

December 1958.

1. The Lord of the Manor. In spite of the efforts of individual residents and the Parish Council, the Village Green and the Leys are far from being trim and elegant. Indeed the Leys is becoming a wilderness of weeds once more. Endeavours have been made to engage the interest of other villages, similarly burdened with common lands, in a combined appeal for assistance from the County Council on the lines suggested in Chronicle No.9. But for various reasons little progress has been made.

At a meeting of the Suffolk Rural Community Council the Clerk was told to find the Lord of the Manor; and that he is the person to approach. So the Clerk started on the quest. With the help of Mr. Reid and Mrs. Redmore, and a lawyer, some information has been gleaned, but "his lordship" is still elusive.

Who is Lord of the Manor of Tostock? In about 1570 he was the owner of the property where Tostock Old Hall now stands. But about this time "the manor" and "the estate" became separated. The next record available is Kelly's Directory of 1916. This states that "the representatives of the late Peter Huddleston Esq" are the Lords of the Manor of "Little Hall", (presumably Old Hall) and "Sir James Malcolm Bart" is Lord of the Manor of "New Hall", (presumably Tostock Place).

To investigate further would be an expensive legal business, so there the matter must rest. From an unofficial source it has transpired that the present "representative of the late Peter Huddleston Esq" is a lady who has married a Russian. If Mr. Khrushchev should find this out it will raise international complications and may lead to a summit conference.

2. Buying a House on Mortgage. To have a home of one's own is the ambition of everyone. To own a home of one's own, if it is a popular size, is generally a good investment. Some people are able to achieve this by buying on mortgage; it is interesting to see what payments from the weekly pay packet this entails.

A Building Society will generally advance up to 70%, and a Rural District Council is empowered to guarantee the remainder up to 95%. Alternatively a Rural District Council is empowered to lend direct, up to a 90% mortgage. The number of years within which the loan must be repaid varies with the age of the applicant, and other considerations. A young man in his twenties might be allowed a loan over a period of 30 years.

How much will the purchaser have to pay back per week?
This is shown below for three different sized loans.

A new and small bungalow costing £1,800, including land. If the R.D.C. advances 90% (i.e. £1,620.) at 6% interest for 20 years.

1st year repayment will be £97.4.0. interest & £81. capital.
i.e. £ 3.8.6. per week.

2nd year repayment ----- £92.8.0. interest & £81. capital.
i.e. £ 3.6.6. per week.

and each year the interest repayment decreases by £4.17.0d.
but the capital repayment remains the same.

A Prefabricated bungalow with brick exterior cladding and tiled roof costing £1,120 including land.
90% (i.e. £1,008) mortgage at 6% for 20 years.

1st year repayment ----- £60. interest & £50 capital.
i.e. £2.2.0d. per week.

and each year the interest reduces by £3, but the capital repayment remains the same.

An old house costing £800, including land. The R.D.C. is likely to reduce their commitment to 80% (i.e. £640) and a 10 year mortgage.

1st year repayment ----- £38 interest & £64 capital.
i.e. £2. per week.

and each year the interest decreases by £3.16.0d. but the capital repayment remains the same.

Improvement Grant. The Rural District Council can make grants of up to 50% of the cost of improvements, with a limit of £400, if the improvements conform to certain standards. The Public Health Inspector advises applicants in this matter.

3. Council Bungalows. At the Council Meeting on 13th November, the Rural District Council approved a tender for building two bungalows in Church Road, Tostock. Subject to the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government building should start in January 1959.
4. Natural History. At a convocation of small birds, finches, tits and others, it was unanimously agreed that Tostock has become a perilous place for nidification, owing to the invasion of Magpies. One Chaffinch complained that her nest had been despoiled twice within a few weeks last summer, and she had really lost heart. It is hoped that everyone will rally round the small birds and expel the Magpies.