

Great Finborough Newsletter

No 161 April 1988

Editor: M.J. Baker, 7 Kersey Close, Stowmarket. ☎ 676457

PETTIWARD HALL

Coming soon..... the Fourth Great Great Finborough 50/50 Auction at 2pm on 11th June gasps of excitement and moans of pleasure. As usual, don't throw anything out, save it for the auction and make a wad. This really is a golden opportunity to get rid of those unwanted Christmas presents and all those odds and ends filling up the garage, shed, attic, cellar, under the stairs, in the spare bedroom. Take the chance to sell off the items you bought last year. Full details next month.

We still have a vacancy for a Booking Secretary - any volunteers please for this important post?

Finally, the floor in the Hall will be 'done' over the weekend commencing Friday 8th April, so the Hall will be out of action for 3 or 4 days. Many thanks for the volunteers who have offered to help to date. Anyone else interested will be most welcome.

Richard Erice

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

A professional photographer, Mr.Keith Gilbert, illustrated his talk with some beautiful slides showing most clearly the differences achieved with a little forward planning when taking photographs. Good film, a steady hand and looking for that angle to enhance your subject and, who knows, we may take photographs of those every day events and special occasions that are worth keeping.

On Thursday 14th April at 7.30pm in the Pettiward Hall our speaker will be Linda Heagerty, the Hertitage Coast Warden for the Suffolk County Council. It should be of great interest, so do come as a visitor if you feel you would enjoy this topic. Refreshments will be served as usual and we have a Bring and Buy stall to raise funds for Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children.

The Competition this month is 'The most attractive Post Card of a Suffolk Scene'. Sounds like a good excuse to take little trips out to some of our attractive villages and towns to look for postcards and then find somewhere nice for coffee.

Judy Rolfe

PRIZE BINGO

The next prize bingo session will be held in the Pettiward Hall on Wednesday 20th April at 7pm. Proceeds from this event will be for the Great Finborough Playgroup, so please give them your support.

Hilary Smith

CANDLESTICK CLUB

Our first meeting of the year will be held in the Pettward Hall on Thursday, 7th April at 7pm when members will be joined by invited guests from four neighbouring clubs.

A request now for help - Are there any volunteers from the younger generation willing to come along on our club evenings to make and serve tea and wash up afterwards? This would enable all our members to sit back and enjoy their evenings. At Finborough this would entail just three sessions in a year (April, August and November). Hopefully we will find some kind souls to do likewise at Buxhall when we meet there. Anyone kind enough to consider helping in this way would be warmly welcomed. Please ring me on 615492 or call in and have a chat.

Hilary Smith, Hon. Secretary

ST. ANDREWS CHURCH

April Calendar

- 1 10am Good Friday service at Harleston
3 11am EASTER EUCHARIST with choir. Anthem: This Joyful
Easter tide
10 11am Family Communion at Onehouse. Celebrant: The Diocesan
Bishop
17 11am Morning Prayer with choir
24 9.45am Family Service

I am not too enthusiastic, as some are, about defining the difference between christians and non-christians. "Let both grow together till the harvest" were Christ's words, implying that if there is any separating to be done, it is God's job, not ours.

There is a common expression, though, which I believe is rather a giveaway, and quite a real pointer to the deep difference between life with and life without God: "there, but for the grace of God, go I", which many say of some unfortunate who has blotted his/her copybook. It is reckoned to be a very humble and pious thought. Not at all. A christian would never say it. In the light of Christ's observations about human nature, a christian is much more direct: "there go I, there goes my sin of greed, lust, envy, aggression or whatever, in that person".

I write this the morning after the lynching of the two R. Signals soldiers in Belfast, before the chattering about it has really started. A non-christian is one who was shocked by those scenes. A christian is never shocked, for he knows from personal experience the depths to which human nature can sink. Being shocked shows that one imagines oneself to be morally superior to the actions of those mourners. A christian says "there goes my tendency to lash out when threatened, my habit of setting myself up as judge and jury without learning the full facts, my weakness of occasionally giving way to revenge and blind irrational feelings.

(Continued)

ST. ANDREWS CHURCH (CONTINUED)

Christ set a hard path to follow, and for some the hardest part is doing away with all illusions about one's own goodness and moral righteousness. Admitting that one is made of the same stuff as those who jemmied open the car roof, smashed the windows, dragged out the occupants and shot them in cold blood - only people with that view of themselves can really feel the pain of Good Friday. And know the joy of Easter. Because that was another hard saying of Jesus': that resurrection is not a 'Long Service & Good Conduct Medal' for those have simply avoided committing major crime in their lifetime and make ritual denunciations of the younger generation. We are told it is an experience only for those who admit they are the sort of people who drove the nails into his hands. There is no Good Friday bypass.

Michael Skliros, Priest-in-Charge,
Tel: Stowmarket 677663/672844

ST. ANDREWS MINI-LOTTO

Winners are as follows:

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| 16th Feb. | (157) S. Southgate, Spring Row, Stowmarket | £4.25 |
| | (165) Mrs. W. Porley, Appletree Cottage, Gt. Fin | £2.85 |
| 23rd Feb. | (060) Dr. B. Smith, The Old Forge, Gt. Fin. | £4.25 |
| | (093) Mrs. S. Leedham, Blake Road, Stow. | £2.85 |
| 1st Mar. | (071) Mr. D. Phillips, Coney Acres, Gt. Fin. | £4.25 |
| | (144) Mr. J. Williams, Town Farm, Gt. Fin. | £2.85 |
| 8th Mar. | (181) Mrs. B. Wyer, The Green, Gt. Fin. | £4.25 |
| | (074) Mrs. J. Flack, 10 The Bungalows, Gt. Fin | £2.85 |
| 15th March | (089) Mrs. J. Smith, The Street, Norton | £4.25 |
| | (079) Mr. J. Grimaldi, Westlegate, St. Fin. | £2.85 |

The sum of £7.10 has been added each week to the Church heating fund.

Hilary Smith

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LISTED BUILDINGS

The new list of 'Listed Buildings' for Great Finborough shows 18 properties compared with 15 on the former list. Details of the entries on the new list will be given in a future edition together with the changes made to the earlier list.

PARISH DIARY FOR APRIL 1988

Thurs. 31st Mar. Last day of Spring Term
Fri. 1st April Good Friday
Sat. 2nd (Full Moon)
Sun. 3rd St. Andrews: Easter Eucharist 11am
Mon. 4th Easter Monday Bank Holiday
Thurs. 7th Candlestick Club - Pettiward Hall 7pm
Thurs. 14th W.I. - Pettiward Hall 7.30pm
Sat. 16th (New Moon)
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR MAY
Sun. 17th St. Andrews: Morning Prayer 11am
Mon. 18th First day of Summer Term
Weds. 20th Prize Bingo - Pettiward Hall 7pm
Sat. 23rd (St. George's Day)
Sun 24th St. Andrews: Family Service 9.45am

If you have anything for future Parish Diaries please let the Editor know by the deadline date. Events mentioned in material for publication will automatically be included.

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