

FINNINGHAM NEWSLETTER


SUMMER 2023

JULY— SEPTEMBER



The recent flower festival was on the theme “Kings and Queens”, it raised £3,200 toward maintaining the church. Among the wonderful displays this one stood out. Well done Siena!

finningham.com

 Friends of Finningham

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

When I came to Finningham (all the way from Bacton) I thought one of the best things about the village was its bi-monthly newsletter. It was done brilliantly for years by John and Dilys Sewell, then passed through other capable hands before falling victim to the lockdown. Its revival seems overdue and, as I find myself with time to spare (read unemployed) I will see what I can do with it. It will be produced seasonally, i.e. 4 times each year.

The success of the newsletter depends on your contributions. I will welcome short articles on almost any subject, for example recipes, local history, nature, gardening, local news and events, DIY, book and film reviews, fishing, anything that interests you might interest the rest of us. Your articles can be regular, occasional or just the once. You might like to air and share your grievances in a "letter to the editor".

The newsletter is produced and funded by Friends of Finningham. Each copy costs roughly £1 to print. You are very welcome to it but our resources are limited so if yours goes into the bin unread please let us know, we will try to omit you from the delivery round. You can always read it on the village website.

Ian Armstrong, editor

Material for publication in the October-December issue must reach the editor by 20th September.

Email: ianbacton@aol.com phone 01449 780215

Or Cydia, Gislingham Road, Finningham IP14 4HZ

Friends of Finningham:

Chair Emily Durrant 07834 205373

Treasurer Carol Birch 01449 782066

Committee:

Mick Cattermole 01449 781589

Colin Winter 01449 781372

David Wadlow 07484 150149

Mary Webb 01449 781628

Ian Armstrong (newsletter and website) 01449 780215

Parish Council Chairman Tony Kilbee 01449 781075

POLICE emergency 999, non-emergency 111

DOCTORS Mendlesham clinic 01449 767722

Bacton clinic 01449 781777

YOUR MP is Jo Churchill, email jo.churchill.mp@parliament.co.uk

**Would you like to advertise your business
in our newsletter?**

FULL PAGE £25

HALF PAGE £15

QUARTER PAGE £8

Contact the editor



Finningham's Annual Garage Sales On Saturday 2nd September 10am – 2pm

**Garage sales around the village of
Finningham selling all sorts of things from
bric-a-brac, plants, children's toys, tools, to
good quality clothing.**

**Maps will be on sale around the village cost
50p proceeds from sale of maps will go to
the church fabric fund**



ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH FINNINGHAM

From the 11th Century to the 21st Century

A Guided Talk



There are so many hidden secrets in our beautiful little church, unnoticed evidence of people in the past. Come and see what they achieved. Not forgetting those who were de-

termined to destroy it!

Find out about the Frere family who arrived here at GREEN FARM in the 16th century and their descendants who were nationally acclaimed and are buried in the crypt.

I'll be doing 45 minute guides of the church outside and inside with coffee afterwards.

Let me know if you would like to come along and I'll arrange times and dates.

Marion

07504779748 or 01449 782072 or marionbell25@gmail.com

Finningham Parish Council.

By the time this Newsletter is distributed, all the households in the village will have received their Coronation Glass Paperweight, courtesy of the Parish Council. If you have not received yours or would like to purchase another one (£9.00 each), please contact our Clerk at finninghamparishclerk@gmail.com

Our May meeting was the first of the four-year cycle when all the Councillors are obliged to retire and stand for re-election (should they so desire). After many years' service to the Community, Jim Miller did not stand for re-election, neither did Lisa Charter and Nige Arthur is taking a leave of absence until next February. We thank them for their work and support in the past. Lisa's position was taken up by her husband and we welcome Jon to the Council. As we are below strength, there was not an election and we have a vacancy to be filled. If you are interested in joining us, why not come to the next meeting on 11th July and have a chat?

The Council now stands at:

Tony Kilbee – Chairman

Catherine Winter – Vice Chairman

James Black

Paul Trew

Jonathon Charter

Jane Challis – Clerk

Our May meeting was also the Annual Parish Meeting. I am afraid to say that it was very poorly attended so the Council was unable to get any feedback from the residents of the village. We can only hope that we are going in the right direction.

After the very unfortunate weather on the Coronation day's celebrations, hosted by the Friends of Finningham, we were very pleased to see such a good turnout for the Lighting of the Beacon Picnic the following day. Thank you all for supporting us.

Tony Kilbee

BUS SERVICES

There's a precious few buses still serving our village, their survival depends on your patronage. For more details go to the Suffolk District Council website.

FINNINGHAM TO STOWMARKET, THURSDAYS ONLY:

457 service 9.34 from the White Horse (westbound),
return journey 1300 from outside Argos

Also a Friday-only 456 bus from Argos at 9.36.

FINNINGHAM TO DISS, FRIDAYS ONLY:

456 service, 10.01 from the White Horse (eastbound),
return journey from Diss bus station at 1351.

FINNINGHAM TO BURY ST EDMUNDS, WEDNESDAYS ONLY:

320 service, 9.50 from the White Horse (westbound),
Return journey from Bury bus station (stand 3) at 1325.

Disclaimer : The information contained in this newsletter is provided for Finningham village as a service to its residents and possible others. It does not constitute/contain (legal) advice. Although we try to provide quality information, all information in this newsletter is provided "as is", with no guarantee of completeness, accuracy, timeliness or of the results obtained from the use of this information, and without warranty of any kind, express or implied, including fitness for a particular purpose.

FINNINGHAM FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday August 26 on the Green 2pm-7

Join your neighbours for a day of entertainment, food and music. Here's a taste of what we hope to offer you -

DOG SHOW RACES

MINI JEEPS FISH AND CHIPS

ICE-CREAM VAN MINI MONSTERS

FACE PAINTING COFFEE AND CAKES

CIRCUS/MAGIC SHOW BAR

To book a stall (£20)

contact Emily on 07834 205373

Shingle Street Folk Band



We're back for another harmony filled evening of musical delights!

Saturday 15th July

at

St Bartholomew's Church, Church Lane, Finningham IP14 4JB

7.00pm

In aid of St. Bartholomew's Church

Space is very limited, so tickets are available on a pre-paid basis.

Tickets £8 including a glass of wine/soft drink and nibbles telephone - 01359 258806,
01449 782072

Cheques payable to: St. Bartholomew's Church PCC.

the editor opines...

In his book Prince Harry says the British are the most credulous people on the planet. He has good reasons for thinking this way - but is it true? We have allowed our opinions to be shaped by plausible orators, social media, the gutter tabloids, signs on buses...but this doesn't make us unusual. Think about the Germans, Japanese, Russians, any nationality you wish to name, they have been led down the garden path. The human brain, yours and mine included, is malleable. Yes the British are gullible but, sorry Harry, we are just folks - no better and no worse than anybody else.

RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN

This is a valuable service and very popular. Regulars should note that in August it will deviate from its regular "2nd Tuesday" visit. It will be in its usual spot on Church Green on Monday 14th August.

FROM ST MARY'S

Throughout England you are never far from a Christian church of one period in history or another, very often churches which would be described as "Medieval". Indeed we have 6 within our own benefice; as well as two more recently built chapels. They give a somewhat obvious indication of the importance placed on Christianity within our nation down the ages. At the same time there are also 42 cathedrals upon mainland England, based in each diocese as the primary church of the bishop..

Recently I was fortunate to visit one of these fine buildings; Carlisle Cathedral. The second smallest of all the cathedrals. It began life in 1122 as a priory or monastic church dedicated as our churches are in Walsham,

Who are "Friends of Finningham"?

We are a small group of volunteers doing what we can to make our village a good place to live. Our primary aims are the organisation of occasional events and the production of a newsletter. (We are no longer in the marquee-hire business - and apologise for the inconvenience this may cause). If you have ideas for future events we would love to hear them, please contact Emily on 07834 205373, Emily.Cowell@hotmail.co.uk or (better still) come to our meetings.

Our next meeting will be in the church at 7.30 on 17th July. Topics for discussion will include the Family Fun Day, possible football coaching for children, and other ways to improve usage of the Green.



WESTHORPE HALL

Fitness class, Art club, yoga, carpet bowls, line dancing, craft group, Pilates, singing for pleasure, book club, Bingo -

It's all happening in the Westhorpe Hall. Details are on the website westhorpe.onesuffolk.net

Or phone Sue on 07909 530311

High Suffolk Claylands

Finningham is situated on what is known as the High Suffolk Claylands. These clay deposits were laid upon the chalk beneath by glaciers during various Ice Ages over a period of millions of years. The clay binds the soil together making it less prone to erosion and this has made it highly suitable for arable farming. The whole area of High Suffolk was once covered by forests which dominated the landscape of ancient Britain. The process of deforestation likely began before the Roman invasion but was accelerated afterwards due to the wood from the trees being a valuable export resource for the rest of the Roman Empire. The cleared land was then discovered to be very good for farming. Parts of Thetford Wood are all that remains of this ancient forest.

The highly fertile nature of East Anglia made this area highly prized by other invaders too: The Anglo-Saxons made their first kingdoms here and the Viking sons of Ragnar— Ivar, Halfdan and Ubba— took the land after a bloody war of conquest. Their claim to the land was then recognised by the kingdoms of Wessex and Mercia. The loss of the Anglian breadbasket was a blow to the other Saxon kingdoms but it seems they were willing to make the sacrifice for peace. The high yield of the High Suffolk farms would be cause for conflict again and again throughout history, most recently during the English Civil Wars. (anon)

Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift.

That's why it's called the present. Joan Collins

Langham and Badwell Ash to St Mary. Unusual in being the only medieval monastic cathedral of the Augustinian Order of monks. By 1133 the area, being close to the Scottish border, had become so unruly that Henry 1 decided that he needed to impose his authority. The King duly created a new diocese., with Carlisle at its centre, and the church became a cathedral to symbolise the authority which Henry wished to show. The first bishop to be appointed was an Englishman, Athelwold, previously the prior.

During these last 900 years the cathedral has seen its fair share of turbulence, which has been a direct result of being so close to the borderlands. During the English Civil War much of the cathedral nave was demolished by the Scottish Presbyterian army in order to use the stone to reinforce Carlisle Castle. A century later the cathedral was used as a prison to house Jacobite prisoners from the 1745 uprising.

As with most churches and cathedrals, Carlisle cathedral has seen its fair share of refurbishment, periodically changing its style, not always intentional. In 1292 part of the cathedral was severely damaged by a city-wide fire, caused by a young man called Simon of Orton, disgruntled at his inheritance (or lack of).

With the dissolution of the monasteries from 1536, and the establishment of Henry VIII as head of the church, the monastic cathedrals were dissolved to be run by a secular chapter. However good evidence of the former monastery remains intact, enough to give a genuine feel for the atmosphere pre-Dissolution.

The cathedral especially focuses on the lives of St Anthony of Egypt, the founder of monasticism, St Augustine, the founder of the Augustinian Order and from Northumberland St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne. The cathedral is rich in carvings, paintings, an impressive Treasury collection, and a stained-glass east window which is one of the tallest in England. Entrance is free (donations gratefully received), and a visit is certainly worthwhile.

Rev Philip Merry

WHAT'S ON - JULY 2023

31					1	2
MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
3	4 Coffee Caravan Church Green 10-12	5	6	7	8	9 Old Newton Country Fayre 10am- 4pm
10	11 Council meeting 7.30 in the church	12	13	14 High Road Music Festival begins Gt. Fin- borough	15 FOLK BAND SHINGLE STREET IN CONCERT IN THE CHURCH 7pm	16 SHINGLE STREET IN THE PUB
17 FOF meeting 7.30 in the church	18	19	20	21	22 West- thorpe café 10am-1pm Felixstowe Carnival Pro- cession	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

WHAT'S ON - AUGUST 2023

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Bingo Westhorpe Hall, 8pm	9	10	11	12	13
	Council meeting 7.30					
14 Coffee Caravan Church Green 10-12	15	16	17	18	19	20 Beccles Carnival Parade 1pm
21	22	23	24	25	26 Family Fun Day	27
					On the Green	
28	29	30	31			