

WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH

Parish Council: www.greatfinborough.onesuffolk.net

Chair: Ant Mann - ant@finboroughparishcouncil.org.uk

Clerk: Jennie Blackburn - clerk@greatfinborough-pc.gov.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

Great in Finborough Together - GiFT

Tel: 07522 171190

Pettiward Hall

Lettings/Keyholder: Cathy Morgan

pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com

St Andrews Church

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 - Roly & Mandy 01449 553889

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



September 2025
ISSUE 561

GREAT FINBOROUGH VILLAGE DIARY

11th Sep 7.30pm	Garden Club AGM	Pettiward Hall
13th Sep 9am	Churches Ride & Stride	St Andrews
27th Sep 9am-1pm	Church & Churchyard Tidy Up	St Andrews
4th Oct 6pm	Quiz Night Fun raiser	Pettiward Hall

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS
8th September 7.30pm, Pettiward Hall

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 September 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 Rev Canon Pauline on paulinehigham@googlemail.com for details of how to join our Zoom services

7th September: The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Little Finborough
9.30 am	Morning Worship	Harleston
11.00 am	Harvest Festival	Combs

14th September: The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am	Patronal Sung Eucharist	Buxhall
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Onehouse
11.00 am	Harvest festival	Great Finborough
2.30 pm	Harvest Festival	Shelland

21st September: The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am	Harvest Festival	Harleston
11.00 am	With Holy Communion	
3.00 pm	Family Communion	Combs
6.00 pm	Harvest Festival	Little Finborough
	Compline	Zoom Meeting

28th September: The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am	Holy Communion	Shelland
11.00 am	Harvest Festival	Onehouse
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Great Finborough
3.00 pm	Harvest Festival	Buxhall

Weekday Services

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

Saturday
20th
September



12pm to
3pm



TEA ROOM

Join us at our charming, community-run tea room for fun and connection for all ages!

Enjoy tea and coffee, soup, jacket potatoes and cakes! You can have 3 courses at an unbeatable price! We even have engaging tabletop games. It's the perfect chance to unwind and create memories with loved ones and friends yet to meet!



We look forward to seeing you!



Future opening dates 2025 :

15th November 11th October 13th December

Raising funds for the refurbishment of Buxhall Village Hall
Supported by MSDC Living Well in Winter Grant

If you would like to help out, please call Hilary on **01449 737671**.
hilary-hall@hotmail.co.uk



Welcome to the September Newsletter:

Hope everyone has enjoyed the Summer albeit the weather has been typically British! August saw the annual village golf event, with thanks to Stowmarket Golf Centre for hosting.

Wag and Penny pulled together a record number of attendees (and caddies) to hack their way around the course twice with much banter, fun and the occasional blinding shot.

Final cards were close but the tournament was eventually won by Larry and Conner.

Thanks to Dave and Bex for then hosting a post match BBQ, even the torrential rain didn't dampen the mood or the swimming!! The day raised £ 2115, with all proceeds going to Pettward Hall.



In Parish news, we had a good response to the litter picking positions and have now appointed 3 new wombles to keep the village looking great. Thanks again to Wag and Penny who have stepped down delivering the newsletters and welcome Debbie who is taking over their round.

At our July meeting we heard from local resident Richard, who is a trained first responder. A great asset to the village with more information on how you can support their great service coming soon.

Unfortunately due to rain we had to cancel our Village maintenance morning. We will look to do another in the Autumn so please look out for it in future newsletters, Facebook and the notice board.

The new speed cameras mentioned previously will soon be ordered so hopefully will help to deter many who still think it's OK to race through the village.

On the 3rd September, once again we will see the Tour of Britain Cycle Race come through the village. For full details, visit: <https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/tourofbritain/men/stagetwo>

But timings show them coming through the village sometime between 14:48 and 15:16. Please ensure we give them plenty of cheers as they race through.

Ant Mann
finboroughpcnewsletter@gmail.com

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 Andrews 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 or 07789727974

Peter

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Pettiward Hall - Village Hall Events for your diaries

The Pettiward Hall Committee are delighted to invite you to join us at the following community building events:

- **Saturday 4 October: QUIZ NIGHT** - A fun quiz night is promised with quizmaster Simon Tarabella. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Just £5 a head. Six per table. Proceeds to be shared between the Pettiward Hall and our local community First Responders. Doors 6pm, quiz at 6.30pm.
Tickets from Cathy Morgan: pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com
- **Saturday 1 November: BEER & FIZZ NIGHT** - As the nights draw in, why not join us for a mini beer and fizz festival with thanks to Adam Brown for agreeing to be our licensee. Further details to follow in next month's newsletter! If you can help with planning, setting up or serving on the night please get in touch with Cathy Morgan: pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com
- **Saturday 29 November: AUTUMN SUPPER** - The annual fundraiser for St Andrew's Church is always an excellent culinary event! Just £22 a head for three courses and wonderful company. Bring your own drinks. Further details to follow in next month's newsletter! Please book your places with (and offer help to) Peter Turner: p.turner125@btinternet.com.
- **Sunday 28 December: TWIXTMAS QUIZ** - Escape the last of the turkey and join us for a quiz night looking back over the last year (and celebrating the best cracker jokes of the season) with quizmaster Simon Tarabella. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Just £5 a head. Six per table. Proceeds will be shared between the Pettiward Hall and our local community First Responders. Doors 4pm, quiz starts at 4.30pm.
Tickets from Cathy Morgan: pettiwardhallbookings@gmail.com

Please get in touch with Cathy Morgan if you would like to offer help with the above events or run your own event in 2026!

Great Finborough & District Garden Club

Even though it may have been a bit too hot for our garden club members, we have been making the most of the warm weather at our summer outdoor events.

On the 10th July we had fizz and nibbles in the Wildflower meadow. A lovely evening was had by all who attended, and we were able to relax and enjoy good company in the sunshine.

The members' BBQ took place on the 14th August in the grounds of The Cottage, by kind invitation of Lee and Cathy Morgan. We were again blessed by warm weather and members were able to chat and enjoy the fabulous food. A big thank you to the chefs, Peter, Simon and Martin who cooked up pork, venison, lamb and sausages to accompany the lovely array of salads and desserts provided by our members. And thank you to Pam who organised the flower decorations on the tables.

The September meeting on the 11th at 7.30 pm will be the AGM. Any members with items they would like discussed should please contact Cath Walker using the email cathwalker85@gmail.com. As well as the business side of the meeting we shall be celebrating the British apple with a selection of apple based recipes to taste and there will also be a talk from Spencer Campbell about supporting British Farmers. We will also have our usual excess produce, plant and seed swap. So if you have a surplus of produce or seeds that are still in date, but you will not use please bring them along and swap them with other members.

A reminder that subscriptions are due in September. They will be £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.

For further information contact: Cath Walker on 07843191101 or cathwalker85@gmail.com



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Letter from the Rector

September always feels like a time to start new things, I think it must be a hang over from the beginning of the new school year. I used to love getting all my school supplies ready for the new term, trying on school uniform and looking forward to catching up with my friends. I do hope that the children who attend our schools in the benefice, at Trinity Primary School in Combs, Great Finborough Primary School, Combs Ford Primary School and Finborough School are also looking forward to returning to or starting school this month!

The ending of this year's, at times very hot summer also brings changes to the countryside around us. The golden fields have been harvested and bales of hay are being transported ready for the winter, soon the fields will be ploughed once more and the cycle of sowing, growing and harvesting will begin all over again. As is usual at this time of the year we will be holding harvest festivals in all of our churches, to give thanks for the safe gathering in of the harvest. It would be lovely if you were able to join us at one of these services:

7th September

11.00 am Harvest Festival St Mary's, Combs

14th September

11.00 am Harvest Festival St Andrew's, Great Finborough
2.30 pm Harvest Festival King Charles the Martyr, Shelling

21st September

9.30 am Harvest Festival
With Holy Communion St Augustine of Canterbury,
Harleston

3.00 pm Harvest Festival St Mary's, Little Finborough

28th September

11.00 am Harvest Festival St John the Baptist, Onehouse
3.00 pm Harvest Festival St Mary's, Buxhall

Let us give thanks for this month of new beginnings, especially for children returning to school and for the farmers and all who work on the land.

**With blessings,
Revd Sarah**

Understanding Your Payslip – a guide for those returning to work

If you've recently returned to work after some time away, you might find your payslip a bit confusing. You're not alone – it can take a little time to get used to the different sections and terms.

By law, employers must give you a payslip (on paper or online) showing what you've been paid and what's been deducted. It's a good idea to keep your payslips for up to six years, just in case you need them later. Your payslip should include your employer's details, your name, and possibly an employee number. You'll also see a payment date (when your pay reaches your bank) and a tax period. The UK tax year starts in April, so tax period 01 is April, 02 is May, and so on.

You'll also see your National Insurance (NI) number – this is your personal number used to record your NI contributions, which help you qualify for state benefits like the pension.

Next is your tax code, set by HMRC. This usually includes numbers and a letter. The numbers show how much of your income is tax-free; the letter reflects your situation. You can check what your tax code means at <https://www.gov.uk/tax-codes/what-your-tax-code-means>. If you're on an 'emergency' code (ending in W1, M1 or X), you might be paying too much tax, so it's worth checking.

Your gross pay is what you earn before anything is taken off. This might include your basic pay plus extras like travel allowance. If you're paid by the hour, the rate and hours worked should be shown. If holiday pay is included with your wages, it should be listed separately. Deductions may include tax, National Insurance, pension, or student loan payments. These are added up, and what's left is your net pay – the amount that goes into your bank.

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Hayden Baker: My Football Journey

Football has always been a massive part of my life. From a young age, I was kicking anything I could find around the house.

Footballs, toys, even rolled-up socks when my mum had finally had enough of the other things flying around. I started playing properly when I was just three years old with Stowupland Falcons, and I've never looked back. Between the ages of eight to thirteen, I played for both Falcons and Salvation Army, building up my experience and love for the game. After that, I moved on to play for Needham Market EJA for a season, then Leiston EJA for two seasons, winning the league with both sides. I also played Saturday League alongside, playing both Saturdays and Sundays. From u14's through til u16's I represented Suffolk FA, my county... playing all over the country. At sixteen, I joined AFC Sudbury, where I had the opportunity to play in both the FA Youth Cup and the National Cup. Now, having finished college at Sudbury, I'm looking forward to the next step, playing men's football at Stowmarket Town first team and I'm excited for the challenges and opportunities the upcoming season will bring.

Football has always been more than just a game for me. It's been a journey filled with hard work, passion, challenges, and constant learning. From kicking a ball around as a kid to playing at a competitive level and pushing myself every day, the pitch has shaped who I am.

For the past 3 years, I've been coaching and helping players develop their skills and confidence. Now, I'm taking the next step by launching my own 1-2-1 coaching business. This is about giving back to the game that's given me so much, guiding players to improve technically, physically, mentally and understand the game on a deeper level.

No matter where you're at in your football journey, if you're interested or have any questions, please feel free to reach out. I'm here to help.

Please drop me a message if you're interested in a session.
(Advert on page 29 for details)

Hayden

You might also see taxable pay, showing how much of your income has been taxed so far this year.

If anything doesn't seem right, it's best to speak to your employer.

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

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.

Everyone welcome.

Ant Mann 07968 154171

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Church and Churchyard Tidy-Up Sat 27th September, 10am-1pm

Join us to help clean the Church and tidy the Churchyard.
Coffee, tea, biscuits, and BBQ refreshments provided.

To volunteer:

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Your support keeps our Parish Church looking its best.

Thank you!

Peter



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Golden Charter
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Stowmarket Eco Future Group

Collection of hard to recycle items:

Market place on 4th Thursday each month which is 25th

September 2025 9:30 to 11.30 am

2nd Sunday each month (14th September) at Red Gables 2-4 pm plus
REPAIR CAFÉ

ECO CAFÉ: Wednesday 3rd September 7:30- 9 approx Fred's Bar, The Old Foxyard. This is an opportunity for informal discussion, asking questions, information sharing and planning.

We are really looking forward to participating in the town's GO GREEN GO WILD! Day during October half term and the theme for our stall will be "Water" We are setting you a challenge! Can you make a mini pond in an upcycled food container? We would love to see what you have made (or a drawing or a photo) - bring it to our stall at Go Green Go Wild so we can admire your brilliant ideas. These websites might give you some ideas.

www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-create-mini-pond

www.wwt.org.uk/discover-wetlands/gardening-for-wetlands/how-to-make-a-mini-wildlife-pond-from-an-upcycled-container

We are also going to repeat our very popular Welly-Swap so please start collecting your kid's outgrown welly boots.

Garden Tip: Chop and Drop

Research by the Royal Horticultural Society RHS has suggested that "Chop and Drop" is a useful technique when you are cutting back plants. Cut soft stems into small pieces and let them fall onto your flowerbeds. (Woody stems and plants that self-seed freely are still best on the compost heap or put in your brown bin.) The benefits of Chop and Drop are that the dropped pieces act as a mulch, improving the soil structure and helping with water retention. It also provides a great protective habitat for overwintering small creatures, minibeasts and invertebrates.

stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk | stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com

Non-members will birdseed order form for October 2025

The next order will be placed on **24 September 2025**. The birdseed collection will be on **Wednesday 1 October 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

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	20kg	£43.00		
Nyjer Seed	10kg 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



**Suffolk Historic Churches Trust:
Annual Sponsored Ride & Stride A Cherished Tradition in Suffolk**

As summer fades into the gentle light of early autumn, communities throughout Suffolk come together for an event that has become a beloved local tradition. Set against the backdrop of ancient Churches and the tranquil countryside, this gathering brings together people from all walks of life.

Whether motivated by an appreciation for history, the excitement of friendly competition, or the desire to support a worthy cause, participants and supporters alike join in a celebration of heritage, generosity, and community spirit. Every year on the second Saturday in September, the sponsored Ride & Stride takes place, drawing impressive support to raise funds for local churches and the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT).

This year is especially meaningful, marking 50 years since the Reverend Hugh Wake is believed to have launched the first Churches cycle ride at St Andrews Church, Great Finborough.

The following year, the event expanded to include Onehouse and Harleston Churches, then part of the same benefice. Fifty years later, with the event now adopted by the SHCT, in 1981, it has grown into one of the largest fundraisers for Suffolk's Churches and chapels. Last year alone, donations reached £200,000, with half of all funds raised going directly to the participant's chosen Church. The other half supports the grant giving function of the SHCT.

Seven years ago, historic cars were introduced to the event, adding a new dimension. Many of Suffolk's stately homes now serve as starting points for these vehicles, with the journey culminating at Lavenham cricket ground.

How to Take Part: St Andrews Church will be represented by walkers, cyclists, runners, historic cars, a tractor, and two horses. All are welcome to join—by walking, cycling, running, or simply stopping by to offer a donation at the Church.

Peter (07789727974)

A colorful illustration of autumn harvest produce including pumpkins, gourds, and various vegetables like carrots and leafy greens, arranged in a basket-like style.

Onehouse Church are hosting a Harvest Supper
Friday September the 26th in Trinity Hall
6 for 6.30pm

For other information including booking a ticket
Sylvia Emsden 01449 615592

Buxhall Community Council - SAVE THE DATES
A night with Andy Ax
On 31st October 2025

Bangers, Beans and Bingo
22nd November 2025

A photograph of a two-story brick building with a sign that reads 'F.G. BROWN' above the entrance.

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01449 678100

Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride



**Saturday,
13 September 2025
9.00am - 5.00pm**

Local Organiser
from whom sponsorship
forms are available:

Peter Turner

07789 727974

Visit shct.org.uk for more information.

You can also find us on Facebook and X.

Sponsorship money raised will be divided between Suffolk Historic Churches Trust
and the church or chapel chosen by the participant.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust

Registered Charity No: 267047

Photos by Sarah Waspe

Some people don't take photos
I can't get my head around this
My phone says, "let's look back at three years ago,"
And lets me reminisce

Photos are a snapshot
A moment frozen in time
Of people's hairstyles and fashions
That will look ridiculous
Years down the line

Some take photos of buildings
Then we look back and they're no longer there
Replaced with a modern monstrosity
And no-one seems to care

Some get totally carried away
And snap away madly on holiday
They're desperate not to miss a single shot
The rest of the group is long gone
Thinking they've lost the plot

Now I love taking photos
But there's an art to this
You need a sense of scale
Something in the foreground
That will act as a kind of frame

Try to hold your hand steady
Get a natural pose
When the subject is unsuspecting and unready
Decode on your focus and don't chop off
Half their nose

Sometimes photos look more dramatic
When done in black and white
So go ahead and snap away
And share them on a website

Photos shared spread a great deal of joy,
Laughter, tears and fun
So go ahead and share your pics
Of everything under the sun



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

**Finborough Court
Housing invites you to
our MacMillan**

**September 26th
10:30am**



BY TAKING PART IN COFFEE MORNING, YOU WILL JOIN TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ACROSS THE UK RAISING MONEY TO SUPPORT PEOPLE LIVING WITH CANCER.

BECAUSE OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU, WE CAN CONTINUE TO BE THERE FOR EVERYONE WHO NEEDS US FROM THE MOMENT THEY ARE DIAGNOSED, THROUGH TREATMENT AND BEYOND. NO MATTER WHAT THEIR SITUATION.

YOUR FUNDRAISING MEANS WE CAN HELP WITH THE THINGS THAT MATTER THE MOST TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CANCER.

**Finborough Court, Pilgrim's Way,
Great Finborough, IP14 3AY**

In the garden if the weather is nice



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WHAT'S ON!

Thursday 4th Sep 10.30am
Coffee & Cake

Thursday 4th Sep & 2nd Oct - 7.30pm
Open Mic Night

Thursday 25th Sep - 7pm
Sip & Paint Evening

£35.00 per person with 1 drink and half time nibbles,
please book your place early and drop a £15.00pp
deposit into the pub. This month, painting a Lion or Fox.

31st October
Halloween Pumpkin Carving Competition

*"We would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to
the village for such a warm & friendly welcome."*

Roly & Mandy



Haughley Hoofers North West Clog Dancers



North West Clog Morris is a street dance tradition with its origins in the Lancashire and Cheshire textile towns and is part of our national heritage. People think of Morris dancing as men in white dancing with sticks or handkerchiefs (Cotswold Morris) but Clog Morris was energetically performed by men and women of the Northern textile mills in carnival processions, each town having its own dance. Usually accompanied by a sizeable band, the dancers wore clogs - their everyday footwear - and carried sticks or mill bobbins decorated with ribbons and bells.

Haughley Hoofers' winter practice season has been in Haughley Village Hall since the early 1980s; we should get the dances right soon! Summer is when we dance at festivals, shows, fetes - anything which looks like fun! The side has danced at several English festivals, including Ely and Folk East and also in Belgium, France and Germany. We love going to Sheringham's Potty Festival in July. This is a weekend Morris festival begun in 1993 by the town's local Morris side, The Lobster Potties, and it draws Morris sides from all over Eastern England and the Midlands. (In 2018 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of this event, 369 dancers from 33 sides established the Guinness World Record for the largest number of dancers all doing the same dance!)

A large part of the fun is meeting other traditional dance groups at local pubs or at Days of Dance when towns are filled with music and the colours of the various Morris sides. Stowmarket now has its own Day of Dance organised by the East Anglian Music Trust; the third such Day will be on 27th September 2025.

We have many private bookings: for weddings, birthdays, Women's Institutes and local events. We have also run workshops for primary schools and the Girl Guides County Camp. Clog dancing is even acceptable for the physical/skills section of a Duke of Edinburgh Award and we have an ex-DoE student who still dances with us whenever she returns to Suffolk. As usual, we have had more invitations than we could accept. It's good to be invited though and there's always next year!

We always need more dancers and (acoustic) musicians. If you play a portable musical instrument bring it along. Our practices are on Sunday nights 7.30 - 9 pm in Haughley Village Hall, near Stowmarket, IP14 3NR from 14th September 2025. Come and have a go (free!) or ring 01449 673518 to find out more.

Find us on Facebook - Haughley Hoofers official page.

Gill Brett



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News from your District Councillor - John Matthissen

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

Local Government Reorganisation

The leaders of 5 District Councils and the Borough of Ipswich have agreed a proposal for 3 Unitary councils to put to Government this month. This has taken into account public feedback including from the survey and meetings with parish representatives. Our villages are within a largely rural boundary stretching from Stowmarket to Lowestoft, and I am arguing for a structure with multiple focal points – the market towns. I suspect this will remind lifelong residents of the pre-1974 East and West Suffolk councils with their many Rural (RDC) and Urban (UDC) district councils.

But important to know that the first decision will be made by a Government minister this winter, and then developed locally and firmed up by a shadow council elected in 2027 and taking responsibility for all the services in 2028. IF everything goes to plan!

Locality budget 2025/26

There is still plenty left in the kitty, so let me know of project ideas to benefit the communities.

Full details available <https://midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/locality-awards>

Rural Business Grant fund

Over £415k has been made available to support rural businesses in Mid Suffolk. This money can go towards projects that contribute to Net Zero, farm diversification, or improved rural sustainability over the long term. This seeks to balance the substantial spending on projects in our main town.

Full details available <https://midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/locality-awards>
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



St Andrew's Harvest Festival

September 14th 11 o'clock

Come and join us for our Harvest Celebration

and

Our Harvest Bring and Share Lunch afterwards

Please bring food to share with everyone

Buxhall and District Community Council

Village Show

6th September 2025



At Buxhall Village Hall

2.30 – 4.30 pm

Programme Entry Form

Refreshments by Buxhall Women's Institute

Contact and enquiries:

Hilary Hall

hilary-hall@hotmail.co.uk / 01449 737671



Buxhall and Finborough Candlestick Club



Final 2025 Trip

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Entry</u>	<u>Total</u>
4 September	Woodbridge with lunch at the Maybush Inn	£15.00	+ Lunch**	£15.00

** 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 or Mim on 07414 004006 if you would like to put your name down for this trip

First 2025 Bingo Afternoon

1 October	Bingo and refreshments at Buxhall Village Hall	Free Entry
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The first bingo afternoon of 2025 is being held on Wednesday 1 October at Buxhall Village Hall between 2pm and 4pm. There will be light refreshments, bingo and a raffle.

Please do come along everyone is welcome!

Borough Lane War Memorial, Great Finborough

Service of Remembrance
Sunday 28th September 10.30am

Great in Finborough Together GiFT

Over the Summer the village's good neighbour scheme has continued helping couples and individuals with a variety of practical tasks they cannot manage by themselves – and which are not the jobs paid workers or craftspeople could be engaged to do. Gifts have included providing lifts to appointments, hospital visiting, helping in the garden, filling in benefit claim forms, providing information/advice, checking on those who have been ill or are frail, helping people pack up to move out/in, and welcoming those new to the village.

The team is compiling a list of local tradespeople and professionals who can be recommended to other people in Great Finborough when they need paid help. If you live in the village and have used a person or a local service/company - and can personally recommend them, please let us know. Examples include a cleaner, gardener, physiotherapist, handy-person, clock repairer, private tutor, hairdresser or yoga teacher. For this, or to request and/or offer help, please ring or message 07522 171190 any time.

If you know someone who has moved in to the village recently, or if you have moved here yourself, please let us know. We are working together to further build on the sense of community for which Great Finborough has long been known.

GiFT Steering Team

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