



## WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH

### Parish Council: [www.greatfinborough.onesuffolk.net](http://www.greatfinborough.onesuffolk.net)

Chair: James Spencer - [james@finboroughparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:james@finboroughparishcouncil.org.uk)

Clerk: Jennie Blackburn - [clerk@finboroughparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@finboroughparishcouncil.org.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: [www.standrewsgtfinborough.co.uk](http://www.standrewsgtfinborough.co.uk)

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 - Rob & Clare Tel: 01449 674688

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



May 2025  
ISSUE 558

## GREAT FINBOROUGH VILLAGE DIARY

4th May from 5.30pm	1940's Themed Party Children welcome	Pettward Hall
8th May From 7pm	VE Day Anniversary Beacon & BBQ	Dairy Farm
1st June 2025 3pm	Hymns & Pimm's	St Andrew's Church

### FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

12th May 7.30pm Pettward Hall Downstairs AGM/Parish Meeting

### MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE - every 4th Friday 2:50 - 3:10pm

Middlefield Drive (opposite playground)

**\*Note new times for 2025**

### 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 May 2025

**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

### Sunday Services

Please contact the Reverend Canon Pauline on paulinehigham@googlemail.com if you would like details of how to join any of the Zoom services

#### 4<sup>th</sup> May: The Third Sunday after Easter

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Little Finborough
9.30 am	Morning Worship	Harleston
11.00 am	All Age Worship	Combs

#### 11<sup>th</sup> May: The Fourth Sunday after Easter

9.30 am	Morning Worship	Shelland
9.30 am	Holy Communion	Buxhall
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Great Finborough
11.00 am	Morning Worship (George Ward Service)	Onehouse

#### 18<sup>th</sup> May: The Fifth Sunday after Easter

9.30 am	Holy Communion	Harleston
11.00 am	Family Communion	Combs
6.00 pm	Evensong	Little Finborough
6.00 pm	Compline	Zoom Meeting

#### 25<sup>th</sup> May: The Sixth Sunday after Easter

9.30 am	Morning Worship	Buxhall
9.30 am	Holy Communion	Shelland
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Onehouse
11.00 am	Morning Service	Great Finborough

### Weekday Services

9.30 am on Wednesday	Holy Communion	Trinity Hall, Onehouse
10.00 am on Saturday	Morning Prayer	Zoom Meeting

*All Welcome! Whether you are a regular worshipper or a visitor to our churches this Sunday, you will find a warm welcome at any of our services*



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## REWTS

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**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)

### Welcome to the May Newsletter:

On the 12th May we will be holding our Parish Council AGM and hear from the many groups and organisations within Great Finborough. It's always great to listen to all those on what goes on in and around our great village! Please come along and support.

At our last Parish Meeting we heard from Paul Bryant from Babergh & Mid Suffolk Council. He explained about Neighbourhood Plans and how it could be adopted in Great Finborough. These plans take around 2-3 years to create but are very much a community initiative to help shape how our future could look. Please take a look at: [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning) and let us know your initial thoughts.

Recently, we had our annual inspection of the playpark off Middlefield Drive. Investing in good quality equipment has really paid off as the report has shown very minor items of maintenance required. We also conduct a monthly visual inspection of the area but if you see anything of concern please get in touch and indeed, any other areas within the village.

We welcome the new Pettward Hall crew, who are fully in place now and keen to receive not only bookings but any ideas that the hall could be used for, see page 12 for more details.

And finally, for those who are unfamiliar with your local Parish Councillors, we are:

Cllr James Spencer - Chairman  
Cllr Ant Mann - Vice Chair  
Cllr Lee Morgan  
Cllr John Barron  
Cllr Simon Waspe  
Cllr Richard Burton  
Cllr Jude Kemp  
Plus our Clerk, Jennie Blackburn

**Ant Mann**  
[finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com)

Newsletter Advertising

Our newsletter is hand delivered to all houses within Great Finborough (400 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

### Speeding in Great Finborough

A recent incident on the High Road has highlighted again the issue with speeding through our village. We have a Speedwatch Team in place but are always looking for additional volunteers to support this scheme. An hour here and there can make all the difference to reduce speeding. Please email if you are interested in helping:

**finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com**



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## Non-members wild birdseed order form for June 2025

The next order will be placed on 27 May 2025. The birdseed collection will be on **Wednesday 4 June 2025 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)**

**Name**

**Tele No.**

**The wholesale price of Sunflower kernels has increased**

Product	Weight	Price	Quantity	Cost
Wild Bird Mix	20 kg	£14.00		
W.B.M. Premium	20kg	£16.50		
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	£18.00		
W.B.M Robin & Songbird	12.75 kg	£18.00		
Finch Mix	20 kg	£17.00		
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	£19.00		
Sunflower Kernels	20 kg	£30.00		
Sunflower Kernels	10kg approx.	£16.00		
Nyjer Seed	25kg	£43.00		
Nyjer Seed	12.5kg approx.	£24.00		
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](https://facebook.com/parishcouncilgreatfinborough)**



## Gardening Club

Spring is definitely here, and we enter a busy time as gardeners as we enjoy the sunshine. There are plenty of events going on in the Garden Club and hope that people will come along to make them a success. Our April meeting was a fantastic talk from Ruth Goudy of Kiln farm nursery about flower power. Ruth talked about the common response we all have to flowers and that we have a shared experience and similar memories that back up our responses. We all shared the thoughts that came to mind when we looked at sunflowers, snow drops, bluebells and poppies which showed that we don't just look at flowers, they are something that we experience in different ways.

Ruth also talked about our evolutionary history and how we interact with nature and also how even looking at a picture of a flower can benefit our health. Ruth illustrated her talk with scientific studies and also taught us about fractals and symmetry and how we find this in nature.


Ruth's enthusiasm for flowers and how they can have a big part in our wellbeing was clear to see and we also had the opportunity to buy some of the beautiful plants produced in the Kiln farm nursery.

**New date for May Meeting:** Please note that our next regular meeting has moved due to the village VE day celebrations and will now be on Wednesday 7 May at 7.30pm. This meeting will be a talk from Joe Bagley the House Plant Doctor. As seen on Gardeners World.

A fun packed talk including fascinating information on plant behaviour and horticultural history and real world tips and no-nonsense information on house plant care. Guests will get an entirely new viewpoint on growing indoor plants. Also, feel free to bring along photos of any ailing plants for diagnosis and advice. Everyone welcome Non-members: £2.50 entry

**Coach trip:** Sunday 8th June to Oxborough Hall & Gooderstone Water Gardens 9:30 am – 5:30pm  
Club Members: £25 or £13 if a National Trust Member  
Non-Members: £30 or £18 if a National Trust member

For more details and to book send an email to:  
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**17 Buxhall Business Park, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 3BW**

## Stowmarket Eco Future Group

### Collection of hard to recycle items

Market place on 4th Thursday each month which is May 22nd 2025  
9:30 to 11.30 am (please note that this is NOT the last Thursday in May)  
2nd Sunday each month (11th May) at Red Gables 2-4 pm plus REPAIR  
CAFÉ stowrepaircafe@gmail.com

We collect soft plastics- pet food pouches, cheese wrappers/nets;  
coffee pods; pens; make up packaging; pringles tubes; tetra packs;  
batteries; spectacles – see our website for details.

GOOD NEWS! We can collect blister packs again!

**ECO CAFÉ:** 7-9 pm at John Peel Centre Café 11 Market Place  
Wednesday 14th May, 4th June, 9th July. This is a chance to share news,  
ideas and information or ask questions. Please come along if you care  
about the environment and local activities.

### Your Garden matters.

"No Mow May" is back, which sometimes causes controversy, but has  
stuck around because it makes a difference. UK gardens together form  
a huge landscape which if managed thoughtfully can really contribute  
to protecting biodiversity and offsetting climate change.

All of these areas have an effect, the more you can participate in, the  
better. The good news is that many of these methods actually reduce  
the work in your garden and make it more enjoyable to be in.  
Gardening is healthy, good for mental health and if you can grow fresh  
food to eat that is a bonus. This website will give you more  
information. <https://climatechange gardening.org/make-a-difference>

Soil, composting and Peat  
Rainwater harvesting and use  
Hard surfaces in the garden  
Garden wildlife – habitat creation  
Lawns and meadows  
Water for wildlife  
Creating cooling shade  
Plant choices  
Homegrown fruit and vegetables

[stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk](http://stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk) | [stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com](mailto:stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com)



**Open Gardens:** The planning for Open Gardens on Sunday 22 June  
2025 is ongoing and we still need more volunteers to help to make the  
event a success. A signup sheet will be sent around by email and will  
also be available at our next meeting.

A reminder that subscriptions were due in September. They will remain  
at £15.00 per household and £2.50 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.

**For further information contact: Cath Walker on 07843191101 or  
[cathwalker85@gmail.com](mailto:cathwalker85@gmail.com)**



## BUXHALL WI

The weather is now warming and the nights are drawing out. We now  
look forward to the Summer months. Our guest speaker for March was  
Hawk Honey who gave a talk on The Forgotten Bees - more than just  
honeybees and bumblebees. His talk was informative on the different  
types of bees and how we can all try to protect them. Afterwards we  
enjoyed refreshments, raffle and closed with THE KING.

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

### Forthcoming guest speakers -

16th April 2025: Charlie & The Dig - Charlie Haylock

21st May 2025: Diamonds are a girl's best friend - Joe Blackmore  
(Tydemans)

Venue: 7.30pm at Buxhall Village Hall

**Jill Scarff (07876254314)  
(Minute Secretary) [jill@scarff.co.uk](mailto:jill@scarff.co.uk)**



I'm worried about my debt and rising bills, and I want to know what support is available. Do you have any advice on managing rising costs and what to do if I fall into debt?

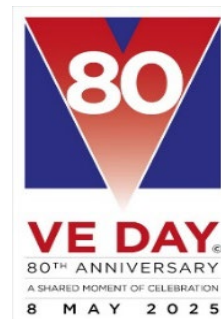
Rising bills and debt can be overwhelming, but there is support available to help manage the financial strain. Start by checking if you're eligible for benefits. Many people miss out on support they're entitled to, such as help for low-income households, those who are sick or disabled, carers, or individuals of State Pension age with a low income. Understanding the benefits available to you can provide immediate relief.

You may also qualify for reductions in certain bills. For example, if you're on benefits or a low income, you could receive a reduction in your Council Tax. Specific groups, like students or people living with a carer, may also qualify for discounts. If you have children, you might be eligible for free school meals, transport, or support with school uniform costs.

Your local council may offer additional financial support through schemes like the Household Support Fund, which can help with energy, water bills, food, and other essentials. Reach out to your local authority to find out what assistance is available.

To manage expenses, consider switching to a cheaper broadband deal, getting a water meter, or exploring discounted travel options. Using a budget tool, such as MoneyHelper, can help you track your income and expenses more effectively.

If you're struggling with debt, prioritise paying 'priority debts' like rent, mortgage payments, Council Tax, and energy bills. Missing these can have serious consequences. After that, focus on credit cards, payday loans, or other debts. Contact the companies you owe money to; they may offer repayment plans.



**Buxhall Community Council**  
invite you to a

# **"Lest we forget"** **Family Fun Quiz** (plus raffle)

## **A celebration of 80 years**

## **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

**7:30pm at**

**Buxhall Village Hall**



**Teams up to 6**  
**£5 per person**



**Covers 8 decades of knowledge**

**Dress code: *Optional!***

**Bring your own nibbles and drinks**

***All proceeds are in aid of***  
***The Royal British Legion and SSAFA***

**Book your team with Hilary and Chris**  
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Remember, you're not alone – organisations like Citizens Advice or StepChange can offer guidance and support. Seek help early to get back on track.

**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](https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us).**

**Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.**

### **Do you like Sociable Sewing?**

The "Sew Silly" group meets once a month to work on their various projects.

We have machine and hand sewers working on quilts, tapestry, soft toy making, dressmaking, mending, making bags etc any "Clean" craft is acceptable. There is lots of table space to spread out and an ironing station.

We chat and discuss; help is available and we learn from each other but it is not a teaching group. We all bring our own packed lunch, drinks are provided, and we each pay £10 towards room hire and refreshment costs.

If you would like to join us (or pop in and see what we do) we meet in Stowmarket Methodist Church Hall, Regent Street IP14 1RH on the first Friday of each month 10-3pm .

This month's Meeting is Friday 2nd May

## Village Improvements

As a Parish Council we are always looking at ideas and opportunities to improve the village we live in. The recent new circular bench and village sign improvements are 2 obvious examples.

But we are keen to know what **YOU THINK** we need in the village.

There are often grants and funding we can apply for or use funding already in place. The playpark at Middlefield Drive represents a joint funding initiative from external organisations to deliver a much-used asset in the village.

If you have idea, no matter how big or small, we would love to hear from you. It could be something as simple as a new bench or litter bin in Woodpecker Hill, through to a zebra crossing or improved speed cameras on the High Road. We can't guarantee all ideas will happen but it's good to start somewhere!

**Please email: [finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com), suggestions can be anonymous if preferred.**



**Ear We Go**  
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## Stowmarket Methodist Church, Regent Street IP14 1RH

All welcome

Sunday Morning Worship – every week at 10:30 am

Coffee Cake and Conversation  
3rd Wednesday each month – 21st May 2025

Guided Meditation group for Wellbeing and Relaxation/stress and anxiety relief. Led by qualified practitioner. Mondays (except Bank Holidays) at 10:30 for 11 am start.  
Refreshments provided.

Caring for each other and God's creation

## St John's Church Onehouse

VE 80th Anniversary coffee morning/cake sale and fundraiser

We will be having our usual stalls at this event on  
**Saturday 3rd May at Trinity Hall, Onehouse**  
**from 10am until 12 noon.**

The stalls consist of cakes, books, plants, games, tombola and raffle.

If you can support we will very much appreciate it.

Many Thanks.

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](mailto:finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com)



# First Buxhall Summer Fayre

Buxhall Village Hall, 16 Mill Road, Buxhall, IP14 3DS



**Saturday 16th August 2025 12 Noon to 4pm**

Book your pitch for the  
table-top sale

Fee: £10 per 6 ft table  
plus a draw prize  
donation

Come and sell your  
crafts, products and  
preloved items

Contact Sally  
07934047612,  
alpacasal63@msn.com

Emily 07964045373,  
emilybyam1@gmail.com

Fayre will be held on our village Recreation Ground in and around our marquee – you can bring your own gazebo  
All proceeds will go towards the refurbishment of the Village Hall



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## 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

~~~~~

## Spring Opening Times

**Wednesday & Thursday 12-3 and 5-8 (serving food 12-2 & 5-8)**

**Friday & Saturday 12-8 (serving food 12-2 & 5-8)**

**Sunday 12-8 (serving food 12-4)**

**Sunday Roasts - from 12pm**

**Open for May Bank Holidays**

### Regular:

**Weekly Wednesday - Texas Hold'em Poker Nights - register by 7pm**

**Every 1st Thursday - Open Mic Night with Jax**

**Every 3rd Thursday - Quiz Nights**

**What's On:**

**Check out our Facebook page for more details!**

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



## Pettiward Hall

There has been a changing of the guard at the village hall! At the AGM on 26th March, Mary and David Preece stepped down as trustees and a new committee was elected. Mary and David have been trustees since 2013 and have dedicated so much of their time to looking after such an important community asset. We are sure many people reading this newsletter will have dropped off their little ones to the preschool or have attended Gardening Club or other events at the hall.

Mary and David have taken on every official role on the committee; from chairman, to treasurer, to secretary to bookings secretary. They have done it all. Since 2012, they have secured £112,804 in grants and carried out £131,861 of maintenance for the hall, not least the mammoth project of replacing the roof recently. It was right that at the AGM, those representing the village and the new committee thanked Mary and David for all of their hard work over the years, that has ensured that the village and the new committee is left such a valuable legacy.

The new trustees are incredibly lucky that Delia Prior is staying on as a trustee, bringing indispensable experience, and knowledge of the hall, as well as being very handily on site at the preschool! The village hall already hosts pilates and yoga and we are hopeful that a monthly sound bath will be starting soon! We would love to hear from you with any ideas of how you would like to see the hall used. If you have any ideas, please email Vicky Godfrey at [secretary.finh@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.finh@gmail.com)

If you would like to book the hall for regular or one off hire for a meeting/class/party or if you would like to hire any of the hall equipment, please email Cathy Morgan at [pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com)

**The new trustees A.K.A.... Aby Mann, Cathy Morgan (Bookings Secretary), Delia Prior, Lizzie Wilson (Chairman), Lorna Redgewell, Nick Walker (Treasurer), Vicky Godfrey (Secretary).  
Extra helper...Gert Gladden**

**Vicky Godfrey**

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JOHN DEERE



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**01449 678100**

**News from your District Councillor - John Matthissen**

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

**Locality budget 2025/26**

The next round of locality funding is now live so parishes and groups are welcome to discuss project ideas with me. The total amount per councillor has increased to £10,000. Full details available on the website <https://midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/locality-awards>.

**New trees**

I've only had a couple of reports about trees planted over the last couple of years, and after the March/April drought the risk of losses remains high. We cannot afford to lose any trees so please have a look and let me know of any not coming into leaf.

**Food Bank Needs**

Please remember to buy an extra tin or packet when out shopping, and pop them in the basket provided in every supermarket. You can also add a pound or two when paying your bill at Alder carr Farm shop.

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

**[councillor@matthissen.net](mailto:councillor@matthissen.net)**

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



**F. G. BROWN – OPTICIANS**

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Saturday 9.00 am – 5.15 pm**

*Your sight care is our priority*

## Letter from the Rector

As we come into the fifth month of the year, let's pray that we will be blessed with warmer, sunnier weather as the countryside greens up and bursts into bloom. Driving around our benefice of seven parishes, I give thanks that we live and work in such a beautiful part of Suffolk and especially, in this the month of Rogationtide, offer gratitude for the farmers working on the land to help feed us all.

Rogation Day is celebrated on the fifth Sunday after Easter, this year falling on the 18th May, and may involve processions by churches and the blessing of fields and crops, as well as fasting and praying for a good harvest.

Living in a rural area, our prayers for a good harvest later in the year are very important. Climate changes are being experienced the world over, no less here in East Anglia, from hotter temperatures in spring and summer to much increased or reduced rainfall throughout the growing seasons. As much as those of us with gardens struggle with the fluctuating weather, it is infinitely worse for our farmers. As I write this letter in mid-April, we have just had some much-needed rain, the first for what seems to be many weeks which I certainly welcome for the plants in my garden and I imagine farmers are welcoming for their crops growing in dusty fields.

So, I finish with a prayer that is always offered in our churches on Rogation Sunday:

Almighty God, whose will it is that the earth and the sea should bear fruit in due season: bless the labours of those who work on land and sea, grant us a good harvest and the grace always to rejoice in your fatherly care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**With blessings,  
Revd Sarah**

## **Waste Bags, Skips & Aggregates**

- Household / Garden / Builders waste
- 1-6 yard Skips
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- Bulky items collected
- Aggregates collected & delivered

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**Email:** [greenscene@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:greenscene@hotmail.co.uk)



## Summer Bingo

### BURGER, BUN & BINGO

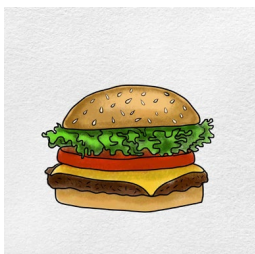
with cheese slice, onions, lettuce, tomato, ketchup,  
mustard sauce and crisps

Buxhall Village Hall

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7:00pm

Child £2.50

6 games of Bingo £10.00  
Includes Raffle



Book your place by contacting: Hilary or Chris  
01449 737671  
07594754995

**Suffolk Libraries:** At Cabinet on 18 March, the council administration voted to bring Suffolk's libraries back in-house at the end of the current contract for the library on 31 May. Suffolk Libraries, who have held the contract since the service was divested in 2012, were the only bidder for the contract, but negotiations broke down and the council felt it had no alternative but to bring the libraries back under council control. The proposal to do this was passionately opposed not just by Suffolk Libraries, but also Suffolk residents and the many volunteers and Friends groups who work for and raise money for libraries in their communities.

**Traffic on Combs Lane:** I have agreed to pay for a speed/traffic check and to look at the state of the road and the number of HGV's using it. We will also do the same for the B1115 Finborough Road, as this is where HGVs should be travelling!

**Local Government Reorganization Proposals:** Proposals from all Suffolk councils were submitted to the government by 21 March, Suffolk County Council has announced that it will be proposing one single unitary council for Suffolk. Subsequently, all the district and borough councils have now voted to propose multiple unitaries as their preferred option. All the councils now need to prepare a business case and submit it to the government by September. The government should announce by the end of the year what local government in Suffolk will look like in future. The plan is for a mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk to be elected in May 2026, and the government's public consultation on a new Mayoral Combined County Authority for Norfolk and Suffolk is open until 13 April if you are yet to share your views. You can fill out the consultation survey here:  
[www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution](http://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution)

**Suffolk Archives Exhibition Nominated for Award:** Suffolk Archives' recent exhibition, The Arrivals: Celebrating Migration to Suffolk, has been nominated for Community Engagement Programme of the Year at the prestigious 23rd annual Museums + Heritage Awards.

Penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk

07545423847





everyone  
ACTIVE



# PILATES

@Pettward Hall, Great Finborough

**NEW DATE:  
Tuesday 2.15-3.15pm**

**£ 7 per session with FIRST session FREE**

**If you have your own Yoga/Pilates mat, please bring it along.  
If not, please let us know in advance so we can provide one.**

**JoanneBeales@everyoneactive.com**



**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

**12:00 – 3:30pm**

**Table top games and activities for all ages are available**



**Please contact Hilary if you'd like to help out in any way.**



[hilary-hall@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hilary-hall@hotmail.co.uk)

01449 737671

Supported by MSDC Living Well in Winter Grant

## **VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations** **Join in the party: A shared moment of celebration**

In addition to the national celebrations to celebrate this important anniversary of the end of the Second World War, we will be holding two events in the village which we'd love you to take part in:



### **Sunday 4 May 2025, 5.30pm: 1940's themed party**

Bring along a plate of food to share and your favourite tipples to enjoy and get ready to party like it is 1945! After all, on Monday it's a bank holiday!

Why not dig out your tea-dresses/ uniforms and get into the spirit of things? It isn't obligatory to dress up but we will be making awards to those with the best 1940's looks!

A raffle will be held and donations will be invited to cover costs (with any excess funds being used to support the Pettward Hall).

### **Thursday 8 May 2025 7pm: Dairy Farm, Valley Lane**

As we don't have a village beacon, Bex and David have very kindly agreed once again to light a bonfire in their beautiful garden. We will be offering a barbecue (small charge), good company and children's games from 7pm.

Donations and any profit from the barbecue to go to the Royal British Legion.

### **WE'D BE DELIGHTED TO HEAR FROM YOU IF YOU ARE ABLE TO:**

- **Volunteer to help set up/ run these events**
- **Make donations in support of these events**

### **AND IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORGANISE ADDITIONAL VILLAGE ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE VE DAY 80**

**Lee & Cathy Morgan (07967 665025/ leemorgan3232@gmail.com)**



## Buxhall and District Candlestick Club



### 2025 Trips

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Entry</u>	<u>Total</u>
1 May	Sheringham	£26.00	N/A	£26.00
12 June	River Orwell cruise with Afternoon Tea	£12.00	£44.00*	£56.00
3 July	Peter Beales Roses Norwich	£20.00	N/A	£20.00
7 August	Lowestoft	£24.00	N/A	£24.00
4 September	Woodbridge with lunch at the Maybush Inn	£15.00	+ Lunch**	£15.00

\*£40.00 if over 65

\*\* 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\*\***

## Hymns &



**£5 minimum contribution (includes free refills)**

***Sunday, 1st June 2025 : 3.00pm  
St Andrew's Church , Great Finborough***

***...a superb way to spend a Sunday afternoon!!***

**\*\*\*All welcome - regardless of age (or singing voice!)**

**\*\*\*Hymn Books, musical accompaniment, Pimm's...**

**... (or non-alcoholic alternative) & nibbles provided**

**Please email your favourite hymn suggestions  
(and the reason why - *optional*) in advance to**

**[revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com](mailto:revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com)**

## Quiz time...

Sudoku - Easy

		3	5	6				7
		7		4	2			5
		4		9	7	6		3
4					5	1		2
	6			3	4			
	3	8	2	1				4
			9		6	8	7	
7		6			1		4	
	9	1	4	7			5	

Sudoku - Expert

	6		8		4	9		
		9	2					
		5		1	9		3	8
			9	6	5	4	8	7
							9	
5	9						6	
			3		2	8	7	
	4	3	7	8				
		8				6		3

## Quiz time...

Word Search

### Great Finborough

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

Woodpecker Hill	Finborough Hall	Chestnut Horse
Devils Hill	Allotments	Valley Lane
St Andrews	Pettiward	Church

Check out the new village web site:  
[www.greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk](http://www.greatfinborough-pc.gov.uk)

