

The Grundisburgh and District News

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Church bells

Grundisburgh Church bells will be rung early in the morning of Saturday 26 August. This will be the start of celebratory full peals in all three of the Suffolk churches which have 12 bells.

This has never been done before. They will be rung consecutively, Grundisburgh first at 8am followed by Bury St Edmunds Cathedral and finally St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

Those living close to the church at Grundisburgh will be pleased that we will use the sound control system to reduce the volume - for the first time since before the pandemic.

Stephen Pettman, Ringing Master St Mary's Church, Grundisburgh



A very muddy way to raise money

A team from Hasketon's Grange Farm shop took part in the sponsored Piglet Hog Race, a family fun run of over 4 km through woods and mud and rivers to raise funds for East Anglian Children's Hospices. This involved swimming, crawling, jumping, hurling themselves over more than 20 obstacles including slides, jumps, long dark tunnels, entanglements, bales and many more.

In photo above: Will Longe, owner of Grange Farm shop, his daughter Matilda, Molly Wickens, Ellie Mayall, Federica Hewitt-Smith and Luca her son, soon after completing the sponsored challenge.

Left: Grundisburgh Scouts' annual duck race attracted more people than ever. Report on page 15.



Ella Reading (then still under nearly three years old) entered all five classes for the under 5's at Grundisburgh Village Show and carried off the trophy.



The serious business of judging the produce entered into the Grundisburgh Village Show. More photos and a report of the show can be seen on the back page of this issue.



Left: Members of Grundisburgh Amateur Dramatic Society (better known as GADS) performed the cold war comedy 'Bunkered' by Lynn Brittny as their early summer production. Information about the auditions for the pantomime to be performed in the new year is included on page 3.

August

Sunday 27

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

Sunday 27

Open Day Grundisburgh Bowls Club
Rear of Dog Car Park,
Grundisburgh 3pm. Contact
Kevclark9@googlemail.com

September

Saturday 2

Saturday Coffee Morning
St Mary's Church, Gr
Gr PR 10:30 am

Monday 4

The Secret Life of Plants
with Jim Paine, Otley &
District Gardening Club Otley
VH 7:30 pm Contact
issywizzy58@gmail.com

Tuesday 5

Tuddenham Parish Council
meeting VH 7:30 pm. Contact
pc@tuddenhamstmartin.
suffolk.gov.uk

Thursday 7

Group Meeting: Iestyn Edwards - My Tutu Went
AWOL Grundisburgh, Burgh &
Culpho WI. Gr VH 2:15 pm
Contact 735394

Saturday 9

Quiet conversations with nature - Nicola Coe - Preview
Grundisburgh House Gallery
12th 6:30pm-9pm PBE
Contact
lindenhibbert@gmail.com

Sunday 10 - Tuesday 12

Quiet conversations with nature Grundisburgh House
Gallery - until 12th 10:30 am -
5 pm Contact
Lindenhibbert@gmail.com

Monday 11

Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish

Council meeting Gr PR 7pm.
Contact: 01473 735541 or
johnager1936@gmail.com

Thursday 14

Playford Art Group
New term starts Playford VH
10am - 12 noon Contact
fox963@gmail or 01473 20116

Tuesday 19

Trip to RHS Hyde Hall
Grundisburgh Burgh &
Culpho Horticultural Society
PBE 10:00 am
Contact catherine@laxton-
interiors.co.uk (fully booked,
waiting list maintained)

Wednesday 20

GADS script reading - Oh yes
it will! Gr VH 7:30 pm.
Contact charlotte.crown
@hotmail.co.uk

Thursday 21

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

Sunday 24

Open Day - Jeep road run
Debach Airfield
&493rd Bomb Group Museum
Debach Airfield 11am - 4pm
Contact 07850 078 432 or
493bgdebach@gmail.com

Sunday 24

Panto Auditions - adults and
children (aged 8 - 14 years)
Gr VH 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Contact charlotte.crown
@hotmail.co.uk

Wednesday 27

Panto Auditions - adults only
GADS Gr VH 7:30 pm
Contact charlotte.crown
@hotmail.co.uk

October

Monday 2

Cutting Gardens with Jo
from Benton End Flower
Farm.
Otley & District Gardening
Club. Otley VH 7:30 pm
Contact
issywizzy58@gmail.com

Thursday 5

A talk by Dave Carson.

Ipswich Transport Museum

Grundisburgh, Burgh &
Culpho WI
Gr Pavilion 2:15 pm Contact
735394

Saturday 7

Saturday Coffee Morning
St Mary's Church, Gr
Gr PR 10:30 am

Thursday 12

Carers' Support Meeting
Gr PR 10:30 am Contact
738066

Saturday 14

Coffee Morning and raffle
iao Macmillan's
Burgh Church Schoolroom,
Drabbs Lane 10:30 am -
12:00 noon Contact
butler.sally.r@gmail.com

Thursday 19

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

November

Saturday 4

Fireworks Display
1st Grundisburgh Scouts
Gr PF 4:30 pm display from
6 pm. Contact 735352

Coffee Morning

St Mary's Church, Gr
Gr PR 10:30 am. Contact
735183

Saturday 18

Soup Lunch iao Ipswich Night
Shelter. Burgh Church
Schoolroom, Drabbs Lane
11:30 am - 1:00 pm Contact
butler.sally.r@gmail

Key to abbreviations

PBE Pre booking essential
PF Playing field
PR Parish Rooms

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
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Celebrating 70 years

To mark 70 years in business, Grange Farm Shop in Hasketon is planning a fun family event for Saturday 2 September with music, fun activities and food. This takes place between 12noon and 5pm. Admission is free.

Participants will include Otis Breeding serving their famous cheese toasties. Hannah will be cooking up a storm on the Grange Farm BBQ, and the bar will have offerings from Niche Cocktails, LA Brewery, Vinca Wines and Jack Rabbit Brewing Company. There will also be live music as well as crafts from EJaRt Creative to keep children entertained. Grange Farm Shop is on the Woodbridge to Grundisburgh Road.

Will Longe, Grange Farm Shop, Hasketon, hello@grangefarmshop.co.uk

Wartime museum

The 493rd bomb group museum on Debach airfield will be opening on two more Sundays this summer – on 27 August and 24 September. Visitors are invited to view the wide range of World War II military vehicles and memorabilia between 11am and 4pm. There is no charge for admission, although donations are welcome.

The last opening of the year usually sees the biggest attendance. We will be having many visiting military vehicles which will take part in the Jeep day road run.

This starts about mid day; we drive on fields as much as possible and will be passing by Grundisburgh Green about 12:15 (dependent on weather). The most military vehicles we have had at this event is 62. We also have re-enactment



groups camping for the weekend in period tents. The museum buildings will be open and refreshments available. It all kicks off at 11am and we lock up at 4pm. Camping is available - please ring me for details.

Richard Taylor, 07850 078432, 493rd Bomb Group Museum, Clopton IP13 6QS

Preparing for panto

GADS - Grundisburgh Amateur Dramatics Society - performed another successful comedic play 'Bunkered' in June. Directed by John Cuff, this was well received by audiences and enjoyed by all involved.

It'll soon be that time of year, where we start prepping for pantomime; "Oh yes it will!". Following the success of last year's classic pantomime Cinderella, we bring you another classic for 2024: Aladdin, which will be directed by Roz Bull.

We will be reading through the script at the village hall on Wednesday 20 September at 7:30pm. Auditions will be taking place on Sunday 24 September 11am - 3pm for both adults and children (aged 8 - 14 years) in the hall. There will be a second audition on Wednesday 27 September at 7:30pm for adults who cannot make the first.

Everyone and anyone welcome! Incidentally, if treading the boards is not your thing, but you would like to get

involved in an 'off stage' aspect of our production, please come along and chat to us. We are always looking for fresh talent! Another date for diaries is GADS quiz night on Friday 17 November at the village hall, starting at 7pm.

Charlotte Crown



Our Film Club now has over 60 members and audiences for our first three films have averaged more than 30. We've screened a variety of films and are now researching ways to improve the sound from our speakers so that speech becomes clearer and more intelligible. **Amelie** is our next film, showing on Sunday 27 August; doors open 4pm, film starts 4.30pm

After an imaginative suggestion from a Debach 493 Bomb Group Museum volunteer, we've negotiated a special viewing (Sunday September 3) of a recently released film: **Attack on Sorpe Dam**. This is raising funds for a new learning centre sponsored by the International Bomber Command Centre. This film will not be on general release. Admission is by voluntary donation. Doors open 4pm, film starts 4.30 pm.

Peter Kendall, Secretary 01473 738267

Burgh Church Schoolroom

Our lovely little venue is used for monthly events throughout the year raising money, mostly, for local charities. We usually alternate between coffee mornings and soup lunches. These are very popular with many regular visitors from our local villages who enjoy good food and company. Everyone receives a very warm welcome from our team of helpers. October will see a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan's and in November we will support the Ipswich Night Shelter with a soup lunch.

Riding & striding

The 41st Suffolk Historic trust Ride and Stride will take place Saturday 9 September - from 9am to 5pm - cycle, walk or ride. It is great fun for all ages. You can go where you like when you like, pick blackberries, see the most wonderful churches, including the the small Boulge church in the middle of fields. There are forms in Grundisburgh church and many others.

Sheila Caryer
Local Organiser, Grundisburgh
01473 738108

Open day at bowls club

Grundisburgh Bowls Club is pleased to announce we will be having our open day on Sunday 27 August 3pm onwards. Weather permitting there will be a free BBQ and refreshments, a raffle and, of course, a chance to try your hand at bowls.

The only thing we ask is you wear flat shoes to protect the green. We have the woods for you to use and there will be members on hand to guide you. We are situated at the back of The Dog car park and look forward to seeing you there. Kev.clarke@googlemail.com

Trevor Hill will be selling his wonderful wood turned items at a coffee morning in early December.

The schoolroom is also where we meet for 'Places of Welcome'. Every Wednesday from 10.30am everyone is invited for coffee, cake and an opportunity to socialise. It is always well attended, so come along and meet new friends. Burgh Schoolroom is available for hire at competitive prices - contact me.

Sally Butler,
butler.sally.r@gmail.com

THE PLAYFORD PAINTERS

In 2022 Playford Art Club celebrated its 50th year and is still going strong despite the Covid epidemic. That is not to say recovery was easy, because like many clubs regaining our momentum was slow, with many members remaining unsure whether mixing in groups did not have a degree of risk.



Hopefully that is all behind us now and our resumption last year of our weekly Thursday morning sessions in our village hall, from 10 till 12, remain as enjoyable as ever. Currently, being without a tutor, members chose their own subjects to paint in whatever medium they prefer.

The club started in 1972 as a Suffolk County Council further education class Painting for Pleasure, with Playford Village

Hall being the chosen venue for the weekly meetings. In 1980, the members decided to sever their connections with the education department, and become an independent village club. Apart from the election of a committee, principally guided by a chairperson, secretary and treasurer there was no change to the

administration with sessions remaining on a school calendar of three terms each year. The autumn term dates are for 11 weeks from 14 September through to 30 November, except for half term on 26 October, with a subscription per term of £35.

Our waiting list of new members no longer exists, although we are still searching for a regular tutor. But we do plan to reintroduce our annual Exhibition to restore our club to a pre-pandemic level.

Meanwhile, we welcome visitors dropping in anytime during our Thursday gatherings, and would particularly welcome visitors from our own village. Any suggestions or enquiries would be welcomed by our chairman, Barry Fox, at fox963@gmail.com or 01473 420116; alternatively, our facebook page is worth a look too.

This article was jointly compiled by club members

evening with folk trio 'Quaynotes' sharing some of their favourite music, from emotional Celtic harp tunes to traditional and contemporary songs. These are delivered with rich harmonies... and all woven with anecdotes and good humour.

'A Winter Wassail' will be performed by the Milton Consort, a wonderful celebration in words and music of Christmas through the ages.

Peter Hamilton Dyer reads a selection of festive verse and prose, from the 14th Century to 21st Century, including excerpts from Chaucer, Dickens, Thomas Hardy, TS Eliot and AA Milne, accompanied by period music specialists Jennie and Stephen Cassidy playing Medieval carols, music by Henry VIII, and traditional Christmas songs, on Renaissance wind instruments.

Tickets for both events are available from Chris on cmp0601@hotmail.com/07925251802. The first is £10 and the second £15.

More music from CulphoMusic

Chris Pearce is arranging a further series of musical events at Culpho Church.

The first of these is on Saturday 11 November. This starts at 7.30pm and promises to be a gentle and entertaining

Arts and craft fair

Chris is also organising an Arts and Craft Fair at Grundisburgh Village Hall. This will be on Saturday 18 November between 10am and 3pm. Admission will be free and refreshments will be available.

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Profile: Nicola Coe, artist

A stroll round Nicola and Martin Coe's beautiful garden in Hasketon makes it easy to imagine the inspiration from nature that artist Nicola finds for her work. Every turn of the path reveals a profusion of flowers, shrubs or trees as well as vegetable beds, a pond and some very contented-looking chickens safe from foxes in their enclosure. It's an absolute haven for all sorts of wild life.

I enjoyed sitting in Nicola's garden studio talking about her life as an artist and was lucky enough to see several examples of her work. Nicola explained that she likes to vary the media used, according to the subject matter. I particularly admired sculpted bird nests and pencil drawings produced by observing bee flight lines.

Originally from Essex, Nicola grew up in Colchester where, as a child, she loved spending time in the garden, looking at flowers and drawing and painting them. She had an interest in nature from an early age and used to spend her pocket money on books such as the Young Naturalist's Handbook and Janet Marsh's Nature Diary.

At 16 she enrolled at Colchester School of Art and Design, completing a BTEC Diploma before going on to university in Exeter to do a degree in Fine Arts. This is where she met Martin, a fellow Art student. They married and had two children, now adults. With her parents nearby in Grundisburgh, Nicola and Martin moved to Hasketon about ten years ago and found



much to inspire their art in the landscapes and natural world around them. They each have their own studio in the garden.

Since February this year, Nicola has been Artist in Residence with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust at Foxburrow Farm. She started with an exhibition of art focused on



nesting birds around the nature reserve. Through close study of nest types, Nicola has become an expert on how different birds construct them. Her beautiful representations are made with reclaimed electrical wire and really capture the delicacy and intricacy of design.

Nicola says she makes them in honour of the birds' abilities as architects. What she produces using two hands, a bird can achieve with just its beak!

At Foxburrow, Nicola leads art workshops and encourages ethical foraging while walking with participants in the

landscape, gathering materials to make tools for painting and printmaking. She says people should forage on the principle of taking one third, leaving another for the birds and the final third for others who may pass by. If collecting a seedhead, always shake the seeds off first.

Future workshops at Foxburrow will include one that's Christmas-themed, making lanterns from natural materials.



Last October Nicola started a little group of artists called 'For Nature', which exhibits in Artspace Woodbridge and she is also a member of the Suffolk Craft Society, which has exhibitions at Ickworth Estate during September and at The Guildhall, Bury St Edmunds in November. In the future, Nicola hopes to gain recognition from other galleries too.

Just spending a short time with Nicola has inspired me to look more mindfully around my own garden so I am certain her



workshops and exhibitions would inspire others and be hugely enjoyable too.

An exhibition of Nicola's work is being held in the Grundisburgh Gallery from 9 to 12 September. It opens 11am to 5pm with a preview on 8 September from 5pm to 8pm (at which Nicola hopes people will let her know if they are coming so she can arrange catering).

More details about Nicola's work and activities are also available from:

<https://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/foxburrow>

For SWT Foxburrow Reserve events throughout the year, please refer to the SWT website under events and workshops.

ARTWORKS annual exhibition at Blackthorpe Barns near Rougham, Bury St. Edmunds. 30 September to 15 October. <http://www.artworkseast.com>

For Nature exhibition at ARTSPACE Gallery, Woodbridge. 19 October to 25 October. <http://www.artw.co.uk>

Suffolk Craft Society Ickworth House. 19 August to 17 September. The Guildhall, Bury St. Edmunds. 3 to 19 November. <http://www.suffolcraftsociety.org>



Both Nicola and Martin are taking part in the winter open studio weekend 25 and 26 November. All details can be found by contacting Nicola through her website...

<http://www.nicolacoe.co.uk>
Also contactable through nstagram at :

a_whisper_of_birdsong
Words Noelle Hunt, illustrations supplied by Nicola

PROFILE: Our new local councillor: Dan Clery

Cast your minds back to early May and the local elections. Amid the national recriminations and analyses concerning the large losses suffered by the Conservatives, were numerous victories for the Lib Dems, Labour and the Green Party.

Bobbing triumphantly on this sea of change, was Green Party candidate Dan Clery who was elected as councillor in the Carlford and Fynn Valley ward. This ward stretches from Charsfield through to the boundaries of Ipswich.

For Dan, it was a case of third time lucky, as he had lost in ward and county elections on previous occasions but this time, he polled the highest number of votes of the four candidates (1,388 votes). He admits to being pleasantly surprised by the outcome, particularly as this ward was not one which had received

substantial campaign input from the wider party.

At the time of writing, Dan says that the newly constituted council is determining what its policy priorities are going to be, as it now comprises a number of councillors from parties different from those previously in charge, with differing manifestos.

Energy efficiency

The issues likely to receive attention by the wider council include energy efficiency in the area, including mitigating impacts of the Sizewell C development. As a Green Party councillor, these are clearly issues in which he has great interest.

In his local capacity as councillor for the Carlford & Fynn Valley ward, he wants to focus on the issues which he knows feature regularly within

parish councils in the ward. These include traffic calming, as speeding motorists are regularly being raised as a concern of village dwellers. He would like to encourage housing development which



makes better provision for the budgets of local people, as many new houses seem to him to be priced out of their reach. Similarly, he wants to influence the inclusion of heat pumps and solar panels as part of new home design.

The extension of the cycle route network is also something which he would like to champion. Tackling the problem of rural loneliness, perhaps via breakfast clubs and other social activities is on his radar. Many of these things are not within his direct jurisdiction but he intends to use his position to influence the thinking of those who can make decisions on such matters.

Dan's interest in energy and environmental issues has been informed and encouraged by his day job. Having undertaken a degree in theoretical physics at York University, he entered the world of science journalism. Initially he wrote for a periodical aimed at electrical engineers but later moved to the more famous 'New Scientist' magazine. He now writes for 'Science'

magazine, an American journal. While the topics he covers are wide ranging, he particularly focuses on articles concerning astronomy and energy science. For example, he has written about the James Webb telescope, which is located a million miles out in space and has been sending astonishing pictures of distant star systems over the last year. Dan is also very interested in advances in nuclear fusion (which is deriving energy by combining atoms instead of splitting them) which could be the energy source of the future if the scientists can make it work.

In his spare time, of which he is likely to have very little now that he has council duties on top of his day job, Dan enjoys being a volunteer with the Longshed on Woodbridge waterfront, home of the reconstruction of the Saxon longship.

Diabetes control

Other interests include cookery and walking his dog but, more unusually, encouraging the use of artificial pancreases. These use the combination of a glucose sensor, a phone app and a discreet insulin pump to manage Type 1 diabetes, from which Dan suffers. Dan believes these artificial pancreases can bring convenience and enhanced blood sugar stability to other sufferers, which is why he was happy for me to mention his condition.

Like conscientious councillors of any political stripe, he is keen to engage with the public he represents. His details are Dan.Clery@eastssuffolk.gov.uk, 07823 327998.

Words & photo: Paull Whittingham

The other councillor for the ward is Colin Hedgley, representing the Conservative Party, who was re-elected for the second time. We will be featuring him again in a later issue.

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Brenda Garrett has served on Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho's horticultural society's committee for 60 years, having been invited to join after entering a spider plant in the show the year before. For three years she served as chairman and for many more years organised the catering for fundraising events, and feeding the hard working people running the show.

Her interest in shows and showing led to her training as a judge, and then judging at other shows around Suffolk. Her late husband Richard was also an active committee member, in particular organising the post show dance which raises vital funds to keep the show going. Brenda's family were all enthusiastic exhibitors at the show winning cups on many occasions. Tom Newman, her grandson, now supports the horticultural society with film work through his company Summer Isle Films.

This is not a 'thank you and goodbye' message - happily Brenda remains a valued member of our committee.

Georgie Keates, Vice Chair, Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society

Chapel Field footpath

Designated Footpath 20, an official Public Right of Way (PROW), runs along Grundisburgh Playing Field, a wide path from the children's play area to the edge of Chapel Field. The PROW then takes a dangerous narrow dog-leg with restricted visibility and follows a line along the fences of the properties at the rear of Post Mill Crescent. After various consultations locally Hopkins Homes have submitted to East Suffolk planning department a proposal to create a route, on Hopkins land, for the footpath which follows more closely the route on the ground now, through the gap in the hedge on the playing field. It is intended that this new official route will be surfaced with a permeable material in keeping with the rural setting.

Ann Willetts, Chair Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council

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How to spend money from housing development

Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council has already used Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), received from East Suffolk Council as a result of local building projects, to fund Solar Panels for the New Village Hall (£5,181.20) and to purchase a new Speed Indicator Device (SID) (£4,168.80).

We have a further £68,392 in the bank, which must be spent within five years. There is a likelihood of a similar amount being received next year.

Following a review of the 99 proposals received following the recent public consultation on how this money should be spent, a shortlist of potential/possible projects has been drawn up. Many of these require further clarification before a final decision can be made.

It was originally intended to organise an 'extraordinary meeting' of the parish council during August to present the its decisions.

However, at the request of residents, who felt that the proposed date in the middle of the holiday season would make it difficult for parishioners to attend, it was agreed to hold the meeting on Monday 9 October.

The reviewed list of proposals will be posted on the parish council's website <https://grundisburgh.suffolk.cloud/> and a paper copy will be available from the parish clerk after the scheduled parish council meeting on 11 September.

Geoff Caryer, vice chairman,
 Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council,
 01473 738108

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City & Guilds NPTC

Making for the countryside

In this part of the world you never know what's just around the corner - literally. Driving down a leafy lane in Clopton recently I discovered not one, but two active enterprises in buildings well hidden from the road just a few yards away.

Intrigued, I first met Neil MacDonald, owner of Countryside. Founded in 1989 originally as a partnership, Countryside Fencing ran for many years as fencing contractors for both private and trade customers. The business grew through the following two decades, working with major national housebuilders and large local builders, as well as having a large private customer base. But the work for the large developers became spectacularly competitive and

price-conscious, leading to a 'levelling down' in job satisfaction. This prompted a change of thinking and direction, and Countryside moved away from new housing work. Countryside now installs high quality gates.



Diversifying, Countryside entered the equestrian market in the early 90s. While this has steadily developed

along original lines, gradually increasing the ranges and products on offer, the fencing side moved deliberately into the more specialist and individual field of quality hardwood gates - and the high quality fencing work associated with them. This is predominantly in a variety of hardwoods, within a range of about 60 miles of Clopton and aimed at helping

trade and private customers with individual projects. They also offer a 'supply-only' service for gates across the whole Southeast and, working with a Midlands-based timber mill and a Kent chestnut producer, Countryside can now



supply hardwood and chestnut fencing products nationwide. Examples of their work, include the fine gate into the Quaker Burial Ground in Woodbridge.



With a reduced but more skilful workforce, the change into a more interesting and creative type of work was welcomed by staff and management alike.

The equestrian range now comprises over 1,000 items with almost everything for all abilities, including beautifully painted colourful show jumps as above - which really catch the eye of both horse and rider; cross-country fences which range from natural designs to blend in with the environment to the more outrageous and fun boats, pencils and even wedges of cheese!

Where required, Countryside products fully meet Club and British Showjumping specifications. It also caters for the more recent disciplines of 'arena cross country' and 'working equitation', the latter of which has its origins in the herding skills from Portugal, Spain, France and Italy.

As one of the largest manufacturers in the country, Countryside Equestrian supplies some of the top international riders, including many famous names, military groups, equestrian centres and riding clubs up and down the

Sam casts a critical eye over her paintwork; Lisa Ratcliffe and Neil MacDonald with one of their gates.

country. It also exports, most recently for the Central American games, as well as the Pan American games and recent shipments to Sweden.

If you want to know about equitation, Lisa Ratcliffe is the go-to person at Countryside - she's been doing it for 30 years! Sales material for both sides of the business is now online and can be seen at www.countrysideshowjumps.co.uk for Equestrian and www.countryside-gates.co.uk for gates and fencing. Their phone number is 01473 735005

Words Richard Watkinson, photos Linda Plant

Pub news ...

As we go to press, the Moon and Mushroom, Swilland, is opening a cafe on site. Appropriately this is called 'Lunar' and will open every Tuesday to Saturday from 8.30am to 3pm. The pub remains open as normal.

And it's all change at the Tuddenham Fountain: manager Lucy and head chef Matt have gone to run The Milkshed at Sproughton; pastry chef Vlad (of Vlad's Patisserie) has gone to East Retreat and assistant manager Pulkit will be taking over Christine's tearoom in Woodbridge. The new Manager is Justin (formerly at the Turks Head, Hasketon); he is joined by assistant manager Sarah, who was previously at the Swan at Westerfield.

The Grundisburgh Dog has reopened its paved back garden for summer-time drinkers. This complements the food truck on their forecourt which is serving freshly cooked food (including burgers, Thai and Korean) on Fridays and Saturdays from 5-8 pm. Their popular 'Food Nights' will resume from September - look out for the themes on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Richard Watkinson

Midas!

Alongside Countryside in Clopton is a very different operation in the shape of MIDAS Productions (UK) Ltd. owned and run by David Noble and Andy Dann. David was away when I called but Andy was on site and told me a bit about the company.

It was founded in 2000 as a specialist diesel generator hire company, originally supplying diesel generators to the events industry - music festivals and the like. Since then, it has built up a comprehensive range of generators suitable for a broad spectrum of different applications.

So Midas' clients are now found not only in the events and entertainment industry but also in agriculture and industrial markets including construction, electrical, food production, pharmaceutical, manufacturing, mining, quarrying, renewable energy industries, including marine and offshore - which accounts for why one of their engineers was wearing a marine lifejacket when I called - not a common sight in Clopton!

If your business (or event) requires stand-by, back-up or temporary power from 13kVa up to 500kVa, then Midas



should be able to rent to you or sell a diesel generator, complete with power cables, lighting or whatever. Incidentally, they recently supplied a generator free of charge for the Coronation event at Clopton village hall.

Reliability is all in this business and Midas aims to send out an engineer to fix any problem within a matter of hours - depending on the distance, of course.

Midas do stray away from the local area somewhat having just finished a project with a number of machines on Jack Up Barges on the Isle Of Skye. Dave and Andy both appreciate that customer satisfaction is key and that the significant amount of repeat business is testament to that.

Generators are heavy pieces of equipment and require a lorry-mounted crane to get them on and off and place them where needed. Down-time is costly and Midas has just invested in

a new high-capacity lorry-mounted crane to handle any heavy loads - not just generators.

Already it has been used on many diverse projects such as to place new signage on the seafront in Felixstowe for the new Sea Shore Village Development currently under construction, many container and cabin moves for a local supplier to lifting and moving a truck cab from one side of Suffolk to the other.

In short the days are never the same, and certainly the new side-line is already complementing the generator side of the business very neatly indeed.

Midas can be found at <https://midas-uk.co.uk> Telephone 03337 720772.

Words Richard Watkinson, photos supplied

Photo above: A portable generator near Stonehenge.

Left. Heavy lifting capability with generator on the back.

Moon's Wood

Melanie Gurdon booked a stand at Grundisburgh Village Show in July to promote her new venture in Moon's Wood, Burgh. Her map of the area, with a bone-hunting dog challenge, proved to be quite an attraction to visitors to the show. Mel was able to explain about her plans to develop the wood as a place of quiet relaxation, to reconnect with nature and have family fun (with or without dogs!).

Picnics and family gatherings in the wood are proving popular.



The main attraction of Moon's Wood is the peace and quiet, and the chance to relax and enjoy nature away from the noise and over stimulation of modern life. Dogs are, of course, welcome and specific dog activities can be arranged but the wood has had a far greater appeal within our local community. More information from info@moonswood.co.uk

Words Rosemary Kneebone, photo Peter Kendall



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

News from Grundisburgh Primary School

As ever the summer term was extremely eventful and fulfilling, with the children engaging in a range of exciting activities to further enrich the wonderful learning experience offered at the school. We are extremely proud of our pupil outcomes with provisional data showing that children at Grundisburgh achieve better outcomes than other pupils nationally: this is testament to our hard working and committed team.



Several trips and visits took place during the term. These were interwoven with current learning, providing children with the opportunity to extend and apply their learning beyond the classroom. Our Year 3 and 4 children visited the Suffolk Farm and Country Fair Show which aided their understanding of Suffolk Heritage. Children in reception

and Year 1 enjoyed a dance session provided by Suffolk Mind. The whole school took part in a lacrosse enrichment day whereby the children had the opportunity to learn the rules and play the game.

Our reception children enjoyed a trip to Easton Farm Park, Year 1 visited Jimmy's Farm and Year 2 visited Bawdsey to work alongside Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Our Year 6 pupils were extremely busy, enjoying a week's residential visit to Shrewsbury where they took part in a range of physical, creative and team based challenges. In addition they visited Suffolk Food Hall to celebrate Suffolk Day and were able to learn about Suffolk's rich agricultural history. The year culminated with a fantastic Year 6 production which was enjoyed by parents and children alike.

Our Sports Day was another huge success; we welcomed parents to join us for a picnic lunch followed by a range of team and individual challenges. This was followed by a successful music event whereby local bands provided entertainment for the school community. We are very lucky



to have such a hard-working Friends of Grundisburgh School team who put on such fantastic events.



The whole school community engaged with a number of both national and local initiatives, including walk to school week which promoted the benefits of walking to school on health and wellbeing. Our school eco council organised a litter pick within the village and

surrounding areas to help support the community.

We ran a successful family thrive programme for parents and carers,

this course as run by school staff and provided parents and carers with an understanding of how a young person's brain develops, offering support and advice to deal with the various challenges faced by young people growing up.

In artistic news a number of our pupils' work has been displayed at the recent young East Anglian artist exhibition, all children were given the opportunity to enter a piece of art work with a number of

entrants being highly commended or achieving a place. Furthermore, all children produced a piece of artwork that was exhibited at the recent Grundisburgh Village Show.

We have maintained our fairtrade school award which recognises our high-quality commitment to educating pupils about fairtrade. We have also maintained our Schools Games Gold Award which recognises the fantastic opportunities we provide our pupils to compete in tournaments and sporting events both in and out of school.

As a school which holds a Lingumarque Gold Award in recognition of our excellence in our modern foreign language provision children have been running and attending a French stationary shop which encourages children to apply their language skills within a real-life context.

Our extended after school provision has proved very popular with children now able to stay onsite until 18:00 each day. There is a range of activities on offer to pupils of all ages and these compliments are already highly successful breakfast club which means wrap around care is available to all pupils from 08:00 – 18:00 each day.

In some year groups we have pupil places; if you or someone you know wishes to arrange a visit to the school, please phone us on 01473 735281.

Adam Wilson. Headteacher

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News from Charsfield C of E Primary School

Last term Class One has been learning about castles. Pupils were very excited to visit Framlingham Castle and put all their knowledge to great use! They could identify the features they have been learning about, explain why we have castles and where they originally came from and explain how they were used to defend against attackers.

The children walked through the moat and imagined what it would be like trying to invade the castle: they enjoyed pointing out the arrow slits, battlements and drawbridge and we even had some visitors comment on their excellent knowledge saying how they thought it was fantastic how the children could identify these and talk about them!

Of course the children were also very excited for lunch and we were very thankful to a class parent who bought all the children ice lollies – it definitely made their day!

KS 2 had a fabulous time travelling back to Tudor England at Kentwell Hall. The children interacted well with the characters and learned a Tudor dance, experienced life in the Tudor kitchen, helped in the bake house and explored the dairy. They learned about Tudor medicine and enjoyed using the pestle and mortar to

crush the ingredients. We also spent some time finding out about the hard work of the people who provided the firewood and crockery to eat from. The children looked brilliant in their costumes and had a wonderful day, but realise that life is so much easier now! We hope that they



treasure this experience for years to come.

Children harvested their own-grown potatoes and made some delicious recipes. Class One made different flavoured potato wedges and Classes Two and Three made a potato salad and a potato soup. We were even able to use herbs from the school garden to add extra flavours. The food the children produced was tasty and it is so rewarding to see food made from produce that the children have grown and tended themselves.

KS 2 pupils put on excellent performances of Cinderella and Rockerfella. They all worked so hard, learning their lines and singing the songs. It was tiring work, but the children really enjoyed it and we had many pupils who volunteered to sing solo parts and embraced the idea of trying something new!

At sports day the children took part in various activities in their house teams. In the afternoon parents and family members cheered on the pupils as they took part in traditional running races and activities. Great fun was had by everyone and we were incredibly lucky with the weather too!

We have taken part in several sporting activities against other local schools, including rounders, Just Dance, Foot Golf and Quad Kids for KS1 pupils. Our pupils worked really hard as a team and we even brought back some medals: Third place for Quad Kids, medals for determination and teamwork for the Just Dance. Well done!

We were able to take our Year 6 pupils to St Catherine's College in Cambridge to find out what it is like to go to university. They really enjoyed themselves and were amazed at the number of subjects taught and what they could study when they are older. We look forward to taking more groups in the future.

These are just a few of the things that we got up to in the summer term! If you would like to find out more about our school, please look at our social media (Instagram and Facebook) and our website.

If you are looking for schooling and think we might be the school for you, please contact our school office on 01473 737347 to arrange an appointment to look around. Alternatively, you might like to come along to our Stay and Play (open afternoons) on Tuesday 10 October and Wednesday 15 November between 1 and 3pm.

Mrs Reeve, Head of School

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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

News from the Carlford churches

Robert Fletcher stood down as Grundisburgh Churchwarden at our annual meeting in May after over 20 years in the role. A special lunch was laid on and presentations were made in grateful appreciation for all he has done throughout that time.

As churchwarden, Robert has provided stalwart assistance to two incumbents. He also bore the challenge of additional responsibilities during the Covid 19 pandemic which coincided with an interregnum. Roberts's skills, knowledge and experience have proved invaluable in many situations. Not least, during the long years of applications and negotiations to build the new boiler house and lavatories.

In more recent times he has embraced the new technology required to enable live streaming of church services on the internet. Robert's familiarity with the church building as well as Church of England governance and liturgical practices, alongside his wise and steady council have been much valued by new and fellow churchwardens and rectors, as well as many members of St Mary's congregation and the wider community of Grundisburgh.

This recognition of Robert's ministry would be incomplete



Above: Gail Minter (centre) with Mark Cresswell (Associate Vicar) and Katrina Dykes (Priest in Charge, Carlford Benefice).



without expressing our deep gratitude to Pat, Robert's wife, for generously and patiently supporting and assisting Robert in this role.

Whilst Robert has stepped down as churchwarden, you will still see him actively involved in the life of the church, in particular maintaining the churchyard and supporting our church services, especially funerals and weddings. Robert thank

you! We wish you peace and joy in your retirement from this responsibility and God's blessing as you explore what to do with all that free time!

Sandra Cresswell and the Bags of Food team

Priesting of Gail Minter

On Saturday 1 July, Reverend Gail Minter was ordained a priest by Bishop Martin in the cathedral in Bury St Edmunds. Gail has been our curate for a year and we have enjoyed her energy, enthusiasm, questions and creativity as she has been learning the ropes of what it is to be a Church of England minister.

As a priest, Gail will now be able to preside at services of Holy Communion and conduct weddings. We are blessed to have such an able and willing curate in the benefice and I am sure you all join me in congratulating her and praying for her as she continues to grow in her experience of ministry here for another two years.

Katrina Dykes, Priest in Charge, Carlford Benefice

Help with food

The Bags of Food scheme run by St Mary's Church in Grundisburgh is seeing an increasing call for its services by people needing help with living costs. This scheme

serves Grundisburgh and the surrounding villages and to sign up please email Bagsoffood@carlfordchurches.org.

At present shower gel, toilet rolls (two pack) and toothpaste suitable for family use, are particularly needed. These can be placed in the church porch (in the box under the table on the left hand side). People can also help by sending cash to church treasurer Clive Willetts at 14 Gurdon Road, Grundisburgh, or emailed to him at ann.willetts@uwclub.net If cheque please make it out to Grundisburgh PCC, if cash mark envelope for Bags of Food. All money should be clearly marked Bags Of Food please. Thanks so much.

WI NEWS

The speaker at Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho WI meeting in May was Emily Matthews from the Dogs Trust. This looks after and rehomes some 14,000 dogs a year. There are now 21 rehoming centres throughout the country, the nearest local one is at Snetterton which has room for 32 dogs.

The Trust will also look after a pet dog if the owner, for whatever reason, is no longer able to do so. Owners can apply for a 'Canine Care Card' for this purpose. It was an enlightening and, for many, a reassuring talk.

In June our annual garden party was held indoors at the Pavilion (the weather not being fine enough to be outside). Nevertheless a good time was had by all and the committee supplied a lovely selection of savouries and cakes.

Our summer outing in July was to The Fountain at Tuddenham for lunch and we all had a very pleasant time.

Gillian Leech, 01473 735394, Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho WI

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Summer in Tuddenham

June 10 was a glorious day and the sunshine certainly brought out the crowds for Tuddenham's annual church fete. It was lovely to see people getting together and catching up over a cuppa or an ice cream in the garden area. Such was the demand that Jim ran out of ice cream! An enjoyable day which raised just over £2,800 for church funds. It was very hot on 24 June for Tuddenham's open gardens

event and many visitors sought shelter in the cool of St Martin's Church where refreshments were on sale. The gardens on show included the newly created one on the playing field. Some 180 people attended and the day raised £1,200 for St Elizabeth Hospice and £400 for church funds.



Top: Stephanie on the tombola stall at the fete. Photo - Holly Hollier



Some of Tuddenham's open gardens which were much enjoyed by visitors. Words and photos Jean Ellinor.



Annual road safety campaign

The road safety charity, Brake, will be running its annual campaign from 19 to 25 November. This year's theme is 'Let's talk about Speed' with the message 'Five people die on UK roads every day, so why do we still think it's OK to speed?'

Local villages active within the East Suffolk Road safety forum and SAVID will be building on the success of last year's road safety week. This will include publicity through local media, co-ordinated Speedwatch activities, engagement with primary and secondary schools and colleges, contact with local businesses and driving instructors and including partner agencies such as the police and local council bodies.

Brake is looking for different communities around the country to focus on local issues around speed and we hope we might work with them on this. We know speed continues to be a major concern in our villages and on our rural roads. Please look out for more information and do refer to the brake website. <https://www.brake.org.uk/road-safety-week>

Pauline Procter, SAVID Chair

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News from Grundisburgh Guides

Grundisburgh Guides have had a busy summer, with lots of outdoor activities including, raft building, kayaking, canoeing, penny hike, abseiling, assault course and archery. We joined with Martlesham Guides on the canoeing and had great fun playing football in the kayaks. We had a joint stall with the Brownies at the Scouts Duck Race where we sold cakes, duck crafts and had some exciting duck games.

In the autumn term we hope to hold a sleepover and continue with the various theme challenge activities that are in our general programme. We have also planned to have a sports challenge evening with several other Guide units in the area - it will be good to get to know others and have fun.

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

Rainbows and Brownies

The summer term was as busy as ever with the Brownies taking on more challenges for their badge work including the library badge. This involved activities and tasks all about books, including a Super Hero Cape making evening, a back to front evening in connection with Roald Dahl's book, *Esio Trot*, and for the books about fairies, we made fairy gardens in foil trays and planted sunflowers and pumpkin seeds.

We visited Woodbridge Library on our final evening, ending with refreshments in Elmhurst Park. We joined the Guides at the Scout Group Duck Race where we sold biscuits in the shape of ducks decorated by the Brownies, and

a Hook a Duck side show; we also had some side shows at the Village Show.

If you know any girls between the age of 4 and 7 who would like to join Rainbows or between 7 and 10 years old who would be interested in joining the Brownies, we would be delighted to hear from you. You can register on the Girl Guiding website, <http://girlguiding.org.uk/register> or email us at grundisburgh.brownies@outlook.com

If you would be interested in joining us as a Rainbow leader/helper, please do get in touch. It is great fun being involved with guiding and is so rewarding. Please use the links above to find out more or register your interest.

Sharon Proctor & Caroline Bell
1st Grundisburgh Brownies

Scouts

Fantastic! That's what people were saying about our Duck Race; the weather was great, warm sunshine, everyone enjoying themselves, the BBQ, refreshments and stalls all did well. There was a queue of people wanting to buy duck tickets but we sold out before the race started! Grateful thanks to everyone who supported us as we made £3,860 towards fundraising for a new Scout HQ.

Many thanks to our leaders, assistants, group members, Rosie for selling tickets in Williams stores, Julia for letting the ducks go through her garden, Geoff for providing music/microphone, St. Mary's Church for electricity/toilets, parish council for use of the village green, many companies and people who donated excellent prizes and volunteers who gave up their time to help.

The result of our annual competition for young members to sell as many duck



tickets as possible was Maya in Beavers selling 95, Owen in Cubs selling 70 and Indigo for Scouts selling 140. All the children and their runners-up did very well, and thanks for your support to them.

Our sections have been very busy: Beavers having outdoor challenge, hiked Martlesham to Woodbridge, duck games, archery, a sleepover, built and launched paper rockets and crazy golf at Ufford Park. Cubs had campfire cooking, games night, athletes' badge, district camp at Henham Park, archery, paper rockets, tomahawk throwing.

Scouts had raft building to use on the river at Waldringfield, cycle camp, cleaning the village stream, archery, camp at Henham Park, tomahawk throwing, duck race games. Explorers had 'Coronation' campfire, raft building for Waldringfield river, cycle camp, stream cleaning, camp at Henham Park, bike and chips, golf at Ufford Park and visit to Felixstowe. Some Scouts and Explorers go on summer camp early August take part in

climbing, cycling, caving, canoeing and walking.

Our Scout group is a very thriving, growing one with full sections, but we are looking to increase the number in Beavers as we have a long waiting list. For this we need helpers at weekly meetings, perhaps even to help just once a term if possible, and also on the committee where we all pull together at our annual events.

A date for your diary: Our Fireworks Display is on Saturday 4 November on Grundisburgh Playing Field; gates open at 4.30pm and event starts at 6pm.

Pat Ross, Group Secretary
01473 735352

Photos from top: Guides getting wet on the Deben. Scouts getting muddy clearing the river for the duck race. Below: Our prize winners in the archery tournament in May were from left: Ryan Swain (in purple t-shirt) was 1st Champion Clout and 2nd in Target, Stuart Ross was 1st Champion Target, Steve Swain 2nd in Field and Toby Murrill 1st Champion Barebow.





The coronation of King Charles III was celebrated in many ways, not least with the ringing of church bells across the country. Locally there was an aim to have the bells rung at all 55 of the churches within the area covered by the South East District of the Suffolk Guild of Bell Ringers.

The Clopton bell ringers rang on coronation day at Clopton and later in the week rang the bells at Burgh. The ringers in the photo above in Clopton Church are, from left, Sarah Cavanagh, Joanna Crowe, David Stanford, Gillian Twissell, Gayle Thompson, Andrew Beattie, Linda Garnham and Abby Antrobus.

David Stanford



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About The News

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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 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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Earlier booking is recommended as space is limited.

A blooming good year for the horticultural society

Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society has had yet another very successful year and we are most grateful to everyone who has supported our events.

The highlight of our year is the Village Show and despite the windy conditions, we had a great day with record numbers of visitors entering the marquee and one of our highest ever numbers of high quality exhibits entered. The Larkside provided fantastic entertainment on the evening after the show.

We would like to thank all judges, stewards and volunteers who helped in the run up and on the day and our president Nicola Hobbs who presented the cups.

Thanks also go to our show sponsors Homestyle UK, our patrons and all those companies and individuals who sponsored classes and took

adverts in the programme. Plans are already being made for next year's show which will be held on Saturday 13 July 2024 – if you were inspired by this year's exhibits, keep an eye out for our class lists which will be finalised early next year. We are looking for more commercial stallholders and would love more local groups to run stalls too – please get in touch to book a pitch.

Other successes this year have been trips to Chippenham Park for snowdrops in February and Elton Hall in May. Our final trip is to RHS Hyde Hall on 19 September is currently full but we are running a waiting list. Our Hidden Gardens weekend was a scorcher! We had 22 gardens open, teas were provided by FOGS and the village was buzzing with activity as visitors followed the Bee Line. If you are interested in opening your garden next

year, please contact Catherine Laxton. The Garden Party was generously hosted by Gill and David Twissell and was a sellout! We had a very successful and thankfully dry evening. Special thanks go to the teams who set did the setting up (and dismantling) and catering, and we are very grateful to those who kindly donated raffle prizes.

Martin Cripps announced earlier this year that this was to be his last show as chairman and we are very grateful to him and to Sharon for her time as secretary. They have both put enormous time and effort into the show and we wish them well in their retirement.

The Horticultural Society runs events for all to enjoy. The marquee for the Village Show costs over £4,000 to hire and we are keen that the show makes a profit next year. Our profit from Hidden Gardens,

support from our show sponsor, Homestyle UK, plus our patrons' donations all go towards the bulk of our expenses and at the end of the financial year we like to support local charities and good causes. In the last five years we have given over £11,000 to local good causes. In addition our events enable others to make money, for example, FOGS has made over £1,500 for the school from providing refreshments at Hidden Gardens and the Village Show this year.

We aim to provide fun events for all to enjoy with help from over 50 volunteers throughout the year; if you would like to support us in any way, we would love to hear from you. Our AGM will be held in Grundisburgh Village Hall on Wednesday 11 October at 7.30pm.

Contacts:
Georgie Keates, Vice Chair georgiekeates@hotmail.com
Bryan Laxton, Treasurer bryan.laxton@hotmail.com
Catherine Laxton, Trips and Hidden Gardens. .catherine@laxton-interiors.co.uk



Photos from top right: Barbara Brennan with her crochet blanket which won her the 'best in show' cup. Show president (and News editor) Nicola Hobbs presents Glyn Hewitt with one of the cups he'd won. The show cups ready to be awarded. Chairman Martin Cripps welcomes patrons at the reception in the marquee. Ipswich Hospital St Peter's Band entertain. Pictures entered by Grundisburgh School Reception Class pupils. Photos Peter Kendall.

