

# GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER

No. 195 February 1991

Acting Editor: Trudy Gray. Tel: 674819

## EDITORIAL

A repeat of last month's appeal – we are still in search of an editor. **A NEW EDITOR PLEASE!** Unfortunately I do not have time to act indefinitely as an emergency editor (which in any case would be a contradiction in terms!) If a new editor is not found the continued publication of the newsletter is in doubt.

Anyone interested please contact me on Stowmarket 674819 and we can discuss technical or other details. I am still happy to accept contributions for the next issue of the newsletter (at The Old Police House) and will forward them as necessary. Contributions by Friday 15th February if possible. New ideas for contributions would also be helpful and might encourage anyone taking on the editorship!

*Trudy Gray – Acting Editor*

## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Women's World Day of Prayer service will be held at Onehouse Church on Friday 1st March at 2.15 pm. The speaker will be Daphne Lloyd of the United Reform Church, Needham Market. All ladies will be welcomed at this delightful service.

*Sesca Ballard*

## Letter to Editor regarding proposed development East of Church Road

Doesn't it seem a pity that some of the wonderful work and planning carried out by Squire Pettward is now in imminent risk of destruction? I feel that owing to the planning application to build nine bungalows on the land east of Church Road I should bring to the reader's attention certain facts which should be considered.

Highly skilled craftsmen were employed to build the wonderful wall now in danger of destruction.

Trees planted to replace those lost in the 1987 storms are now in the path of the bulldozer.

Within this protective wall subtle changes

have taken place. Great and mature trees have taken a good hold, yew, oak, ash to name but a few. Wild roses, blackberry and redcurrants are still in evidence, all serving to protect the wildlife. It is an oasis of life, summer and winter; even deer shelter here in winter, given that their places of refuge have been so diminished by developers.

Today the supposed modern "developers" (the word itself is questionable) are putting all this at risk – your heritage and that of the wild animals, birds and plants.

I believe they propose to bulldoze it flat, pushing the splendid wall over to get at the trees, rip them out by their roots and burn them, harrassing and frightening away all the wildlife we enjoy, grubbing up their homes, crushing the great trees that have stood majestically for seventy years, only for their remains to be incinerated after death. Why?

Does Great Finborough need this destruction? It's about the right balance now, don't you think? Ask yourself, how many houses are for sale right now? Do we really need more? Local and County Coucillors have guided expansion fairly well up to now. We should not allow these circumstances to get out of hand.

Ask yourself why developers don't select old factories or disused buildings? Perhaps its because it will cost too much to demolish, so they pick on virgin soil, therefore gaining higher profits. Perhaps they are not concerned about our wildlife and heritage after all.

**Please don't let them ruin everything. Protect our heritage by writing to your local Councillor, ref. OL/283/90. Remember once it has been taken away you can never get it back. Neither will the birds and the bees.**

Have you ever heard of a builder reinstating a 70 year old tree after an error has been admitted?

*Graham Chaplin*

*Editor's note : The Parish Council's comments on the application are set out below.*

## GREAT FINBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on 8th January to consider an application for residential development (nine detached bungalows) and construction of access on land off Church Road. The site has been identified for future development for some years and the Stowmarket District Plan proposes residential development in this location. The Council therefore raised no objection in principle to the application. The following detailed points were passed to the District Council:

- objections to the filling of the large pond on the site which is believed to be linked to other ponds in the locality. The pond is also home to Great Crested Newts (a protected species). The detailed layout of the site should provide for the retention of the pond;
- existing walls should be retained to maintain the character of the area;
- the need to avoid damage to the trees on Church Road Green when the proposed access is constructed.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 26th March** at the Pettitward Hall. This will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting which will commence at 7 pm. Organisations within the village are invited to report on their activities during the past year at this meeting.

Elections for the Parish Council will be held in May. Have you considered standing for election to the Council?

*Malcolm Baker, Clerk to the Council*

## ST ANDREW'S CHURCH SERVICES

- 3 Feb Sung Eucharist 11am. Introit: Blessed are the Pure in Heart (Walford Davies)
- 10 Feb NO SERVICES AT FINBOROUGH  
(Holy Communion at Harleston 9.30am; Family Communion at Onehouse 11am)
- 13 Feb Holy Communion 9.30am (Ash Wednesday)
- 17 Feb (1st in Lent) Morning Prayer 11am.  
Tallis' Litany; Anthem: A Hymne to God the Father (John Hilton, 1599)
- 24 Feb Family Service 9.45am
- 3 Mar Sung Eucharist 11am

Hugh Wake will be taking the service on March

3rd, immediately after which (12 noon approximately) he will inter the ashes of Bob Proctor and Nana Welham in the church graveyard.

No direct comment on the Gulf War. Not because there is so much being written and said already, but because there is so much *sound moral comment* on subjects such as the idea of the Just War and other ethical topics that might normally be thought of as the Church's home ground. When the occasion demands, a good Fleet Street hack can knock out an amazingly detailed analysis about the rights and wrongs in society or of events on the world stage, and in simpler and far fewer words than a church dignitary would have used. It is one of the many marks that this is still a much more christian country than some would acknowledge. Behind our apparently mushy English fondness for fair play and sympathy for the loser and the underdog there lies, I believe, a genuine understanding of justice and the need for equality, brotherhood and forgiveness that would not exist had the christian faith not bitten as deeply as it has into our national psyche.

I know that this is unfashionable, and one can equally 'prove' the opposite - how *unchristian* this country is. To such people, I ask if they have ever lived for a while in a country where christianity is *not* the prevailing faith, because the contrast then makes the case a lot more believable. Besides that, I personally find people who generally approve of the world around them more cheerful company than those who take the sourer view, and since one cannot prove either point of view one might just as well choose the one that is the more agreeable to the people one has to live with.

What seems peculiar to this country is that there is very little carryover of that deep sense of christian values into your actual churchgoing. In almost every other country I have been to, there is no loss of face attached to popping into the local church, chapel or mosque. Here, the very thought of getting past the church porch brings on a paranoid fear of losing one's amateur status, if not masculinity, except on strictly prescribed occasions as weddings, funerals and carol services. There seems a particularly deep English fear of projecting a 'virtuous' image, which is pretty daft really as the first prayers in any church service are those of Confession and declare one's lack of any virtue whatsoever, but we're not famous for logic in this land of ours, especially in the field of religion. So why this

dread of churchgoing, I wonder. Fear of being embarrassed by religious fanatics? Possibly; we loathe anyone coming onto us with 'high moral tone'. Church services in cold buildings at unsociable times? I doubt it. Poor quality clergy? Perhaps. Irrelevance? That comes from poor clergy. The general laziness of the easygoing English? Probably as much in that as any anti-church feeling. We'll never know the reason. We actually go to church in quite large numbers in this country, and especially in this region of East Anglia, but we're so darned *embarrassed* about it. Any views?

I suspect that to many the Church presents a Mrs Grundy image - heavy, 'worthy' and negative. This is largely undeserved, but we christians could do worse than take note of the style of the lighthearted and brilliantly imaginative 'Me and Chloe' that comes later in this newsletter.

*Michael Skiros, Priest-in-Charge*

## ST. ANDREW'S MINI LOTTO

Prize winners are as follows :

### 18th December

(207) Mr J Miles, Stable Cottage,  
Gt. Finborough £4.85

(110) Mr P Kemp, West View, Stowmarket £3.25

### 25th December

(188) Mrs A Skinner, Middlefield Drive,  
Gt. Finborough £4.85

(213) Mr F Fordham, Westwood Ho,  
Gt. Finborough £3.25

### 1st January

(224) Mr B Macro, Middlefield Drive,  
Gt. Finborough £4.25

(222) Mrs Whelan Orpington, Kent £3.25

### 8th January

(197) Mrs R Hart, Valley Lane,  
Gt. Finborough £4.85

(190) Mrs A Squirrel, Gale Cottage,  
Gt. Finborough £3.25

The sum of £8.10 has been added each week to Church Funds.

*Hilary Smith*

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the January meeting members enjoyed seeing slides and listening to Trudy Gray who gave an excellent talk on her holiday to Orlando and the Everglades. It was with sadness that we learnt of the death of Mrs Rushbrooke. Although she had been living in Surrey of late, she had been a loyal member of Gt Finborough W.I. for many years.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th February when Sarah Bond will be speaking on 'Economical Cookery'.

*Berice Jordan, Press Correspondent*

## BROWNIES

The Brownies have been very busy already this term preparing for the Carrie Chrissell Challenge Competition. Last year we won the Challenge Shield with our version of the Sailors' Hornpipe. This year we have been challenged to produce a Five Minute Pantomime! Not an easy task - especially when the girls chose their own parts. So we have three Snow Whites but only five dwarfs while one Wendy has to cope with two Peter Pans! But as they say : 'It will be alright on the night' - we hope!

We continue to meet every Monday in term time at the village school between 6 and 7.15 pm. If any girls are interested in joining us please contact me for further details (Stow. 612822). We have a waiting list for the under 7's and would be delighted to add to it.

*Mary Williams, Brownie Guider*

## GREAT FINBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

School life continues to be dominated by the activities of the builders. This term the work-force has trebled and, whilst the children work, pipes are being removed, wires installed and paint applied. The extensions and alterations are beginning to take shape and considerable progress is being made. I anticipate that the work will be completed to schedule, towards the end of March.

*Andrew Sykes, Headteacher*

## Young Ornithologist's Club, (Y.O.C.)

A Y.O.C. group, the junior branch (or should it be wing) of the RSPB was started at the school in October. We have 15 members and meet on

Thursday afternoons after school. So far we have been learning about garden birds and how important our efforts in feeding them are for their survival in the cold weather. As well as putting out scraps and peanuts (unsalted!) the group has had a try at bird cookery. Both the following 'recipes' proved popular:

#### **Bird Pudding**

150g Mixture of bird seed, (including if liked a few peanuts, breadcrumbs, raisins, grated cheese)

75g melted fat

Empty yoghurt pots (or similar) threaded with string for hanging.

Mix the above ingredients and then press into empty yoghurt pots. Leave to set overnight in fridge. Much appreciated by **Blue** and **Great Tits**, and is fairly sparrow-proof!

#### **Pastry Maggots**

Put 85g flour in a bowl and mix in 30g margarine with your fingers. Sprinkle the resulting crumbs on the ground or on a bird table. Particularly liked by **robins**, **dunnocks** and **wagtails**.

The Group hope to visit Town Farm in mid-February. Notes of the visit may be ready for next month's newsletter.

*Trudy Gray, Y.O.C. Group Leader*

#### **A journey to remember ... The Magic Bus**

Me and Chloe were promised on Wednesday that we could go to Ipswich. Mum said that she could not take us so she dropped us off at the bus stop. The bus was just about to leave but we just caught it. There was nobody on the bus - just lots and lots of games and sweets. The bus driver said "Sit down on the seats." There wasn't any seats! We went upstairs. It was packed with seats.

Chloe saw these funny little buttons to press. They said 'Disneyland', 'Ipswich', 'Stowmarket' and 'Sweetieland'. I said to Chloe "You'd better not press the buttons, they may be dangerous." On the top of the bus there was another button. It said 'and'. Chloe went ahead and pressed 'Disneyland'. Then she saw the 'and' button. She pressed 'and' and 'Sweetieland'. Then the bus took off. It turned a corner and fell right on

Disneyland. We had some money. Chloe walked around and I followed her. We saw thousands and thousands of games. Chloe won four games and a goldfish. Super Chloe!

And then Chloe suddenly said, "The bus is going to leave without us." So we ran to the bus and got on really quickly. The bus took off and then dropped onto this huge marshmallow. Chloe jumped out of the bus. As usual I followed her. Chloe was very, very excited. She dipped her fingers into the chocolate grass. She got fatter and fatter. We stayed for two days. An old lady made of chocolate came up. Chloe asked what we should do to get thinner. I was fat as well. The lady said, "Exercise every day." Chloe pulled a sad face. We could hardly bend over, we were so fat! We rocked on our tummies when we tried to do press ups. Chloe ate just one more piece of chocolate and then went thinner. I did the same.

We ran to jump on the bus and Chloe pressed 'Ipswich'. "Look - there's Mum", shouted Chloe. We ran to her car with all our prizes, presents and chocolate.

*Jessica Kent (9 years)*

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#### **FRIENDS OF GREAT FINBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Thanks to all who have supported our recent Jumble Sale - either as donors of Jumble or as purchasers! £103 was raised for additional books for the school. Surplus clothing was delivered to a collection point in Battisford and it will be sorted for distribution to both adults and children in Romania.

The Friends hope to start a 'Little Ernie' in March. Subscriptions will be 10p per week. If you are interested in this please contact Ann Phoenix (Stow 674396) or Viv Brice (Stow 676249) by 15th February. It is hoped that this will provide a regular small income for the Friends.

Our next event is a **BEETLE DRIVE** on Friday 8th February, 7pm at the School. These have been very popular in the past and players of all ages will be welcome.

*Trudy Gray*