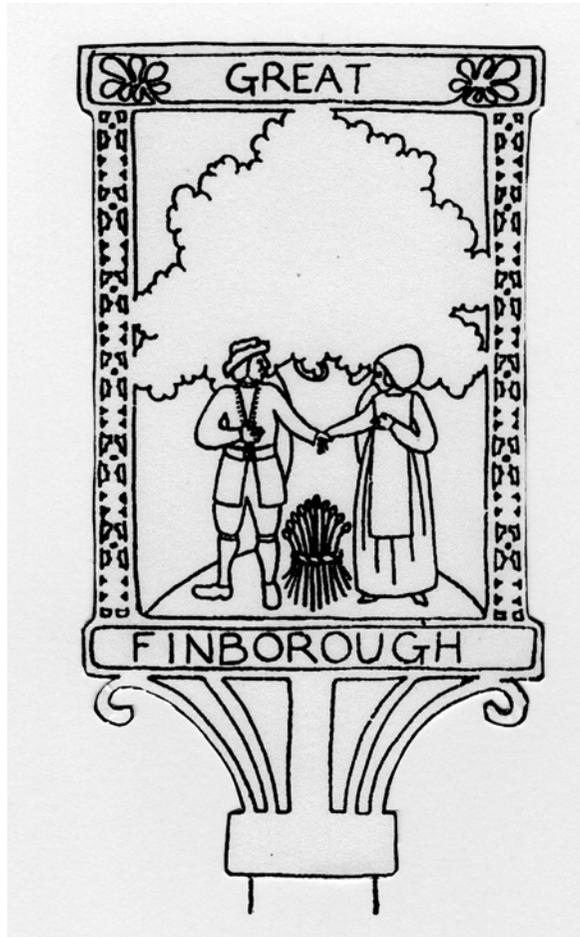


GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER



**DECEMBER 2008
JANUARY 2009
ISSUE 394**

VILLAGE DIARY – DECEMBER 2008

3	7pm	Youth Committee, Petteward Hall Upper Room
2	7pm	Youth Café, Petteward Hall
4	7.30pm	Garden Club meeting, Petteward Hall
7	2-4pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
8	2pm	Pram Service, St. Mary's Church, Buxhall
11	12pm	Candlestick Club, Buxhall Village Hall
11	4.30-6pm	Skylarks Children's Club, Onehouse Room
11	7-9pm	Youth Café, Petteward Hall
11	7.30pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
10	2-4pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
16	6pm	Community Carols, Primary School
17	2-4pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
18	6.30pm	Charity Bingo, Petteward Hall

VILLAGE DIARY – JANUARY 2009

1	See pg 12	New Year's Day Walk
4	4.30pm	Sunday Explorers, St. Andrew's Church
5	7.30pm	Parish Council, Petteward Hall
7	2-4pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
8	4.30-6pm	Skylarks Children's Club, Onehouse Room
8	7.30pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
12	2pm	Pram Service, St. Mary's Church, Buxhall
14	2-4pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
21	2-4pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
21	7.30pm	Benefice meeting, Primary School
22	4.30-6pm	Skylarks Children's Club, Onehouse Room
22	7.30pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
23	6.30pm	Bangers, Beans & Bingo, Buxhall Village Hall
26	2pm	Pram Service, St. Mary's Church, Buxhall
28	2-4pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
29	7.30pm	St John's Adult Table Tennis, Church Room
31	7.30pm	Village Quiz Night, Petteward Hall

Editorial

So we are at the end of another year. This bumper-sized newsletter includes January's news too. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

If you know someone newly arrived and living in the village, or friends and neighbours who are moving on, please let me know.

15 January 2009 is the next copy deadline. Please put 'newsletter' in the header if you are emailing. Norman and I welcome visitors so if you need to contact me 'phone, email or call in to Park Cottage any time. The kettle is always on.

Sally Gooch

The Newsletter is produced by Great Finborough Parish Council and distributed to all households in the village free of charge

QUIZ NIGHT

*SATURDAY 31 JANUARY 2009 7.30pm
IN PETTIWARD HALL
TEAMS UP TO 6 PEOPLE – PRIZES AND RAFFLE*

*£5 PER PERSON TO INCLUDE SUPPER AND
SOFT DRINKS. BRING YOUR OWN ALCOHOL
AND NIBBLES*

*PROCEEDS TO FUND A VILLAGE
NOTICEBOARD*

Report from the November Parish Council Meeting

District Councillor's report

John Matthissen informed us that another batch of brown bins for garden waste recycling has arrived, and will be distributed to those on the waiting list. Mid Suffolk District Council has a finance gap, and will be deferring filling vacancies by one month. Uncertainty continues for Mid Suffolk council tenants since any change to unitary status may cover all Suffolk. All MSDC housing stock is being assessed and options examined. Many other local authorities have transferred their housing stock to Housing Associations. Sue Green has more details.

Police report

November's Newsletter carried a report from PC Richard Calver telling us of changes to the Safer Neighbourhood Teams. PCSO Claire Cox remains on the team covering Great Finborough. She was able to report no crimes in our parish. Her report also carried a warning about a postal scam involving a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service). This is an old scam, closed down in December 2005, and the company fined £10,000. Her advice with such scams and chain e-mails is to bin them!

Triangle opposite the school

Debbie Ball told us about the meeting she and Rodney Self attended with the County and District Councils. She explained the various options for improving this area, including relocating the bus stop there from its current position outside Chaplins. As always, finding the money is difficult, so Debbie is going back to Suffolk County Council with some of the Parish Council's proposals to see what is viable.

Extension of 30mph limits

A request has been made to extend the 30mph limit near Borough Lane to the other side of City Lane. A previous request to extend the limit in Valley Lane has also been made. I have now written to the County Council requesting this and

suggested a site meeting to determine final positions, if they are in agreement.

Boundary Changes – Buxhall to Great Finborough

MSDC has asked for any new representations concerning the proposed boundary change involving moving 25 properties from Buxhall to Great Finborough. The Parish Council view is to support the proposal which, given that many of the properties appear to be in Great Finborough anyway, and there has been confusion over addresses such as Boundary Cottages are opposite the school! Voters also have to travel to Buxhall to vote, a three mile round trip, rather than just down the road to Petteward Hall.

Parish Council Meetings 2009

Please note the dates of the next Parish Council meetings for 2009 are:

5 January	11 May	7 September
2 March	6 July	2 November

You will find the details in the relevant Village Diary during the year.

Dave Norman, Clerk to the Parish Council

County Councillor's Report

Democracy in Meetings

Suffolk County Council has agreed to allow members of the public to ask questions at future Council meetings. The public will have a 20 minute window to ask one submitted question, and a supplemental if required. The next full Council meeting is 11 December. If you wish to submit a question, it must be sent to Democratic Services in Endeavour House by midday on the fourth day before the meeting. Please contact Penny for a name, or she will submit it for you. All other meetings are open to the public unless there is a legal reason for an item to be discussed in confidence. The public will also now be allowed to speak on Public Rights of Way issues.

Footpath

The footpath between Stowmarket and Onehouse is to be extended and upgraded at last. I'm not sure exactly where the work is to be done, or when, but will find out for the next Newsletter.

Fire Action Plan

The Fire Service has launched a draft fire action plan, which has nine main priorities. Comments are welcome. The draft, and how to respond can be found at www.suffolk.gov.uk/policingandpublicsafety/fireandrescueservices/fireactionplan/draftfireactionplan.htm.

Suffolk Bill of Rights for Older People

All Councils across Suffolk, as well as the Primary Care Trust and the Police, have signed up to the Suffolk Bill of Rights for Older People.

Stansted Airport

Stansted airport has announced plans to expand capacity from 25 million to 35 million passengers per year, resulting in an additional 23,000 flights. This comes during the time the NATS consultation over aircraft stacking is in progress, and the recent announcement that two parallel public consultations over the second runway may take place later this year.

Local Government Review

Concerns have also been expressed about whether the local government review would continue in light of the economic downturn (aka recession!), but the Boundary Commission and Government have confirmed it will continue, since they believe unitary authorities will save money.

'Your place' – Mid Suffolk Locality Pilot has reached the voting stage. Later in the meeting, the Parish Council voted for the Drinkstone and Onehouse parishes to represent us, but also expressed concern that the geographic spread was too wide.

I've subsequently found out that the boundaries were, in the words of the Localities Team at Suffolk County Council, 'based on the new Police boundary for the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT).'

Suffolk County Council - Heavy Goods Vehicle Incident Reporting Procedure

Suffolk County Council, as the highway authority for most of the roads in Suffolk, has developed a procedure to deal with incidents on the roads involving heavy goods vehicles. This process has been developed with the assistance of Suffolk Police, Highways Agency, Freight Transport Association and the Suffolk Association of Local Councils. The type of incidents to report might include inappropriate parking overnight, causing unnecessary obstruction when parking to deliver goods, heavy goods vehicles travelling through a weight-restricted road, or travelling through unsuitable minor roads. An incident is reported using the form to be found at <https://www.csduk.com/CSD/Transportandstreets/Trafficmanagement/gBizProduct.htm?ProductID=PHGV01>.

Further copies are available by contacting the Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) or Suffolk County Council. Contact details on the back page of the leaflet: <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/5D5DFC17-5F95-4D14-B39B-441BC37E7A5F/0/15213SCCLorryManLeafV5.pdf>.

Having filled in a form and sent it to the Environment and Transport Department, the incident is recorded on the 'HGV Incident Database'. Details will be forwarded to the relevant haulage company to take action. Depending on the details reported these may also be reported to Suffolk Police or the Eastern Region Traffic Commissioner, and further action may be taken.

Where heavy goods vehicles are repeatedly recorded travelling through weight-restricted roads or bridges, Suffolk County

Council Trading Standards officers will target these roads as part of their routine checks. Action will be taken with those companies who are found to be illegally using these roads. As part of this initiative, signing may be introduced to advise drivers. In addition the Freight Transport Association will be kept informed of incidents involving its members.

And finally, if you find faults on street maps or 'satnav', please e-mail msahelpdesk@ordnancesurvey.co.uk **Penny Otton**

'The Triangle' opposite the Primary School

We know that quite a few residents were sad to see the old Chestnut tree removed from the triangle opposite the school. As the tree was in an advanced stage of disease and classed as unsafe, we had no option but to ask for the tree to be removed.

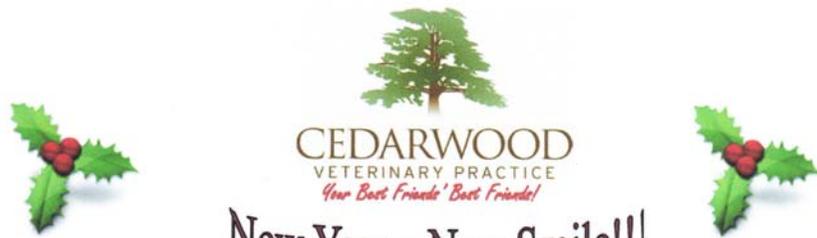
To look at the piece of land now as we drive along the main road or turn to Buxhall, the triangle looks very bare and uninspiring. A meeting has taken place between Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and the Parish Council to decide on replanting for the triangle. With funding this could become a very attractive feature of the village and not the eyesore it is now.

The Parish Council has been lent a book of trees and shrubs to discuss different ideas at the next Parish Council meeting and if you have ideas and opinions about planting then do come along. Hopefully a decision will be made in January so work can start in early Spring; the best time for planting.

Debbie Ball on Behalf of the Parish Council

Please return your Village Appraisal Questionnaires promptly once received.

Your views really matter in planning the future of the



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News from your District Councillor - John Matthissen *Tree Planting*

Thanks to everyone who donated trees or helped with tree planting at Shelland Green recently. We planted 120 trees including ten Oaks. As well as filling gaps in the hedge along the green we planted four female Black Poplars to complement the long established male trees around the green. The Black Poplar is a rare native species, of which Suffolk is the largest stronghold. There are about 430 left in Suffolk; only 80 of which are female. We are glad to have helped the County Council to add to this number.



Further planting schemes to exceed my target of 'a tree for every vote' are planned for the new year and next winter. If you have seedling native trees in your garden please save them into pots during the winter; and let me use them around our villages in future seasons.

Mid Suffolk South Community Board update

This pilot project may explore the way forward for local involvement when the reorganisation of Local Government goes ahead. Eleven of the 39 parishes put forward nominations for the Board, and I am pleased to say that Onehouse parish councillor Ron Raisey has been chosen as one of the six representatives. There will also be representatives of the District and County councillors, as well as police and health service nominees. More of this when we know the future shape of councils in Suffolk.

Seasons Greetings to everyone.

John Matthissen



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Charity Bingo - Christmas Special

This month's Charity Bingo will be on 18 December at 6.30pm in Pettward Hall. Money raised will go towards continuing the bingo next year. There will be mystery prizes; a surprise raffle, lucky dips and more. There will also be refreshments and mince pies. Please come along and join in the fun.

All are welcome and children need to be accompanied by an adult. If anyone wishes to donate raffle prizes please either bring along on the night or leave with Mari at 4 Boundary Cottages. Any questions please feel free to contact me or Mari Green (770032).

Sharla Goldsmith

Team Finborough and Youth Café

As you all know Christmas is fast approaching and the Youth Café would love to have as successful a Christmas celebration as we did last year. For that to happen we will need everyone's input about what we should do.

So come along to the next committee meeting on Wednesday 3 December – see Village Diary for details - where we will be discussing what the Youth Café will be doing this Christmas.

Scott Murkin

Buxhall & Great Finborough Candlestick Club

The November meeting was a pleasant occasion when old and new members enjoyed a bingo session. Over £50 was raised for the club's funds to support activities in 2009.

Our final meeting in 2008 will be our Christmas Lunch on 11 December (12pm for 12.30pm) in Buxhall Village Hall. The cost is £10 and the club is also providing a subsidy. Please bring a present suitable either for a man or woman. If you need a lift to the Lunch please let me or Hilary (615492) know in good time.

After this we hibernate until 2 April 2009 when we awaken for a social evening. Wishing all members a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Keith Proctor

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Great Finborough and District Garden Club

Our November meeting was a fascinating talk on the history and cultivation of Lilacs given by Colin Chapman. There I was thinking that Lilacs were blue or white things that flowered for a week or so in May but in fact their breeding and cultivation has been going on for almost 500 years from China to the West Coast of America. Did you know it is possible with the hundreds of varieties available to have flowers for most of the Summer? Our visit to Colin and Sheila's Garden on 23 May 2009 should be extremely interesting as they hold the National Lilac collection.

Our next meeting will be our usual Winter Party and light hearted quiz, with nibbles and mulled wine to be held on Thursday 4 December. If you are interested in joining the garden club or would like to join us for any event you will be very welcome. Membership is £10 per household per year. For further information contact either Judith Cameron or me on 674401 or at john@abbeyclassics.co.uk **John Davey**

WILD BIRD SEED

The next order will be placed on 8 December and will be available for collection from Abbey Farm Cottage, Buxhall Road, Great Finborough, IP14 3AU, by about 11 December.

If you would like to place an order please let me have your requirements together with a cheque to 'Great Finborough Garden Club'. It is essential that you have your telephone number so that you can be advised when seed is ready for collection.

Orders may be posted to or dropped off at Abbey Farm Cottage; 1, Valley Lane; or 8, High Road, and must be received by 7 December.

Amazingly, the price of sunflower products has come down since September. However, the price for Sunflower Kernels is based on the 20kg sacks. If larger sacks are supplied then we will have to make an extra charge on collection. The 10kg price is correct.

Product	Weight	Price
Wild Bird Mix	20 kg	£7.50
Finch Mix (no corn)	20 kg	£9.50
Mixed Corn	20 kg	£6.50
Peanuts (superior quality)	25 kg	£20.50
Peanuts (half sack)	12.5 kg approx	£12.00
Black Sunflower Seed	15 kg	£9.50
Sunflower Kernels	20 kg	£22.00
Sunflower Kernels (half sack)	10kg approx	£12.00

News From

The Friends of Great Finborough Primary School

We are always in need of any raffle prizes for our fundraising throughout the year. If anyone has any unwanted Christmas gifts they will be gratefully received. If you wish to make a donation please bring it along to the school and leave with the office staff.

If you are an Internet shopper why not help the Friends raise funds by using the free website www.easyfundraising.org.uk and follow the links. Over 400 retailers can be accessed from this site and up to 15% from each online purchase will be donated to the friends.

New Garden for the children

There is to be a new garden area for the children of the primary school which will include a vegetable garden, flowers and a sensory garden. This area will give the chance for the children to sit there quietly at playtimes, and to join in with the gardening.

There will be a gardening club starting in the New Year so work is underway to get this area ready for the children. If anyone has any spare gardening equipment including trowels, spades, seeds or plants, that they could donate to the school they will be gratefully received. Please contact Lesley Cass, Julie Francis (736185) or me. **Sharla Goldsmith**

Station View Dental Practice

A second NHS dentist starts in January. The list is open for new patients. Call 01449 613369 for further information.

John Matthissen

Congratulations!

Congratulations on the occasion of Roxanne Green's marriage to Sam Morton on 6 December 2008. Roxanne lives in Valley Lane.

Bangers, Beans and Bingo

6.30pm in Buxhall Village Hall
Friday 23 January 2009.

Tickets from Jill Reed (737814), Wendy Childs (736093),
Jane Nunn (736881).

£4 for adults and £2 for under 16s.
Proceeds to Church Funds



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2008 Number Quiz

Once again Christmas is approaching so it is time for the annual Number Quiz in aid of St Mary's Church, Buxhall. Entries come from far and wide as many people buy extra copies to send with their Christmas cards. The idea of the quiz is to fill in the missing words that relate to the numbers and initials given. For example: *1666 G F of L – Great Fire of London.*

The person with the most correct answers will be the winner. In the event of a tie a draw is held. There is a spot prize which will be given to the first entry drawn out of a hat from all the entries received. So don't worry: even if you only get one correct answer, you may still win a prize - provided you return your entry form! First prize (for the most correct answers) - £10; Spot prize – a bottle of wine.

Quiz sheets priced at £1 each are available from Chaplins in Great Finborough, Lavinia Biles (736297), Chris Childs (736093), Ivy Friston (736541) and Anne Hicks (736171). Entries to be returned to Ivy Friston at 2 Fourwinds, Mill Road, Buxhall, Stowmarket, IP14 3DS by Monday 5 January 2009.

The names of the prize winners will be published in the February 2009 editions of the Buxhall and Great Finborough Newsletters, and correct answers will be provided.

Judith Hickman

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Thank you

Thank you to the lovely man who lives at the bottom of Finborough School drive at Aubutilon. He has been out cutting the grass away from the path and I thought it would be nice to write a thank you in the newsletter, as it looks much better and has widened the path. A big help to those of us with buggies.

I've just started to sell Usborne children's books, so if you know anyone doing a coffee morning or any other gathering, then the host can get up to 20% of sales value in free books. If you want to take a look I could bring some samples to you.

Alison De Silva

Holland here we come!

Nearly 10 years ago I cycled from Hull to Harwich and raised over £1000. I have also completed the London to Brighton ride 3 times and taken part in the Suffolk Historic Churches Ride for several years. My next challenge is London to Amsterdam.

Along with 10 of my Lloyds TSB colleagues I am cycling to help raise money for the British Heart Foundation [charity number 225971] and to help achieve the Bank reach its goal. This is one of the British Heart Foundation's World Experience Events if you class cycling that many km in 3 days an experience!!!

I have to submit 80% of my sponsorship money by 13 February 2009. If you would like to donate I would be most grateful but please do not feel under any pressure to do so. Please make a cheque payable to 'British Heart Foundation' and give it to me or Heather. Alternatively make your donation go further and donate online at

www.justgiving.com/lloydtsblondontoamsterdambikeride

Thank you and best wishes.

Neil Lennon

ST JOHN'S TABLE TENNIS LEADING UP TO CHRISTMAS AND IN JANUARY 2009

Wednesday Afternoons

2-4pm in the Church Room

3, 10 & 17 December 2008

7, 14, 21, & 28 January 2009

Thursday Nights

7.30-9.30pm in the Church Room

11 December 2008

8, 22 & 29 January 2009

When you've had enough of eating, drinking & watching the telly, why not try a bit of gentle exercise with a game of Table Tennis? The cost is just £1 per session.

Give me a ring for further details. Derek Ames (Tel. 613328)

Don't miss out this Year!

Order your Christmas Trees from

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ONEHOUSE

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Stowmarket Shopmobility Centre Crowe Street

What is Shopmobility?

Stowmarket Shopmobility provides free hand propelled and electric wheelchairs and scooters to assist people with limited mobility – through permanent or temporary disablement, illness, accident or age – to shop and use other facilities in the town centre.

The Stowmarket scheme is hosted by Stow Mobility which offers a complete personal service within their shop in Crowe Street, or in the privacy of your own home, for sales, service and maintenance of all mobility products.

Opening Hours

The Shop Mobility Centre opens daily
Monday- Friday: 9am-4.30pm. Saturday: 9am-1.30pm.
Users are requested to return equipment in good time to allow closure of centre. *There is on-street disabled parking outside the shop.*

Bookings

To make sure that the equipment you require is available, it is advisable to book in advance by telephone (01449 616234). On your first visit to the centre, you will be asked for positive identification to enable the completion of a simple registration card. A member of Shopmobility will be on hand to guide you in the use of the equipment before you take it away. At the end of your visit, return to base.

How much will it cost?

There is no charge for using the equipment. As a not for profit organisation, Stow Mobility accepts voluntary donations to assist with running costs.

Plus The Museum of East Anglian Life has electric buggies available for visitors.

John Matthissen



Can you order your
"cerveza, vino y
tapas?"



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on **01449 736955**

Stamps for the East Anglian Air Ambulance

Thank you for the used postage stamps, ink cartridges and old and foreign coins handed in over the past few months. Hopefully there should be lots of stamps taken from envelopes over Christmas. All these items, and mobile 'phones too, help to raise valuable funds for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Stamps and other items can be brought along to the Wednesday Coffee Morning in the Church Room, or put through my door – *Fairlawns*, 62 Forest Road, Onehouse. Thank you for your continuing help. **Derek Ames**

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Back to my Roots

I have been looking at my family history off and on for the past 20 years, working on both sides. In some instances I've have found wider relatives still in this area. My grandmother's sister's daughter and her son still live in Great Finborough. My mother's grandfather lived in Combs Lane. I had no idea of this when I moved to Finborough in 1990. I grew up in Stowmarket and all my known relatives are from Suffolk.

When I looked at the church records, I found a burial for Abraham Baker, born in 1808. His daughter Emma married my Great Great Grandfather, Charles Mayhew from Combs Lane. Their son Charles married Hannah Mothersole from Great Livermere, and her ancestors can be traced back to Simon in 1570! On my Dad's side I have traced a direct line back to 1530.

This hobby is quite addictive. The further back you go, the more you want to find out. The records office in Ipswich, the internet and church records are all great sources of information. I feel proud to be from such a long line of Suffolk people, and more than happy to be back to my roots in Great Finborough.

Sue Green

New Year's Day Walk

A walk will take place on 1 January 2009 through all the villages. It will be a circular walk through Northfield Wood to Harleston & Shelland and back via St John's Church for a drink at The Shepherd & Dog. There will obviously be opportunities for refreshments on the return journey at the local pubs, but possibly also at the Church Room. For further information contact Derek Ames (613328), Cathy Croome (677128) or me.

- Finborough: 10am start from The Chestnut Horse
- Onehouse: 10.30am start from the Shepherd and Dog
- Or 11am start from the Church Room, Forest Road.

John Matthissen



St Andrew's Church

By the time you read this Advent will have started; a time of waiting and preparation. Details of the activities over Advent and Christmas are scattered through the newsletter. We very much look forward to welcoming many in the community to St Andrew's over the next few weeks – perhaps to join us in worship or to drop in to the church over the Christmas period. As many of you know the church is normally open during the day.

Some of the Advent celebrations focus on light. This was the theme for the Children's Party held at Buxhall Village Hall on 31 October. It was great fun for children and helpers alike. Games, food, some singing and lots of craft. Hopefully a similar event will be organised next year.

A reminder too about the Sunday Explorers Group. This has now been running for a couple of years and is open to any children who'd like to come along. It's a mixture of activities, music and a chance to learn something of the Christian faith. Do give me a call if you'd like to know more.

Details of the Community Carols at the Primary School are elsewhere in the newsletter. Last year this was a super occasion and we hope that many more from the village will be able to come along.

Trudy Gray

Pop in For Coffee at St Andrew's

Every Saturday Morning

from 10.30am to Noon

On Saturday 6 December why not come along and help to make the Christingles?

This is an informal opportunity to have coffee and a chat - perhaps when you're passing on a stroll around the village or visiting the churchyard.



From the Ministry Team

Dear Friends,

I wonder how many of us have got friends and relatives coming to stay this Christmas. I can remember many a festive season involving being on a camp bed in my brother's bedroom, perhaps with a cousin or two in with us, or else driving through the night to arrive at some relative's house to sleep on a sofa or some other indoor camping arrangement. It adds a certain delightful chemistry to Christmas when we can *share* so with our family! In the midst of all this hustle and bustle (and temper), the peace of the Christmas story can seem quite alien.

But let's look again at the story we know so well. Mary would have hoped to have her baby in his family home; quietly, discreetly, surrounded by the womenfolk of her new family, shielded from harsh eyes. Instead – because of international politics - she and Joseph must travel nearly 100 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem while Mary is heavily pregnant. Even if Mary was on a donkey it would have been very dangerous for her; frightening for them both. It's highly unlikely that they would have travelled just the two of them – the roads of the ancient world were fraught with danger. They would have found safety in numbers, a great caravan of people all cross, flustered and getting in one another's way.

Joseph, travelling to his ancestral home, would have gone to the home of the patriarch of his family, as would all the other members of his family who were also bound by the census to return to their home town. The patriarch of any family would have kept one room of his house for guests, and this is what the Greek word that we normally translate as 'inn' more likely means – not so much no room in the inn, as no room in the spare room.

This guest room would have been full of Joseph's relatives, with bed mats all over the floor. So the family, seeing Mary's

state, would have placed her downstairs with the animals where it would have been relatively warm and private. There, in the hustle and bustle of a family congregation, while everyone had their minds full of the practicalities of 'keeping our Amos away from our Joshua after what our Miriam said about aunt Hannah last time'; and while everyone moaned about the Roman occupation and taxes and temple politics - the Son of God was born among us.

So the challenge of the Christmas season is not so much to find a quiet space to remember the 'true meaning of Christmas', but to recognise God in the celebrations. To rejoice with him at the wonder of all God's good gifts to us: the food, the drink, the company; the joy of giving and receiving, the wonder of children and miraculous ability of adults to become children once again. Jesus is born, God with us - not only in our prayers but in our games. I remain convinced that Jesus must be a dab hand at scrabble by now. Have a blessed Christmas,



Skylarks Children's Club

This has been a busy few months for our Skylarks. We've welcomed lots of new members and performed many exciting activities including making our own bread and designing badges. We've also filled and decorated shoe boxes for Samaritans Purse. A huge thank you to everyone who very kindly donated gifts. The response was overwhelming and we were able to provide a gift box for double the number of disadvantaged children that we had anticipated. Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas from everyone at Skylarks.

The Club meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month during term time from 4.30pm to 6.00pm in the Church Room, Onehouse and is open to children of primary school age who live in Buxhall, Great Finborough, Harleston, Onehouse and Shelland. Dates for the start of the 2009 Spring

Term are in the Village Diary. For more information, please contact Derek Ames (613328), Trudy Gray or Christine Hagger (736487).

Jenni Filby

The Future of Finborough Church

As I've mentioned before the Benefice is holding a series of stewardship meetings to carefully consider how we serve the villages in which we minister.

At Finborough's meeting in October, we established four clear priorities that we need to work on as a church community:

- Church Building (and grounds): upkeep, amenities and presentation.
- Links with the school: both supporting the work of the school and encouraging the Christian culture of the institution.
- Workforce: there are simply not enough people to do the work that needs doing.
- Communication: with school, village, visitors and one another.

We decided that it would require a separate meeting to move forward on these issues so that we can create a positive plan to address them. We were also aware that in many of these concerns and priorities we are not the only interested party.

We will meet on 21 January 2009 at 7.30pm in the Primary School and are inviting any people of goodwill who share our concerns to join us so that we can all work together to serve the village and its needs. If you would like a more detailed report of the October meeting, please get in touch with me. My telephone number is in Who's Who and my email is teapot.l@ukonline.co.uk **Lindsay Llewellyn- MacDuff**

Pram Service

8 December, 12 and 26 January

2nd and last Monday

of each month

at 2pm in Buxhall Church.

An informal service for pre-schoolers (0-5)

and their entourage

Come along for songs, stories and squash!



FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism at Great Finborough, St Andrews

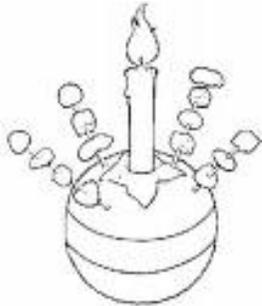
Reuben Aaron Gooderham

19 October



4.30pm Sunday 7 December

Christingle Time 2 Worship



We would love to welcome you to our Christingle service – the candle-lit family celebration that will raise money for the vital work of The Children's Society.

Come and hear how the 'Christingle' symbolises the light of Christ's love.

The service should last about 45minutes.

Refreshments will be served after the service.

There is a space at the back of the church with toys for younger children.



From the New Year meeting
First Sunday of the Month at
St Andrew's Church, Finborough
from 4.30 – 5.30pm

Sunday Explorers

**Next Session:
Sunday 4 January**

Games, crafts, stories, singing (and who knows what else!)

Open to all between 7 and 12 years, if you'd like more information just contact Trudy (674819) or Nigel (675344).



Come and join in with
Community Carols

6pm Tuesday 16 December

Great Finborough Primary School

Carols around the Christmas
Tree. Wrap up warm and
bring a torch!



Mince pies and hot drinks afterwards in the
school. All will be welcome

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JACOB BRIDGE COTTAGE IS A BRAND NEW COTTAGE AVAILABLE FOR RENT, SITUATED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GREAT FINBOROUGH IN AN IDYLIC RURAL LOCATION WITH BEAUTIFUL VIEWS. IDEAL FOR A COUPLE, THIS CHARMING COTTAGE IS WELL EQUIPPED, COMFORTABLY FURNISHED AND HAS A FOUR STAR RATING FROM THE QUALITY IN TOURISM BOARD.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR TO BOOK THE COTTAGE PLEASE CONTACT TERESA PEMBERTON.

FARM ASSURED BEEF

GRASS FED HAND REARED BEEF AVAILABLE ON YOUR DOORSTEP. ALL OUR CATTLE AT JACOB BRIDGE FARM ARE GRAZED THROUGH THE SUMMER MONTHS ON LOCAL PASTURES THAT ARE FREE FROM ARTIFICIAL FERTILISERS AND SPRAYS.

IN THE WINTER MONTHS THEY ARE FED ON HOME PRODUCED SILAGE AND CEREALS. ALL OUR BEEF IS HUNG TO MATURE, TO ENHANCE ITS FLAVOUR, AND IS THEN TRADITIONALLY BUTCHERED INTO CONVENIENT CUTS.

THE BEEF COMES FRESHLY FROZEN IN A VARIETY OF PACK SIZES AND WITH A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT CUTS. SUCH AS JOINTS, CASSEROLE BEEF, MINCE AND BURGERS.

TO PLACE AN ORDER FOR BEEF OR TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE HOLIDAY COTTAGE PLEASE CONTACT:

**TERESA PEMBERTON AT JACKBRIDGE FARM, JACBS LANE,
GREAT FINBOROUGH.**

TEL: 01479 672177 E-MAIL:

PEMBERTONS@JACKBRIDGEFARM.PLUS.COM

JACKBRIDGEFARM

CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE FOR DECEMBER

Weekday Morning Prayer

Monday	Onehouse	8.00 – 8.30 am
Friday	Great Finborough	8.00 – 8.30 am

Sunday 7 December 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40.1-11; 2 Peter 3.8-15a; Mark 1.1-8

Sung Eucharist (1)	Buxhall	9.30am
Reflective Morning Prayer	Shelland	9.30am
Matins	Harleston	11am
Christingle	Finborough	4.30pm
Taizé Communion	Onehouse	6.30pm

Wednesday 10 December

Holy Communion (2)	Shelland	10am
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Sunday 14 December 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11; 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24; John 1.6-8,19-28

Holy Communion (2)	Shelland	9.30am
Time2Worship for Advent	Finborough	11am
Holy Communion (1)	Harleston	11am
Carols by Candlelight	Onehouse	3.30pm
Village Carol Service	Buxhall	4pm

Saturday 20 December

Village Carol Service	Finborough	4.30pm
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Sunday 21 December 4th Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7.1-11,16; Romans 16.25-27; Luke 1.26-38

Carols	Shelland	9.30am
Holy Communion (1)	Finborough	11am
Family Communion (1)	Onehouse	11am
Nine Lessons & Carols	Buxhall	6.30pm

Wednesday 24 December Christmas Eve

Isaiah 52.7-10; Hebrews 1.1-4[5-12]; John 1.1-14

Crib Service	Buxhall	3pm
Carols	Harleston	4pm
Midnight Mass	Finborough	11.30pm

Thursday 25 December Christmas Day

Isaiah 9.2-7; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-14[15-20]
Holy Communion (2) Shelland 9.30am
Family Service & Holy Communion Buxhall 10am
Holy Communion (1) Onehouse 10.30am

Sunday 28 December 1st Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31.15-17; Psalm 124; 1 Corinthians 1.26-29; Matthew 2.13-18
Holy Communion (1) Harleston 10.30am



Frances O'Flaherty
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(Bsc, MCSP, SRP, MAPCP)
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premature babies through to 16 year olds.

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developmental delay (pre-term babies, down's syndrome etc)
brain/nervous system (cerebral palsy, head injury etc)
joints, bones and muscles (torticollis, talipes, juvenile arthritis & injury)

t: 01449 774 727 e: kidsfizz@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE FOR JANUARY

Wednesday 1 January New Year's Day
Welcoming the New Year Buxhall 11am

Sunday 4 January Epiphany
Jeremiah 31.7-14; Ephesians 1.3-14; John 1.[1-9]10-18
Sung Eucharist Buxhall 9.30am
Reflective Morning Prayer Shelland 9.30am
Holy Communion (1) Finborough 11am
Family Service Harleston 11am
Evening Prayer Onehouse 6.30pm

Sunday 11 January Baptism of Christ
Genesis 1.1-5; Acts 19.1-7; Mark 1.4-11
Matins Buxhall 9.30am
Holy Communion (1) Harleston 9.30am
Holy Communion (2) Shelland 9.30am
Christingle Onehouse 11am
Celtic Evening Prayer Finborough 6.30pm

Wednesday 14 January
Holy Communion (2) Shelland 10am

Sunday 18 January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany
1 Samuel 3.1-10[11-20]; Revelation 5.1-10; John 1.43-51
Matins Shelland 9.30am
Holy Communion (1) Finborough 11am
Family Communion (1) Onehouse 11am
Christingle Buxhall 4.30pm

Sunday 25 January Charles, King & Martyr
Hosea 6.7-7.2; Hebrews 10.32-39; Mark 4.26-34
Patronal Festival Shelland 10am

Wednesday 28 January
Holy Communion (2) Shelland 10am

Holy Communion (1) = modern rite (order 1);

Holy Communion (2) = BCP (order 2)

WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH

Richard Brice	Chair, Parish Council/Community Council	676249
Dave Norman	Clerk, Parish Council	677882
davidanorman@tiscali.co.uk		
John Matthissen	District Councillor. <i>3 Wash Lane Corner, Great Finborough, IP14 3BJ</i>	771742
john.matthissen@midsuffolk.gov.uk		
Penny Otton	County Councillor	737089
penny.otton@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk		
Revd. Lindsay	Priest in Charge	616010
Llewellyn-MacDuff	<i>The Rectory, Onehouse</i>	
Revd. Trudy Gray	<i>The Old Police House</i>	674819
Lesley Cass	Church Warden. <i>Valley Farm</i>	675970
Brenda Grimaldi	Church Warden. <i>Gardenside</i>	612440
Sally Gooch	Newsletter Editor	677940
sally.gooch@btinternet.com		
John Davey	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	674401
Delia Prior	Gt Finborough & Buxhall Under 5s	07708 362697
Beverley Baxter	Great Finborough & Buxhall Brownies	677517
Scott Murkin	Chair, Team Finborough. <i>11 Middlefield Drive</i>	
Charles Freeman	Royal British Legion	736262
Keith Proctor	Candlestick Club	736598
Judith Cameron	Great Finborough & District Garden Club	672978
ianandjudy@beeb.net		
Sharla Goldsmith	Charity Bingo	678480
Nigel & Jeannette	Post Office & Village Shop	612274
Leonel Girao	The Chestnut Horse	612298
Stephen Dodd	Great Finborough Primary School	613208
Nigel Brown	Chair of Governors, Primary School	675344
PCSO Claire Cox	01284 774100 x3104 or via 01473 613 5000	613 5000
Combs Middle School (674666) Stowmarket High School (613541)		
Stowmarket Health Centre		776000
Combs Ford Surgery		678333
Stowmarket Library		613143
Pettiward Hall Bookings		676249
Village website: www.great-finborough.suffolk.gov.uk		
Primary School website: www.greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk		