

# The Tostock Chronicle

No. 166

FEBRUARY/MARCH 1988

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## IT'S TIME TO PAY THE PIPER !

It seems that the bill presented to the village for exercising its privilege of selecting the Councillors of its choice last June comes to a hefty £400. This is of course something over which the Parish Council has no control whatsoever when an election has to be held, and it has no option but to raise the money by making a Local Rate of 1½p.

This is Democracy at work - and some would say that we should be grateful that we are allowed to "pay our money and take our choice" - but thank Heaven these local elections come only at 4-yearly intervals and not every year.

## PARISH COUNCIL

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

A Parish Council meeting was held in December. Matters discussed included the replacement of willow trees destroyed by the October gales and a letter sent to Mid-Suffolk Council to replace the tree at Croft Bungalows.

The dangerous condition of Footpath No. 5 (Norton Road to Flatts Lane) was again raised and it has been suggested that an officer from Mid-Suffolk Highways Dept. meets a member of our Footpath Committee to walk the path at the Norton Road end and to see the problem first-hand.

The Precept for 1988/9 was discussed at length. The 1987 Parish Council elections cost a 1½p rate and it was proposed that the Budget for this year would be in the region of £300 being a 2½p rate, making a total of a 4p rate.

A special meeting was held in January to discuss an outline planning application for four bungalows to be built on land behind properties in Leys Road. Careful consideration was given and it was agreed that this was too large a development bearing in mind the dwellings already built during this last year. Concern was also expressed regarding the stopping-up of the existing access to one of the properties in Leys Road and the opening of another access without proper planning permission or Highways authority.

No objections were raised to the extension to property at Plot 2 at "Betterview" and to the building of a workman's cottage at the Old Hall.

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WANTED - VILLAGE HALL CLEANER - Approx. "24 hours per month" - rate £2 per hour, to start immediately. New floor polisher now available to make care of the floors much easier. Please contact Heather Spencer (tel.70395) or Barney Harrison (tel.70247) for further details.

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ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

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

Services :-

FEBRUARY    7th : 10.00 a.m.    Joint Family Communion at Norton  
              14th : 11.15 a.m.    Family Service  
              21st : 11.15 a.m.    1662 Communion  
              28th : 11.15 a.m.    Matins

MARCH        6th : 10.00 a.m.    Joint Family Communion at Tostock  
              13th : 11.15 a.m.    Family Service (Mothering Sunday)  
              20th : 11.15 a.m.    1662 Communion  
              27th : 11.15 a.m.    CONFIRMATION SERVICE (Palm Sunday)

APRIL        1st : 9.30 a.m.    GOOD FRIDAY Service  
              3rd : 10.00 a.m.    Family Communion (EASTER DAY)

Gifts : We are very grateful for a grant of £100 from the Parish Council for the purchase of 40 new prayer books. Those who attend Matins will be particularly grateful as those pages were damaged in many of the old copies.

Confirmation : On Palm Sunday, March 27th we will welcome the Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich for a Confirmation Service at 11.15 a.m. I think we will only have one person from Tostock being confirmed, but there will be a good number coming from other parishes in the Deanery. N.B. There will be no Family Service at Norton that morning.

Easter Day : Though it will be the 1st Sunday of the month when we usually meet together, there will be services in each of the churches. At Tostock we will have a Family Communion (Series 2) at 10 a.m. and hope that all church members - and others - will aim to be there on the day when we celebrate especially the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

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

"Afternoon Tea at the Croft" resumed after the Christmas break, on Tuesday 26th January when Mr. Bill Hoadley entertained us with delightful slides of Australia. A party tea followed, after which Mr. John Williams, a resident of the Croft bungalows, sang some old-time songs.

Owing to the cancellation of the Christmas Bazaar a Coffee Morning is to be held at "Better View" on Thursday 2nd June.

Gwen Mulley has kindly donated a wrought iron flower pedestal for use in the church for which we are most grateful. The brass stand now holds a trailing fern given by Edna Parslow.

HELP !

Ladies wanted for cleaning Tostock church. Approx. 1½ to 2 hours about once a month, working in pairs. Can be done on a Friday or Saturday morning. Good cleaning tools available. The more volunteers we get the less frequently the 'turns' come round!

Please contact Mrs. Smith, Fox and Goose Cottage, tel. 40384.

GET READY TO 'CLOCK ON'

Before you receive your next 'Chronicle', British Summer Time will have arrived. When? On the night of Saturday 26th March put your clocks ON one hour - and may it do us more good that it did last year!

TOSTOCK PAST AND PRESENT SOCIETY

(Mrs. Gillian Huffey, "April Cottage", Leys Road, tel. 70333)

At the January meeting an excellent talk given by Nesta Evans of "Crossings", The Green, on the East Anglian Linen Industry was much enjoyed by members and friends. Those present were fascinated to hear of the lengthy process of growing, pulling, spinning and weaving of the hemp and how the industry prospered in "High Suffolk" - and eventually collapsed.

On Monday, 12th January 25 members and friends met at the Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds and were welcomed by Miss Jane Isaac, the Assistant Archivist. After an introductory chat outlining the workings of the Records Office, we were shown the strong room and its contents and then invited upstairs to the Search Room where a great deal of material on Tostock had been displayed for our inspection, including tithe maps, parish registers, church-wardens accounts and references to our village dating back to the 13th century. It was altogether an enjoyable evening and has given us an interesting insight into Tostock past.

Our next meeting, at the Village Hall, will be on Monday 1st February at 8 p.m. when Mr. Bill Hoadley will be showing slides of Tostock present, including pictures of some of the disastrous damage inflicted upon so many of our lovely trees and woodlands by "Hurricane Heartbreak" last October. At our March meeting on Monday 7th, Mr. Philip Aitkens will be telling us all about Timber Framed Buildings.

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

(Sec.: Mrs. Lynn Coward, 6 Fox Cottages, Stanningfield, Bury St. Edmunds, tel. 9-828599)

After a Christmas break, a meeting was held on Tuesday 12th January to discuss plans for the 25th year celebration production. It has been decided that this production will be staged at the Theatre Royal in Bury on Friday 27th May and Saturday 28th May 1988, and that the production will be "Star White and the Seven Dacts" - a space fantasy!

At the 12th January meeting the play was read through and the casting began. Rehearsals started on Tuesday 19th January, with only a short break for Easter.

Anyone interested in being involved in any way at all with this show should contact Sheelagh Millman on Beyton 70209.

BROWNIES

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

Eight Brownies attended the Sixers' and Seconders' Day at Great Barton in November. This activity day is greatly enjoyed by the girls as they meet Brownies from other packs in the area and have a chance to do various crafts and cooking.

Our thanks to all who helped in any way with the Brownie Carol Concert. The collection amounted to £39 and was presented to MENCAP and will be put in the holiday fund for the handicapped.

Our thanks also to parents and friends who gave their support to the Webb Ivory fundraising; approximately £45 was raised which will help with the running costs of the pack.

We now have a 'Pen-pack' like a 'Pen-pal'. Our girls correspond with girls in a Macclesfield Brownie Pack as our Brown Owl was a Tawny Owl with them before moving to this area.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT

(Secretary : Mrs. Heather Spencer, "Bosmere", Perkins Way, tel. 70395)  
(Bookings : Mr. Peter Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, tel. 70605)  
(Key Holder: Mr. Simon Reynolds, "The Hawthorns", Perkins Way tel. 70675)

A new improved plumbing system will shortly be installed in the hall, which will consist of a new multi-point unvented water heater, doing away with the storage tank in the roof, which is showing signs of corrosion.

Mid Suffolk District Council have brought in a new condition for the Public Entertainment Licence and that is to install 'circuit breaker' electrical sockets by 1st April. The two sockets on the stage will be replaced.

It has been decided to go ahead with the annual Art Exhibition in St. Andrews Church on 18th-20th June, in conjunction with the Church. Due to over-crowding last year, it has been decided to restrict the number of paintings (full size) to 3 instead of 4 this year. Invitations will be sent out in March. Any queries - telephone Heather Spencer as above.

The Craft Exhibition will be held, as before, in the Village Hall on the afternoons of Saturday and Sunday, 18th and 19th June, organised by Mrs. Rosemary Lister, tel. 70179.

In each case we would be delighted to hear from any newcomers to the village who may like to exhibit paintings and/or crafts, or help with the exhibitions. We are always grateful to the many people who help us each year in so many different ways.

Two more dates to bear in mind please - firstly the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall on Friday, 22nd April at 8 p.m. and secondly the Annual Flower and Produce Show on Saturday 17th September.

In response to the many complaints we have received of dogs fouling the Playing Fields, two signs have been made and will shortly be erected, asking dog owners not to allow their dogs to foul the playing fields.

PLAYGROUP

(Mrs. Sharon Hall, "Ifold", New Road, tel. 70942)

The Playgroup had to close at Christmas after all, owing to lack of interest in running the group - Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and committee members.

If anyone now or at a later date would like to restart the Playgroup the equipment is still at the village hall, the group is still registered with the appropriate bodies and I have all the books etc. and there is still a small amount of money left - please contact me.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

Members of St. Andrew's Church Music Group and friends went carol singing around the village on Tuesday 22nd December.

£91 was raised, including contributions cajoled from customers at the "Gardeners' Arms" and over the festive season. The money has been sent to the Great Ormond Street Hospital's 'Wishing Well' appeal.

Thanks to to all who sang and knocked on doors ; Reg and Mary Ransome and above all to all those who gave so generously.

Julie Harrison

IT'S ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR TOSTOCK'S FESTIVAL WEEKEND  
SATURDAY 16th - SUNDAY 17th JULY

No plans for a Church Fete this year ..... but instead Tostock's own FESTIVAL WEEKEND, to help raise money for the Church Fabric Fund.

The programme is taking shape already. There will be :-

A CONCERT in the church on the evening of Saturday 16th.

A FESTIVAL of FLOWERS in the church on Saturday and Sunday 16th/17th.

AN OPEN GARDENS AFTERNOON around the village on Sunday 17th followed by

A SPECIAL EVENSONG in the church on Sunday evening, 17th.

Details of the events will be widely advertised and we are expecting to attract many visitors to our beautiful village.

This will be a very busy weekend (and the run-up period) for a village of Tostock's size but the organisers are confident that plenty of active support and help will be offered from within the village. If you would like to join in by lending a hand with any of the events please contact - the sooner the better - either :-

Carolyn Heywood, "Kings Acre", Leys Road, tel. 70101 or

Julie Harrison, "Apple Trees", Perkins Way, tel. 70247,

and will all those residents prepared to open their gardens (however large or small) for a few hours on the Sunday afternoon please let Bill Hoadley know at "Romans Croft", Flatts Lane, tel. 70424).

MICHAEL, THE MOBILE BARBER

For those of us who like to mark in our diaries for the year ahead the dates when he will be at the "Gardeners' Arms" on Thursdays from 1.30 - 4 p.m. are :-

11th February : 24th March : 5th May : 23rd June : 4th August :  
15th September : 3rd November and 15th December.

BONJOUR! BONJOUR!

1. Do you wish you knew more about the French than Berets, Bicycles and Onions, It is I, Monsieur le Clere and the Folies Bergere?
2. WOULD you like help in getting to know a real French family?
3. DO you want to meet the people of Compeigne - a beautiful city less than one hour's ride North of Paris?
4. ARE you willing to try to communicate with people as keen to learn English as you are to learn French?
5. EVEN if you cannot speak French have you a sense of humour and a knack with sign language?
6. DO you know that Bury St. Edmunds is 'twinned' with Compeigne, and that the Friends of Compeigne are here to support you in making those contacts?
7. ARE you able to offer hospitality on an exchange basis to any French visitors from Compeigne for a few days in May, 1988?

If the answer is 'Yes' to any of the above, then listen carefully for I shall say this only once :- Contact the joint secretaries, Geoff and Betty Birkby, 45a Crown Street, Bury St. Edmunds (9-68713). The family membership fee of the Friends of Compeigne is only £3 a year - COME AND ENJOY YOURSELVES.

Contributed.

FOOTBALL

It is disappointing that we no longer receive regular progress reports, but our ears and eyes (particularly the former) tell us that both the Saturday and Sunday elevens are very much alive and, indeed, kicking. We wish them well for the second half of the season and hope that we may receive in due course an end-of-season summary of their achievements. Editor.

"THE GARDENERS' CORNER"

(Minchost : Mr. Reg Ransome, "The Gardeners' Arms", tel. 70460)

Sundays - Quiz Nights : Surprisingly the 'B' team are languishing in the bottom half of the league - and when they have such an array of talent this makes it all the more surprising. The questions are obviously more to the liking of the 'A' team because they are challenging for the top spot ; having written this however the kiss of death will now hover over them.

Mondays - Crib Nights : With two extremely good wins to their credit, namely 12-3 and 9-6 at home against Ixworth Thorpe Royal Oak and Troston Bull, hope runs eternal that the lads and lass - may have dragged themselves off the bottom rung. Better luck in the final run in and forthcoming cups, etc.

Tuesdays - Pool Nights : Having beaten the Plumbers Arms twice either side of Christmas, once in the K.O. Cup and then in the league, we were hoping for a decent start to 1988 but the next week showed a defeat against Badwell Ash White Horse and with arch rivals Norton Dog winning, we are once again down amongst the doomed. Never fear though the rallying cry will go up and I trust be honoured with a few good wins before season end. Perhaps it's our year for the K.O. Cup as we have to travel to Haughley King's Arms (2nd Div. opponents) in the quarter finals of the K.O. Cup. Tough luck for Stevie Neal who went out of the singles championship at an early stage.

Wednesdays - Darts Nights : Still lying second in the league and plugging away at the top team but we don't look like catching them as the league approaches the final stages. We'll soon be on to all the cups and then who knows?

Fridays - Darts Nights : Not enjoying the best of seasons and very hard to see why as the team is more or less the same as previous seasons. Are the others just getting better or is it lack of practice I wonder?

As can be seen the Winter leagues are coming to a close and although the fixture lists look a bit thin at the moment it's because there are a lot of cup matches to come which are mainly played on neutral territory.

Home Fixtures for February & March 'A'

Sundays : Feb. 7th 'B' v 'A' : 21st 'B' v. Dog 'A' : 28th v Stanton Angel :  
Mar. 6th 'B' v. Pickerel 'B' : 13th 'A' v. Victoria 'A' :  
20th 'B' v. Commercial Inn.

Mondays : Feb. 8th v. Rushbrooke Club.

Tuesdays : Feb. 16th v. Cherry Tree : Mar. 8th v. Beyton Bear 'A' :  
Mar. 15th v. Plumbers Arms.

Wednesdays : Feb. 27th v. Combs Gardeners Arms.

Fridays : Feb. 12th v. Walsham Sports Club.

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ARE YOU ON THE RIGHT TRACK ?

Once again we are asked to comment upon the use - or misuse - of the track along the North side of the Green from the Post Office to Flatts Lane. It must be emphasised once more that it is not a 'roadway' in the full sense of the word and was created only for access to properties fronting onto it, including obviously the Post Office and shop. Even then, please, at a speed which does not risk injury to people or domestic pets, especially where the 'carriageway' runs so very close to forecourts and doorways.

This is a very sensitive matter of great concern to those residents directly affected, and relies in the end entirely upon the reasonable co-operation of those who, quite properly, have cause to use it.

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

TENNIS : (Mrs. Heather Spencer, "Bosmere", Perkins Way, tel. 70395)

Weekly Sessions : Still Tuesday mornings 10.30 a.m. - 12 noon and now also Thursday afternoons 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Why not come along and have a knock? We don't take ourselves too seriously!

Annual General Meeting 8 p.m. Monday 21st March at the Village Hall. All welcome. Election of new committee and plans for 1988. Subscriptions run from 1st April round to the following March.

BARN DANCE - Saturday 14th May : Keep this date in mind for a family occasion. Much fun has been had at past Barn Dances. Fuller details later.

CARPET BOWLS : (Mrs. Doreen Buckle, "Crosswinds", Flatts Lane, tel. 70605)

Our programme of league games is nearly complete - only two games yet to be played. We cannot say we get very high in the league table but we put up a good try and get a lot of fun in the process.

We are pleased to report however that we have won through the second round in this season's Chairman's Cup, beating Fornham All Saints 3-1 at home and holding them to a 2-2 draw away. Our victims (?) in the next round will be Claydon.

Our own Singles Competition was played in November and the winners were :-  
Ladies - Mrs. Betty Evans. Gentlemen - Carl Buckle.  
The Pairs Competition was played on the 18th December and the winners were Mrs. Betty Evans and Mrs. Doreen Buckle.

Both of these competitions were well supported by the members, the standard of play very encouraging and both were very enjoyable events. Members provided refreshments for the Pairs Competition evening and later the plaques were presented to the winners of both competitions.

Forthcoming matches : Wed. Feb. 3rd - Barrow (away) : Thurs. 4th - Claydon (home)  
Tues. 9th - Claydon (away) : Thurs. 11th - Barrow (home)

Sunday Evening meeting dates at the Village Hall : Feb. 7th and 21st.  
Mar. 6th and 20th.

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

It is anticipated that the court will be closed at the end of January for its periodic re-paint.

Subscriptions, £6 for Adults and £1 for Teenagers are now due.

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

We are in the 'off-season' at present but we shall resume playing on our pitch behind the "Gardeners' Arms" in early May. In the meantime any newcomer who would like to try his hand in due course should contact Peter Buckle as above.

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

There will be a meeting of the Cricket Club on Thursday 17th March at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. It is most important that all who wish to see cricket continue in the village attend and commit themselves to the future of the club. Fixtures for 1988 have been arranged in the expectation that enough support will be forthcoming to honour them.

Any cricketer looking for a club to join is invited to attend.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY :

- Monday 1st : 8 p.m. Tostock Past & Present Society. Public meeting. Slide sequences of Tostock present by Mr. Bill Hoadley (see page 3)
- Monday 8th : MOBILE LIBRARY
- Thursday 11th : MOBILE BARBER
- Monday 22nd : MOBILE LIBRARY
- Tuesday 23rd : 2.30 p.m. "Afternoon Tea at the Croft"

MARCH :

- Monday 7th : MOBILE LIBRARY
- " 7th : 8 p.m. Tostock Past & Present Society. Public Meeting. Talk on Timber Framed Buildings by Mr. Philip Aitkens (page 3)
- Thursday 17th : 7.30 p.m. Cricket Club Meeting (see page 7)
- Monday 21st : MOBILE LIBRARY
- Monday 21st : 8 p.m. Tennis Club A. G. M. (Notes page 7)
- Wednesday 23rd : LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING COPY FOR NEXT 'CHRONICLE'
- Thursday 24th : MOBILE BARBER
- Saturday 26th : British Summer Time starts tonight. Clocks ON 1 hour
- Tuesday 29th : 2.30 p.m. "Afternoon Tea at the Croft"

AND SOME ADVANCED DATES :

- April 3rd is 'Easter Sunday'
- April 22nd : Village Hall Management A.G.M. at 8 p.m.
- May 14th : Tennis Club Barn Dance
- May 27/28th: T.O.A.D.S. Production of "Starwhite and the Seven Daots" (page 3)
- June 2nd : Coffeæ Morning at "Better View" (Church Social notes)
- June 18/20th : Art and Crafts exhibitions (Village Hall notes page 4)
- July 16/17th : Tostock Festival Weekend (page 5)
- September 17th : Flower and Produce Show (page 4)

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Editor : A. W. Hoadley, "Romans Croft", Flatts Lane, Tostock. tel. 70424  
Stencils and Duplicating : Heather Spencer