

GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER

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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

THE NEW NEWSLETTER

I understand several parishioners are unhappy with the new style Newsletter comparing it unfavourably with the old format. Of course, it is more rudimentary but the Council decided to cut its cloth to suit its pocket. The former style was wasteful of expensive space and the equivalent of a former eight-page edition was contained in the December issue. In other words, the message is the same but the messenger may be a bit humbler.

All parishioners were invited in October to express opinions on the proposed change before the Council considered the matter and arrived at its decision. NOT ONE COMMENT REACHED THE COUNCIL.

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL warn that the Union-organised industrial action commencing Monday, 22 January will cause inconvenience to the community generally particularly because of the disruption to the refuse collection service. Initially, the Council is advising householders to continue using their present refuse receptacles but it will be prepared to distribute refuse sacks if the action is prolonged.

In the meantime, it advises that tins should be rinsed and flattened to make good use of space, paper (newspapers etc) should be bundled up and stored separately until after the dispute, vegetable waste composted in the garden if possible, bottles washed and stored separately until after the dispute.

Where refuse is not collected on the normal day of collection it is hoped to be able to collect the refuse on the corresponding collection day of the following week.

If you have problems, please contact the Council's Health Department in Ipswich Road, Stowmarket (tel.5234) and ask for the Strike Clerk.

PAROCHIAL CHARITIES

Ceremonies were recently held at Finborough Hall (Roger Pettiward Charity) and the Vicarage (Town Estate and William Hatten Charities) to distribute the gifts from the parochial charities. Altogether, twenty-one elderly parishioners received gifts totalling £48.50.

The trustees of the Roger Pettiward Charity convey their thanks to those who helped to raise donations (Beetle Drive and Carol Singing). Some time ago they decided to invest the Charity's capital fund in a unit trust which accumulated the income in order to improve the value of future gifts. To date, while inflation has gone up by 18 per cent, the value of the unit trust holding has grown by 44 per cent. If this performance is maintained for a few more years the trustees' objective will be met. In the meantime, with no income from investments, donations from the public are essential if annual gifts are to be made to the elderly.

ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH Services for January and February:

Sunday 21st Jan 11 am Holy Communion
Sunday 28th Jan 10 am FAMILY SERVICE (see below)
Sunday 4th Feb 11 am Morning Prayer
Sunday 11th Feb 9 am Holy Communion
Sunday 18th Feb 11 am Holy Communion

Christmas £20 has been sent to the Children's Society from our two Carol Services on 15th and 17th December. Thank you to all who came and to those who read the lessons and the children who presented so many different items at their service for the school. Thank you too to those who decorated the church so beautifully; we had 45 communicants on Christmas Eve out of a congregation of over 60. Six young Ringers from Shenfield rang a peal of 5040 changes on the 27th December; well done all of them - one was only 12 years of age!

The Family Service will, I hope, be a regular feature on every fourth Sunday. With modern readings and hymns. it will take about 30 minutes and will hopefully grow into a family Communion service. I would very much like to hear from a PIANIST who would be willing to play for this service regularly.

Hugh Wake, Vicar

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Christmas Vouchers totalling £94 have been distributed to ex-service pensioners and widows in our four villages plus a little bonus for the 1914-18 veterans.

Meetings in 1979 will be held on alternate third Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 pm in The Chestnut Horse (Finborough), The Crown (Buxhall) and the Brewers Arms (Rattlesden) - 16 Jan at Finborough, 15th Feb at Buxhall etc.

We welcome Mr.Michael Sherry of The Poplars as a new member.

Hugh Wake, Branch Secretary

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

31 members attended our 59th Birthday Party in the Pettward Hall on 13th December; an excellent dinner was served by Mrs.Fisher of Finborough Road, Stowmarket, and her helpers. The evening finished with the cutting of the cake by Mrs.Firbank.

The Programme for the next three months is: January 10th - Talk on home-made wines; February 14th - Films: North Sea Oil Rigs. Competition - a jar of marmalade; March 14th - Talk on Greece and Greek Islands by Mrs.K.Blenkinsopp. Cake and Produce stall. All meetings start at 7.15 pm.

Marigold Wake, President

The Newsletter is published and distributed free of charge to all houses within the parish by Great Finborough Parish Council.