

ISSUE NUMBER 270

# The Grundisburgh and District News

Winter  
2023/4

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

## THE DAY THAT STORM BABET HIT OUR VILLAGES

Many of the villages in The News area were affected by the Storm Babet which hit us with force on 18 October. A few houses were deluged, causing residents to have to move out for several months, some with the help of neighbours managed to keep the water at bay; others on higher ground or away from the rivers escaped altogether. The News office by the church in Grundisburgh had water rushing past its window to swell the ford, but happily not getting into the building. Photos and news from Charsfield, one of the worst hit villages, are included on the centre pages.



## How to avoid being scammed on line

The inaugural Grundisburgh and Culpho Tech Hub workshop on avoiding online scammers was due to take place in Grundisburgh Village Hall on 20 November, the day The News goes to press.

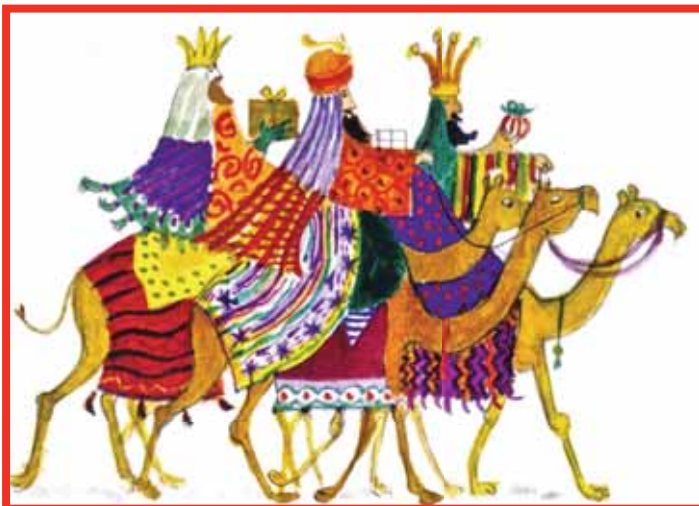
our first session, we are discussing the need to become a human firewall, spotting email scams and the crafty world of social engineering.

We have nearly 40 people booked in and have caught the attention of the Suffolk County Council digital inclusion team.

Continued on page 4

Three Grundisburgh residents have got together to offer a series of free workshops. These aim to demystify some of the core issues concerning scams: how to avoid them, and what can be done if you get caught.

The organisers are Paul Finch, a technology entrepreneur, Will Barber, a web developer and hardware engineer (and The News' tech adviser) and James Mott, a software engineer. In



## Christmas cards

Since Hallo Cards began raising money for EACH in 2016, we have raised £4,857, with sales increasing year by year.

We are grateful once again to Williams Stores, Grange Farm Shop and Woodbridge 41 Club Charity Christmas Card Shop, who all continue to support us and sell the cards for no profit. They are also available on our website [www.hallocards.com](http://www.hallocards.com)

Rupert and Carrie Herries

*The News wishes all its readers, contributors, advertisers and distributors  
a very happy Christmas and successful new year!*

## WHAT'S ON

### December

**Saturday 2**

**Sale of wood turned items, Coffee and Cake.**

Burgh Church Schoolroom, Drabbs Lane 10:30am - 12 noon  
Contact  
butler.sally.r@gmail.com

**Monday 4**

**Christmas Floral Fun with Sue and Phil**

*Otley & District Gardening Club*, Otley VH 7:30 pm  
Contact [issywizzy58@gmail.com](mailto:issywizzy58@gmail.com)

**Tuesday 5**

**Parish Council meeting**

Tuddenham VH 7:30 pm  
Contact  
[pc@tuddenhamstmartin.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:pc@tuddenhamstmartin.suffolk.gov.uk)

**Thursday 7**

**Springtime in Holland - Pat and Derick Haslem**

*Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho WI* Gr Pavilion 2:15 pm

Contact 735394

**Thursday 14**

**Craft Group Meeting**

Gr PR 9:30 am - 12:00 noon  
Contact 735517 or  
[heather.langdon@btinternet.com](mailto:heather.langdon@btinternet.com)

**Saturday 16**

**A Winter Wassail - The Milton Consort -**

St Botolph's Church, Culpho PBE 7:30 pm Contact  
[cmp0601@hotmail.com](mailto:cmp0601@hotmail.com)/  
07925251802 or  
[culphomusic.uk](http://culphomusic.uk)

**Saturday 16**

**Music for Christmas**

*Illuminati Choir*; St Mary's Church, Dallinghoo 7:30 pm  
Contact [JeremyQ@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:JeremyQ@tiscali.co.uk)

A Winter Wassail

Celebration in words and music performed by the Milton Consort. Culpho Church 7.30pm  
Contact 07925 251802

**Sunday 31**

**New Years Eve Barn Dance**

Clopton VH 8:00 pm Contact  
07943 895907 or 01473 737417

**Matthew Tanton-Brown**

*Otley & District Gardening Club* Otley VH 7:30 pm  
Contact [issywizzy58@gmail.com](mailto:issywizzy58@gmail.com)

### January

**Saturday 6**

**Coffee Morning**

Gr PR 10:30 am. Contact  
735775

**Monday 8**

**Council Meeting**

*Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council* Gr PR 7:00 pm  
Contact 735541 or  
[johnager1936@gmail.com](mailto:johnager1936@gmail.com)

### February

**Monday 11**

Garden visit to Bressingham Gr Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society. Contact  
735228.

### March

**Monday 4**

**A Year of Veg with Steven Medley of Roselea Nursery**

*Otley & District Gardening Club* Otley VH 7:30 pm  
Contact [issywizzy58@gmail.com](mailto:issywizzy58@gmail.com)

**Monday 11**

**Council Meeting**

*Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council* Gr PR 7:00 pm  
Contact 735541 or  
[johnager1936@gmail.com](mailto:johnager1936@gmail.com)

### April

**Monday 8**

**No dig Gardening, Mulching and Composting with**

### May

**Monday 6**

**Make your own Botanical Wrap Vase with EJaRT Creative Studio**

*Otley & District Gardening Club* Otley VH 7:30 pm  
Contact  
[issywizzy58@gmail.com](mailto:issywizzy58@gmail.com)

**Monday 13**

**Council Meeting**

*Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council*  
Gr PR 7:00 pm Contact 735541 or  
[johnager1936@gmail.com](mailto:johnager1936@gmail.com)

**Sunday 19**

**Annual plant sale**

*Otley & District Gardening Club*  
Otley VH 10:00 am Contact  
[issywizzy58@gmail.com](mailto:issywizzy58@gmail.com)

### Key to abbreviations

PBE Pre booking essential  
PR Parish Rooms  
VH Village Hall

All phone numbers 01473 unless shown otherwise. Brief details of events can be sent up to a year ahead to [diary@grunews.com](mailto:diary@grunews.com). These will go into The News online diary ([www.grundisburghnews.org.uk](http://www.grundisburghnews.org.uk)) immediately and later fed into the printed version. This can help organisers avoid clashes



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## WHAT'S ON

### Concert for Christmas

The Illuminati Choir will be giving a special Christmas concert in St Mary's Church, Dallinghoo, in aid of the church's repair fund. This takes place on Saturday 16 December, starting at 7:30. Mince pies and a wine bar will be on offer. Admission is free and there will be a retiring collection.

Jeremy Quinlan,  
[JeremyQ@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:JeremyQ@tiscali.co.uk)

### Christmas in our churches

Many of us are looking forward to the 'Ahhh' moments in the Christmas services: candles in the darkness, children singing Away in a Manger, Crib service antics and walking home from the midnight in the crisp air. This year we are looking forward to welcoming you to our churches to join in celebrating with all the familiar carols and traditions. Here is a selection of what's on offer!

There will be Christingle services at Hasketon 4pm on Saturday 2 December and Grundisburgh 3pm on Sunday 10 December. There will Toy (gift) Services at Grundisburgh 11am on Sunday 3 December and Clopton 11am on Sunday 10 December when we also be celebrating St Nicholas with tasty treats! Toys donated will

be passed on for children who might otherwise not receive presents.

There will be Carol Services in all our churches – please look out for local advertising. If you would like to join a special Christmas Choir for Grundisburgh's Carol service we will rehearse on Sunday 17 December in the afternoon for the service in the evening. Refreshments will be provided to sustain you. Please email [Will@carlfordchurches.org](mailto:Will@carlfordchurches.org) for more details.

In addition to the much anticipated Nativity at Warren's Barn Otley and Grundisburgh's Crib Service on Christmas Eve afternoon, there will of course be a Midnight Communion starting at 11.30pm in Grundisburgh. Christmas morning services will be at Swilland (9.30am), Ashbocking (10.30am), Otley, Boulge and Grundisburgh all at 11am. Hopefully there will be something for everyone and we hope you will join us!

Rev'd Katrina Dykes - Rector  
 Carlford Benefice  
[Katrina@carlfordchurches.org](mailto:Katrina@carlfordchurches.org)

### New Years Eve in Clopton

Why not dance out the old year and bring in the new at Clopton Village Hall to The Hosepipe Band. Dancing from 8pm on 31 December. Please bring your

own refreshments and drink. Tickets sell quickly so book soon on 07943 895907 or 01473 737417. Adults £15, children under 13 £5.

Diana Dawson

### It's panto time!

GADS members are currently rehearsing for their annual pantomime. This year it's another traditional story: 'Aladdin'. It takes place on 2 and 3 February in Grundisburgh Village Hall. Join us for fun and frolics with Aladdin, Jasmine, Dishee Washy and, of course, Widow Twankey as they fight against our evil baddy Abanazar. Boooooo!

Come and meet the magical genie, the nonchalant slave of the ring and our two useless policemen, Ping and Pong! There'll be live music, dancing and the best gags around, so don't miss it! Tickets

are available on the GADS website or by scanning the QR code on our posters and banners. They cost £12 for adults and £6 for children up to 16 years.

GADS has just hosted a very successful quiz night at the village hall which was enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone that attended.



'Made in Dagenham' features a feisty worker at the Ford plant at Dagenham who leads the revolution for equal pay for women. A heart warming story from factory floor to the House of Commons which records the breaking of a glass ceiling. Director of Photography is John de Borman.

This is being shown on Sunday 26 November, at Grundisburgh Village Hall; doors open 4pm, film starts 4.30 pm. Enquiries about membership to Peter Kendall, 01473 738267.

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GADS presents

**Aladdin**

**FRIDAY 2nd FEBRUARY**  
 7:30 pm

**SATURDAY 3rd FEBRUARY**  
 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm

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Grundisburgh Village Hall

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Or visit: [www.grundisburghamdram.com](http://www.grundisburghamdram.com)

## Levelling Up: what the new act could mean for us

Last month an important new law, the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act, 2023, was quietly put on to the statute book. Its overarching objective is to reduce geographic disparities across the UK through changes to existing local government and compulsory purchase legislation. Importantly, it also introduces some wide-ranging reforms to the planning system.

One novel concept is the introduction of the National Development Management Plan which may conflict with our local plans and over which we would have little or no influence.

The Act is complex and most of the changes will not come into

force immediately as they are subject to associated regulations and changes to national policy. Hopefully, this gives our parish and other councillors and officials time to digest the anatomy of the Act and prepare for the up-coming new world in which we will be handling planning issues for the foreseeable future.

Many of our parishes are affiliated to the newly formed East Suffolk Planning Alliance (ESPA) which sees one of its prime roles as a bridge-builder with the planners to ensure residents get their voices heard in the planning process.

ESPA plans to hold its first annual conference on 10 February. Its principal objective is to answer the question: how can the communities in our towns and parishes be more effectively built into the planning process, in the light of the new Act?

From my knowledge of ESPA,

I expect there will be a lively debate involving a panel of outside experts, well versed in planning issues, under the chairmanship of an individual experienced in keeping order and speakers' contributions to the point. Dull it won't be and it should help to level the current rather skewed balance between local residents and those involved in developing the built environment.

The News will report on the event and what it might mean for us all us.

Rupert Herries ??

## Avoiding online scammers

Continued from page 1

The intention is to run a workshop quarterly and possibly provide some support services to those in need or who feel vulnerable. More on this to be developed as we understand the demand.

One of our possible things to look at is to use this as a training vehicle for young students seeking to build a career in IT and security. If you are interested in this idea, do please contact me on [paulmfinch@gmail.com](mailto:paulmfinch@gmail.com)

The Grundisburgh Tech Team would like to thank the Grundisburgh Community Fund for its support to help get this off the ground.

Paul Finch

## Horticultural dates for your diaries...

In my capacity as the recently appointed Chair of the Grundisburgh Burgh and Culpho Horticultural Society, I would like to invite you to put some dates in your diaries for next year.

The ever-popular Hidden Gardens event - which attracted well over 500 people this summer - will be on the weekend of 8 and 9 June.

On Saturday 13 July, the Village Show will take place on the Grundisburgh playing field. There are plans to increase the range of outdoor attractions for families, in addition to the judging of the entries of the various classes in the marquee. Look out for the class list in the spring, to see which you might wish to enter.

The date of the annual garden party is yet to be fixed.

The first event of the year will be a trip to Bressingham on 12 February.

Paul Whittingham, chair, Grundisburgh Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society

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## Summoned by the bells of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers

The Suffolk Guild of Ringers is 100 years old and Grundisburgh has played an important part in the Guild's history, particularly since 1949 when its bells became a ring of 10. These are hung lower in the tower in a modern frame, reducing the



amount that the tower swayed. It still sways, but not enough anymore to crack hazelnuts in a fissure on the ringing room window sill!

I have been the Ringing Master (Tower Captain) at St Mary's for 55 years and conducted the anniversary peal this August. I was privileged to train in the 60s with Cecil and Sylvia Pipe, Stan Pipe (all resident in Meeting Lane), Clifford Lovett (also churchwarden and clock winder), Fred Crapnell (the former blacksmith and father of Rosie Leach, long time organist), Jim Bennett (former RSM in the Royal Marines), Gilbert Goodship (father of Marie Goodship) and Ernest "Pickles" Pearce (a former police officer stationed at Sutton). There are still residents in Grundisburgh who will remember these characters.

I learned to ring at Burgh Church in January 1968 and was invited to ring at Grundisburgh in June that year and am still there! Jim Pipe

was the Ringing Master at this time. He was a hard task master, but was always prepared to give ringers from the wider area opportunities to improve.

I spent many happy hours at 'Easta' (as Walnut House in Meeting Lane was called then) writing out permutations and ways to achieve the magical 5040 changes. This usually ended with a glass or two of Jim's home-made wine.

In 1981 two new bells were added in Jim's memory. Grundisburgh became only the second



ring of 12 in the county and the 100th in the country. The other ring of 12 bells is the Civic Church of Saint Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich. The Cathedral at Bury St Edmunds did not have 12 bells until 2012.

Change ringing is a popular and commonplace sound, often from a church tower before or after a service or wedding. 'Changes' are permutations of the sequence in which the bells are rung.

Successfully ringing 5040 changes constitutes a 'full peal' which takes about three hours and is sometimes marked by a "peal board" mounted on the wall of the ringing chamber. The magical number 5040 is equivalent to the maximum number of permutations – changes – which are possible using seven or more bells (or multiple blocks on fewer bells).

Two significant full peals have already been rung at Grundisburgh this year. The first ever peal of Little Bob Caters (10 bells) on 17 March, and Suffolk Surprise Major (eight bells) on 8 July. This latter peal



was one of three simultaneous attempts to ring Suffolk Surprise Major, but the other two at Hollesley and Wilby failed unfortunately.

in the table of county performances.

This reflects the activity over the last 250 years, when 'change ringing' became more popular and improvements in engineering allowed ringers to undertake these full peals, which were based around the maximum number of permutations available on seven or more bells.

Anyone wishing to watch ringing in St Mary's is always welcome on Sunday mornings between 10.15 and 11 o'clock. We are very keen to find new recruits to preserve this ancient art. If you are interested please contact me at: [qualdisc@clara.net](mailto:qualdisc@clara.net) or on 07702 037527, or 01394 286246

Words: Stephen Pettman  
Ringing Master  
with  
minor contributions from Peter Kendall and Wikipedia.

Far left photo: Bell tower window repairs

Top photo: the tenor bell which replaced the original 1628 bell in 2008

The bell ringing team on 8 July From left; Stephen Pettman, Grundisburgh Ringing Master, Clare Veal from Great Barton), Amanda Richmond (St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich), Chris Munnings (Bury Cathedral), Richard Rapior (Aldeburgh), Tom Scase (Debenham), Julian Colman (Bury Cathedral), Richy Munnings (St Mary-le-Tower) .

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**When you see this sign, please take your time**

Quiet Lanes have been in Hasketon and Grundisburgh for a couple of years now and early this year Burgh also became part of the scheme set up by Suffolk Highways.

The scheme now covers 130 parishes with over 300 miles and 1100 signs designating lanes as Quiet Lanes. The legislation does not cover any form of reduced speed limit but the lanes

designated are rural roads where considerate use is encouraged for all users, especially motor vehicle drivers. The signs advise that the lane is a shared space also used by cyclists, walkers, joggers and horse riders, and that they should proceed with care.

The aim is to improve road awareness on rural roads, respect for all other users, to provide an environment where walkers, runners, horse riders and cyclists can feel safe and are able to enjoy the countryside.

Anne Clements. Burgh

**Burgh's Wood Trust**

No, this is nothing to do with woods! It's a long-standing charitable trust run by a small "committee" of Burgh residents. From time to time we like to remind those who live in or near Burgh of the Trust's existence and purpose, especially since

Burgh and Grundisburgh share many facilities, meaning the lives of those in Burgh and Grundisburgh often intertwine.

The Trust manages the income from a modest "pot" of money bequeathed by various generous "Burghers" over the years (one of whom had the surname "Wood") for the benefit of their friends and neighbours in Burgh. One of its benevolent gestures until about 20 years ago, for example, was a free bag of coal for old-age pensioners at Christmas, later changed to a TV licence until recently when neither seemed appropriate any more. (Nor are OAPs necessarily those most in need of financial support these days).

More usefully, we'd like to think, the Trust also gives regular or occasional financial support to local facilities such as Scouts; Guides; Youth Club; Lunch Club; Grundisburgh School; Burgh Schoolroom's thriving 'Place of welcome' sessions etc. And sometimes individuals come to our notice,

such as a young person with a worthwhile project of some sort or indeed anybody who might benefit from a boost or some temporary support.

It is this latter category in particular which leads us to bring the Trust to your attention again. While some of our Trustees seem to be extraordinarily switched-on to what's going on in the community and what might be needed (you probably already know them!) we nevertheless rely heavily on you or the organisation you support to approach us with suggestions and prompts.

If you know of somebody (or a group or initiative of some sort) who you think might benefit from the Trust's support in some way, please contact any one of us listed below:

Peter Clements (Chair): 07712 877374 or email: prcburgh3@hotmail.co.uk  
Lindsay Bingham: 01473 735473 or email: lindsayharris65@gmail.com  
Katrina Dykes: 01473 735183 or email: contact@carlfordchurches.org

Sandy Page: 01473 738146 or mobile: 07593 273187  
Lydia Sansom: 07840 269916 or email: lydiasansom64@gmail.com  
Janet Tapsell: 07867 906173 or email: j.tapsell@btinternet.com  
Lindsay Bingham

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## LOCAL ENTERPRISE



### New faces at Forge Stores

Since arriving in Grundisburgh over 18 months ago, Parth and Jaynita Patel have been managing Forge Stores. They have each travelled many miles since meeting and getting married in their home state of Gujarat, in India.

Jaynita is the more academic one; she went to college where she studied English, Hindi, Chemistry, Physics and Biology and then trained as a lab technician. She then gained a job at a large hospital, testing samples. Parth developed practical skills including working on large fruit farms in Chhattisgarh state. There he specialised in the cultivation of Dragon Fruit, a vine cactus from Mexico and Central/South America which has considerable health benefits. He used to return home on occasional weekends to see Jaynita, a distance of more than 700 miles by train.

After they married, they came to London, renting a small flat in Tooting Broadway; one of Parth's friends knew Minesh who offered them a job managing Forge Stores. They moved to Grundisburgh, renting a bungalow in the village.

They like living in Suffolk and told me: "the countryside is all nature and green, it's quiet, there are not many crimes, and the people are friendly". Not having

a car, they wish there were more buses. The future? Parth's ambition is to save enough eventually to buy a share of Forge Stores.

Words and photo Peter Kendall

### Travel for adventurous families

Ever since she was a teenager, Liddy Pleasants has been mad keen on travel: a school trip to India got her hooked and she has taken every opportunity since to broaden her horizons. After graduating, she was a guide with an adventure tour company but, paradoxically, met her Australian husband, Mike, here in the UK.

Having a family didn't stop her travelling but a take-over of her then Suffolk-based employer led to redundancy. Undaunted, she spent her redundancy money on a 3,500 mile cycling trip around South East Asia with her two children. That was her epiphany. If she could do that successfully (which she did), why not sell not only the concept but actually organise the practicalities of family holidays to faraway places?

No travel operators offered this product and so in 2011 her own company with this unique

selling proposition was born. And there is little doubt that this niche product is in demand - the business has grown to employ 18 people (+ Mike) in their Clopton Business Park office which definitely gives off the feeling of it being a happy and lively working environment. I couldn't resist asking Liddy why 'Stubborn Mule'? Apparently, it's what Mike calls her as she is, no doubt, a delightful but determined person, driving her company forward.

Having decided that the core business is family travel, she resists demand for packages for singles. Her expertise lies in maximising the benefits from not just her own experience but that of her staff (for whom she provides overseas familiarisation and

sights, nature visits, eating local produce with local people and good accommodation (either with its own pool or very close to



ocean beaches). South East Asia, Central and South America and Africa are popular destinations but she has yet to get a family to North Korea!

Ethics are embedded in the

operation: for example, Stubborn Mule will not book travellers to sites where animals are exploited or abused or where the environment is blatantly disregarded for tourism.

Curiously, though, there is little demand for no-fly holidays, possibly because children like to get to their holiday destination as fast as possible (the "Are

we nearly there yet?" syndrome!). As for the future, Liddy sees her company growing largely along present lines and which is obviously on the right track, providing us here with a welcome few weeks' respite from the daily routine!

For more information visit [www.stubbornmuletravel.com](http://www.stubbornmuletravel.com) or call them on 01728 752751

Words Richard Watkinson, photos Linda Plant



learning trips) and a growing network of contacts overseas to produce tailor-made packages for the adventurous, advising on the destination(s) that best meet her clients' criteria.

The formula obviously works as much of her business is from returning customers, with the majority in the UK or from British expats working abroad. A holiday typically comprises a mixture of travel, seeing the

## The Christmas tree business

As we approach the end of the year, thoughts turn to decorating the house ready for the Christmas festivities. The centre piece of any festive home is usually the Christmas tree. The tradition of having Christmas trees has been traced back to medieval times and possibly before then. Martin Luther, leading light of the Reformation in the 16th century, is known to have put up trees with lighted candles. Clearly health and safety was not such a concern in the 1500s!

Oak Tree Farm in Hasketon cannot claim to have been supplying Christmas trees since the middle ages but has built up a substantial business since they entered that market in the late

business was, it is by nature very seasonal and Richard Stephenson, who was by then running the Hasketon farm, came up with the idea of Christmas trees as a way to generate some income during the autumn.

Clearly this was a medium term project as it takes several years before a tree has grown to a height at which people would want to buy it. After the first few years in which a tree becomes established, they then grow at about a foot each year. During the growing period, the trees need to be pruned by hand to try to ensure the classic triangular shape, which trees do not always naturally deliver if left unattended. Given that there



1970s. The farm has been in the Stephenson family since Matthew Stephenson bought it in 1957. Initially, he started with breeding pigs but with the hard work provided by his sons Robert and Richard, the farm diversified into cereals, rhubarb and soft fruits.

Strawberries became a big success and the production was split between selling picked fruit to jam producers and the 'pick your own' market. 'Pick your own' was extremely popular during the 1970s and 80s and the family took on extra fields in Tuddenham to expand capacity. The farm also has fields in Saddlemakers Lane in Melton.

Successful though the soft fruit

are about 40,000 trees in the plantations, this is a time-consuming task during the year.

Initially, all the trees planted were the traditional Norway Spruce variety, noted for its rich green coloured needles. In more recent years, Oak Tree Farm has also grown the Nordmann variety. Nordmann trees were first discovered in the Caucasus Mountains by a nineteenth century Finnish botanist called Alexander von Nordmann, hence the name. These are the trees which have the slightly shiny needles and have the advantage of holding their needles for longer so are better at avoiding 'needle drop' during the Christmas period.



To limit the needle drop on the Norway Spruce, Oak Tree Farm leave the felling of this variety until well into November, so that they are still freshly cut when purchased. This requires a very intensive effort during the harvesting period, as approximately 4,000 trees are felled to meet the demand. Of these about 75% are sold to farm shops and nurseries, schools and churches. The remaining quarter are sold directly off the farm. Antonia Stephenson, Richard's widow, recalls that years ago, Richard was in a hurry to deliver a consignment of trees to a retailer in Essex and the load came off the trailer, causing the southbound A12 close for several hours!

During the felling and selling season from November to Christmas, the wider Stephenson family members are pulled in, together with other labour, to get all the work done. One of these, Peter Branson, has been working there for 46 years mainly in the role of yard foreman.

With Antonia's grandchildren being involved in selling trees at weekends, the fourth generation are now engaged in the enterprise.

The family are very anxious to point out the sustainability of

this operation. Firstly, although trees are cut down, they continuously plant new ones to ensure there is stock for the future. Additionally, according to an article in The Guardian, a two metre plastic tree has a carbon footprint of about 40kg, ten times more than a real tree. The farm also promotes the 'Tree-Cycling' scheme, whereby you can register with the scheme and they collect your tree. In this area, the scheme raises money for well-known local charities. Last year it was EACH and St. Elizabeth Hospice.

If you want to buy a tree from Oak Tree Farm, they will be open from Saturday 25 November and then seven days a week during daylight hours until nearly Christmas. The address is Oak Tree Farm, Hasketon, IP13 6JH.

Words Paul Whittingham  
photos Rufus Owen





## Hitting the ground running

Arriving at the T-junction on the way to my Tuesday Pilates class in the Bealings village hall, I've always wondered what goes on behind that tall wooden fence facing Boot Street and Grundisburgh Road. Now I know: it's the HQ of a family firm: Howard Construction (Anglia) Ltd. run by brothers Michael and Glenn Howard. I called on Glenn recently at their orderly and welcoming premises (which they bought in 1997) and he told me what Howards do.

The firm was founded by their father, Errol, in 1994 and provides the essential civil engineering services on building sites all over East Anglia. In other words, they make the roads, dig the drains and foundations and build walls up to damp proof course level. To do this, Howards directly employ some 90 people (not all based at Bealings, though) and engage as many other subcontractors as is necessary to get the jobs done on time and on budget.

It's a competitive business and Howards have to bid against some well-known names to win contracts from the likes of Taylor Wimpey, Bloor or SEH. The Bealings' location site is quite compact as many of their heavy assets (eg. excavators) are permanently deployed elsewhere and are moved from building site to building site as needed on the ground, literally. So Bealings belies the real size and scope of the Howards' operation.

Go to any housing site and you will see diggers and other heavy equipment shifting soil or carving out new roads - all of which looks very physical but, behind the scene, the operators rely on very high-tech kit which



can measure locations with astounding accuracy. Computer-aided design (CAD) is used to produce site plans and these are transferred to a GPS system which can tell the position of, for example, a digger's bucket or the corner of a building to within 25mm.

Drains can be bored under existing roads by laser-guided augers without disturbing the surface - which could lead to annoying and costly road closures. And drones take pictures from the air showing how work is progressing week by week. More hi-tec is deployed in testing the soil before the diggers get to work: specialists carry out the 'California Bearing Ratio' test which measures the stiffness of the ground they want to work on.

By evaluating the ratio of the force required to penetrate the soil to a standard reference value, they can determine its suitability for road and pavement construction. This valuable information should lead to the design and construction of roads that will withstand the test of time. Gone are the days of theodolites and pegs in the ground!

And as for the future, Howards intend to maintain their position in the field while retaining family control of their firm. Mike has a son and daughter working in the company - that's the third generation involved - so we shall see what happens in the next few years. Despite

If you run an enterprise in our catchment area, why not tell us about it and get some free editorial coverage.

Contact Richard Watkinson, deputyeditor@grunews.com



Top: Health and Safety briefing. Above: aerial photo showing team laying underfloor heating on new build houses.

their heavy work commitment Mike and Glenn do manage to get some free time and, for leisure, they are both golfers, being members of Rushmere and St. Audry's clubs respectively.

how to contact:  
www.howardconstruction.co.uk  
IP13 6PB  
T: 01473 735315

Richard Watkinson

## Local pub scene

On the back page of this issue, we feature the Moon and Mushroom's second dog show. The pub's November highlight was the party held on the 11th to celebrate owner Nikki Gavin's 80th birthday.

The pub was full to capacity and spilled out on to the forecourt - Nikki lost count of the number of people who called in. She has no thought of retirement and there is little doubt that it's her energy that keeps her going. Indeed, the pub now hosts the Lunar Cafe which is open Tuesdays to Fridays from 9.30 am (8.30 on Saturdays), with coffee, cakes, sandwiches and more.

Hopefully, that will keep her even busier! The pub's

Christmas menu starts on 5 December with a grand lunch (including Bucks Fizz) on Christmas Day. Contact the Moon and Mushroom on 01473 785320.

The Grundisburgh Dog is on the market as the owners have decided to take a break from their demanding lifestyles. It's only the enterprise that's for sale: the buildings and grounds, including the bowling green, remain in the hands of their current owners.

In the meantime, it's business as usual with a cracking Christmas menu starting on 1 December - running through to Christmas Eve. The usual quizzes are being held on the last Sundays of the month - the next is on 26 November. Contact The Dog on 01473 735267.

Richard Watkinson

## Storm Babet hits Charsfield ...

A number of villages in The News catchment area were affected by flooding to varying degrees when Storm Babet struck on 20 October.

Charsfield became one of the wettest villages in Suffolk. Met Office records show that 78mm of water fell in a 24 hour period (matched only by Wattisham).

Driving down from Grundisburgh to Charsfield it was easy to see why such severe flooding had occurred. The village nestles in a steep dip between two ridges with Potsford Brook running alongside The Street and adjacent housing. The Brook had broken its bank on both sides and, added to this, the runoff of water from fields above the village meant that for several hours the village was completely cut off.

At its height, the water stood at around 2ft deep and extended from Park Lane at one end of The Street, past Chapel Lane and St Peter's Close all the way up to Church Road.

The speed of its ingress had surprised many and despite having a supply of sandbags these could not be filled and distributed quickly enough. One couple had to be rescued by fire engine from their home. Garden furniture and waste bins were seen floating down The Street.

Several cars were abandoned by those who had not appreciated the depth of the water. Farlingaye pupils had to take temporary refuge with friends as it was impossible to get home that night. Sadly, ten families living along The Street have had to move out of their homes and are facing a long stay outside the village.

After a few hours the water mostly subsided almost as quickly as it had risen. It is a friendly village and neighbours set-to to help each other, not least reuniting garden furniture and bins with their owners!

Meanwhile, although this was said to be 'a one in a hundred year' event, efforts are under way to find ways of reducing the impact of severe weather conditions.

Charsfield Parish Council will be asking Suffolk County Council Highways and the Environment Agency to look at drains and ditches, specifically Potsford Brook, as to what measures could be taken to improve its drainage efficiency.

Rosemary Kneebone



We have heard since that the Hydrosnake, which is a gel filled sandbag alternative, provides a barrier to direct water away from your property.

If your home was affected by flooding make sure you log it on the Suffolk County Council's Highways Reporting Tool: [www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk). This is the only way to register to ensure you receive grant money.



Top row: flooding in Charsfield. Right: Junction of St Peter's Close and The Street.

Left: Charsfield Village Hall.

Middle row: Grundisburgh, with editor's office in Ford House at centre, fortunately just above flood level. Car in Woodbridge Road approaching The Green. Wild swimmer in front of St Mary's.

Panorama below: Grundisburgh Green





**... and Grundisburgh**



## SCHOOL REPORTS

### Grundisburgh Primary School



It has been a very busy start to the term at Grundisburgh Primary School. We have welcomed 24 children into our reception class with the children enjoying learning as a single year group. The children have democratically elected members

comprehension skills. Following the completion of their reading book, children complete a quiz. We have had some fantastic progress made this half term with several children having read over 750,000 words already! We also hosted a book



from each class to form our school council, PE Crew, Eco-Council and Fairtrade Crew. All these pupil bodies have met with a member of staff and are suggesting ideas by which we can further improve our school.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring that every pupil develops a love of reading. Our children in years 3 – 6 have loved using Accelerated Reader as a means to ensure they are reading books that will challenge them and develop their

fair whereby members of the school community had the chance to purchase several books. The generosity of the school community provided the school with additional funds to increase the book stock within our class libraries.

We continue to celebrate children who demonstrate our school values of Growth, Respect, Ownership, Welcoming, Teamwork and Honesty. In our bi-weekly

parent assemblies' children are entered into the golden book and enjoy an afternoon tea with the head teacher.

Our community links with St Marys church again provided another opportunity to enable parents to celebrate with us.

We held a harvest festival celebration within the church with children performing to a packed audience.

We have continued to provide our pupils with a range of sporting experiences and have competed in both boys and girls football tournaments against several other schools. In addition to this all classes in the school have had the opportunity to take part in archery as part of our pupil enrichment. Our year 6 children worked alongside a dance specialist teacher and were able to perform their sequence to an audience. This, again, helped develop their confidence and teamwork skills.

We are very excited to be taking part in the Big Sing at Snape Maltings. Children in our school choir have been practising and are excited to perform on a world-famous stage.

We have hosted an open afternoon and evening for pupils who will be starting school in September 2024. If you were unable to attend I would be more than happy to accommodate a visit to our school, please phone the school on 01473735281 or email [admin@grundisburgh.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@grundisburgh.suffolk.sch.uk)



Grundisburgh School is replacing the existing atrium roof and upgrading the drains as persistent leaks have given the school numerous logistical challenges. The new design will include three full-length windows to maximize natural light, new ceilings, a new drainage system and new flooring.

The work is likely to run until 17 April next year. The village hall has kindly allowed parents to use their car park at drop off and collection times as the works may place additional strain on the local road network during those times.

Adam Wilson, headteacher



## SCHOOL REPORTS

### Charsfield Primary School

In September, we took our Year 5 and 6 pupils on their residential to Hilltop in Norfolk. We had great fun taking part in activities such as orienteering, Super Swing, team building, mountain biking, archery and flying down the zip wire. The children were brilliantly behaved and very supportive of each other during the activities when someone was feeling a bit nervous. We came home at the end of the week having learned new skills, challenged our fears, and exhausted! It was definitely a worthwhile trip that the pupils will remember for years to come.

In our lessons at school, pupils have been variously learning about the village of Charsfield, taking a walk around the village to look at the different buildings and their uses; story writing based on the book 'The Incredible Book Eating Boy'. Henry, the boy in the story, loves eating books and finds that he becomes very knowledgeable. Unfortunately, he eats too many books and becomes very sick!

The children loved sharing their stories with parents in our Showcase Assembly in October; in Oak Class the pupils had fun making their own information books about RMS Titanic. They learnt about the ship's construction, the accommodation, what it was like to dine on the world-famous ship and the tragic loss of life when it hit the iceberg.

Pupils joined in The Big Sing performance at Snape Maltings this month; they sang songs with children from other schools in a live stream to families and friends at home. We were delighted to be chosen for this event because not every school that applies gets accepted! We have lots more planned before Christmas, with pupils in Reception and KS 1 preparing

for their Nativity performance to parents and families in December. So, everyone in the school will be performing to an audience this term!

Amie Reeve

*The Governing Body of Charsfield Primary School is wanting to recruit new governors to fill the vacancies we currently have. If this is something you are interested in, please contact the school office for more information. Also, the Governors are consulting on the proposal to lower the age range of the school, from 4 to 11 years to 3 to 11 years, to provide nursery provision within the school during 2024. Notification of the consultation is being communicated widely: should you wish to find out more or share your views, please email the school office: [office@charsfieldprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@charsfieldprimary.org.uk)*

### YMCA

We have had some exciting news here at the YMCA. Our pet African snail Clara laid some eggs over the summer holidays and since we have been back they have hatched! The children have been busy watching the baby snails hatch and start to



grow bigger, they will soon be able to go to new homes.

At YMCA childcare the children have been very busy since returning from the summer holidays. They have been

learning all about autumn and harvest and have helped to make some pumpkins which were made using some household items. The children have also been cooking up a storm making pumpkin soup; they helped to chop the vegetables and got to eat the soup once it was made. We have also made some very yummy pumpkin bread.

We have recently been learning yoga and have been carrying it out every day; this is a great opportunity for the children to be physical in a fun and exciting way.

The YMCA Childcare Centre in Grundisburgh caters for children aged two to five between the hours of 8am and 3.15pm. We offer a wide range of activities inside and out in our garden and are currently looking at giving the garden a bit of a revamp so if anyone has any resources like old pieces of pipes, guttering, plastic containers, pots and pans or any resources we would be able to use we would be very grateful for any donation.

We believe that children deserve the best possible start to their education and we hope to provide this by offering a safe and secure and happy environment in which children will feel confident and ready to learn. For more information please contact me.

[Nathalie.broadhurst@ymcatrinity.org.uk](mailto:Nathalie.broadhurst@ymcatrinity.org.uk)

If you run a school or pre school in our catchment area and have some news for us please contact Richard Watkinson deputy editor @grunews.com or 07983 977979



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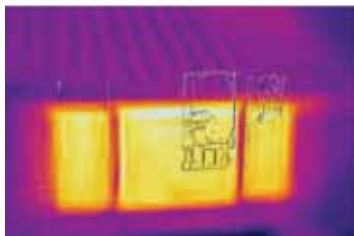




## Grundisburgh imaging project: helping keep warmth indoors

Grundisburgh has obtained, on free loan, through a Suffolk CC scheme, a thermal imaging camera, to survey houses until 4 December. Our aim is to raise awareness about the importance of insulation and help you improve the energy efficiency of your home.

This could mean lower fuel bills, better health and a reduction in your carbon emissions.



What could you learn from a thermal imaging survey? If your house is relatively new and already has insulated cavity walls and double glazing and feels warm, you might not learn much - but you might get an even warmer glow after confirming that your house is well insulated! If your house is older and seems difficult to



keep warm - you might learn exactly from where the heat is escaping and get some ideas about where to insulate. A survey might identify places with draughts, whether cavity wall insulation is patchy or missing or detect areas with insufficient loft insulation.

Objects at different temperatures emit varying amounts of infra-red and the camera translates these differences into an image with different colours representing cool (blue/purple) to hot (white/red) temperatures. Infra-red radiation cannot pass through glass and so the camera cannot see through your windows, doors or walls.

A thermal imaging survey will not invade your privacy as what we see is only the outside surface of the house. If you would like us to include your property, free of charge, please advise me on which days you wish to be surveyed.

Unfortunately we cannot guarantee getting around to everyone but we will contact you if we are able to survey your property. If you are interested, please contact me on 01473 738108 or email [geoff@caryer.co.uk](mailto:geoff@caryer.co.uk)

Geoff Caryer



Thank you to all who have welcomed, befriended and supported me in my time as Rector of The Carlford benefice. It has been a privilege to have served among you and I take many good memories with me.

## Rector's farewell

When Phil and I arrived in Suffolk in April 2021, we anticipated living in this beautiful part of the world for at least a decade.

Sadly our time here has been cut short, due to unforeseen changes in our wider family's circumstances and the need to move closer to them.

We are sad and disappointed to be leaving, just when we felt we were getting to know you, and you us.

We are moving to North Somerset, on the edge of the Mendip Hills. My last Sunday in Suffolk will be 14 January 2024.

Until we meet again, may God hold you in the hollow of his hand.

Rev'd Katrina Dykes

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The Tuddenham Fountain in the flooding after storm Babet. Happily no damage was caused to the pub though it closed early that day to enable staff to get home. More flood photos on the front and centre pages. The photos of The Fountain taken by Jane Pitcher and Lynne Airey.



Winners of this years quiz - from left: Bev Bowry, Derek Bowry, Paul Laughlin, John Girling, Claire Girling and Christine Laughlin.

## Quiz trophy leaves the village

The ever popular Tuddenham annual quiz was held in October with ten teams competing to win the prestigious Tuddenham Toad Trophy. Unfortunately, the Toad has now left Tuddenham - Christine Laughlin's winning team has taken him to Winesham where he will reside until next year. The fun evening was hosted by Quizmaster Adrian Frost assisted by scorers Katherine Frost and Jean Ellinor. Monica Pipe, Holly Hollier and Kate Lindsay provided the usual delicious cheese and meat ploughman's supper and David and Jackie Lugo ran the raffle. Thanks to everyone for another amazing event.

### St Martin's Church Gift Day

Thanks to everyone who supported Church Gift Day on 28 October. We have to find £46 each day to run our church – our income for 2022 was equivalent to £39 per day. Despite the popular misconception, parish churches get no funding from the centre and must be financially self-sufficient. The church and its members are a big part of the Tuddenham community and it was lovely to see so many folk bringing donations and buying produce from the stall. Thank you to everyone.

The Gift Day raised £3,000 but unfortunately, with the cost of living situation and finances being stretched, donations were down by almost 20 percent on last year.



Jackie Lugo selling at the Gift Day

At Tuddenham's annual harvest lunch (above), the Rev Charlotte and villagers enjoyed a selection of casseroles followed by seasonal desserts. Thanks to Monica Pipe (below right) and the catering team for a delicious lunch.



Articles and photos on this page contributed by Jean Ellinor

## Safari Supper

On a damp dark evening in October, 23 hungry villagers braved the elements to walk around the village to assigned houses in search of their starters, main courses and desserts before meeting up for port and coffee at the end of the evening. Thanks to Helen and Neil Hewitt for organising such a lovely evening which raised £182.50 for St Elizabeth Hospice.



**Folk dancers celebrate 30 years**

Grundisburgh Folk Dance Club recently celebrated its thirtieth birthday with an evening of dancing, champagne and cake. Live music was provided by Mick and Sue Reeve, local musicians and Rod and Frances Stradling, national folk musicians.


The club was started in 1993 by Katherine Smith and Bess Beck - and has been thriving ever since. We were very pleased that several past members were able to join us for the evening, including Katherine who gave a resume of how the club had started and reminded us of some of the founder members. Over the years the club has evolved and we now dance several styles of folk dance.

These include historical Playford dances that were collected and published by John Playford in the 1650s. Our evenings also incorporate English social dances, ceilidh dances (many of which you may have come across at a barn dance) as well as recently written dances from America and even some written by our own members! We are very fortunate to occasionally have live music provided by Mick and Sue Reeve and Phil Williams. If you are a musician who would be interested in playing for us we would always be keen to hear from you.

Each summer we have a dancing party in a member's garden. We also attend the local Playford Ball, where members dress in 'Jane Austen' style costumes and perform dances from that period. Several members attend folk festivals during the year.

The club meets on a Monday night in the village hall from 7.30 to 9pm with a fee of £2 per session. Anyone is welcome to come and join us. You do not need a partner. Few of our current members had any dance knowledge when joining so we are always willing to help newcomers. All the dances are called, so no previous experience is needed. All we ask is that you bring a sense of humour!

Words and photo Sally Talbot,  
[sally@sallytalbot.net](mailto:sally@sallytalbot.net) 07745138550



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## WI reporting

In August members of Grundisburgh and Culpho WI had an interesting and informative talk by Sophie Boldero of Wiltshire Farm Foods. She explained that for over 30 years the firm had been cooking and delivering frozen meals to the door.

In September Iestyn Edwards entertained us with a talk entitled "My Tutu Went AWOL" and described some of his exploits during the last 40 years as Madame Galini, a Russian ballet dancer. He trained as a tenor as well as a dancer. After some years in various companies he came to the attention of Combined Services Entertainment and was sent out to Iraq and Afghanistan to entertain the troops as Madame Galini in 2006.

At the October meeting we had an entertaining and interesting talk by Nick Anthony who had worked for Border Force and before that for Customs and Excise. He kept us amused with stories of how illegal goods such as tobacco, drugs, exotic animals and fake designer goods are brought into the country. Our WI meets on the first Monday of each month and we welcome visitors in Grundisburgh's pavilion.

Gillian Leech, 01473 735394



## Scouting group news

Since we welcomed our members back after the summer holiday all our sections have been very busy - attending weekend camps, hiking, campfires and cooking.

Beavers took part in an outdoor challenge and World challenge badge, air activities, games, badge night. There will also be Diwali Festival of Lights, skills challenge, problem solving

Scouts had outdoor challenge at Hallowtree campsite, campfire cooking, badge night, navigator, scavenger hunt. Then hiking with Cubs, pioneer and knots badge, games, local knowledge badge, Christmas decorations and Ten Pin bowling.

Explorers brought food to cook on the campfire, navigator badge, made pizzas at Otley village hall, pumpkin carving, cooking challenge, weekend camp at Hallowtree. There will be Christmas crafts, games, and



tasks, disability activity badge, then Christmas games and holiday until early January.

Cubs have been tent pitching, tomahawks, outdoor challenge weekend at Hallowtree Campsite, orienteering, sports night, first aid, secret agent night. They will be hiking Fynn Valley with Scouts, navigator skill, escape the hut, geocaching and Christmas campfire before holidays.

a Christmas party camp at Boxford Spinney campsite.

Our AGM was held in Grundisburgh Village Hall on 8 November with a large number of people attending and we thank everyone for their support. Group Scout Leader Stuart Ross presented Chief Scout Awards to Austin, Sophie, Freyja, Tom and Darcey who had all gained the Cubs Silver Award and Leland,



Neve, Eddie and Abbi who had gained the Scouts Gold Award. Stuart also presented Carly Richmond with flowers and chocolates to thank her for her hard work as our treasurer, from which she is standing down after 10 years.

We will soon be starting our archery training getting ready for the finals next year at which we always excel and gain many awards.

### Fantastic fireworks

Over 1,500 people on Saturday 4 November attended our fireworks display on Saturday 4 November. They enjoyed a spectacular light show on the playing field. Thank goodness the evening was clear with no rain like we had in the morning. The children were very excited especially when they ran around with glowsticks and fairy wands all lit up in different colours. The stalls and BBQ sold out so we definitely need to get more next year! Sorry for the MUD! Hope the field dries out quickly.

Thanks go to the Football Club for re-arranging their matches



so that we could have the field all day, and thanks also to the village hall committee for allowing visitors to use their car park.

We had our most successful Firework Display ever, raising a total of over £6,700, some of which will be going towards our fundraising for a new Scout HQ. Grateful thanks to all our leaders and volunteers who helped us and to the public who supported the Scout Group in any way.

Members attended the Remembrance Parade at St. Mary's Church, proudly displaying our flags.

Pat Ross, Group Secretary,  
01473 735352





## Grundisburgh Village Quiz

As winners of last year's Village Quiz, FOGS (Friends of Grundisburgh School) organised Grundisburgh's thirty fifth Annual Village Quiz on 6 October. The winners were the 'Ex Dads of Grundisburgh School' with a record 100 points out of a possible 110. Second were FOGS with 92, third St Marys Congregation with 90 and fourth the amateur dramatic group GADS with 70 points

A total of £540 was raised, to be shared by FOGS and the 456 Club for older Grundisburgh school pupils). The quiz began in the old village hall in late 1980s and moved to Grundisburgh School in the 90s. After the Covid break, the annual event has a very comfortable home in the new village hall.

Ann Willetts



## Winter tennis

The recently formed ladies team at Grundisburgh Tennis Club has started to compete in the local league. A group of four will be playing matches against other local teams at weekends throughout the winter.

For those who prefer to play less competitively, there are several mixed and ladies only groups. These sessions are open to all members whatever their ability. There is an emphasis on playing for enjoyment and they are very sociable occasions.

Some of the Wednesday morning ladies social tennis group, from left Eily Buffone, Sue Haddock, Mary Rolls, Sue Goode, Debbie Fretwell, Kate Parish.

As well as playing tennis, we also talk, walk and lunch together at various times. During the summer, we lunched outside at The Maybush by the Deben and our pre-Christmas meal will be at The Dog in Grundisburgh. There are also four men's teams playing in the league this year and plenty of opportunities for them to play socially too.

Families are well catered for with our excellent coaching offers. We have family memberships available and our courts can be booked online by members year round or by non-members for a small fee. For more details go to: [www.grundisburghtennis.co.uk](http://www.grundisburghtennis.co.uk)

Words & photo: Anne Lee

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The organisers, from left to right, Jean Marsh, Wendy Sanders Pugh, Debbie Palmer and Lynn Tortice

## Coffee and cakes for Macmillan

We held our eighth Macmillan coffee morning in Grundisburgh in September. Again we made an increase on the previous year, with a total of £578 this time. A big thank you to everyone who baked cakes, donated raffle prizes and turned up on the day to buy; it would not be possible without each and everyone of you. And thank you especially to Wendy, Jean and Lynn for their help.

Debbie Palmer

*The coffee morning in Burgh Old Schoolroom in October raised £355 for Macmillan Cancer Support*

## Hospice help

St Elizabeth Hospice are looking to recruit a team of warm, caring and empathetic community volunteers to provide support to people living in their own homes. This support may include tasks such as delivering shopping, collecting medication, making a snack or drink, light house work and gardening, or visiting to provide reassurance over a cup of tea and a chat. More information from the volunteer team on 01473 707939 or email [volunteer@stelizabethhospice.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@stelizabethhospice.org.uk)

### Grundisburgh News Dates for 2024

#### Issue no 271 Spring

Publication: Friday 24 February

Copy needed: Wednesday 31 January

#### Issue no 272 Summer

Publication: Friday 31 May

Copy needed: Wednesday 8 May

#### Issue no 273 Autumn

Publication: Friday 30 August

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#### Issue no 274 Winter

Publication: Friday 29 November

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## Great Granny Graduates

Grundisburgh resident Gill Twissell became a great grand mother for the first time last year. Then, after six years study with the Open University, she was awarded a first-class honours degree in English literature this July.

There are no graduation pictures yet, as she has to wait for the ceremony in Ely cathedral next summer. She had to miss the autumn ceremony at the Barbican because it was on the same day as her daughter got married.

## About The News

[www.grundisburghnews.org.uk](http://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](mailto:editor@grunews.com). All issues are included on our website [www.grundisburghnews.org.uk](http://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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Next issue No 271 Spring 2024

Publication: Friday 24 February

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### ADVERTISING

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

1/8 page (w.92mm x h. 66mm) £50

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

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

Single adverts must be paid for in advance.

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

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

A small charge is made for originating artwork.

Adverts for next issue to be sent by 31 January to Peter Kendall, Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh IP13 6TA, 01473 738267, [adverts@grunews.com](mailto:adverts@grunews.com).

Earlier booking is recommended as space is limited.

## Swilland's second annual dog show

Getting on for some 200 four-footed entrants and around 700 humans filled the Pooresland field next to the Moon & Mushroom pub in Swilland for the second annual dog show.

The show in mid-September was organised by Shirley Hinchliffe, the owner of three Bearded Collies.

There were 30 different classes held in the two show rings, under the eyes of experienced judges - three of whom had judged at Crufts.

A range of trade stalls and catering options ringed the field. The event raised some £1,800 which will be going to support the charity Beardies in Need (for Bearded Collies) and Swilland Church which is hoping to add a toilet.

Nikki Gavin, owner of the Moon & Mushroom, was delighted with the success, and arrangements are already being made for Swilland's third annual dog show on Sunday 22 September 2024. There will also be an Easter Parade for dogs in March next year - just a bit of fun, Nikki says, where owners are invited to bring their dogs in extravagant fancy dress,

Words Nicola Hobbs  
Photos Peter Kendall



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