

The Grundisburgh and District News

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First community first responder group formed

The initiative to form a community first responder group in Otley and Clopton started about 18 months ago when Mike Bowers was watching one of those emergency ambulance programmes.

Realising we live in a remote location not easy to reach in a hurry, he started to investigate the options. This was when he learnt about the Community First Responder (CFR) programme run by the East of England Ambulance Service.

Saving vital minutes

The purpose of a Community First Responder is to reach life-threatening emergencies in the first vital few minutes before the ambulance crew, to stabilise the patient and provide appropriate care until the highly skilled crew can take over. Mike tabled the idea of setting up a local group to Otley Parish Council. And with its support an advert for volunteers was put out within the local community.

This received an encouraging response - and so the Otley and Clopton First Responders Group was born one cold dark night in Otley Village Hall.

Continued on page 5



Photos clockwise from top left: Ruth Goudy of Kiln Farm Nursery, one of the local enterprises featured on pages 12 and 13; Clopton First Responders pages 1 and 5; Tuddenham cake winners - more coronation celebration pictures on the centre pages; Art for Cure sculpture in Helmingham Hall gardens. (Photos Gary Bright, Jean Ellinor and Peter Kendall).



The Art for Cure exhibition at

Helmingham Hall had raised over £100K by mid-May. The sculptures are remaining on view in the gardens until 17 September. Belinda Gray, founder of the charity which raises money for breast cancer research and support, is looking for more volunteers to give some help at this stunning exhibition. She can be contacted at Belinda@artforcure.org.uk.



WHAT'S ON

MAY

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28
Open Gardens & Annual Plant sale
 Otley & District Gardening Club, Otley VH, 2pm Contact issywizzy58@gmail.com

Sunday 28
Open Day - Road Run
 Debach Airfield & 493rd Bomb Group Museum Debach Airfield 11am - 4pm Contact 07850 078432 or 493bgdebach@gmail.com

JUNE

Thursday 1
Garden Party
 Grundisburgh WI Gr Pavilion 2:15 pm Contact 735394

Saturday 10 & Sunday 11
Hidden Gardens
 Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society 2pm - 6pm Tickets Gr Green, Contact catherine@laxton-interiors.co.uk

Thursday 15
Craft Group Meeting
 Gr PR 9:30 am - 12:00 noon Contact 735517

Friday 16
Pop-Up Bar
 Bredfield Village Hall 6:00pm - 10:30pm Contact www.bredfieldvillagehall.org.uk/news.html

Friday 23 & Saturday 24
Spring Play - Bunkered
 GADS Gr VH PBE 7:30 pm Contact grundisburghamdrum.com or ianfrost@gmail.com

Sunday 25
Duck Race
 1st Grundisburgh Scouts Gr VG 12:30 pm. Race at 3 pm Contact 735352

Sunday 25
Open Day Debach Airfield & 493rd Bomb Group Museum 11am - 4 pm Contact 07850 078432 or 493bgdebach@gmail.com

JULY

Thursday 6
Outing to Tuddenham Fountain
 Grundisburgh WI 12noon Contact 735394

Saturday 15
Grundisburgh Village Show
 Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society Gr PF 12.30pm-5pm Contact 738997

Summer Dance
 Marquee on Gr PF, 7.45pm PBE. Contact grundisburghsummerdance@yahoo.com

Thursday 20
Craft Group Meeting
 Gr PR 9:30 am - 12:00 noon Contact 735517

Sunday 30
Open Day - Classic Cars
 Debach Airfield & 493rd Bomb Group Museum Debach Airfield 11:00 am - 4:00 pm Contact 07850 078432 or 493bgdebach@gmail.com

AUGUST

Thursday 3
Wiltshire Farm Foods.
 Grundisburgh WI

Gr Pavilion 2:15 pm Contact 735394

Friday 4
Garden Party 6.30-8.30pm Grundisburgh Horticultural Society PBE Contact 738997.

Thursday 17
Craft Group Meeting
 Gr PR 9:30am - 12:00 noon Contact 735517

Sunday 27
Open Day at Debach Airfield
 493rd Bomb Group Museum Debach Airfield 11:00 am - 4:00 pm Contact 07850 078432 or 493bgdebach@gmail.com

Key to abbreviations

PBE Pre booking essential
 PF Playing field
 PR Parish Rooms
 Gr Grundisburgh

All phone numbers 01473 unless shown otherwise.

Brief details of events can be sent up to a year ahead to diary@grunews.com. These will go into The News online diary (www.grundisburghnews.org.uk) immediately and later fed into the printed version.



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WHAT'S ON

Madrigals, motets, ballads and folk

Boulge's lovely church in the fields is the venue for a special concert by the Illuminati Choir on Saturday 17 June. This will include Elizabethan madrigals, motets, medieval ballads and folk songs – a mix of sacred and secular music.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and drinks will be served in the interval. Admission is free, with a retiring collection in aid of Boulge Church. To find church: travelling from Bredfield towards Debach on the C309 look out for the signpost for Boulge Church pointing to the left up a rough road, then round to the right where it is well signed.

Kate Pirkis,
katepirkis@gmail.com

Cold war comedy

With our first panto in the new hall under our belts, GADS will soon be back onstage for another performance in June. Our spring play this year is entitled 'Bunkered' - and, no, it's not about golf!

Written by Lynn Brittney and directed by John Cuff (or Slap from the panto!), it's a comedy about an old cold war intelligence bunker, which is

being manned by four people, even though, as far as the Royal Navy is concerned, it should have been decommissioned, and the staff made redundant, in 1991. With retirement looming, one of them decides to get all the old equipment back to full working order. In doing this, naval HQ start getting signals from a presumed defunct facility. Time to send in the Marines!

Performances are on Friday 23 and Saturday 24 June at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 and are available from grundisburghamdram.com or by scanning the qr code on the advert below. In a change to recent years, we won't be supplying a ploughmans supper in the ticket price, but there will be a licensed bar and refreshments to buy.

Our panto, Cinderella, was a great success, helped by some new members joining in the fun. It's great to get new people in the group so if you'd like to get involved, on or off stage, or even if you'd just like to become a patron. This costs just £20 a year and goes towards our running costs (hall hire, insurance, etc).

Come and see us at Grundisburgh Village Hall on Wednesday nights from 7.30pm or drop me an email for more details.

lanfrost68@gmail.com

Local history expedition

Grundisburgh Local History Society has a few places left for their visit to Orford Ness on Wednesday 19 July (meeting at 9.45am on Orford Quay).

Following a ferry ride from the quay leaving at 10am sharp, there will be a tour in the National Trust passenger trailer. We will be accompanied by a knowledgeable tour guide and a driver. This will last around four hours, giving access to all buildings and Atomic Weapons Research Establishment (AWRE) site.

The buildings on this site are not accessible to visitors but you can get very close and photo opportunities are excellent. The cost for a trailer tour is £25 for National Trust members and

£32.50 for non members. The society's programme of evening talks start again in September.

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



The newly formed film club in Grundisburgh already has 65 members and will be meeting on the last Sunday of each month in the village hall.

The first showing, on Sunday 28 May, features the real life story of a paraplegic millionaire in Paris who takes on a young black man from a tower block as his live-in carer. It's touching, hilarious and exciting by turns.


To join the club (one year membership costs £15) please contact me: Peter Kendall,
peter@peterkendall.com,

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WHAT'S ON

Grundisburgh's horticultural events

Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society events start over the weekend of 10 and 11 June with Hidden Gardens.

Around 20 gardens, large and small, will be open, all full of ideas and inspiration. Tickets are only £5 and cover all gardens for both days. There will be the usual plant sale and cake stalls on Grundisburgh Green. The Friends of Grundisburgh School will be serving yummy cakes and tea in the parish rooms.

This event is supported by the Grundisburgh Dog and Katies Garden so please come along and support those who help us raise funds for the Village Show. The show takes place on Saturday 15 July and

the schedules are now available in local stores and other outlets - so pick up your free copy for all the information. If you or your group have not yet booked your stall on the playing field, please contact me.

We have some new and interesting stalls this year as well as the Big Band, bar, BBQ, teas/cakes and the grand marquee with the show entries, all supported by Homestyle Windows.

There will also be a car boot sale; pitches cost £6 and there is no need to book: just be set up before 12.30pm when the show starts. See you there!

But please note that dogs are not permitted on the playing field.

The summer dance will be held in the marquee after the show from 7.45pm. Dancing to local band Larkside, tickets

and more information from Ben and Mandy on grundisburghsummerdance@yahoo.com, 07733 016611 (and not as shown in the show schedule). Details of the food provided will be available later.

Our summer garden party is on Friday 4 August at a delightful garden in the centre of the Grundisburgh. Tickets are £10 and include supper and a glass of wine. These will go on sale after the show and must be bought in advance from Williams Stores or Forge Stores.

Save the date, Tuesday 19 September: a day out to RHS Hyde Hall, details later.

As you can see the horticultural society is always busy. If you feel you would like to help with any of our events or join the committee please contact me.

Martin Cripps,
chairman@grundisburghshow
www.grundisburghshow.com

Help needed at wildlife site

Volunteers are needed to help at Millennium Meadow, on the first Saturday of every month, between 10am and 12.30pm. This wildlife haven off Lower Road in Grundisburgh is open to everyone and more helpers are needed to maintain and plant it. For more details please contact Paul Franklin, Millennium Meadow Warden, on 01473 735295.

Safer driving in villages

SaViD, the road safety group, will soon be marking its ninth birthday. It will be meeting in public in Playford Village Hall on 1 June and will be working to analyse the data from the SIDs (the speed/smiley face devices). More on road safety will be featured in the next issue of The News.

Pauline Procter,
paulineprocter@btinternet.com

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Otley & Clopton volunteers launch Community First Responder group

Continued from page 1

The volunteers have all undergone a formal interview process followed by the mandatory CRB checks before completing their extensive training programme. The group is now operational, providing cover for Otley, Clopton and the surrounding villages.

Once the theoretical training was complete and prior to going out alone, the team started putting the new-found knowledge into practice by shadowing local ambulance crews and other Community First Responders as they delivered care in their community.

Each volunteer is provided with the necessary emergency medical equipment and they cover a radius of six miles from their location which then incorporates surrounding villages including Grundisburgh, Hasketon, Tuddenham, Boulge, Bredfield, Burgh, Charsfield, Culpho, Dallinghoo and Debach.

All time is voluntary and with such a small group, we will not be able to provide 24/7 cover. But as we are able to recruit new members, we would hope to increase the amount of time we can cover.

We would very much welcome hearing from more people who

might be interested in volunteering. For more information on the process, please contact Mike at Mbowers1100@gmail.com

Funding for the group is minimal. The East of England Ambulance Service has provided us with one 'First Responders' kit and all subsequent equipment needs to be funded by the community. Thanks to generous benefactors, we are acquiring two more kits but we need more. The kit includes a defibrillator, observation equipment, breathing apparatus and a communicating device and costs £2,300 for each responder.

We are seeking donations from local individuals and businesses to support the set-up of this new, voluntary emergency service for our local community. Donations can be made to The East of England Ambulance Service NHS trust Charitable Funds; registered charity number 1047987. Donating by bank transfer or BACS; Account: East of England Ambulance Service. Sort Code 20-62-53 Account number 60601306 Payment reference 'R307'

Words and photos Gary Bright, Community First Responder,



First Responders, from left: Mike Bowers, Cally Field and Gary Bright. Other team members who are pictured on page 1 are Chris Lye and Tessa Holmes.

District council elections

The elections for the East Suffolk Council held in early May have resulted in Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward (which covers all the News villages) having one Green Party councillor and one Conservative councillor.

Representing the Green Party is Daniel Clery. He is a science journalist who has written for some of the foremost science magazines in the world, and is also the author of two books on Fusion Energy. He lives in Hasketon.

Colin Hedgley has served as a Conservative on East Suffolk Council since 2015 and has been a parish councillor for 24 years (recently on Great Bealings Parish Council). He is a member of the road safety group SaViD and of Great Bealings speedwatch team.

Tony Fryatt who had been the other councillor for the ward with Colin had stood down on health grounds.

Elections for district councils are held every four years.

Nicola Hobbs

Further review on how the CIL money should be spent

The public consultation carried out by Grundisburgh Parish Council on how residents would like to see the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money spent, resulted in 97 responses containing over 100 different proposals. A subcommittee of the parish council has carried out an initial review and has produced a shortlist of 13 for further study.

An extraordinary meeting of the council is being organised during June to review these. The CIL money, amounting nearly £70,000, is mainly from the development on Chapel Field.

Geoff Caryer, Vice Chairman, Grundisburgh Parish Council

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Profile: George Taylor, musician

“Give It Up”, “Ophelia”, “Stay Warm” are just some of the successful songs released by musician and Grundisburgh resident, George Taylor. Check them out on Spotify or YouTube.

George was born in Leamington Spa and at the age of 13, he started learning to play the guitar. George then



joined bands when he was at school and his passion for music continued when he went to Oxford Brooks University to study business management.

Already, however, his interest in music and ability to write songs was emerging as his real calling. He wrote songs and did some gigs while still at college at a scale which justified him engaging a manager in his final year there.

After university, George moved to London where he was signed up by Warner Chappell Music, the huge American music

publisher, as a contracted song writer. He joins other ‘Georges’ signed by Warner Chappell including George Michael and George Gershwin, to name but two.

This new role saw George moving to America to work as a song writer, initially in New York and later, Los Angeles. In America, he had some great experiences working with all kinds of music industry people.

Although contracted to write songs for others, George writes and records his own material and has done some tours.

George has released eight singles. His song “I Hear Your Song, Sweetness”, has had



nearly nine million streams on Spotify with several others having over 3 million. He has some cool videos on

YouTube as well. Have a look at the video of “Roses” by searching “George Taylor Roses” on YouTube’s search function.

The arrival of Covid put a damper on George’s role in the USA, so he came back to



England and now lives in Grundisburgh. He was doing a lot of his work in the Old Jet studios at Bentwaters, recording songs for an upcoming album.

He has now assembled recording equipment at home, so is finishing his album there in the house he shares with girlfriend Lydia, and their dog Ziggy (pictured left, no, this Ziggy doesn’t play guitar or know the Spider from Mars).

George prefers to write and perform on acoustic guitars, of which he has several. This lends itself to the atmospheric and emotional songs which he writes and for which he is known. He also uses electric guitars and plays some keyboard music.

His future aspirations include doing a tour once his new album is out, so look out for that. Now only 30, and with so many valuable experiences



George hopes to release the album fairly soon, both on streaming services and in hard copy form, given the recent resurgence of vinyl records.

In terms of instruments,

behind him in the music business already, things are looking bright for George and I wish him every success in his future career, wherever it takes him.

Words Paul Whittingham, two



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Bell peal to mark the retirement of Clopton's churchwarden

At the end of March bell ringers from the Suffolk Guild of Ringers were delighted to ring a peal for Doris Main to mark her retirement as Clopton Churchwarden after many years of dedicated service.

To ring a full peal takes a certain amount of stamina but more so concentration for two to three hours depending on the number of bells involved and the weight of the bells. Some ringers find it rewarding to ring peals and they are often rung to mark special or significant events both national and local.

To ring for Doris made this peal particularly special.

David Stanford

Repairing the bell tower

Doris and her husband Alex came to live in Clopton in 1983. He served as church warden for a number of years but was increasingly supported in the role by Doris as his health started to fail. She took over after his death in 2005.

A major achievement during her time was raising the large sums needed to restore the church tower and bells. The cracks in the tower were rectified as the first stage, in 2008, at a cost of £90,000.



Top: Doris Main. Above: Seeing for herself: Doris gets a lift to the top of the church tower while the work was underway.

Then a new bell frame, and repairs to the bell were completed in 2011 which, together with the creation of the heritage centre cost £105,000.

A group of volunteers had helped to take down the six bells and dismantle the old frame before building the new

frame and rehang the bells after they were repaired. This saved the church thousands of pounds.

A wide range of grant-making bodies that had been approached by Doris for funds supported the appeal. This together with local fund raising activities and the generosity of many local people enabled the work to be carried out.

Doris is very happy that the role of church warden has now

been taken on by Jenny Schurr, who has been working with her for the past couple of years. Doris is also delighted that she will now have time to spend developing the 'heritage centre' she started in the corner of the church (and which will be featured in a future issue of The News).

Words Nicola Hobbs. photo of Doris by Peter Kendall



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News from Charsfield C of E Primary School

We are delighted that following our Ofsted inspection in the Spring term, we are judged to be a GOOD school! Staff work incredibly hard to make our school a wonderful place to learn. Here are some comments from the report that the inspectors made about the school:

* "Charsfield is a friendly and caring school. It feels 'like a family in its own right'".

* "Pupils play well together. They are kind and thoughtful towards one another. Pupils feel safe at school".

* "Pupils achieve well in all subjects".

* "There is strong provision for children's learning in early years".

* "There are good opportunities for learning outdoors as well as inside the classroom".

The full report can be found on the Ofsted website.

Here are just a few of the things we got up to in Spring term: pupils in KS2 designed and made Norman helmets and shields as part of their combined History/Art/DT project about the 1066 Norman conquest. The children did research before deciding on the best way to construct them. They also replicated a display of the Bayeux Tapestry, each child recreating a scene from the tapestry which we hung up

as a frieze in the corridor. Pupils in KS2 learned about the local area and how the land is used, looking at the range of buildings, identifying and comparing the different features that older and more modern properties have. The children really enjoyed this and were able to discuss why older houses may not have straight walls and recognise how older buildings in the village have changed over time e.g. their uses, extensions etc.

In literacy, each class based their writing on a chosen book/text: Reception learning about penguins, with pupils in KS1 writing on the theme of seaside and pirates. Years 5 and 6 wrote some hilarious adventure stories based upon characters from the book 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce. We have some more exciting themes and texts in mind for the summer term such as 'Theseus and the Minotaur' and 'My Friend Walter' by Michael Morpurgo.

The whole school is taking part in the Grow Your Own Potatoes competition: pupils taking turns to tend the potatoes and monitor their growth. We already have some good-sized plants: after harvesting we will weigh each class's haul to see who has grown the most! We will make some delicious potato recipes and will taste and evaluate the results as part of our curriculum, where we learn about seasonal produce.

We will resume swimming lessons at Framlingham College: all our pupils have the chance to swim and it's paying dividends as we have some very good and enthusiastic swimmers. Pupils who lacked confidence at the beginning of September have made so much progress and are now entering



Above: Marking World Book Day; Left: Norman masks.

the water and swimming confidently which is wonderful to see.

We are excited to start up our Forest School Sessions on site again this term. Our Forest School Leader, Mrs Foster, has been busy planning some exciting activities for us to take part in. The children are very keen to get den building, investigate the outside area and learn new skills.

We are holding our annual Sports Day in June - in the afternoon we invite parents, friends and relatives in to cheer on and watch traditional races such as running, relay, obstacle course and egg and spoon. Years 3 - 6 will put together a summer performance in July with acting, singing and dancing. We invite parents, relatives and friends to watch our

efforts! We're also looking forward to inviting them into school for 'share mornings' - based upon our class topics - as well as to our reading cafés. Outside if the weather allows!

Importantly, Year 6 pupils will have the opportunity to visit a university in July to find out what it's like and what types of courses they could study.

The above only really scratches the surface of what we do at our school: if you would like to see more, please visit www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk If you are looking for schooling in the area, we would love to show you around: please call 01473 737347 to find out more or to book an appointment.

Mrs Reeve, Head of School

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News from Grundisburgh Primary School

We have introduced the following values which underpin life at our school: Growth, Ownership, Welcoming, Teamwork and Honesty. Children who



demonstrate these values are celebrated in a parent assembly and then receive an afternoon tea with the headteacher.

The school has been successfully running a workshop each week to support parents in their understanding of how children are taught maths. Through working together with Realise Futures these sessions have helped support parents in supporting their children in their development of key mathematical skills.

To further promote a love of reading the school community celebrated World Book Day: children took part in webinars with authors, attended a special book themed assembly, enjoyed a book inspired lunch and dressed up as their favourite book characters.



The school has been working alongside a number of different STEM ambassadors. These events have involved helping children develop their understanding of scientific and mathematical concepts. Some children enjoyed a visit from a STEM ambassador linked to their Space unit of learning: within this, the children constructed and launched rockets.

Another group engaged in the national KNEX challenge, a challenge which tasked children building cranes under a series of strict specifications. Finally, as part of British Science week, the children all took part in the 'Design a Bird Challenge'. Using their



scientific and mathematical skills the children had to construct a bird from a very limited number of materials.

We have taken part in girls futsal, girls tag rugby and cross country running events. All of these provide pupils with the opportunity to compete against a number of different schools at a range of different settings.

We welcomed Katrina Dykes from St Marys Church to lead a whole school Easter celebration. This was then followed up by a visit to St Marys whereby children took part in a range of activities linked to the Christian meaning of Easter.

Our Fairtrade Crew, a body of

pupils, planned and sourced a fairtrade café for the school community. This helped promote the value of using fairtrade items. The children sold refreshments which helped promote the message of fairtrade. As a result of this café, over £100 was donated to the fairtrade fund.

From 12 June we will be offering breakfast club from 8am each morning and afterschool provision until 6pm each evening.

We still have some pupil places in a number of year groups. If you are new to the area and wish to visit our school for a school tour and discussion about what we could offer your child and family, please contact us on 01473 735281 or email admin@grundisburgh.suffolk.sch.uk

Adam Wilson, Head

Suffolk Rural runs successful Spring Family Farm day

Thanks to all those who supported our spring family farm day at Suffolk Rural in April. Tickets sold out so there is clearly a real thirst for people to come and see how the college is developing. The enthusiasm that many of our visitors had for farming is good news for the industry.



Our numbers on agricultural and other land based courses are looking very healthy. So seeing youngsters and their families show such an interest gives us a sense of great optimism. This time of the year sees Suffolk Rural and Suffolk New College enter their events season. And it was also great to see so many at our fun day called the Big Day Out.

If you missed out on both of those events, please come and say hello to us at the Suffolk Show.

After the Suffolk Show we will be celebrating student success at our annual awards event. It's always one of the highlights of the year to hear about some of the amazing achievements relating to work carried out by learners. If you would like to find out more about what we do and upcoming events you can visit www.suffolk.ac.uk or call 01473 382200.

John Nice

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Grundisburgh News villages



ons from Little
Playford,
Grundisburgh
and Charsfield



Mutts and Mutts of Fun

Readers, especially dog owners, may have spotted a beautifully decorated van as they travel round the News villages. It belongs to Laura Green who has recently moved to the area from central London bringing with her Mutts and Mutts of Fun, her dog walking and day care business.

Laura has connections to the area (her grandfather was originally from Suffolk and she spent family holidays here) and she is now based at her home in Little Bealings.

She offers an alternative service to traditional dog kennels, which is more

tailored to individual pets' needs. Her van is used to pick up and return her clients and also for taking them to



interesting walking sites.

Laura can also board dogs at her home and offers full or half day care with the option for overnight boarding.

For older or less energetic dogs, she offers a drop-in home visit to feed and let your pet out for fun and games in the garden. She is happy to extend

her service to cats and other small animals.

If you stop and chat with Laura (which is how I met her) you will find that she has a wealth of knowledge and experience with canines and a passion for the animals in her care. She loves dogs of all sizes and likes the fact that each breed brings a different temperament.

When walking dogs in groups she tries to balance the energy

levels so that they grow in confidence and make friends. She has worked with a Great Dane ((Mabel) and a dachshund (Freya) and everything in between.

Laura explained that she loves the quieter, more relaxed environment of Suffolk but gained invaluable experience walking in Notting Hill, Shepherd's Bush and Kensington Gardens where she became, subconsciously, highly sensitive and aware of her surroundings at all times in order to keep the dogs safe. She feels she wouldn't be the skilled dog walker she is today without this experience.

More information is available at muttsandmuttsoffun@gmail.com

Words and photos on this page courtesy Rosemary Kneebone



Meet the green team

CN Plumbing and Heating was established by Christopher Canham and Nigel Miller in 2012 and operates out of Clopton Business Park where it employs 22 people, several of whom are from the local area. It offers a wide range of domestic and commercial plumbing and heating services (gas, LPG and oil) including installation and servicing.

The company has recently seen an upsurge in interest in renewable energy and has a dedicated Renewables Manager, Rylan Sibley. Rylan joined the company in February 2023 with over 25 years experience in the electrical and plumbing and heating industry but his main specialism is renewables. He has a wealth of knowledge in all aspects of renewable energy, including solar PV and battery storage, solar thermal, air and ground source heat pumps, biomass, electrical vehicle charging points and air conditioning. Rylan is clearly passionate about his area of expertise, helping clients choose the right option for them and thereby cutting the cost of carbon.

He explained, in layman's terms, the principles behind two of the different sources of renewable energy. Most people are familiar with solar panels which use free energy from the sun to heat the home, hot water and electric vehicles. The excess energy used can be

stored in batteries for overnight use. Any excess energy can also be sold back to the national grid, which is committed to buying some energy from small scale providers through the Smart Export Guarantee.

Heat pumps are seen as another way of reducing carbon emissions and can potentially offer a cheaper form of energy for homes in rural areas that are off the mains gas grid and rely on oil or LPG. Heat pumps use latent heat which is absorbed either from the air or ground and converted into heat and hot water for the home. It uses a reverse refrigeration technology to deliver energy which means that temperatures of up to 70 degrees centigrade can be transferred into the home even at -20 outside.

Reducing our dependence on fossil fuels helps to create a cleaner, greener environment but, after the initial outlay, Rylan explained that there can be a cost benefit too. There is, until 2025, £450 million of government grant funding towards the cost of heat pump installation which will cover some of the outlay. This is known as the Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS) and part of government strategy to phase out gas boilers, starting with new build properties.

For more information contact info@cnplumbingandheating.com

LOCAL ENTERPRISE



I always thought that Kiln Farm Nursery was in Kesgrave but, no, it's actually in Playford! Consequently, I couldn't resist a chat with Ruth Goudy about this flourishing enterprise set up by her husband, Paul (with a bit of help from Ruth and both sets of parents) in 2002 and still going strong. Paul has always been entrepreneurial, selling home-grown plants at car-boot sales at the age of 16.

This love for plants remains with him and that's what drives the business today. He is most ably assisted by Ruth and the nursery has grown so that they now need six colleagues on site, all of whom have qualifications in horticulture. Much of the nursery (on the A1214) is open to wind and weather which ensures the plants on display are already well tuned to the local environment. Their range majors on shrubs, trees (including bare-root stock in the autumn), hedging plants and perennials, 80% of which they cultivate themselves but, of course, they buy in other plants as necessary.



I asked Ruth what differentiates Kiln Farm from other nurseries. Her answer: "responding to customers' specific needs and requests, particularly as the demand for plants changes as the climate changes; an awareness of the demands for sustainable products; and a desire to source products from the UK rather than South East Asia.

Kiln Farm Nursery is a member of the Horticultural Trades Association which holds a few sessions each year at members' nurseries to discuss current issues, swap stories, relate customer feedback and generally keep a grip on what's going on in the horticultural business.

As awareness of the need to use plants able to withstand hotter (but wetter?) summers and possibly colder winters is reflected in varying customer demands, the business has to respond accordingly with increasing sales of heat-resistant plants and, paradoxically, water-saving devices, like water butts.



But it's the community angle which will be at the centre of a proposed future development – part of which involves the creation of a monthly venture to help local dementia sufferers and their carers exploit the benefits of being close to nature. There is no doubt that being physically out in a natural location plays a key role in mental well-being for everybody and the aptly-named 'Forget Me Not Gardening Club' should be a real boon when it starts, hopefully this year. Ruth said she thinks 12 would be an ideal number to start with and joining would be on a first-come, first-served basis. To find out more, ring 01473 333309 or email nursery@kilnfarm.com (What's not to like about gardening and tea?).

And helping the community already features large in Kiln Farm's business operation with contributions to or sponsorship of local events, churches or charities as well as a discount scheme for customers working for the 'Blue Light' services.

Ruth is a natural communicator which should give the gardening club a lot of oomph when it gets under way. She was a Montessori teacher when young but once she had met her future husband, plants took over her life. And she has plenty of life and energy, amazingly so, despite having had breast cancer last year and Covid this.

She writes on gardening for magazines, produces YouTube videos (as The Flower Writer) and you may have heard her as the expert on BBC Radio Suffolk's Gardening Hour on Saturday mornings. But Sundays she keeps as 'me time' and the nursery is closed so that her family and her staff can enjoy some well-deserved time off.

The nursery (IP5 1BJ) is opposite Cambridge Road, Kesgrave, and open Monday to Saturday 9-5. Closed on Sundays. www.kilnfarm.com Contact 01473 333309 or email nursery@kilnfarm.com

Words Richard Watkinson, photos supplied

If you run a business in the News' catchment area, why not tell us about it and get some free editorial. Contact Richard Watkinson, deputyeditor@grunews.com



Above: Grundisburgh litter pickers on The Green during this year's clean-up. Below: Wonky signposts. Right Bags dumped in Clopton.



Scruffy Suffolk? Litter, broken signposts, flapping plastic

How much do we care about the county we live in? Suffolk has regularly been chosen by property experts and others as a desirable place to live, with its generally relaxed atmosphere across the miles of forests, heaths and coast that are just part of the attraction. So why do we find so much litter and a general air of dilapidation even in ostensibly attractive rural areas?

Fortunately, many villages organise litter-picks - I was on one in Grundisburgh a few weeks ago (pictured left: and we found the



usual suspects (drink cans and water bottles, bits off cars....). Are people just too inconsiderate to take empty cans or fast-food containers home - or to wherever they are going? Clearly, energy drinks don't work as the consumers are still too tired to dispose of the cans properly!

More seriously, I found some deliberately dumped what looked like asbestos tiles in a gateway in Clopton. Sheets of polythene blow off the back of trucks and hang in bushes like worn-out flags. Eventually all plastic will degrade and find its way via ditches, streams and rivers to the sea and into the internal organs of the fish we eat, so it's obviously better to keep it off the ground and to bin it for recycling.

Opposite my house on Grundisburgh Green there is a sturdy old signpost pointing the way to Ipswich etc but I've noticed that the more modern grey steel posts are rotting away and falling over just above ground level and some have even got their arms missing. Let's hope those would-be residents have got GPS or old-fashioned paper road maps to find their way round this wonderful county!

Words Richard Watkinson, photos Linda Plant and Geoff Caryer.

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For more information please visit www.charsfieldprimaryschool.org.uk or contact us on 01473 737347 or office@charsfield.suffolk.sch.uk

CADS Revisited

Charsfield CADS made a welcome return, after a three year gap, with a sparkling revue of favourites old and new. The multi-talented cast of regular stars, returning performers and new members played to sold out performances, raising £1,545 for local charities.



Peter Holloway, writer, director and star of the show is second from the left.

Another show is being planned for next year.
Photo courtesy Trevor Boyd

Tuddenham Playing Field Garden

The seating and garden area in Tuddenham's playing field has now been completed and will hopefully be enjoyed by residents during the summer months. Thanks to Jim, David, Ian, Cathy and Sandy for all their hard work. Funding for the project was provided by East Suffolk Council from our District Councillor Enabling Communities Budget and from the East Suffolk Community Partnership of Kesgrave, Rushmere St. Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford & Fynn Valley.



Above: Cathy Watson planting the raised bed in Tuddenham's new play area.

Soup & Sweet Lunch

This popular annual event was held on 25 March and attended by about 50 residents. Soups on offer included Tomato, Basil and Meatballs, Leek and Potato, Mushroom and Spicy Parsnip. Afterward there was a choice of delicious desserts. The lunch raised £300 for church funds.



Above: the guests enjoying the soup and cheese lunch.
Left: Jacky Lugo serving the puddings.

Tuddenham text and photos supplied by Jean Ellinor.

Self-help art group would welcome more members

Our Tuesday morning art group is a relaxed, friendly affair - we are a self-help bunch. Since our founder Paul Bruce died early this year we haven't had tutorials, but if anyone has ideas, please tell us.

Beginner or experienced artist, do join us in Grundisburgh Village Hall at 10.30am on any Tuesday, pay on the day (just £3), enjoy some chat, hot drinks and biscuits as well as testing your individual skills.

lindaplant@hotmail.co.uk



Calling for help: free alarms

Grundisburgh residents are able to have emergency alarms installed and operated at no cost to themselves - thanks to the Sir William Brampton Gurdon Cottage Trust.

This touch-button 'emergency call' service is for older and other vulnerable people who may be immobile, frail, living alone, isolated, lonely or afraid. It provides a personal response - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, offering security and peace of mind to users, family and friends.

A special alarm unit is installed in the home and a small push button pendant is provided which may be worn as a necklace or wrist band. On pressing the button, the alarm unit automatically transmits a signal through the telephone line to a response centre where an experienced operator will instantly know who is calling and where they are, together with other medical and personal contact details. The alarm unit contains a microphone and loudspeaker enabling two-way communication. Even if a person is too far away from the unit to hear, or unable to speak, help will be summoned.

The trust can also give grants to residents who need a helping hand. To find out more about the alarms and other grants - or any other part of the trust's work - please contact me.

John Ager, Clerk to the Gurdon Trust, 8 Post Mill Close, Grundisburgh, 01473 735541. johnager1936@gmail.com

Summer concert

Grundisburgh is alive to the sound of music! - on Tuesday and Thursday evenings as Carol McConnell-Theobald leads Offbeat! Mens Choir and Upbeat! Ladies Choir through rehearsals for their annual summer concert. This takes



Grundisburgh Green under water!

Anglian Water says it "loves every drop", but it lost more than a few when a large faulty water valve suddenly failed on The Green in Grundisburgh one morning in April. Happily the repair team was on the spot soon after.

Photo Peter Kendall

place on Sunday 2 July. The ladies' choir is currently at capacity but the men's choir has room for new members. For more information email offbeatmenschoir@gmail.com or pop along to Grundisburgh Village Hall during a Tuesday rehearsal.

Jean Ellinor

Wide ranging topics at WI

Subjects so far this year at Grundisburgh WI meetings have included canal art. Chris Turland explained that the designs usually comprise a castle, lake, bridge and roses, and are stylised, using a limited range of colours. He also demonstrated the art by painting a typical scene on paper for us. Canal folk art has been used for over a 100 years to decorate not only the outside of the boats but also day to day items such as jugs and kitchen utensils.

In March, Deb Johnson of the Lighthouse Women's Centre gave us a very interesting and enlightening talk on its work. It started in 1976 and is a Suffolk based charity providing support

and advice to adults, children and young people affected by domestic abuse. In Suffolk, one in three women and one in six men are affected by abuse during their lifetime.

Future events include a garden party, an outing to The Fountain in Tuddenham, and a speaker from Wiltshire Farm Foods. Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho WI meetings are held in Grundisburgh Sports Pavilion on the playing field, starting at 2.15.

Family information wanted!

I am currently researching a hand-written account of a tour in East Anglia made in September 1848 by a lady from Grundisburgh. She travelled with James (brother?), her sister, and Charles (servant?), and returned home to Frederick. James is noted as having spent time India.

Any light you may be able to shed on the family would be most appreciated.

Tony Fothergill (York), tonyfothergill32@gmail.com

Guides News

The Grundisburgh Guides joined the Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers at Mothers Day parade and service - it was lovely to join together and be back within the village activities. The Brownies and Guides will be joining in with the Scout Duck Race and have lots of new games and activities based at our gazebo.

During the spring months the guides have participated in various activities including crafts, sporty skills building, personal challenges and team building.

They have been busy working on the challenge cards 'Having Adventures' which ties in with lots of outdoor summer activities, including map reading, outdoor cooking, outdoor sports including archery, kayaking, raft building, walks, enjoying nature, a penny hike, climbing, abseiling and crate stacking. We are busy experiencing all of these, challenging ourselves and enjoying this summer term.

So if you wish to join in with our activities and are aged 10 to 14 then give our Guide Leader Jo Saagi a ring on 07885 265074.

News from the Brownies

It is just over a year since the 1st Grundisburgh Brownies and Guides started up again, and we are now looking to reopen the Rainbows too. This is for girls between 4 and 7, when they can move into Brownies and then Guides.

Anyone with a daughter interested in joining Rainbows is asked to get in touch so we can gauge the interest in Grundisburgh and all surrounding villages. Anyone interested in helping run Rainbows is also asked to get in touch.

The Brownies were very busy time last term learning all about space and planets. We celebrated our first birthday with fish and chips from the chip van, made pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and had an Easter Egg Hunt, indoors due to the weather! Lovely cards



and gifts were made for Mothers Day and astronaut space suits were designed. They enjoyed a foot spa pamper night (photo above) with some mindfulness and relaxation, foot soak, foot and leg massages before having their toe nails painted!

This term we hope the weather will allow us to get outside more and we will also be at the Scout Duck Race in June and the Village Show in July.

To contact us about Rainbows, please email Grundisburgh.brownies@outlook.com or to register your daughter for Rainbows, Brownies or Guides go to Girlguiding.org.uk and select Register Your Daughter. If you are interested in helping

out in one of the units select Volunteer for Girlguiding.

Caroline Bell & Sharon Proctor
1st Grundisburgh Brownies

SCOUTS NEWS

Help! We need volunteers on various occasions to help Grundisburgh Scout Group events. In particular the Duck Race and Fireworks, and perhaps assisting our section leaders when needed. We would be very grateful.

We attended Mothers Day Parade in March, along with Brownies and Guides. All sections have exciting programs before finishing in July.

Beavers walked down to the Millennium Meadow in April to see the lovely wild flowers and whilst there they did 'bark rubbing'. The coronation night outdoor challenge involved hiking from Martlesham to Woodbridge. June and July will see duck games, archery, building/launching paper rockets, a sleepover and 'Crazy Golf'.

Cubs had campfire cooking and outdoor games night in April. May saw athletes badge and district camp at Henham Park. June and July will be time for archery, navigator badge, paper rockets, summer hike and tomahawk throwing.

Scouts practised raft building in April and went on a cycle camp with Kesgrave Scouts.



Mothers Day parade with flags outside St Mary's Church in Grundisburgh

In May: archery, district camp and cleaning the stream for the Duck Race; June and July will see rafting at Waldringfield, paper rockets, duck games, rounders and tomahawk throwing.

Explorers made paper rockets and went on cycle camp in April. In May they visited a golfing range, raft building, district camp and cleaning the stream. In June and July there will be rafting at Waldringfield, a bike ride and chips, cooking challenge and canoeing/crabbing.

In April a lovely lady visited me with a very unusual piece of scouting memorabilia she had found while sorting out her late husband's possessions - the 'Boy Scouts Cigarette Case'. How times have changed!

The Duck Race is on Sunday 25 June. Stalls open at 12.30pm and at 3pm 2500

ducks 'go racing'. There are many great prizes to win. See the posters which will be out soon.

In early May Grundisburgh Scouts went with Kesgrave Scout Group to take part in the National Scout Archery Finals in Hertfordshire. Stuart Ross was 1st Champion Target, Ryan Swain 1st Champion Clout and 2nd in Target, Toby Murrill 1st Champion Barebow and Steve Swain 2nd in Field. Stuart has won this trophy six times in nine years!

The photo below was taken at their camp site in Hertfordshire before leaving to come home.

Pat Ross, Group Secretary,
01473 735352

The scout group hut on the playing field suffered vandalism overnight on 12/13 May. Locks were broken and purple paint sprayed. The police have been informed and the group would welcome hearing any information.



Fun day starts new season at Grundisburgh Tennis Club

Grundisburgh Tennis Club held a fun day in April to celebrate the start of the new season and give members and non-members an opportunity to play some tennis and meet our coach, Carl Douglas. The sun shone and there was a great turnout. All the courts were busy with young and not quite so young players enjoying some free coaching or a game of tennis.



There was also an opportunity to sign up for one of Carl's coaching courses. Juniors and adults, beginners, improvers, and intermediates are all catered for.

Now is a great time to join the club and get this year's membership at an excellent price. We have packages starting at £22 a year for juniors and £58 a year for adults as well as rates for couples, seniors, and families. Once you are a member you can book a court

using our online booking system at no extra cost. You can also join in with club sessions or play competitively in one of the local leagues.

Courts can be booked by non-members for £8 per hour. For information on membership and court booking go to: www.grundisburghtennis.co.uk For information on coaching contact: clubspark.lta.org.uk/CarlDouglasCoaching

Anne Lee



Steve Newton, David Dimmock, Jean Broad and Roger Anderson

Indoor bowls tournament

The annual bowls tournament named in honour of Stan Kirsopp has once again been held over the winter months at Felixstowe Leisure Centre. David Dimmock, captained the winning team with calmness and good humour throughout. The other players in his team were Steve Newton and myself.

An end of season lunch was held at 'The Fountain Inn' Tuddenham and many of the players were able to attend. The trophies were presented by Jean Broad.

For various reasons our numbers were slightly reduced this year and we would love to get back to previous levels. If you are interested in joining us (regardless of ability - we enjoy coaching beginners), please contact me. We have games on Wednesday afternoons and play, on average, twice every three weeks.

Roger Anderson, 01473 738538, roger637@btinternet.com

Bowling outside

Grundisburgh Bowls Club always welcomes new members on its outdoor green behind The Dog pub. Anyone interested in popping down to give bowls a try we just ask that you wear flat shoes. We meet up on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6pm onward, and could accommodate daytime opening for interested groups too.

If you are interested in giving bowls a go, just turn up on the aforementioned nights or contact me via email- Kevclark9@googlemail.com.

We are planning an open day for later in the season as mentioned in the previous News.

Kevin Clark, secretary, Grundisburgh Bowls Club

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Remembering Mary Anne Scrivener

I first met Mary one Christmas Day striding through Culpho. Accepting a lift she told us she was on her way to Kesgrave to see her boyfriend, a walk of which she made nothing!

We next met when she and Paul ("boyfriend" now husband) were living in the flat in the old school. There were many children living in the old school houses at that time, and Mary delighted in them all. She took a real interest in whatever they were doing and there were often little treats.

A skilled knitter, children and adults enjoyed the results; everyone had warm winter gloves, the children's dolls had frequent changes of outfits, little girls had beautiful dresses, and there was thought of something appropriate for them all.



When lockdown hit us Mary and Paul were living in Cranworth Close, increasingly subject to health issues, but very much part of the community. Mary kept up-to-date with the news, local and national or international. A conversation with Mary, no matter how serious, would usually end with laughter. I found that I might come away thoughtful or concerned but never depressed.

Although it was known that Paul had a terminal illness, it was a shock when he died at home, sadly during one of Mary's spells in hospital. We all wondered how she would cope, but cope she did, with the help of professional carers and friends, particularly Wendy Cole and Liz Smith,

and the good wishes of many. I will always remember Mary for her interest and concern for others, her sometimes naughty sense of humour, and that chuckle. Mary and Paul were like two halves of the same coin sitting comfortably together. We miss them both.

Madge Nicholas

Sheila Pothecary

My mother Sheila Pothecary died in New Zealand on 25 March. With her late husband,



Brian, she had moved to Finndale House in Grundisburgh in 1978 and spent several years renovating it.

Brian travelled extensively and Sheila was involved with various activities in the village - in particular the church. In the late 80's they moved to Great Bealings and then Tuddenham before emigrating to New Zealand in 2009 to join my two sisters, Fran and Sarah.

Sue Pothecary

Sheila subscribed to receive The News by post. To have someone added to our mailing list please contact Pat Hall (see right).

Due to the increase in postal charges, the rate for domestic mailing has been increased to £5 a year. The rates for European and world wide remain at £14 and £17.50.

News vacancies filled

The News is delighted to have recruited a new chairman. This is Tom Allen who is a deputy head at Ipswich School and lives with his wife and three sons in Lower Road, Grundisburgh.

We also now have a new volunteer to oversee our distribution. This is Patrick Keep who lives in Post Mill Orchard in Grundisburgh, having previously been a Great Bealings resident.

About The News www.grundisburghnews.org.uk

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

Contributions, comments and ideas are welcomed: Send to Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, editor@grunews.com. All issues are included on our website www.grundisburghnews.org.uk. Information can be supplied on paper or email..

Photos can be sent as JPGs (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

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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 the next issue to be sent by 2 August to Peter Kendall, Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA. 01473 738267.

Earlier booking is recommended as space is limited.

Recreating American airforce base from World War 2

During World War II, hundreds of airfields were built around the UK and in 1942, a new one was being opened every three days! Being close to the continent, Suffolk was very much on the front line and had 32 airfields by the end of the war. The airfield at Debach was built for the US Air Force and opened in 1944 as a base for Liberators and Flying Fortresses, both heavy bombers

Many of these sites have since been built over and the airfield at Debach fell into disuse, with its concrete runway dug up and used as hard core for local highways. The control tower was falling apart and obviously the military equipment had been removed.

The Taylor family have been farming land around Clopton and Debach since 1913 and in 1962, the family re-purchased the site of the airfield for various farming and storage uses. Since 2000, however, Richard Taylor (in photo top right) took it upon himself to restore the tower and buildings and to assemble what is now an enormous collection of WW2 artefacts.

Richard showed me round the restored control tower, which now has authentic communication equipment on period furniture, with charts and weather data on the walls. There are Nissen huts which display numerous uniforms and equipment. There are recreations of military hospital facilities with period medical instruments and mannequins in surgeons' and nurses' garb, giving an additional sense of authenticity.

In another building, a series of dioramas show a typical war time kitchen and living room. Food items from the period include many brands which are familiar today, such as Colman's mustard and Tate &



Lyle syrup. He has also created a diorama of a bombed out house.



Talking to Richard, however, it is clear that the collection of which he is most proud, is his fleet of WW2 military vehicles, all of which are runners. His Jeeps have undergone full nut and bolt restorations.

There are a number of 6 wheeler GMC trucks. The same basic chassis was used in numerous applications such as ambulances, fuel tankers, compressor trucks and others. My favourite is the 1943 mobile workshop iteration. The interior contains machines such as a lathe, powered by an on board generator. The canvas roof splays to make a covered working area.

In a little over two decades, Richard, his late wife Prilly and his volunteers have transformed a ruined airfield into a museum which affords abundant insight into the life of a wartime air base. The first open day this year was in late April and future dates are

28 May, 25 June, 30 July, 27 August and 24 September between 11am and 4pm. Admission is free. The museum is well worth a visit!

Words Paul Whittingham,
photos Paul and Peter Kendall



Remembering the Women's Land Army

Suffolk Women's Land Army Memorial Trust has launched a website as part of its fundraising campaign to create a digital roll of honour listing all those who served in the Land Army in Suffolk during World War II. Please go to www.suffolkwomenslandarmy.com to learn more about the Trust, to locate photos and stories on the digital map created by Suffolk Archives. There are also blogs about recent events. For any queries about the website or if you have photographs or details of a former Suffolk land girl, please contact me.

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