



FINNINGHAM NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2023-24

finningham.com



Friends of Finningham

Autumn has been decidedly damp and chilly, I hope you are somehow keeping warm and dry. If your newsletter is on the thin side it is because I haven't received many contributions, these are what make it worth reading. While I am grovelling here is another request: Although we don't have a hall of our own Westhorpe's is within an easy bike ride, and within these pages you will find details of events and activities that are happening there. Having this facility so near is a bit like having the use of your neighbour's pool, i.e. all the fun and none of the work - but if you feel inclined to help out you can do so by adding your name to the cleaning roster. You will find the task is in no way onerous. Kate Lamb (07838 456131) would love to hear from you..

Ian Armstrong, editor

59 Club

This lottery is the main source of funding for the Friends of Finningham. It costs £1 a week for a number and if this is Saturday night's bonus ball number you win £30. The money raised goes toward providing such things as this newsletter, the village website, events on the green, flower tubs and the Christmas lunch. Please give it your support.

There will be 4 numbers becoming available in mid-December. If you would like one of these, please contact Carol Birch (treasurer).

carolbirch@live.com or phone 07973378208

Your newsletter is produced by Friends of Finningham. Contributions for the spring edition must reach the editor by 20th February.

Email : ianbacton@aol.com,

Disclaimer: No guarantee can be given for the accuracy of information in the newsletter. Please tell us about our mistakes so we don't repeat them.

WHAT'S ON - AT A GLANCE

December

Saturday 2nd Christmas Lunch, Stoke Ash White Horse

ALSO: Opening night of panto Wizard of Oz at the Stowmarket Regal. It runs till the 10th.

Sunday 3rd. Stir Up Sunday, 11am in the church.

Monday 4th. FOF meeting, 7.30 in the church, to discuss suggestions for use of the village green, also clubs and events.

Tuesday 5th. Wreath making workshop. 7pm, Westhorpe hall.

ALSO: Coffee with Dorothy and David Negus. 10-12

Sunday 17th. Carols and Christingles. 3pm in the church.

Christmas Day Family Communion Service, 9.30 in the church

Thursday 28th. Dick Whittington and his Cat. Westhorpe 2.30pm.

January

Saturday 13th Open Mic Night, Westhorpe 7.30pm

Saturday 20th Westhorpe Café

Monday 15th Friends of Finningham meeting, 7.30pm in the church

February

Tuesday 6th Coffee with Tony and Aileen Kilbee, The Old Chapel,
Walsham Road, from 10 till 12

Coming up: April 12, Eastern Angles production "Stones in His Pockets"
Contact Alison Weston on 07972 415205/alisonweston25@hotmail.com.

A Talk on Astronomy by Tom Boles

Saturday February 3rd, 7.30 in Westhorpe Village Hall, £5 per head. “An Introduction to Astronomy (from here to infinity—and beyond?”

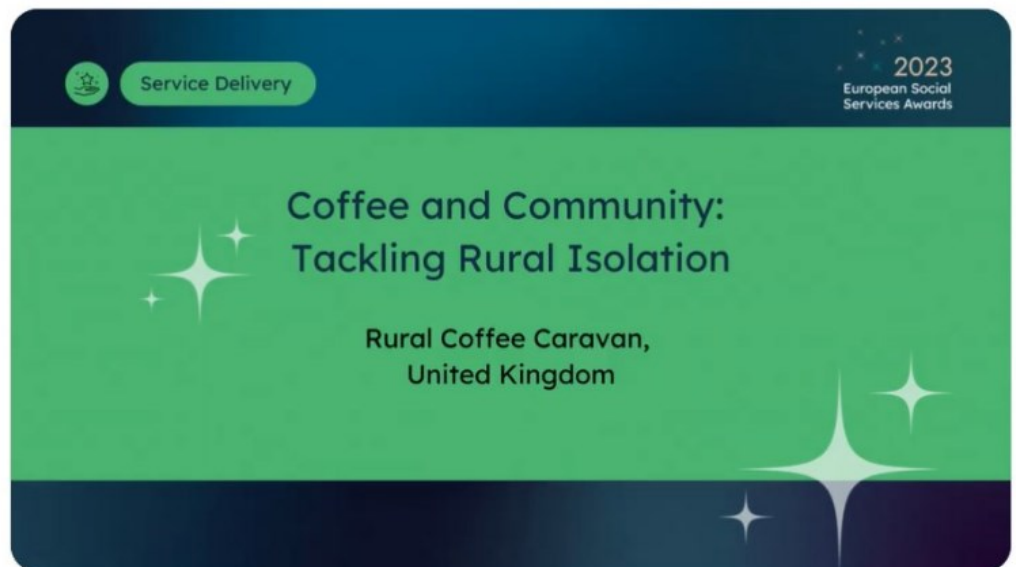
Tom Boles has been president and vice president of the British Astronomical Association and is a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. He is known for having discovered a record number of supernovae.

Contact Martin Little on 01449 780301 or martindavidlittle@gmail.com to reserve your place.

RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN

Congratulations to RCC’s Ann and Mike, they have won the service delivery category in this year’s European Social Services Awards presented in Zagreb, Croatia.

The caravan is taking a well-earned break but despair not! The next coffee morning will be hosted by Dorothy and David Negus in Appletree Cottage (it faces onto the green). Tuesday 5th December, 10 till 12.



Tuesday February 6th : Join Tony and Aileen Kilbee in The Old Chapel, Walsham Road, 10 till 12.

Your MP, Jo Churchill, is now Minister of State for Employment.

Email jo.churchill.mp@parliament.co.uk

Some news from Friends of Finningham:

We are still looking for a secretary. Is there someone out there who would like to get some work experience at chairing meetings and taking minutes? (This sort of stuff looks good on a CV.)

We are also hoping to find a computer whiz to help us with the website. It has been suggested that the website should be allowed to die, or that it be moved to another (cheaper) host.

Monday 4th December, 7pm in the church: A meeting to discuss suggestions that have been received regarding the use of the green, also possible clubs and events. All are welcome.

The box on the green: It is always nice to see people making good use of the sports equipment (table tennis, badminton, football) that is kept in a box under the table tennis table. You might be surprised to learn that it is very seldom lost, damaged or vandalised. The badminton net has been removed because (a) it was usually hopelessly tangled and (b) the steel poles, in the hands of young children, could have caused injury. So bring your own net, or improvise.

Meeting : Monday 15th January, 7.30 in the church. Come and air your views.

Useful Phone Numbers

Police emergency 999, non-emergency 111

Doctors Mendlesham clinic 01449 76772

Bacton clinic 01449 781777

Parish Council Chairman, Tony Kilbee 01449 781075

Citizens Advice 0800 144 8848

Action Fraud 0300 123 2040

St. Bartholomew's, Finningham

Come and join us
All ages welcome

STIR UP SUNDAY

Sunday 3rd December 11am

Come and Stir Up a Christmas Pudding with
your Christmas Spirit!

Ingredients provided, come and join the fun!



CAROLS AND CHRISTINGLES

Sunday 17th December 3pm

Join us with Carols and Christingles to light.

In a warm church with a warm welcome!



Refreshments after each event

Christmas Wreath Workshop



Make your own Christmas Wreath

Westhorpe Village Hall

Church Rd, Westhorpe, Stowmarket IP14 4SY

Tuesday 5th December 2023

7.00pm- 9.30pm

£35.00pm

Come and create your own Christmas Wreath, the evening will include a demonstration, tuition, and everything you need to create your personalised wreath. Coffee and tea will be provided, but please feel free to bring your own nibbles, soft drinks, wine etc

A £15 deposit is required on booking. Please contact Michelle on 07962062791 or email michellemead1963@gmail.com to

book a space

Limited places available

Book Review: I'll Take That One. An Evacuee's Childhood

Kitty [Baxter](#), [2023](#). £8.99 Available from the library.

I think some of you could tell your own stories of evacuation in WW2, for you this book will stir many memories of hardship and loss as well as everyday life. Kitty was sent to rural Sussex during the "phoney war" where her experiences were mainly positive, but returned to London where she survived the blitz. She was evacuated again to Blackpool when the flying bombs were falling, until she was "rescued" by her mother. Her comfortable billet was a busy brothel. It is an inspiring story of courage, love and the kindness (sometimes the cruelty) of strangers, I think you will enjoy it whether or not your memory stretches back to the days before teabags and telly.

Ian Armstrong

NW
NEW
WOLSEY
THEATRE

NEW WOLSEY THEATRE
PRESENTS

DICK WHITTINGTON and his CAT

Written by
**VIKKI
STONE**

The
**ROCK 'N' ROLL
PANTO!**

**WESTHORPE VILLAGE HALL
THURSDAY DECEMBER 28TH, 2.30PM
ADULTS £7.50 CHILDREN UNDER 16 £5.00**

REFRESHMENTS FOR SALE
TICKETS FROM ALISON WESTON 07972 415205
wvhbooking@hotmail.com
Live stream from the New Wolsey Theatre

Do you want to showcase your talent, or hear what others can do?



OPEN MIC NIGHT



**Saturday January 13th
7.30 to 10.30pm**

Westhorpe Village Hall



Free entry

Bar



Donations for Village Hall funds

Contact Paul Weston: 07860 376592

paulwestonarchitect@gmail.com

Dredged from the archives: **Church Bulletin Bloopers**

(These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins!)

1. The sermon this morning “Jesus Walks on the Water”.
The sermon tonight “Searching for Jesus”.
3. Ladies, don’t forget the rummage sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
4. Miss Charlene Mason sang “I will not pass this way again” , giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
5. For those of you who have children and don’t know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
6. Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on 24th October. So ends a friendship that began in their schooldays.
7. At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be “What is Hell?” Come early and listen to the choir practice.
8. The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
9. Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm—prayer and medication to follow.
10. The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
11. This evening there will be hymn singing in the park across from the church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.



Central to values that our parents and grand-
parents believed they were fighting and dying
for was freedom of belief and expression.

From a letter to the Times by Shareen Campbell

BUS SERVICES

FINNINGHAM TO STOWMARKET, Thursdays only
457 service 9.34 from the White Horse (westbound)
Return journey 1300 from outside Argos

FINNINGHAM TO DISS, Fridays only
456 service, 10.01 from the White Horse (eastbound)
Return journey 1315 from Diss bus station
(apologies—for stating in the autumn newsletter that this service has been cancelled).

FINNINGHAM TO BURY ST EDMUNDS, Wednesdays
320 service, 9.50 from the White Horse (westbound)
Return journey 1325 from Bury bus station, stand 3

Advertise your
business here.

Full page £25

Half page £15

Quarter page £8

For £150 you can
sponsor an edition i.e.
pay for the printing

DIGITAL
copycentre



For All Your Printing
News letters, Flyers
Booklets - Magazines
Plan Prints up to AO size
B/w, Colour & Scanning
Order of Services
Sewing Patterns
Comb binding
Laminating

Email: info@digitalcopycentre.co.uk
37 Stowupland Street, Stowmarket, IP14 1EG

01449 678100



Exciting news from Christmas HQ in the North Pole. Santa was so impressed with all the lovely letters he received from Finningham last year, he's asked the Elves to deliver a postbox outside The Old Post Office again!

If your little one would like a reply from Santa, get them to write their Christmas list and letter to Santa and pop it in. (When they're not looking don't forget to pop in a little bit about them such as pets, siblings, special projects, if they've been through a tough time or been extra well behaved so Santa can personalise his reply).

If you live outside the centre of Finningham please include a stamped, addressed envelope to send the reply.

Postbox will arrive on 10th December. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**