

Great Finborough Newsletter

No 175 June 1989.

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NATWEST COMMUNITY QUIZ

Great Finborough's team in this year's Community Quiz stormed through round 1, 53 - 38, away to Capel St.Mary, reaching the quarter-finals of the competition for the first time ever. The quarter-final was a local derby against BARCLIF (believe it or not Battisford, Ringshall, Combs & Little Finborough) held in the Pettward Hall. After being 10 points in the red at one stage in the match our team eventually went down by just four points, scoring a creditable 53 to the opponent's well-deserved 57.

Team members were from among Richard Brice, John Graves, Steve Johnson, John Miller and Trevor Waspe. Brian Smith and Andy Porley also played a blinder in the home game as question master and timekeeper/scorer respectively.

There's always next year!

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our June meeting will be held in the Pettward Hall on Thursday 8th June at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Mrs.E.Bailey with her hand-made period-style dolls. The competition is to dress a peg doll.

We have a coach booked for an outing to Cambridge on Wednesday 21st June, leaving Great Finborough at 9.30am. A guided tour of some of the colleges of Cambridge, lunch and an afternoon to please ourselves should make a pleasant day out.

The Book Club meets at the home of Mrs.Stella Fraser of 32 underhill, Stowmarket on Monday, 26th June at 8pm. We will discuss the short story by Carson McCullen, 'The Ballad of the Sad Cafe' and also read a short play.

Judy Rolfe, Press Correspondent

PRIZE BINGO

The June Prize Bingo evening will be on Wednesday, 21st commencing at 7pm in the Pettward Hall. Proceeds will be for the local branch of the Royal British Legion; please come along and give them your support.

Hilary Smith

EAST SUFFOLK BLIND

All are invited to a Coffee Morning at Bridge Farm, Valley Lane on Tuesday 6th June, 10.30am to 12.30pm, in aid of the East Suffolk Blind. We hope to have a Bring and Buy Stall, plants for sale and a draw.

John & Judy Rolfe

Membership of the Management Committee of your Hall for the year 1989/90 is as follows:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Organisation represented</u>
Richard Brice (Chairman)	co-opted
Linda Graves (Booking Sec)	co-opted
Trudy Gray (Acting Sec)	WI
Maurice Lloyd (Treasurer)	Parish Council
Ada Proctor	PCC & Candlestick Club
Nick Skinner	Tuesday Club
Hermon Sparkes	Royal British Legion
Julie Stock	Playgroup
Trevor Waspe	Parish Council
Brenda Wyer	Ladies' Keep Fit

We have a vacancy for the Secretary's job which has been carried out by Trudy Gray for the last two years (Thanks, Trudy) but she now wishes to hang up her pen because of other commitments. The job, which is of course unpaid, primarily involves preparing and issuing agenda and minutes for the five or six meetings each year of the Management Committee. You don't have to be on a user group of the Hall, just interested, we can always co-opt you to the Committee. Anyone interested please speak either to me (Stow.676249) or Trudy.

We're also looking for volunteers to have another go at the floor. That is give it a new coat of seal so that all the work undertaken last year doesn't go to waste. The work will be done in July, please help if you can to spread the burden. The more volunteers we get the quicker it's done. Please let me know if you can help. Thanks.

Richard Brice

ST.ANDREWS MINI-LOTTO

Prize-winners are as follows:

18th April	(200) Miss S.Chaplin, The Bungalows	£4.60
	(092) Mr.R.Scoggins, Clayhill Lane, Wattisham	£3.10
25th April	(170) Mr.A.Waters, Sunnyside	£4.60
	(163) Mrs.B.Wyer, The Green	£3.10
2nd May	(122) Mrs.R.Armes, The Bungalows	£4.60
	(064) Mr.J.Wright, Abbey House, Buxhall	£3.10
9th May	(080) Mrs.A.Proctor, White Horse Cottage	£4.60
	(208) Mrs.K.Cape, High Green Farm	£3.10

The sum of £7.70 has been added each week to Church funds.

Hilary Smith

GREAT FINBOROUGH FIRST SCHOOL

The Beauty of God's World - some thoughts from children at Great Finborough First School:

.....I see your love in the wild rabbit, so swift, fast, elegant, carefree, clever, sweet and beautiful.....

Simon Cass

..... I see your love in the rippling waters of the lake.....

Thomas Phoenix

..... I see your love in the stream that flows in the sparkling sunlight.....

Becky Pennington

..... Your love is in the graceful swan...in wet slippery grass ,...in delicate flowers...in a glowing fire in Winter.....

Lesley-Anne Snell

..... Your love is in the shadows of the seas... in coils of air.....

Duncan Self

..... I see your love in the bats that fly around St.George's School at night.....

Giles Tabley

..... Your love is in a fish swimming peacefully in a lake... a salmon darting and jumping up a waterfall...a condor gliding over the Andes.....

Thomas Gray

..... I see your love in the riverside birds... in the warm sunshine... in the cornfields.....

Dominic Oliver

PARISH DIARY FOR JUNE 1989

Thursday 1st	Candlestick Club - Mystery Tour 6pm
Monday, 5th	(School Summer Term re-commences)
Tuesday, 6th	Coffee Morning, Bridge Farm 10.30am to 12.30pm
Thursday, 8th	WI, Pettward Hall 7.30pm
Wednesday, 21st	Prize Bingo, Pettward Hall 7pm (Also Longest Day of year)

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St Andrew Church

From the Registers

20 May Peter Cobbold & Susan Smith: Blessing of Civil Marriage
Andrew Tredray & Teena Proctor: Married.

Calendar for June

4 Sung Eucharist at 11 (Prayer Book)
10 Stephen Fullwood & Kay Thompson: Wedding
18 Morning Prayer at 11 (Prayer Book)
25 Family Service at 9.45 (Guides & Brownies)

The Rogation Sunday tradition of Beating the Bounds – in our case walking from Harleston to Finborough via Onehouse, with part of the Communion Service in each – achieved its object. Everyone had fun and plenty to eat. The St Georges boys and girls (2 dozen or so) were able to write home and say truthfully that they had been to church 3 times that Sunday and, not least, the informality enabled us all to see the Communion Service as a friendly gathering, which only at the end became more purposeful, rather than a ritual which is frozen and solemn from the start.

A similar effect was achieved on Ascension Day, when the first half took the form of a knockabout Primary School Assembly. After the children had gone, the sound of their laughter and singing still ringing in our ears did not detract an iota from the dignity of an Ascension Day Eucharist. Contrast, like salt, brings out the flavour, in religion as elsewhere.

Better for me than any crossword is guessing the size of the Vicar's Slot in the next Finborough Newsletter (Malcolm has long since given up reminding me my copy is (over)due). Will it be a measly 2 line sliver, just room enough to squeeze in a bon mot or two, or will I have to lean an elbow on the edge of the pulpit and rattle away to fill a whole page? No doubt which, this month.

The recent turmoil in Peking has highlighted yet again that elusive thing called **culture**. The Chinese of all people – already the most highly cultured race on earth while we were still hanging from the trees – how could they possibly fall for all that Cultural Revolution nonsense, which was pure *anti-culture*? The Counter Revolution had to happen, but what we have seen since has still been pretty grey and soulless. Is this really what the Chinese feel? The last few weeks have at long last said no to that, though we would be horribly wrong to conclude that this shows they have just wanted to be good christian capitalist boys and girls all along.

More to the point: what is the culture *we* want? Without scoring political points, it seems that to the English, excessive handouts were the unacceptable face of socialism, but they are equally uneasy about what they now see as the ruthlessness of Thatcherism. The now discarded Dr Owen's "tough but tender" slogan does seem to have struck the deepest chord, or – as I would prefer to put it – it is what the English people are hearing the Spirit saying to them. The current search for "lifestyle" is another mark of the Spirit, I believe, even though it is often marred by trendy fads and fancies. Amazingly, I see the spirit of the new GCSE as another. So, much more jaggedly, is the feminist movement.

There is of course a strong religious tradition that cares nothing for culture, or "the soul of a nation". All that matters is plucking brands from the burning, converting individual souls to belief in the Lord Jesus. Indeed it is usually thought to be the *only* religious method, so that even in the most casual conversations I sense most people are on their guard, wondering when I will stop marking time and start embarrassing them with Jesus-talk. If I don't, they conclude I'm not much of a parson, so I lose both ways! But the evangelistic approach, noble though it often is, is not the only one. And like *all* expressions of religious faith, if it is plugged too hard it actually becomes a heresy. Is there any such thing as an out and out individual, who can be separated out from his culture and environment and "saved"? I doubt it. We all overlap into each other. "Either we're saved as a heap, or we're not saved at all", as the bishop who ordained me once commented.

Never mind the world scene, the point for us is: what sort of village life do we want for Finborough? When we read in this newsletter of sometimes great efforts being made to promote social events, which are then poorly attended, we all wonder what happened. Were the organisers simply ego-tripping, laying on events mainly for their own gratification, without bothering to enquire if there was a need? Unlikely, though it happens. Were they simply badly advertised? Doubt it. Or are our lifestyles today now so TV-oriented (ie selfish) that we no longer feel any urge to turn out and support the community? I hope not. We still have 4 precious commodities: a shop, a school, a pub and a church. There would of course be ritual wailings and recriminations if they all closed, one by one, but isn't it just a sad but inevitable mark of the late 20th century. Or is it? What is the Spirit saying to Finborough? I'd like to know as much as anybody.

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