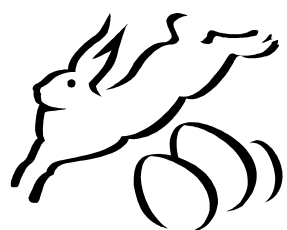
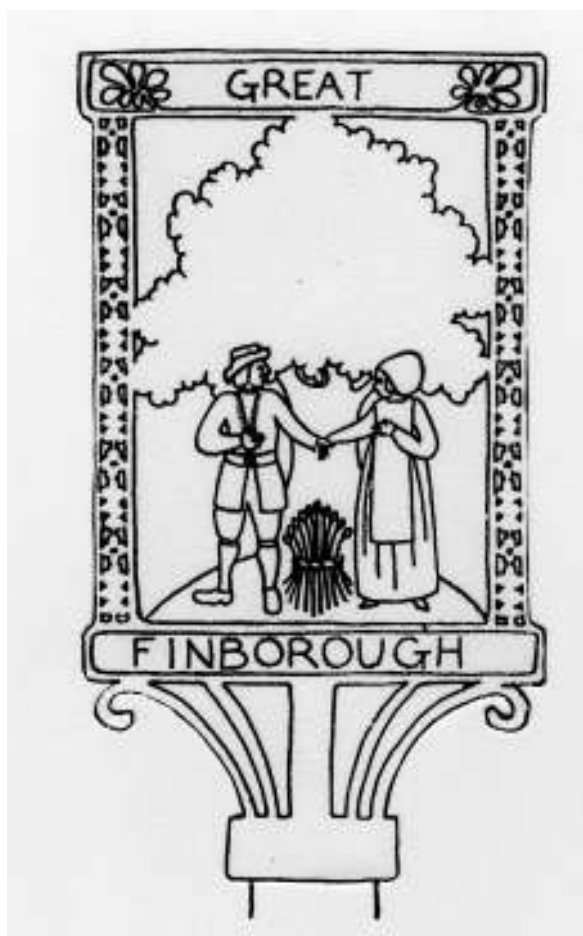


GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER



**APRIL 2010
ISSUE 407**

VILLAGE DIARY – APRIL 2010

1	7.00pm	Candlestick Club, Buxhall Village Hall
1	Before noon	Naturists' Club outing
5		Race of the Boggmen
5	tba	Stowmarket and District Camera Club
6	12.15pm	Ladies Lunch, Church Room, Onehouse
8	7.30pm	Garden Club, Pettiward Hall
12	tba	Stowmarket and District Camera Club
14	tba	Buxhall Women's Institute outing
15	6.30pm	Charity Bingo, Pettiward Hall
17	10am- 12.30pm	Onehouse Parish Council, Councillors Surgery, Church Room
19	7.30pm	Community Council Meeting, Pettiward Hall
21	7.00pm	Buxhall Women's Institute
22	4.30-6.00pm	Skylarks
24	7.30pm	Friends of Great Finborough Primary School 80's disco night, Stowmarket Rugby Club
25	3.00pm	Onehouse Ramblers, Church Room Park
26	tba	Stowmarket and District Camera Club
27	12.00 noon	FHOBS lunch, Buxhall Village Hall
29	7.30pm	Annual Church Meeting, Primary School

ST JOHN'S TABLE TENNIS

Thursday Nights 7.30-9.30pm in the Church Room: 8, 22, 29 April 2010

Why not try a bit of gentle exercise with a game of Table Tennis? New players welcome. £1 per session. Give me a ring for further details.

Derek Ames (613328)

The Newsletter is produced by Great Finborough Parish Council,
printed by Gipping Press, and distributed to all households in the
village free of charge

Editorial

As we all emerge from Winter we notice the changes in the village. The golf club has started the work to build a reservoir behind the church. The Gipping Homes development continues to expand. The primary school is ever more successful and ambitious in meeting local children's needs. Finborough School has plans of its own. And it looks likely the village will be graced with allotments in the foreseeable future. Meanwhile, I understand the farewell party for Trudy Gray and celebration of this contribution to village life will be on 10 April 2010 at the Church between 6 and 8pm.

If you know someone newly arrived and living in the village, or friends and neighbours who are moving on, please let me know. If you know someone who needs a copy of the Village Welcome Pack please contact me. 15 April 2010 is the next copy deadline for material. Please put 'newsletter' in the header if you are emailing. Norman and I welcome visitors so if you need to contact me 'phone, email or call in to Park Cottage any time. The kettle is always on.

Sally Gooch

RACE OF THE BOGGMEN EASTER MONDAY ON THE GREEN

**NO MATTER THAT THE CHESTNUT HORSE
MAY STILL BE CLOSED! WE ARE GOING
AHEAD. SEE THE SIGNS IN THE VILLAGE
FOR DETAILS OR CONTACT DAVID COX
ON 736323**

News from the Parish Council

Power of Wellbeing

The Parish Council decided to adopt the 'power of wellbeing' at its meeting on 1 March. As reported last month this gives the Parish Council a general power to spend money on any activity which adds to the wellbeing of its community - more freedom to operate for the benefit of the community outside previous legislative restraints. In the context of the above, to maintain its power of wellbeing a Parish Council must be elected, as opposed to there being insufficient valid nominations and the Council subsequently being populated by co-option, so that really reinforces the need for a contested election next year.

Have your say – get involved

The old adage is that you can't please all the people all of the time and for those that think they can do a better job than the Parish Council, now is the time to get involved. My philosophy is simple, it's no good sniping from the side lines – if things are happening that you don't like - get involved and do something about it.

Parish Council elections are due in about a year's time and ideally ours in Great Finborough will be contested. This means that there will be more candidates standing for election than the seven seats on the Parish Council and it is up to the electors of the Parish to choose who they want to represent them for the following four years. That is local democracy in action and it is healthy for there to be a choice of candidates – the wider the better.

If you have not previously considered standing for election, now is a good time to seriously think about it. There are only half a dozen or so Parish Council meetings between now and polling day. Attending the Parish Council, 'though by no means a pre-requisite, is a good way to find out what is going on and about the role of Councillor – which is voluntary. The next meeting is on Monday 10 May at 7.30pm in the Pettward Hall. All are welcome.

Finborough School – Potential Sports Hall/Drama Space

There is a potentially important development in the village in that the private school has indicated a wish to build a new sports hall/drama

space in the grounds of Finborough Hall. This is not without difficulty given the Hall's Grade 1 listed status and on 2 March, Parish Council representatives attended a pre-application meeting with the School's Principal and architect, our District Councillor, the District Council Planning Lead and the Conservation Officer. The original plans, which had been worked up more than the District Council officers would probably have wished, are unlikely to go forward but a revised plan is likely. Public access for indoor sport and theatre productions are likely to feature in the application and prospectively be enshrined in a 106 Agreement that would accompany any subsequent planning approval.

This means that we need to take stock of what we want to do with the Pettward Hall and to clarify what access might be available in the putative sports/drama space. In this connection, John Matthissen and I will be meeting the School's Principal, James Sinclair, to see how we might work together.

Allotments

A possible site for providing village allotments through long-term lease has been identified and an independent valuation of the rental value is being assessed.

Au Revoir, Trudy & Ian

Finally, I just want to take the opportunity to say thanks and au revoir on everyone's behalf to Trudy and Ian Gray who take their leave of us after 30+ years living amongst us. Trudy, with Ian's support, has actively contributed to our community in ways too numerous to mention, but including Parish Council Chair, Chair of School Governors and, of course, most latterly, amongst other things as Ordained Local Minister. I am sure I speak for the majority in wishing Trudy and Ian all the very best in their exciting move to the North East. **Richard Brice. Chair, Parish Council**

News from your District Councillor

Trees

Now spring is in the air, do look out for any little seedling native trees growing in the wrong place in your garden, and save them for a local tree planting scheme. Best to dig them out, trim the tap root and either replant for a year in an odd corner, or pot up into a good size container. I

can provide 6 inch pots, but your help, in if possible looking after them until next Winter, will be appreciated. Otherwise drop them off or let me know and I will try to collect.

Energy Monitors on Loan

From 4 February 2010, energy monitors will be available on loan for free from all Suffolk Libraries. Just visit your local library or mobile library with your library card and borrow one for a free trial or go to <https://sld.suffolkcc.gov.uk> and search for 'energy monitor' as a book title.

The scheme, paid for by the Creating the Greenest County delivery partnership, wants to help householders to reduce their electricity bills by identifying where their money is being wasted. The monitors show how much power an individual appliance uses and from that householders can work out how much electricity they are using and what it is costing them.

Stowmarket Plan

The new Submission Draft should be available for public comment from 12 April to 24 May, at www.midsuffolk.gov.uk in libraries and council offices, and copies are with parish clerks. Onehouse Parish Council has arranged a Councillors Surgery for 17 April in the Church Room (10am – 12.30pm; presentation by MSDC officers at 11.30am) to make the new material available in the village. Any comments made in response to previous drafts will alas have to be re-submitted.

Is your house properly insulated? Do you feel secure in your own home?

If you, your relatives, friends or neighbours live in Mid Suffolk, are private homeowners or private tenants and are over the age of 60 *or* on an income related benefit *or* are disabled, did you know you may qualify for free loft and cavity wall insulation and other energy efficiency measures? In addition, you may be entitled to grant assistance towards the cost of improving security in your home under Mid Suffolk District Council's *Safe & Secure Scheme*. Security measures can include upgrading main entrance door locks to 5-lever mortice locks, window locks to all accessible windows (not upvc), door chains and viewers (not

upvc), smoke detectors, a dusk 'til dawn security light at the main entrance and key safes where appropriate.

Even if you do not qualify for the above grant aid for energy efficiency or security measures, MSDC can advise you where you might be able to get loft and/or cavity wall insulation from as little as £149; a measure which could pay for itself in savings on your heating bills in less than two years. You will also be offered discount rates for security measures. If you would like further information, or to register for this scheme, please telephone Eileen Chandler on 01449 724716.

To get in touch with me see Who's Who.

John Matthissen

Community Council

The next meeting is at 7.30pm on 19 April in Pettward Hall.

Sue Green

The Candlestick Club

Although the March winds hath blown, us over sixties will soon be out and about! Come and join us on 1 April at 7pm in Buxhall Village Hall. The opening meeting will be a social evening with the committee providing a few nibbles and an entertainer/singer will keep us amused for an hour or so. Janet, the Treasurer, will be collecting subscriptions: £6 per person for the year. Very good value. New members, and anyone needing a lift, should contact me. See Who's Who.

Details of the rest of the programme will be shared at the meeting. We are joining with our neighbours in Harleston, Shelland and Onehouse for some outings this year including a mystery tour on Wednesday 5 May. Please note change of day. The coach will leave the Old Chapel, Great Finborough, at 9.45am, Buxhall Village Hall at 9.50am and Harleston at 10am.

Keith Proctor

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The Chestnut Horse

In response to Adam Brown's question in last month's newsletter: what we really need here is an honest village pub and preferably a freehouse. I for one am fed up with the constant changes and especially the current situation of no pub at all. Please can we go back to the village pub being for the villagers and not a training building for Greene King? A village pub should provide a warm friendly meeting place for both locals and those passing through the area with real food and real ale, music, darts, morris dancers, hog roasts, take away fish and chips, and dogs allowed in for a pint on Friday nights - and that is just for starters! Anyone with me on this?

Barbara Ann Williams

There is a web page that has been set up to keep people informed about what is happening at the pub: <http://www.greedeking.co.uk>

Adam Brown

Annual Race Of The Boggmen

Given that the Boggmen Race Day, since the beginning of time, has centred around the pub people have been asking what will happen in the event that the Chestnut Horse is still closed on Easter Monday. The committee has decided the event will go ahead and posters in the village will confirm the details. Activities for children and adults. Please do support our efforts to keep this important bit of silliness alive!

David Cox (Tel: 736323)

Ladies' Lunch

Tuesday 6 April

Church Room, Onehouse: 12.15pm

Speaker:

Rev. Richard Stretch on 'Chaplaincy in the Workplace'

Please book places with Arlene by 1 April (Tel. 676123).

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Great Finborough Naturists' Club

The Naturists' Club held its first AGM in a rather chilly Pettiward Hall on Monday 8 March, when members were almost as sparse as the clothes. Our ranks were, however, swelled by one lady who had misread the flyer for the AGM and thought she was coming to a meeting of the Great Finborough Naturalists' Club. Her initial surprise was soon overcome when she sportingly made up a foursome on the badminton court.

The evening was so chilly that entertainment was provided by a 'count the goose pimples' competition, which replaced the trampolining on account of an adverse risk assessment and a failure to achieve full insurance cover - only the barest minimum being available.

The evening's dinner was stew which was well received with several members travelling miles to sample Mrs Tibley's dumplings. After supper, members stretched out under the Hall heaters and topped up their tans in preparation for the annual Spring outing, which will take place just before noon on Thursday 1 April. All welcome, no thongs allowed.

Ima Newdy, Honorary Secretary

Buxhall Quiz

Another enjoyable quiz night was held on 6 March 2010. Eleven tables fielded excellent questions supplied by Mark, with Keith as quizmaster. The table round, all about flags and countries, decided the winners. Thanks to all the players, those who donated draw prizes and together we raised £282 for the Village Hall's funds. Next quiz 16 October 2010.

Mim Proctor

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Stowmarket and District Camera Club

On 22 February we had an evening with Roy Fidler who gave us a talk on how he goes about putting an audio-visual show together from the idea to choosing the music and the pictures and how to adjust the duration of the slides and music. Then on 8 March we had an evening with Andy Hanson who showed us his images from his travels to various countries and his national and international competitions. In April we have three competitions: 5, 12 and 26 April 2010. If you are interested in coming to the club contact our website at www.stowmarketanddistrictcameraclub.co.uk

Brian Payne

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Great Finborough & District Garden Club

The weather last month stayed resolutely wintry leaving most gardeners wondering if Spring would ever return. However, as I write this, the temperatures are slowly on the rise, the daffodils are lengthening their stems, and I even found a flowering primrose in the garden the other day.

The March meeting was a talk with slides, taken in his own garden, by Rod Leeds on the subject of Bulbs. He showed us how these most resilient of plants can provide all shades of colour in the garden all the year round with minimal fuss and bother. He illustrated how different members of the same family of bulbs will provide flowers all the year round. We now have no excuse to confuse crocus with colchicum!

The next meeting will be held in the Pettiward Hall on Thursday 8 April at 7.30pm when Ken Akers will be giving a talk on 'Bog and Water gardens'.

If you are interested in joining the Garden Club or would like to join us for any event you will be very welcome. Membership is only £10 per household per year. For further information contact me or John Davey at john@abbeyclassics.co.uk - see Who's Who. **Judith Cameron**

FHOBS Lunch Club

FHOBS is a thriving Lunch Club with about 40 members who enjoy a meal and some valued comradeship. This takes place on the last Tuesday of each month: 12 noon for 12.30pm in Buxhall Village Hall. A small charge of £3.50 is made to cover expenses. We would be delighted to welcome new members. Please contact me on 737814. **Jill**



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Dear Editor

Thank you for publishing the piece about my family in the February edition. Seven of the family made the "pilgrimage" to Great Finborough and Onehouse on Sunday 7 March to celebrate the 100th anniversary of my mother's birth: Daisy Hawes (nee Pollard). My wife Sonia, our daughter Shula (celebrating her 23rd birthday on the same day), my brother Malcolm, my sister-in-law Sandra, my niece Gerrie and her daughter who is 18 months old joined me at the 11am Holy Communion service at St. Andrew's Church. Afterwards Lesley Cass showed us a copy of my grandparents' marriage certificate and then we enjoyed a marvellous vegetarian meal at your recommendation at The Red Lion at Great Bricett

After lunch we drove to Wash Lane to view the outside of my grandparents' old house at No1 and had a chat with the current owner. We met up with my 2nd cousin, Ivan Stiff, for the first time in over 30 years, having tracked him down on *Facebook* before our visit. He used to farm Star House Farm after his father Tom retired. He now lives in Cambridgeshire. We had a walk and ended up at the *Shepherd and Dog*.

When we got home there was an answerphone message from someone who had seen the newsletter piece. He said that his brother had been a friend of my uncle who was killed in the war who would now be in his 80s. The gentleman said he now lives in Shelland but sadly he did not leave a telephone number and I accidentally deleted the message losing his name too! I am very keen to make contact – if anyone can help.

Mick Hawes mickhawes@btinternet.com (Tel: 01327 261059)



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Buxhall Women's Institute

With our President swanning off to the Caribbean and our Vice President to Cyprus, it fell to Jill Reed and Pat Turner to hold the respective forts of President and Minute Secretary, and this they did very ably. Pat read Jill's minutes from the previous meeting and a brief discussion followed concerning the speaker.

Libby then read out the range of outings she is organising starting with The Full Monty on 14 April, a wine tasting at Chelmsford, horse racing at Newmarket, an afternoon visit to Southwold with a show in the evening, and a trip to Thursford. Hopefully something for everyone. Glynis confirmed we have over 60 members and reiterated that visitors are allowed three visits per annum to see if they would like to join.

The speaker, Julie Hodges, demonstrated how to make an Easter card and passed material out to the members who decided to have a go. The rest of us had a lovely chat and caught up with news of each other whilst partaking of an excellent buffet. Two of our longest serving members were unable to attend through ill health. We missed their input and company so we wish Mrs Evelyn Fisher and Mrs Audrey Tomlinson a speedy return to better health.

We had a day trip on 2 March to the East Suffolk AGM at Trinity Park. This is where we mix business with pleasure. Once the business had been covered we were able to enjoy the various speakers including the farmer Adam Henson from the BBC programme Countryfile. One point he made is for us to look for the Union Jack behind the red tractor logo on packaging. With that identification we can be sure we are buying British and not something reared elsewhere under less stringent conditions with a final process added in the UK. His sincerity and obvious love of his work made you feel inspired to support our farmers all we can with our purchasing power when shopping.

Next meeting 21 April - because she was so good we have invited Deborah Preston back. Her subject, *More tales from the housemaid's cupboard*. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. Visitors welcome.

Anne Hicks

Jackbridge Cottage

Friends or family coming to stay? Need some extra space for a week? This could be the answer you are looking for.

Jackbridge Cottage is a brand new cottage available for rent, situated on the outskirts of Great Finborough in an idyllic rural location with beautiful views. Ideal for a couple, this charming cottage is well equipped, comfortably furnished and has a four star rating from the Quality in Tourism Board.

For further details or to book the cottage please contact Teresa Pemberton.

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Church Window Under Repair

If you have been into St Andrew's church recently you will have noticed that the glass from the north window has been removed. Its' repair is now well under way. On 15 March four of us were able to go to the glaziers near Long Stratton to see work in progress and to take photographs (to be shared in due course). The workshop was immaculate and organised. The skills, tools and methods have hardly changed in hundreds of years. 'Our' window was laid out on a bench, with horseshoe nails temporarily holding the little diamonds of glass in position while the lead strips were laid out. As much of the old glass as possible is being re-used. When the panel is completed, a compound similar to putty but containing lead is rubbed along all the lead on the reverse of the panel to form a weatherproof seal. The work then stands for a few days to mature and harden, and the panel is quite rigid.

While at the glaziers we saw other restoration work in progress: window panels from Ely cathedral and other churches, some incredibly detailed Victorian glass and much older pieces, most of which we would never normally be close enough to see or touch. We were shown glass which is specified for Guildford cathedral (windows only 50 years old and needing restoration already) which costs an incredible £290 for a piece approximately 50cm square.

Many of the old windows after restoration are now put back in place with a copy in plain glass behind them, in a special framework similar to double glazing, so that they are protected from the weather. Carefully tucked away in a corner was a little cardboard box containing twisted lead and shards of glass – a window which the glaziers have to rebuild – and they have no picture to go by.

There is still time for anyone to make a donation to our window - with or without a dedication. Forms are available in the church or from Paul Nettleton, 7 Middlefield Drive (Tel: 677223) or me (see Who's Who). We will be creating a book of names and dedications, illustrated with some photos, and this will be held as a permanent part of our church records.

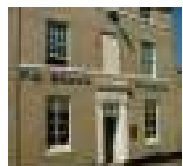
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News from the Friends of Great Finborough Primary School **Disco Night!**

The Friends of Great Finborough Primary School invite you along to our 80's disco night on Saturday 24 April 7.30pm to midnight at the Stowmarket Rugby Club. 80's dress is encouraged, as there will be a prize awarded to the best outfit. Tickets in advance cost £6 each or two for £10. £7 on the door. To get you in the mood, an 80's paper quiz is available from Julie Francis (736185). The winner will be announced at the event. To purchase tickets please place exact money in an envelope with your contact details in the "Friends" box at the school or at the village shop and Post Office. Cheques to be made payable to 'The Friends of Great Finborough Primary School'. For general ticket enquiries contact Rachel Warner 07540 626984 or e-mail rachel@touchline-group.co.uk

Lisa Gilson

Maundy Thursday In the Church Room, Onehouse Agape Meal with Holy Communion

Please let Gloria
(676198), Carole
(736025) or Arlene
(676123) know if you
are coming by

Tuesday 30 March

*Donations only to pay for the
food*

Squirrel Gardens

The garden club is up and running again. The children have been busy tidying up the garden and sowing beans, peas and tomatoes. We still have some seeds for sale at discounted prices to raise money for the garden for next year, if you would like to purchase any vegetable or flower seeds please feel free to contact one of us. We are still looking for any donations of kneelers for the children. If you have one that needs a good home that you wish to donate to the club please feel free to either leave with the primary school or contact

Lesley Cass (675970) Julie Francis (736185) or me on 678480.

Sharla Goldsmith

Charity Bingo

This month's bingo will be on Thursday 15 April at 6.30pm in Pettward Hall. Money raised will go towards Team Finborough youth group. There will be Bingo, raffle and refreshments. All welcome. Children to be accompanied by an adult. Please come along and join in the fun. If anyone has any unwanted raffle prizes they wish to donate, please feel free to bring along on the night or contact either Mari (770032) or me.

Sharla Goldsmith

Skylarks Children's Club

At the session on 11 March, Anthony from 'Soap' helped the children make 'Bath Bombs' to give to their Mums for Mothering Sunday. They also made coloured tags to accompany the presents. Many thanks to Anthony for a very enjoyable Skylarks session. Any child aged between 5 and 9 years living in Onehouse, Harleston, Shelland, Great Finborough or Buxhall who would like to join Skylarks, please contact me on 613328 or Christine Hagger (736487). The next Skylarks session is on 22 April. **Carole Hearn**

Onehouse Ramblers

The next walk will be on 25 April. Meet at Church Room Park at 3pm for a walk taking 60-90 minutes. If you need a lift please call me on 613328. We look forward to some good walks over the coming months, as the afternoons get longer & we enjoy some pleasant spring sunshine.

Derek Ames

Singing for Pleasure

I am very sorry to have to cancel *Singing for Pleasure* in future, as I have been having running out of steam lately. I just need to concentrate on passing my personal MOT, rather like my old car! My apologies and thanks to all those with whom I have such fun over the last year.

Kathleen Butt

Sign Up For Midnight Walk

Women are invited to sign up for St Elizabeth Hospice's Midnight Walk 2010. Women of all ages and abilities can take part in the eight mile circular walk, which leaves Ipswich Town Football Club in Portman Road around midnight. Register online now at www.midnightwalkipswich.co.uk Men have a part to play too and can volunteer to help out on the night. For more information about Midnight Walk 2010 call 01473 707043 or email midnightwalk@stelizabethhospice.org.uk

Sarah Cawley

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Good Friday 'Family Workshop'

10.30am 2 April at St Andrew's Church

Come along and join in this popular annual workshop
A chance to learn more about the Easter story

Something to make

Something to do

Something to listen to

Activities from 10.30 to 11.30am

Refreshments including Hot Cross Buns and Easter biscuits

For further information contact Trudy (674819)

School nursing service

Pupils throughout Suffolk are to get better access to the school nursing service following a substantial investment which has seen 28 extra staff recruited across the county.

44 staff will cover 33 mainstream schools and seven special schools. NHS Suffolk has invested an additional £705,000 into the service.

A range of services will be offered including regular drop-in sessions for young people in middle and high schools and similar sessions for the parents of primary school children. The team will also work with colleagues in education and other agencies to provide personal health and social education (PHSE) and sex and relationship education (SRE). In addition, children and young people will also be able to access support and advice on a variety of other issues, such as healthy eating, stopping smoking, relationships, bullying, drugs and alcohol.

The nurses will be available to discuss any issues which may be worrying the young people. If they are unable to offer appropriate support themselves, they will be able to signpost them to other agencies who will be able to help.

In addition to nursing services for older pupils, the team also employs 10.9 full time equivalent child health advisors, who are qualified to work with younger children within primary schools. They are also responsible for carrying out the national child measurement programme, which helps keep parents informed as to whether their child is a healthy weight.

Elaine Aylott

Children's Commissioning & Development Manager, NHS Suffolk



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Walk the Walk

Mark and Lisa Gilson will be joining 15,000 men and women to walk 26.2 miles through the night on 15 May to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. Last year the playtex Moonwalk raised in excess of £5.6 million. With 1 in 9 women in the UK expected to experience some form of breast cancer, the funds raised from these events mean that diagnosis is made earlier, treatment is better and above all lives are saved. We would be very grateful for anyone wishing to show their support by sponsoring us to complete this amazing challenge.

Either bring your sponsorship along to us at The Mill House Cattery, Valley Lane or sponsor safely and securely online by visiting www.walkthewalk.org/Lisa_Gilson_MW Many Thanks.

Mark and Lisa Gilson

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PUTTING SAFETY FIRST



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Employers are responsible for providing safe and healthy workplace conditions as well as the right systems and methods for safe activities. Nevertheless employees also have a vital part to play in the equation. They need the right knowledge and the right attitude which demands proper training in the basics of health and safety, as well as specific training for individual tasks.

A full Syllabus of the course is available on request Further CIEH Courses Available

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St Andrew's Church

A glimmer of Spring in the air as I write this, and the merest hint of yellow in the daffodils. By the time you read this Spring will really have arrived. The lighter mornings have encouraged a chorus of blackbirds and a song thrush over the past few weeks. Spring was in evidence in mid-March when the church was full as we celebrated Mothering Sunday. The children were delighted with the posies for their mums and all the ladies present went home with flowers – mothers and others.

Earlier in the month those who came along to the Big Brew in the churchyard were greeted by the smell of bacon. The sarnies were much appreciated. A number of people have kindly adopted plots in the churchyard that they will maintain. There are still plots available if you feel you would like to help. Note the details of the Easter services. A warm welcome awaits you.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Church Meeting takes place in the Primary School on Thursday 29 April at 7.30pm. This is a public meeting, open to anyone to attend, when a report of the church's year is presented. At this meeting we appoint the Churchwardens. If you would like to come along you will be very welcome - and of course refreshments will be provided.

Trudy Gray

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From the Ministry Team

Dear Friends,

Recently looking over the benefice events since the start of 2010 it was obvious how much the religious and the secular communities had in common, celebrating the same events, but perhaps with different focus.

- Early in February the clergy held a Marriage Preparation Day when the couples to be married in our benefice churches met informally to discuss, not only arrangements for their important day, but also the constituents, other than love, that make a marriage – sharing, conflict and its resolution, and so on.
- St. Valentine's Day on 14 February is a chance to show our love by giving cards and gifts. So at Onehouse we celebrated with a special service that included several recently married couples. We ended up sharing wine and cake.
- Exactly four weeks later all the benefice churches held services for Mothering Sunday, the day when traditionally people went to their 'mother' or parish church, to show thanksgiving for mothers or as we now, in the 21st century, give thanks for those who have a mothering role in our lives. But here the love expressed is somewhat different from that already mentioned. It is usually an all consuming desire to do whatever is necessary to protect, nourish and love a woman's own flesh and blood - a love that also reaches across families.
- And then throughout Lent there have been lunches across the benefice with the proceeds given to charity. Charity, a word we hear constantly, is simply showing love to fellow humans who walk life's path with us whether in our own country or far away. We have certainly been galvanised into action by the recent natural disasters in Haiti and Chile and reminded of the terrible famine in Ethiopia 25 years ago that unfortunately continues across Africa to this day.
- The church services this month include Agape meal and Holy Communion. 'Agape' mean 'love of the Lord'. This event is a 'love feast'. Early Christians celebrated this alongside the Eucharist or Holy Communion. Having been revived in the 18th century it takes place on the eve of Maundy Thursday and re-enacts the meal that

Jesus ate with his disciples before instituting the first Holy Communion or Lord's Supper.

Four different kinds of love; four different ways to celebrate it.

At Easter, after the horrors of Good Friday, the sadness of Holy Saturday and the joy of the Resurrection on Easter Day, Christians are overwhelmed by the love of Jesus who laid down his life so that our sins could be forgiven. Easter is not really about fluffy bunnies, chickens and chocolate Easter eggs. Yes, they do signify new life, but Easter is about a love so strong that it saves us from ourselves. May you have many blessings and much love this Eastertime. **Arlene Cruickshanks**

FROM THE REGISTERS

Burial at St Augustine Harleston 23rd February

John Cyril Beckett aged 71



Funeral at Ipswich Crematorium (West) 3rd March

Joyce Keeble aged 81

Services at St Andrew's in April

4 April	5.30am	Lighting of the Easter Fire and Dawn Eucharist
	11am	Holy Communion
11 April	6pm	Celtic Evening Prayer
18 April	11am	Holy Communion and Baptism
25 April	11am	Family Service

**Pop in For Coffee at St Andrew's
Every Saturday Morning
from 10.30am to Noon**



This is an informal opportunity to have coffee and a chat - perhaps when you're passing on a stroll around the village or visiting the churchyard.



Good Friday 'Family Workshop'

10.30am 2 April

at St Andrew's Church

Come along and join in this popular annual workshop

A chance to learn more about the Easter story.

Something to make, something to do, something to listen to

Activities from 10.30 to 11.30am

Refreshments including Hot Cross Buns and Easter biscuits.

If you would like more information give Trudy or Lesley a ring
Do come along – all welcome

Decorating St Andrew's Church for Easter



All will be welcome to give a hand in decorating the church ready for the Easter celebrations. Decorating will be done on Saturday 3 April.

*Coffee and cake will be served.
All levels of skill welcome! Do come along.*

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CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE FOR APRIL

Weekday Morning Prayer

Monday	Onehouse	8.00 – 8.30 am
Friday	Great Finborough	8.00 – 8.30 am

Thursday 1 April

Agape/meal and Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday

Onehouse Church Room 7.30 pm

Friday 2 April

Walk of Witness
Good Friday Workshop
Last Hour

Good Friday

Onehouse Church Room 10.30am
Finborough 10.30am
Harleston 2.00pm

Saturday 3 April

New Fire of Easter
Tenebrae

Easter Eve

Buxhall 4.00pm
Shelland 7.30pm

Sunday 4 April

Dawn Eucharist
Sung Eucharist
Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Holy Communion

Easter Day

Finborough 5.30am
Buxhall 9.30am
Shelland 9.30am
Finborough 11.00am
Onehouse Church 11.00am
Harleston 11.00am

Sunday 11 April

Matins
Holy Communion
Holy Communion
Family Service
Celtic Evening Service

Second Sunday of Easter

Buxhall 9.30am
Shelland 9.30am
Harleston 9.30am
Onehouse Church Room 11.00am
Finborough 6.00pm

Sunday 18 April

Family Service
Matins
Holy Communion and Baptism
Family Communion

Third Sunday of Easter

Buxhall 9.30am
Shelland 9.30am
Finborough 11.00am
Onehouse Church 11.00am

Sunday	25 April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
Holy Communion	Buxhall	9.30am
Matins	Harleston	9.30am
Time2Worship	Finborough	11.00am
Holy Communion	Onehouse Church	11.00am

*Whether you are a regular worshipper or visiting this Sunday
you will find a warm welcome at any of our services*

Easter Sunday 4 April Services at St Andrew's Great Finborough



Celebrating the Resurrection

*5.30am Lighting the Easter Fire and
Holy Communion*

A special service to celebrate the New Light of Christ at Easter,

Greeting the dawn on Easter morning

11am Holy Communion

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WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH

Chair, Parish Council/Community Council	Richard Brice	676249
Clerk, Parish Council	Giles Hill	740272
	lsdp@btinternet.com	
District Councillor	John Matthissen	771742
3 Wash Lane Corner, Great Finborough, IP14 3BJ	councillor@matthissen.net	
County Councillor	Penny Otton	737870
	penny.otton@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk	
Newsletter Editor	Sally Gooch	677940
	sally.gooch@btinternet.com	
Ordained Local Minister	Revd. Trudy Gray	674819
Church Warden	Lesley Cass	675970
Church Warden	Brenda Grimaldi	612440
Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5s	Delia Prior	07708
		362697
Great Finborough & Buxhall Brownies	Gail Jarrett	674538
Chair, Team Finborough (Youth Club)	Joe Ball	
	josephball@hotmail.co.uk	
Charity Bingo	Sharla Goldsmith	678480
Candlestick Club	Keith Proctor	736598
Great Finborough & District Garden Club	Judith Cameron	672978
	ianandjudy@btinternet.com	
Royal British Legion	Charles Freeman	01728
		684819
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	John Davey	674401
Post Office & Village Shop	Nigel & Jeannette Edwards	612274
Head, Great Finborough Primary School	Stephen Dodd	613208
	headteacher@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk	
Chair of Governors, Primary School	Nigel Brown	675344
Police	PCSO Claire Cox	
	01284 774100 x3104 or via 01473 613 5000	
Combs Middle School (674666)	Stowmarket High School (613541)	
Stowmarket Health Centre		776000
Combs Ford Surgery		678333
Stowmarket Library		613143
Pettward Hall Bookings		676249
Village website:	www.great-finborough.co.uk	
Primary School website:	www.greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk	