

GREAT



FINBOROUGH

FEBRUARY 1989

# Great Finborough Newsletter

No. 171 FEB 1989 Editor: M.J. Baker, 20 Shakespeare Rd, Stowmarket IP14 1TJ. Tel: 676457.

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Branch has obtained a number of door safety chains and if any pensioner in the village would like one fitted to their door, we will do so free of charge. Just let me know at Hilmic House - phone 615492 or Hermon Sparkes - phone 677269 and we will arrange. In view of the number of cases reported nowadays of intruders forcing their way into houses, we feel these chains may help to deter and prevent such people.

F.W.E. Smith, Hon. Secretary

## 1988 POPPY APPEAL

Congratulations to the house-to-house collectors and to all who donated to the Appeal. The total collected was £170.88 plus private donations of £20 and £50 from St. Andrew's Remembrance Service collection, a grand total of £240.88 to the Poppy Appeal and a record for the village.

Sincere thanks to all,  
F.W.E. Smith, Poppy Appeal Organiser

## ST. ANDREWS INI-LETT

Prize-winners are as follows:

20th Dec 1988	(094) Mrs. J. Fisher, Boundary Cottages, Luxhall	£4.40
	(173) Mr. J. Grave, White Horse Cotts.	£2.95
27th Dec	(111) Mr. I. Leedham, Blake Rd. Stow.	£4.40
	(126) Mrs. R. Arnes, The Bungalows	£2.95
3rd Jan 1989	(186) Mrs. J. Smith, Oak Close	£4.40
	(133) Mrs. Phillips, Coney Acres	£2.90
10th Jan	(199) Mrs. Chaplin, The Bungalows	£4.40
	(152) Mrs. M. Williams, Town Farm	£2.90

The sums of £7.35, £7.35, £7.30 and £7.30 respectively have been added to the Church funds.

Hilary Smith

## PRAYER SERVICE

The Women's World Day of Prayer Service will be held at St. Andrews Church at 2.15pm on Friday 3rd March. The Speaker will be Mrs. Susan Riches. All ladies will be welcome from any denomination.

Mrs. S. Ballard

## St Andrews Church

### From the Registers

Minnie Clark, 14 December. RIP

Owing to my inability to print any church schedules at all for the past two months, here are our activities for the next three, just in case.

## Church Calendar

### February

- 5 11: Sung Eucharist (ASB)
- 7 7.30: Pancake Social
- 8 9.30 Holy Communion at Onehouse (Ash Wed)
- 19 11: Morning Prayer
- 26 9.45: Holy Communion (1662)

### March

- 3 2.30: Women's World Day of Prayer
- 5 11: Mothering Sunday Family Service
- 19 11: Palm Sunday Morning Prayer
- 24 10: One Hour Service for Good Friday
- 26 9.45: Easter Communion (ASB)

### April

- 2 11: Sung Eucharist (1662)
- 16 11: Morning Prayer
- 23 9.45: Family Service
- 30 10.30: Benefice Communion (ASB)

"Though we are few, we are many ..."

Standing room only in Finborough church three times in seven days, in spite of extra chairs. Unusual circumstances maybe, but not exceptional. We've had similar situations three other times in the past two months, as have many churches, no doubt. It may be true that national totals for church attendance are in slight decline, but not at the same rate as figures for cinema and football attendance, and *their* appeal is purely for pleasure. If churchgoing is compared to any similar activity, where people turn out voluntarily for a *serious* purpose, eg union or political activities, or to rally against nuclear power or whaling, then a steady turnout of 4 million or so a week, year in year out, beats them all out of sight. The more people lament low figures for churchgoing, the clearer it is that they've got the problem, not the churches.

### Confirmation

Last Thursday, 26 January, 16 from our benefice were confirmed by the Diocesan Bishop, together with another 13 from Stowmarket and 1 from

Newmarket. Ours were John and Sandra Lee, and (from St Georges School) Dawn Cushing, Amelia Turner, Claire Wyncoll and Sophie Morris. Claire was also baptised by the bishop at the start of the service. It was a memorable occasion, as it should be, but it was also very much a beginning – as they start full membership of the Anglican Church, in difficult times. Symbolically (though for perfectly understandable reasons) one at least of the girls had no one from her family to support her at the Confirmation service. Please remember them all in your prayers.

#### **Organist wanted**

It seems a little greedy, with no less than 4 organists to call on, to say that we need another. Our present part-timers either live out of the village or are not available during school holidays. We need someone, if not full time, at least to provide continuity. Duties are not onerous: 3 services and 3 evening choir practices a month. The organ is not temperamental. Neither is the choir, who at full strength (very rare!) is one of the best in the diocese, outside the big town churches.

There was a happy arrangement two years ago when someone with no knowledge of the C of E but who could play an electronic keyboard decided she'd like to have a go. Very successful. Perhaps there is someone similar who would like the excuse to increase his/her repertoire? The post is paid – just.

#### **Pancake Social**

Last year's innovation was highly successful and we are repeating it: a social event for the whole benefice, which is taking place at the Pettiward Hall. It is on Shrove Tuesday at 7.30pm. Tickets available from any PCC member. We do not have a licence – *do bring your own.*

#### **World Day of Prayer – 3rd March**

Our church is being used to hold the annual service for the Women's World Day of Prayer. In spite of its name, all are welcome, including men who can spare an hour.

#### **Ancient or Modern**

The problem rumbles on. No one imagines that modern church services in themselves 'bring people in'. We decided to switch to the new prayer book service for communion, mainly to stop those who did look in out of curiosity from going away again. However, there is still a lot of affection for the traditional form of church service (taken with conviction), so we have hit on the formula of having the new service during term time, when St Georges are likely to be there, and the 1662 Prayer Book service in holiday time. Sounds complicated, but there is logic to it.

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

#### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

January and we rolled out the magic carpet with the help of Dr. and Mrs. Smith and journeyed to the hills and cities, palaces and gardens of the People's Republic of China. We met young students practising their English talking to the tourists, and watched tricyclists moving their three-piece suites on the backs of their cycles. Such a magical way to start the journey of the 70th year of our WI.

Our Competition for this month was 'Confucius, he say...' and the winning entry by Mrs Mary Schlieske was:

Confucius, he say, do not sit at home and sigh  
Come each month to the WI.

It certainly would be encouraging for our small but enthusiastic and friendly WI if a few more of you would come and join us each month and add to the happiness of our 70th year.

Perhaps some of you reading this will have been members of St. Tinborough WI and moved away from the area and would like to get in touch with us to catch up on the news of your old WI friends. It would be lovely to hear from you or meet you at our meetings, still held in the Pettiward Hall.

We have a varied programme for 1989, including talks on 'Spices – their history and use', 'Hand-made Period Dolls' and an 'Antique Road Show'. Our meeting on 9th February at 7.30pm in the Pettiward Hall has Miss L. Colsell from the Museum of East Anglian Life as our speaker, with 'Guess the Object' as a quiz for our Competition. It would be lovely if you could come.

Judy Rolfe, Press Correspondent

#### FROM THE FILES

##### Extracts from Newsletter No.3 – February 1975

The WI thought that summer had arrived in January when it saw some delightful colour slides of Australia presented by Mrs. E.A. Clarke of Buxhall. Apparently, even the Pettiward Hall seemed warmer as the meeting watched scenes of glorious sunshine, scorched earth and sandy, sun-drenched beaches.

The Primary School was planning to hold its Annual Fair on Saturday 1st March. At that time the headmaster was Mr. P.J. Wild.

The Hall Committee had requested use of £160 of the Council grant to bring the Hall up to the necessary fire safety standards.

A precept of £870 was decided for 1975/76 equivalent to a 2p in the £ rate. This was less than the 1974/75 year after taking into account inflation which was running at nearly 20% at that time.

FROM THE FILES (CONTINUED)

Mr. B. K. Horstead, Chief Planning Officer of Mid Suffolk District Council had been to Great Finborough to discuss the problems arising from the existing By-Products Factory and plans to build a new factory. After summarising the action taken by the Council to deal with the smell emission and the details of the application he answered questions from parishioners.

Representatives were required for the Suffolk Old People's Welfare Association and the Community Emergency Organisation.

There were complaints about container vehicles parking in the village.

Hugh Wake was expressing concern about the identity of unmarked graves in the churchyard and there was to be an appeal for help to tidy up before Easter. Funds would not permit the whole of the church to be decorated in the year. Finally he asked: "What is the inscription around the tower and where is it?"

The Youth Club had met the bill for the Residents' Association meal for senior citizens and were to organise a sponsored cycle rally to recoup the amount.

The late John Heighes included a piece about the local ramblers. On January 12th the walk was centred on the Finborough district but, weatherwise, this was one of the worst Sundays of the winter. The meeting took place in Drizzle and John was amazed to find about 25 walkers. Hugh Wake, Eric Smalls and Andy Scowston made their debut and those three were first home chiefly by taking a short cut in the latter stages. They met dodgy bridges, ploughed-up surfaces, barbed wire and were finally soaked by a downpour. However, the panoramic views and the hot tea provided at the end appeared to send the participants home satisfied.

Finally, the Youth Club had a team still involved in the Youth organisations quiz and the team members were: Carol Welham, Marjory Self, Roger Sparkes and Graham 'And What A Man' Wright. They apparently were being kept in a darkened room and force-fed fish in an effort to improve their performance.

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Deadline for March issue material - Thursday 16th February 1989

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