

# The Grundisburgh and District News

February/  
March  
2006

**FREE**

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

## Affordable housing survey for Little Bealings

Little Bealings is the latest parish council in the News' area to carry out a survey to ascertain the need for affordable housing. The survey forms, being delivered to every household by mid February, will help the council gain a complete picture of local need. Residents are asked to complete and return their forms by 27 February in the envelopes supplied. All information will be handled in the strictest confidence by Suffolk ACRE and will not be seen by parish councillors.

## Crime reports from Grundisburgh

A young man of about 16/17 tried to snatch a lady's handbag in Post Mill Gardens around 3pm on Wednesday 11 January. The youth, who was wearing a three quarter length grey jacket, ran off towards Ipswich Road when the lady yelled. Luckily no physical harm was done to her but the incident caused considerable distress.

The police were soon on the scene and questioned several youths but were unable to find the culprit. Any information from the public would be much appreciated - please contact DC Daly of Woodbridge CID on 01473 613500. Just before the attempted robbery the victim was walking up Rose Hill behind two females (described as about 60/70 years old, both probably wearing skirts and one a green three quarter length jacket). They



Photos:

Below left Chris Berry and Ian Berwick celebrated VE/VJ day in period style in Hasketon Victory Hall.

More photos and stories on centre pages.

may have seen someone suspicious, and the police are keen to speak with them to see if they can add anything.

Grundisburgh has also been suffering from vandalism - to the scout hut (more on page 7), to the lights on the tree on The Green at Christmas (page 9) and to the Baptist Church,

which had windows broken at the back. The parish council is so concerned about these incidents of wanton damage, which is causing unnecessary cost and hardship, that it is considering offering a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible.



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# News Diary

## FEBRUARY

Thursday 2nd

**'Amber Shop'** G'burgh, Burgh and Culpho WI GPR 7.30pm. Contact 735469.

Saturday 4th

**Grundisburgh Dining Club**  
The White Horse Easton 7.30pm. Contact 735495.

**Race Meeting** Moon and Mushroom Inn Swilland. Contact 785320.

Saturday 11th

**Quiz Evening** Clopton VH. 7.30pm. Contact 737417.

**Magic Nite** Charsfield VH. 7.30pm. Contact 737701.

Sunday 12th

**Grundisburgh Parish Walk**  
Start from G'burgh Pavillion 2pm. Contact 738219/735481.

Thursday 16th/Friday 17th

**'Snow White'** Tuddenham Players TVH. 7.45pm. Contact 785003.

Saturday 18th

**'Snow White'** Tuddenham Players TVH 2.30pm & 7.45pm. Contact 785003.

Tuesday 21st

**'The Secret Army of World War II'** G'burgh Local History Society GPR 7.45pm. Contact 738918.

Saturday 25th

**Church Coffee Morning**  
Corner Farm, Clopton 10-12noon. Contact 737602.

**Film Evening** Otley CC OVH. Contact 890970.

## MARCH

Thursday 2nd

**'Quilts'** G'burgh, Burgh and Culpho WI GPR 7.30pm. Contact 735469.

**'Living in China & working for the British Council'**

Clopton Ladies Circle CVH 7.45pm. Contact 737417.

**CADS Panto** Charsfield VH 7.30pm. Contact 737206.

**G'burgh Tennis Club AGM**  
Pavilion on GPF 8pm. Contact 738830.

Friday 3rd/Saturday 4th

**CADS Panto** Charsfield VH 7.30pm. Contact 737206.

Tuesday 7th

**'The Sutton Hoo Mob'**  
Eastern Angles theatre group

Bredfield VH 7.30pm. Contact 01394 386565.

Saturday 11th

**'Figure Out Your Future'**  
Otley College 10-2pm. Contact Sally Hunt 784153.

Sunday 12th

**Grundisburgh Parish Walk**  
Start from G'burgh Pavilion 2pm. Contact 738219/735481.

Monday 13th

**G'burgh and Culpho Parish Council Meeting** GPR 7.30pm. Contact 735541.

Friday 17th

**The News' AGM** GPR 8pm. Contact 738866.

**St Patrick's Day Quiz** with food/licensed bar. Charsfield VH. Contact 737701.

Tuesday 21st

**'Landguard Fort'** G'burgh Local History Society GPR 7.45pm. Contact 738918.

Thursday 23rd

**Clopton Parish Council Meeting** Clopton VH 7.30pm. Contact 830398.

Saturday 25th

**FOGS Spring Nearly New Sale** G'burgh School 10-11.30am. Contact 735774.

## APRIL

Thursday 6th

**'Woodland Trust'** G'burgh, Burgh and Culpho WI GPR 7.30pm. Contact 735469.

Sunday 9th

**Grundisburgh Parish Walk**  
Start from G'burgh Pavilion 2pm. Contact 738219/735481.

Tuesday 18th

**'The Diaries of a Georgian Vicar'** G'burgh Local History Society GPR 7.45pm. Contact 738918.

Friday 21st

**Quiz** iao Swilland Church Witnesham VH 7.30pm. Contact 785262.

Wednesday 26th

**Quiet Day** Otley Hall. Contact 890264.

Saturday 29th

**Car Boot Sale** G'burgh Football Club GPR 8-1pm. Contact 735681.

Sunday 30th

**Otley Hall Open Day** 2-6pm. Contact 890264.

## MAY

Monday 1st

**Plant and Book Sale**  
Hasketon VH.2.30pm. Contact 01394 383106.

Thursday 4th

**Resolutions and Social Evening** G'burgh, Burgh and Culpho WI GPR 7.30pm. Contact 735469.

Monday 8th

**G'burgh and Culpho Parish Council Meeting** GPR 7.30pm. Contact 735541.

Tuesday 16th

**Quiet Day** Otley Hall. Contact 890264.

**'Creating Theatre from Local Sources'** G'burgh Local History Society GPR 7.45pm. Contact 738918.

Thursday 18th

**Clopton Parish Council Meeting** CVH 7.30pm. Contact 830398.

Friday 19th

**'Did we really evolve from apes? A scientific case for creation'** G'burgh Chapel 7.30pm. Contact 738836/56.

Saturday 27th

**Car Boot Sale** G'burgh Football Club GPF 8-1pm. Contact 735681.

Sunday 28th

**Otley Hall Open Day** 2-6pm. Contact 890264.

## JUNE

Tuesday 6th

**Quiet Day** Otley Hall. Contact 890264.

Thursday 8th

**Outing & Pub meal** G'burgh, Burgh & Culpho WI 7.30pm. Contact 735469.

Saturday 17th

**Hidden Gardens**, G'burgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society 2-6pm. Contact 735932.

**Big Day Out** Fun for families Otley College 10-5pm. Contact Sally Hunt 784153.

Sunday 18th

**Hidden Gardens**, G'burgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society 2-6pm. Contact 735932.

Saturday 24th

**Car Boot Sale** G'burgh

Football Club GPF 8-1pm. Contact 735681.

Monday 25th

**Hasketon Jazz and BBQ**  
Shrubbery Farm. Contact 01394 383106.

## JULY

Saturday 1st

**Concert iao Crossroads** St. Mary's Church G'burgh. Contact 01394 388970.

Thursday 13th

**Quiet Day** Otley Hall. Contact 890264.

Saturday 15th

**Village Show** G'burgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society, GPF 12.30-4.30pm. Contact 738267.

**Post Show Disco** Marquee on GPF 8pm. Contact 735469.

Friday 28th

**Evening Garden Party**  
G'burgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society, Purbrook House, G'burgh, 6.30pm. Contact 735719.

Saturday 29th

**Car Boot Sale** G'burgh Football Club GPF 8-1pm. Contact 735681.

## AUGUST

Saturday 5th

**Hasketon Village Fete** 2pm. Contact 01934 388970.

Sunday 27th

**Otley Hall Open Day** 2-6pm. Contact 890264.

Saturday 28th

**Fun Day and Car Boot Sale**  
G'burgh Football Club GPF 2-5pm. Contact 735681.

*Key for abbreviations:  
P/VH - Parish/Village hall  
PF - Playing field  
PR - Parish rooms*

*All codes are unless given otherwise.*

*This diary is designed to promote events in The News' villages and to help organisers avoid clashes.*

*Entries are free. Information needs to be in writing.*

*Please note that a contact phone number must be provided for each entry. We will not use any without.*

# What's On

## MAGIC IN CHARSFIELD

Charsfield Village Hall is the venue for a 'Magic Nite' on Saturday 11 February, starting at 7.30pm.

The recreation ground fund raisers invite people to join them for a magical evening of entertainment hosted by Peter Holloway and friends, and to enjoy a cabaret and relaxing two-course meal in the comfort of the village hall. There will be a licensed bar with good prices.

Tickets, at £12 per person, are strictly limited so early booking is advised - from Bridge Garage, The Three Horseshoes or by telephoning 01473 737701. Proceeds will be shared with the Village Hall

The next recreation ground fund-raiser will be a St Patrick's Day Quiz with food and licensed bar on 17 March.

*Jan Pedgriff*

## James Bond evening

Otley Community Council is holding a film evening on Saturday 25 February. The theme is James Bond and there will be a film and a two-course meal. Tickets cost £8.50 and are available from Ruth on 01473 890970 or Diane Elmer, 01473 890283.

## OTLEY HALL OPENINGS

Otley Hall and its gardens will be open to the public on three days during 2006: Sundays 30 April, 28 May and 27 August, all between 2 and 6pm.

Following the success of the 'quiet days' run at Otley Hall last year, a further series is planned between April and

October. The cost of these days is £14 per person (including lunch and refreshments). Dates will be included in The News Diary.

*Kat Pennington, Events Manager, 01473 890264*

## Invitation to dine

Grundisburgh Dining Club is a small group of friendly people who enjoy eating out. We have been visiting local pubs every other month as a group for the past couple of years. Why not join us?

We visit pubs that will accept bookings in advance for up to 20 people. There are no joining or membership fees and each person only pays for what they order.

The next get together is on Saturday 4 February, 7:30 for 8pm at the White Horse, Easton. For more details contact Brian or Mary Robinson on 01473 735719 or myself. You will be made most welcome.

*Roy Compton 01473 735495*

## TALKS ON LOCAL HISTORY TOPICS

A talk on 'The Secret Army of World War II' is the next offering from Grundisburgh Local History Society on Tuesday 21 February.

It will be given by John Worricker, a former Scotland Yard Special Branch Officer, who will be covering Winston Churchill's initiative to recruit and train local people in a saboteur role behind the lines in the event of an enemy invasion. He will focus on Suffolk, largely because East Anglia was one of the most likely targets for invasion, but also because all the research

into the 'secret army' was started at Parham airfield.

On Tuesday 21 March there will be an illustrated talk on the history of Felixstowe's Landguard Fort which has been a military building since the 17th century. Dave Wood, an expert on military history, is a trustee of the fort and has been closely involved in its preservation. It was abandoned by the army in 1956 but has since been restored by English Heritage.

The meetings take place in Grundisburgh Parish Rooms, starting at 7.45pm. They are free to members, while non-members are also welcome at a cost of £1 per person.

*Roger Anderson, 01473 738918*

## Swilland Church quiz

There will be a quiz in aid of Swilland Church on Friday 21 April in Winesham Village Hall. This starts at 7.30pm and the format will be teams of four. The cost is £5 per head to include refreshments - participants are asked to bring their own drinks. Tea and coffee will be available. Everyone is welcome - tickets available from Gill Reidy (01473 785716), Brian Williams (01473 785726) or myself.

*Ann Kent (01473 785262)*

## VILLAGE SHOW TIME

The list of classes for Grundisburgh's Village Show is now available so that exhibitors, particularly the

vegetable growers, can start planning their entries. Copies can be viewed on the notice board by Olde Forge Stores or collected from Grundisburgh Post Office.

The photography classes often have the most entries; this year they call for a photo of a pet or pets (which can also include children), a photo on the theme of 'Through the gate' and another - announced previously - is of a village scene suitable for making into a postcard which is being sponsored by Maureen Hyde from Grundisburgh Post Office. In addition the over-60s are invited to submit a photo of a sunset, and children a photo of an animal.

The show, which is run by Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society, takes place on Saturday 15 July on Grundisburgh Playing Field. As usual there will be opportunities for local organisations to take stalls outside the marquee to raise funds on their own behalf. Brenda Garrett (735469) can be contacted regarding this.

The annual hidden gardens weekend, which is one of the means by which funds are raised to run the show, will be on 17 and 18 June. Wendy Witt (735932) would be very pleased to hear from anyone willing to open their garden, be it large or small, to our visitors.

*Sally Doherty, chairman, Grundisburgh, Burgh & Culpho Horticultural Society, 01473 738188*

## THE NEWS AGM

THE GRUNDISBURGH & DISTRICT NEWS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS ON FRIDAY 17 MARCH, 8pm IN THE PARISH ROOMS. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR A GLASS OF WINE AND TO GIVE US THEIR VIEWS.

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## NEWS TRIBUTES

### Roy Thorpe 1935 to 2005

Also affectionately known as Mickey, Roy Thorpe was born in Burgh although his family moved shortly afterwards to Stoney Road in Grundisburgh. There he attended the village school, leaving at the age of 15, as was usual at that time. On leaving school he entered the upholstery trade, learning his craft at the Howgego Company in Ipswich. His choice of trade was to serve him well in later life.

Roy was called up for National Service in the Army, during which time he served in Korea. He later became a member of the Korean Veterans Association.

On his return to civilian life he chose to work for himself and soon became a top craftsman in the upholstery business. His work gave him great pleasure and satisfaction and was of such quality he never needed to advertise his services. He even enjoyed royal patronage, with commissions from both the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret.

For the last 30 years, Roy lived with Alan, Shirley and Beverley at Post Mill Gardens. It was Shirley Frost who began the Community Car Service for Grundisburgh and surrounding villages for which Roy was a voluntary driver and dedicated supporter. He



Roy (Mickey) Thorpe with Jack and Megan.

adored the sun, enjoying many holidays on the continent with friends and family, and was always topping up his tan. He also had a passion for gardening. He loved to walk his beloved Golden Retrievers, Jack and Megan, around the village or more often than not, they would walk him!

The funeral service took place at Grundisburgh Church on 30 December. A guard of honour was provided by the Korean Veterans Association.

Roy is survived by his sister Nancy and brother Peter.

During my early years I lived two doors away from Roy's family. I have good memories of all the times we enjoyed in our community. This was despite the Second World War and all the hardships that it inevitably brought.

*Terry Frost*

### Lord Belstead 1932-2004

John Belstead, whose quiet voice and gentle manner will be very much missed locally, died shortly before Christmas. Although he led a busy and successful political life in London (which was featured in lengthy tributes in the national press and included being Leader of the House of Lords), it was in Suffolk that he was really at home, for many years living and farming in Great Bealings.

Many of his leisure amusements were in the sporting line, but equally, many were not. Tennis, golf, sailing, cricket, skiing, talking to children, talking politics, planning picnics and barbecues, drinking wine, going to France on holiday, seeing his friends, spending afternoons in the woods, walking round his farm, were all part of his days on earth. On the Alde in his dragon, Harkaway, he was difficult to beat, as he maintained he knew every single underwater hump, and every tiny backwash of the tide.

He excelled at tennis, and, even when he could no longer play, followed it keenly. He once decided to go harvesting rather than watch the very young, delicate Maria Scharapova being beaten by the terrifying Miss Williams and was very startled to find on his return that Maria had won and was the new Wimbledon champion.

As his illness gradually worsened, the one expedition that would always cheer him up was driving to Rosary Farm to see his cows.

John was always hospitable, approachable and kind, and his manners were as perfect to the Lord Chancellor as they were to a four-year-old. His famed courtesy was also much appreciated during his nine years service as Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk.

We mourn his passing and will remember him for his gentleness, his calm reasoning, and his merry heart.

*Louise Harrison*

Over 550 people attended a memorial service in Ipswich on 21 January for John Belstead, including representatives from members of the Royal Family. It took place at St Mary-le-Tower, the civic church of Ipswich in which he had been christened. Afterwards the Suffolk Guild of Ringers rang out a full peal of Stedman Cinques, with 5073 changes in honour of the 73 years of his life.

On a personal note, one of the highlights of my late teens was being invited to play in the mixed doubles at the Framlingham Tennis Tournament by the then Hon. John Ganzoni. Naturally I was the envy of many. The fact that we did not win was entirely down to me. He was, typically, totally courteous about it.

*The then Nicola Lightfoot (now Hobbs)*



John Belstead in the late 80's walking in his favourite woods near Rosary Farm in Great Bealings with Priscilla, younger daughter of Hasketon residents Michael and Louise Harrison.

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## ... and a Gull Farm family

My brother John who lives in Australia and I are researching our family tree and we would like to fill in a few gaps.

Do you remember the two sisters Mrs Annie Pryke and Mrs Sally Want who lived at Gull Farm, Gull Lane, before they died in the '80s? Or Mrs Pryke's son Bert (or Herbert)? Having previously run his father's fishmonger business after the sisters moved to Grundisburgh, Bert may have returned to Ipswich having sold Gull Farm.

We are especially interested in what happened to Bert as we are unable to trace the date of his death. We would also like to trace Bert's sister Winnie who we believe might be in the Ipswich area.

John and I would welcome any snippet, anecdote or information that you might have. In December I retraced my steps to Gull Farm and was surprised at its transformation; I can remember going to bed by candlelight, taking a trip across the lawn to visit the 'small room' and collecting water from a pump. How

times have changed!

I can be contacted by email or by post.

*Mrs Mary Ellard, 3a Charlotte Way,  
Witham, Essex CM8 2TZ.  
mary@ellardm.freemove.co.uk*

## An advertising retrospective

A small exhibition of work by my husband Bruce Hobbs, who died in 2004, is being assembled by the Burgh based artist Lindsay Harris. It will be at Suffolk College where Lindsay is a lecturer on the BA(Hons) Graphic Design course. The exhibition

includes examples from his long career in advertising between 1944 and 1990, in London and New York, as well as cartoons and cards done for pleasure and publication. The exhibition, which is free, takes place between 1 and 10

March, from 10am and 8pm (Monday to Thursday), 10am to 3pm (Friday) in the Forefront Gallery Foyer, R Block at Suffolk College, Rope Walk, Ipswich.

*Nicola Hobbs*

## The famous Grundisburgh carnivals

The News has been researching Grundisburgh's carnivals, which were run to raise money for youth and sports clubs. 'Radio Caroline' (in photo below) won top prize for John

Cameron in the first ever carnival in 1964. The car behind is Tom Thornton's 'Bubble Car' which was third. We will include other pictures in future issues and will welcome memories.





## MOTOR BUSINESS STILL GOING STRONG

Coltec, the motor mechanic company based in Broadmere Garage in Ipswich Road, Grundisburgh, is still trading there, owner Richard Coles is anxious to assure customers.

It is Select Imports, which was selling Japanese sports cars in the front of the building, which is no longer using the premises.

Although Richard is currently utilising the space to store some of his prize winning racing cars, he is looking to re-let the area, preferably to a motor related business.

Coltec's main business is with racing engines and engineering services - the car in the photo is an MGA twin cam with a Coltec tuned engine which won the MGA race at Silverstone at the anniversary event last year.

But the garage also takes on servicing, MOTs and general repairs on other less speedy cars. Coltec Racing Engines can be contacted on 01473 738738, [www.coltecracing.com](http://www.coltecracing.com).

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# Grundisburgh Gleanings

## Gardeners to get-together no longer

The Grundisburgh Gardeners Get Together has ended. The group running these monthly meetings decided it does not have enough support to carry on.

It started in 1991 and at one stage was so overwhelmed with visitors that meetings were moved from the parish rooms up to the village hall.

The get togethers ended on a high note in January with one of its most popular and frequent speakers Karen Kenny talking about 'Gardening for Wildlife'. For her wildlife included insects such as beetles and frogs whose virtues to the gardener she extolled.

For the November meeting we welcomed Paul Mothersole to give us a slide show for a winter's evening. It was a most relaxing and enjoyable meeting giving us delightful slides of different places. The first was of Powis Castle in Wales, followed by the island of Mull and Stafford, and the local areas where he worked just outside Framlingham. The slides were accompanied by appropriate music.

*Sally Doherty and Shealagh Watkins*

## WI reports

In December Grundisburgh, Burgh and Culpho Women's Institute members and many visitors were welcomed to a

beautiful seasonally decorated Village Hall. Linda Scoles whose talk entitled 'God Rest Ye Merry' spoke at length about Christmas presents she had given her husband over the years. A very amusing talk. We then enjoyed a delicious buffet supper, altogether a good start to the festive season.

Our new year started with a talk about 'Suffolk Punches' given by Chris Miller, a life member of the Suffolk Horse Society and chairman of the Suffolk Museums Group.

Mr Miller showed us many slides of these beautiful horses, and explained that they are one of the four heavy horse breeds in this country. Unlike the other breeds - Shire, Clydesdale and Percheron, Suffolk Punches must always be chesnut in colour (spelt without the middle 't'), an old English word for chesnut is sorrel.

Bred and evolved in Suffolk, there were two other livestock breeds namely the Red Poll cow and the Suffolk sheep and these three animals together are collectively known as the Suffolk Trinity. As the Suffolk Punch is a rare breed, only about 360 worldwide, breeding is very important to ensure their survival.

Mr Miller showed us a slide of Poppy, a Suffolk Punch filly foal bred by Tom Walne of Ipswich and now owned by the Queen. He gave details of the change of ownership of the Hollesley Bay Colony Stud which should ensure that this



Grundisburgh born emigrant celebrates her 90th birthday: Millie Harris with her daughter Sandra and her son Ron, and Sandra's daughters Naomi and Sarah.

## A letter from down-under

*Again I am putting pen to paper, mainly to let my Grundy friends know I have reached 90 years. I don't think there are many of my era left to remember me: Millie Harris who, with Sandra and Ron, left the village and emigrated to Australia in 1954. I know who will remember Sandra, as Shirley Marjoram and Maureen Vince still keep in touch. Ron was 12 years when we left and loves the Australian way of life.*

*My sister Barbara Lankester keeps me in touch with all the village news and I just love The News which she regularly sends me. I was sorry to hear of the passing of Roy Thorpe as we were neighbours up Stoney Road. Best wishes to all.*

*Millie Harris (or Mildred)*

important gene pool for Suffolk Punch horses remains together.

Mr Miller concluded by encouraging us to visit the Suffolk Punch Heavy Horse Museum in Woodbridge to learn more about this county breed of heavy horse which has played such a major part in our rural life.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 2 February in Grundisburgh Village Hall, with the Amber Shop Fournel Jewellers. All are welcome. Our meetings start at 7.30pm.

*Peggy Gandy*

## Grundisburgh Chapel News

We were pleased to see so many at our Family Carol Service. We are grateful to all the young people who took part and those who contributed to the Kenyan Needy Orphans and Children

charity. The £245 received should provide a year's primary education for eight children.

But God is not just for Christmas, so we warmly invite you to our regular meetings listed below. You do not have to have any Baptist or even religious connection to come.

Sunday: 10.45am Worship service and 2.30pm Gospel service (6.30pm from 1 April)

Tuesday: 6.15pm Chapel Club (primary age children)

Wednesday: 2.30pm Ladies meeting (2nd and 4th in month) and 7.15pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

Thursday: 7pm Seekers (for ten year olds and up)

If anybody would like to know more about the Christian faith in a short series of informal small group Bible studies, I would be pleased to hear from you.

*Colin Grimwood, 738836/56*

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# Grundisburgh Gleanings

## RE-VAMP FOR VILLAGE HALL

Quality Parish Status has brought real benefits. Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council made a successful bid for money from the Quality Parish Investment Fund and was awarded £4,777 to invest in and deliver more for the community.

Most of this money, together with further grants from the parish council, has funded a £6,500 revamp of Grundisburgh Village Hall. This involves a new gas boiler and new cooker, which have already been installed, plus new chairs and tables which

are on order and should arrive in the near future.

Village Hall Management Committee chairman John Doherty said these improvements will make a real difference to users of the hall.

### Parish council grants

At its January meeting Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council authorised grants totalling £2,265 to various organisations which serve the community. This included grants to

Grundisburgh and District News (for a digital camera), the horticultural society (for parking signs), the tennis club (for improvements to the courts) and Neighbourhood Watch (for more signs) as well as £500 to assist energy saving schemes.

### Vandalism to Christmas tree

For many years a Christmas tree on The Green has been an important part of Grundisburgh's celebrations. So many villagers, young and old, have said how much they appreciate it, particularly when they come home to the village

to be welcomed by the 'Tree on the Green'.

The tree is paid for by the parish council, and volunteers spend many hours collecting and erecting it and installing the lights. It is very sad that vandals have caused so much damage this year.

Over 20 bulbs were destroyed and had to be replaced by more vandal resistant bulbs costing over £50. This is money that comes from your council tax and could be far better used for the benefit of everybody rather than to put right damage caused by mindless idiots.

*John Ager, parish council clerk*

## Keeping fit and healthy

Jackie Flewitt helps to keep people healthy. She currently runs Keep Fit sessions every Monday evening in Grundisburgh Village Hall from 6.30 to 7.30pm, and Pilates sessions there on Wednesdays from 1.20 to 2.20pm.

But she assures potential clients that they can work at their own level and don't have to 'jump around'. After an initial warm up to exercise the heart and lungs, she runs through a lot of different toning exercises including bar, weights, bands, circuit training and boxercise,

There is no need to book a course of classes - clients just turn up and pay £3.50 for the hour long session.

It is 23 years since Jackie, who lives in Otley, first trained as a keep fit instructor,



and she has been working in the industry and doing refresher courses ever since. She is particularly excited about the benefits of Pilates in which she trained six years

ago. Pilates, she says, aims to relax body and mind; it strengthens abdominal muscles, improves posture to achieve spinal strength and flexibility, and generally works

on strengthening the weakest areas of one's body.

Jackie also does personal training on a one-to-one basis on all aspects of fitness. She can be contacted on 01473 892178.

*Nicola Hobbs  
(who is planning to sign up for Pilates)*

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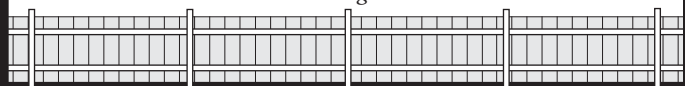
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# Hasketon celebrates VE and VJ days in period style in

We had our Hasketon VE/VJ celebrations in November - a wonderful and rewarding day in The Victory Hall. We remembered the dark days of war, when so many gave their lives for our freedom, and then the rejoicing on Victory in Europe and against Japan. We had decided not to have our day in the summer like so many others and chose 12 November because it fell appropriately between Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday.

It was Mac McAndrew's idea that we should have this party, following the lines of the street parties they had in 1945. Bunting, Union Jacks, displays of memorabilia from people of the village, fun and games for the children and a dance in the evening, were our ways of celebration.

Because we were so fortunate in obtaining a grant from The Big Lottery Fund, the day was free to all villagers. People were encouraged to come in the dress of the day and a lot of military personnel appeared together with land girls and factory workers, a spiv selling cheap watches and a loose woman! As we had not given out any tickets, we had no idea whether we should expect 10 or 110 people, which made it difficult when catering for lunch, tea and supper. In the event, probably more than 140 people came to lunch and the afternoon, which included about 40 children who all took part in the potato and spoon race, the sack race, putting a tail on the donkey, and of course musical chairs!

In the evening, nearly 50 came to dance in 1940's style to the music of Mike Hurrell and his friends, and we had a whale of

a time! The Paul Jones dances were fun when one danced with the girl who finished up in front of you after the introduction music stopped.

There were so many people who should be thanked for their contribution to the day, among whom were Richard Taylor who brought along a marvellous display of military vehicles from Debach, Chloe and Becky for the delicious food (I loved the potato scones!), Kevin of the Turk's Head for the beer, and The Manor House Museum of Bury St Edmunds for the loan articles used in the home in the 1940's. We were delighted to have many comments from friends in the village...

*"How extra poignant the Remembrance Day Service was on Sunday, after being immersed in wartime the day before".*

*"Lunch was both a memory-jerker and enjoyable - I actually liked spam fritters and rissoles!"*

*"The display of memorabilia was fantastic. Photographs, cartoons, ration books, identity cards, gas masks,*



*written narratives, really spiced up the celebrations".*

*"Just like old times - the music, the dances, almost everyone in uniform!"*

*"I enjoyed seeing today's children learning the rules of yesterday's games".*

*"I particularly liked hearing about the experiences of people who were actually there. I really, really liked the dance and enjoyed the various activities".*

*"The exhibition was wonderful and made us realise how hard our mums' and dads' and grandparents' lives must have been and how lucky we are that they fought for us".*

*"A big hip-hip-hooray to all those who organised this lovely village event!"*

Thank you everybody who came and enjoyed themselves.

Richard L Smith



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## GADS' Babes in the Wood

He's behind you! There was much to enjoy in the Grundisburgh Amateur Dramatic Society's offering of 'Babes in the Wood'. The excellent version by Paul Reakes allowed many insertions of local jokes.

Maggi Thompson's set designs and scenery flourished throughout, introducing children to the endless possibilities of theatrical invention. The costumes by Bettina Lambert, Nikki Brown and Pauline Coomber were marvellous.

Charlie Crown cut a dash as the beautifully attired Robin Hood and expertly fought off the evil triumvirate of fairy tale villains. The experience of

John Frost was able to turn awkwardness to his advantage as Nurse Nitwit. Nikki Brown played a confident Maid Marian, and the Carole Hayes dancers performed several pieces with aplomb. A highlight of this very enjoyable evening was repeated renditions of 'Men in Tights' by the Merry Men. Kate Adams' hilarious portrayal of Friar Tuck was a hoot and worth the ticket price on its own.

*Sheila Caryer*

Photos by Brian Robinson, from top: Maid Marion and chorus; Steve Newton as the evil Sheriff of Nottingham; Principal boy Charlie Crown and Maid Marion Nikki Brown; John Frost with Judith Bignell and Adam Kearney.



Hasketon photos (provided by Katherine Smith) clockwise from top left:

Starting the children's sack race;

Neighbours Lyn Berwick and Chloe Pitcher;

Sam Elias with a plate of wartime fare; Norman Kerridge;

Alex Munn, Alice Evans and Rachel Batley at the evening dance (the trio later ran a special dance for Hasketon's young people);

Donald and Robena Westbury wash up;

Sgt Richard Smith with landgirl Katherine;

Spiv Gordon Smith with a nice line in cheap watches to sell.

In centre Jeep from Debach guards the Victory Hall entrance.



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## Clopton Chat

### Parish council report

Clopton Parish Council met on 19 January and amongst other matters discussed were the junction at Shop Road and the B1078.

This very dangerous junction has been the subject of numerous complaints and attempts made to improve the

situation, but under current legislation and budget constraints very little can be done. However, the parish council has decided to investigate the costs of putting up a traffic mirror to help traffic entering the main road.

A questionnaire was recently sent to all households in Clopton asking for their views about the possibility of producing a parish plan for the village. The chairman was pleased to advise the meeting of an excellent return rate, with 100% of the returns supporting the idea.

Every Clopton household will receive an invitation to attend a public meeting which will be held in the village hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 30 March to hear a presentation on the way forward and an opportunity to ask questions about parish plans.

The questionnaire also raised the subject of undertaking a hedgerow survey and a number of parishioners expressed an interest in assisting with the survey. A meeting will be called shortly to facilitate the hedgerow survey and all those who so kindly offered help will receive a letter of thanks which will also advise them on the next course of action.

A lengthy discussion took place looking at ways of improving information for residents about local events, activities and parish council meetings, with a reminder that where a resident is informed that a planning application for a neighbouring property has been submitted to the district council, it is probable the parish council will be calling an extraordinary meeting to discuss the application.

As these are called at relatively short notice, please contact one of your local parish councillors who will be able to give information on the current position regarding a meeting.

The Clopton parish councillors are :-

Roy Compton (Chairman)  
01473 735495

David Emerson (Vice  
Chairman) 01473 737057

Sue Christensen  
01473 737686

John Dawson  
01473 737417

Sylvia Freeman  
01473 737541

Richard Taylor  
01473 737236

The next parish council meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 16 March at 7.30pm in the village hall. All are welcome.

*Janet Clarke, parish clerk*

### Church news

There was great activity in the run-up to Christmas, beginning with the Gift Service early in December. The tree itself looked very festive, as did the candlesticks which had all been refurbished.

There were 18 adults and 10 children at this service, and they produced some wonderful presents for disadvantaged children. In addition the tree held £65 for the Children's Society, a magnificent sum. Later, the gifts were taken to the Deben Family Group who were delighted with them. Everyone enjoyed mince pies, coffee and a chat after.

A small group from Clopton took part in the Benefice Carol Service at Otley. Contributions from the choir and the handbell ringers added to the enjoyment of the service. Afterwards we enjoyed mince pies and coffee, very welcome on a cold evening.

The decorated church at the Midnight Service on Christmas Eve looked magical by candlelight - as did the 'lanterns' up the path. We were fortunate in having Helen Jay from Otley to play the organ, as we are currently without an organist.

*Peggy Martin*

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## PROGRESS ON THE RECREATION GROUND

At long last we have made some progress in the development of Aken Field, the recreation ground behind South View in Charsfield. By the time you read this we should have completed the entrance/crossover and will be starting the fencing.

The field has been marked with posts to show where the future facilities will be and you are welcome to walk the field to see for yourself - but please be very careful of the tractor ruts.

Because lottery funding is currently difficult to obtain for small villages, the committee has decided to press ahead with the drainage and seeding of the field so that children have somewhere safe to play, even if there are no other facilities.

We have just completed our fundraising calendar for 2006 which includes an evening of magical entertainment on 11 February (more on page 3), a St Patrick's Day Quiz with food and licensed bar on 17 March, an evening of professional and local entertainers, with a chance to showcase your own talents in May, a dance on 17 June and an Apres Flower Show event at the Three Horseshoes on 22 July.

A newsletter will be sent out Charsfield and Debach residents soon, and events will be included in The News Diary.

Although the committee is served by an enthusiastic team of locals from Charsfield and Debach, there is always a need for more support and fresh ideas. 2006 will be an important fundraising year if we are to fulfil our plans for the development of a

recreational area for all. We meet every third Monday of the month in the village hall at 8pm and would be delighted to see you.

March will see the start of the fourth year of our monthly 100 Club draw - please renew or join before 14 March to get 12 draws for £11 (normally £1 per month). The 100 club is drawn every third Monday of the month in the Three Horseshoes and fifty percent of subscriptions is paid out as first, second and third prizes.

We would like to thank Debach Enterprises for its recent donation towards the project.

Tim Goddard, 01473 737569 or Alan or Jan Pedgrift on 01473 737701 can be contacted for more information.

## Policing Charsfield

I have been based in the Leiston sector since January 2001 and took on the role of Community Police Sergeant in February 2003. This meant that I was supervising the community police officers covering all 59 parishes in the sector (including the four main towns). I also have personal responsibility for overseeing the policing of Saxmundham.

I had a career break from October 2004 until November

2005 during which time Charsfield's parish officer, Pc Kevin Miller, was posted into a non-operational post for medical reasons. However in the meantime, further officers have been posted to the sector to assist the response teams and I emphasise that they are always on duty in the area and, more often than not, will be called to reported incidents before the community officer is made aware.

Unfortunately, Pc Miller's post has not been filled to date and any non-urgent matters will continue to be referred to other community officers or to myself.



Sergeant Cecilia Metherell

Community policing is under review and new structures will not be in place until April next year.

The following crimes have been recorded in Charsfield since last September. Between 10 and 13 September two sheds were broken into and a ride-on lawn mower and power tools were stolen. The lawn mower was recovered

and a person has been charged with the offence. Overnight 7/8 December a vehicle was broken into and sunglasses stolen. On 13 December a property was broken into and a play station and mobile phone was stolen. A person is currently being dealt with for this offence. Overnight 14/15 December a vehicle had two of its tyres punctured. It is believed that other people had similar damage but house to house enquiries proved negative.

Please be aware that parishes close to the A12/B1116 triangle have suffered thefts from motor vehicles and thefts of power tools from sheds. Suspect persons for some of these crimes are currently being dealt with. Renewed appeal is made to residents to ensure that their vehicles and property/buildings are secure. This will help to deter thieves.

I received a complaint of speeding in the village, but officers who operate the static speed equipment attended and reported that the area is not safe to operate this type of equipment (ie they have to personally step out into the road to stop vehicles). It may be possible to conduct an initial survey, which assesses speed over a continuous period, and I shall try and arrange this. Subject to results, other options will need to be considered.

*Cecilia Metherell, Community Police  
Sergeant 988, Police Station, Kings Road,  
Leiston, 01986 835397  
CeciliaMetherell@suffolk.pnn.police.uk*

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# Bealings Bylines

## LITTLE BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL

### Notes from meeting held on 28 November

**Police Matters:** The Community Police Officer, Victoria Gilmore, reported that there had been a car theft from an insecure vehicle and a burglary since the last meeting in October. She asked that parishioners be reminded not to leave cars unlocked, even on private driveways. The Mobile Police Unit would relocate to the Angela Cobbold to see if this was a more accessible location for those wishing to visit it.

**Highways:** Possible locations for 'pinch points' on Martlesham Road and Playford Road had been identified and details of the design and cost would be obtained from Suffolk County Council. Concern had been raised about the safety of those walking to Bealings School. The Community Police Officer agreed to provide some road safety training at the school, and the possibility of providing a footpath for those walking from Great Bealings would be investigated.

**Finance:** The external auditors had completed their audit of

the accounts for 2004/5 and not found any matters of non-compliance or concern. The budget for 2006/7 was approved with an increase in the precept to £3000. It was agreed to earmark £500 for the development of the playing field.

**Planning Applications:** Suffolk Coastal District Council had granted permission for the erection of a two-storey rear extension and construction of a replacement roof raising the height of the dwelling at Homefield, The Street, and also for the erection of a new entrance to the existing Station Officer's Suite at Mallard House Business Centre, The Street. SCDC had refused permission for the erection of a single storey extension at 20 Beacon Lane, but had given permission for the re-pollarding of 55 previously pollarded sweet chestnuts at Tanglewood, Martlesham Road.

**Correspondence:** Anyone born on 21 April 1926 was invited to the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh's 80th birthday celebration at Buckingham Palace on 21 April 2006. Further details from me.



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# Bealings Bylines

## Dates of Meetings:

Monday 27 February 8pm  
Monday 3 April 7.30pm:  
Annual Parish Meeting,  
followed by Council meeting  
Monday 22 May 8pm: Annual  
Council Meeting  
Monday 10 July 8pm  
Monday 4 September 8pm  
Monday 16 October 8pm  
Monday 27 November 8pm

Carol Ramsden, Clerk, 01473 610088,  
littlebealingspc@btinternet.com

## WI members tour Ipswich Docks

At their November meeting Bealings Women's Institute members were treated to a verbal tour of Ipswich Docks by Colin Fox. This was in preparation to a tour on foot in the summer.

Mr Fox took Bealings WI members from the southern entrance to the dock in Stoke Street where at one time the railway ran prior to the tunnel being built at what is now Ipswich Station. The route took members past Wolsey's gateway and also Cranfield's old building which is being demolished in preparation for the building of a modern dance studio. Passing Foundation Street we were reminded of Tooley's Almshouses near which stands part of the old town wall.

Back to the dockside stands what is now the Salthouse Hotel moved from its previous position in Henley Road, as the Marlborough Hotel. Nearby stands the imposing stone building - the Customs

House and the site of a saltworks centuries ago.

Ipswich Docks were at one time the second largest port in the country. Any visitor nowadays will see an enormous change in the area. Apart from buildings at the dockside which have made way for new uses; new multi-storey buildings house hundreds of new flats. The quayside is the home between sailings of thousands of yachts - all very large and luxurious. Much more is planned - more hotels, car parks and even part of a new university. Take a look - it is all very impressive!

With the season to be jolly fast approaching, members and guests from Bredfield, Grundisburgh, Hasketon, Playford and Woodbridge met on 8 December. The hall was decked, appropriately, with boughs of holly and other colourful arrangements which contributed to a bright, warm and welcoming atmosphere on a chilly afternoon.

The afternoon of music was to have been provided by soprano, Patricia Wilson, with piano accompaniment. Unfortunately, the pianist was ill but, nothing daunted, Patricia sang unaccompanied from her very wide repertoire, including songs from the shows, classic numbers from between the wars, wartime favourites and even a well-loved aria from Puccini. Those members with excellent memories sang along, though generally an octave lower.

Rosalind Fleck and Audrey Robertson

## BRIEFLY ..

Richard Grahn, eldest son of local poet Chris Grahn, is hoping to be able to return for a short break from his busy job in Kenya to run in the London marathon this April. A keen runner, Richard hopes to raise funds for both the Parkinson's Society and his employer Oxfam. Chris, a sufferer from PD for some ten years, is helping to arrange sponsorship. Anyone who would like to be a sponsor please contact Chris or Sally on 01473 738219 chris.grahn@btinternet.com or sally@grahn.net. Corporate or individual sponsors are welcome.

A gardeners club was formed in Westerfield late last year and now meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held in Westerfield Village Hall, starting at 8.15pm and people from outside the village are welcomed. The next one on 7 February is on 'Irises'. The contacts for information about Westerfield & District Gardening Club are Judy Palmer on 01473 259511 and Hilary Bisset on 212700.

The Suffolk Association of Local Councils is running two sessions at which people can find out how to successfully apply for lottery funding. 'Reaching Communities Briefing - Presentation for those looking for funding' will take place between 11am to 1pm at Astral Centre, St Peters Street, Lowestoft College, Lowestoft on 2 February and Kesgrave War Memorial Community Centre, 7

Friend's Walk, Grange Farm, Kesgrave on 6 February. The contact is Miranda McCoy 01223 449034, enquiries.ea@biglotteryfund.org.uk.

The phone number for PC Victoria Gilmore, the community police officer for Clopton, Culpho, Great Bealings, Grundisburgh, Little Bealings, Otley, Playford, Swilland, Tuddenham and Witlesham, is 01473 383486.

Paintings by Burgh artist Lindsay Harris will be included in an exhibition titled 'Inside Outside' at the Reunion Gallery, 36 Gainsborough Road, Felixstowe. This runs from 18 March to 10 April.

An interactive musical to raise awareness of doorstep crime is touring Suffolk in March. Following each performance, the actors will lead the audience in a sing-along of popular songs from the era. 'Trickster' is promoted by the Safe and Sound Group, a multi-agency partnership including Suffolk Police, Trading Standards, Age Concern Suffolk and The Pension Service. The nearest venues are Ipswich Methodist Church Hall, Museum Street, 10 am on 6 March, Kesgrave Community Centre at 10 am and Felixstowe Leisure Centre at 2.30 pm, both on 8 March. Tickets to all performances are free and include light refreshments. To book telephone 01473 265272.

Playford Parish Council is looking for a new clerk. Information is included on page four.

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## NEWS FROM WITNESHAM AREA PRE-SCHOOL

Tracy Seymour left us in December after being our assistant in Witnesham Area Pre-School for some years. Her children are now growing up and she wants to move into an environment with older children. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all that she did for us.

Looking forward, we are still very active with the fundraising. Our next event is a quiz night - on 26 February in the Barley Mow, Witnesham. Details will be posted shortly. Last term we raised sufficient funds to buy new baby change facilities and all-weather suits for the children to use the new climbing frame. Thank you to all those who helped and supported our events.

During this term we will be holding an open day for all those who are not yet familiar with our pre-school. It will be an opportunity to see our modernised facilities and gain a greater insight into what the children do and learn, and how they develop into confident youngsters ready for primary school. We have very close links with the primary school, which makes settling in there a very easy transition.

We are registered to take children from 2 years to 4.5 years, offer morning sessions five days a week and lunch club until 1pm. Please call 01473 784934 for more information.

*Caroline Warner, Chair*

## Playford Pieces

### Notes from Playford Parish Council meeting held on 4 January

**Police report:** Pc Victoria Gilmore reported that three unlocked vehicles were entered on 20 and 21 November, in Brook Lane and Hill Farm Road, the only reported crimes in Playford. All residents are advised to make sure that their cars are locked, even when parked on their own driveways. Pc Gilmore is now trained on the speed gun and would be carrying out speed checks when requested by the parish council.

**Emergency railway engineering works:** Charles Lofts reported that he had phoned Pc Gilmore to ensure that 'danger' signs were put up in Butts Road to warn drivers of possible hazards ahead during the emergency work currently being undertaken on the railway embankment. Please note the temporary closure of Footpath 9 (if in doubt look at the village notice board).

**Playford postbox:** A new postbox was installed, adjacent to the village notice board, on the 8 December.

**Bottle bank on playing field:** It was reported that dirty bottles were being dumped, which could prove to be a health hazard. Please rinse all bottles and tins before depositing them in the recycling bank.

**Village Hall increase in charges:** Playford Village

Hall opened nearly two years ago and has proved to be a great success. With the constant use of the hall, the décor is beginning to look tired and several maintenance jobs need to be done. It is for this reason that as from 1 January there will be only one standard charge for winter and summer.

**Car parking:** In order to comply with insurance regulations, and to ensure the integrity of the village playing field, plans to restrict parking to part of the playing field adjacent to the Parish Hall have been finalised; quotations are being sought for erection of post and rail fencing, with a gate to allow access for grass mowing contractors.

**Lease of land to parish hall trustees:** Detailed plans have been drawn up for the preparation of a formal lease of Parish Council owned land to the Parish Hall Trustees involving part of the area of ground occupied by the new childrens' play equipment.

**Parish clerk vacancy:** After many years service as clerk Vivien Hinton will be resigning as from 31 March.

Anyone interested in applying for the vacancy (parish residency is not a requirement) or in finding out more should contact the current parish council chairman, Mr RE Herrington, telephone 01473 735751.

This is a salaried and increasingly important role in administering parish matters involving a commitment of four hours per week.

**Next meeting:** The next parish council meeting will

be on Wednesday 1 March, in Playford Parish Hall starting at 7.30pm. All residents are invited to attend.

*Vivien Hinton, clerk*

### WI go motoring

At our January meeting of Playford WI our guest was Tom Tyler giving a talk on 'when motoring was fun'. He gave an amusing account of his experiences with various cars, all of which had pet names.

Initially cars needed careful attention. Warmth at night in a heated garage and a blanket over the spark plugs. Some garages were warmer than homes as there was no central heating.

To start the engine a starting handle was used, these could be dangerous as they could 'kick back'. If the car did not start with the handle various ploys were used, pushing to the brow of a slope for a downhill start, tow ropes which could prove too long or too short.

Petrol was on sale through many companies, some had additives, sometimes there were difficulties in finding an open garage especially on a Sunday. Tom described a trip with his mother and siblings in a Land Rover to Austria and return through France. He also gave an account of a journey transporting bees from Surrey to Ipswich, involving a hasty exit by a policeman who had been curious as to the 'cargo'.

An enjoyable talk which brought back happy memories to many present.

*Yvonne Woollard*



Brian Mayhew



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# Otley Offerings

## News from the under 5's

Following a very busy term, we are pleased to welcome a number of new starters to the Otley Under 5's playgroup. We have sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings for children aged 2 years 10 months and older. On Tuesdays and Thursday morning sessions are run for older children to prepare them for school.

Last term we had a surprise Ofsted inspection and were awarded a 'Good'. This was great news and reflects the hard work and commitment of the play-leaders and committee past and present. The committee also ran a very successful Christmas shopping evening - thank you to all who supported it, as stallholders, organisers and of course as shoppers! We are intending to follow this with an auction of promises in the spring.

The children started the term finding out about themselves - from where they lived to what they look like. They discovered shapes, as well as finding out about festivals from Divali and Halloween through to Christmas.

At the end of term they all took part in a wonderful nativity play about the Sleepy Shepherd and celebrated at a Christmas party with the



toddler group and reception year from Otley School.

This term our focus is on nursery rhymes and colours.

Please contact me for details of the playschool or toddler group as new children are always welcome.

Sara Cliff, 01473 785993

## OTLEY CUBS UPDATE

The Cubs' very enjoyable visit to the Wolsey Theatre was the final activity to gain the Entertainers badge for which they all worked very hard.

We made musical instruments, performed some campfire sketches to the Scouts and sang a carol, and took part in a play at the Advent service at Otley Church. A report on the theatre visit is included below.

We are concentrating on food for our Chef badge in the new year. Meetings include visiting a mushroom farm, cooking part of a meal and learning about safety, hygiene and table laying.

Jayne Vaughan

*Sleeping Beauty*

*The 8th of December was the day when the Otley cubs went to the new Wolsey theatre to*

*see the pantomime of 'Sleeping Beauty'. It was a rock version of the real story, which was in fact better than the real thing.*

*When it was time for the songs the lights were very good and the instrument playing, especially the guitars were excellent (I only put that remark in is because I like to play the guitar). The costumes were good and there was quite a bit of participation as well as a bit of talking to the audience.*

*The characters I liked the most were Harold the Herald and the childminder, Miss Taffeta Trot. Some of the things I didn't like. An example is that where I sat was where one of the fairies appeared. So every time a fairy appeared a small banger, a bit like a cracker snap, exploded which made me jump. Apart from that it was very enjoyable and I would like to see it again.*

Murray Quilliam

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News of forthcoming Otley events is in What's On on page 3.

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# School of Dance

*Proprietor: Carol Hayes*

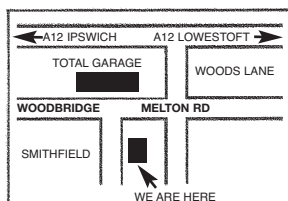
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## Sporting stories

### GRUNDISBURGH FOOTBALL CLUB STILL IN THE RUNNING FOR HONOURS

Grundisburgh Football Club continue to remain in contention for league honours after a November 'blip'. After winning three games in December, at the turn of the year held second place in the table.

The 3-0 victory over a tough Brantham Athletic side was maybe a shade flattering with the goals coming from Julian Beaumont (2), and Andy Southgate. The following week saw Ipswich Athletic our visitors. It took a last gasp goal again from joint manager Beaumont, to settle the issue for a 1-0 victory.

Stradbrook, from a lower league, were our opponents in the league cup. We dominated the first half, and after Adie McAllister had given us a 2nd minute lead Beaumont took his tally to 13 goals for the season with another brace. 3-0 at half time is how it stayed, but the hard work had been done.

A disappointing performance on 7 January saw us again a point from Stonham, but it should have been better.

After a mini revival our reserves have lost three on the trot including a 5-4 home defeat against Old Newton. Paul Miller our centre forward continues to be a shining light by bringing his tally to 20 for the season.

On the social front it is good to report an excellent

atmosphere within the club.

A first class turn out for the Christmas party/draw saw club coffers boosted and a huge vote of thanks is given to our good friend, Peter Wright of the Cake Shop, Woodbridge, for sponsoring our festivities. A wonderful supporter. And thanks to supporters for the kind prize donations that once again saw the table sagging.

*Robin Dale*

*November prizes for Grundisburgh Football Club 100 club are £50 Neville Peck, £35 John Leggett, £25 Paul Gladden, £20, Trevor Rocket. In December the money went to £50 A Southgate, £35 A King, £25 M Brown, £20 A Flexman.*

### Tennis club update

Grundisburgh Tennis Club is holding its AGM at 8 pm on Thursday 2 March at the Pavilion on the Playing Fields. All welcome wine and nibbles will be served.

The courts, which are behind the Leylandii hedge on Grundisburgh playing field, are due to be cleaned and repainted in the spring, with the aid of a grant from the parish council.

*Monica Begg 738830*

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AWARD  
2002/03**

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We are now open for **MONDAY LUNCH** from 12.00 to 2.00pm (*last orders*)

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**For Sale:** Rover214 (1.4), M reg (1994) three door hatchback, gold, reliable, MOT until July, 80,000 miles, two new tyres, new battery and radiator, cam belt done, cheap car tax. £550 ono. Framsdon. 890552 (eve)

**For Sale:** JVC VCR plays PAL (UK), NTSC (US), SECAM (German and French) £25 ono. 735932.

**For Sale:** Curtain pole, black metal, with decorative metal finials. 7ft long. £10. 738186.

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**For Sale:** Pine table 42" x 31" and two pine chairs in very good condition. £70 ono. Buyer to collect. 735710.

**For Sale:** Breadmaking machine. £20. 735273.

**For Sale:** Clothes hanging rail on castors, with shoe rail, approx 4ft. £15 ono. 738186.

**For Sale:** Desk or dressing table in new pine, 4 drawers down one side. £15 ono. 738186.

**Wanted:** Anyone interested in researching/writing the odd article for The News .

*This space could have cleared your garage/attic - free. Just email ([grunews@fast-mail.net](mailto:grunews@fast-mail.net)) your entry or send/deliver to Ford House, The Green, Grundisburgh.*

## Your letters

### Heavy lorry traffic

We would like to thank everyone who supported the campaign to enforce the one-way system for HGVs going to and from Clopton Industrial Estate. Peter Bellfield, our county councillor, John Ager and David Hudson were all generous with time and advice.

Whilst SORR had been battling nobly for years, the strength of local public opinion at meetings, signing petitions, and writing letters gave fresh impetus to dealings with Suffolk County Council. Virtually everyone whose land adjoins the road in Grundisburgh helped.

We hope the new signs have made a big improvement for people who live on and use the B1079.

*Helen Bishop and Tom Pasteur*

### Carol Singing

Many thanks to everyone who joined in with the carol singing on 19th & 20th December, and to all who gave so generously. A total of

£173.54 was collected. This has been sent to The Children's Society.

*Hilary Hill*

### New Year party

Just to say a big thank you to all who attended the New Year's Eve party at Grundisburgh Village Hall, and for making the evening a big success. We raised a total of £243 for the Children's Hospice in Ipswich. Thanks once again.

*Julie Peck*

### Santa Special

Once again Santa visited Grundisburgh and enjoyed seeing lots of children in his Grotto on 17 December.

Our thanks go to Terry Baxter and Martin Hunt for providing Steam Traction Engine rides, and Ann Willetts for giving her time and talents for face painting. Also lots of other helpers, especially Santa.

Your support was much appreciated and helped us to raise £287 in aid of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

*Marion and Dennis Pratt*

## ABOUT THE NEWS

Grundisburgh & District News is a free community newspaper produced by volunteers. Around 2,600 copies are distributed to homes and a range of central locations in Grundisburgh and 16 other villages (as listed on front page). Six issues are published annually.

Ideas and comments are welcomed. Contributions should be sent to

[grunews@fast-mail.net](mailto:grunews@fast-mail.net)

When e-mailing please include 'News info' and indication of topic in the subject box. Photos can be sent as JPEGs or prints.

All items will be included in the internet version unless otherwise requested. This is available two weeks after printed publication on [www.grundisburghnews.org.uk](http://www.grundisburghnews.org.uk)

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Early booking of space is advised. Details for inclusion in next issue needed by Wednesday 1 March

# Playgroup supervisor says farewell to pupils

"Can I help you?"

Those were four little words Ann Willetts asked 24 years ago as her daughter Elizabeth began at Grundisburgh playgroup when it was held in the pavilion. After many years of helping in various ways, Ann retired as supervisor at Christmas.

She qualified in Early Years Childcare and helped Katharine Freeth on a part time basis. Then some nine years ago, she became co-supervisor with Gill Johnson who retired last summer.

Ann has worked tirelessly, supporting the move to the purpose built building in the school grounds, securing funding and government grants, and taking on endless Ofsted directives - all in the best interests of the children from this community.

Her energy and determination over the years has helped many children receive firm and very happy foundations on



which to start their education, but always - as Ann so strongly believes - through 'play'. This legacy will remain with the playgroup staff always and she will be missed by staff, committee and, of course, all the children.

Most important is the time that Ann spent with our children to

help them become confident, happy, secure little people. From that there are now more than a few youths in Grundisburgh who have started their education with this kind and generous lady; for this we thank Ann and wish her a happy retirement.

*Petra Clare, playgroup secretary*

The new joint leaders of the Grundisburgh Playgroup are Anna Greenwood and Alison Garrod.

*The News is also grateful to Ann - for the many high quality and charming photos of her pupils at playgroup which have done much to enhance our pages.*



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