

January 1960.

1. In this the first number of the New Year the Chronicle has much pleasure in welcoming the Rev. O. M. Darwin and Mr. W.H. Buckley. Mr. Darwin was inducted as Rector at Drinkstone Church on 2nd December, and at Tostock Church on 5th December 1959. Mr. Buckley assumed the duties of Sub-Postmaster on 9th January 1960. The Chronicle hopes they and their families will make many friendships in Tostock.

At the same time the Chronicle regretfully says good-bye to Mr. H. Grimwood, it is nice to know that he is not going far away.

2. Quinquennial Survey. In May 1955 the Chronicle said that Tostock was faced with five problems, viz:-

- i. The Graveyard and Graveyard Extension.
- ii. The Village Hall.
- iii. The Bus Shelter.
- iv. The Green and the Leys.
- v. Footpaths and Rights of Way.

It is now time to see what has been done in five years, and what is outstanding.

The Churchyard. This is a pleasanter word than graveyard. Thanks to the work and interest of many people Tostock has now one of the tidiest in the kingdom. Mr. Vic Huffey, Mr. Gilbert Davey, Mr. and Mrs. George Waylett and Eldridge have all worked there during the past year, and they have achieved something of which Tostock can be proud. Some people tend the graves of their relatives with loving care; it would help if everyone did.

The Village Hall. This is well established and well patronised. It is well cared for by Mrs. Vic Huffey. The Management Committee have been able to maintain it in good condition because the financial position is sound. Many people have contributed towards this state of affairs, particularly the Women's Institute, the Darby and Joan Club, the County Library and the Entertainments Committee. In the last named Mr. Ronnie Mulley and Mrs. George Largent have deserved special mention.

The Bus Shelter. Tostock needs one. It could be erected for something between £150 and £200. Probably the County Council and Thedwastre Rural District Council would each contribute one third. Planning permission for the site would have to be obtained. The Highways Department have said that it must be 30 yards west of Tostock Corner, i.e. 30 yards west of where the bus stops, which they say is a dangerous spot for traffic. As there have been other things for which money was required, and the site seemed unsatisfactory, the matter has been shelved for five years. During all this time the buses have continued to stop at the so called dangerous spot, so far without untoward incident.

The Village Green. At last this is looking fairly tidy. Thedwastre Rural District Council have obliged the Parish Council by hiring out their grass cutter and operator at a reasonable charge. The Green was mown by this means in November last at a cost of £5.3.0d. The operator took a lot of trouble and the result was excellent; so this part of the problem seems to be solved.

There remain however the ugly tracks across the Green; in particular one near the Post Office and one across to Jasmine Cottage. The temptation for Post Office Vans and other vehicles to use these tracks is too great. It has been suggested that a gravel sweep should be made abreast the Post Office and a roadway across to Jasmine Cottage. This would require contributions from the Parish Council (if the District Auditor would pass it) and from private individuals. It needs thought and would have to be discussed at a Parish Meeting.

The Leys. This piece of common land presents great difficulties. It is clear that the Parish Council have jurisdiction over the Green, but it is by no means clear that they have legal authority to spend money on the Leys. Apparently the Leys is vested in a "lord of the manor" and nobody knows who that is. Efforts have been made to find out, but to establish it beyond doubt would be an expensive legal business.

Mr. Skinner, the Clerk of the County Council, has now said that if the Parish Council will write to him, stating the facts, he will try to find out what can be done. This is a generous offer and will be of great assistance to the Parish Council.

Footpaths and Rights of Way. In accordance with the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, District and Parish Councils were instructed to review and define the public rights of way. The Councils' duties under the Act fell to be carried out in three stages:-

- i. Preparation of a Draft Map
- ii. Preparation of a Provisional Map.
- iii. Preparation of a Definitive Map.

The Parish Council has carried out these duties and after ten years the Provisional Map is in being. Alterations to it can only now be made by appeal to Quarter Sessions. Copies for Tostock, which has five footpaths that are rights of way, are held by Thedwastre Rural District Council and Tostock Parish Council; they can be inspected on application. The footpaths could be signposted by the County Council but after consultation it has been decided that signposts are not required at present.

3. The Church. The Diocesan Inspector of Churches visited the church last March. He reports that the fabric urgently needs attention; it will be a costly affair. The Parochial Church Council has the matter under consideration and will no doubt issue information in due course. Tostock is fortunate in having a fine example of 15th Century Craftsmanship.
4. Tostock Dramatic Society. There is not one at present but there could be. There is a stage in the Village Hall; a small one, 9 feet by 30 feet; curtains and dressing rooms are lacking, but ingenuity can provide them; there are in Tostock actors and actresses of talent (young, middle aged and elderly); and some people who may have talent without knowing it; and some who do not act but who would help. All are needed. It is therefore worth while to find out what can be done.

A meeting for this purpose will be held in the

VILLAGE HALL on THURSDAY 4th FEBRUARY at 7.30.p.m.

It is hoped that all who are interested will come to discuss the project with Miss Caffyn and Captain and Mrs Errington.

5. Interesting Items. The following statistics published by "The Economist" in its Christmas issue may be of interest:-
 - a. There are 16 million households in Britain. 10 million have television sets; 5 million have cars; $3\frac{1}{2}$ million have dogs; $6\frac{1}{2}$ million have cage birds.
 - b. If you travelled in a London bus with 120 people in one day the chances are that
 - 1 would have been in prison,
 - 4 would have been before a court during the past year,
 - 24 will die of cancer,
 - 24 will be involved in a road accident,
 - c. The above 120 persons in one day will buy:-
 - 89 newspapers,
 - 870 cigarettes,
 - 66 pints of beer.

To:-

The Tostock Parish Council, on behalf of the residents, welcomes you to the Village and hopes you will soon feel at home. You may like to have some general information and it is hoped the following will be of use to you.

DOCTORS

Dr. N. Stevens, Woolpit. Telephone ELMSWELL 214
 Dr. J. E. Hodgkin, Norton. Telephone PAKENHAM 229
 Dr. A. J. Russell, Walsham le Willows. Telephone WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS 227

SURGERY HOURS AT WOOLPIT

<u>Mornings.</u>	<u>Evenings</u>
Monday to Saturday 9.a.m. to 10.a.m.	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. 6.p.m. to 7.p.m.

(Note - There is no surgery on Wednesday or Saturday evenings)

RECTOR Rev. D. E. Lilley, B.A.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL Trustee:- Mrs. Peck, Leys Road.

POLICE P.c. Benns, BEYTON. Telephone BEYTON 211

WEST SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

Representative:- Councillor J. Walters. GT. ASHFIELD.
 Health Visitor:- Miss Hird, Meadow House, TOSTOCK.
 District Nurse:- Miss Millard, Council Bungalow, TOSTOCK.

THEDWASTRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Representative:- Councillor Captain R.H.Errington, R.N.
 TOSTOCK OLD HALL.
 Refuse Collection:- Fortnightly under Public Health Inspector -
 Mr.O.J.Wyatt, ELMSWELL. Telephone ELMSWELL 429

PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:- Councillor F.G.Armstrong, Gable Cottage.
 Clerk:- Councillor Captain R. H. Errington, R.N.

WOMENS INSTITUTE

President:- Mrs. R. H. Errington, TOSTOCK OLD HALL.
 Secretary:- ~~Miss~~ B. Haselwood, New Road.

DARBY & JOAN CLUB Secretary:- Mrs. G. Oldfield, Norton Road.

BRITISH LEGION

Representatives:- Mr. V. Huffey, Church Road.
 Mr. J. A. Reynolds, Better View.

BUS SERVICE

The timetable for Eastern Counties Bus Service can be seen in the forecourt of "The Gardeners Arms".
 On Wednesdays and Saturdays the following buses pass through the village and stop abreast the Green.
 The 1.30 p.m. to Bury St. Edmunds. The 5.30 p.m. from Bury St. Edmunds.

SCHOOLS

Children of ages five to eleven attend ELMSWELL Primary School. Headmaster - Mr. Kirby. Children are conveyed to and from school in a bus which picks them up abreast the Village Green.

Children of ages eleven to fifteen attend BEYTON Modern Secondary School. Headmaster - Mr. J. Clayton. Transport is NOT provided.

FIRE SERVICE

The nearest Fire Station is at ELMSWELL. To call the brigade by telephone, dial "0". When the operator answers, say "FIRE", and give the telephone number from which you are speaking.

The Chief Fire Inspector has asked that all residents should acquaint themselves with the position of the fire hydrant nearest to their house, and the Parish Council has asked all residents to keep their hydrants free of weeds and grass.

Date..... Chairman.