

# **GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER**



**DECEMBER / JANUARY 2020/21**  
**ISSUE 514**  
Hands, Face, Space



### **VILLAGE DIARY – December 2020**

1 to 24

Christmas Advent trail, see page 20

19 5pm

Drive-In Carol service, Finborough School

### **PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2020 / 2021**

The next Parish Council meetings will be held on the Zoom platform at 7.30pm on Monday 14 December 2020 and Monday 11 January 2021.

Please contact Simon Tarabella for joining details

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## **Editorial**

As we start December and come to the end of 2020 it is strange to look back and contemplate what a very strange year it has been with some trying times for us all, some more so than others. I would like to think that the help and support villagers have shown to each other have made it a bit more bearable than it otherwise would have been. Thank you to all those concerned.

I have just read through the editorial from last years newsletter and was amazed by how many events were taking place in the run up to Christmas in the village. The majority of these will be curtailed due to the current Covid Guidelines and regulations this year but please try and support any event that is allowed to go ahead and as always, please keep a close eye on your neighbours to see if they need help in any way. If you know of anybody who is struggling in the current lockdown situation please contact me or any of your village Parish Councillors.

As many of you will have already heard, Rev Chris, his wife Wendy and family will be leaving us in the New Year for pastures new. They have been an integral part of this village and the wider Benefice's life for the past 30 years and will be very sorely missed both on a ministry and personal level. They have both done so much to make the village a better place for all and I am sure you will all join me in wishing them all the very best within their new Forest Heath team ministry. Please come back and see us all when you can.

The 15 January is the deadline for inclusion in the February issue of the Newsletter, so please contact Simon Tarabella or Peter Turner if you have any articles to include. Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter each month and to those who contribute regularly or on an occasional basis. Peter and myself wish you all a very merry festive period and best wishes for the New Year

**Simon Tarabella**

## Great Finborough Parish Council

Due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic the Parish Council meeting scheduled for 9 November at 7.30pm was held remotely via Zoom platform.

The comment of "No Objection" was submitted for planning applications at 2 Dairy Farm Cottages, Valley Lane and Stone Farm, Borough lane.

The Clerk's Finance report was approved and payments authorised. The Budget working group submitted their draft budget for the year 2021/22 which was approved, the precept will be confirmed in January.

It was agreed that a Street Light Working Group would be set up to investigate the way forward for the village owned street lights to ensure their suitability for future years.

Local Housing Needs Survey - Following confirmation of the requirements and timeline of an Affordable Housing scheme it was agreed that costings for the survey be sought from Community Action Suffolk.

Following the exclusion of the Public from the meeting the Clerk and Litter Pickers Salary were discussed and agreed upon.

Yet again, the council have received complaints regarding dog poo bags being left on people's driveways in and around Borough Lane. It is requested that the dog owner responsible refrain from this antisocial behaviour and instead use one of the numerous dog bins available around the village.

The date of the next PC meeting will be on Monday 14 December, 7.30pm via Zoom Platform. Any members of the public wishing to have access please contact Simon Tarabella. **Paula Gladwell, Parish Clerk**



## **Great Finborough & District Garden Club**

The Garden Club report will of necessity be very brief this month, but to remind us of all the club activities that took place over the last 18 months the members newsletter is also included separately in this edition of the magazine.

If all goes well, we are hoping to resume meetings on 11 February when potato expert David Wilson will be giving us the low down on getting the very best crop possible.

These meetings will probably be held under the same conditions as applied in October and are as follows: we are limited in numbers and places will need to be booked in advance. Please do this by email to [judith.e.cameron@btinternet.com](mailto:judith.e.cameron@btinternet.com) or telephone to 672978, by the Monday prior to the meeting. If the rules change details will be in the February magazine and members will be informed by e-mail.

In the meantime your Committee wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy, peaceful, and prosperous New Year.

## **Great Finborough and District Garden Club Celebration of Club Events since May 2019**

Sadly, we have not been able to get together much since our last indoor meeting in February, so we thought a look back at a very successful year of events would be nice.

Our year started at the very early hour of 4am on 5 May in St Andrews Churchyard – Barry Cutler led our first Dawn Chorus – aided by lashings of coffee and pastries! It was wonderful hearing species of birds starting their songs at different times during the morning.

We decided to ring the changes for 2019 and instead of Open Gardens we had our first (free) Village Garden Party on 6 July, kindly hosted by Ann and Stephen Basey-Fisher at Broad Oak. It was a lovely event and the persistent rain didn't deter us - lots of people who braved the weather played games, ate wonderful cakes, BBQ food and drank lots of tea and beer (in fact the bar was drunk dry!), whilst enjoying great jazz played by Swing Jazz Trio. We also had a fabulous display of vintage

cars much admired by all. Thanks to all who kindly agreed to bring them despite the weather.

Our Summer BBQ on 25 July at Pat and Peter Turner's garden saw the best turnout ever (the Committee had to sit outside the marquee!). We enjoyed a splendid assortment of salads, BBQ meats and deserts. Luckily, the weather was good for most of the evening, but it was all brought to an abrupt and noisy end by an enormous and spectacular thunderstorm. Very exciting. We were so pleased that the profits from the Village Garden Party and the Summer BBQ enabled donations of £500 each to St Andrews Church and Pettiward Hall.

Buxhall Produce Show was taking a break so together with Great Finborough Allotment Association we hosted The Great Finborough and District Produce Show on 7 September. This was a very new venture for us (or should we say adventure). It turned out to be a brilliant and fun event. We had over 170 entries covering vegetables, fruit, flowers, baking, craft, and very creative children's craft including painted stones, gardens on plates, vegetable characters and crispies cakes. Lots of visitors enjoyed tea and cakes and the company of others – it was a great atmosphere.

We had a big turnout for the ever-popular Christmas Party on 5th December and had fun with quizzes and the unmissable pass the parcel! We all brought savoury or sweet food contributions and had the most delicious feast.

Susanna kindly arranged a number of events and trips for us - The visit to Wood Farm at Gipping took place on glorious sunny evening on 17 June with many members enjoying the lovely flowering meadow and gardens, along with the mandatory delicious coffee and cake. Vicki Hease's workshop on 29 July saw 12 members and guests learn how to make a beautiful arrangement using flowers and greenery from the garden in a recycled drinks bottle and without using foam. On 31 July we boarded a coach bound for the Hyde Hall Flower Show. The event and weather were lovely, and we all came back with armfuls of new plants and heads full of ideas and inspiration.

Susanna also organised a very varied and fascinating programme of speakers for us from hostas, house plants, professional garden and show garden construction, to Alnwick Gardens and the terrifying number of poisonous plants in our gardens! Sadly, the programme ended in February 2020 with the onset of Covid 19. However, a great Programme of speakers from October 2020 has been set and it is hoped that we will meet again in the main hall at Pettiward Hall – in our masks and no hugging! We have to book our places through Judith so that we can comply with the 30 maximum – with no group within that over 6. The Hall has been made as safe as possible with wiping everything down before and after the evening.

### **John Davey Memorial**

The memorials to John Davey were completed in the year – a wooden sign on the allotments and a seat, donated by James Sinclair, by the allotments overlooking the valley. Can imagine John sitting there puffing on his pipe with his dog Sam by his side.

The Bird Seed sales continue to be staggering and happily the profits help the Garden Club to donate to various good causes in the village and beyond. In 2019/20 we donated £1,369.86: St Andrews Church £150 for the Brown Bins; St Andrews Church £500 and Pettiward Hall £500; plants for the Herb Bed by the village car park £37.40; food for the Daffodils on the village greens £24.96; donation to the care staff at Finborough Court £157.50.

We haven't stopped donating, and from May 2020 we have given £685.69: St Andrews Church £132.30 for the Brown Bins; Gt Finborough Wildflower Meadow plants £303.39; Battisford Garden Club £250 – they have been inspired to create a Wildflower Meadow and we donated as their Club orders large amounts of bird seed through us.

As you can see from the list, the Garden Club supports projects in the village that have been created with the Parish Council. We have donated towards the daffodils, herb bed and the wildflower meadow. We do this through donating towards their upkeep, and supplying new plants and

plant food, but also through help with planting, weeding and general maintenance.

**The wildflower meadow** is maturing well but needed more flowering plants to create more colour and extend the flowering season to feed the butterflies and bees. There are a wide variety of native grasses on the meadow which are important as the caterpillars of many butterfly species feed on these grasses.

We also used our surplus funds to subsidise some of the trips and activities – such as the coach for Hyde Hall and the insurance and band for the Garden Party – and help with the additional food at events. Seems eating and drinking are at the core of our Club! Please let us know of any local projects that you think we could support with a donation and on behalf of all the Garden Club Committee – stay safe and see you very soon.

**Peter Turner, Chair September 2020**

### **Drive-In / Walk-In Carol Service**

It is hoped (Covid 19 regulations allowing) to hold a socially distanced Drive-In / Walk-In Carol Service on the 19 December starting at 1700 on Finborough school car park. This will be a shortened version of the traditional 9 Lessons and Carols. Numbers will be limited so it is essential to book your place with Nigel and Bernice (contact details on poster on adjacent page). If you have not registered or fail to fill in the supplied track and trace form I'm afraid you will be refused entry. All attending are encouraged to wrap up warm, have lots of warm drinks and blankets to hand and to bring your own chairs if walking.

Those driving are also encouraged to decorate your cars for the service but battery lights only please as all car engines will be required to be switched off. Numbers of persons allowed in family groups will be determined by current Covid regulations.

**Great Finborough Church Group**

COMBS AND FINBOROUGH GROUP



**St Andrew's Gt Finborough invite you  
to a**

## **Drive-In / Walk-In Carol Service**

**Saturday 19th December at  
Finborough School @ 5pm**

**Booking Essential to  
Nigel Brown  
bernice52nigel@yahoo.co.uk  
01449 675344**

**Please note - there will be no  
admittance to the Carol  
Service unless you have an  
attendance pack and have  
booked your place.**



**Strict social distancing rules will be in place  
in line with current Covid regulations**



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## Planning an event in 2019?

Give us a call and we would be more than happy to advise and help on postage, signage, flyers, banners and programmes.

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### Non-members wild birdseed orders.

The next order will be placed on the 12 February 2021. Bird seed collection will be on 24 February between 2pm and 6pm from Abbey Farm Cottage. If you would like to place an order please let me have your requirements together with a cheque made payable to "Great Finborough Garden Club", or by BAC's "Gt Finborough Garden Club", sort 09-01-54, account no 20213287 please reference your name followed by B/S. Orders may be posted to or dropped off at The Little House, High Road, Gt Finborough, IP14 3AA, or if it's more convenient dropped off at 1 Valley Lane, Gt Finborough.

Name

Tel No

Product	Weight	Price	Quantity Cost
Wild Bird Mix	20 kg	£11-00	
W.B.M. Premium	20kg	£12.50	
W.B.M No Wheat	20kg	£15-00	
W.B.M NEW High Energy	12.75 kg	£13-00	
W.B.M. No Mess	12.75 kg	£13-50	
W.B.M Robin & Songbird	12.75 kg	£13-50	
Finch Mix	20 kg	£13-00	
Mixed Corn	20 kg	£9-00	
SUPER Poultry Mix	20kg	£10-00	
Peanuts (superior)	25 kg	£34-00	
Peanuts (half sack)	12.5kg approx	£18-50	
Black Sunflower Seed	12.55 kg	£11-00	
Sunflower Kernels	20 kg	£24-00	
Sunflower Kernels	10kg approx.	£13-00	
Nyjer Seed	25kg	£31-00	
Nyjer Seed	12.5kg approx	£16.50	
Suet Pellets	12.75kgs	£18-00	
Suet Balls (Superior)	Price each 150 Box	13p £19.50	
		Total	

The next seed order will be April 2021. Thank you, Peter Turner 07789727974, [p.turner125@btinternet.com](mailto:p.turner125@btinternet.com). Special arrangements will be required for collection if not collected on the day.

## **News from your District Councillor - John Matthissen**

### **New Local Plan**

The draft for Examination in Public has just been published, and if you have any comments, either objections or support, they should be submitted by 24 December. At this advanced stage, responses must address specific policies and land allocations, and put forward changes to the wording, or propose entirely new policies. I particularly encourage contributions in support of policies you like, and there are many strengthened requirements regarding climate and biodiversity. When hearings are held by the inspector next year, developers will seek to weaken these policies, but public support will weigh in favour. <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/new-joint-local-plan/>

### **Save baby trees**

Many of you kindly saved any trees found in flower and vegetable beds, and brought them to me when I lived at Wash Lane Corner. I am pleased to say that the Red Gables Garden Project is establishing a tree nursery, and will welcome any trees you find. They should be native trees in pots or containers of any kind, and left near the greenhouse. Red Gables, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket IP14 1BE. They will also welcome large pots of 2 litre+ size. Trees will go to supply the many planting projects that are being planned by villages and towns around the district.

### **Christmas Tree Recycling**

After the holiday, all real trees should be taken to a recycling point, such as at Chilton Fields or the recreation ground.

### **Food Bank**

Don't forget the lockdown, Covid self-isolation and Christmas will all put extra demand on the Food Bank, and remember an extra tin or packet when you are shopping.



## **New Covid-19 support grant launched**

Businesses in Babergh and Mid Suffolk who have had to close their doors to customers as part of the current national lockdown may be eligible for a second wave of grant funding.

<https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/features/our-covid-19-response/>

## **Councils to consult on CIL charging rates**

MSDC are seeking views on revised Community Infrastructure Levy charges for developers – helping to provide communities with the facilities they need to keep pace with growth. Details on

[www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk)

## **Locality Budget**

I have had some applications for the locality budget scheme for 2020/21, and will be allocating some of the money shortly. I would like to ensure that some goes to each of the 6 villages, and await more bids. Best to give me a call or an email to explore if the project is likely to be eligible and if so you will be sent an application form.

## **Season greetings in these difficult times, and sharing hopes of a much better 2021.**

**To get in touch:** see Who's who or write to me at 2 Brick Kiln Cottages, Barretts Lane, Needham Market IP6 8RZ

## **Stowmarket Eco Future Group**

Do you know about this new Facebook group?

It's for local people who want to encourage each other to live a lifestyle that is good for the planet. Come along and share your best ideas and skills, ask for help, learn together, find links to other relevant sites eg: facebook Sustainable Stowmarket and [www.greensuffolk.org](http://www.greensuffolk.org).

Whether you are able to do a lot or a little it is vital for the future that we help each other improve what we do. Environmental change comes when many people do a bit rather than a few doing change perfectly. Please come and join us.

**Stella Davis**



# CHESTNUT HORSE



Sharon, Robert & Clare would like to thank the local community so very much for their help and support in these current uncertain times. We are still providing take away food and hope to be able to re-open on the lifting of restrictions due to lockdown 2. Our Christmas menu is shown on the adjacent page and a under 12's childrens Christmas menu is also available.

Please call or contact via Facebook for further information

Opening times as follows (subject to Govt advice and the lifting of lockdown restrictions)

Tues - Thurs 12-9pm

food served 12 -2pm & 5-9pm

Friday and Saturday - open all day 12pm-10pm

Food served 12 - 2pm & 5-9pm

Sunday - open all day 12-8pm

Food served 12-4pm

Take aways still available

We are following the Govt guidance of the rule of 6 and appreciate your understanding



Tel 01449 674688 or  
contact via Facebook Messenger



## STARTER

\*Curried parsnip soup served with a warm bread roll

\*Ham Hock Pate served with granary toast

\*Breaded Brie with cranberry Jam

\*Smoked salmon and Prawn cocktail

## MAIN COURSE

\*Traditional Turkey and all the trimmings

\*Cod cooked in a festive bread crumb served with seasonal veg

\*Roast parsnip and swede hotpot served with festive greens(V)

\*succulent Beef Stew served with sage dumplings

\*festive filled Burger(homemade turkey burger) topped with bacon, sausage meat stuffing and cranberry sauce with chips and salad

## DESSERT

\*Festive crumble-Apple and mincemeat infused with traditional spices served with custard

\*Christmas pudding with brandy butter cream

\*Homemade Bailey's Cheesecake

\*Chocolate Brownie served with Ice cream(V&GF)

## TO FINISH....

\*Warm mince pie\*

£24.95 Per Person £10.00 non-refundable deposit to be paid 2 weeks prior to reservation

Call us on 01449 674688 or message us on Facebook

The Chestnut Horse Great Finborough

## **An Autumn Ramble (or stage one of the Trouser Trilogy)**

It is the time of year when an old man's thoughts turn to trousers. The shorts, having acquitted themselves admirably during the more clement months, are now enjoying a well earned rest but, for too many unfortunates, this can mean only one thing - the resumption of the regular morning struggle with the top trouser button! That the garment will have shrunk to some greater or lesser extent over the spring and summer is inevitable but this of course leads in turn to widespread nail-breakage and the bruising of many an innocent digit, in fact to the seasonal ailment known as Autumn Thumb Disorder, or ATD.

We should not however blame our trousers for their behaviour as it is not as we might be tempted to imagine, delinquent. It is simply in their nature and as such, a purely instinctive reaction on their part. Indeed, there is a case for saying that we should all show some greater appreciation for the years of dedicated service that our trousers so selflessly provide. Sadly, the reality is that trousers are all too often taken for granted when the smallest gesture of appreciation from time to time, might make all the difference to their otherwise mundane existence.

Who is to say that a little effort on our part, to look in on the old faithfuls during the long summer months - to see if there is anything that they might require from Lidl for example, might not pay an unexpected dividend when the Autumn comes around and they are called back into service once more? The customarily uncooperative top button might just align and engage with a minimum of effort and although it may seem a fanciful notion, it is just possible that something as simple as a more contented trouser population could see the scourge of ATD banished forever.

Pip-Pip!



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## **Some top cleaning tips from “Time for You”**

We want to let you know some cleaning hints to make the cleaning a little easier to manage.

**Sanitise** Top of the list at the moment, with the Coronavirus pandemic, is how to ensure your home remains safe and sanitised from any germs which may be lingering. Allowing fresh air to circulate is extremely important. Cleaning should include high touch points; light switches, door handles, toilet handles, remote controls and keyboards. Even if they are not visibly dirty, these places house the most unseen germs and bacteria. These areas should be cleaned daily, with a normal cleaning product and then a disinfectant over the top which is left to air dry.

**Cleaning Top to Bottom** This phrase came about for a good reason! Starting at the top and working down means any dirt or dust you dislodge does not fall on somewhere already cleaned. Apply the same rule to every room – start with cobwebs and work down to the floor.

**Getting in the Zone** Break home cleaning into smaller tasks – spending an hour a day in a different zone is a great way to deep clean areas not normally covered in a general clean.

**Cut the Clutter** Those ornaments, books and magazines just get in the way so have a clear out and then make sure everything has a place.

**Keep your cleaning caddy close by** Having your cleaning kit to hand cuts down running up and down stairs every few minutes making the clean easier.

**Sweet smell of success** Make your home smell fresh as well as looking clean and tidy. Open the windows for some fresh air, sprinkle bicarbonate of soda in the bin or on carpets and leave overnight to absorb smells and citrus fruits like lemons and grapefruits are a fantastic way to keep your home clean, smelling nice and free of germs. Even the peels can be left in your rubbish bin to remove nasty smells and eventually used as kindling in your fireplace!

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# CHRISTMAS

## Advent Trail

2 3 4 5

**Please support Friends of Great Finborough CEVC Primary School**

We are hosting a window spotting advent calendar trail during December.

Each day from 1st December 2020 to 24th December 2020 a different location in Great Finborough will display a numbered Christmas themed picture in their window.

Once on display that picture will remain in position until 31st December 2020.  
Please note all 24 pictures will only be on display from 24/12/2020.

There is the chance to win a £50 e-Lego voucher.

Please contact us for details on how to obtain a trail map and entry form  
[committee@friends-finboroughprimary.co.uk](mailto:committee@friends-finboroughprimary.co.uk) or text 07966 964727

**Please ensure you adhere to the Government Guidelines and Restrictions that are in place at the time you undertake this trail.**

23 24

Day 1  
Day 15  
Day 20

**PRIZE!**

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## **" One Last Time" from the Rectory**



Time heals, Time marches on, give it Time are all phrases that have resonance throughout our lives. One of the most popular Bible readings at funerals is from Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 'A time for this and a time for that' etc. We must recognise that sentiment and remember that it is the brittle stick that snaps in the wind, not the flexible sap filled stick that notices the

world around and reacts accordingly.



Above my desk I have two prints, one of Rembrandt's 'The Return of the Prodigal' and the other is Salvador Dali's 'The Persistence of Memory'. The first principally reminds us that whatever we have done - however far we have strayed whatever we have tried - God is there to welcome us home not grudgingly but with generosity, love, and kindness.

The elder son has stayed doing the same thing, perhaps wondering what to make of it all and what he has done with his time. The younger son has got it. He has perhaps done the greater thing. He has tried but failed. He has then got over his arrogance, pride and guilt and brought it home to his father in repentance and no doubt was a very changed man. I think we can all identify with its obvious imagery and straightforwardness, probably coming to similar conclusions.

As we move through life new responsibilities arise personally and our communities change, calling us to alter our reactions too. But we do not start with a blank canvas, we move from that which we know, to that which is unclear and that brings me to the second picture.

It has imagery we can easily identify with at first but which on closer inspection is not real. They require proper 'looking' and wondering what they are about. They demand new thought in the way 'Rembrandt' doesn't. In Christian terms they call us to look and see what is around us and how we individually and as a church should react. We start from what we know but only the 'arrogant' stay there. God calls us on with new visions to new ways and lives.



The 'Rembrandt' is in a proper frame and I feel comfortable. I understand it. It has permanence and respectability. The print of the 'Salvador Dalí' is covered in clear perspex and it disturbs, because I don't fully understand it. It lacks permanence. It calls me onto see things differently and I know as we grow older different glimpses of God appear, different responsibilities arise and new ways of being and doing are more appropriate.

By the time you read this you will probably know that Wendy and I are leaving in January when I take up a new post based in Gazeley near Newmarket. I will be looking after the villages of Gazeley, Moulton, Dalham, Kentford and Higham as a Team Vicar within a large Forest Heath Team Ministry.

We moved into Onehouse in June 1988 and I lead my first service there in 1989 with Buxhall closely following. Oliver was born in Onehouse the following year and Rebecca in Buxhall in 1993. These parishes have been our family home and the rest is history as they say. As I look back on those years I remember so many now departed and so very many happy times living among you and ultimately of course having the great honour of becoming the first Rector of the new United Benefice.

In the vacancy you are all in the very capable hands of Canon Pauline, Rev Alison and the Ministry Team. I am sure the Churchwardens and

officers will prove their worth. The Rural Dean, Canon Diane Williams and Bishop Mike will lead the process for the appointment of my successor.

In so many ways these parishes and you all are inscribed into my psyche. I am pleased to be able to leave you all with so many good things going on from the two choirs to the very able Messy Church Groups, Bible Study, the care you show each other and community integration. You are all in good heart financially and administratively.

As I said at the beginning time moves on. New vision and perspective are needed here and I feel sure that God will guide from that which you know into new developments of ministry and Mission in all the communities. I have a very real sense that my work here is done and we both need to live nearer to our parents. Those two concepts became more obvious during lockdown. This post then became vacant and I was successful in my application. Thank you all for wonderful support and friendship over the years. It has been a remarkable journey for us all.

So for the last time and of course in personal sadness I say,

With every good wish and prayers

**Rev Chris**

## **SPECIAL NOTE RE CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

We have done our best to plan allowing for building size and present regulations. Obviously, things may change and we will do our best to notify you. Gt Finborough Church and Combs Parish and 'A Church Near You' websites are the most up to date.

## **PARISH REGISTERS for Gt Finborough**

There were no entries into the Parish Register this month



COMBS AND FINBOROUGH GROUP  THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Wherever you are you are welcome to join

# **Living Advent Course**

**A four week series of reflections and  
discussion written by Ruth Dennigan**

Discipleship and Ministry Development Officer  
Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

**Wednesdays 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd  
December  
at 4pm on Zoom**

Registration, material and log in details  
[revccchilds@aol.com](mailto:revccchilds@aol.com) or [paulinehigham@googlemail.com](mailto:paulinehigham@googlemail.com)

## Denzil's Diary

Well, here I am, back after a months layoff (or should I say laydown). Yes, it's your favourite village blagger, sorry, I mean't blogger or as I'm beginning to be known, the Finborough Foghorn!

I thought I had better get back into the harness and write some words as I see I have some mighty competition in this months edition. I'm feeling rather proud of myself that I have obviously encouraged others to put pen to paper for our wonderful newsletter.

I have been rather busy in the run up to Christmas as of course I have to send out all my "Muletide" greeting cards as well as thinking about what food to serve at mine and Tweezle's annual Christmas party. I was thinking of some cheesy snacks, anything made with Masc- a - pony seems to satisfy Tweezle.

The talk of the village during lockdown 2 seems to be about the likelihood of a vaccine becoming available and who will be in the front of the queue to receive it. Not wishing to sound anti Vaccs or anything but I'm happy for all to go ahead of me as I have an aversion to needles, just ask Mr BF, my lovely owner, about the last time the vet called! Hope the foot is better now, it really wasn't my fault I stood on it and I think all that rolling around on the floor of the stable was a bit over the top!

Anyway, back to the festive season. Tweezle and I have been working out in preparation for the extra food we will no doubt be served at Christmas. We saw Santa down the "Gymney" yesterday, that doesn't seem to be working out too well for him though! My personal plan must be working as I heard someone say "Nice Ass" the other day as they passed although I still think I could lose a few pounds off that area myself!

Tweezle and I wish you all a very happy, festive season of goodwill and hope that you can all spend it with friends and family. See you in the New Year!

**Dear Denzil,**

I can't deny that I was disappointed that you didn't keep up your diary last month. I do hope that you haven't fallen into the habit of some of your overseas relatives, who have gained a reputation for laziness. Personally, I have always thought this unwarranted because, after all, stubbornness is not to be confused with laziness, and a certain amount of stubbornness is to be expected, nay, welcomed in an animal of character and feeling. Speaking of nays (neighs) reminds me of brays. I have long been meaning to let you know how much I appreciate yours! (So much more colourful than a neigh). When I am working in my garden or relaxing with a good book and a glass of wine, it gives me a great sense of pleasure and joyousness to hear your broadcasts. Do keep them up whenever you feel so inclined. Of course, I appreciate that we are going into your busy period as Christmas nears, and with extended duties, you may feel less celebratory, but I hope not.

I must admit when I last passed by, there wasn't much to be joyful about for either of us. I had left home with a glorious blue sky above and set off via your paddock to buy eggs from the stall in Buxhall, but by the time I reached you and your companion on my return journey home, I was soaked through and close to shivering, quite aside from all the slip-sliding mud I had had to negotiate as I crossed the hill.

It was a relief to reach the flat of your field, edged as it is by that tantalisingly delicious grass on the footpath. Fortunately, the grass enables welly boots to get a purchase, no matter how much rain has fallen. I must say I couldn't quite understand why you and Tweazle were standing outside your quarters, even though you have free access to shelter. I did wonder whether this wasn't rather asinine behaviour? Neither of you looked very happy and you were certainly as wet as I was. Of course, I appreciate that you have to keep an eye out for carrot-bearers, as well as dogs. For some reason you, Denzil, used to think it a good idea to charge at my dog as we walked along the footpath beside the paddock. I tried to explain that a German Shepherd

dog not only looks quite wolf-like, but also retains a lot of the ancestral characteristics, as dogs do, but you appeared to have lost your instinct for self-preservation. It was, therefore, entirely up to me to protect you from your own foolish behaviour, so I do hope you realise this, and will allow me a friendly pat on your nose from time to time, whether bearing carrots or not.

Have a good Christmas, take care and look after each other as friends should.

**A neigh.....bour!**

### **Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Ride and Stride**

It was feared Suffolk Historic Churches Trust's Sponsored Ride and Stride would be cancelled this year like so many other events. Fortunately, it fell between "Lock-Downs" and so with strict precautions it went ahead. A record number of people took part, and we raised £385! St Andrew's receives 50% of money raised and the other 50% is used by SHCT to help maintain other historic churches in Suffolk. St Andrew's has benefitted from grants from SHCT in the past, such as installing the kitchenette and WC.

This year as well as cyclists and walkers we had runners! A group of friends in the village, calling themselves the Fat Dads regularly go running together. After months of running they are now Fit Dads! 2 teams of 4 took part for the first time. Thank you so much!

Thank you to everyone who took part by walking, running, or cycling and to those who recorded at St Andrew's. Thank you also to all the kind people who sponsored the more active souls.

**Mary Williams**



## **A letter to Santa from a mother of 3 small children**

Dear Santa,

I've been good all year. I've worked hard, cooked and cleaned, and done the shopping, washing and ironing. If my writing is a bit shaky, I'm sorry but I'm having to do this letter on top of the washing machine between cycles. Who knows when I will find any more free time between now and Christmas? Please excuse the shopping list on the other side of this letter. Sorry about the crayon too but the kids have put my pens in the pond hoping that they will grow into torpedoes to frighten the frogs. None of my lipsticks worked so they are trying my pencils now. Their grandad was telling them about propelling pencils that he had in the olden days, and they thought these would do the trick as they were called "propelling". Ah, bless.

My brother thinks the drum and trumpet he told you to bring are really fun presents. Music is to be appreciated in all its forms he says... Motorhead and ZZ Top I don't think qualify. So please, poor quality ones as sanity will have almost been driven out by the time New Year's Eve arrives. So, if these two items don't stand the test of time then not having a headache on consecutive days will be really appreciated. Oh yes, and the talking doll that my parents have ordered. Please can it be one that doesn't cry all the time but says "Yes Mummy" and "I love you". Playdough, I know, is on the list. Please can this be in really bright colours and very sticky? My brother (I really do love him) has said he will have the kids one afternoon so I can have a couple of hours at the Sales. It will be fun watching him getting the damn stuff out of the shagpile carpet. This, I'm sure, will bring an end to him being helpful on how best to clean a carpet.

The football shirt I've asked for my dear husband, please remember it's Manchester United not City. That's the red one. I know he will want to wear it at the table on Christmas day even when the rest of us will be making an effort to look festive. Okay, I know it's a Christmas colour and I suppose it's a small sacrifice for not having a long face when

pulling crackers and carving the turkey. There are no football matches on Christmas day, are there? I don't want to have to referee between the Premier League, the Queen's Speech and a rerun of "Toy Story 2". As for me, Santa, well a new pair of feet would be nice, ones that aren't always sore. Any colour will do except blue. I've already got a pair of those. A new voice box too, the one I have doesn't work properly. One that has the ability to project sentences like "Keep the noise down" or "Put your shoes away". Gosh, Santa, wouldn't those be lovely Christmas presents?

Got to sign off now Santa, there's my little treasure wanting his crayon back. He doesn't know the word graffiti yet but seems to have captured the embodiment of it. His bedroom walls bear testament to that. Another job for the new year... perhaps if I paint his room red this time... Hum, that's a thought... His Dad would probably appreciate it! Two kids together. Bless them both.

Lots of love Santa, stay safe on your deliveries,  
Mummy

**R. Tickler**

## **The Pettiward Hall**

### **"Little Ernie"**

The winners in November were John Grimaldi and Hazel Terry. They each received £8.75.

## **AGM**

The charity's AGM, postponed from March, was held on 21 October. Trustees David Preece, Delia Prior and Norman Vendittelli were re-elected. Sara Raynes was elected, having been co-opted by the committee last September. Mary Preece continues as the Parish Council's nominated trustee until March 2021. If you would like to see a copy of the Annual Report & Accounts, please let me know. At the committee meeting following the AGM, David Preece was re-elected as Chairman and Treasurer and Mary Preece was re-elected as Secretary and Bookings Secretary/Keyholder.

**Mary Preece**

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## **Census 2021 will provide a snapshot of modern society**

Households across Suffolk will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

"A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed," Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said.

"This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That's why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them."

Census day will be on March 21, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](https://census.gov.uk).

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*Help stop the spread of COVID-19* 



If you have been asked to self-isolate because **you have tested positive** for Covid-19, you must isolate for 10 days from the date of your positive test result. All members of your home must isolate for 14 days too, including children who must not attend school or any other childcare setting.



If you have symptoms try to stay as far away from other people in your home as possible. If you still have a temperature at the end of the first 10 days, continue to self-isolate until your temperature returns to normal and seek medical advice from your GP or NHS 111.



If you have been asked to self-isolate because **you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive** for Covid-19, stay at home for 14 days. However, family members or others living with you, do not have to self-isolate if no-one currently has symptoms.



You must **NOT** go to work, to the shops or leave the place where you live for any reason during the self-isolation.

**Do not allow people to visit your home.**



**You could be fined if you** have a positive test result, or if you are identified as a contact of someone with Covid-19 and you are notified by NHS Test and Trace that you need to self-isolate and **do not stay at home and self-isolate.**



**Help and support.** If you have support needs, please call the Suffolk Advice and Support Service on 0800 068 3131 (09:00 – 17:00 weekdays) or visit <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/>

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## SERVICES FOR THE BENEFICE December 2020

A sermon, Pew Sheet and suitable music are available from  
[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2338/benefice](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2338/benefice)

**Please ensure you book with the churchwardens if you would like to attend a service inside a church.**

### **6 December: Second Sunday of Advent**

9.30 am	Spiritual Communion	Zoom meeting
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Buxhall
3.00 pm	Evening Prayer	Little Finborough

### **13 December: Third Sunday of Advent**

9.30 am	Spiritual Communion	Zoom meeting
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Combs
3.00 pm	Evening Prayer	Shelland

### **18 December:**

6.00 pm	Outdoor Carol Service	Trinity School, Combs
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### **19 December:**

3.00 pm	Crib Service with figures	Onehouse Village Sign
5.00 pm	Drive-In Carol Service	Finborough School

### **20 December: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9.30 am	Spiritual Communion	Zoom meeting
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Great Finborough
3.00 pm	Outdoor Carol Service	Battisford Green
6.30pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	Zoom meeting

### **24 December: Christmas Eve**

11.00 am	Crib Service	Combs
3.00 pm	Crib Service	Harleston Green
11.30pm	Midnight Spiritual Communion	Zoom meeting

### **25 December: CHRISTMAS DAY**

9.30 am	Spiritual Holy Communion	Zoom meeting
9.30 am	Holy Communion	Great Finborough
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Buxhall

**Precautions against coronavirus transmission will be in place. Face coverings must be worn at services in churches. The precautions may change as the regulations and best practice are modified.**

## **WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH**

Chair, Parish Council	Simon Tarabella <a href="mailto:simon.tarabella@great-finborough.suffolk.gov.uk">simon.tarabella@great-finborough.suffolk.gov.uk</a>	672072
Clerk, Parish Council	Paula Gladwell <a href="mailto:finboroughparishclerk@gmail.com">finboroughparishclerk@gmail.com</a>	01284 828112
District Councillor	John Matthissen <a href="mailto:councillor@matthissen.net">councillor@matthissen.net</a>	258894
County Councillor	Penny Otton <a href="mailto:penny.otton@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk">penny.otton@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk</a>	737870
Newsletter Editor	Simon Tarabella <a href="mailto:simon.tarabella@great-finborough.suffolk.gov.uk">simon.tarabella@great-finborough.suffolk.gov.uk</a>	672072
Vicar	Rev. Chris Childs <i>Combs Rectory, 135 Poplar Hill, IP14 2AY</i> <a href="mailto:revcchilds@aol.com">revcchilds@aol.com</a>	673280
Associate Priest	Rev Canon Pauline Higham <i>The Rectory, Onehouse, IP14 2AY</i>	771791
Church Warden	Paul Goodchild	401185
Church Warden	Nigel Brown	675344
Pettward Hall Management Committee	Mary Preece	771360
Lettings/Keyholder	<a href="mailto:mary.preece1@btinternet.com">mary.preece1@btinternet.com</a>	
Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5s	Delia Prior <a href="mailto:delia@gfbunderfive.co.uk">delia@gfbunderfive.co.uk</a>	07513 140072
Footpath Warden	James Spencer <a href="mailto:greatfinboroughfootpaths@gmail.com">greatfinboroughfootpaths@gmail.com</a>	
Allotments Association	Mary Smyth	672533
Candlestick Club	Keith Proctor	736598
Great Finborough & District Garden Club	Judith Cameron <a href="mailto:judyandian@btinternet.com">judyandian@btinternet.com</a>	672978
Chestnut Horse Pub	Sharon Shipp	674688
Great Finborough Community Cinema	Norman Vendittelli	07930 338580
Buxhall Women's Institute	Hilary Hall <a href="mailto:hilary-hall@hotmail.co.uk">hilary-hall@hotmail.co.uk</a>	
Head teacher, Great Finborough	Stephen Dodd	613208
Primary School	<a href="mailto:headteacher@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk">headteacher@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk</a>	
Police (Stowmarket SNT)	<a href="mailto:Stowmarket.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk">Stowmarket.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk</a>	101
Stowmarket High School		613541
Stowmarket Health Centre		776000
Combs Ford Surgery		678333
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