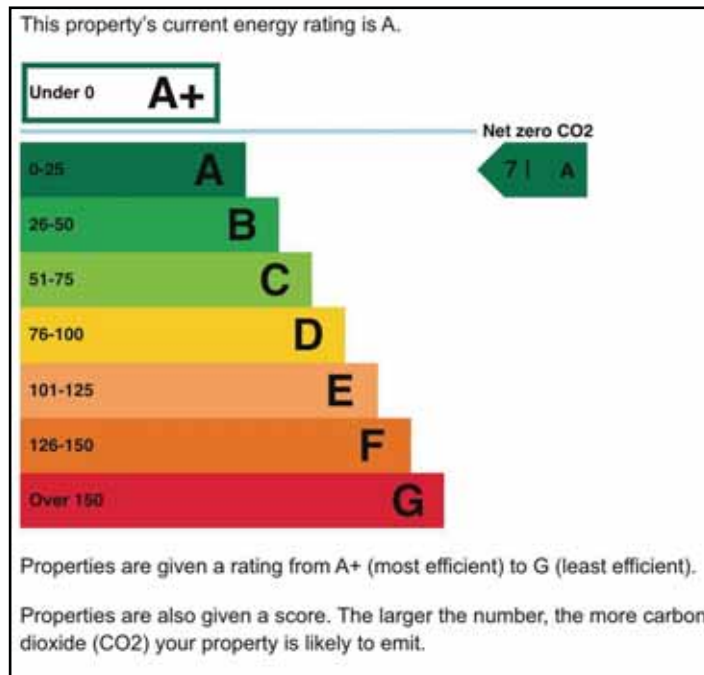
Our amazingly green village hall

Although the village hall is black on the outside, this belies its green credentials. The design of Grundisburgh's new Village Hall utilises modern construction techniques and technology to help reduce its impact on the environment. This has helped the hall achieve an A-rating on its Energy Performance Certificate, a near carbon neutral rating.

The most visible green measure is the 39 solar panels on the south and west facing roofs. These 14,600kWp of solar panels should generate over 14,000kWh of electricity annually, representing a carbon saving of 3 tonnes per year.

This reduces the amount of electricity the village hall will need to pay for and enables the hall to receive payments for any unused generation exported to the electricity network. When electricity is being exported some of the electricity you use at home will be coming from your new village hall!

The solar panels were an addition to the original plans and were funded through a combination of over £6,000 of



generous donations from the local community together with support and involvement of Suffolk County Council in its ambition to 'Create the Greenest County' through the Green Suffolk Fund grant, Councillor Elaine Bryce's locality grant as well as the Enabling Communities Budget grant from the East Suffolk councillors and Grundisburgh Parish Council's environmental CIL receipts.

The heating of the village hall will be achieved using an air-source heat pump. This works using the same principle as a fridge or air-conditioner. You may have noticed that the air at

the back of a fridge or the external vent of an air-conditioner is warmer than the inside of the fridge or room being air-conditioned. This is because they use a heat transfer cycle that takes advantage of Boyles Law.

An air-source heat pump uses this principle in reverse and transforms the energy in the cold air outside into heat for the inside of the village hall. It will work down to temperatures -20°C. Heat pumps are typically 300-400% efficient over the heating season in our climate as compared to a modern gas boiler which would be about 90% efficient.

Using electricity from the grid and the solar panels together with the efficiency of the air-source heat pump will reduce the carbon footprint of the heating by at least 50% compared to a gas boiler and carbon saving of at least 1.5 tonnes per year.

Finally, the timber frame panels that were used to construct the walls of the building. Not only do these panels help to speed the build

process they also lock away carbon that has been absorbed from the atmosphere while the timber was growing as opposed to releasing carbon with other building techniques. They ensure exceptional levels of insulation and have helped achieve an air tightness result 70% better than regulations require. As a result they will reduce the amount of heat lost from the building during the winter and lower the heating cost of the village hall.

Altogether, a great result for Grundisburgh and the environment.

Julian Brook





DAB GROUP



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DAB Group have been proud to carry out the build of the spectacular new village hall in Grundisburgh. The site of the previous hall will become home to two stunning new build properties, built by DAB Group's development arm, Ruby Homes East Anglia.

For all enquiries please call 01449 722227

GRUNDISBURGH VILLAGE HALL

Developing the business plan

Early in 2020 Bryan Laxton, chairman of the village hall trustees, asked me to lead a small group to formulate a business plan for the new hall. Stephen Cooper and David Keates kindly agreed to help me and over the next 14 months we met 54 times by Zoom!

The purpose of the plan was to make projections of future costs and revenues for the new hall over the next five years, and to use these in making recommendations to the new trustees for organisational structure (reflecting the new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) arrangement), marketing, operations, charging and cost management. Of course, the COVID

pandemic was now upon us, introducing huge uncertainties about the future, so we adopted a scenario approach to reflect a range of possible outcomes and risks.

We recognised that the new hall would be much larger than the old hall, with planted grounds, a high standard of décor and fittings and, importantly, a comfortable temperature! So costs such as maintenance, cleaning and insurance would be much higher, and while maintaining professionalism, we would need to utilise volunteers where possible. Depreciation and, in time, major maintenance would be significant.

We would therefore need an income of 2-3 times that of the

old hall. We considered historic hall usage and ways of attracting new (and former) regular and one-off users, while retaining existing village clubs and groups. High utilisation would be key to covering costs while keeping hire charges competitive. We formulated a new charging structure to reflect principles of consistency and transparency. Additional income from ongoing fund-raising would be vital to achieve overall financial balance.

Our group presented the Business Plan to the Trustees in April 2021. It was unanimously accepted and we are pleased that the new CIO Trustees are also using it as an initial working document.

John Talbot



Clockwise from top left; Crane lowering a timber section into place; timber and steel frames in place; drone view of building site; one of the EV chargers in the car park; the main hall before cladding; air source heat pumps. Photos: Peter Kendall, Andrew Cooate, Bryan Laxton



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GRUNDISBURGH VILLAGE HALL

Making good on the outside

The new village hall has been lucky enough to add quickly to its sense of being established, due to the generosity of people making donations for our planting and new turf. Susie Davis, who runs Katie's Garden, has very generously provided all the planting for the new hall site as her personal donation to the hall.

This includes over 1,000 daffodils (which were planted in January by over 20 volunteers) as well as various shrubs, perennials and trees, including some to be planted later in the spring. The WI has also kindly donated a tree, by the gate. They will all soon grow to provide the hall with a



beautiful backdrop to the new building.

Our original costings only allowed for the seeding of the remainder of the landscaped areas. However, after some crowd funding and a very generous single donation by a villager, we have now ordered over 1,000 sq metres of turf for the area to the south of the hall. We are very lucky that Ben Cook's students at Suffolk Rural College will be laying



the turf as part of their course work providing them with some useful and practical experience.

We hope these positive steps will quickly allow the new hall to settle into its one acre site and sit comfortably in its green environment.

Bryan Laxton

New gear in the hall

Grundisburgh's new village hall has been equipped with a range of up to date facilities which will benefit users. This includes:

The audio/visual system

This consists of a ceiling mounted projector, an electrically powered cinema screen, surround sound, a Blu-ray disc player, an audio mixer and a dual microphone package. This system will be able to play audio CDs, DVD and Blu-ray films, presentations and slideshows, as well as linking to laptops. A film club is being planned.

Staging

Instead of a traditional fixed stage, the hall uses modular staging which is easy to set up and dismantle when needed. Being very strong, it could even safely bear the weight of a full concert size grand piano. It can be used for stage and musical performances, weddings, business presentations and fashion catwalks.....

The Kawai CA59 digital piano

Donated to the Grundisburgh Symphony Orchestra (GSO) by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, the piano will be used by the GSO and Upbeat! choir initially. It comes on a lockable steel trolley.

It has a number of exciting features including the ability to use it as a bluetooth speaker device which means that it can be connected to a mobile phone and have music streamed through it. Sourcing a digital piano in the pandemic posed a few challenges. The Forsyth Music Shop in Manchester were exceptionally helpful advising and supplying us with a piano to suit our needs.



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A plum job!

Clare Swann has been in the beauty business for 20 years starting out as a Saturday girl in a hairdressing salon to now



owning her own beauty business, Cherry Pie Makeovers. On the way she spent eight years as a manager for The Body Shop @ home, trained with Pixiwoo (celebrity make-up artists) and taught at a school.



For the last three years Clare has run her business from a bright and cheerful purpose-built studio in Orchard End, Grundisburgh, where she offers hair, make up, nail and brow services, lash extensions, gel manicures and pedicures, luxury Opi pedicure and waxing. A lot of her work focusses around weddings and, although it has been a challenge over the last couple of years with one wedding cancelled at 24 hours notice, Clare has kept working and is looking forward to a busy 2022. Clare and her team will look after the bridal party at the venue or in their own home and she considers it an honour to be chosen and trusted by the bride for her special day.

Clare has also worked with Christening parties and for school proms. She enjoys being

able to create a variety of looks whether more classic and understated or a stronger, more bold and smoky look. She always wants to make her clients look and feel good about themselves.

From 2006 to 2016 Clare was a teacher at a Suffolk high school where she planned, delivered



and assessed a City and Guilds course in hair and beauty. She loves teaching and now offers one-to-one and small group make-up lessons from her home studio. She can help teenagers learn where to spend and where to save when buying cosmetics and, as she is a freelance worker, is not tied to any particular brand. She can also help older clients who have got into a bit of a make-up rut and want to boost their self confidence.

The highlight of Clare's career so far came in 2003 when she was invited to spend a day with Anita Roddick, founder of The Body Shop, at her home in Littlehampton. Clare was working for the Body Shop @ Home at the time and had just been selected as one of its top 50 UK consultants. She talks of Anita as a truly inspirational person who was ahead of her times in many ways in ethical and environmental standards. These are the values that Clare has taken with her into her own business.

So why 'Cherry Pie'? It is the name of Clare's favourite lipstick! Also, and perhaps more importantly, when Clare's children said they love her, she always replied 'I love you more than Cherry Pie!' Contact Clare on 07804 895499 or at

cherrypiemakeovers@gmail.com
Rosemary Kneebone

A passion for pastries

Hi my name is Vladimir and I'm the founder and the pastry chef of Vlad's patisserie, and also I'm the chef at The Fountain in Tuddenham St. Martin.

My story began in 2013 when I started my job as an apprentice chef and slowly worked myself up to my current chef position. Along the way I found my passion for desserts or any kind of pastries. Vlad's Patisserie started in the middle of the lockdown, when we were forced to close down and with plenty of free time, I started playing with the idea of starting something myself.

I can bring my ideas to life within a few hours, and also



above: me with Vanda, my wife to be!



learn new skills nearly every day. What's not to love about that? You can find me most of the time at The Fountain, which is my collection point.

I think the next step with my business is attending my first Suffolk farmers' market at Trinity Park on 19 March. I have been very lucky that my customers keep coming back and I'm grateful for their support.

The best way is to have a look at what I do (an example is in the above picture) is on my Instagram @vladspatisserie or go to my website www.vladspatisserie.co.uk

Vlad Zdarsky

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Green Bealings

Grundisburgh's first village walk of 2022 took us down Sandy Lane in Little Bealings and a casual conversation with a gentleman tending his property led to a wonderful discovery: two neighbours jointly managing a neglected piece of land to increase local



biodiversity.

Colin Hopkins and Jonathan Fieldsend (above) own some 1.5 acres of land that was once a sand quarry but had been left to revert to scrubland, overgrown and virtually impenetrable. Having bought the land out of auction about nine years ago and taking advice from the Suffolk Wildlife and Woodland trusts, the two have now cleared an acre of undergrowth, planted young cherry, birch, whitebeam and willow trees - and coppiced old marabella plum trees and constructed a 'dead hedge' on one boundary. The former village pond has been revived and now supports abundant, diverse aquatic life including newts, frogs and toads. The woods are also being used to rewild injured or orphaned hedgehogs. Evidence of badger activity is plain but the stand-out feature of our visit (in mid-February) was bird-song: chaffinches, goldfinches, robins, tits singing at full volume and not being drowned out by road and air traffic noise - quite like lockdown times! Woodcock and tree creepers are regular

visitors and when nightingales return on migration, they are also heard here in abundance.

Running through the site is a spring-fed stream and this more or less divides the land in two - lighter and drier acidic sand higher up and shady, squelchy, peaty woodland floor lower down. This presents Colin and Jonathan with a problem: what do you do with such soggy ground with its ivy-clad, old and fallen osier willows? The answer is: let more light in by removing just enough timber to encourage new growth but not to alter the essential nature of the area. That, however, is work in progress and in subsequent issues of The News, we hope to show you just how this whole project progresses, season by season.

*words: Richard Watkinson;
photo: Linda Plant*

CHARSFIELD: **beanstalks, books and bangers**

We have been working hard at Charsfield Primary School so in December as a treat, we took the whole school to the Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich to watch the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk. The children enjoyed the performance immensely and participated with booing and cheering in the right places. For many this was their first time visiting a theatre and as a school we aim to give all our pupils worthwhile experiences outside of school whenever we can. A big thank you to our amazing PTA who part funded this for all pupils.

This term, our younger pupils have been busy rehearsing for their visit to Snape Maltings in March, where we, with lots of other schools, will be performing songs about saving our planet. In art, the pupils are creating posters to display during their performance.

Our Cookery After School Club has been so popular that

we are now offering two of these each week. Pupils have been learning about the different ingredients they are using, where they come from, and making some tasty meals to enjoy. Delectable delights include sausage and tomato pasta bake, healthy macaroni cheese (which was a big hit!), spaghetti bolognese and stew with mustard mash and vegetables. To help our pupils develop their reading and enthusiasm for books, we have introduced a Reading Challenge across the school. Pupils are encouraged to read inside and outside school, to gain certificates and House Points. We were delighted to have just awarded our first Bronze certificate for reading 30 times since the start of term! Many pupils are nearing this first milestone too. We are also updating our library so that we are able to accommodate all of the lovely new books we won from the EADT competition in 2020.



We've been really pleased to continue with our PAT Dog (Pets as Therapy) visits with Izzy and Mrs McArthur (above). All the children in the school will get a chance to have some sessions with Izzy and Mrs McArthur throughout the year to aid their mental health and wellbeing.

These are just some of the things that our pupils get to

experience at our exceptional school. Please visit www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk or call on 01473 737347 to arrange a visit.

Mrs Reeve, head of school

GRUNDISBURGH: **cycling, curling and reading**

In early December, we enjoyed a very productive week of hedge planting following the arrival of over 350 saplings from the Woodland Trust. A huge thank you to Emma Dixon, then Chair of FOGS (Friends of Grundisburgh School) for making the successful application for the trees on our behalf. Every class had the opportunity to help plant the mixed hedge all along the boundary of the Outdoor School area. It was a super way to celebrate National Tree Week and consider the vital role trees play in maintaining and supporting our environment. In addition to our autumn planting we have some late winter trees to put in with the planting of our new fruit orchard and an oak tree to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

As a result of our winning entry to the 'Women's Tour Schools Challenge' event, our Year 5 and 6 classes took part in a cycling activity day in December, led by former National BMX Champion and British Cycling Coach, John Stockwell. John came to school with bikes and all the equipment needed to give the children an all-inclusive outdoor cycling experience. All sessions were held on the playground and started with a safety briefing and bike check leading on to essential skills and some exciting fun races. Years 3 and 4 enjoyed an inspirational Zoom meeting in December with Paralympian Ali Jawed, who had recently returned from competing at Powerlifting in the Beijing Paralympic Games. Ali told his amazing story and answered



Safer cycling at school

children's questions and they all received a book outlining his inspirational story. With Winter Olympics then approaching, pupils in Year 1-6 enjoyed a taster session trying out curling using specially adapted 'stones' that do not need ice. The children had a lot of fun honing up their accuracy and learning how to curl.



Curling without ice!

We have World Book Day on 3 March with our usual 'dress as a book character' day and many other reading, writing and book related activities designed to reflect and encourage our love of books. We plan to celebrate British Science Week starting 14 March following an introductory Science Show during the previous week and with the theme of Growth running through the planned activities and competitions.

Finally, we are looking for two new co-opted governors. Do you feel you have the skills, knowledge or experience that could benefit a small primary school? We are looking for those interested in education and in contributing to the development of the school; has sufficient time to be able to attend meetings (two termly meetings and at least one termly committee meeting) and

to visit the school when required; can offer a particular skill set relevant to school life and is willing to attend relevant training – some of which may take place during the day or in the evenings.

If you are interested and would like to know more, then please contact Mrs Debbie Standing, Chair of Governors at debbie.standing@grundisburgh.suffolk.sch.uk or me on 01473 735281; or email admin@grundisburgh.suffolk.sch.uk

Mrs Sue Marks, Headteacher

ps FOGS are delighted to announce our first fundraising event of 2022!

Chilli-Con-Quiz will be on Saturday 12 March in the Grundisburgh Village Hall, doors open at 7pm for 7:30 start. Tickets are £10 per person and are on sale now from the school office.

If you know with whom you are teaming up (max 8 per team), please let the office know when you purchase tickets as this will assist us in planning the table layout. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Grundisburgh Playing Field Committee announces the official opening of the Grundisburgh Community Playground and Gardens on Tuesday 19 April at 1 pm at the Playing Fields, Ipswich Road, Grundisburgh, IP13 6UT

Cat rescue goes on

Last Spring we carried a short piece on animal rescue, particularly relating to feral cats: here is a bit more about this operation based in our area. Geogina who runs it started animal rescue in London 40 years ago, working very closely with all the big charities. She says: "I opened two charity shops which paid for all the neutering, and dealt with all the poor cats on the worst sink estates. Eventually, I was burnt out and decided to retire to Suffolk. Some hope! I have been just as busy here and the cruelty is different from inner city treatment of animals but just as prevalent. I am motivated by a sense of justice to helpless creatures who can't speak for themselves and believe that, if children can be taught kindness and responsibility towards them, and not just "want a kitten/puppy" to love without being responsible for their welfare, the world will be a better place."

Did you know that cats can contract feline AIDS and leukaemia through fighting and mating? Neutering cats over five months old can prevent this. Did you know that cats will soon have to be microchipped BY LAW?

For the last 22 years, Animal Relief Neutering has been trapping feral cats in the local area, neutering them and returning them to site, or finding other farms, stables and smallholdings in East Anglia for them to live.

In addition to this, they have 16 vets all over Suffolk on their neutering scheme, from Felixstowe to Bury St Edmunds that do very reduced-cost neutering for anyone who is struggling to pay for this essential service. In some cases they can neuter cats for free. They also have a regular supply of quality cat and dog food to give to people struggling to feed their pets that can be delivered if needed.

Animal Relief Fund (ARF) also have a microchipping service, (DEFRA registered), operated by Ria who will come to your home and chip your cats for £9.99.

They have a number of foster homes that will take stray cats or kittens, and a team of 'hand rearers' who feed baby kittens until they are weaned. They have a very high success rate with taming down semi-feral cats and kittens and in the last 18 months, ARF have neutered over 2000 cats.

They always need good quality items to sell to raise money for vets bills and need volunteers to help set traps and take the cats to the vet. If you can offer any help to us, or need our help with any of the services above, contact animalreliefneutering1@gmail.com or call us on 07907 122888.



Tom Tom, a 16 year old cat severely neglected by his owners, rescued and brought back to health and happiness by Geogina.



Grundisburgh Brownies & Guides re-open

We are really excited to announce that we have re-opened the Brownies and Guides in Grundisburgh.

Brownies – Aged 7-10 years
We meet on a Tuesday between 4.45pm and 6.15pm at the New Village Hall, Grundisburgh
For further information please email: Grundisburgh.brownies@outlook.com

Guides – Aged 10-14 years
We meet on a Tuesday between 6.30pm and 8pm in the Grundisburgh Pavilion.
For further information please contact Jo on 07885 265074.
To register your daughter for Brownies or Guides please visit girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

We have had some interest in re-starting the Rainbows but do not have Leaders to run the unit. If you would be interested in getting involved with Guiding, please email us on grundisburgh.brownies@outlook.com

Caroline Bell, Sharon Proctor and Jo Saagi

1st Grundisburgh Scout Group

We finished mid December, looking forward to the Xmas holiday rest as all sections had been very busy. Activities started again in early January.

Beavers had made xmas decorations, enjoyed a party and had a great campfire. This term they are making creative pancakes, tree identification, crafts for Mother's Day and taking part in the parade. Cubs hiked with Scouts from

Playford to Martlesham chip shop, did geocaching and a campfire before the holiday. This term they are taking part in a trail around the village, making creative pancakes and having a sleepover at Kesgrave Scout HQ after hiking from Grundisburgh.

Scouts had a 'bin bag' fashion show, hiked to Martlesham with Cubs, and enjoyed Ten Pin Bowling. Already this year they have hiked to Hasketon with hot dogs awaiting them, and will take part in the big 'Expedition Challenge' hike from Framlingham back to Grundisburgh in time for our Mother's Day Parade.

Explorers had a swimming and chips night, went camping at Hallowtree, did a cooking challenge and games. This term they are taking part in indoor archery, having a visit from Rendlesham Explorers, ultimate frisbee and hiking from Framlingham for Mother's Day Parade. We have started archery

training and hope to attend the National Scout Archery Competition in May. All our sections will be at St.

Mary's Church on 27 March for the Mother's Day Parade. The fireworks display in November made just under £6,000 our best total yet! Here's a date for your diary – Sunday 26 June when our Duck Race is back!

Pat Ross, Group Secretary, 01473 735352

Youth Voice is back

A scheme involving young people in local issues which affect them has restarted and wants as many as possible to get involved and help make a real difference. Youth Voice is designed for them to share their thoughts and to see how their opinions can help shape their communities. This is for 11 to 24 year olds - who are invited to fill in a short form at [https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/Youth voice](https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/Youth%20voice).





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Grundisburgh Baptist Chapel closes

It is with great sadness that we came to the united decision to close Grundisburgh Baptist Chapel. It is the end of a 224-year history.

The chapel was built in 1798 and thrived in the early years with congregations of 800 people and the planting of eight other churches. Thompson Close is named after its first pastor, John Thompson, who served here for 28 years.

However, the congregation has declined in recent times and has now become too small to be viable. We have enjoyed many lovely times here, and have been privileged to serve the community and share the wonderful message of Christ's love and salvation. Some of the highlights have been running children's and young people's meetings and the very popular Easter Egg Hunt at the Millennium Meadow. It has also been nice that we have been able to make the premises available for community groups to hire, such as the WI and the art group.

What saddens us most is that so many are missing out on what Christ could do for them because they have not yet come to faith. We hope that even the continuing presence of the building will be a reminder of



the good news that we preached here. After that the chapel has to be left empty for a year and then it will be sold by the trustees. All who met here regularly will miss each other very much, but we will be looking for other churches to join.

Many have asked what will happen to Gill and me personally. We have nothing planned as yet and we are seeking the Lord's will for the future. That will take some time, but it will probably mean that we will eventually have to move from the village – and it will be hard to leave such a lovely place!

*Colin Grimwood
Photos: Peter Kendall*

The last service was held on 13 February, and Colin was presented with this framed plaque which reads:

**Be strong and of good courage:
DO NOT BE AFRAID,
NOR BE DISMAYED
FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD
IS WITH YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO
(JOSHUA 1 V 9)**

PASTOR COLIN AND GILL GRIMWOOD, JAMES, EMILY AND JOE FROM GRUNDISBURGH BAPTIST CHURCH; GIVING THANKS FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SERVICE 30 OCTOBER 1993 13 FEBRUARY 2022

WI REPORTS

With the closure of the Baptist Chapel, Grundisburgh Burgh and Culpho WI will be holding its meetings in the pavilion on the playing fields. These take place on the first Monday of each month, and are attended by up to 28 members. More will be very welcome.

The last meeting of 2021 was a festive one and we had a 14-piece ukulele band called 'What No Cake' to entertain us. The first meeting of the new year was a social afternoon when a quiz organised by WI member Gill Johnston was much enjoyed.

In February we met at the Baptist Chapel, sadly for the last time. We had a very interesting talk by Norma Howell about Medical Detection Dogs. There are two types, Bio Detective Dogs and Medical Alert Assistance Dogs. Both are trained to use their highly developed sense of smell to save lives. A dog has 300,000,000 smell receptor sensors.

It costs around £29,000 to train a dog and all the money is raised from donations. It is awe-inspiring to see what benefits these dogs can bring, changing the lives of seriously ill people.

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News Tribute

Norman Davis, 1938 to December 2021

Norman Davis was a gentle man with a vision and a talent for making people want to volunteer! He led by example and worked alongside volunteers, whatever the role, from cleaning to churchyard maintenance to clearing out the stream.

During his 22 years as Rector, initially of Grundisburgh and Burgh, then of Boulge and Hasketon as well, Norman Davis had a significant impact on both church and community. He made church services more relevant to the times, introduced services appropriate to a range of ages, encouraged members of the congregation to take an active part in services and developed the social life of the church. Coffee mornings, the fete, harvest suppers, the Lunch Club, walks and church picnics were all started by Norman. He and his wife, Lorna, also enabled 'Sunday Clubs' for children and teenagers and a monthly hour of singing new hymns, with a keyboard, in the Parish Room.

Alongside this he initiated a major church renovation project in Grundisburgh, kicked off by his preaching on the parable of the talents, then giving everyone £1 to use as

they wished. There is improved lighting, an audio system and floodlighting because of him.

Norman was part of the whole community, accessible to all, spending time in the school playground chatting to the children and their mums,



joining in with village events and spending time with the housebound. Norman and Lorna inspired and took part in fund raisers such as the village quiz, a village sponsored walk and a 'Mr and Mrs' competition, not forgetting his part as a member of 'Emanon' (a take off of the group the 'Three Degrees').

Norman retired in 2004. He and Lorna then moved to live in Orford, where she had spent her childhood.

Hilary Hill, who was churchwarden at St Mary's for 21 of Norman's 22 years.

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Tennis club springs into action

The days are getting longer which means more time for tennis! At Grundisburgh Tennis Club we are getting ready for the start of the new season with some great membership rates and some exciting coaching opportunities. Our annual memberships run from 1 April. Once you have joined you can book courts via our online booking system.

There are a number of groups who arrange to play together on a weekly basis. These group sessions are a great way to enjoy a game and to socialise.



Some of our more competitive players are doing well in local leagues and there are always opportunities for new people to join in and be part of a team.

We are looking forward to the return of our very popular LTA youth squads for junior players along with our Tennis Adult Beginners' Group. Brand new for this year is a ladies only Pair and Play opportunity, starting on Thursday 7 April at 18.00. Players of any standard are welcome to come along as the emphasis will be on fun with just a hint of friendly competition.

Our award winning LTA accredited coach, Carl Douglas, can be contacted on 07553 966380. For more information about membership, court hire and coaching please go to: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/GrundisburghTennisClub> or grundisburghtennis.co.uk

Photo left: junior tennis club member Amelia was at the village hall open day to encourage people to join.

Urgent appeal:

The News needs a new advertising manager!

It is thanks to the companies who advertise in The News that we have the funds to print and distribute 3,000 copies free to the 18 villages in our area.

We need someone to join the News' team to keep in touch with our advertisers and to recruit more when needed.

To find out more please contact News' treasurer Sue Haddock or editor Nicola Hobbs.

This is not a time consuming role but it is vital to the continuation of The News.

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 to us on paper or by email.

Photos can be sent as JPGs (but not embedded in Word documents) or as prints. If prints are to be returned please include an addressed envelope.

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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 to editor@grunews.com by 4 May, but earlier booking is recommended as space is limited. Queries to: 01473 738267.

Reel Talent

Any of you whose children have attended Grundisburgh Primary School in the last few years, will know Nicola Mason who is one of the teachers there. When not trying to get year 6 kids through SATS, Nicola plays the fiddle in a folk band called SilMor.

So who are SilMor? The 'Sil' part is Garry Silbert, who plays the banjo and percussion instruments like the bodhrán.



A bodhrán is the hand held Irish drum usually beaten with a double ended stick, usually called a tipper (I have to make this educational to avoid a detention from Mrs Mason).

Gary Morling plays the guitar and mandolin. He and Nicola also sing.

Completing the line-up is Brian Barker, who plays the melodeon, more commonly known as a 'squeezebox'.



SilMor play Celtic, Irish, French and American folk tunes, plus some of their own compositions written by Gary Morling. Their sets usually comprise fast, upbeat songs and reels, rather than the more mournful 'finger in the ear' folk songs.

Some of their instruments have a story to tell too. Garry Silbert used to be a cabinet maker by trade and turned his woodworking skills into a hobby so that he now makes his own instruments. He showed me the banjo he made himself, from beautiful rosewood. He makes instruments for other people, including mandolins and even lutes, which are difficult because of the deep bulbous sound box, made from numerous pieces of carefully curved wood.



Nicola's fiddle was made about 100 years ago in what is now Slovakia and Brian's melodeons come from France and Germany. He has to have more than one as although the buttons allow different notes to be played, they are in a certain key signature so a change of key requires a change of instrument.

You can see these instruments in action if you follow the link to their FaceBook page via the QR code (on this page) and watch their videos.

SilMor have managed to do a gig most months since the first

lock down ended, mainly in pubs, such as The Ship at Blaxhall (shown on the video). They also play at weddings and private parties. Later this year they hope to record some of their songs and put them online. They would like to play at more folk festivals and some of the band have previously performed at the Ipswich Music Day, Snape Maltings and, in Garry's case, a tour of Denmark.

They describe their style of music as 'fast and furious', sometimes resulting in people singing noisily and dancing on tables. So just like a typical year 6 class really...

Paul Whittingham



Photos, clockwise from top: The band at The Ship Inn; Band members, from left, Gary Morling, Nicola Mason, Garry Silbert and Brian Barker; Garry Silbert with his home made banjo.

This is the third article in Paul Whittingham's series featuring local music groups. Any groups within The News catchment area are welcome to contact Paul with information about themselves. He can be contacted on: paul.whittingham123@gmail.com



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