

THE TOSTOCK CHRONICLE

No.142

February/March, 1984

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A CHANGE OF FORMAT

We have changed the format for this issue of the Chronicle, as an experiment, from the usual 'Tabloid' to a 'Longsheet'. Although the tabloid is in our view neater and more attractive it presents certain technical problems on the production side. It would therefore be very helpful to know if there is any strong preference in the matter among our readers. If so may we have your views please?

PARISH COUNCIL

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

All nine members of the council attended the recent meeting chaired by Mr. A. Villar. Matters discussed included :-

Rates : The budget for 1984/5 was considered and it was agreed to precept for a 3p. rate.

School Buses : Now that the long-awaited bus shelter is completed, the education authorities are to be instructed that the school bus must pick the children up from the shelter in future and not on the village green where extensive damage is being caused to the verges.

Grass Mower : It was felt that the existing mower, now undergoing extensive overhaul, would no longer be suitable to cut the large area of the playing fields. The search is to continue to find a suitable replacement. Other alternatives will also be investigated with approaches to the Suffolk County Council and a request for help from the Cricket and Football Clubs.

Straw Burning : A letter had been received from Bayers expressing their regret that the stubble burning in one of Mr. Villar's fields used by them for trial purposes got out of hand causing extensive damage to the surrounding hedgerows and agreeing to replace any areas that did not grow next year.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

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

February 5th : 10.30 a.m. Joint Communion and Infant Baptism (N.B.old time)
" 12th : 11.15 a.m. Family Service
" 19th : 9.30 a.m. Communion Service with hymns
" 26th : 3.30 p.m. Evensong
March 4th : 10.00 a.m. Joint Family Communion at Pakenham (N.B.new time)
" 11th : 11.15 a.m. Family Service
" 18th : 9.30 a.m. Communion Service with hymns
" 25th : 3.30 p.m. Evensong
April 1st : 10.00 a.m. Joint Family Communion at Norton

We are making some changes in our pattern of services. Cards with full details will be distributed shortly.

1st Sunday : The service on 5th February will be at 10.30 a.m. as in past months. It will be at Tostock and will include the baptism of Vanessa Vanneck. In future months the Joint Service will be at 10.00 a.m. and will be labelled Family Communion. We intend to make some slight alterations to reduce the length of the service and to make it easier for children to join in.
2nd Sunday : Family Service at 11.15 a.m. as before.

St. Andrew's Church (Cont'd)

3rd Sunday : 1662 Communion with hymns at 9.30 a.m. This is the big change - previously Tostock only had Communion at 8 a.m. and that was not proving satisfactory.

4th Sunday : Evensong (previously on the 3rd Sunday). The time will be 3.30 p.m. for six months - October to March - and 6 p.m. for six months - April to September. Changing with the clocks meant that we had at least one service in the dark, which is what we were trying to avoid.

5th Sunday : No longer one service for the three villages. Tostock will have 1662 Communion with hymns at 9.30 a.m. (as on 3rd Sundays).

SIR JAMES CURRIE, who died on Christmas Eve was Churchwarden of St. Andrew's Church for some years (although latterly he had worshipped at the 8 a.m. service at Woolpit) and we are very grateful for the contribution which he and Lady Currie made to our church during those years. We extend our love and condolences to Lady Currie in her bereavement, and trust that she will soon be settled in a new home.

CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

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

There will be "Tea at the Croft" at 2.30 p.m. on Thursdays, 23rd February and 29th March.

We are having a Jumble Sale on Saturday 31st March and we will be pleased to collect anything you may have to offer.

On Saturday 19th May, we are holding a Barn Dance in the Village Hall. Please make a note of the date and keep it free.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT

(Sec.: Mrs. H. Spencer, "Bosmere", Perkins Way, tel.70395)
(Bookings : Mr. P. Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, tel.70605)

Hard Tennis Court : Mid-Suffolk District Council have provisionally approved the scheme as being suitable for grant aid of £2,362, ie. one third of the cost of approximately £6,000. The next step will be to consider ways and means of raising the balance of the capital cost and this will be discussed fully at the A.G.M. on Friday, 13th April.

Indoor Bowls : Further enquiries have been made on the Indoor Bowls idea. Cost of the gear amounts to £350. Would anyone be interested in forming an Indoor Bowls Club? The Village Hall Committee would help and encourage any such club being formed, including the use of the hall free for the first few meetings. Please contact the Secretary or any Committee member if interested.

PRESS CORRESPONDENT

The Parish Clerk has been asked by the Editor of the East Anglian Daily Times to undertake the duties of press correspondent for this village. This she has agreed to do and anyone wishing for items to be published in this paper should contact Miss Wheeler at the Post Office.

BROWNIES

(Mrs. G. Cartwright, "Fairlawns", Leys Road, tel.70323)

On the 2nd December, we held a very successful Carol Evening. The Brownies performed a play telling the origins of our Christmas Customs, and we were entertained by some beautiful violin playing from some 20 or so children of the Bury St. Edmunds Suzuki Violin Group. Mince pies and teas were sold and a collection taken in aid of the Spastics Society.

On December 23rd, we visited the Spastics unit in Bury St. Edmunds with eight of our older Brownies and had a really lovely afternoon. On behalf of the Pack our oldest Brownie, Emily Pillars, handed over a cheque for £65. The Unit has been saving to buy a television set for the children and our donation will now enable them to go ahead and buy it.

TOSTOCK OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY (T.O.A.D.S.)
(Miss Lynn Canning, 6 Mitre Close, Woolpit, tel. 40070)

We are pleased to report that our 'something different' show "Mac and Min" was well received by our audiences, and despite a rather low turn-out on Thursday and Friday - and very high royalties! - we have managed to break slightly better than even!

Our grateful thanks to all those who braved the icy winds to come along and support us.

Rehearsals have now resumed for our TEEN-TOADS and TADPOLES, and they are working hard and enthusiastically on quite an ambitious Musical entitled "The Papertown Paperchase" by David Wood. Older members, this time, will be occupied 'behind the scenes' working on the set, costumes and props.

Dates for the show are Fridays and Saturdays 9-10th and 16-17th March and details of tickets etc. will be announced later.

Finally, a Happy and Prosperous New Year to our loyal friends and supporters from all the TOADS.

PLAYGROUPE

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

1983 was rounded off in fine style with our Christmas Party. Over fifty people were there - children, mums, one dad and most important of all, our regular visitor, Mr. Shimmins, as Father Christmas.

We were joined at the start of this year by three new children and we have also welcomed a new Playleader, Margery Ashford. Margery lives in Thurston and is an experienced playgroup person. She was until a few years ago the District Nurse covering Tostock.

Our plans for this year's activities are not yet finalised, but we hope to arrange a return visit from the ever popular Softroom and Playbus. We also look forward to some lively and sticky pancake tossing, and making pretty - and probably also sticky - cards and trinkets for St. Valentine's Day and Mothering Sunday.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

(Mrs. D. Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, tel. 70605)

The W.I. were pleased to entertain fifty guests from the village to a Christmas Party on 7th December. Mrs. M. Walters cut a delicious cake made by Mrs. M. Coe, the President. After the meal, members of Pakenham Institute provided the entertainment which everyone enjoyed.

Newcomers to the village were invited to the January meeting. After the business was concluded members and friends enjoyed a Beetle Drive and a slightly different version of 'Give us a Clue'. Food for the evening was provided by the Committee.

Medicine collection rota : Would you please note that prescriptions from the Woolpit Health Centre are now dispensed on a 28-day basis so the collection dates will be on the following Wednesdays :-

<u>Date</u>	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Afternoon</u>
1st February	Mrs. E. Nunn	Mrs. H. Spencer
29th "	Mr. J. Barnes	Mr. J. Barnes
28th March	Mrs. D. Pamment	Mrs. D. Pamment

Prescriptions etc. will be collected from the Post Office at 10 o'clock on these mornings and medicines will be returned back to Miss O. Phillips at "Tobermory" on the Green in the afternoons. It is requested that all medicines be collected from her between 4.30 and 6 p.m.

BUS TIMETABLE

The new timetable introduced in Mid-November has cut down our daily service still further to five trips into Bury and four on the return, none of which now goes via the West Suffolk Hospital. There are of course no buses at all on Sundays. The timings are :-

<u>BURY</u>		<u>STOWMARKET</u>	
<u>In</u>	<u>Out</u>	<u>In</u>	<u>Out</u>
8.19 a.m.	8.50 a.m.	9.19 a.m.	7.50 a.m.
10.41 a.m.	1.50 p.m.	2.19 p.m.	10.12 a.m.
1.07 p.m.	4.10 p.m. (Not Sats)	4.34 p.m. (Not Sats)	12.38 p.m.
3.31 p.m.	4.50 p.m. (Sats only)	5.24 "(Sats only)	3.02 p.m.
7.24 p.m. (Not Sats)	5.15 p.m. (not Sats)	5.55 "(Not Sat)	6.55 (Not Sats)

It seems that this reduced service was introduced quite arbitrarily without consultation with or adequate notice to the travelling public. A strong protest has been made to the Bus Company on our behalf by Mrs. Heather Spencer, the village's appointed Transport Liaison representative.

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

Our dictionary tells us that a chronicle is "a detailed and continuous register of events in order of time". How very dreary that sounds. The Tostock Chronicle aspires to be rather more than a mere calendar of events and from time to time makes it's own comments on the village scene but always as viewed from under the Editor's eyeshade. How much more interesting it would be to be able to publish YOUR views. After all it is YOUR newspaper and its columns are always open to you - subject to the over-riding problem of space of course - so if you have any constructive (and printable) comments to make on anything concerning the village why not send them along? The closing date for material is always given in the Diary at the end of each issue.

HELP!

1. We have been offered the use of a RONEO '750' duplicator for the production of future Chronicles. There is an official handbook with it but if there is anyone in the village with experience of operating this model a short practical demonstration would be far more helpful - and much appreciated. Any offers please to the Editor.

2. As you can see this format for the Chronicle needs stapling. Has anyone a stapler to spare - in working order? We asked once before without success. Better luck this time?

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Is it our imagination or is Tostock becoming a brighter and better place to move about in after dark? In the absence of street lighting (no, we're not starting up that here), it really does make movement at night so much easier - and safer - when porch lights and house lights aid one's navigation, especially when there's no moon about. Not only that but how even more attractive some properties look when viewed literally in a new light, and above all HOW MUCH MORE FRIENDLY the whole place seems.

A REFLECTION FROM LAST BONFIRE NIGHT

Harking back to the very successful Bonfire Night on the Leys, isn't it a funny thing that however carefully any barbeque is sited and whatever the forecast wind direction for the night, the unfortunate helpers at the feast invariably finish up singing "Smoke gets in your Eyes". Perhaps the hiring-out of oxygen masks might prove a profitable sideline for some enterprising person next time!

QUESTION : "When is a Pond not a Pond?"
ANSWER : "When it's a Project."

That's what the Leys Pond became in the eyes of the organisers of the Beautiful Britain '83 Competition who unhesitatingly nominated Tostock as the winners, and the event will be lastingly remembered through the hand-carved and inscribed notice board awarded to us as our prize.

Well done everyone concerned, including the Suffolk Conservation Volunteers, Mr. Geoffrey Radley of the Nature Conservancy Council, Mr. Hector Mann, Mr. Reg Sulman and his henchmen from the Suffolk Community Programme Agency and last, but not least the small but enthusiastic band of village stalwarts who answered the Parish Clerk's calls for volunteer helpers.

If the area seems for the moment to have a somewhat threadbare appearance we can look forward to a transformation when the Spring regrowth appears, and all that remains now is to see that it receives in future a regular tidy-up so that it is never again allowed to become the neglected and overgrown wilderness which detracted so much from this very pleasing approach to Tostock.

Just a thought. How about having a Pond Bailiff? Would anyone with some experience of this sort of thing care to volunteer to lead a small team to keep an eye on things and organise such maintenance as will be necessary from time to time. Any volunteers? Mr. Mike O'Reilly ("Rookwood", New Rd, tel.70337) would be pleased to hear from you.

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

News generally is in rather short supply for this issue. No doubt plans are actively in preparation for the coming months and we shall hear all about them in due course.

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

Several members who were playing last year have not yet renewed membership for 1983/4 and are urged to do so. Some new members have been accepted but there is room for many more at £6 for Adults and £1 for Teenagers.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All events at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated)

FEBRUARY :

Wed. 1st : 10 a.m. Prescriptions Collection (W.I. notes)
 Mon. 13th : MOBILE LIBRARY
 Thur. 23rd : 2.30 p.m. "Tea at the Croft".
 Mon. 27th : MOBILE LIBRARY
 Wed. 29th : 10 a.m. Prescriptions Collection (W.I. notes)

MARCH :

Fri. 9th : }
 Sat. 10th : } "The Papertown Paperchase" (TOADS notes)
 Mon. 12th : MOBILE LIBRARY
 Fri. 16th : }
 Sat. 17th : } "The Papertown Paperchase" (TOADS notes)
 Fri. 23rd : LAST DATE FOR MATERIAL FOR NEXT CHRONICLE
 Mon. 26th : MOBILE LIBRARY
 Wed. 28th : 10 a.m. Prescriptions Collection (W.I. notes)
 Thur. 29th : 2.30 p.m. "Tea at the Croft"
 Sat. 31st : Jumble Sale (Church Social Notes)

AND SOME ADVANCE NOTICES

Fri. 13th April : Village Hall Management A.G.M.
 Sat. 19th May : Barn Dance (Church Social notes)

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