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WHAT'S IN A NAME ?

In our October issue we recorded certain historians' opinion that the Anglo-Saxon name for Tostock meant 'Totta's stockaded settlement'. We had a feeling that we had not heard the last of it and sure enough the Oxford Dictionary of English Place Names now comes along to offer us 'A look-out place or a place on a prominent hill'. Now we all know that experts can't be wrong so between them we have something like this :- 'Totta's dwelling in a stockaded settlement on a prominent hill'. Makes sense ?

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Perhaps there are still more Experts to chip with their two pennyworth, but if they add much more we shall soon become East Anglia's challenger for the longest place name, at present held by Wales' Llanfair gogogoch!

PARISH COUNCIL

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

Seven Councillors attended the recent Council Meeting. Apologies were received from both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman. It was proposed and all agreed that Mr. F. Armstrong should take the chair.

Finance : The Treasurer requested cheques to be signed for £3 hire of hall and £5 for duplicating paper for 'Tostock Chronicle'. He presented figures for the 1985/6 Precept suggesting £500. After discussion, it was proposed and seconded and all agreed this figure.

Council Minutes : A letter was read from the Central Suffolk Liberal Association requesting a copy of minutes of all our meetings to be supplied to them. This was refused.

Proposed New Swimming Pool at Stowmarket : Concern was expressed regarding the proposed building of an indoor swimming pool at Stowmarket and two letters were read on this matter. This was discussed at length and the Clerk was asked to write to Mid-Suffolk District Council stating the disapproval of this Council on the spending of £1,300,000 on this one item in view of the present economic situation, with the possibility of a 6p rate to all householders in the Mid-Suffolk area for an unspecified number of years.

Thurston Primary School Governors : Thurston Parish Council request a representative from this village to the Board of Governors of Thurston Primary School. This was felt to be desirable and the item is to be placed on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Norton Road Hazard : Fear was expressed that due to excess surface water freezing in Norton Road a serious accident may result, as already there have been some minor incidents. The Clerk is to write again to the Suffolk Highways Department to look into the matter with a view to a possible solution to this on-going problem.

Leys Pond Maintenance : Discussion is to take place with the Conservation Officer regarding the further clearance of the Village Pond now that plant life is re-established after the major project of clearance last year.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

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

Services : FEBRUARY 3rd : 10.00 a.m. Joint Family Communion at Tostock
10th : 11.15 a.m.) Informal Family Service
 12.15 p.m.) 1662 Communion
17th : 11.15 a.m. Family Communion
24th : 11.15 a.m. Matins

MARCH 3rd : 10.00 a.m. Joint Family Communion at Pakenham
10th : 11.15 a.m.) Informal Family Service
 12.15 p.m.) 1662 Communion
17th : 11.15 a.m. Family Communion
24th : 11.15 a.m. Matins
31st : 11.15 a.m. Songs of Praise

APRIL 7th : 11.15 a.m. Easter Day. Family Communion

New Services : Thanks to Deaconess Sally Fogden from Honington, who has kindly agreed to take the Pakenham service once a month, we have been able to adopt our simplified programme for Tostock - a service every Sunday at 11.15 a.m., except when we meet with Norton and Pakenham at 10 a.m. on the First Sunday of the month, and everybody is welcome at every service.

1662 Communion : The P.C.C. asked me to provide a 1662 Communion on a weekday once a month, but it has seemed better to have this extra service on a Sunday when the church is warm. It will be at 12.15 p.m. on the Second Sunday, after the Family Service. This will be a straight-forward Prayer Book Communion with no hymns. It will not take place if I am not available to take it (as happened in January).

Lent Course : Meetings will be on Thursday evenings, following the Diocesan Lent Course on 'Jesus'. The first meeting will be at the Vicarage on February 21st at 7.30 p.m.

Songs of Praise : The first 'Fifth Sunday' of the new programme is on Palm Sunday March 31st when we hope to have a service of hymns with one or two readings appropriate to the day. Offers of musical help will be very welcome.

Wedding : Congratulations to Alison Buxton on her marriage to Derek Williams on January 19th.

Organ : I write before the demonstration of the Viscount C35 electronic keyboard in the church on January 26th, but hope that by mid-February it will be paid for and in regular use.

CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

(Mrs. Pat Reynolds, "Better View", The Green, Tel. 70341)

"Tea at the Croft" will take place as usual on the last Thursdays of the month, i.e. 28th February and 28th March at 2.30 p.m.

The Church have very kindly agreed to loan their piano to the Croft where it is being installed in the communal lounge. This will be a very useful additional amenity and is much appreciated.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT

(Sec. : Mrs. H. Spencer, "Bosmere", Perkins Way, Tel. 70395)

(Bookings : Mr. Peter Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, Tel. 70605)

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 22nd March at 8 p.m. Everyone in the village is invited to come along for the annual election of officers and to 'air your views' on your village hall.

Another annual event - the Art Exhibition will be held this year on 22nd, 23rd and 24th June in Tostock Church. In place of the Craft Demonstrations, it is hoped to have a 'Mini Flower Show' in the Village Hall at the same time. Further details will be publicised.

The Committee has decided to enter the second 'Village Hall Competition', open to village halls in Suffolk and sponsored by the East Anglian Daily Times.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

(Mrs. Doreen Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, Tel. 70605)

A very successful Christmas Coffee Evening held at "Rookwood", New Road on 12th December raised £17.30 for our funds. Our thanks to those who came along.

Our January meeting was cancelled due to the recent bad weather. If anyone would like to find out more about the W.I. please come along on the third Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. where you will be very welcome.

Medicine Collection Rota :

Wed. 27th February : Morning : Mrs. D. Pamment. Afternoon : Mrs. J. Thomas
Wed. 27th March : Morning & Afternoon : Mr. J. Barnes.

TOSTOCK OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY (T.O.A.D.S.)

(Miss Lynn Canning, 6 Mitre Close, Woolpit, Tel.40070)

Rehearsals for the pantomime "Jack and Jill" are now in the final sector, although due to the dreadful weather conditions two rehearsals have, unfortunately, had to be cancelled. We hope all members have been learning their lines whilst being snow-bound!

For a reminder the dates for the pantomime are :-

Friday and Saturday, 8th and 9th March and
" " " 15th and 16th March.

Please look out for posters for information on tickets and prices, which will be announced as soon as they are finalised.

The T.O.A.D.S. hope all parents and friends will come along one one of the nights for what, we hope, will be a most enjoyable evening.

BROWNIES

(Mrs. Doreen Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, Tel.70605)

A large audience enjoyed the annual Carol Concert given by the Brownies. The community carols were led by Mr. Aket and his brass ensemble. Items by the Brownies included the playing of three carols on the handbells, recorder playing, two unusual carols and a short play written and produced by the Brownies. Refreshments were served at the end of the evening.

Our thanks to those who supported this, from which a sum of £50 was presented to the local branch of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

PLAYGROUP

(Mrs. Sarah Martin, "Strawberry Cottage", Norton Road, Tel.70360)

The highlight of our year was undoubtedly the Christmas Party which was attended by all the children and their younger brothers and sisters and the under 3-year olds of the Village. We extend our grateful thanks to Mr. Shimmons who once again was a superb Father Christmas, and his presence was enjoyed by all.

We said Goodbye to four children at the end of last term to start school, and we welcome just one newcomer this term. Very sadly, our numbers are dwindling and we are anxiously trying to find new members to avoid the possible closure of the Playgroup.

At the moment our plans are not complete for this term but we are certainly planning to make some pretty cards for both Valentine's Day and Mothering Sunday.

HERE COMES SUMMER!

British Summer Time starts officially at 1 a.m. on Palm Sunday, 31st March, so be sure to remember to put your clocks and watches ON one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, the 30th March.

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION

The 1984 collection in the collecting box in the Post Office together with donations amounted to £20 which has been sent to the Association. The Post Office is a collecting centre for washed milk bottle tops and all silver foil. Last year 296-lb. of foil was collected. Thanks are expressed to Tostock Brownies, the children of Elmswell School, residents of Beyton, Thurston and Hesselton as well as parishioners of Tostock and to everyone who has contributed.

THANK YOU CHARLIE

Those who purchased a Charlie Carver tape as offered in the October issue will be pleased to hear that there was a very good response in the village as a result of which the Tostock Poor's Estate Charity received £15 from Mr. John Howson the promoter, who went to such a lot of trouble to produce the tapes.

The money was received just in time to be used straight away in the distribution of the Charity Christmas vouchers. We understand that a few tapes are still available from the village shop or from the "Gardeners' Arms", price £2.50.

ANOTHER 'FIRST' FOR TOSTOCK

It would appear that Tostock is the only village in the whole of the county of Suffolk to boast both a tennis court and a squash court.

For this ego-boosting piece of information we are indebted to the Rector who found it in "Sports Facilities in Rural Suffolk", a recent survey carried out by the Community Council for Suffolk.

IS THIS WHAT THEY CALL 'TAKING CARE OF THE PENCE'?

City News : British Telecom proudly declares a profit of six hundred and eighty four million pounds for the last six months.

Village News : Tostock glumly awaits the replacement of a few measly pieces of glass in its British Telecom 'phone booth, which have been missing for the last twelve months.

There must be a moral in this somewhere !

"CALL MY BLUFF"

The threat of a blizzard over the weekend before 23rd January led to the postponement of this inter-village competition. It is hoped to be able to hold it in the village hall at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 27th February and you are invited to come and support the Tostock team against their rivals from Norton and Pakenham. Tickets (£1 including refreshments) from Mrs. Pat Reynolds, "Better View", The Green.

VICTORIAN MUSIC HALL

The performances put on by Thurston Upper School before Christmas surely deserved more prominent mention by the local press than we noticed. The production directly involved more than a hundred pupils and staff, including some from Tostock, and no doubt much 'homework' by many mums and dads. The end product was a very entertaining evening for the sizeable audiences who supported them. Clearly a great deal of time and effort had been put into the production and the enthusiasm shown by those on stage communicated itself effectively to the audiences.

Not least impressive was the competent and well balanced orchestra, nearly twenty strong and always up to their job. It was very reassuring to find that in an age when instant canned music (we use the term loosely) is so easily available at the touch of a button there are still those young people who are prepared to devote time and effort, even if with a little parental prodding, to acquire the skill to play an instrument themselves and the satisfaction which must surely go with it.

Well done, Thurston Upper School. We look forward to your next extravaganza.

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

FOOTBALL : (Mr. Peter Jones, "Helvellyn", School Road, Elmswell, Tel. 40130)

Due to weather and Christmas, Football seems non-existent at Tostock at the moment. We have not had a game at home since beating Black Boy 2-0 on 2nd December. Despite spending 5 hours clearing the pitch of snow we are still denied a game through officialdom. At this rate we will be sharing the changing rooms with the Cricket Club! We are sorry but there is still quite a wait before YOU can see YOUR team in action again. Our next home fixture is against Travenol on 10th Feb.

When they can play, the team are in winning form although they are still not playing their best football. Our best result so far was the 5-0 win over Travenol on Thetford Town's ground ; our only defeat being our exit from the Division III K.O. Cup, going down 2-0 away to Black Boy thus repeating last season's result. This fixture is definitely a 'bogie'.

The league position at 29th December, 1984 was :-

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Points
ELVEDEN	12	7	4	1	43	21	18
TRAVENOL	11	7	1	3	38	25	15
TOSTOCK	10	6	3	1	22	11	15

On the social side :-

(1) Our dance is still scheduled for Saturday, 30th March, with "Willie and the Wallies" music right out of the 60's at Norton Village Hall. Tickets are still available.

(2) £50 has been donated to the Save the Children Fund thanks to the stone pickers. Perhaps the response would have been even better had some people who had taken Sponsor Forms returned them. (It's surely never too late. Ed.)

Did you know? (a) That with your support at Home games we could win the Third Division this year - that is a PROBABILITY.

(b) That 90% of the supporters watching our Home games come from the neighbouring village of Norton - that is a FACT.

Do not wait to read about what we are doing but come and see it actually happening. Tea is still being served and it's FREE!

And finally : Moves have been made towards a Joint Sports Committee after suggestions from the Village Hall Committee, with members of the Football Club being invited to the next meeting of the Cricket Club, with we hope some joint ventures in forthcoming events.

CARPET BOWLS : (Mrs. M. Laverick, "Glentor", Norton Road, Tel.70964)

Membership continues to grow and there have been good attendances even during the bad weather. Sessions are booked throughout February on Thursdays, from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. There will also be sessions on Sunday evenings on the 10th and 24th February from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

By the time these notes appear we shall have received our first visit from a neighbouring club, a friendly match with Woolpit on 24th January.

We would be pleased to see anyone interested in playing so do come along and test your hidden talents.

YOUTH CLUB : (Miss Rachel Pearson, "Trenance", Norton Road, Tel. 70533)

The Club continues to meet every Sunday afternoon from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. with approximately 30 members. Members are at present discussing the purchase of some more games and a new table tennis net. If any member has a special request for a specific game, please forward your ideas for consideration before any purchases are made.

When the weather improves it is hoped to convey a party of paid-up members to 'Roller-bury' for an evening of skating.

New members are very welcome at any time.

