

NOVEMBER 1961.

1. Tostock Relay Race. On the afternoon of Saturday 11th November Tostock was honoured by being the location of a Relay Race promoted by the Ipswich Harriers. Ten teams, five from H.M.S. Ganges, four from Ipswich Schools, and one from Cambridge, competed in a highly organised and well managed race. The course started at the Gardeners Arms, went down Church Road, round by Tavern Row to A.45 main road, and back to the Gardeners Arms via Tostock House Corner.

Those who watched were impressed by the fine type of young men and boys who took part. This sporting event is the very thing that is needed for the recreation of youths and boys to-day. It was disappointing that none of the competing teams came from West Suffolk, particularly as the promoters had chosen Tostock for the event in the hope of attracting entries from our part of the County. Perhaps, if another time, it could be more widely advertised this object might be achieved. Tostock hopes the promoters will not be discouraged from trying again.

Many East Suffolk gentlemen, and some Tostock residents, combined in the efficient arrangements, and the work of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. B.H. Gorringe of 58, Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich, deserves special mention. Medals were presented to the winning teams in the Village Hall and an excellent tea was made available.

2. Damage to Village Property. A contrast to the above is provided by a paragraph in the Bury Free Press of the 10th November. A Silver Jubilee seat at Elmwell was deliberately wrecked and a 16 year old youth and a 14 year old schoolboy were fined for the damage they had done.
3. Tostock Paper Collection. The Womens' Institute are collecting Newspapers, Magazines and flattened cardboard, in aid of their funds, and also to help with the cost of keeping the Village Green cut and tidy. The collection is made during the first week of every month. So far two tons have been collected and sold for £8. The collectors would be grateful if the paper could be in neat bundles tied up with string.
4. Christmas Carols. The Womens' Institute are organising a Carol Party to tour the village during early December. Money collected will be given to aid the "Over 60" Club Party.
5. Tostock Church Tower.

Tiddleham Church is of flint and stone;  
Built when a Henry sat on the throne.  
Don't ask me which for I simply don't know,  
But I know it was built a long time ago;  
And I seem to remember I have been told  
That Tiddleham Church is 500 years old.

Tostock Church was built in the same period, i.e. the 15th Century. That century, 1400 to 1499, included the reigns of Henry IV, V, VI, and VII, so no wonder the author of the above rhyme could not accurately say which Henry was on the throne.

Some notes supplied by the Diocesan Inspector of Churches establish the fact that the main fabric, roof, pew ends and bell frame of Tostock Church are 500 years old. There are also a few fragments of 15th Century glass in the East window.

What craftsmen they were in those days; their work has lasted well for 500 years. We in Tostock owe them a debt of gratitude and should do our best to ensure that this example of mediaeval craft will stand for generations to come.

Work on the Tower is nearing completion and we know that at least £1,000 is required to pay for what is being done. The Fund which has been raised for this now stands at £670. Many residents have generously contributed to this sum; further gifts are still needed. Please send what you can to Captain Errington, the Hon. Treasurer, or put your gift in the box near the South door of the Church, which is cleared regularly.

A CHURCH SALE AND FAIR will be held in the Village Hall on SATURDAY 16th DECEMBER for the benefit of the Tower Fund. A Draw with good prizes is one of the attractions.

6. Post Office Information.

a. IMPORTANT. Christmas cards in UNSEALED envelopes to addresses in the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic now require a 2½d (twopenny halfpenny) stamp, instead of 2d. All other destinations overseas can still be sent for twopence.

b. Christmas Week. There will be no deliveries on Christmas Day this year. It is anticipated that all mail will be delivered by Christmas Eve. Everyone is requested to post Christmas Mail as early as possible before the holiday. In order to assist residents Tostock Post Office will be open until 7 p.m. every evening of the week previous to Christmas and will not close on the afternoon of Wednesday, 20th December.

c. National Savings Movement. The Authorities have been most anxious that Tostock should have a National Savings Group. Mrs. Buckle very kindly agreed to organise it when she was approached by the County Committee and it has been launched with success. Some twenty or more have already joined. Mrs. Buckle will gladly give any advice required and will welcome new members.

Briefly, National Savings Stamps are bought each week, either 2/6d. or 6d., as few or as many as people wish. When these accumulate they can be converted into National Savings Certificates, or other Government Securities, or transferred to the Post Office Savings Bank; and the cash can be taken out whenever required.

7. Poppy Day 1961. £13:5:1d., a village record, has been sent to the Earl Haig Fund and the organiser, Mrs. F. Armstrong, wishes to thank Mrs. Whyte and Mrs. Scott for their invaluable assistance in making this possible.