

Great Finborough Newsletter

No 181 December 1989. Editor: M.J. Baker, 20 Shakespeare Rd, Stowmarket IP14 1TJ. Tel: 676457.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

PLAYGROUP

Great Finborough Playgroup needs someone to assist in putting out their toys and equipment. The hours of work are 8.30am until 9.15am on Wednesdays (and occasionally on Thursdays or Fridays also, from 8.15am until 9.15am). The payment is £5 per week.

The position of playgroup leader is also vacant and we need another temporary playgroup assistant. Exact hours are negotiable.

Please contact Mrs.F.Mountford (Stowmarket 678534) if you are interested in any of these posts.

Angela Skinner

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

The Women's Fellowship is holding a traditional Carol and Christmas Music Afternoon at 2.30pm on Tuesday, 19th December at the United Reformed Church. We would be delighted to welcome visitors from the village. Tom Mongar will be giving some harp solos.

S.W.Ballard

ST.ANDREWS

Minimarket

The Minimarket raised £66 for church funds. Once again Hilary Smith has hit the jackpot. With this, the Bingo and the weekly mini-lotto we have a great deal to thank her for. Many thanks Hilary!

Churchyard

You may have noticed the churchyard getting tidier every week. A small group of boys from St.Georges School have been helping every Monday afternoon under supervision by adults. Our thanks to the boys, the adult helpers and the School. We will try to be a lot tidier next year!

Brian Smith

PRIZE BINGO

Very many thanks to all who have supported the prize bingo sessions during the year. The sum of £559 has been raised for various organisations within the village (an increase of £154.03 on last year's figure). I hope to resume in March and look forward to seeing friends old and new then.

(Continued)

PRIZE BINGO (CONTINUED)

There will be a special prize bingo session on Wednesday 6th December commencing at 7pm in the Pettiward Hall, proceeds going to the Stowmarket Opportunity Group who are aiming to raise funds for much-needed accommodation. Please make a note of this date and give them your support.

Hilary Smith

CANDLESTICK CLUB

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to arrive by car at Ipswich, Cambridge or Norwich and have no trouble trying to park. Not a traffic warden or a yellow line in sight. It was like that once in 1912!! This we know for a fact as we watched films from the East Anglian Film Archives presented by Mr. Clarke from Haughley at our October meeting. This was a fascinating look at life in the country as it used to be.

A big thank you to all who turned out on a very wet evening to attend our fund-raising bingo evening in November. The amount raised will be a welcome addition to our funds.

On 7th December we shall be having a Christmas Party in the Pettiward Hall at 7pm. The entertainment will be provided by the pupils of St. Georges School. We hope that everyone will enjoy the evening that we have planned.

A very Happy Christmas to you all.

Mary Underwood

ST. ANDREW'S MINI-LOTTO

Prize winners are as follows:

17th Oct	(167) Mrs. J. Gibson, South Lodge	£4.80
	(155) Mrs. C. Preston, St. James, Nr. Halesworth	£3.25
24th Oct	(185) Mr. H. Sparkes, 12 Chestnuts	£4.80
	(205) Mrs. D. Podmore, Middlefield Drive	£3.25
31st Oct	(215) Mrs. A. Baggaley, White Horse Cottage	£4.80
	(133) Mrs. Phillips, Coney Acre	£3.30
7th Nov	(177) Mrs. B. Cooper, Poy Street Green, Rattlesden	£4.85
	(060) Dr. B. Smith, The Forge	£3.30
14th Nov	(146) Mrs. E. Green, The Bungalows	£4.85
	(170) Mr. A. Waters, Sunnyside	£3.30

The sums of £8.05, £8.05, £8.10, £8.15 and £8.15 respectively have been added to Church funds.

Hilary Smith

ST ANDREWS PARISH CHURCH

From the Registers

5 Samantha Taylor, Freddie Vonberg, Kirsty Howard were baptised in water from the River Jordan

Calendar for December

The weekend following St Andrews Day (30 Nov) is the one we choose as our **Patronal Festival**. Please support our double bill on the Saturday, and the Eucharist the following day.

- 2 **ANTIQUES ROADSHOW** at 7pm, by Patrick Taylor, followed by **Cheese & Wine**, at the Pettiward Hall. Tombola, Draw etc etc. This promises to be a really interesting as well as a convivial evening. *You are welcome to bring your own heirlooms for possible comment and evaluation.* Tickets from the Old Forge, or any PCC members.
- 3 **Patronal Festival Eucharist** at 11. At the Eucharist ten kneelers that have been painstakingly made by parishioners will be dedicated. Another offering is from St Georges: a junior choir (some 30 strong) have been practising a new 'St Chads' setting of the Gloria and will be joining the adult choir in giving it its first airing. I have just come from the final practice and from hearing them singing their hearts out. Support them! Hardly any of them have set foot inside a church before. If they pick their noses during Communion I for one won't be bothered at all. So do come along this Sunday, if only for the embarrassing fact that the proportion of villagers to non-residents at Gt Finborough church now looks like becoming:

	Resident in village	'Foreigners'
Congregation	12	10
Choir	1	38
Clergy	-	1

This Sunday! At 11! *Stop the takeover, now!*

- 12 **6: Carol singing round the village.** Last year's spontaneous effort, again by St Georges boys and girls, is a little more organised this year. Mary Shorland Ball is co-ordinating the school and church choirs. This is the kind of village event children remember long long into adulthood, so do make a point of looking out for it. Please contribute generously (to the Childrens Society).
- 13 **Carol Service** for St Georges (only) is at 4pm.
- 17 **Morning Prayer** at 11
CAROL SERVICE at 6.30
Please note that our Carol Service is on a Sunday evening this year, by popular request, which should make it easier for people to attend.
- 24 **MIDNIGHT MASS** starts at 11.30pm
- 25 **Christmas Morning Family Service** (followed by shortened Communion) is at Onehouse, starting at 10.30am
- 31 **BENEFACT MATTINS** is at 10.30 at Harleston
Our annual **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** is on the last Sunday in January, at 9.45am.

On Jordan's Bank ...

During Advent, the four weeks before Christmas, the altar frontels are changed to mauve, as they are in Lent, marking it a season of penitence - a fact often forgotten in the cheerful bustle leading up to Christmas. Penitence is a bit out of fashion these days, and if all it is thought to mean is sheer gloom 'n woe for its own sake, like those terrible Victorian hymns full of blood and anguish, then good riddance. But cool self-examination, which means more or less the same thing, is a more neutral word, and a touch of that from time to time does no harm at all. For instance, I have been musing this week on why many of the things I love most - cricket, warm flat beer, the Church of England, my own company, competent females, tapioca pudding, singing, intelligent conversation - are things that are generally disliked or ridiculed. I once read 'a survey' that showed how clergy were, in their boyhood, more than likely to be loners (and therefore, one presumes, less likely to be sensitive to those around them). Food for thought there, but never mind me - how is your penitence getting along this Advent season? For the doctrine goes that you can sing carols till you are hoarse, but only those that are utterly honest with themselves, ie the truly penitent, will ever actually see the Christ child. It's an uncomfortable truth, but there were only believers at the manger. Each of us must do our own homework on that one, but one penitential thought for all of us probably is that Christmas is above all a time for hope but that most of us reckon ourselves too worldly-wise, too 'grown up' to hope - that's for kids and simpletons. We've seen too much, grown too hard to hope for impossible dreams. Like, for instance, that the cold war would suddenly stop, the Berlin wall would come tumbling down and Communism be virtually dismantled within the space of a month. It's not wimpish to hope. On the contrary, it's a sign of maturity. It's the scared child in us that daren't hope. Happy Christmas - and a thoughtful Advent.

Michael Skiros Priest-in-Charge. Tel: 677663/672844

PETTIWARD HALL

The Management Committee has just reviewed hiring charges for 1990. I am pleased to report that in 1989 we anticipate that, in line with our objective that running costs should be covered by hire revenue, income from hirings should exceed outgoings for the first time in many years. (In recent years hiring fees have necessarily been augmented by fund-raising to cover costs). Although this position is generally favourable, there is no room for complacency because with an ageing building there will always be a need to provide funds for maintenance - the roof is increasingly a problem and woodworm has been spotted in the back room. However, increases in hire charges have been kept to a reasonable minimum, so that with effect from 1st January 1990 general hire fees will be as follows (different rates may apply to village organisations):

<u>Main Hall period</u>	<u>Hire by residents</u>	<u>Hire by others</u>
0800 - 1300	£5.50	£11.00
1300 - 1800	£5.50	£11.00
1800 - 2300*	£12.00	£24.00

* 2330 Fridays and Saturdays only.

The deposit applicable to private hirings remains at £50.

As you can see, hiring the Hall continues to represent superb value for money. Particularly good value are daytime bookings at only £5.50 for 5 hours (heating extra) for villagers. Why not have the kids' birthday party there?

Bookings via Linda Grave on 677803.

Hallowe'en Party

The Hallowe'en Party held on 28th October was a success with £68 being contributed to Hall funds. Thanks to Trevor Waspe for donating the spuds.

Slide Projector

The Hall's facilities have been further enhanced following the kind donation of a slide projector and screen by Mrs. Hopewell to whom grateful thanks are due.

Help.....!!

Finally, the Management Committee feels it is suffering from a degree of listlessness and fatigue. Anaemia has been diagnosed and a transfusion of new blood prescribed. No-one is leaving the Committee, but we would welcome some new members. The Hall belongs to all of us - why not get involved in helping it to tick? Interested? Let me know....

Richard Brice

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our AGM proved a most enjoyable evening. Our President, Mrs Pat Smith, was elected for a further year and the existing Committee were happy to stand for another year and were elected en bloc. Our Secretary and President in their annual reports reminded us of the events of the year. The three theatre outings, the seven meetings of the Book Club, Cream teas, the Garden Party and an outing to Cambridge. We had entered exhibits at the Group Meetings and these had been much admired. Best of all we had got together at our monthly meetings, had an evening out and enjoyed each others company. We were reminded to invite other friends to join us. We are celebrating our 70th year as a W.I. and would like to feel we were helping Great Finborough W.I. to a further 70 years.

Mrs.P.Squirrel was brimming with ideas for Christmas decorations with silk flowers and wrought ironwork supplied from her business, Metals and Petals. She quickly filled a large group of tables with arrangements using natural and artificial materials and showed how easily pull ribbons could make pretty ribbon rosettes for arrangements and presents.

A water colour of a barn owl painted by Mrs. Iris Ruffel is to be raffled to raise further funds for the Stowmarket Cancer Support Group. Tickets available at 50p each.

Our WI started in December 1919 and our December meeting is a Christmas Party with Penny McSheehy supplying a delicious supper and the Committee members entertaining us with a 'Christmas Miscellany'.

Happy Christmas to you all.

Judy Rolfe, Press Correspondent

The Newsletter is published by Gt.Finborough Parish Council and delivered to all houses in the parish free of charge