



## WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH

### Parish Council: [www.greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk](http://www.greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk)

Chair: Ant Mann - [chair@greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chair@greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk)

Clerk: Jennie Blackburn - [clerk@greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk)

Footpath Warden: Richard Burton - [greatfinboroughfootpaths@gmail.com](mailto:greatfinboroughfootpaths@gmail.com)

District Councillor: John Matthissen - [councillor@matthissen.net](mailto:councillor@matthissen.net)

Tel: 01449 258894

County Councillor: Penny Otton - [penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk)

Tel: 07545 423847

### Great in Finborough Together - GiFT

Tel: 07522 171190

### Pettiward Hall

Lettings/Keyholder: Cathy Morgan

[pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com)

### St Andrews Church

Rector: Rev Sarah Jenkins - [revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com](mailto:revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com)

Combs Rectory, 135 Poplar Hill, IP14 2AY | Tel: 01449 676065

Associate Priest: Rev Canon Pauline Higham | Tel: 01449 771791

Church Warden: Nigel Brown 01449 675344

### Great Finborough & District Gardening Club

Cath Walker - [cathwalker85@gmail.com](mailto:cathwalker85@gmail.com)

Tel: 07843 191101

### Allotments Association - Mary Smyth Tel: 01449 672533

### Primary School: [www.finboroughprimary.co.uk](http://www.finboroughprimary.co.uk)

Headteacher: Stephen Dodd - [admin@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk)

Tel: 01449 613208

### Gt Finborough & Buxhall Under 5's Pre-School

Delia Prior - Tel: 07513 140072

### Chestnut Horse Pub - Roly & Mandy 01449 553889

Candlestick Club: Keith Proctor Tel: 01449 736598

Buxhall Woman's Institute: Judith Hickman - [judithhickman12@gmail.com](mailto:judithhickman12@gmail.com)

Police (Stowmarket SNT): Tel: 101 - [stowmarket.snt@pnn.police.uk](mailto:stowmarket.snt@pnn.police.uk)

Stowmarket High School - Tel: 01449 613541

Stowmarket Health Centre - Tel: 01449 776000

Combs Ford Surgery - Tel: 01449 678333

Bildeston Surgery - Tel: 01449 740254

Stowmarket Library - Tel: 01449 613143

Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre - Tel: 01449 674980

# GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER



**April 2026  
ISSUE 567**

## GREAT FINBOROUGH VILLAGE DIARY

6th April From 12pm	Race of the Boggmen Event & Craft Fair	Chestnut Horse
15th April 7pm	Spring Fashion Show See page 14	St Andrews
18th April 7pm start	Village Quiz Event	Pettiard Hall
16th May 10.30-4.30pm	Dog Show & Craft Market	Chestnut Horse
18th May 7pm	Parish Council AGM	Pettiard Hall

### FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

20th April, 18th May, 15th June - Pettiard Hall

**MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE - every 4th Friday 2:50 - 3:10pm**  
Middlefield Drive (opposite playground)

**MOBILE POST OFFICE - every Thursday 1.30 - 2.30pm**  
Middlefield Drive Car Park

**The 'Village Newsletter' is published by Great Finborough Parish Council and printed locally. Views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily accepted as being those of Great Finborough Parish Council. The 'Newsletter' accepts all articles, notices and advertisements in good faith. We cannot be responsible for the content of any submissions, nor liable for the quality of goods and services offered. A full copy of our Policy is available on our web site.**

To contact the editor (Ant Mann) submit articles,  
letters or advertising,  
email:  
finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com



## The Combs and Finborough Benefice

Buxhall, Combs, Gt and Lt Finborough, Harleston, Onehouse and Shelland

### Services in April 2026

**Rector:** The Rev'd Sarah Jenkins, The Rectory, 135 Poplar Hill, Stowmarket IP14 2AY 01449 676065  
**Associate Priest:** The Rev'd Canon Pauline Higham, The Rectory, Woodland Close, Onehouse IP14 3HL 01449 771791  
 Please contact the Reverend Sarah Jenkins at [revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com](mailto:revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com) if you would like details of how to join any of the Zoom services

#### Mon 30 March: Holy Week

8.00 pm Compline Zoom Service

#### Tues 31 March: Holy Week

8.00 pm Compline Zoom Service

#### Wed 1 April: Holy Week

9.30am Holy Communion Onehouse Trinity Hall

8.00 pm Compline Zoom Service

#### Thurs 2 April: Holy Week – Maundy Thursday

8.00 pm Said Holy Communion Buxhall

#### Fri 3 April: Holy Week – Good Friday

10.30 am Walk of Witness Onehouse

2.00 pm The Hour before the Cross Harleston

#### Sat 4 April: Holy Week – Holy Saturday

6.00 pm Easter Vigil Zoom Service

#### 5 April: Easter Day

9.00 am Holy Communion Little Finborough

9.30 am Sung Eucharist Buxhall

9.30 am Holy Communion by Extension Harleston

9.30 am Holy Communion Shelland

11.00 am Family Communion Combs

11.00 am Holy Communion Great Finborough

11.00 am Holy Communion Onehouse

#### 12 April: The Second Sunday of Easter

9.30 am Holy Communion Buxhall

9.30 am Morning Worship Shelland

11.00 am Holy Communion Onehouse

11.00 am Morning Worship Great Finborough

#### 19 April: The Third Sunday of Easter

9.30 am Holy Communion Harleston

11.00 am All Age Worship Combs

6.00 pm Choral Evensong Little Finborough

#### 26 April: The Fourth Sunday of Easter

9.30 am Morning Worship Buxhall

9.30 am Holy Communion Shelland

11.00 am Morning Worship Onehouse

11.00am Holy Communion Great Finborough

#### Weekday Services

9.30 am on Wednesday Holy Communion Trinity Hall, Onehouse

10.00 am on Saturday Morning Prayer Zoom Meeting

## Non-members wild birdseed order form for April 2026

The next order will be placed on **8 April 2026** the birdseed collection will be on **Wednesday 15 April 2026 between 14.00 and 16.00 hrs. from Abbey Farm Cottage**. If you would like to place an order please let me have your requirements together with a cheque made payable to "Great Finborough Garden Club", or **by BAC's** "Gt Finborough & District Garden Club", sort 09-01-54, account no 20213287 please reference your name followed by B/S. Orders may be posted to or dropped off at The Little House, High Road, Gt Finborough, IP14 3AA, or if it's more convenient dropped off at 1 Valley Lane, Gt Finborough.  
**Thank you. Peter Turner 07789727974 or [p.turner125@btinternet.com](mailto:p.turner125@btinternet.com)**

**Please note there are some price increases on some birdseed products**

**Name** **Tele No.**

Product	Weight	Price	Quantity	Cost
Wild Bird Mix	20 kg	£15.00		
W.B.M. Premium	20kg	£17.50		
W.B.M No Wheat	20kg	£20.00		
W.B.M NEW High Energy	12.75 kg	£18.00		
W.B.M. No Mess	12.75 kg	£18.50		
W.B.M Robin & Songbird	12.75 kg	£18.00		
Finch Mix	20 kg	£18.00		
Mixed Corn	20 kg	£12.50		
SUPER Poultry Mix	20kg	£14.00		
Peanuts (superior quality)	20 kg	£37.00		
Peanuts (half sack)	10 kg approx.	£29.00		
Black Sunflower Seed	15 kg	£19.00		
Sunflower Kernels	20 kg	£31.00		
Sunflower Kernels	10kg approx.	£17.00		
Nyjer Seed	20kg	£44.00		
Nyjer Seed	10kg approx.	£23.00		
Suet Pellets	12.75kgs	£23.00		
Suet Balls (Superior quality)	Price each	15p		
	150	£22.50/Box		

## Welcome to the April Newsletter:

At time of writing it's nice to see some sunny days, which makes our already great village look fanatastic with all the flowers flourishing.

To help even more, a team of volunteers were out at the end of February, litterpicking throughout the village and all roads leading out. The amount of rubbish found in the hedges and ditches was sadly incredible but thanks to all invovled, it has been dealt with.



On behalf of the PC, I would like to thank County Councillor Penny Otton, who will soon be standing down after many years great service to our village.

Penny has been invaluable at fighting our corner at County level as well as providing funding for many schemes. Her support will be missed!

Also, I'd like to pass on my thanks to John Barron, who has stepped down as Parish Councillor after a great innings on the Council. I'd also like to welcome Jacqueline Tarabella who was co-opted to replace the seat.

As always, dates are published for our Parish meetings but we have now moved from the second Monday of the month to the third Monday of the month, in effect from April. If you have something you would like to bring to the attention of the Council, you are very welcome to attend. Or, email me in advance so I can add it to the agenda. All welcome, with meetings starting at 7.30pm.

Potholes are still an issue, they are slowly being dealt with but remain an issue. Please use the online tool to highlight them, as it appears to be the best way to get action: <https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk>

Fingers crossed for good weather for the Boggman event this year, please support this unique tradition in our village.

**Ant Mann**  
**[finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com)**  
**[chair@greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chair@greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk)**

## The Beacon Club



The Beacon Club was set up nearly 3 years ago for two reasons, firstly to have the money to have the iconic steeple of St Andrew's Church illuminated every night of the year at lighting-up time until 23.00hrs. Secondly, to support the running of the Church which costs £20,000/year to keep the doors open. The Church has 2 services a month but is usually open 5 days a week for moments of quiet reflection

We are still looking for new members of the Beacon Club, members donate £100 a year to support the steeple lighting & Church. We hold an Autumn Equinox supper in the Church by way of a small thank you. If you are interested in joining, please get in touch: [p.turner125@btinternet.com](mailto:p.turner125@btinternet.com) or 07789727974

Peter

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# The Great Finborough Dog Show & Craft Market

May 16<sup>th</sup> 2026

10:30am-4:30pm



10 Dog classe!!

Free event entry  
Dog class entry £2 per  
dog per class

Money raised from Dog show  
entry will go to the local  
community hall.

The Chestnut Horse  
B1115, Great Finborough,  
Stowmarket IP14 3AT



Support local crafters and show off your  
dogs in a friendly community environment.



THE CHESTNUT HORSE  
Gt. FINBOROUGH

## Great Finborough & District Garden Club

There have been some tantalising glimpses of spring lately and the show of daffodils around the village looks beautiful. There have still been some cold days to let us know that we can't fully get going in our gardens just yet!

Our March meeting was a talk from garden club favourite Dr Ian Bedford. He gave us a guide to companion planting and how this is a natural way to deal with pests in the garden and creating a balanced ecosystem.

Ian discussed the history of companion planting and the fact that it can need some trial and error due to the number of environmental variables that can affect the growth of plants. He also talked about the ongoing research to expand companion planting to the commercial growth of plants to reduce the need for chemicals and also how we can make our gardens more wildlife friendly.

He also put forward that we should consider eating insects as a way to help with future global food security, an idea that wasn't particularly popular among garden club members!

Our next meeting will take place on 9th April 2026 at 7.30pm and will be a talk to let us know some fascinating facts about trees.

Advance notice - there will be a coach trip to Hyde Hall to visit the flower festival on 9 August 2026. Further details will be available nearer to the time.

A reminder that subscriptions were due in September. They will remain at £20.00 per household and £5.00 for guests. Finally, if you are interested in joining the garden club or would like to join us for any event you will be very welcome.

There are a good number of villagers living alone who would like more opportunities to meet up with other people and find shared interests. GiFT is partnering with the Rural Coffee Caravan to bring people together for a cuppa and cake once a month from 15th April. Contact GiFT for details of the venue and timing. Other dates are confirmed as: 20 May, 17 June, 15 July and 19 August. More details to follow in the next newsletter.

## GiFT Steering Team



## Great in Finborough Together

The village good neighbour scheme continues to grow, providing a service to a lot of households, both on a regular and a one-off basis. Volunteers have provided help with gardening and DIY tasks; transport to appointments; being on hand to support those who are frail, ill or lonely; and we have provided advice on a wide range of topics.

Most significantly this month we held a very successful session at Pettward Hall on 5 March for the whole village community on the things we need to put in place to have 'our affairs in order' well before we need this. We were fortunate to have input from the Citizens Advice Bureau which took on a couple of cases relating to benefits and housing issues, and from Andrew Bingham who helped a few people with funeral planning issues. We produced a series of evidence-based information leaflets and these are available in paper or electronic copies to those unable to attend the event. Please request them by contacting GiFT via the helpline (see back page of newsletter). Feedback from the event has been positive with several people thanking the volunteers for stimulating them to think about, have conversations with loved ones about, and fill in paperwork to confirm their intentions and wishes. We also recruited two additional volunteers, taking the number to 37.

Let us know if there are topics you would like us to tackle in future - perhaps something on Carers' Needs, or on ways of improving family health and wellbeing?

Did you know Stowmarket Library offers a free Home Library Service for residents unable to visit in person due to health, mobility issues or caring responsibilities. Vetted volunteers deliver books—including large print and audiobooks—tailored to user interests directly to homes. To sign up, contact Stowmarket Library staff at 01449 612143 (or via Facebook/email: [stowmarket.library@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:stowmarket.library@suffolk.gov.uk)) to arrange a service assessment. It focuses on serving older individuals, those with disabilities, and residents in sheltered accommodation. As well as paper books free eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eMagazines are also available.

Cont.

## St Andrew's Church

We are looking to open the church as many days as possible as we head into the Spring/Summer and are looking for volunteers to open/close on a particular day.

Timings can be flexible and we understand that everybody has holidays but if you could help, we would be delighted to hear from you!

It would be great if we could open up a very valuable village resource more regularly, and make it available to people from the village and from farther afield..

Also, a number of people have commented on the arrival of a card machine at St Andrew's. We have finally reached the 21st century!

As well as this, you can also use this QR code to make any donations:

**Neil and Sadie 07850117831**



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## Buxhall and District Candlestick Club



### 2026 Calendar of Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Ticket</u>	<u>Total</u>
2 April	Bingo afternoon 2pm to 4pm Buxhall Village Hall			
14 May	Bingo afternoon 2pm to 4pm Buxhall Village Hall			
4 June	River Stour Boat Trip with lunch at the Henry Swan	£12.00	£19.00*	£31.00
9 July	Bingo afternoon 2pm to 4pm Buxhall Village Hall			
13 August	Cromer End of Pier Show	£26.00	£28.00	£54.00
4 September	To be arranged			

\* Plus the cost of lunch

NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED

Payment can be made by:

Cash

Cheque made payable to: Buxhall and Finborough Over 60s Candlestick Club

BACS paid to:

Bank Name: Virgin Money

Account Name: Buxhall and Finborough Over 60s Candlestick Club

Sort Code: 82-12-08

Account Number: 50135531

Please contact Emily on 07964 045373 or [emilybyam1@gmail.com](mailto:emilybyam1@gmail.com) or Mim at one of the other events or on 07414 004006 if you would like to put your name down for any of the trips.

**\*\*Prices are based on a minimum of 25 people attending, if numbers fall short trips may have to be cancelled\*\***

To contact the editor (Ant Mann) submit articles,  
letters or advertising,  
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Crafts with Lauren  
HAND MADE



# Race of the Boggmen Craft Market

Celebrate local makers and crafters at the  
Chestnut Horse event!

Free Entry, Dog Friendly

6<sup>th</sup> April  
2026

Where: The Chestnut Horse  
B1115, Great Finborough,  
Stowmarket IP14 3AT  
Event begins at 10:30AM

Interested in being a stallholder  
email: [Craftswithlaurenx@gmail.com](mailto:Craftswithlaurenx@gmail.com)



## Letter from the Rector

Easter this year comes right at the beginning of April, on Sunday 5th. We will experience a whole gamut of emotions in a single week, all of which will be celebrated and remembered in services taking place across all seven churches in our benefice. I do hope you'll be able to join us at one or more of these gatherings and if you'd like to know more about any of them then please do get in contact by email [revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com](mailto:revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com) or by phone 01449 676065. You will be most welcome as we move through this final period of Lent, into Holy Week and the joy of Easter.

At the end of March we experienced the joy of Palm Sunday when Jesus was cheered as he entered Jerusalem on a donkey, before moving through the hollowness of Holy Week when the crowds began turning on Jesus to Maundy Thursday with the celebration of the Last Supper, a celebration repeated every week in one or more of our churches as the Eucharist or Holy Communion. And then the darkness and misery of Good Friday when Jesus was crucified on the cross and descended into the depths of Sheol, the depths of the dead. Holy Saturday is a day of quietness and reflection as we prepare for the joyful and triumphant resurrection of Jesus. And on Easter Day we will be holding services in most of our churches to celebrate the resurrection of Christ.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed Easter and to offer my continued prayers for a hopeful and peaceful resolution to those areas of the world where war is being waged, in particular we remember the Middle East and Ukraine. May God bless you all.

**With blessings,  
Revd Sarah**

If you spot something in the village in need of attention, please get in touch. It could be overgrown footpaths, missing or hidden signs, broken or damaged play equipment in the playpark.

Contact the Parish Council:  
[clerk@greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk)

## Antenatal classes with a difference — taught by real midwives

Our antenatal course gives you honest, practical guidance on pregnancy, labour, birth and life with a newborn – all from an experienced midwife who understands how the maternity system really works. You won't just learn what can happen – you'll learn your choices, how to navigate the NHS, and what genuinely helps during labour and the postnatal period. We prepare you for real life, not just the textbook version. 50% birth. 50% postnatal. 100% supportive.

We believe preparing for feeding, recovery and newborn life is just as important as preparing for labour – so you'll feel confident every step of the way.

Unlike many mainstream antenatal courses such as NCT, ours is written and taught by practicing midwives. You'll know exactly who your teacher is before you book, and you'll be supported by someone who truly understands maternity care.

- > Evidence-based, non-judgemental information
- > Inclusive and welcoming to all families
- > Proper preparation for birth partners
- > A ready-made group of local friends due at the same time as you

You deserve to feel informed, in control and positive about your experience – whatever path your birth takes.

And yes – you'll leave with a brilliant local support network for those early newborn days and maternity leave.

Our reviews speak for themselves. Come and see why so many parents say this course changed their birth and postnatal experience.

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[www.thevillagemidwife.co.uk/bury-suffolk](http://www.thevillagemidwife.co.uk/bury-suffolk)



Continued from page 20...

## Recycling & Waste Collection

The delivery of new bins ready for the rollout of Better Recycling has now started. This means the delivery of a new blue recycling bin and the new food caddie and food recycling bins.

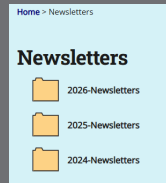
**Councillor John Matthissen 01449 258894 or 07976 308128**

**councillor@matthissen.net**

**Or write to me at 2 Brick Kiln Cottages, Barretts Lane,  
Needham Market IP6 8RZ**

Archive copies of recent newsletters  
can be found on the Parish website:

[www.greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk](http://www.greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk)



# Flower Arranging

Can you help by volunteering  
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St. Andrew's Church, Great Finborough?  
Remuneration for expenses is available

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## Stowmarket Bathroom & Kitchen Centre

We're excited to share an update about our showroom.

At the end of 2025, we made the decision to replace our trade counter with a new showroom area featuring a more basic, low cost bathroom range to complement our existing displays.

The purpose of this new space is to offer quality, branded bathroom products to suit all budgets, while still maintaining competitive trade pricing. This expanded range is available to both trade customers and the general public.

We will also continue to stock a wide selection of plumbing spares, along with softener salt, as part of our ongoing commitment to providing essential products and support.

Please visit the extensive showroom, you will always be welcomed. There's no pressure, just honest guidance from a team that knows bathrooms and kitchens inside out.

**Sean Plaskitt SBKC's Showroom Manager**



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and more!  
Stowmarket, Suffolk**



I bought a doll for my child recently. I thought it was manufactured by a well-known brand, but I suspect it might be counterfeit. How can I be sure and what are my rights?

You're right to seek advice about this issue, because counterfeit goods aren't only illegal, they can be dangerous.

Fake children's toys in particular, including dolls, often don't meet safety standards and can pose choking hazards - poor manufacturing can mean small parts are easily detachable.

Counterfeit goods are fake products designed to mimic the authentic ones sold by genuine brands. Sometimes it's easy to spot a knock-off, other times it can be harder to tell.

It's not just toys and games - things like clothing, footwear, e-cigarettes, perfumes and media devices can also be counterfeit.

Things to watch out for include strangely low prices from well known brands and signs of poor quality - like missing security seals, bad or non-existent packaging, blurry logos and poor stitching. You may also spot some spelling mistakes in the advert or on the packaging.

Looking at photos from official sellers can help when making comparisons, and it's important to only buy products from reputable sellers.

If you have purchased a counterfeit item, there are some steps you can take to try and get your money back. You're legally entitled to a full refund on fake goods within 30 days of your purchase. If it's been over 30 days since you paid, but less than six months, the seller can provide you with a real version of the item first. If they can't, then they're legally required to give you a full refund.

**Cont.**

If you paid more than six months ago, you're only entitled to a part refund based on how much you've used the item and how long you've had it.

Sometimes sellers might refuse to refund you, and argue the items were obviously fake because they were very cheap, but they're breaking the law by selling them and your legal rights still apply.

If this happens and you paid by debit card, contact your bank and ask to use the 'chargeback scheme'. If you paid by credit card and the item cost less than £100, you can ask to use the same scheme.

If you paid by credit card and the item cost between £100 and £30,000, tell your credit card company you want to make a 'section 75' claim to get your money back. To report counterfeit goods or get help getting your money back, contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Service. You can also report a seller to Trading Standards, which investigates criminal activity.

**Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at [midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us](http://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us). Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.**

## **Pettiward Hall**

### **April Quiz Night**

The next quiz night date is ready to put in the diary! The quiz will be held on Saturday 18th April. Doors open at 6.15pm for a 7pm start. Please contact Cathy Morgan at [pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com) to reserve your spots. Entry price is £5 per adult, under 18s free. Max of 6 adults per team.

## **Alchemy Home Furnishings & Grace Spinal Flow**

Hi, it's Chrissy here. Many of you will remember me as the curtain maker who had to move out of The Old Forge after it was flooded 18 months ago. It's been quite a journey, but we were finally able to return this summer, and it feels wonderful to be back in the heart of this community!

While we were in temporary accommodation, I decided to make good use of the unexpected pause. I followed a long-held passion for natural health and trained as Suffolk's first certified Spinal Flow Practitioner. It might seem like an unusual combination at first glance, but both of my businesses are rooted in the same thing: helping people feel more at home in themselves and in their spaces.

At Alchemy Home Furnishings, I offer a full design and installation service for curtains and blinds. I take care of the measuring, have a vast number of fabric samples to choose from, and specialise in character properties - something many of you know I adore working with.

Alongside this, my Spinal Flow practice supports people seeking holistic wellness. It's a gentle, hands-on approach that helps regulate the nervous system, supporting physical, physiological, and emotional wellbeing.

If you'd like to know more, feel free to get in touch:

Curtains & blinds - 07494 905305  
[www.alchemyhomefurnishings.co.uk](http://www.alchemyhomefurnishings.co.uk)

Natural health - 07947 719553  
[www.gracespinalflow.com](http://www.gracespinalflow.com)

**Did you know we have a Village Facebook page?**

**Take a look at:**  
**[facebook.com/parishcouncilgreatfinborough](https://facebook.com/parishcouncilgreatfinborough)**



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**Email: [info@digitalcopycentre.co.uk](mailto:info@digitalcopycentre.co.uk)**  
**37 Stowupland Street, Stowmarket, IP14 1EG**  
**01449 678100**

### **Onehouse & Shelland Churches**

Many Thanks to all who attended and supported the Onehouse Church Lent Lunch. £210.60 was raised and will be sent off to Christian Aid to assist in their very worthwhile work to the needy.

The World Day of Prayer held at Shelland Church this year was attended by 24 people. Well done and Many Thanks to Lisa, Christine and Martin for a very successful Service.



### **F.G. BROWN - OPTICIANS**

Denmark House  
41 Bury Street, Stwomarket  
**01449 612812/674030**

As independent opticians, we offer a more personalised eye care service that you can trust for all the family  
**Professional Eye Care - Quality Products - Personal Service**

**Opening hours: Tuesday-Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm**  
**Saturday 9.00am - 5.15pm**

*Your sight care is our priority*

### **FFD Running Club**

If you are keen to start running, get fit, run in a group or socialise, then join us every Thursday at 6.45pm.

No need to book, simply meet on the village green opposite the pub.

If you would like any more details, please get in touch.

All levels welcome.

**Ant Mann 07968 154171**





# SPRING FASHION SHOW

come & Join Style at Stow for some  
Fun - Fashion & Fizz  
on  
Wednesday 15th | April | 2026  
from 7pm Onwards  
at

**St Andrews Church  
Great Finborough**

Tickets £5.00 per person  
Includes a complimentary drink on arrival

Tickets available from  
Style at Stow 01449 771315  
15-17 Bury Street, Stowmarket  
and Sadie on 07766196612

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## MILES ROLFE JOINERY

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**Are you tired of cleaning?**



We have the right cleaner waiting to help you.

**Regular - Weekly - Cleaner**

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[www.timeforyousuffolk.co.uk](http://www.timeforyousuffolk.co.uk)



## REWTS

Trees & Gardens

**Tree surgery:** from light pruning to large tree take down, surveys and stump removal.

**Garden landscaping:** patios, fencing, decking, pergolas, gates, stone driveways, water features, turfing and seeding new lawns, borders and planting designs.

**Garden maintenance:** hedge cutting, pruning, weeding, strimming, grass cutting, tidying.

Tel: 0782 5253 720

[info@rewtstreesandgardens.co.uk](mailto:info@rewtstreesandgardens.co.uk)  
[www.rewtstreesandgardens.co.uk](http://www.rewtstreesandgardens.co.uk)



# CHESTNUT HORSE

www.chestnuthorse.co.uk | 01449 553889

## WHAT'S ON!

Thursday 2nd April Open Mic Night 7.30pm

Monday 6th April - Race of the Bogmen  
and Craft Fair from 10.30am  
Roosters Smokehouse BBQ Food from 12pm

Thurs 23rd Quiz Night 7.30pm  
£2.50 per person teams up to 6 people

Sat 25th Love music: Jax solo acoustic from 7.30pm

Thurs 30th Sip & Paint night from 7pm,  
get your place booked as soon as possible,  
£35.00 per person paid at time of booking

Sunday 3rd May music with Savannah Love from 4pm

**\*\*Friday 10th April: Kitchen closed all day & pub closes at 9pm**  
**Saturday 11th April CLOSED ALL DAY for private function**  
**Sunday 12th to Sun 19th April pub open usual times for drinks**  
**only, no food during this period\*\***

Roly & Mandy



## JUBILEE FINANCE

MORTGAGE & PROTECTION SOLUTIONS

### Mortgage and protection advisers located in Buxhall, Stowmarket

We can advise on all types of mortgages, whether you are looking to remortgage your house or move into a new one, purchase or refinance a buy-to-let property or raise funds for a commercial venture. We can help!

#### ✓ Mortgages

Residential  
Buy To Let  
Commercial Finance  
Bridging Finance  
Second Charge  
Development Finance

#### ✓ Protection

Life Assurance  
Income Protection  
Critical Illness Cover  
Relevant Life  
General Home insurance

As brokers we have access to a comprehensive range of UK mortgage and protection products from many different types of lender across the market, we are certain we will be able to find just what you're looking for

Once we understand your individual circumstances and needs, we will be able to research the market fully and recommend the most suitable deals for you. As part of our service, we will deal with the lenders on your behalf, taking all the stress out of the process.



Call the team for a no obligation chat or make an appointment to come and see us in our Buxhall office

01359 305065 advice@jubileefinance.co.uk www.jubileefinance.co.uk

17 Buxhall Business Park, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 3BW

## BUXHALL WI

We meet at Buxhall village hall on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. We are a very friendly group of around 50 members enjoying a varied range of activities and interesting visiting speakers.

At our February meeting members thoroughly enjoyed a talk entitled 'Shot in the Dark' given by Mike Kwasniak. Mike is a theatre photographer and some members commented afterwards that they felt they had attended an actual performance!

On March 4<sup>th</sup> a group of members attended the Suffolk East Federation Annual Meeting at Trinity Park in Ipswich. Once again there were some very interesting speakers, one of which was the first female bomb disposal officer.

### Forthcoming Speakers and Events

15<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – The craft of comic verse – Eric Tunake  
20<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - A social gathering for Members

Christine Hagger [christinemhagger@gmail.com](mailto:christinemhagger@gmail.com)

## PRIVATE SPANISH HOLIDAY RENTAL

### 2 bedroom townhouse with private terraces in a peaceful location in La Manga Club,

A townhouse situated in beautiful landscaped gardens, near to the South golf course at the famous La Manga Club Resort. With accommodation on two levels, plus an outside kitchen and barbecue and a sunny roof terrace.

This two bedroom, two ensuite bathrooms property is set in a peaceful location and has recently been refurbished.

On the ground floor the lounge and dining room have patio doors to the terrace. This leads to the pretty communal gardens and swimming pool. A fully equipped, modern kitchen with door leading to the terrace and gardens.

On the first floor is the master bedroom with double bed and an en-suite bathroom. Bedroom 2 can be set up as a twin or large double, also with an en-suite.



**From £ 1000 - 1300 per week**

Prices include linen, towels and swimming towels.  
Communal gardens | Swimming Pool | Free Wifi | Parking | Air Con

**If you're looking for accommodation for visitors to the area, then why not rent Great Finborough's 'The Hoot'.**

**A lovely, rurally set lodge, set in its own grounds, with private parking. Boasting incredible views of the countryside.**

One double bedroom with en-suite cloakroom basin, heated towel rail, and WC.  
Second, twin bedroom. Shower room with walk-in shower, basin, and WC.  
Open-plan living space with kitchen, dining area and sitting area with electric fire. Lots of outdoor space with seating and BBQ.

For information on both properties, contact Kaz:  
[kjb@suffolktaxreturns.co.uk](mailto:kjb@suffolktaxreturns.co.uk) **07870680766**

## News from your District Councillor - John Matthissen

Representing Onehouse, Great & Little Finborough, Combs, Harleston & Shelland

### Councillor Penny Otton

Some people may have heard our county councillor Penny Otton is standing down and will not contest the reinstated elections on May 7th. Many newer residents will not know just how long and hard Penny has worked in serving our local communities.

Penny was first elected in 1991 as a district councillor and has since been re-elected many times, serving as leader of the Mid Suffolk for 4 years. Penny continued to represent Rattlesden ward until 2023.

Penny was also elected as a county councillor in 2009 and has since been a valued member of the official opposition, currently speaking for the group on Education and Children's Services.

In both roles she has tackled so many problems for individuals and communities, succeeding against the odds to get speed limits on some of our dangerous rural roads. Rushing from village to village, attending countless parish meetings; Penny will be missed.

### Devolution and local government reform – elections reinstated.

The County Council elections will now be held on May 7th.

There will be Unitary elections in May 2027 for a shadow council to take control in 2028. Elections for Mayor of Suffolk & Norfolk will be in May 2028.

### Local Plan Call for sites

The Council has published a map of all sites submitted for development [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/web/babergh/w/call-for-sites](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/web/babergh/w/call-for-sites)

No planning status is granted by submission. Sites do not benefit from any presumption of development.

### Armed Forces Day, Stowmarket

Plans are beginning to take shape for Armed Forces Day, which will be held in Stowmarket on 27th June, supported by both Mid Suffolk District Council and Stowmarket Town Council. Armed Forces Day is a chance to show your support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community. There will be a number of attractions such as climbing wall, assault course, and hopefully a helicopter from Wattisham.

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## Buxhall Community Council

# BURGER, BUN & BINGO

with cheese slice, onions, lettuce, tomato, ketchup,  
mustard sauce and crisps

## Buxhall Village Hall

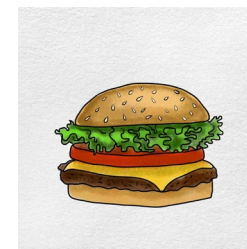
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026**  
**at 7:00pm**

**Entry: Adult £5    Child £2.50**

**(6 games of Bingo £10.00)**

**Includes Raffle**

**Bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles**



**Book your place by contacting**

**Mim and Keith Proctor: 01449 736598**

## 2026 Buxhall Village Show

The BCC is delighted to announce that this annual event will be held on Saturday 5th September at the village hall.

The 2026 Programme is published now so that prospective entrants can start to prepare, for example; in the garden, allotment, workshop, refreshing handicraft skills or making a conscious effort to take more photographs.

The number of entrants has increased steadily over the last three years with 50 individual entrants, of all ages, providing 207 exhibits in 2025. It would be great to see these figures improve again this year.

Please remember we do not follow Royal Horticultural Society rules but focus instead on the entrants sharing and celebrating their more 'leisure interests' and on encouraging people to have-a-go, being proud of their achievements and having fun. All entries are anonymised for judging and first-time novice entrants often win first prize!

**Hilary Hall (Secretary): hilary-hall@hotmail.co.uk | 01449 737671**



### Buxhall and Great Finborough 'Candlestick Club'



The Candlestick Club is hosting a Bingo and Raffle on Thursday 2 April 2026 at Buxhall Village Hall

Join us between 2.00pm and 4.00pm

A chance to meet up with friends, make new friends locally, and win prizes

**Everybody welcome!**

## BUXHALL VILLAGE SHOW: 2026 PROGRAMME

### SECTION 1 – VEGETABLES

1	5 Potatoes - any colour	6	2 Courgettes – equal size
2	5 Onions – any colour	7	5 Runner beans
3	5 Shallots	8	5 Tomatoes – any variety
4	3 Carrots with foliage	9	1 Marrow
5	3 Beetroot with foliage	10	Any other single specimen vegetable

### SECTION 2 – FRUIT

1	5 Apples - dessert any variety	3	5 Plums – any variety
2	5 Pears – any variety	4	1-10 of any other fruit

### SECTION 3 – FLOWERS

1	3 Dahlias	4	10 Stems of mixed flowers
2	3 Roses – any variety	5	Pot plant – any
3	3 specimen stems - same flower		

### SECTION 4 – BAKED GOODS

1	4 Scones: sweet or savoury	4	Tray Bake cake: any flavour
2	Any home-made bread.	5	Loaf Tin cake: any flavour
3	Sponge cake with filling: any flavour	6	Decorated celebration cake

### SECTION 5 – PRESERVES

1	Any non-stoned jam or fruit preserve	3	Pickled relish or chutney- any type
2	Any stone fruit jam or fruit preserve	4	Any home-produced honey

### SECTION 6: PHOTOGRAPHY (maximum A4 in colour or black & white)

1	A Landscape photo	3	A Family and/or Pets photo
2	A Wildlife photo	4	A serendipitous photo

### SECTION 7 – ARTS AND CRAFT

(Any medium eg fabric, wool, wood, metal, card, paper, pottery etc)

1	A child's toy	3	A picture
2	A new home-made item for the home or garden (including to wear)	4	Recycled or upcycled item for the home or garden (including to wear)

### SECTION 8 – CHILDREN Ages a) 7 and under b) 8 and above

1	Any 2D or 3D art form made from recycled materials or vegetation	3	4 cup cakes: any flavour
2	2D or 3D art form of a farm using any medium including lego	4	A portable home-grown garden in a container of your choice.

### SECTION 9 – BRITISH HUMOUR IN THE GARDEN – Make the Judges Smile

1	A single vegetable – your longest, heaviest, most misshaped, ugliest, or humorous vegetable. Creatively displayed with accessories and an apt title, caption or name
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