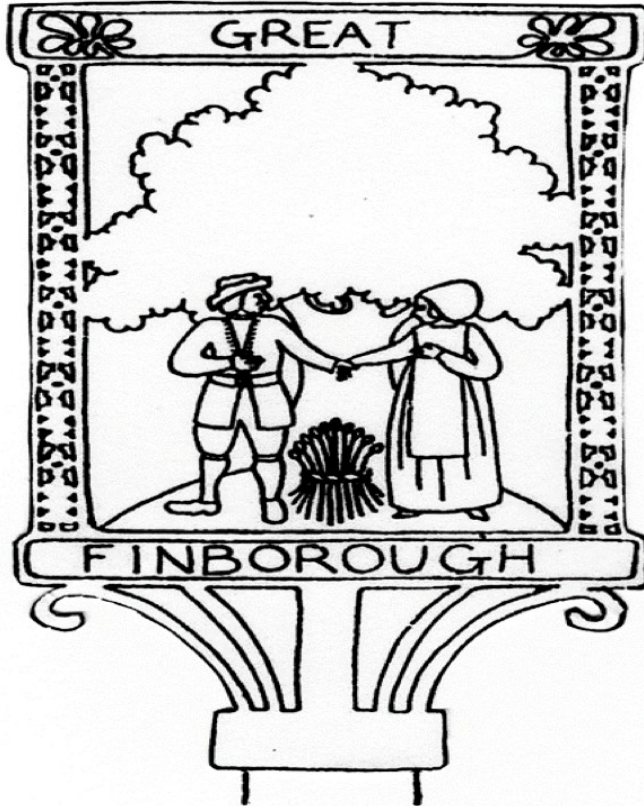


GREAT FINBOROUGH NEWSLETTER



**February 2023
ISSUE 535**

VILLAGE DIARY

February 2023

9	7.30pm	Garden Club, Pettiward Hall
16	8pm	Gary's music Quiz, Chestnut Horse

March 2023

9	7.30pm	Garden Club, Pettiward Hall
13	7.30pm	Parish Council, Pettiward Hall
16	8pm	Quiz Night, Chestnut Horse

Every Wednesday, Warm Space / "Meet up Wednesday" 12 – 2pm, at the Chestnut Horse

Mobile Library service Fridays 4.10pm – 4.30pm Oak Close

10 February, 10 March, 5 May, 2 June, 30 June, 28 July, 25 August, 22 September, 20 October, 17 November, 15 December.

No service in April.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2023

13 March and 10 April at 7.30pm, Pettiward Hall

The Newsletter is produced by Great Finborough Parish Council, printed by Gipping Press, and distributed to all households in the village free of charge. Claims made have not been verified. For these the newsletter disclaims responsibility.

Editorial

It seems a bit late but may I take this opportunity to wish all our residents a very happy new year. The festive period in Great Finborough was as busy as ever and even the lack of musical accompaniment at the carols in the pub could not put a dampener on the evening. You will be pleased to hear that Hilde has managed to source a new plug for her electric organ which had caused the glitch!

With the onset of colder weather please be aware that the Chestnut Horse is offering itself up as a “warm space” on Wednesday lunchtimes to run alongside its “meet up” Wednesday event which aims to bring residents together for a chat over a cup of coffee. Why not come along and make some new friendships for the new year.

The Parish Council have approved the budget for the next financial year and have decided to set the precept so there will be no increase in the Parish Council part of residents Council Tax based on a Band D property for the year.

Peter Turner and myself have decided to give up the editorship of the newsletter in May so I am afraid that if no new volunteers are found then the newsletter will cease to exist. If you think you might be interested, please give me or Peter a call, a basic knowledge of MS word and general computer skills are all that is required.

On that note, please also see the advert on page 24 for the vacancy of village local recorder and the article on page 18 about who does what in the village and how you might be able to help.

If you have stories to tell or news for the village, February 15 is the deadline for inclusion in the March edition of the Newsletter. Please contact Simon Tarabella or Peter Turner for further details.

Simon Tarabella

Great Finborough Parish Council

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the upstairs room of Pettiward Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 9 January.

Concerns were expressed regarding works at Green Farm. These concerns will be reported to the relevant departments at Mid Suffolk District Council. Concerns were expressed regarding the excess speed of vehicles along the City Lane end of the High Road. It was confirmed that several attempts had been made to extend the 30mph limit to this part of the village but unfortunately all had been unsuccessful. It was noted that the PC had implemented as many traffic calming procedures as possible and that the Neighbourhood Speed Watch could restart as soon as new volunteers came forward.

Reports were heard from both District and County councillors.

The Budget Working Group put forward their final draft of the budget for 2023/2024 with a recommendation that full council approve this and the precept created. It was RESOLVED to approve the Budget for 2023/24 with no further amendments. It was noted that the precept requirement raised by the budget process of £14505 ensured that there would be no increase in the Parish Council part of residents Council Tax based on a Band D property for the year. It was RESOLVED to set the precept for 2023/2024 at £14505.

It was agreed that the new Facebook page be used to consult with residents on where they would like to see the budgeted £500 for local charity donations go to. Further consideration of this grant funding and the results of the public consultation would be taken at the next meeting.

The requests for replacement fence posts and the removal of the stand pipe box received from the Allotment Association were considered. It was agreed that quotes be sought to repair the fence and remove the box and rejoin the standpipe to the tap. It was agreed that the road side hedge adjacent to the allotments would need to be flailed

The two quotes received for work to the Chestnut Tree on the green and the removal of the row of trees adjacent to gardens at Woodpecker Hill were considered. It was RESOLVED to engage Green Scene to carry out the work

It was noted that tentative plans for an event to mark the Coronation of the King were underway, this would be reported to the Community Engagement Police Officer as they have requested.

Cllrs Tarabella and Turner indicated that after 8 years as "temporary editors" of the Newsletter they would no longer be able to do this following the elections in May. It was noted that if no one can be found to take over the editors' role the production of the Newsletter would cease.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 13 March at 7.30pm in the upstairs meeting room of Pettiward Hall.

Paula Gladwell

The Chestnut Horse

We would like to thank Peter and Christine for their hard work and dedication in completing our monthly quiz and wish them a fantastic quiz retirement

We are now operating our winter opening hours, Wednesday and Thursday 12 till 3 and 5 till close, Friday and Saturday 12 till close and Sunday 12 till 8.

Please see boards inside or Facebook for our many special winter warmer offers, including our spice up Wednesday menu.

We are closed for our annual holiday on Wednesday 1 Feb, Thursday 2 Feb and reopening at 5pm on Friday 3 February.

Sharon and Rob

News from your District Councillor - John Matthissen

Election Changes

The next local elections are coming soon, in May, but **the law is changing**. You can still register to vote by post and confirm your identity with a signature.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote

But if you want to vote at a polling station you will need to prove your identity by showing photo ID.

- Passport or driving licence
- Older Person's Bus Pass
- Disabled Person's Bus Pass
- Oyster 60+ Card
- Freedom Pass
- Identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card)

If you don't have any of these apply to the District Council, which will be able to verify your identity and issue an identity document.

Solar Car Ports

70 solar carports have been erected within the car park at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre in Stowmarket; they should provide around 20% of the centre's annual electricity demand. The scheme includes battery storage, so excess energy produced during sunnier periods can be saved for later, and electric vehicle charging points, including one rapid charger.

Mid Suffolk Disability Forum

The Forum is open to disabled people, their carers, representatives of disability organisations and everyone interested in disability. It meets quarterly, currently on Zoom, but otherwise at the Salvation Army centre in Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket. The Forum is a voice for disabled people, consulting with councils, transport providers and other services. <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/communities/mid-suffolk-disability-forum/>

Food Bank

As prices rise and fuel bills soar, more people are turning to the Stowmarket Food Bank for help. If you can, please contribute a few items from your weekly shop into the baskets at almost all food shops locally. Their current urgent needs are tinned potatoes, tinned rice pudding & toilet rolls please

Seedling Trees to Red Gables

When you start to get out in the garden, don't forget that baby native trees in pots are needed by the Red Gables Tree Nursery. They also need large pots. Their address is Red Gables, Ipswich Rd, Stowmarket IP14 1BE which is opposite Hollingsworth Road.

Leave trees and pots by the greenhouse. And if you have any land suitable for tree planting, please let me, and the parish council, know.

John Matthissen

Woodpecker Hill Wood – Update

Firstly, may I wish you all a happy and healthy 2023.

I am opening this article with a big thank you to Norman Vendittelli and Jeannie Newell who volunteered their time and energy building two benches for the children of Finborough CofE Primary School. The children are now able to sit comfortably whilst their forest lessons are being taught on nature and the environment. We are planning to build one more bench so are needing either 2 x 4"x2" 6 ft planks OR 1 x 6"x2" 6ft plank (sorry about imperial measurements) to finish this off. So, if you can help with this, please contact me via email below.

Also, another big thank you to Rodney Self who put together a "bug hotel" for the children to stuff with leaves and twigs which they did on the last Forest School of the 2022 season. The children also planted another 30 bulbs which, hopefully, will bloom in the Spring.

And for those of you who have excess energy we do need extra people to help with the coppicing of Dog Wood, so if you feel you could help us then please contact me below and we will be able to put together a working group. On another note, for those of you who are good at putting together some nesting boxes, these would really be

appreciated. Now we are thinning out the wood birds are able to fly in and around and look for breeding areas and the extra nesting boxes would be really beneficial.

As you know Woodpecker Hill Wood is run by a voluntary group so any items that you no longer have need for and you feel would be useful to us to help maintain and improve this area for the village and school then please feel free to contact me via email below.

June Nathan co-ordinator email: whwv2020@gmail.com

Great Finborough Garden Club

The past Garden Club year has been back to business as usual, Open Gardens followed by the summer social in Ann's garden were both a great success. The remainder of the year was the AGM in September, followed by a coach trip to Fullers Mill and Langham walled garden, followed by Gillian Bartrum transporting us to the Tropics. The club year finished in true garden Club style with the Christmas party. All attendees had a lovely evening with a feast of food, drink and good company with tuneful entertainment provided by the Stowmarket Strummers who had us all singing along.

The Club opens 2023 with the meeting on 9 February, to be held in the Main room of the Pettward Hall at 7:30pm. Our speaker is to be Saffron Summerfield with her recordings, photographs and music of birdsong.

On 23 February we have a car share visit organised to Thornham Estate. Details have been e-mailed to members. If anyone else would like to join in please contact Jane Davies at: janedavies2@hotmail.com.

Finally, 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 only £15.00 per household per year or £2.50 per session for visitors. For further information contact me on 01449 672978 or email: judith.e.cameron@btinternet.com.

Judith Cameron

The Pettiward Hall

"Little Ernie"

The winners in December were Neil Watts and Angela Cuthbert and in January, Cathy & Nick Croome and Keith & Sue Yeates. They each received £8.

Mary Preece

A Big Thank You

A very big thank you to all the lovely people who sent cards, presents, visited, lit up the church tower and sent their kind wishes for my 90th birthday on the 22 December. They were much appreciated and enjoyed.

Best wishes for a very happy new year to all.

Sheena.

The **next birdseed order will be on 5 April**, orders will be required by 29 March.

The birdseed order form will be printed in the March edition of the Newsletter.

News From Onehouse

We wish all our readers a Healthy and Happy New Year. World Day of Prayer will be held at Buxhall Church on Friday the 3 March. The time of the Service is still to be discussed. The Service this year was prepared by the Women of Taiwan, the theme being 'I have heard about your Faith'. Everyone is Welcome to attend! If anyone would like to prepare and take part you will be very welcome. The more input the better. Please contact Carole on 01359 302271 or 07743303222 if you are interested. We usually have a meeting in February to prepare the Service and a rehearsal at the Church the week before the Service.

Carole



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The Chestnut Horse



Sharon and Rob wish you all a warm welcome

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**Please see our food boards inside or on Facebook for our many special winter warmer offers including our "spice up" Wednesday menu. Don't forget you can book the extension for your function for any day of the week**

~~~~~

Winter opening

Wednesday and Thursday 12-3 and 5-close

Food 12-2 and 5-8

Friday and Saturday 12-close

Food 12-2 and 5-8

Sunday 12-8

Food 12-4

Feb 2023

Thursday 16 February – Gary's Music Quiz night, 8pm

Every Wednesday Lunchtime – Warm space / Coffee meet up

The Pub will be closed for Winter Holidays from Tuesday 31 January until 5pm on Friday 3 February. Apologies for any inconvenience caused

Letter from the Rectory at Combs



In the life of the church, February is a fairly quiet month. We've had the joy and excitement of celebrating the birth of Jesus at Christmas and the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem which we celebrated in January at Epiphany. And now things slow down through the cold and dark month of February until we reach Ash Wednesday on 22 February and the beginning of Lent.

There is however, another important day in the church calendar that is celebrated in February, on the 2 February to be precise, and that is the Feast of Candlemas. Candlemas commemorates the ritual purification of Mary, 40 days after the birth of her son Jesus. This day also marks the ritual presentation of the baby Jesus to God in the Temple at Jerusalem. The Gospel of Luke says that Jesus was met by elders Anna and Simeon. Simeon held the baby Jesus and called him a Light to the World.

Ritual purification stems back to a Jewish tradition that women were considered unclean after the birth of a child. For 40 days for a boy, and 60 days for a girl, women weren't allowed to worship in the temple. At the end of this time, women were brought to the Temple or Synagogue to be purified. After the ceremony women were allowed to take part in religious services again.

The festival is called Candlemas because this was the day that all the Church's candles for the year were blessed and on Candlemas night, many people placed lighted candles in their windows at home.

In addition, Candlemas is considered to be the end of the Christmas season within the church and there are some who keep their Christmas trees and decorations up until the 2 February!

At least as we journey through one of the darkest months in our year, we have the joy of Shrove Tuesday to look forward to, this year on 21

February, so I hope you have plenty of lemon, sugar and other toppings to put on your pancakes!

With Blessings

Revd Sarah

St Andrews Church Steeple lighting - Book your date.

Future lighting of St Andrews Church steeple can be requested. Anyone can request the lights to be switched on to celebrate a special date, birthdays, wedding anniversaries, or any memorial date that is special to you.

If you would like to give a donation to have the lights on to mark a special occasion, please contact Peter by text on 07789727974 or email p.turner125@btinternet.com and I will ensure the lights are switched on for you

Payment can be by Cheque, Cash or Bac's Details for Bac's payments St Andrews Church Great Finborough. TSB Bank, sort code 30-98-23 account no. 24197060 on the BAC's transfer reference Steeple lighting.

**BANGERS, BEANS & BINGO
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TEACHER

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk

As the weather has turned colder, I've noticed mould and damp in our flat. It's mainly in our bedroom, including some black mould on the carpet. I've been chasing our letting agency, who say they'll speak to our landlord. I'm really worried about how this might affect our health. Our tenancy agreement isn't up for eight months, what can I do?

It's good that you've already raised the issue with your letting agency. Unfortunately, it isn't always easy to work out the cause of mould or damp. This can make it difficult to work out if your landlord is responsible, unless there's an obvious cause, like a leaking roof.

There are many causes of damp that properties can get. The most common are rising, penetrating, construction and condensation damp. On our website there is information that may help you work out what type of damp you have, who is responsible and what you can do. Check

your tenancy agreement too for mentions of repairs and damp, and reach out to Citizens Advice on anything you're unsure about.

A landlord will have to act in relation to damp if it makes the property unsafe for someone to live in. This could be for example, if it is making the tenant or a member of their family ill. The landlord will also be responsible if the damp is related to repairs they should have carried out, like if heaters are broken. If the damp has damaged items that the landlord is responsible for, such as carpets and window frames, they'll likely have to cover the cost of repairs.

One of the most common causes of damp is condensation. To prevent this, it's important to keep homes well-heated and well-ventilated, but for a lot of people this will be trickier to do given the colder weather and higher heating costs. You may be eligible for help to insulate and heat your home, and should visit our website to find out more.

On our website we also have advice on things that can make damp worse and may impact the landlord taking responsibility for repairs. These include drying clothes on heaters or blocking air vents.

If your landlord is responsible for the damp in your property but doesn't act, there are steps you can take, such as reporting them to the local authority. If you're in social housing you might also be able to use the landlord's formal complaints procedure. There is more information about this on our website. If it reaches the point where you want to get out of a fixed term tenancy agreement early, speak to Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk first, as there might be better ways to approach the issue. You may also find helpful information on <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/renting-privately/during-your-tenancy/dealing-with-repairs/>

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this and other issues, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us . More information and our opening hours can also be found at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us .



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Who does what in the village and how can you help?

I think we can all agree that Great Finborough is a lovely place to live and bring up a family. But, have you ever stopped and thought about what keeps the village ticking over and makes it what it is? Below are a few of organisations and positions that contribute to the enjoyment of our village.

Parish Council (PC) – 7 members from the village and a village clerk. They look after village maintenance, planning applications and general running of village matters.

Parochial Church Council (PCC) – Consist of members of the church community and church wardens. Look after all aspects of the church.

Pettiward Hall Committee – Volunteer members from the village community. This is the body that runs the hall on behalf of the Great Finborough village hall charity.

Garden Club Committee – Members from the village community. The garden club exists to share gardening expertise among village and district residents in a social environment.

Allotment Committee – Allotment volunteers who oversee the safe running of the village allotments.

Footpath Warden – Volunteer who has oversight of village footpaths and reports any problems to PC.

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator – Volunteer who liaises with other neighbourhood watches and police (and keeps our insurance premiums down!).

Speed Watch Group – Volunteers who carry out speedwatch activities under the oversight of the Suffolk Police (Currently non operational due to lack of volunteers).

Woodpecker Hill Wood Volunteer Group – Volunteers from the village who keep the wood tidy and safe for village use.

Great Finborough Newsletter Editor – Responsible to the PC for draft copy of the monthly newsletter and sending to print.

Newsletter Delivery Team – 8 volunteer member of the village who deliver your newsletter in all weathers!

Defibrillator Maintainer – Volunteer who carries out monthly checks on defibrillator and who organises spares when required through PC.

Play Park Overseer – Volunteer who carries out monthly checks and reports findings to PC.

Quiz Masters – Volunteers who write and carry out monthly pub quizzes.

Village Litter Pickers – Currently 3 volunteers who are each paid for 4 hours of litter picking a month.

These are just a flavour of the many organisations and people who help to keep the village running smoothly. Both the village school and under 5's has governors and friends who help out and organise events and fundraising.

Many of the above posts will become vacant in the next few months so why not get in touch and see if you can help make a difference. Some posts might require a modicum of training but the PC has funds set aside for provision of this. The Parish Council elections will take place in May of this year for the next 4 year term of office and it would be good to have some fresh views on the running of the village. If anyone has any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch through contact details on the back page of this newsletter.

Great Finborough Parish Council

A Doggie Doodle at the Christmas fayre

We went to the Church Christmas Fayre, lots of ladies and gents were there.

I swallowed a crumb which I shouldn't have done, it rumbled around my tum.

Before I could paws the rumble grew worse & out came the crumb through my bum.

"look" someone shouted, "he's having a poo" but too late it was already out.

Bewildered the ladies looked on; but what could a little dog do?

One kind lady ran to fetch water & cloth, but it was far more than she thought.

They scrubbed and they cleaned, I should have just peed.

Then woof, my hu-mum gave me a lurch, right there in the Church!

It was once heard to be said, "in Church or Chapel let it rattle"

What would the congregation say if they heard, about the church Christmas fayre's tittle-tattle.

But I shamefully must confess, if a dog's got to go, he'll get on with the show, whether in Church or Chapel.

I am RV, a miniature Smooth Dachshund you see.

And it really did happen to me.

So please don't blame me or make me pay, just blame my 'hu-mum' who chose this odd Moniker.

WE HOPE YOU ALL HAD A MERRY CHRISTMAS, & WISH THE COMMUNITY A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR. Especially the lovely ladies who watched the horror show & came to my rescue.

Written by Monica (the hu-mum) performed by Harvey the Miniature Smooth Dachshund.



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The Suffolk Local History Council runs a Recorders Scheme throughout Suffolk. We administer a network of volunteers to ensure that the '*present*' is adequately recorded at local level for the '*future*'.

A Recorder will note significant happenings in their parish and collect their local parish magazines, leaflets, election pamphlets and newspaper cuttings. At the end of each year, they are asked to submit a short report summarising the activities of their parish. The reports are deposited at the Suffolk Record Office and available to future researchers together with the collected items.

If you are interested, please look at the Recorders Pack by visiting www.slhc.org.uk to acquaint yourself with the guidelines of the scheme. You do not need to be a historian; you do not need any qualifications other than an interest in your parish. In return you will receive a copy of the SLHC Newsletter and be invited to the annual conference specifically for Local Recorders. To volunteer to help in this important work, please contact recorders@slhc.org.uk

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Services for the Benefice - February 2023

Sunday 5 February: The Third Sunday before Lent

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Little Finborough
9.30 am	Morning Worship	Harleston
9.30 am	Spiritual Communion	Zoom Service
11.00 am	All Age Worship	Combs

Sunday 12 February: The Second Sunday before Lent

9.30 am	Morning Worship	Shelland
9.30 am	Holy Communion	Buxhall
11.00 am	Morning Worship	Great Finborough
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Onehouse C/C

Sunday 19 February: The Sunday Next before Lent

9.30 am	Holy Communion	Harleston
11.00 am	Family Communion	Combs
3.00 pm	Evensong	Little Finborough
6.00 pm	Compline	Zoom Service

Wednesday 22 February: Ash Wednesday

9.30 am	Holy Communion	Onehouse C/C
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Sunday 26 February: The First Sunday of Lent

9.30 am	Morning Worship	Buxhall
9.30 am	Holy Communion	Shelland
11.00 am	Morning Worship	Onehouse C/C
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Great Finborough

Weekday Services

9.30 am on Wednesday	Holy Communion	Onehouse C/C
10.00 am on Saturday	Morning Prayer	Zoom Meeting

***All Welcome! Whether you are a regular worshipper or a visitor to our churches,
you will find a warm welcome at all of our services***

WHO'S WHO IN GREAT FINBOROUGH

Chair, Parish Council	Simon Tarabella	672072
	simon.tarabella@great-finborough.suffolk.gov.uk	
Clerk, Parish Council	Paula Gladwell	01284 828112
	finboroughparishclerk@gmail.com	
District Councillor	John Matthissen	258894
	councillor@matthissen.net	
County Councillor	Penny Otton	737870
	penny.otton@suffolk.gov.uk	
Newsletter Editor	Simon Tarabella	672072
	simon.tarabella@great-finborough.suffolk.gov.uk	
Rector	Rev Sarah Jenkins	676065
	<i>Combs Rectory, 135 Poplar Hill, IP14 2AY, revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com</i>	
Associate Priest	Rev Canon Pauline Higham	771791
	<i>The Rectory, Onehouse, IP14 2AY</i>	
Church Warden	Paul Goodchild	401185
Church Warden	Nigel Brown	675344
Pettward Hall Management Committee	Mary Preece	771360
Lettings/Keyholder	mary.preece1@btinternet.com	
Great Finborough & Buxhall Under 5s	Delia Prior	07513 140072
	delia@gfbunderfive.co.uk	
Footpath Warden	James Spencer	greatfinboroughfootpaths@gmail.com
Allotments Association	Mary Smyth	672533
Candlestick Club	Keith Proctor	736598
Great Finborough & District Garden Club	Judith Cameron	672978
	judyandian@btinternet.com	
Chestnut Horse Pub	Sharon Shipp	674688
Great Finborough Community Cinema	Norman Vendittelli	07930 338580
Buxhall Women's Institute	Hilary Hall	hilary-hall@hotmail.co.uk
Head teacher, Great Finborough	Stephen Dodd	613208
Primary School	headteacher@greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk	
Police (Stowmarket SNT)	Stowmarket.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Stowmarket High School		613541
Stowmarket Health Centre		776000
Combs Ford Surgery		678333
Stowmarket Library		613143
Village website: www.greatfinborough.onesuffolk.net		
Church website http://www.standrewsgtfinborough.co.uk/		
Primary School website: www.greatfinborough.suffolk.sch.uk		