

THE TOSTOCK CHRONICLE

No. 138

June/July, 1983

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WHITHER TOSTOCK ?

A visitor to London remarked what a fine place it would be "when it is finished". One could excuse a similarly guarded opinion from visitors to Tostock at the present time, for seldom can there have been so many alterations going on at the same time with no less than five separate 'face lifts' around our lovely Village Green itself.

We are confident however that given time for its cosmetic surgery to heal and mature, Tostock will emerge to present an even more attractive front to the World and to earn once again its proud image as Suffolk's best kept village.

PARISH COUNCIL

(Clerk : Miss J. Wheeler, The Post Office, tel.70278)

The Annual Parish Meeting in April was attended by 23 parishioners, 8 Councillors, District Councillor Siffleet, Police Sergt. Hall and Mr. Oxbrow from Suffolk County Council Highways Dept. who spoke about the highway system throughout Suffolk and paid special attention to the traffic problems affecting the village. Possible ways of decreasing heavy traffic through the village were discussed and will be investigated by the S.C.C. Dist.Cllr. Siffleet gave a report on rates and answered various questions from the floor. Once again County Cllr. Erskine did not attend. Reports were given by all the village organisations with the exception of the Football Club.

BUS SHELTER : The meeting was informed that the Parish Council proposed to spend up to a maximum of £600 for the building of a bus shelter. It is understood that a grant is also available from Mid Suffolk District Council towards the cost of building and this has been applied for.

Parish Council (Cont'd)

Best Kept Village Competition : It was unanimously agreed not to enter for the best kept village competition, but to enter for the Beautiful Britain Competition with the Leys Pond clearance project.

Parish Council Elections took place on May 5th, with 13 candidates competing for 9 seats. 53% of the electorate voted and four retiring councillors who offered themselves for re-election topped the poll. These were F. Armstrong, P. Buckle, M. O'Reilly and A. S. R. Villar. The newly elected members are : Miss J. Sherwood Mrs. E. Nunn, C. Friend, A. W. Hoadley and M. Harrison who were all welcomed to the Council's annual meeting on 12th May when all the councillors signed their declaration of acceptance of office. The offices filled for 1983/4 are :-

Chairman : Mr. Villar, Vice-Chairman : Mr. O'Reilly, Treasurer : Mr. Armstrong, Rep. to Village Hall Management Committee : Mrs. Nunn, Rep. to Suffolk Assn. of Local Councils : Mr. Hoadley, Tree Officers : Mr. Buckle and Mr. O'Reilly, Footpath Committee : Mr. Friend, Mr. Harrison and Mr. O'Reilly.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, TOSTOCK

(Rev. Richard Addington, The Vicarage, Pakenham, tel.30287)

Services :

June 5th	: 10.30 a.m.	: Joint Communion at <u>Pakenham</u>
" 12th	: 11.15 a.m.	: Family Service
" 19th	: 6.00 p.m.	: Evensong
" 26th	: 8.00 a.m.	: Holy Communion
July 3rd	: 10.30 a.m.	: Joint Communion at <u>Norton</u>
" 10th	: 11.15 a.m.	: Family Service
" 17th	: 6.00 p.m.	: Evensong
" 24th	: 8.00 a.m.	: Holy Communion
" 31st	: 10.30 a.m.	: Joint Communion at <u>Tostock</u>
Aug. 7th	: 10.30 a.m.	: Joint Communion at <u>Pakenham</u>

St. Andrew's Church, Tostock (Cont'd)Other Events :

- June 10th : 7.00 p.m. : Music Group  
 " 11th : Three Churches Walk (leave Pakenham 10.30 a.m.)  
 " 18th - 20th : Art Exhibition  
 " 23rd : 7.30 p.m. : Joint P.C.C.'s re. 'Mission England'  
 " 24th : 2.00 p.m. : "What Do We Believe?" at Vicarage.  
 " 26th : 3.00 p.m. : Deanery Picnic at Haughley Park.
- July 1st : 7.00 p.m. : Music Group  
 " 2nd : 2.30 p.m. : Wedding  
 " 9th : Church Fete  
 " 10th : 6.30 p.m. : Deanery Evensong at Pakenham  
 " 13th : 7.30 p.m. : P.C.C.  
 " 25rd : Sponsored Cycle Ride

Three Church Walk : A ramble from Pakenham to Norton to Tostock and back to Pakenham, with a hymn and a prayer in each church. Leaving Pakenham at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday, June 11th. Please join us.

Art Exhibition : Once more we will be sharing with the Village Hall Committee in the annual Art Exhibition. This time the exhibition will be open on Sunday but will close for Evensong. We may well have some visitors so I hope the regular congregation will make a special effort to turn out in full force for this service.

Deanery Picnic : Intended for all ages, and including musical worship in the Barn, for which our youngsters are preparing at their Pathfinders meetings.

CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

(Mrs. June Wright, "Homeleigh", Norton Rd. tel. 70079)

Family Open House will be held at "Greenlees", Flatts Lane on Thursday, June 9th. Teas from 2.30 p.m. Bring and Buy. Teddy Bears Picnic. Everyone welcome. From 4 p.m. 'Teen Scene'.

A Garage Sale will be held at "Better View", Church Road, on Sat. June 18th from 10 a.m. We will be pleased to sell any household articles with a percentage of the profit to Church funds.

Church Social Committee (Cont'd)

Croft Teas will take place on Thursday, June 30th and July 28th.

The Church Fete will take place this year on Sat, July 9th at the Playing Field and in the Village Hall.

Whist Drives : We shall be suspending these for the time being.

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE -  
Saturday, July 23rd, 1983

This year, the Sponsored Bicycle Ride will be held on Sat., July 23rd from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and parishes in Cambridgeshire, Essex and Norfolk will also participate.

Last year, Tostock with just seven cyclists managed to amass over £170 in sponsorships, half of which was allocated to the Church.

It is hoped that there will be many more cyclists and/or walkers enjoying the countryside and the free refreshments.

Badges or stickers will be available in early July together with sponsor forms from the Parish Organiser, Austin Higgins, The Drift, Church Road (Beyton 70439).

ANYONE FOR LETTUCE ?

We understand that there are several Allotment Plots becoming available at The Drift off Church Road. The rents from these provide the income for the Poores Estate Charity from which gift vouchers are distributed every Christmas to a number of elderly residents of Tostock.

Every plot for which no rent is received means a reduction in the Charity's funds - and therefore fewer gifts at Christmas, so if anyone would like an extra piece of ground to grow more vegetables, save on the housekeeping and help the Charity all at the same time, please contact Mr. Fred Armstrong, Gable Cottage, Flatts Lane (tel. 70236). The annual rent for a 40-rod plot is £5 and for a 20-rod plot it is £2.50.



Village Hall (Cont'd)

Young artists in the village who have paintings or drawings they would like to exhibit and perhaps have not managed to have framed, please contact either Mrs. Rochford or Mrs. Spencer.

Some redecoration of the hall would be carried out at the end of May, including the main hall ceiling.

Tennis Club : The idea of forming a Tennis Club has been under discussion again and a further meeting is planned for Thursday, 23rd June, at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall to see if there is sufficient interest and support to get things started. Anyone interested, please do come along.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

(Mrs. E. Barnes, "Fermain", Wood Close, tel.70311)

Miss Sarah Thane, an executive with I.B.A., was the guest speaker at the W.I. April meeting. She gave members an insight into the many aspects of the Independent Broadcasting Authority and told how it endeavours to keep a balance in entertainment to suit all tastes. Not an easy task! Members also heard how audience ratings were calculated and assessment is made jointly with the B.B.C. After her talk Miss Thane answered members' questions about T.V. and local radio.

The resolutions for the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Albert Hall in June were discussed at the May meeting. The President, Mrs. J. Thomas, will be the delegate. Talents of Members was the theme for the evening and there was a good selection on display. These included embroidery, knitting, painting, patchwork, pottery and toy-making. The evening ended with a light-hearted game of 'Just a Minute', organised by Mrs. S. Rochford, then a short entertainment with further talents of members to be enjoyed and included recitations, singing and a piano interlude. Mrs. H. Spencer was a welcome visitor to the May meeting.

A selection of biscuits and knitting was entered for the W.I. competition at the South Suffolk Show. A jumper made by Mrs. D. Buckle was highly commended.

T.O.A. D. S.

(Miss Lynn Canning, 6 Mitre Close, Joolpit, tel.40070)

Despite the very heavy expenditure of mounting our Special Anniversary Show 'Splashback', we are happy to report a modest profit, thanks to the wonderful support given, as always, by our many friends and fans in the village and beyond.

The 'Grand Finale' at the Theatre Royal proved a thrilling occasion for all; and the atmosphere backstage was electric with excitement! The whole show ran smoothly after a full day of preparation, making the numerous adjustments necessary for the switch to a larger stage, and our super Stage Manager Mr. Simon Reynolds, with his trusty band of helpers, worked like Trojans to achieve an excellent result.

Our grateful thanks, too, for the extra help provided by Julie and Barney Harrison, Heather and Mick Spencer, Mrs. Pat Truss and Miss Jane Newman - good friends indeed! The Lighting effects, under the direction of John Millman, aided by Brian Cash and Peter Stocksborough, were splendid, and our Sound Operator, Derek Beales, was complimented on his music amplification by the Theatre Staff, as being the best they had ever heard! Our 'Patient Pianist, Pat' (Mrs. Reynolds) was presented with a box of chocs. as a small token of our gratitude for her long hours of waiting at rehearsals, and the help and encouragement she gave to our singers. The evening ended with a charming and very moving little ceremony of tribute to our Director, Sheelagh Millman (Which came as a complete surprise to her!) - when the whole cast of forty members personally presented her with gifts of individual flowers, and then a beautiful silver salver engraved with the titles of past shows, to thank her (in the words of the song they sang) 'for the music, and for giving them the T.O.A.D.S.'

But now, with 20 years behind us, we raise the curtain on a new era with the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, June 7th - at 7.30 p.m. and we would like to extend a warm invitation to anyone who is interested in any aspect of Theatre, to come along and join in the fun!

T.O.A.D.S. (Cont'd)

You don't have to be a budding Actor - the ability to thread a needle, knock in the odd nail or two, or even help to make the coffee at rehearsals will do just as well! (Perhaps the young gentlemen who succeeded in vanualising our Marquee outside the Village Hall would gain more satisfaction and enjoyment in expending their youthful energy on something more constructive and worth-while! We 'Oldies' could do with the help of some of that strength!)

Full details of membership available from the Secretary, Miss Lynn Canning, as above.

Stop Press News : TOADS PRIVATE PARTY on FRIDAY, June 24th  
8 till late in Village Hall. Members may  
bring ONE GUEST. More details at the A.G.M.

BROWNIES

(Mrs. C. Cartwright, "Fairlawns", Leys Rd. tel.70323)

On April 7th, we had our Annual Litter Pick-up round the village and this year picked up more than ever! We treated the Brownies to a cooked tea in the Village Hall afterwards to thank them for their efforts.

On May 31st, we are going on an Outing to Fritton Lake Country Park where I am sure we shall enjoy our day out - if it ever stops raining!! The Brownies will be serving Cream Teas on the afternoon of Saturday 18th June at the Village Hall. This will be for visitors to the Art and Craft Exhibition.

Brownie Revels this year will be on the afternoon of Sat., 9th July when we shall be meeting with the other packs in our District to have an afternoon of fun at Great Barton.

Four new Brownies joined us at the start of this term and are looking forward to being enrolled soon.

PLAYGROUP

(Mrs. C. Heywood, "King's Acre", Leys Rd, tel.70101)

Did you see that gaudily painted old bus parked outside the Village Hall one Tuesday morning recently? It was the Playbus from the Playworks at Thornham Magna, bringing their Softroom. This must be one of the more unusual uses for the Hall when the whole floor area is covered with the foam mats and a colourful maze of giant inflated tubes, beds and cushions is laid out for bouncing, rolling and jumping on. Over 50 people, mostly under-fives from the village and their mothers and friends, spent the morning happily exhausting themselves.

We are now taking registrations for children who wish to join the Playgroup in September 1983.

THE LEYS POND

At last we have a starting date for the clearance and improvement of the pond. It is SUNDAY, 31st JULY, 1983. At 10 a.m., the Suffolk Conservation Volunteers will start on the project which will extend over two years to enable the wildlife to adjust gradually to the transformation.

The group will be led by Mr. Geoff Radney (tel. Thetford 810784) and will do as much as possible on that day but as they have commitments all over Suffolk, will not be able to return for some weeks. In the meantime it will be up to us to carry on the good work and it is suggested that the best way would be to form teams of about half a dozen each to work on a rota system.

There are a variety of jobs involved, including dragging out reeds and rushes, thinning out or pollarding some of the trees, removing dead trees or branches, shaping of bushes, removing silt and general tidying up. It would be particularly helpful if there is anyone in the Village with a little know-how on such matters who would act as our 'Gaffer' between the visits from the Conservation Volunteers.

We are sure that there will be no shortage of willing helpers (of both sexes so long as you are robust enough as it could be pretty hard work at times) so please give your names to Miss Wheeler at the Post Office as soon as possible so that the teams and hopefully a 'Gaffer' may be ready for action by the end of July.

The Leys Pond (Cont'd)

Mr. Hector Mann has been most helpful, as usual, by offering to remove and dispose of the dredged spoil and the Conservationists hope to be able to provide some of the hand-tackle necessary for the job, but don't forget to check your 'Wellies' for leaks beforehand!

Watch the Notice Board for further announcements nearer the date. Meantime FALL IN THE POND PARTIES - but please don't take that too literally!

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

CRICKET : (Mr. M. Spencer, "Bosmere", Perkins Way (tel.70395))

What a disastrous start to the season. Lost one and cancelled five due to rain soaked pitches. "Oh, to be in England now that April's there" - ugh. But ever optimistic, we look forward to the following fixtures in June and July :-

June 3 : Hawstead : Home (6.30 p.m. 1st Rnd. West Suffolk Newspapers Comp.)

" 4 : Walsham : Away

" 5 : Bury St. Edmunds XI : Away

" 12 : Wetherden : Home

" 19 : Rougham : Away

" 22 : Bury Free Press (6.30 p.m.) : Home

" 26 : Battisford : Away

July 3 : Brettenham : Away (note change of venue)

" 10 : Stowupland : Away

" 14 : Greene King : Home (6.30 p.m.)

" 17 : Jackdaws : Home

" 21 : Single Wicket : Home (6.30 p.m.)

" 24 : Elmswell : Home

" 31 : Woolpit : Home

Your support will be appreciated. If you find the cricket slow, the playing field is always a pleasant spot to sun-bathe.

On the social side, the younger members of the Club have organised a Disco for Sat. 9th July 8 - 12. Admission £1. Licensed Bar. Tickets from Dale Brown, Guy Livingston, or Philip Spencer.

FOOTBALL : (Mr. A. Leeks, "Homewood", Cross St., Elmswell,  
tel. 40067)

As forecast last time, Tostock earned promotion into Division 3 of the Bury and District Sunday League, finishing one point ahead of Academicals. We are promoted with them as runners-up.

SQUASH : (Mr. Austin Higgins, The Drift, Church Rd. tel. 70439)

Members are reminded of the Annual General Meeting of the Club to be held at the Gardeners' Arms on June 8th at 8 p.m. and are urged to make an effort to attend.

QUOITS : (Mr. P. Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, tel. 70605)

Both A and B teams have played one game each and both games have gone in Tostock's favour. All league games were washed out on Saturday 21st May when most Quoits beds were covered in water.

DARTS : (Mr. P. Buckle, as above)

The Dick Talbot Invitation League is now in full swing. Tostock play a regular team on Friday nights ~~behind~~ the Gardeners' Arms. More about progress next time.

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BACK NUMBERS - So near and yet so far

The Suffolk County Records Office have invited Tostock to deposit with them a complete set of 'Chronicles' covering the last 25 years. We have already made several efforts in these columns to trace all back numbers and Miss Wheeler has now unearthed nearly all the nos. still missing but one issue still eludes us all.

May we therefore make one last appeal to anyone who has not yet searched his or her conscience or attic. The missing link is :- No. 25 (JULY 1963). If we draw a blank this time we must, alas, accept that our records never will be completed, and what a shame that would be. Fingers crossed!

SEOP PRESS : The missing Chronicle has just been FOUND !

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All events at Village Hall unless otherwise stated)

JUNE :

- June 6th : MOBILE LIBRARY  
 Tues. 7th : 7.30 p.m. T.O.A.D.S. Annual Gen. Mtg. (All welcome)  
 Thurs 9th : 2.30 p.m. onwards 'Family Open House' at  
 "Greenlees" (see Church Social notes)  
 " 9th : POLLING DAY  
 Sat. 11th : Three Churches Walk (see Church notes)  
 Sat. 18th : 10 a.m. Garage Sale at "Better View"  
 " 18th-20th : ART & CRAFT Exhibition (Church & Hall notes)  
 Mon. 20th : MOBILE LIBRARY  
 Wed. 22nd : 7.30 p.m. W. I. Whist Drive  
 Thurs 30th : 2.30 p.m. 'Tea at the Croft'

JULY

- Mon. 4th : MOBILE LIBRARY  
 Sat. 9th : Church FETE (Playing Field and Hall)  
 " 9th : 8 p.m. DISCO (Cricket Club notes)  
 Mon. 18th : MOBILE LIBRARY  
 Sat. 23rd : Sponsored Cycle Ride (see article)  
 " 23rd : LATEST DATE FOR MATERIAL FOR NEXT CHRONICLE  
 Wed. 27th : 7.30 p.m. W. I. Whist Drive  
 Thur 28th : 2.30 p.m. 'Tea at the Croft'  
 Sun. 31st : 10 a.m. WORKING PARTIES START ON LEYS POND (article)

AND SOME ADVANCE NOTICES :

- Sat. 10th September : Village Sports Day  
 Fri. 21st October : Village Quiz  
 Sat. 5th November : Bonfire Night Celebrations  
 Sat. 19th November : A Medieval Banquet!

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Editor : A. W. Hoadley, "Romans Croft", Flatts Lane,  
 Tostock. (tel. 70424)