

WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH

Parish Council: www.greatfinborough.onesuffolk.net

Chair: James Spencer - james@finboroughparishcouncil.org.uk

Clerk: Lacey Luther - clerk@finboroughparishcouncil.org.uk

Footpath Warden: Richard Burton - greatfinboroughfootpaths@gmail.com

District Councillor: John Matthissen - councillor@matthissen.net

Tel: 01449 258894

County Councillor: Penny Otton - penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk

Tel: 07545 423847

Pettward Hall

Lettings/Keyholder: Mary Preece - mary.preece1@btinternet.com

Tel: 01449 771360

St Andrews Church: www.standrewsgtfinborough.co.uk

Rector: Rev Sarah Jenkins - 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

Tel: 07843 191101

Allotments Association - Mary Smyth Tel: 01449 672533

Primary School: www.finboroughprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Stephen Dodd - admin@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk

Tel: 01449 613208

Gt Finborough & Buxhall Under 5's Pre-School

Delia Prior - Tel: 07513 140072

Chestnut Horse Pub - Rob & Clare Tel: 01449 674688

Candlestick Club: Keith Proctor Tel: 01449 736598

Buxhall Woman's Institute: Judith Hickman - judithhickman12@gmail.com

Police (Stowmarket SNT): Tel: 101 - 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



**December 2024
ISSUE 554**

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY EDITION 1974 - 2024

GREAT FINBOROUGH VILLAGE DIARY

1st December	Village Bench Event	Village Green
5th December	Garden Club Party	Pettiward Hall
7th December 9.30-12.30	Christmas Fair	Pettiward Hall
20th December 6pm	Carols in the Pub	Chestnut Horse
24th December 4pm	Crib with Carols	St Andrews Church

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

7.30pm Pettiward Hall Upstairs
9th December, 13th January

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE - every 4th Friday 4.10 - 4.30pm

Middlefield Drive (opposite playground)
Remaining date:
13th Dec

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 by Gipping Press. 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 December 2024

Rector: The Rev'd Sarah Jenkins, The Rectory, 135 Poplar Hill, Stowmarket IP14 2AY 01449 676065

1st December: Advent Sunday

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Little Finborough
9.30 am	Spiritual Communion	Zoom
9.30 am	Morning Worship	Harleston
11.00 am	Christingle	Combs

8th December: The Second Sunday in Advent

9.30 am	Holy Communion	Buxhall
9.30 am	Morning Worship	Shelland
11.00 am	Christingle	Onehouse
4.00 pm	Christingle	Great Finborough

15th December: The Third Sunday in Advent

9.30 am	Holy Communion	Harleston
10.00 am	Holy Communion	Shelland
11.00 am	Carol Service	Combs
3.00 pm	Evensong	Little Finborough
4.00 pm	Village Carols	Great Finborough
6.30 pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	Buxhall

17th December: Tuesday

7.00 pm	Carols by Candlelight	Little Finborough
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22nd December: The Fourth Sunday in Advent

9.30 am	Morning Worship	Buxhall
9.30 am	Carol Service	Shelland
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Great Finborough
4.00 pm	Walking Carols	Onehouse

24th December: Christmas Eve

2.00 pm	Crib with Carols	Combs
3.00 pm	Crib with Carols	Onehouse
4.00 pm	Crib with Carols	Great Finborough
4.00 pm	Carol Service	Harleston
6.00 pm	Candlelit Said Communion	Combs
7.30 pm	Christmas Communion with Carols	Buxhall

25th December: Christmas Day

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Little Finborough
10.30 am	Family Communion	Onehouse

29th December: The First Sunday of Christmas

11.00 am	Benefice Holy Communion	Onehouse Trinity Hall
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Weekday Services

9.30 am on Wednesday	Holy Communion	Trinity Hall, Onehouse (Not 25 th December)
10.00 am on Saturday	Morning Prayer	Zoom Meeting (including 28 th December)



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REWTS

Trees & Gardens

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

Tel: 0782 5253 720
info@rewtstreesandgardens.co.uk
www.rewtstreesandgardens.co.uk

Welcome to the December Newsletter:

With Christmas just around the corner, it's a celebratory time of the year and quite fitting that this edition of the Newsletter is exactly 50 years on from the very first published in December 1974. In the centre pages you will see that very edition, covering topics and events still recognised today. If you had any involvement with the newsletter during those early years, we would love to hear from you.

The village volunteers have been out in force during November. Firstly, tackling the areas around the allotments, re-chipping paths, clearing culverts and cutting back of unwanted growth. The path near the Church has had a layer of chippings laid to help make it more accessible through the winter. Work has begun to prepare the ground around the Chestnut Tree in readiness for the new bench as well as cleaning, rubbing down and painting of the Village Sign, ready to accept its new brick base.



If you are aware of when the village sign first appeared in this format and why it looks like it does, we would love to hear from you.

Another group set about tidying up the paths around Woodpecker Hill, cutting back growth, allowing both easier access but also essential light into those plants and trees not long planted. However, it was very sad to see that vandalism has struck again, with the bench in the middle of the wood destroyed. Such was the damage that sadly it is beyond repair. It has been brought to the attention of the Police. This mindless act should not be tolerated. If you have any information, please raise it with the Parish Council or direct with the Police.

Many will already know that Finbrough School was recently sold to a small Independent School Group - Forfar Education. They very much endorse being part of the wider community and we look forward to their ongoing support of Village activities.

Finally, from the Parish Council, have a wonderful Christmas and please enjoy and make the most of all activities in the Village over this period.

Ant Mann



To contact the editor (Ant Mann) submit articles,
letters or advertising,
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Email: rushbrookschimneysweep@hotmail.com

Telephone: 07581 352772 or 01449 612296

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The Hospital Cracker

Left alone in the ward on Christmas Day
No holly, no tinsel and no games to play.
They bring me a plate of their finest fare
On the side - a cracker lies there.
How to pull it that's the test
Someone on the other end works best
I try to eat but feel quite down
It's hard to eat turkey with no paper crown.

I gaze at the cracker, tempting, forbidden
Oh what treasure inside is hidden.
A screwdriver, puzzle or clippers for nails,
Or a cellophane fish, in your hand it flails.
Then there's the joke, I bet it's a good one
Cornny, traditional family fun.

Here alone in my nightie I ponder this thought,
Has all of that science resulted in nought.
They've split the atom, put men on the moon
AI, the internet, meetings on Zoom.
The question remains, when you're far from home.....
How do you pull a cracker alone?

Grace

We hope you find the articles and information in our newsletter informative and interesting. It does rely on input from our community – submission deadline for the next edition is the 15th of the month. To submit articles, letters or advertising, email: finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com

Pettiward Hall

"Little Ernie"

The winners in November were Doris Riseborough and Frank Raynes.
They each won £7.50

Mary Preece

FFD Running Club

If you are keen to start running, get fit, run in a group or socialise then join us every Thursday at 6.00pm.

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

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Christmas Mincemeat Cake Recipe

- Ingredients:
8oz/227g Butter/Margarine
6oz/170g Sugar
4 Eggs
12oz/340g self-raising flour
1lb/454g Mincemeat
2 Teaspoons Cinnamon or Nutmeg



Cream butter and sugar. Add beaten eggs. Fold in sieved flour and cinnamon/nutmeg then mincemeat.

Cook for 1.5 - 2 hours at 150C

Cathy Croome

Quiz time!



Holiday Tunes



Away in a Manger
Choir of the Bells
Dominick the Donkey
Frosty the Snowman
Holly Jolly Christmas
Jingle Bell Rock
Jingle Bells
Let it Snow
Little Drummer Boy
Little St Nick
O Holy Night
Rudolph
Santa Baby
Silent Nigh
Silver Bells
The Christmas Song
The First Noel
Winter Wonderland

Chicken Scratch NY

S G R D A M A F C I F Z Z X F K U H J X
W A W A Y O B R E M M U R D E L T T I L
C K M B H P L O D U R J T G J I H Z N O
Z D W T Z E D S Y E L C B Y R T G C G K
G N O S S A M T S I R H C E H T I J L L
Q A N K O I D Y A L F D G I R L N B E D
X L S O X Q R T B T I N W X N E T O B J
D R T J T I R H V A A H X I P S N A E W
F E I F W V T E C M B E U U B T E S L S
N D T U C C H S A Y A A I N S N L C L Q
B N E V X E G N X I L M T R I I I Y R W
F O L N I A I O Z T K L I N X C S J O U
B W V E S Y N W K M G F O O A K T E C N
G R O K A C Y M V Z E U A J Y S L D K U
M E Q W Q O L A O H K P I T Y K B N M Q
G T A P U I O N T S L L E B E L G N I J
L N F G C Z H N S L L E B R E V L I S E
I I Y E K N O D E H T K C I N I M O D S
L W B T K S L L E B E H T F O R I O H C
U I M U Y F C J H B X B V R U M Q C Y B

The Chestnut Horse



Rob & Clare look forward to welcoming you

~ See our food boards inside the pub or on Facebook for menus
~ You can book the extension for your function any day of the week

Autumn Opening Times

Wednesday and Thursday 12-3 and 5-close (Serving food 12-2 and 5-8)
Friday and Saturday 12-close (Serving food 12-2 and 5-8)
Sunday 12-8 (Serving food 12-4)
Weekly Sunday Roasts - from 12pm
Christmas Menu available - 27th Nov - 22nd Dec

What's On!

Dec 2024

Thursday 19th Christmas Music Quiz
Friday 20th Xmas Carols 6pm
Christmas Eve - Food 12-6pm, closing 8pm
Christmas Day - open for drinks 12-2pm

Weekly on Wednesday - Texas Hold'm Poker Nights - register by 7pm
Rob, Clare and all the staff would like to wish all customers a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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:
greatfinboroughfootpaths@gmail.com

December Services at St John's, Onehouse

We welcome anyone who would like to attend, especially families:

8th December, 11am for the Christingle Service:

Please bring along a Children's Society charity box if you have one. A very worthwhile charity especially for young people with troubled lives!

Saturday the 22nd of December, 4pm:

Community Carols around Onehouse Village, meet at Trinity Hall.

Tuesday 24th December, 3pm:

The Crib Service in Onehouse Church on Christmas Eve. Everyone Welcome! Bring a torch!

Christmas morning at 10.30am, a shortened Communion Service. Everyone welcome!

Christmas and New Year Wishes to you All from Onehouse Church.



Buxhall and Great Finborough 'Candlestick Club'



The Candlestick Club is hosting a Bingo, Raffle and Buffet on Thursday 9 January 2025 at Buxhall Village Hall

Join us between 2.00pm and 4.00pm

A chance to meet up with friends, make new friends locally, win prizes and eat some lovely handmade cakes!

All visitors are welcome ~ you may then decide to become a member!

Finborough Book Club

It's been another interesting year for Finborough Book Club. In March we celebrated our 10th anniversary which means, to date, we have read 130 books.

This year we have had trips to the theatre, cinema and the Lavenham Literary Festival, which is definitely a biennial highlight, where we saw Louis de Bernieres talking about his latest novel 'Light over Liskeard'

We meet once a month and read a wide variety of genre including fiction, non-fiction, historical fiction, crime fiction, occasionally classics, mystery, and anything else that members take turns to suggest. We are an informal group but always have lots to discuss about our latest book.

Our common interest is we all love reading!

Belinda Aldous

Belinda.aldous@btinternet.com

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Last call for December birdseed orders is the 4 December

See order form in November issue of Newsletter

Non-members wild birdseed order form for February 2025

The next order will be placed on **29 January 2025**. The birdseed collection will be on **5 February 2024 between 14.00 and 17.00 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 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.

Name **Tele No.**

Product	Weight	Price	Quantity	Cost
Wild Bird Mix	20 kg	£14.00		
W.B.M. Premium	20kg	£16.00		
W.B.M No Wheat	20kg	£19.00		
W.B.M NEW High Energy	12.75 kg	£17.50		
W.B.M. No Mess	12.75 kg	£17.50		
W.B.M Robin & Songbird	12.75 kg	£17.50		
Finch Mix	20 kg	£17.50		
Mixed Corn	20 kg	£12.50		
SUPER Poultry Mix	20kg	£14.00		
Peanuts (superior quality)	20 kg	£38.00		
Peanuts (half sack)	10 kg approx.	£20.00		
Black Sunflower Seed	15 kg	£18.00		
Sunflower Kernels	20 kg	£27.00		
Sunflower Kernels	10kg approx.	£15.00		
Nyjer Seed	25kg	£40.00		
Nyjer Seed	12.5kg approx.	£21.00		
Suet Pellets	12.75kgs	£21.00		
Suet Balls (Superior quality)	Price each	14p		
	150 £21/Box			

Did you know we have a Village Facebook page?

Take a look at:

facebook.com/parishcouncilgreatfinborough



BUXHALL WI

We had a thoroughly entertaining talk from Lindsey on her journey from sign language teacher to "mums taxi service" to amateur burlesque dancer to creating her own WI Burlesque sub group. Her dancing has taken her up and down the country completing talks and shows which have raised lots of much needed funds for various charities such as a women's refuge. We were all in hysterics about her adventures and had a wonderful evening.

If you are interested in joining the WI please pop along to a future meeting or contact Emily (details below).

Forthcoming guest speakers

11th December: Christmas Entertainment and Bell Ringers

15th January: Backyard Safari – Kevin Sawford

Venue: 7:30pm at Buxhall Village Hall.

Emily (07545909835)
(Minute Secretary)



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Letter from Combs Rectory

I can't believe where this year has gone, here we are planning our Christmas services and the diary for December is looking very busy indeed with a variety of events, including Messy Christmas on 7th December at Trinity Hall in Onehouse (please see poster elsewhere in the magazine for details). I do hope you'll be able to join us at one of our carol or crib services, we have a wide choice ranging from the traditional Nine Lessons and Carols at Buxhall on 15th December at 6.30pm, to Carols by Candlelight at Little Finborough on 17th December at 7pm, to a walking Carol service around the village of Onehouse on 22nd December at 4pm with lanterns! And there are many more Christmas services which are all listed elsewhere in this magazine.

Christmas is a time for families and friends to come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. However, there are many people who will be on their own throughout the build-up in December and at Christmas itself. Please try and keep an eye out for friends and neighbours who you know are on their own at this time and we all know that the cost of living crisis makes things especially challenging for many people. And of course, please don't hesitate to get in touch with myself, Revd Pauline, Revd Alison or a member of the ministry team if you, or someone you know, is in need.

The Christmas story is possibly the most well known story throughout the world, telling us about the birth of a baby who was born to save us. The well-known characters Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the three wise men and of course, the baby, Jesus, all feature in a book that reads like an advent calendar. 'The Christmas Mystery' by Jostein Gaarder is written in the form of one short chapter for every day beginning on 1st December, and follows the journey of a group of characters travelling to Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus Christ. I read it every year and never fail to get caught up in the joy of that journey back through time to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus. If you do decide to read it please let me know what you think of it.

So may I finish by sending you all good wishes and blessings for a very happy Christmas and prayers for a healthy new year in 2025.

With blessings
Revd Sarah

Recycling and Repairing

Sunday December 8th Terracycling & Repair Café Red Gables, 2 - 4pm
No Market Place Terracycling Stall in December - it's Boxing Day !
Sunday January 12th Terracycling & Repair Café Red Gables, 2 - 4pm
Thursday January 23rd Market Place Terracycling Stall

Locality Budget

Still some funds left, but 24/25 scheme closes end of February so I would welcome more applications from any community group. Do get in touch with me to discuss options. Information and application forms are available on the website.
www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/web/mid-suffolk/w/locality-awards

Community Grants

There is a new community funding page on the www.MidSuffolk.gov.uk website. The page makes it much easier for community groups in the district to understand and apply for grants and funding.
See www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding

Seasons Greetings to everyone.

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

Newsletter Advertising

Our newsletter is hand delivered to all houses within Great Finborough (390 properties) and is a great and cost effective way to promote your business to local residents. We can even create the advert for you.

If you would like to advertise, please email:

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Size of Advert	Price per month	Price for 5 adverts	Price for 10 adverts
¼ Page	£ 8	£ 36	£ 68
½ Page	£ 11	£ 50	£ 93.50
Full page (A5)	£ 15	£ 67.50	£ 127.50

News from your District Councillor - John Matthissen

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

New Bus Services

The supplementary public transport options from the District Council have launched! The Taxibus service - The number for booking and enquiries is 01449 866 866. The scheduled services will operate circular routes from Stowmarket station, hourly in alternate directions between 7am and 7pm. Fuller information is available at www.suffolktaxibus.com or give them a call.

The Rural Connect service

01449 614271 - bookings@communitiestogether-ea.org

Our communities are fortunate in that the two services partly overlap across our villages. I am keen to hear how the new services are working so if you use then please give me a call or email.

This is a 2 year trial, which will continue if there is enough usage, and also convert to fully electric vehicles in time. As demand patterns become clearer, they will be more scheduled and less demand-responsive.

Winter Fuel Allowance & Pension Credit

If you are not receiving winter fuel allowance this year you may be able to qualify by applying for Pension Credit if you are over State Pension age and have a low income. To be eligible your weekly income must be less than £218, or £332 for a couple. See gov.uk/pension-credit or call 0800 99 1234.

Cosy Homes

A reminder this scheme is open to

- homeowners
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You can apply here www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/mid-suffolk-cosy-homes or phone 0300 1234000 (Option 7).



GREAT FINBOROUGH AND BUXHALL UNDER 5'S

CHRISTMAS

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Great Finborough and Buxhall under 5's
Santa's Grotto Booking Form



This year we are once again holding our annual shopping morning, and due to popular demand, we are welcoming back Santa's Grotto. This fundraising event has been an incredible success over the past, so we are pleased to announce that our next one will take place on

Saturday 7th December 2024 Location:- Pettward Hall
Time: 9:30 - 12:30

Come and visit Santa and his Elf in his lovely Grotto, your child can have the chance to tell Santa what they have been up to and what they would like for Christmas. Each child will receive a gift from Santa.

Please can I book child/children for a visit to Santa's Grotto at a cost of £5.00 each.

The best time for us to visit Santa is 1..... 2..... 3.....
Please allow 15 mins between each time, you will be sent a text to confirm your time.

Adults Name Mobile Number

Childs Name Childs Name

Ways to book, give this form to a member of staff or committee, pop through the letter box ,email :- gfbunderfive@gmail.com or text 07513140072

The morning will be a chance to buy some Christmas presents from our craft and gift stalls, visit Santa in his Grotto, have a coffee and cake with friend. Please come along and bring friends it's a lovely social fun fundraising morning. Look forward to seeing you there. Open to everyone.



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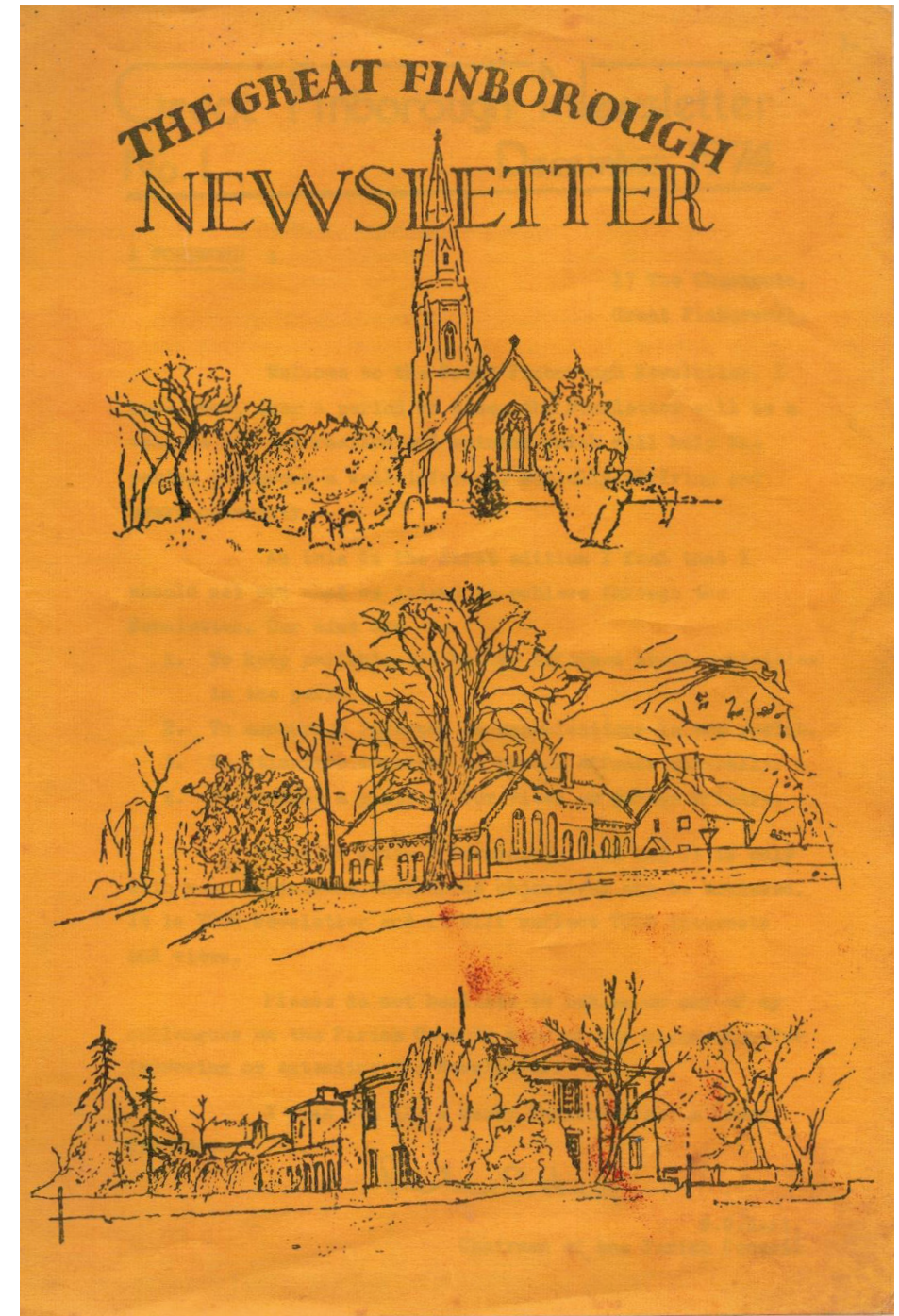
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Great Finborough Newsletter

No. 1. December 1974

A FOREWORD :

17 The Chestnuts,
Great Finborough.

Welcome to the Great Finborough Newsletter. I hope that, over a period of time, the Newsletter will be a vehicle for information and opinion which will help the parish to become a well-informed, socially thriving and aware community.

As this is the first edition I feel that I should set out what we intend to achieve through the Newsletter. Our aims are :-

1. To keep parishioners better informed about activities in the parish.
2. To encourage interest in organisations in the parish.
3. To stimulate interest in parish affairs generally.
4. To provide a platform for views on parish affairs.

This is quite a formidable task and it is only with your assistance that these objectives can be achieved. It is YOUR Newsletter and it will reflect YOUR interests and views.

Please do not hesitate to let me or any of my colleagues on the Parish Council know of any suggestion for improving or extending the Newsletter.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Barbara C. Hart

Great In Finborough Together (GIFT)

The inaugural meeting took place on 23rd October 2024 to set up a good neighbour scheme for the village. The name chosen for the scheme is GiFT, as helping someone in the village is always about a gift one person makes to another. Also, we are confident that the scheme will make Finborough even greater as we roll out this scheme.

At the meeting those present agreed to form the steering team to lead the scheme for the benefit of everyone in the village who need some kind of help/support. We agreed that the scheme is not for any particular age group but for everyone, from young people to our oldest residents. We also agreed that we will take the approach that even those who might need some help themselves, may also be able to offer their time/skills to others at the same time or in the future. We are well aware of the intrinsic benefits of volunteering to those who do it.

We resolved to join the Suffolk Good Neighbour Network of other villages that run similar schemes, in order to benefit from the resources and advice the Network can provide. We have already been advised as to the basic requirements for setting up such a scheme and potential (modest) set up and running costs. We have the support, in principle, of the Parish Council and the District Councillor. We also resolved to create a tool to enable the steering team to start to canvas villagers as to the kinds of help/support they or people they know might want now or in the future. The same process will, hopefully, also generate lists of people willing to volunteer their time and skills should they be needed. We decided to focus on:

- What are you good at?
- What are you interested in?
- What could you share if someone wanted help with that?

The survey tool is being refined and we hope to roll it out between now and Christmas, with a view to launching the scheme formally in January 2025.

In the meantime, if you would like to find out more about our plans; indicate a willingness to volunteer in some capacity; or want to share your views as to what is needed by news/other people who live in Great Finborough, please get in touch.

Sally Gooch
07717 582150

1974 - fun facts

"Lonely This Christmas" was the Christmas number one song by the English glam rock band Mud.

Post-it Notes were invented.

Stephen King published his debut novel, Carrie.

A pint of milk was 7p and a pint of beer 20p

On November 24, 1974, fossils of one of the oldest known human ancestors, an Australopithecus afarensis specimen nicknamed "Lucy," were discovered in Hadar, Ethiopia.

The London home of Conservative Party leader and former Prime Minister Edward Heath is bombed in a suspected Provisional IRA attack.

In 1974, The Rumble in the Jungle, the boxing match between Muhammad Ali and George Foreman, was watched by 26 million viewers on BBC

The BBC Christmas day movie was Bridge of the River Kwai.

Did you know that Playmobil toys were invented by Hans Beck in 1974?

The number one movie for December 1974 was Towering Inferno.

One of the most popular Christmas toys was the Evel Knievel Stunt Cycle

The world population was 3.996 billion

McDonald's opened its first UK restaurant

Inflation reaches a high of 17.2%

The average weekly wage was £ 35

Your Parish Council

The first edition of the Newsletter presents me with a fine opportunity to introduce the Parish Council to readers.

Elections are held every three years for the seven councillors on the Parish Council. At present your Councillors are :-

Mr.B.C.Hart	17 The Chestnuts, Chairman.
Miss B.A.Bull	West End Farm, Vice-Chairman.
Mrs.S.Bidwell	White Horse House.
Mr.F.Dubery	Buxhall Lodge.
Mr.H.S.Pead	Poplar Farm.
Mr.H.Quinton	White Horse Cottage.
Mr.H.Sparkes	12 The Chestnuts.

and they meet each month in the Pettward Hall, usually on the second or third Friday of the month. Notices are posted in the village. You are welcome to attend.

The Council acts as the third tier in local government and deals with matters peculiar to the parish. Activities of the Parish Council fall broadly into the following matters :-

1. Planning of development in the Parish.

The Council has a right to give observations on all planning applications affecting the parish which are submitted to the Mid-Suffolk District Council and these must be taken into account when the applications are considered.

2. The appearance of the Parish.

Through, say, the Best Kept Village Competition and by maintenance of the village greens, the Parish Council can affect the appearance of the parish. It has, for example, powers to provide litter bins, or it can seek the assistance of the District Council in removing abandoned vehicles.

3. Communications in the Parish.

The Parish Council is not a Highway Authority and is not therefore primarily responsible for the roads and public rights of way in the parish. This is the concern of the County Council. However, the Parish Council can

bring pressure to bear on the County Council if it feels that road surfaces are not acceptable. It has powers to signpost and keep footpaths open in the parish.

In 1973 the Council provided additional street lighting in the village and has now commenced sign-posting paths for the benefit of ramblers.

4. Assisting activities in the Parish.

The Parish Council has wide powers to contribute to voluntary organisations. This Newsletter is a prime example of the way it may assist organisations. If demand exists, the Parish Council can provide recreational facilities such as play areas, playing fields or allotments - or help organisations in obtaining these.

The foregoing description of the scope of activity covered by the Parish Council is, of necessity, brief. In following editions I will cover specific subjects in more detail so that you can be more familiar with the business of the Council and help it to become more effective in meeting your needs.

If you wish to know whether you or an organisation in which you are interested can be assisted by the Parish Council, please contact any of your Councillors or myself.

The Parish Council will next meet in The Pettiward Hall on Friday, 20th. December 1974 at 7.30 p.m. Amongst the subjects to be discussed :-

Alterations to the Pettiward Hall.

A Parish Lottery.

Parking of cars on School Green.

etc..

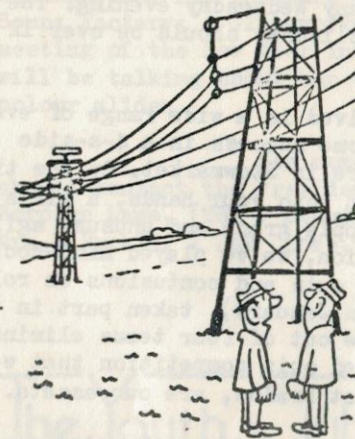
You are welcome to attend.

M.J.Baker.
Clerk to the Parish Council.

IN APPRECIATION

Our thanks are due to Councillor F.Dubery for providing the original drawings used in the cover design of our Newsletter....

CHESTNUT'S CORNER



"At least they discourage hedge hopping."



"I thought the speaker rambled on a bit."



"You've reminded me - we need to discuss stubble burning."

CARRYING ON CHARITABLE TRADITIONS.

... that it is the time of the year for the parish charities to swing into action. Great Finborough is fortunate in having had sufficient benevolent forebears so that three charities distribute gifts annually at Christmas. They are - The Roger Petteward Charity, - The William Hatten Charity, and the largest, - The Great Finborough Town Estate Charities. All distribute gifts to the aged and poor in the parish who now receive money but who used to receive such items as clothing and fuel. The change in emphasis is amply shown by the Roger Petteward Charity.

Roger Petteward, who died in 1833, left by his will the income from Government Stock which was to be used by the owner of Finborough Hall, the Vicar and Churchwardens to purchase : -

" a good brown great coat for six poor widowers and a good red cloak for six poor widows of the parish of Gret Finborough, the oldest if of good character to him the preference" ... and a further part ... "laid out in purchasing 1 lb. of good tea and 1 lb. tobacco for the poor women and men in the Hundred Union of Stow" ... and a further part laid out in "purchasing of coals to be given to six poor widows and six of the oldest poor widowers of the parish of Great Finborough"

The occupier of Finborough Hall is requested to supply each of the twelve recipients on New Year's Day with a biscuit and a glass of wine. This ceremony is still carried out but on December 31st. as New Year's Day is now a Public Holiday.

AND

FINALLY

BEATING THE BOUNDS.

What has happened to that ancient custom of Beating the Bounds?

I would be very interested to know if any of you can remember this being carried out at Great Finborough. If anyone should consider reviving the practice next May, the section with Buxhall should prove to be most interesting. The boundary twists and turns about each side of the High Road until it passes through Councillor Dubery's house, Buxhall Lodge, before following the road to Great Finborough Post Office from where it continues its haphazard way to the river.

MJB.

St. Andrew's Church.

SERVICES

December	15th.	Sunday	11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.
..	17th.	Tuesday	2.00 p.m. School Carol Service.
..	22nd.	Sunday	11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.
..	23rd.	Monday	1.40 p.m. Finborough Hall Carol Service.
..	24th.	Tuesday	11.30 p.m. Holy Communion. Xmas Eve - Communicant members of all churches are welcome
..	25th.	Wednesday	9.30 a.m. Family Service followed by Holy Communion - all families welcome.
..	29th.	Sunday	11.00 a.m. Carol Service.
January	5th.	Sunday	11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.
..	12th.	Sunday	11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer.
		All Sundays	10.00 a.m. Sunday School in the Church.

..... o - o - o

The Vicar would be very glad to hear from anyone who would like to help with the Sunday School, play the organ, help train a choir, join a choir, join a confirmation class or otherwise take part in the worshipping life of the Church.

He also asks to be kept informed of any who are ill at home or in hospital or who would like a special visit.

(Telephone : Stowmarket 3240)

Hugh Wake..
Vicar.

The Primary School.

Great Finborough School will be holding a Carol Service in St. Andrew's Church at 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17th. The collection will be shared between the Parish Church and The Childrens' Mission. Please come along and join the parents and children.

P.J.Wild.

The Residents' Association.

The Residents' Association arranged a Family Social in the Pettward Hall on Friday, November 22nd. which was well attended. The Skyfires Group provided music for dancing and also arranged party games for the many children who came and for the grown-ups. The buffet did a roaring trade in 'hot dogs' and 'cokes'. Nearly 400 tickets were sold for the draw by members of the Youth Club, who also did a splendid job in decorating the Hall in a quite unusual way, not to mention clearing up the whole thing afterwards. The net profit to the Association funds was £5.75. This social we felt, was a successful beginning to a variety of activities that we hope to be able to put on in the future including an evening for Senior Citizens after Christmas and various excursions for children during the spring and summer.

Since it was formed a couple of years ago, the Great Finborough Residents' Association has promoted several successful social functions in the village. However the Association badly needs funds. At the moment it looks very doubtful if we will ever be able to offer the Village Childrens' Xmas Party, which was such a hit last January.

The subscription to the Residents' Association is only 25 pence (50 pence for husband and wife). If everyone in the village paid, this would help so much. The sad thing is, that many who originally signed to become members have also not paid.

The Treasurer, John Heighes, lives at 'Oakwood' Valley Lane, but if this is too distant for you to go with your cash, please pop it into an envelope with your name and address on the outside and leave it at the village 'pub'

Saving our Footpaths

A local Group of the Ramblers' Association was formed at a meeting in Stowmarket on 21st. September 1974. Mr. Phillips of Needham Market was elected Chairman, Mrs. A. Hewlett of 11 Thirlesmere Drive, Stowmarket was appointed Hon. Secretary and Mr. John Heighes of Gt. Finborough was elected one of the Committee members.

A series of monthly winter walks was arranged two of which will shortly be held in this area. On Sunday, 8th. December, Mr. Andrews will lead a party in the Combs-Finborough-Onehouse area (meet at 2.00 p.m. at Clovers Mill, near the junction of Finborough Road and Onehouse Road). On Sunday, 12th. January 1975, Mr. Heighes will lead a walk in the Finborough area (meet at 2.00 p.m. at 'The Chestnut Horse' Public House')

DID YOU KNOW

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY.

... that the Primary School is designated as a Community Emergency Centre by the Suffolk County Council for use as a co-ordinating centre by the Community in the event of a large scale emergency? There are two volunteer advisors for the Centre neither of whom are residents of Great Finborough. If there is anyone who would be prepared to give up a couple of Sunday afternoons a year for training - would they please contact the editor. Advisors form the last link in the County plans for a major emergency and will assist in dealing with the many problems arising from a large scale emergency. Incidentally the Great Finborough centre also covers Buxhall and Little Finborough.

POPULATION PLANNING.

... that figures for the population in our village in the past and for the future are :-

Census	1951	..	..	390
..	1961	..	..	381
..	1971	..	..	405
Estimate	1973	..	..	484
..	1981	..	..	850

The estimated doubling of the population by 1981 will be a result of the former East Suffolk County Council's plan which designates Great Finborough as a Key Village. This means - according to the Plan - that, while not providing a full range of services and facilities for a large surrounding area, the village will be of local importance and as such, plans will be prepared to guide its growth. Development will be limited so as not to adversely affect the environment, services and highways.

ALLOTMENTS.

... that according to a recent national survey of allotment requirements, the numbers of applicants on waiting lists have doubled in a year. Presumably allotments are becoming more valuable as new housing sites give little scope for gardening and it is perhaps more important to provide a means for reducing soaring food prices.

Great Finborough has no allotments today. The Parish Council must provide allotments if it is of the opinion that there is a demand. Please write to your Parish Council if you are interested.

This money will be used to buy a heater for the two renovated rooms, and this heater will be available to other organisations using the Hall.

Incidentally, anyone interested in joining the Youth Club can either call Sheila at Stowmarket 3347 or turn up at the Village Hall after 7.00 any Wednesday evening. The only condition of membership is that applicants should be over 12 years of age.

We've been involved in a wide range of events lately. A team has competed with some success in a 4-a-side football league at the Sports Centre in Stowmarket. By the time this elegant publication has fallen into your hands, a girls' team will have taken part, with supple grace and unusual agility in a similar competition. In addition, we've played mini-hockey with some success, sustained minor cuts and contusions on roller skates (there's more of the same in January), taken part in two shooting competitions and had three out of four teams eliminated in the first round of a re-organised quiz competition that we won last year. Brawn and beauty, not brains, are our assets.

Earlier this year we had a week under canvas in North Wales. Sadly much of the week was also spent under water, so we're now planning two weeks next summer in foreign parts where, with good fortune, we may catch a fleeting glimpse of that rare phenomenon, the sun.

A month ago six members of the Youth Club travelled to Guildford to see, free of charge, the admirable German band, Tangerine Dream. In the New Year we hope to go to more concerts, sporting events etc. There will doubtless be a Youth Club detachment at Anfield in the spring, grieving as the mighty Liverpool humble Ipswich Town.

Finally, we'd like to welcome this publication and express the hope that it will help to make Finborough an even better place to live than it is now.

..... o - o - o - o - o

Anyone interested in joining the Ramblers' Association, which does so much to safeguard the public's rights of access to the countryside, should contact Mrs. Hewlett at the address given or phone Mr. Heighes (Stowmarket 4564)

Editor's Note : A map of Great Finborough showing all footpaths, is displayed on the Pettward Hall Notice Board.

The Royal British Legion.

At the Annual General Meeting held recently a most successful year was reported. Membership numbers were held at 100 despite a slight reduction of numbers in the County as a whole.

The Chairman, Mr. C. Tomlinson, thanked all members for their support in the various fund raising events held during the past year. A most successful Summer Fete and Barbeque had been held in conjunction with the Youth Club in the grounds of Finborough Hall (by kind permission of the Eastern Electricity Board) as well as a successful clay pigeon shoot on the same day, organised by Messrs. G. Fosker and J. Williams of Buxhall in fields loaned by Messrs. B. & R. Dunning.

Two outings had been arranged for the O.A.P.'s of the area - the first to the Spa Pavilion, Felixstowe, in May for a performance by the F.O.A.D.S. when 50 attended. In July, the Summer Outing for over 90 pensioners was made to Felixstowe for the day, with tea at Corders Restaurant at a total cost of over £100.

Last Christmas, pensioned ex-servicemen or widows of ex-servicemen received grocery vouchers, paid by branch funds to a total value of £70. For the coming Christmas it is hoped that we shall be able to increase the amount paid out.

The Service Committee had been very active and over £150 was spent on coal to be issued within the Branch area. This money came from central funds.

On November 10th. the Remembrance Service was held in Great Finborough Church. The service was conducted by the Rev. H. Wake who is also a member of the branch. Over 30 members were in the parade accompanied by the Salvation Army

Band from Stowmarket. This was the best attended parade for miles around - congratulations to all.

On the 19th. December this year we shall be holding our Christmas Fund Raising Night at The Chestnut Horse, Great Finborough. We are also running a Christmas Raffle to raise funds for the Christmas vouchers. The first prize is a magnificent 8-track cartridge and radio stereo unit, retail value - £60. Tickets are available from The Chestnut Horse, The Crown at Buxhall, and members of the committee. Please support us.

Membership of the Royal British Legion is open to all ex-servicemen and women, and to those who believe in the aims of the R.B.L. and wish to become associate members. Applications to the Secretary.

Our next meeting is an open meeting in the clubroom at 8.00 p.m. on **Thursday, 7th. January 1975.**

We wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

F.W.E. Smith.
Hon. Secretary.

The Pettiward Hall Committee.

We all appreciate that the Pettiward Hall has a limitation of use because of its almost total lack of modern facilities.

The Committee are actively engaged in improving the design and an overall plan is being drawn up for the modernisation of the hall which could be progressed as, in fact, funds become available.

C.A.N. Matthews.
Chairman.

The Women's Institute.

Our Women's Institute meet at the Pettiward Hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.00 p.m. We have interesting talks on a variety of subjects and we arrange outings to - for instance - Spa Pavilion, Felixstowe; Campbell's Soups Factory; a Glassworks; or a Garden Centre.. At our first meeting of the New Year in January, Mrs. E.A. Clarke of Buxhall will be talking about her visit to Australia - illustrated by colour slides.

New members are always very welcome and should contact the President, Mrs. P. Underwood, 'Burwood' Borough Lane, (Tel : Stowmarket 4389) or the Secretary, Mrs. R. Buckle, 1 Oak Close, (Tel : Stowmarket 4842).

M. Underwood. (Mrs.).
President.

The Youth Club

Be-Bop Deluxe are about the best British band to emerge this year. They're led by the uncommonly talented Bill Nelson, who writes their songs, sings them and plays some of the best electric guitar you've ever heard. Be-Bop Deluxe can earn about £250 a night on the club, college and university circuit, but on Saturday, December 21st., they'll be playing at the Youth Club Christmas Disco in the Village Hall for about one tenth of that price. Admission will be 40p. for members, 50p. for non-members. It should be a night to remember.

About 250 citizens came to the Youth Club bonfire and about £22 were made for Club funds. We'd like to thank everyone who came and hope that they'll come again next year. Those who stayed away missed a wide range of skilfully lit fireworks and a fire that burnt all night with some ferocity. Thanks are also due to the battalions who sold hot-dogs, baked potatoes, soup and toffee-apples.

Youth Club members have been fairly hard at work redecorating the two rooms in the Village Hall recently vacated by a local furniture company. We hope to buy more equipment - another table tennis table for a start - and recruit a few more members for the club. We recently bought a full-sized football machine and will be cruising round the village in the weeks prior to Christmas, singing carols to make more money.