

# **GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER**



**FEBRUARY 2014  
ISSUE 445**

## **VILLAGE DIARY – FEBRUARY 2014**

<b>3</b>	6pm	Brownies, Pettiward Hall
<b>8</b>	am	Potato Day, Stonham Barns
<b>10</b>	6pm	Brownies, Pettiward Hall
<b>11</b>	9.30- 11.30am	Coffee morning, Chestnut Horse
<b>13</b>	7.30pm	Garden Club, Upper room, Pettiward Hall
<b>19</b>	7-7.30pm	Buxhall WI, Buxhall Village Hall
<b>23</b>	2.30pm	Onehouse Ramblers, Onehouse Church Room
<b>24</b>	6pm	Brownies, Pettiward Hall

## **VILLAGE DIARY – MARCH 2014**

<b>6</b>	6pm	Brownies, Pettiward Hall
<b>10</b>	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting, Pettiward Hall
<b>13</b>	6pm	Brownies, Pettiward Hall
<b>19</b>	7-7.30pm	Buxhall WI, Buxhall Village Hall

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## **Editorial**

2014 is well underway now and I can see that there is plenty planned for the village this year. Apart from the usual well organised groups please note that Belinda is hoping to get a reading club (book club) going and this may well attract people who haven't yet found a community activity they can commit to regularly, and newcomers to the village hoping to make friends.

Welcome to Rob and Linda Freeman who have moved into Pettward Close nearly a year ago from Shotley Gate, and who have just taken on an allotment. They have said how friendly and welcoming everyone has been since they moved in. If you know anyone who has recently moved to the village, or moved out, please let me know. 15 February is the copy deadline for material for the February edition. If you need to contact me 'phone, email or call in to Park Cottage any time. The kettle is always on.

**Sally Gooch**

A graphic for Bargewell Skip Hire, shaped like a shield with a double border. The text is arranged vertically within the shield.

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## **News from the Parish Council**

There have been two meetings since the last newsletter. At the Parish Council meeting on 9 December 2013, discussion and decisions included:

- Cllr Matthissen informed the Council that everyone is encouraged to seek pre application advice when contemplating submitting a planning application, and that there will be no boundary review by Stowmarket Town Council before 2015
- A resident made a plea to council for support in taking forward a project to provide a skate facility in the village because children aged 10-12 are frequently seen using scooters and boards in and around the car park suggesting that a ramp or other facility for skating was needed. It was suggested that support would be forthcoming from several parents and that the amenity land adjacent to Valley Lane would be an ideal location. The Council, with Cllr Matthissen's help agreed to explore the possibilities
- Concern was expressed regarding the surface dressing of the Valley Lane car park, which would be checked
- Complaints have been received regarding the amount of dog waste not being picked up on the footpath off Valley Lane adjacent to the allotments and around the allotment site. MSDC will be chased for their promised dog bin and be asked to move the existing under-used one at Pettward Hall to the footpath. Signage will be put up and known offenders will be reported to the police to ensure prosecutions can be made
- All actions recommended by the playground annual inspection are in hand
- The replacement light for Church Road has been ordered and an action date is awaited
- The Allotment Association would like to erect a table off site to offer their surplus produce to the public for donations. It was agreed that this would be permissible within the Tenancy rules and regulations.
- It was resolved to have no objection in relation to erection of a single storey extension with a lean to roof, The Cart Lodge, Valley Lane

- The installation of an air source heat pump at Pettiward Hall has been granted by Mid Suffolk DC
- It was agreed that a work programme for the wildflower area would be tasked to the Forward Planning Working Group as their remit encompasses all of the amenity areas.

At the Parish Council meeting on 13 January 2014, discussion and decisions included:

- The budget and precept for 2014/2015 was reviewed in light of the final grant and tax base confirmation from MSDC. The budget was amended and approved and generated a precept requirement of £7,850. It was resolved to set the precept for 2014/115 at £7,850
- The possibility of providing a skate park in the village will be explored
- The surface dressing at the Valley Lane car park has been checked and nothing has been found that would prove a hazard to car tyres
- The dog bin adjacent to Pettiward Hall has been moved to the footpath off Valley Lane and a new bin has been added at the allotments/car park
- Action would be taken in an effort to stop dog fouling of our public areas
- Gipping Homes continues to hold up the signing of the transfer documents for the amenity land
- The Woodpecker Hill land transfer has been completed and it is confirmed that covenants within the transfer ensure specific use of the land therefore preventing any sale as domestic garden
- There has been no application for the vacant position of parish tree officer
- It was resolved to have no objection in relation to a change of use of agricultural buildings to commercial stables and associated facilities and change of use of land to mixed agriculture and commercial equine use and accommodation for overnight stay, Mill Hall Farm, High Road
- The installation of replacement double glazing to all windows at Pettiward Hall has been granted by Mid Suffolk DC

- The change of use application for East House has been withdrawn
- Due to the excessive costs associated with reinstating the edges of the rubber surfacing and replacement of the spinning pole and vertical wall on the children's play area, these would continue to be monitored. The existing spinning pole would be reduced in height and replaced
- The request to use the design on the newsletter to promote the events marking the centenary of the First World War was granted
- It was noted that further wooden posts may be needed on parts of Church Road green to prevent the creeping erosion by parking cars. It was agreed that some pruning of bushes would facilitate further spaces for parking. Action Cllr Vendittelli and Cllr Turner
- It was noted that the drains on High Road may be blocked causing standing water between the school and The Chestnuts. Photo evidence will be sought in order to ask SCC Highways to investigate.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 10 March at 7.30pm in Pettiward Hall. You are welcome to attend. **Norman Vendittelli**

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## Dog Poo

It is every dog owner's duty to clean up after his or her dog. It is no defence to claim ignorance of the dog's action. The problem of dog mess in the parish has been highlighted to the Parish Council on several occasions. Problems have been reported on footpaths throughout the parish and especially around the allotment site and children's play areas.



Dog mess is a nuisance at the very least, covering shoes and clothes. At its worst, contact with canine excrement can lead to blindness due to the *Toxocara canis* worm carried by dogs. Roundworm eggs in dog mess can remain active in the soil for many years, long after the dog mess has weathered away. Young children are particularly at risk of getting Toxocariasis because they are more likely to put things into their mouths and less likely to wash their hands properly. This causes headache, stomach upsets, breathing difficulties, liver problems, epilepsy, blindness and death.

Dog owners please clean up after your dog in public places. If your dog fouls in a public place, you must clean up the mess under the Dog Act 1996. Always carry a poop scoop or a bag to carry the mess to a dog bin. There are several provided by the Parish Council around the village. If there isn't a dog mess bin on your route, take it home and dispose of it there. Failure to clean up after your dog can mean anything from the issue of a fixed penalty ticket of £50 to prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000.

If you see this offence happening report it. You can report dog fouling that isn't cleaned up to your local council on 0845 606 6067 or email [customerservices@csduk.com](mailto:customerservices@csduk.com) If possible, give details such as the name and address of the offender or a good description of them and their dog. We can all help to make this disgusting problem better.

**Paula Gladwell on behalf of Great Finborough Parish Council**



## **News from your District Councillor**

### ***Christmas recycling***

The arrangements to distribute new twin bin calendars together with the arrangements for Christmas were severely disrupted by a failure on the part of the company commissioned to distribute them. Sorry about this. No-one is now in a position to know in detail where the calendars have or have not been distributed. The calendars are available on the Mid Suffolk website as a download from

<http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/UploadsMSDC/Environment/Waste-Delivery/Bin-Calendars-2013-14-MSDC-A4-version.pdf>

and paper copies can be requested by calling 0845 606 6045. I have suggested that next year the calendars are distributed with village newsletters on 1 December.

### ***Budget 2014/15***

The provisional budget was discussed at the Executive Meeting on 13 January. The headline figures are a 1.7% increase in Council Tax together with a small rise in council house rents. The District Council continues to receive substantial sums in New Homes Bonus which has now built up a reserve of £3.4 million which our political group is once again urging should be invested in the local economy in various ways. The council administration now says that they intend to spend a significant amount of this but have as yet provided no detail of when or on what items.

### ***Chilton Leys Development Brief***

This document has now been adopted, and planning applications, such as the current one for 210 homes near the A14, will be expected to conform. This is, however, subject to viability of the application (developer profit margin), which is currently a very big 'IF'. Not all the social infrastructure and benefits are likely to be provided with this first phase. To get in touch with me, see Who's Who.

**John Matthissen**

### **Onehouse Ramblers**

The next walk will be on Sunday 23 February starting at 2.30pm from the Onehouse Church Room car park for a walk around local footpaths, maybe in the snow!

**Derek Ames (T: 613328)**



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## **Reading Club**

I would like to set up a Reading Club in Finborough so if you think you might be interested in meeting informally, say once a month, to talk about a mixture of books to be decided by the whole group, please get in touch. Perhaps you may even have experience of running or participating in such a group. I can be contacted at [belinda.aldous@btinternet.com](mailto:belinda.aldous@btinternet.com) or by telephone (T: 771515).

**Belinda Aldous**

## **Church Coffee Morning**

The next Church Coffee Morning at The Chestnut Horse, by kind permission of Landlady Angela, is on 11 February from 9.30am. It's a nice warm and comfortable place to meet and we usually have a game or a raffle and a few things like cakes or crafts to buy. We support various charities with the money we raise. All are welcome to come, even if you would not normally visit a pub on your own. **Liz Law**

## **News from St Elizabeth Hospice**

### ***Shop donations appeal***

St Elizabeth Hospice is appealing to the local community to donate 25 items to their local Hospice shop to keep it stocked during the charity's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. St Elizabeth Hospice, which provides local Hospice care for local people, has 26 shops across East Suffolk and South Norfolk, and relies on the support of local people to keep their shops stocked. If you received any unwanted Christmas presents, or if you are updating your wardrobe or furniture this New Year, please consider donating your items to the Hospice.

To donate stock such as bric-a-brac, books or clothes, drop them off at your nearest Hospice shop which you can find by visiting [www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk](http://www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk) If you would like to donate furniture, please do not drop it off at your nearest shop. Call 0845 259 0319 and someone will collect it from you.

### ***Step out for St Elizabeth Hospice's Walk of Thoughts***

Join St Elizabeth Hospice for a peaceful and reflective walk around Fynn Valley, Ipswich, to remember a loved one or to simply enjoy the countryside. The eighth annual Walk of Thoughts will take place on Sunday 16 March and walkers can take a three or five mile circular walk, starting from YM RUFC Rugby Club in Rushmere St Andrew. Beforehand, there will be an informal remembrance service at 10.15am, giving walkers, not just those touched by Hospice care, time to reflect and remember loved ones. Walkers will be invited to write the name of their loved one on a pebble provided by the Hospice, which they can keep. Participants will also receive a bookmark containing seeds which they can take home and plant in their loved one's memory.

The event attracts keen walkers, as well as those remembering loved ones, and participants are encouraged to raise sponsorship. If a walker raises £52 that could help fund a visit to a patient's home for an hour by our Hospice at Home nurses. All money raised goes towards enabling us to provide local Hospice care for local people. The walk is open to people of all ages and dogs on leads are welcome. The route is not suitable for wheelchairs or buggies.

Walkers can register in advance or on the day from 9.30am, ready to set off for the walk at 10.30am. Registration fees are £12.50 in advance or £15 on the day, and it is free for under 16s. For more information or to register online, please visit contact the fundraising team on 01473 723600 or email [fundraising@stelizabethhospice.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@stelizabethhospice.org.uk)

It costs £9.1m a year to run St Elizabeth Hospice, and the money raised will go towards helping provide services free of charge to people in East Suffolk and South East Norfolk living with a progressive illness and supporting their families.

**Samantha Catling**

### **Great Finborough and Buxhall Under 5's**

A happy new year to all our parents. Last year finished for us with the children doing brilliantly in their Christmas nativity play, followed by a party and a visit from Santa. We also had a fundraising event of Christmas crafts and lunch with Santa. This proved so popular that we did it twice and the children had a fantastic time. Our new year starts this term with the children learning all about some life experiences including going to the doctor and dentist, and even a wedding or birthday party. During the following term it will be world book day and the children will be looking at their favourite books and making books all about themselves.

During the Christmas holiday we were very lucky to have some very much needed new heating fitted and we now have a wonderful warm room to enjoy. A huge thank you to those who were able to help us get a grant for this. This means that our fundraising can go towards some much needed new equipment for our pre-school. If you would like to find out more about us or to book a place for your child please feel free to give us a call.

**Delia Prior**

## Wonderful British Villages Photo Competition

The insurance company, Allied Westminster, which insures The Pettiward Hall, has launched a photo competition. To enter you need to submit a nice photo of the village. It could be an attractive building, a landscape or a village activity. The photos will be voted on by the public on the Allied Westminster Facebook page and the winner will receive an iPad Air, with two runners up receiving a Kindle Paperwhite.

All entrants are asked to nominate a village hall which will be awarded £300 for the winning photo and two other halls will win £150 each. Further details can be found at [www.facebook.com/AlliedWestminster](http://www.facebook.com/AlliedWestminster). The closing date for entries is 31 March so please get your cameras out, start snapping and please state The Pettiward Hall as your nominated village hall!

**Mary Preece**

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## Marking the Centenary of the First World War

What should our village do to mark the Centenary of the outbreak of the Great War?

1. Would you like to come on a coach trip to London to see the theatre performance of Warhorse on 4 October? The show is suitable for adults and children over 10. Contact Irene Bugg on 616865 if so. The cost might be £48.50 but with reductions for those under 18 and over 60!
2. Our village had a major military hospital at Finborough Hall for all 4 years of the conflict. What do you know about that? Have you any photographs or memorabilia? Contact Simon Tarabella on 672072 if you have anything.
3. The Royal British Legion is offering poppy seeds to be planted in prominent public spaces nationwide. The Garden Club in the village is making enquiries to try and get seeds scattered on the Green and on the road verges.
4. The wooden war memorial inside St Andrews Church will be renewed and a Service held on Monday 4 August to mark the day that is 100 years after the outbreak of the Great World War.
5. And what about every house in the village lighting a candle that night and extinguishing it at 11pm? The time when Sir Edward Grey made the telling comment that `The lamps are going out all over Europe`.

The War memorials in our village have 12 names of local men who died between August 1914 and March 1919. What do we know about them? The War lasted 4 years and the people of Great Finborough were very heavily involved. What do any of us know of what went on? Perhaps it is time to find out and remember.

**John Kendall**



## News from St Andrew's Church

The first Sunday of February is known as Candlemas in the church. It is the day when we remember that Jesus, still a baby, was called the light for the nations. In pre-Christian times, it was also a festival of light marking the mid-point of winter, half way between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. Some people lit candles to scare away evil spirits on the dark winter nights and now we celebrate the day the light of Christ came to us with candles in church.



People believed that Candlemas predicted the weather for the rest of the winter and there is an ancient rhyme that goes *If Candlemas Day be fair and bright, Winter will have another flight. If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain, Winter will not come again.* I shall be watching out, as we have had an unusually mild winter this year compared with the last few. Is it over? Is Spring truly on the way? Today as I write some plants in our garden seem to think so.

I was very glad it wasn't raining or worse still snowy on 12 January when Rev'd Chris and I were licensed at Combs Church. My licence is now for Combs, Little Finborough, Great Finborough, Buxhall, Shelland, Harleston and Onehouse. I am sorry we were unable to announce it in the last newsletter being sworn to secrecy until the archdeacon gave us the OK at the end of November. That means that Chris Childs and I will be your priests in all of these seven villages and you will find contact details for me in Who's Who. We want to say thank you to all who supported the licensing service at Combs, despite the difficult parking arrangements there. It was good to see over 200 people there for us as we start this new phase of church ministry.

We need to thank you too for the great support you gave to the Crib Festival at the end of last year. We raised somewhere in the region of £2,000 for the church here in Great Finborough which will help us pay our way through 2014. If you want to watch the film of the 'Living Nativity' that was performed, you will find it on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIJphFFenrqTAIId6zacuJA?feature=watch>. It is very sweet and short. It stars Denzil the donkey and was

made by Antony from Church Road. You might spot someone you know from the village there.

We have lots of plans which we hope you will also support to commemorate the outbreak of WW1, not that I wish us to glory in it. I don't, but I do think that we need to remind ourselves of the cost and pain of war so that we continue to work for peace in the world. Wishing you joy and peace for 2014.

**Rev Liz Law**

### **Pre-school keeps warm**

Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5s children are enjoying the benefits of a new heating system in their room at the rear of The Pettiward Hall. A grant from Suffolk Community Foundation has enabled the Hall Management Committee to pay for the replacement of old, inefficient storage heaters with an air source heat pump system which provides heat in the winter and air-conditioning in the summer. Early reports suggest that running costs are already being reduced.

**Mary Preece**

### **Great Finborough Parish Council Meetings: 2013/2014**

All Mondays.  
7.30pm start

10 March 2014  
14 April 2014

*Annual Parish  
Meeting:* 12 May  
2014

### **Buxhall and Great Finborough Over 60s Candlestick Club**

There is no news from the Club this month as we are in hibernation but I just want to thank all my friends in the village for the cards, sweets and goodies I received whilst in hospital for a couple of weeks over New Year. It turned out that when I lost the use of my limbs I had Guillain Barré Syndrome. The doctors quickly diagnosed the condition and started treatment. I am now home and on the mend. I did so appreciate all the visitors. Of course I also have to thank Mim, my lovely wife, who did all my jobs including the chickens, while I was laid up.

**Keith Proctor**

## **PARISH REGISTERS**

### **Baptism**

We welcome into the family of Christ's Church

*At St John the Baptist, Onehouse*

28 December 2013 Willow Rose Chubb, aged 7 months

*At St Mary's, Buxhall*

24 December 2013 Carl Wayne Chubb, aged 32

### **Marriage**

We pray for God's blessing on those who embark on life together

*At St Augustine of Canterbury, Harleston*

28 December 2013 Christopher James Stephen Aitkin and Kerry Louise Mumby

### **Funeral and Burial**

Our love, sympathy and prayers to the families of those who have recently died

### **Funeral followed by Interment**

*At St Mary's, Buxhall*

20 December Rosemary Ann Bennett, age 66

### **Cremation**

*At West Suffolk Crematorium followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St Andrew's, Great Finborough*

20 November 2013 Joan Edna May (Molly) Welham of Great Finborough, aged 89

### **Interment of Ashes**

*At St Andrew's, Great Finborough*

21 November 2013 Joan Edna May (Molly) Welham



## **'Little Ernie' Lottery**

The Pettiward Hall is a registered charity (called Great Finborough Village Hall No: 246643) managed by volunteers for the benefit of residents. To raise funds for the continued maintenance and improvement of the building and its facilities, the Management Committee is launching a 'Little Ernie' lottery scheme. We are asking residents to buy one lucky ticket per month for an annual payment of £12. If you want more chances to win, spent £24 or £36, or more.

The draw will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, starting on 1 April. 50% of the income will be given back in prizes with two prizes per month of equal value. This means that, if 100 x £12 is paid in by 1 April, of the total £1,200 received, £600 goes to Hall funds. The remaining £600 will be paid in prize money so there will be 2 winners a month every month who each win £25. If more than 100 tickets are sold the prize money will be more than £25 for the same £12 stake.

The lottery has been registered with Mid Suffolk District Council and is open to anyone aged 16 or over except Pettiward Hall Management committee members or officers. Prize winners will be paid as soon as possible after the draw and details will be published in the newsletter.

Do consider supporting your village hall in this way - and have the chance of winning a cash prize every month! Please complete the form on the next page and deliver it, with your payment, to South Lodge (on the High Road at the corner of the main drive of Finborough School), or telephone 771360 if you would like me to collect your completed form from you.

**Mary Preece**

## **Christmas Trees**

We would just like to say a big thank you to all the people from our villages that bought a Christmas tree from us this year. On Friday 6 December we had 145 trees. By Sunday 8 December we only had ten trees left and people still came knocking at the door. Due to your wonderful generosity we have been able to donate £700 to some of the five Churches in our Benefice, with the rest going to deserving causes including four young families who would have found it tough this Christmas. Once again thank you.

**Ray & Janice Taylor**

### 'Little Ernie' Lottery

I wish to join The Pettiward Hall Little Ernie lottery scheme and enclose £..... (£12 per number) for ..... numbers. Cash or cheques payable to Pettiward Hall Management Committee, please.

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<b>Full body Spray Tan with Sienna X</b>	<b>£15</b>

## **Buxhall Women's Institute**

Christmas festivities began for the WI with a trip to the Bacton Bull. The ramblers of our group dined at 'the Bull' during the summer months, incorporating it with a hike around Bacton's countryside. They were impressed and decided that it would be the venue for our Christmas meal. There was a good 'turnout' with plenty of chat going on. The meal was good and the Christmas spirit was with us. Our thanks go to Ann and we look forward to 2014's rambles.

Our December meeting took on a Christmas Party feel, courtesy of the Committee. With tables looking festive, the smell of mulled wine in the air and a glass in our hands the meeting commenced. It was announced that our Secretary for many years Betty was standing down. WI thanked Betty for all the years she has given and gifts of appreciation were presented. With all the wealth of knowledge she has gained over the years, we hope that we shall still see her from time to time at our Committee meetings. You will always be welcome Betty!

Due to unforeseen circumstances (we had quite a few of them in 2013) we had no Speaker. Jo, one of our members kindly stepped in with an 'audience participation' fun quiz. When was the last time you saw, let alone ate, aniseed balls? Jo had brought along small parcels of 'old fashioned' sweets for us to name. If we were not quite sure then we could resort to eating them to confirm our answers. As you may have guessed, not many sweets were left!

It would not have been a WI Christmas Party without the addition of the 'hand bell ringers' and a singing of Christmas Carols. This year proved to be slightly different in that one of our members was elected to 'have a go' at ringing of the bells herself. She was brilliant of course! Thanks to all the Committee and to everyone who made it such a good night.

In December, we received the sad news that our President, Rosemary Bennett, had lost her fight for life. Our thoughts go to her family and may she Rest in Peace.

At our first meeting of 2014 members were captivated by our speaker, Amanda Richmond. In 2009 Amanda, along with several other colleagues, and with six years of training behind her, set out on an expedition to climb Everest. At 8,850 metres above sea level this was no mean feat. With Everest claiming the life of at least one climber per year, she spoke of the wonderful Sherpas who were responsible for the safety of each individual climber on a 1:1 basis. A large percentage of climbers that meet their death on Everest are Sherpas. This being a very difficult and dangerous climb they are paid amply, providing them with a good lifestyle and standard of living.

The talk provided many humorous moments, with Amanda enlightening us on the difficulties of managing bodily functions there! Her photographs illustrated both the beauty of the summits but also how, within the blink of an eye, the weather can turn and become extremely dangerous. Temperatures plummet and are able to freeze you solid. Amanda pointed out that the sun is dangerous for climbers because the thawing effect causes avalanches and treacherous conditions underfoot. She sent out 500 letters asking for sponsorship and, in all, £10,000 was raised for The British Heart Foundation. A brilliant talk ending up with Amanda's advice on life: 'Live your Dream'!

Buxhall WI meets on the third Wednesday of the month at Buxhall Village Hall at 7pm for 7.30pm. Always a warm welcome for new faces.

**Sue Croft**

### **Stowmarket Under 7's Football Team**

Stowmarket Under 7's Football Team has been kindly sponsored by Radhuni Indian restaurant and takeaway in Stowmarket. The new yellow and black strip will help the boys to stand out and look smart during their matches over the next couple of seasons. The team consists of children in Year 2 and it includes four boys from Great Finborough. Reception Class and Year 1 children are welcome at training on a Saturday morning at Woodley Primary School from 9.30am-10.30am during term time.

**Ali de Silva and Julie Parr**



## EAST ANGLIA POTATO DAY

Saturday 8 Feb 2014

The time: 9.30am - 1.30pm

The place: Mid-Suffolk Showground  
Stonham Barns  
IP14 6AT

The price: Admission £1.50

The rest: Seed-swap table  
Chip and tasting table  
Books  
Tools  
Produce

Home composting advice + lots more



## **News from Healthwatch Suffolk**

Healthwatch Suffolk is here to listen to your views about health and social care services in the county. It has the power to use your views to improve, shape and influence services now and for the future. The message is to share your views even if you do not think that you have much to say, and whether they are positive or negative about NHS health services and publically funded social care services.

Healthwatch Suffolk, launched in June 2013, has been working hard since to establish itself as the counties health and social care consumer champion. If you would like some information about our role and purpose, watch a video via this link

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vU41cFQxFx4> Its membership base now has a collective voice of approaching 3,000 people. You can join for free too and be kept up-to-date with all of the latest news and opportunities to improve care services for your community.

Throughout the year, Healthwatch Suffolk has ensured that people have real opportunities to shape care services. It made a number of service improvements on the basis of local feedback including changes to plans for new services for stroke patients in Suffolk and the running of the Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust mental health crisis support telephone line.

Looking forward, this year is shaping up to be equally as busy and will see the setup of Healthwatch Suffolk Hubs. They are intended to be local focal points where people can make their views heard and will mirror the county's district boundaries. The Hubs will enable and empower local people to play an active role in the design and delivery of their local services. They will bring together local people so that we can obtain their views about the health and social care services that they use.

Watch out for information about your local district Hub later this year. In the meantime, keep Healthwatch Suffolk up-to-date with your views because they really can make a difference. More information is available on [www.healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk) or by calling a member of the Healthwatch Suffolk team on 01449 703949. **Jenny Ward**

## **Finborough & District Garden Club**

The past Garden Club year has been busy, both horticulturally and socially. The gardeners of Great Finborough and District were encouraged to plant and grow by presentations from a wide ranging group of speakers.

The social side of the club started off with Open Gardens and the now traditional 'President's lawn BBQ followed by the Club members BBQ at 'The Little House'. Our final social event of 2013 took place in the Pettiward Hall on 5 December. The Christmas quiz over nibbles and mulled wine was another resounding success with many club members enjoying an evening of garden related quizzes, good food and good company. A new feature this year was the 10 minute 'Cinderella' performed by the committee. The horticultural aspect of the club was maintained by a variety of talks, assistance to the Allotment Association and the organisation of Open Gardens to raise money for the maintenance of the Pettiward Hall.

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**References available.**

The Club opens 2014 with the meeting on 13 February, to be held as usual in the upper room of the Pettiward Hall at 7.30pm. Our speaker is to be Barry Gayton, whom many members will remember. This time he will be speaking about wall plants and climbing shrubs. 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 £12.50 per household per year or £2 for an individual session. For further information contact either John Davey or me – see Who's Who.

**Judith Cameron**

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## **News from the Primary School**

I hope you all had a happy and relaxing Christmas and New Year. I am pleased to confirm that Melony Mayhew has been elected as a Parent Governor. Elections are to be held for another Parent Governor. The Governors and the staff are very excited at the busy year ahead of us as we prepare for our first ever Year 5 children. The recruitment of new members of staff is underway.

Our Christmas show which was held at the Salvation Army building in Stowmarket was a great success, I was very proud of all the children for their success with this year's Christmas performances of 'There Is Something Amazing Going On', thanks to them, their parents and all the staff who worked so hard on it. We raised £430.35 towards the work of the Salvation Army in whose building we performed. The children also benefit greatly from the regular parent helpers who come in to support with reading, classroom and administrative jobs. We really appreciate their input.

This term has got off to a flying start with children working hard towards their individual learning targets. In Blue Class 'Target homework' introduced last term has been a big success so far, with children who have not quite understood, or needed a little more practise with a particular skill clearly moving forward following their instant homework. Many parents have worked with their child, adding to the homework to encourage further consolidation and the children have been pleased to bring in their completed work, clearly proud of their achievement. Year 3 and some Year 4 children are swimming each Tuesday while Year 2 children are learning to play hockey. I am pleased to report that the school football team continue to do well.

In Red Class the topic for this half term is 'Alive!' We have started our History work by finding out about dinosaurs and other animals that are now extinct. The children very much enjoyed visiting our class 'Dinosaur Museum' and 'Dinosaur Dig'. They have been busy digging up artefacts, weighing them, measuring them and recording their findings. They have also been finding out lots of information from our

museum, and non-fiction books. We have already discovered that we have a few dinosaur experts in the class!

In Green Class number recognition, ordering and counting with numbers to 20 and beyond is a main focus this half term. We will start to make sensible estimates and children will also spend lots of time practising how to find 'one more' and 'one less'. Through practical activities, children will begin to learn how to add and subtract. We will also be exploring measuring using non-standard measures and looking at measuring time. We will also be consolidating their previous knowledge on shape and patterns.

This half term gymnastics will be the focus of our PE lessons. We will be developing skills in body shape using stretching and curling. Children will be encouraged to make narrow and wide shapes using different parts of their body to take their weight. Children will use these shapes in movement using floor apparatus. We will be using the hall for their PE lessons and learning how to use this space safely. Finger Gym activities will continue to be used to develop fine motor skills needed for holding a pencil and cutting with scissors. The importance of turn taking, sharing, listening, considering others' feelings and following our School Rules will always be emphasised in Green Class. Children will also be thinking in particular about how to keep safe.

In Purple Class we have a busy term ahead and are already underway with our new topic: "A day without laughter is a day wasted." You may recognise this as a Charlie Chaplin quote, it is also the title of our Celebration of Schools Music Production. The big event this term will be our appearance on stage in the concert hall at Snape Maltings. This will take place in early March, the preparation for which will dominate our curriculum this term. Mrs Moye & Mrs Hartley are continuing to run the School Choir Club this term.

As Historians we will be looking at our own family trees and that of Charlie Chaplin to establish his link to Great Finborough. We will investigate life in the village at the time when Charlie Chaplin's great

grandparents lived here. In geography we will be mapping out our village as it is in the present day and again how it looked historically in the 1700s. We will use local maps, grid referencing and digital mapping using Google maps. As mathematicians we will be focusing on money and the children will have the opportunity to be involved in choosing and costing out equipment for their new classrooms. We will also be looking at measure, telling the time, fractions and the number system. We will still be having weekly maths tests, though this half term we will focus on other areas of mental maths, beginning with addition. Next half term, we will return our focus to our times tables.



As artists we will be looking at using a variety of medium to create images of Charlie Chaplin, we will experiment with pencils, charcoals and paints. Later in the term we will be turning our hand to some textile work.

All the children start back at school after half term on  
Monday 24 February.

**Stephen Dodd**



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## Wild Bird Seed

The next order will be placed on 14 February, and will be available for collection from Abbey Farm Cottage, by about 19 February. To place an order please let me have your requirements with a cheque (to 'Great Finborough Garden Club'). Your phone number is essential to advise you when it is ready for collection. Post or drop off your order at Abbey Farm Cottage, 1 Valley Lane or 8 High Road before 12 February.

The next seed order will be placed in April. **John Davey**

<b>Product</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Price</b>
Wild Bird Mix	20 kg	£9.50
W.B.M. Premium	20kg	£11.50
W.B.M No Wheat	20kg	£13.50
W.B.M High Energy	15kg	£13.50
W.B.M. No Mess	15kg	£14.50
W.B.M Robin & Songbird	15kg	£15.50
Finch Mix	20 kg	£11.50
Mixed Corn	20 kg	£8
Fancy Poultry Mix	20kg	£9
Peanuts (superior quality)	25 kg	£27.50
Peanuts (half sack)	12.5 kg approx	£14.50
Black Sunflower Seed	15 kg	£11.50
Sunflower Kernels	20 kg	£23.50
Sunflower Kernels	10kg approx	£12.50
Niger Seed	25 kg	£21.50
Niger Seed	10kg approx	£10
Fat Balls (any quantity)	Price each	11 pence

## Reconciliation Book and Easter Flowers 2014

To remember and celebrate the lives of loved ones you can have their names placed in the Reconciliation book this Easter by making a donation towards the Easter flowers in church. Donations can either be placed in an envelope with the relevant name(s) or be popped through the letter box of either Rev Liz Law (see Who's Who) or the letter box of Brenda Grimaldi at Gardenside, Church Road. We are always very grateful for donations towards the flowers in St. Andrew's Church as without theme it is not possible to decorate at these important times in the church calendar.

**Vicki Hease**



## **Christmas Carols, Hymns & Songs Quiz 2013**

The winner of the Quiz was Veronica Craine from Stowupland. Wendy Childs won the 'Spot Prize' of a bottle of wine. A big thank you to Angela at the Chestnut Horse, Irene Bugg, the Revd Liz Law and the Revd Chris Childs for selling Quiz sheets and to everyone who took part in raising funds for the St Andrew's, Great Finborough 'Loo Fund'. The full set of answers is available from Sally Gooch on request.

**Judith Hickman**

### **Do you like doing sewing or tapestry work?**

We have begun a project, to coincide with the hoped for gift of new blue carpets at St Andrew's Church, to make some new blue kneeling cushions. Though we don't all kneel nowadays, the kneelers decorate the church, enhancing it to the eye and it would be good to have them made by men and women in the village for the village church.

There are two ways of taking part: you can offer to sew one for someone who wants to donate it but not sew it themselves, or you can offer to donate and sew it or not. Each kneeler will have a blue background and a bright front design and on the back there is the opportunity to add a label with your name or the name of someone you wish to be remembered through your donation. The kneelers come as a kit with everything you need to complete them and cost £50 each including the postage. If you would like to take part please do let me know soon so we can get started. Thank you. **Rev Liz Law**

## **Arts and Crafts**

Do you have a skill or interest in arts and crafts? Would you like to meet with likeminded people to share and learn new skills and use your talents to help with fund raising events linked to St. Andrew's and local charities? If your answer is yes, then we would like to hear from you. Please contact me at Maple Lodge, High Road, Great Finborough (Tel: 672072).

**Jacqueline Tarabella**

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## **Staying warm and healthy over winter**

GPs are encouraging people to stay healthy and warm over the winter months. We are all likely to feel the cold during the winter months. It is important to stay aware of the fact that cold weather can cause serious illness such as stroke, heart attacks and pneumonia and can even kill, especially if you have a long term health condition or are over 65. We can't change the weather but we can all make sure we are prepared and ready to deal with a potentially harsh Suffolk winter.

Get a flu jab - You should have already had your flu jab by now. Everyone aged 65 or over, younger people with certain medical conditions and pregnant women are entitled to a free flu vaccination. For the first time this year children aged two and three on 1 September 2013 are eligible for flu protection to help prevent the spread of flu to their brothers and sisters and their parents. Talk to your GP surgery.

Be prepared – Making sure you stock up on some essentials that can help you and your family cope with common conditions such as colds, coughs, stomach upsets, flu and earache, will mean that you are better prepared. Your medicine cabinet should include Paracetamol, anti-diarrhoeal medicine, rehydration mixture, indigestion remedy and plasters. You should also keep a stock of tinned and non-perishable food items that you can use should the weather conditions prevent you from getting out and about.

Wash your hands – simple advice but by washing your hands regularly you could prevent catching or spreading a cold or norovirus, the winter vomiting bug. Make sure your children get into the habit of regular hand washing and always wash your hands after using the loo and before cooking and eating.

Look out for others – remember to keep an eye out for elderly relatives, neighbours and friends. The winter weather means many people are unable to get out and about, so spare a few moments if you can to pop round for a chat.

Keep your home warm – your main living room should be between around 18-21°C (65-70°F). You could also use a hot water bottle or an electric blanket (but not both at the same time) to keep you warm while you're in bed.

Keep active and eat well - move around at least once every hour and don't sit down for long periods of time. Try to have hot meals and warm drinks regularly throughout the day. Food is a vital source of energy and will help to keep your body warm.

Wrap up well - wrap up well when you go out in the cold. Wear lots of thin layers. Clothes made from cotton, wool and fleecy fibres are particularly good and help to maintain body heat.

Know what to do should you need help – remember that NHS 111 is a free 24/7 medical advice line. Trained advisors will be able to give you advice on a health condition affecting you or your family.

**Dr Rosie Frankenberg**



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### **St Andrew's Church needs you**

We are looking to decorate our church at Easter and asking for your help. If you can only put flowers in vases, or children's flowers in an egg cup it does not matter. We want this to be a village event. We would like to set up the church on the morning of Saturday 19 April. There is a possibility of music in the evening but we will wait to see the response. Please contact me on 616865 or via [irene.bugg@btinternet.com](mailto:irene.bugg@btinternet.com)



**Irene Bugg**

***What's been happening in and around the area...***

Over the last couple of months there have been few crimes to report, and I trust everyone enjoyed the festive season. During the day of 19 December entry was gained to a dwelling within the village by smashing a downstairs window at the front, and a significant amount of damage was caused within. Investigations are ongoing.

Heating oil thefts are starting to appear again and a number of sheds were broken into in Ringshall at the beginning of January. Between 10 and 13 January, a New Holland large tractor was stolen from a farmyard in Buxhall after detaching it from a ploughing unit.

***Free Catalytic Converter marking sessions***

The first event took place at Taylor Commercial Ltd, Haughley, and we had a great response. The last session in the current batch will be on 1 February at Truck East, Violet Hill Road IP14 1NN from 10am to 1pm. We are grateful to both companies for their community spirit in offering their facilities free of charge. This is a great example of police and local businesses working together to reduce crime for local people.

***Microchipping Dogs***

Microchipping will soon be compulsory for all dogs in England. 'Paws on Patrol' is a scheme being launched this Spring and is a free to join initiative to promote and reward responsible community members and responsible dog owners. Being a member you will be entitled to receive discounts and other offers from

supporting dog related businesses. You will receive a membership card once you simply provide your vet stamped application to say your dog is microchipped and vaccinated. This is a partnership venture between Suffolk Police and MSDC & Babergh Councils. You are not expected to



challenge anyone or tackle any issue. Just report issues you encounter; from blocked rights of way to suspicious activity.

Some animal charities including the Dogs Trust, Blue Cross and Battersea Dogs and Cats home, currently offer a free microchipping service to owners. The procedure costs £20-£30 at private vets. The chip released through a needle between the dog's shoulder blades is the size of a grain of rice.

### **Safer Neighbourhood Team News...**

We are proactive work in using the intelligence provided by the community to combat local problems. We have executed a number of warrants and will continue to do so alongside our daily work. I am pleased to introduce Mr Rod Curtis, our newest team member at Elmswell. He has kindly volunteered his time to support us with administration work and enhance working with community projects.

**PC 421 Annelly Miles & PCSO 3272 Colette Denny. Tel No: 101**  
**Midsuffsouth.Snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk**

**Men's Breakfast**

**Saturday 8 February**

**in the Church Room**  
**Onehouse**

**at 8am**

**After breakfast Derek Ames**  
**will speak about his**  
**journey of faith**

**Finish by 9.30am**

There will be an offering to cover expenses

Please book places with Derek Ames  
By Wednesday 5 February (T: 613328)  
Indicating continental or traditional breakfast.

## CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE FOR FEBRUARY 2014

### **Sunday 2 February**

Sung Eucharist  
Reflective Morning Prayer  
Matins  
Holy Communion

### **Candlemas**

Buxhall 9.30am  
Shelland 9.30am  
Harleston 11am  
Finborough 11am

### **Sunday 9 February**

Matins  
Holy Communion  
Holy Communion  
Songs of Praise

### **4<sup>th</sup> before Lent**

Buxhall 9.30am  
Shelland 9.30am  
Harleston 9.30am  
Onehouse Church 11am

### **Sunday 16 February**

Combined Family Service  
Matins  
Holy Communion

### **3<sup>rd</sup> before Lent**

Buxhall 9.30am  
Shelland 9.30am  
Onehouse Church 11am

### **Sunday 23 February**

Holy Communion  
Holy Communion  
Holy Communion  
Holy Communion

### **2<sup>nd</sup> before Lent**

Buxhall 9.30am  
Harleston 9.30am  
Finborough 11am  
Onehouse Church 11am

### **Sunday 2 March**

Sung Eucharist  
Reflective Morning Prayer  
Matins  
Holy Communion

### **1<sup>st</sup> before Lent**

Buxhall 9.30am  
Shelland 9.30am  
Harleston 11am  
Finborough 11am

### **Wednesday 5 March**

Holy Communion

### **Ash Wednesday**

Buxhall 6pm

*Evening Prayer will be said at St Andrew's, Great Finborough,  
At 4.30pm each Thursday. All are welcome.*

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

## WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH

Chair, Parish Council	Norman Vendittelli	677940 <a href="mailto:norman.vendittelli@hotmail.co.uk">norman.vendittelli@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Clerk, Parish Council	Paula Gladwell	737942 <a href="mailto:finboroughparishclerk@gmail.com">finboroughparishclerk@gmail.com</a>
District Councillor	John Matthissen	771742 <a href="mailto:john.matthissen@midsuffolk.gov.uk">john.matthissen@midsuffolk.gov.uk</a>
County Councillor	Penny Otton	737870 <a href="mailto:penny.otton@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk">penny.otton@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk</a>
Newsletter Editor	Sally Gooch	677940 <a href="mailto:sally.gooch@btinternet.com">sally.gooch@btinternet.com</a>
Priest in Charge	Rev. Chris Childs	673280 <a href="mailto:revcchilds@aol.com">revcchilds@aol.com</a>
<i>Combs Rectory, 135 Poplar Hill, Stowmarket, IP14 2AY</i>		
Associate Priest	Rev. Liz Law	774878 <i>Sunnyside, The Green, Gt Finborough, IP14 3AB</i>
Chair of the F&P Committee	John Kendall	736264
Church Warden	Nigel Brown	675344
Pettward Hall Management Committee	Mary Preece	771360
Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5s	Delia Prior	07513 140072 <a href="mailto:deila.prior@btinternet.com">deila.prior@btinternet.com</a>
Great Finborough & Buxhall Brownies	Gail Jarrett	674538
Allotments Association	Mary Smyth	672533 <a href="mailto:mary@blossomz.co.uk">mary@blossomz.co.uk</a>
Candlestick Club	Keith Proctor	736598
Great Finborough & District Garden Club	Judith Cameron	672978 <a href="mailto:judyandian@btinternet.com">judyandian@btinternet.com</a>
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	John Davey	674401 <a href="http://john@abbeyclassics.co.uk">john@abbeyclassics.co.uk</a>
Chaplin's Newsagent	Nigel & Jeannette Edwards	612274
The Chestnut Horse	Angela	612298
Head, Great Finborough Primary School	Stephen Dodd	613208 <a href="mailto:headteacher@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk">headteacher@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk</a>
Police (Elmswell)	PCSO Collette Denny	101
Stowmarket High School		613541
Stowmarket Health Centre		776000
Combs Ford Surgery		678333
Stowmarket Library		613143
<b>Pettward Hall Bookings</b> (Mari Green)	07936 827126 or	770032 <a href="mailto:msg1mrg@btinternet.com">msg1mrg@btinternet.com</a>

**Village website:** [www.great-finborough.co.uk](http://www.great-finborough.co.uk)

**Primary School website:** [www.greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk)