

The Tostock Chronicle

No. 173

APRIL/MAY, 1989

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"YOUR PRESENCE IS AGAIN REQUESTED..."

During the period covered by this issue of the 'Chronicle', two public meetings will be held at the Village Hall both of which should command the attention of all of us who have the wellbeing and progress of the village at heart.

On Tuesday, 11th April is the Annual Parish Meeting, with our Parish Councillors present, and on Wednesday 19th April, the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee.

Between them these two bodies - of volunteers - have considerable responsibility for much of what 'goes on' throughout the year and are surely entitled to hope that a reasonable number of residents will come along and air their views, opinions and suggestions on these two special occasions for this purpose.

See you there then?

PARISH COUNCIL

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

Seven Councillors attended the recent meeting chaired by Mr. A. Villar. It was reported that repair work had been carried out near the Pumping Station in Norton Road but this had not improved the surface water problem. Our County Councillor has now been written to for assistance in the matter.

The estimate of £346 for the making of a Parish Notice Board was accepted and the board will probably be sited near the Telephone Kiosk on Parish Council land.

The Outline Planning Application for the erection of a chalet-type dwelling with the construction of a new access to property between "Crossings" and "Aurene" was discussed. Concern was expressed about the new access but no objection raised regarding the building with the request to bear in mind that this is in the centre of a conservation area.

Complaints have been received regarding a van being parked on the Green near "Green End". The owner is to be requested to find an alternative parking site.

Enquiries are to be made about a street sign indicating Flatts Lane. Concern was also expressed about horses and ponies being ridden on Footpath no. 5, Flatts Lane to Norton Road. Advice is being sought from Mid Suffolk District Council.

Annual Parish Meeting : The date has been fixed for Tuesday 11th April at 7.45 p.m. in the Village Hall. County Councillor Mrs. Susan Sida and District Councillor Bernard Siffleet will be in attendance. **EVERYONE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING : ALL are invited to the annual meeting on Wednesday, 19th April at 8 p.m. The agenda will include annual accounts, Chairman's report on the past year's activities, plans in hand and election of officers. The Management Committee consists of four elected members, a Treasurer, Secretary, Booking Officer and representatives from all organisations in the village who are invited to serve on the committee. This is your village hall, please come and take an interest.

Art Exhibition : 17th, 18th and 19th June : Invitations are being sent out to 130 artists in East Anglia for the Tenth Art Exhibition/Sale to be held in St. Andrew's Church in June. If there are any artists amongst the newcomers to the village we would be delighted to include them in the exhibition invitations. For the benefit of the newcomers we would state again that any profit made from this event, together with the Craft Exhibition in the Village Hall, is shared equally between the Church Fabric Fund and the Village Hall.

The Craft Exhibition is being organised again this year by Mrs. Rosemary Lister. As usual this will be on the afternoons of 17th and 18th June in the Village Hall. Mrs. Lister puts in this request :-

"Tostock Crafties" - don't be shy. Have a stall at the Craft Exhibition on 17th and 18th June - exhibit and/or sell your wares. If you know of anyone out of the village who would also like a stall please contact R. Lister, Beyton 70179.

Flower and Produce Show : Please note the date for this has been fixed for Saturday, 9th September.

Hand-basin : We have been informed by the local Department of Environment/Health Inspector that we must have installed a hand-basin in the village hall kitchen to bring it into line with the new hygiene requirements. This is another added expense but something that has to be done.

BROWNIES

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

On Monday 10th January, the Brownies held a 'Bring and Buy' sale for the Blue Peter Kampuchea Appeal. The sale was the idea of Brownie Katherine Duvall and organised by her. A total of £33.60 was raised. Our thanks to all who contributed and attended the sale.

Nearly a full pack attended the Thinking Day Service at Thurston Church in February. This is a special year as it is the 75th birthday of the Guide Movement.

On Wednesday 22nd March, we did our annual 'Litter Pick-up' round the village, after which the Brownies tucked into Hot Dogs and beans. (And very well deserved too! - Ed.)

WEST SUFFOLK HOSPITAL SCANNER APPEAL

A further £60 has been raised from the sale of second-hand books, bringing the total to £520.

Our thanks to everyone who has donated books.

J.W. and R.S.

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

(Chairman : Mrs. Lorna Walker, "The Gables", New Road, tel. 70186)

(Secretary: Mrs. Lynn Coward, 6 Fox Cottages, Stanningfield, B.S.E. tel.9-828599)

We had two very successful nights on the 10th and 11th March, with our first production entitled "Woods and Wards", and thank everyone in the village who supported us and hope that you enjoyed the evening. We hope to have made a small profit of which donations will be made to Comic Relief and the Blind.

Members would like to thank Lorna Walker and Diane Semley (from Woolpit) who, we feel, both did an excellent job in their first producers' role.

If anyone is interested in any aspect of amateur dramatics, or knows a friend who might be, they should contact either Lorna on Beyton 70186 or Diane on Elmswell 42224 as soon as possible.

A GENERAL MEETING to discuss our next production will be held on Tuesday, 4th April at 7.30 p.m. at Tostock Village Hall. WHATEVER YOUR SKILL - ON STAGE OR OFF - THIS ENTHUSIASTIC GROUP NEEDS YOU!

PAST AND PRESENT SOCIETY

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

The February and March meetings were well attended. Members and friends enjoyed Mrs. Jane Fiske's talk on 'James Oakes the Bury banker' whose son became Rector of Tostock and the March talk on 'Tracing your Family Tree' by Dr. Joanna Martin, a professional genealogist from Hitcham, caused several members and friends to consider starting their own family research.

All are invited to the next meeting on Monday, 3rd April at 8 p.m. when Mr. Jack Smith from Ixworth will be talking about 'Rural Crafts'. Mr. Smith, himself a working blacksmith has a long experience of all sorts of village crafts.

The subject at our meeting on Monday 8th May will be "Mary Tudor, a Suffolk Princess" and the speaker will be Miss Monica Place of Stanningfield.

Tostock Survey : We are grateful to the many residents who have returned the Forms sent out with the last 'Chronicle', even from Tostockians who are abroad! We would be most grateful if we could have the rest of the 'Yellow Forms' back. We are interested in knowing the approximate date of the property whether it be the 1950's, 60's or even 1989 to make a complete record. If you have lost the 'Yellow Form' there are some spares c/o Miss Wheeler or Miss Stevens at the Post Office. Please return them to the Post Office or a member of the Committee (Mrs. Jeanne O'Reilly, Mr. David Livingston, Mr. Reginald Sulman, Mr. David Rochford or Heather Spencer). We are pleased to say that there has not been a single objection from anyone to having their property photographed by us for what will be a complete pictorial record of our lovely village exactly as it is today.

Field Walking : Three 'Walks' have covered two fields - firstly Great Field or Rectory Field just off The Leys where a small piece of 15C. pottery was found amongst other things, and more recently Birches Field and Birches Meadow, behind "Greenlees" at the bottom of Flatts Lane. All the 'finds' have to be carefully washed, labelled, recorded and taken into the Archaeological Unit in Bury to be assessed. This has yet to be done following the last walk. We shall not be able to do any more walks now until after the harvest. We are grateful to the local landowners and farmers already approached who have been most helpful.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
(15th - 20th May)

A HUNGER LUNCH for Saturday, 20th May is planned at :-

4, Perkins Way, Tostock

Some Traidcraft goods will be on sale.

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT US.

(Julie and Barney Harrison, tel.70247)

THE MOBILE BARBER

Our attention has been drawn, somewhat pointedly, to the fact that the date of Michael's March visit to the village was omitted from the Diary at the end of the last 'Chronicle'. Our profound apologies to anyone inadvertently inconvenienced but - well - what can we say ? "Keep your hair on" perhaps ?

"THE SHOW MUST GO ON"

Every successful village club or society depends upon a core of enthusiastic and dedicated members around whom it can develop, but never more so than in the case of a society presenting stage shows where in addition to the up-front production, an unseen but equally enthusiastic artistic and technically skilled team is at work providing the complementary scenic, sound and lighting effects without which shows just could not be produced.

The simultaneous loss of so much of this expertise must have been a great challenge to the T.O.A.D.S. after their long and painstaking twenty-five year build-up so admirably summarised in Mrs. Sheelagh Hillman's "Potted History" in the last 'Chronicle'. They are to be congratulated therefore on their determination, in the best theatrical tradition, that "The Show must go on!" and we all wish them well as they start to rebuild for their next quarter century!

COFFEE MORNING : HIGHMOOR HOUSE

Mr. and Mrs. David Rochford are holding a Coffee Morning on Thursday, 13th April 10 a.m. onwards at their home, Highmoor House, Norton Road (the last house on the right before the railway bridge). There will also be a 'Bring and Buy'. All proceeds to CANCER RESEARCH FUND. All welcome.

TOSTOCK - A VILLAGE PORTRAIT

The Past and Present Society is now ready to launch its worthy project to prepare a complete picture of our village for the benefit of posterity (page 4).

To photograph literally every one of the 200 or so Tostock dwellings and features is a formidable task and six members will each cover a prescribed area as follows :-

David Livingston - Flatts Lane ; Mike O'Reilly - New Road ;
Reg Sulman - The Leys and Leys Road ; Mick Spencer - Church Road, Wood Close
and Perkins Way ; Bill Hoadley - The Green and 'Outlyings' ;
Bill Parslow - Norton Road.

Whenever possible prior notice will be given to occupants but this may not always be possible as the opportunities to photograph must often be taken at short notice when the right weather conditions arise - always a chancy business in our climate. Please therefore be understanding should you observe any of these gentlemen hovering around in their respective areas. They may indeed appear to be 'loitering without intent', but in this case a very good intent!

NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

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

All our league games have now been played giving us a total of 51 points. This means we finish the season half-way in the league table, which is an improvement on previous years.

Two Pairs entered the County Pairs Competition held at the Bury Leisure Centre in January, one being knocked out in the second round and the other knocked out in the quarter finals - this with 16 pairs taking part from a total of 208 pairs originally entered.

A team of four entered the County Fours Competition also at the Bury Leisure Centre in March. The team won their first round against Gislingham but lost in the second against Barrow. A total of 101 teams entered the competition.

Our own Club Singles and Pairs Competitions have been played :-

Ladies Singles : Winner Mrs. V. Nice. Runner-up Mrs. D. Buckle.

Gentlemen's " : " Mr. R. Fuller " " Mr. J. Barnes.

Pairs : Winners Mr. J. Barnes and Mr. P. Buckle.

Runners-up Mrs. V. Nice and Mr. C. Buckle

Sunday Club nights : April 2nd, 16th and 30th. May 14th and 28th.

The Club's Annual General Meeting is on Thursday 6th April at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. ANYONE INTERESTED IN CARPET BOWLS PLEASE COME ALONG. YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME.

CHURCH YOUTH CLUB : (Mr. M. B. Harrison, 4 Perkins Way, tel. 70247)

The club meets every alternate week at Tostock Village Hall, Sundays 7 - 9 p.m.

A lively enthusiastic group - COME AND SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE! Next meeting - Sunday 9th April.

TENNIS : (Mrs. Carolyn Heywood, "King's Acre", Leys Road, tel. 70101)
(Court Bookings and Membership - Mrs. H. Spencer, "Bosmere", Perkins Way, tel. 70395)

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Village Hall on Monday, 13th March. Diane Stewart of 3 New Road resigned from the Committee, having been a valuable member since the formation of the club. The rest of the Committee remains unchanged.

Membership : Subscriptions for 1989 are due on 1st April. These are the same as last year - £5 Adults, £3 Students and £2 Under 16's. Please pay our Membership Secretary and collect your new membership card. The padlock combination number will be changed on May 1st. New members of all ages and abilities are very welcome.

Junior Coaching : will be held on 1st and 8th July - Saturday mornings. Mrs. Sheila Keeley has kindly agreed to give the youngsters the benefit of her expert tuition again. There will be no charge to members.

Social Events : Plans are afoot for a 'Progressive Supper' in the village for members and friends. Please keep the eve of Saturday 24th June free in your diaries for an evening's 'Midsummer Madness'. Watch out for further details (when the Committee has worked out how to organise the event!)

T-shirts etc. If you would like a new T-shirt or sweatshirt with the Tennis Club emblem for the start of the new season, please see Heather Spencer.

SQUASH : (Treasurer : Gareth Jagger, "Greenlees", Flatts Lane, tel.70613)

The new season is now well under way and annual membership remains at £6 for Adults and £1 for Juniors. All members are invited to bring along guests but it would be appreciated if "frequent" guests support the club by joining as members themselves.

Any questions, suggestions or membership applications will be accepted at the above address.

"THE GARDENERS' CORNER"

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

Do you realise out there that the QUIZ team that plays every Sunday night through the long Winter months without any means of support, camp followers or Rah Rah girls are on the verge of greatness, nay, immortality! With only three games to play they have gone 21 games without being defeated, including one drawn last week against our old adversaries, the Norton Dog.

Therefore if all goes to plan (fingers crossed) and one more victory is attained the League title is ours and it's into the hat for the Greene King Knockout Challenge Cup. So "come on down" to the pub on a match night and watch the lads airing their knowledge and give them the support they deserve. The final home match is on the 9th April against the Stowmarket Union.

More good news to come, this time from the CRIB team who have battled their way through to the final of the League Knockout - at the expense of their league form I might add - and will play on a date to be announced against the Rushbrooke Club. So best of luck and may the hands go with you.
Home fixtures : 3rd April v. Bennett Arms : 2nd May v. Troston Bull.

The POOL team have worked wonders by winning four games out of the last six to avoid relegation, the last being at Thurston Fox and Hounds and squeezing in by the narrowest of margins 5 - 4.

The competitions have started and we have a Singles champion and landlord through to the next rounds. Unfortunately the Pairs came to grief but we don't talk about it and our Captain had a bad attack of 'Burnt Beans' (in joke) on the night and was knocked out in the first round.

Even more cheer for the DARTS team playing Wednesday evenings because they are Runners-up in the Stowmarket & District Greene King Darts League, behind Felsham Six Bells. All the competitions start shortly so keep practising!

Now to Friday nights DARTS and after all the earlier good news we have to come down to earth a bit and say they have held on to their mid-table position. Having said that it is almost an impossibility to win this league because it's always dominated by the two Thurston teams every year.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All events in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated)

APRIL :

- Monday 3rd : MOBILE LIBRARY
" 3rd : 8.00 p.m. Past and Present Society meeting
Subject : "Rural Crafts" (page 4)
Tuesday 4th : 7.30 p.m. T.O.A.D.S. Annual General Meeting (page 4)
Thursday 6th : 7.30 p.m. Carpet Bowls Annual General Meeting (page 6)
Tuesday 11th : 7.45 p.m. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (page 1)
Thursday 13th : 10.00 a.m. onwards - Coffee Morning (Cancer Research)
Highmoor House (page 5)
Monday 17th : MOBILE LIBRARY
Wedn'day 19th : 8.00 p.m. VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (page 3)
Thursday 20th : MOBILE BARBER - "Gardeners' Arms" - 1.30 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday 25th : 2.30 p.m. "Tea at the Croft" (page 2)

MAY :

- Monday 1st : Bank Holiday. NO LIBRARY
Monday 8th : 8.00 p.m. Past and Present Society meeting
Subject : "Mary Tudor, a Suffolk Princess" (page 4)
Monday 15th : MOBILE LIBRARY
Saturday 20th : 'Hunger Lunch' - Christian Aid - 4 Perkins Way (page 5)
Friday 26th : LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEXT 'CHRONICLE'.
Monday 29th : Bank Holiday. NO LIBRARY.
Tuesday 30th : 2.30 p.m. "Tea at the Croft" (page 2)

JUNE :

- Thursday 1st : MOBILE BARBER.
Friday 2nd : Coffee Morning, "Better View" (page 2).

AND SOME ADVANCED DATES :

- June 17th, 18th and 19th : ART and CRAFT EXHIBITIONS
Saturday 9th September : FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW
Saturday 24th June : Tennis Club's 'Evening of Midsummer Madness'
(page 6)

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