



TOSTOCK CHRONICLE



297

DECEMBER 2009 - JANUARY 2010

Parish Council

A meeting was held on 28th October chaired by Cllr.Dennis Harman. Clerk Mrs.M.Bottomley.

Apologies were received from CllrsPaula Parsons and Ed.Wadsworth.

Present Cllrs.Diane Plester, Maureen Beales and Matthew Burman.

Also present Dist.Cllr.Carol Milward and nine parishioners.

The public forum was taken by two members of the VHMC and a member of the public who again urged the P.C. to consider the provision of Doggie Litter Bins. The P.C. agreed to place this on the agenda for the December meeting.

The chairman of the VHMC said that a cheque for £1500. 00. had been received from the Suffolk County Council towards the improvements to the village hall car park. The VHMC had added a further £500.00. to this and asked for assurance from the P.C. that they would meet the balance. This was given and it was hoped that the work would commence almost immediately.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd September were approved and signed.

Matters arising:-

Tostock Website Update. Progressing slowly due to the fact that information was not readily forthcoming. Once received it could be up and running in a very short time.

Chestnut Tree. This has been further examined by an officer from Mid Suffolk. It was felt by them that at least 35% of the trees branches would need to be removed. There would be no guarantee the tree would be saved and in their considered opinion that the tree should be felled.

It was also felt that a public meeting would not be necessary but that a flyer be delivered to every household informing them of the proposed action and asking for suggestions of a suitable replacement.

Countryside Stewardship. Cllr Harman said that successful work had been carried out on the Leys pond under supervision and that no further work would be necessary on the pond for about a year.

No report was received from the County Councillor.

The District Councillor said there was not much to report but that she had attended a planning meeting that morning and despite objections from this P.C. and a request for a site meeting for the proposed development of four bungalows behind the council houses in Norton Road the application was passed.. It was pointed out to her that the property behind Highmoor House appeared to be occupied. A condition of the planning consent was that before occupation the splayed entrance should be completed, but it was noted that this had not been done. The Dist.Cllr. agreed to look into this matter.

Suffolk Constabulary. There were no reports of crimes or problems in the village during the period 20th Sept. to 24th Oct.

Five cheques were approved for payment and three cheques (£65) were received for advertising in the Chronicle.

A letter collectively from the VHMC, Past & Present and the Church requesting funding for the purchase of two marquees was approved.

The purchase of Grit Bins was also discussed and agreement for the mower to be overhauled.

A.O.B. A request for permission to remove bushes from behind the bus shelter was not objected to as these had originally been privately planted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

J.E.W.



**Woolpit, Elmswell,
Norton, Tostock.
Community First Responder
Group**

**W.E.N.T.
Newsletter**

**Issue 6
Autumn 2009**



**Responders at
Woolpit Steam
Fair**

So far this year we have attended 98 calls - mainly for chest pains, strokes, diabetic issues and falls. As well as the four main villages in our name, we also cover seven other nearby villages.

As part of our Summer Recruiting Campaign, we have attended 15 local events since May, including a number of talks to Parish Councils and Women's Institutes. We have successfully recruited four new members, adding to our current team of eight, with additional people showing interest who we look forward to recruiting in due course. We are planning to be at the **Woolpit Blood Donor session on 6th November**, so please come along and meet us.

Our responders are all volunteers, and the East Anglian Ambulance Service provides our training free of charge. The initial training takes a full weekend, and we meet locally as a group on a monthly basis where we practise our skills and keep up-to-date with the latest requirements. If you would like to join our group or learn more about what we do, please ring 01284 731802 or our Group Coordinator, Tony France, on 01359 240208. We are also keen to meet more local groups and associations so, if you would like us to come along and give a brief talk and demonstration about the role of the Community First Responder, please call either of the above two numbers.

This year we have again been very fortunate to receive some generous donations, which have provided more equipment for the continuing successful running of our Responders Group.

How We Are Helping You – together with the East Anglian Ambulance Service, we provide a fast response to specific medical emergencies.

How You Can Help Us – particularly bearing in mind the darker winter months ahead, please ensure that your house name or number is clearly visible from the road.

Precious important minutes can be lost by us not being able to find the actual house where our services are required.

Many thanks.

TOSTOCK DOES IT AGAIN

On the 8th October many residents were surprised to see Tostock featured on BBC 'Look East' with Mike Liggins highlighting this village's efforts to keep and maintain the telephone kiosk on the Green. The camera man also shot some lovely views of this picturesque village and cottages.

This was the latest in the long running involvement that Tostock has had over the years with both local radio and T.V.

Some will remember that in May 1991 BBC Radio Suffolk broadcast a live two hour afternoon programme from the P.O. Stores entitled 'Anything Goes' and was presented by Robert Diggins.

In 1994 Mary Jane Cullen targeted Tostock for her one hour programme 'Down Suffolk Way'. She was so impressed with her interview with the late Brig. Robert Daniel that she chose this as one of the six most memorable interviews she had conducted during the year and it was broadcast again on Boxing night..

Then in 1998 Nick Patrick interviewed many residents for his one hour programme 'On the Road'. This programme came from the Croft Community Room and involved members from various clubs and organisations within the village. The fact that Tostock had won the Best Kept Village competition more times than any other village during the 1960's and 1970's resulted in views of the village and some of the cottages being shown on both BBC and Anglia TV. The village has also been used as a location to screen episodes of Lovejoy and Champion during the 1980's..

Also in the 1980's Sweden produced a number of educational films with the object of teaching Swedish children English. On making enquiries about a typical and suitable village for the story the producers were directed towards Tostock and spent several days here, featuring the village green and telephone kiosk. Children from the London Drama Academy were made to believe reporters which covered the Vicar's wife played by Joan Hicks planting a tree on the Green and an encounter with a colourful parrot who got confused with a lady wearing a decorative hat in the telephone kiosk. Over the years Tostock has been described as quintessentially English, Idilic, tranquil, picturesque, very friendly, a village with a wonderful community feeling and spirit.

Perhaps this is highlighted by the fact that during this past year four householders have wanted to move house, but did not want to leave the village. Instead they bought different properties within the boundary

Dennis in fact is now in his third house in Tostock. Firstly in Church Road and then in Leys Road and finally on the Green. Will this be his last move??!!!

John and Val have moved from Flatts Lane to The Leys.

The last to move were Walter and Karen who exchanged houses with Gail which necessitated moving from one side of the green to the other!

At least two dozen friends and neighbours assisted them in their move which took place on All Hallows Day.

**GAIL, KAREN AND WALTER WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY
THANK EVERYONE WHO HELPED IN THEIR MOVE.**

25 years
serving the local
community

**St Nicholas
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Share in the magic of St Nicholas Day

In the busy hustle and bustle of the festive season, St Nicholas Hospice Care invites you to take time out and join us to remember your loved ones at our Special 25th Birthday Songs of Praise Service and Light up a Life Ceremony on 6 December 2009 - St Nicholas Day.

The celebratory Songs of Praise Service is being held at St Mary's Church at 6.00pm. This will be followed by a candlelit walk to Angel Hill for the Light up a Life Ceremony at 7.30pm, with Christmas carols and the lighting of the Christmas tree.

The Light up a Life Ceremony is a special way to remember someone you love who has passed away. At the same time we give you the opportunity to support St Nicholas Hospice Care by making a donation in memory of a loved one.

If you wish to make a donation and dedicate a light on the Christmas tree in remembrance of someone you love, please contact us on the number below to request a dedication form, and we will ensure those being remembered will have their names read out at this service.

We welcome anyone who can not attend the Songs of Praise service to join us at Angel Hill for the Light up a Life ceremony only. There are also other services being held in Sudbury, Lavenham and Haverhill, for more details please see our website.

Alternatively, there is also an opportunity for you to light a virtual candle in memory of a loved one by visiting our website and following the links to the Light up a Life site. There is no charge for lighting a virtual candle, but if you do choose to kindly make a donation at the same time to St Nicholas Hospice Care it will be very gratefully received.

For information on the Light up a Life events please visit our website www.stnicholashospice.org.uk, or contact Jennie Unitt on 01284 715572 or email jennie.unitt@stnh.org.uk.

We hope you can join us at this special event.

TOSTOCK CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Our carpet bowls club was formed in the 1980's. We meet in the village hall on a Thursday evening between 7.30 - 9.30pm. During the winter we play in the Bury Carpet Bowls League. During the year some members enter competitions that are organised by local carpet bowls clubs and also the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association.

If anyone would like to try carpet bowls or would like any information please ring 270605.

Doreen Buckle
Secretary.

THE CROFT INFORMAL SERVICES

The next service will be in the Croft Community Room on Monday 14th December at 11-00am and be in the form of a Carol Service. This will be followed by a luncheon party at the Gardeners Arms. The first meeting on 2010 will again be in the Croft Community room on Monday 18th January commencing at 10.00am

Tostock Village Association

A meeting was held on 3rd November 2009 chaired by Mark Jull.

As there has been no response from the planning department regarding boundary issues on the north eastern side of Norton Road and nothing further has been heard about the proposed development on the north western side of Norton Road it was decided to step up the pressure with MSDC and possibly to get the national press involved.

Mark is contacting David Ruffley and Val is writing to all other parish councils who have complained to enquire if they have had any response. The TVA will support the PC in whatever action is need regarding the Chestnut tree on the Green, and if it has to be felled it is suggested that parts of the timber should be preserved and encased together with a photograph of this Icon of the village. Other suggestions are welcomed. It also strongly supports the VHMC and PC regarding dog problems in the village and the need to provide 'doggie bins' and/or the enforcement of the appropriate legislation.

WOOLPIT HEALTH CENTRE PHARMACY

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CLOSURES

The Pharmacy will close at 4.00 pm on Thursday 24 December and reopen on Tuesday 29 December 2009, a closure of 4 days due to Bank Holidays. We are also closed on New Year's Day.

Please ensure in plenty of time that you have enough of your medicines for this period.

It is usually the case that the phone line is extremely busy in December. You may find it more convenient to order your prescription

- By post
- In person
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Please allow 48 hours for preparation of your prescription due to the significantly increased workload.

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Church News

On November 29th, Advent Sunday, we shall be holding a special Service at 10am for St Andrew's Day, our 'Patron Saint'. We hope to make this a special day in our 'Calendar'. At the service, the 'Advent Pasada' will begin again, when the little figures of Mary, Joseph and their donkey start their journey around the village. If they arrive at your door, please make them welcome, then next day help them on their journey around the village. Eventually, on Christmas Eve, at the Crib Service, we hope to welcome them to the stable at the end of their journey.

The Carol Service is on Sunday December 20th at 3pm - we plan to have a Nativity Play presented by the children. There will also be the Christmas Tree where we place gifts for the children of the Bury Refuge - we shall be very grateful for donations.

The Church will be decorated on Saturday December 19th, so please come along and help, from 10am onwards.

On Tuesday December 8th the Christmas Coffee Morning will be held at 10.30 am at the Village Hall, do come along and join us!

Congratulations to Mathew Walker who has achieved his second Distinction in his Organ Music exams. Thanks also to his teacher, Jean Towers. Mathew will play before the Crib Service on Christmas Eve.

The three local PCC's will meet at Pakenham on December 7th to discuss with Bishop Nigel our requirements for a new priest following Revd. Hooper's retirement. A Parish and Benefice Profile has been produced to identify the way forward.

The PCC met at Jasmine Cottage on November 17th by kind invitation of Dr. A Gath.

Items discussed:

1 The financial statement- the Treasurer reported that our Parish share will rise in 2010, although we have no Rector at the moment.

2 Parish Plan - the final edition was circulated and has gone forward to be incorporated with the Benefice Plan which will be presented to Bishop Clive, so that the vacancy can be advertised.

3 an estimate of £1236 has been obtained for the trench-drain for the proposed kitchen and toilet.

4 Services will continue in the same mode as before the Rector's retirement, thanks to our Readers and Lay Elders.

5 the meeting closed with a prayer led by Rev Sam Long, and thanks to Dr Gath for her hospitality.

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS!

Floodlights for November were sponsored by Sheelagh Millman in remembrance of friends who have passed away.

December is sponsored by Jean Wheeler and Reta Stevens to celebrate their 80th Birthdays

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Tostock Past and Present

Our final 2 meetings of the year were well attended and we had good speakers talking about the history of Ransomes Sims and Jefferies and Suffolk Breweries Past and Present.

The Christmas meeting with supper (everyone brings a plate of food) followed by films from the Suffolk Archives takes place on Saturday December 5th (7 for 7.30pm). Non-members are welcome (£2 each) but please contact Anthony Scully 270482 or Jeanne O'Reilly 270337 so that we know precise numbers.

Sarah has put together a very interesting group of speakers for 2010. We have 2 talks of local interest, Clive Paine on Victorian Norton and Ron Murrell on the Green Children of Woolpit. Later in the year Peggy Cole will be giving a talk entitled "My life story".

Programme for 2010

Please remember all meetings in 2010 are on a Tuesday at 7.30pm

February 2nd - **AGM** + Linda Scoles **The Yanks are Coming** (An American view of a Suffolk Village)

March 2nd - Ron Murrell **The Green Children of Woolpit**

March 16th - Clive Paine **Victorian Norton (part 3)**

April 6th - Dave Steward **Suffolk Churches & their Treasures**

May 4th - Grant Elliot **The Secrets & History of Monopoly**

May 18th - Clive Paine **Suffolk Folklore**

June 1st - Linda Burrows **The Women's Land Army in East Anglia 1939-1950**

June 15th - Clive Paine **7pm Visit to Shelland Church**

September 7th - Peggy Cole MBE **My Life Story**

October 5th - Peter Driver **It's a Grave Business**

November 2nd - Chard Wadely **The River Gipping**

We are also planning a summer outing and a return visit, by popular demand, to Eastern Angles in December 2010

New members are always welcome and our meetings are open to anyone.

Anthony Scully (Secretary) Tel 270482 email a.r.scully@btinternet.com

A Christmas Stocking Filler

We still have copies for sale of our village book (cost £5) on the history of Tostock. The book has 12 chapters and covers the early history of the Parish using original sources such as wills and probate inventories of former villagers. There are also chapters which rely more on the memories recorded by current and past inhabitants of Tostock. The book is well illustrated with over 60 photographs, drawings and maps. If you would like a copy please contact Heather Spencer 270395 or Anthony Scully 270482.

SPANISH



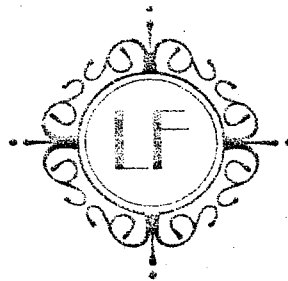
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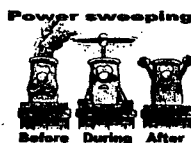
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NEWS FROM THE TOWER OF ST. ANDREW'S TOSTOCK

Well here we are at the end of another year, a year which has seen quite a bit of activity in the tower, once again we have welcomed visitors from near and far throughout the year. The summer was our busiest period with a group of young ringers coming each Thursday to practice.

We mark a special anniversary this Christmas Eve, as its 10 years since we first rang our bells. I remember myself, Jeanne O'Reilly, a three year old Edward and a Bury Free Press photographer waiting for the bells to return one cold November afternoon, only to be informed of a most disappointing delay; the bells wouldn't be back until 9.00p.m that night! Needless to say the photographer didn't hang about!

The bells did return later that night and after a special service held early in December 1999 they were raised into the tower by our hard working bell hanger Tony Baines. We mustn't forget all work done by John Pamment getting the ringing chamber ready in the first place.

It was planned that the bells would be ready to ring for the new millennium, but due to all the hard work by so many they were ready in time for Christmas, and were rang by a very nervous Tostock band for the crib service on Christmas Eve 1999. It wasn't the best ringing in the world, but to us it sounded beautiful and marked the end of 50 years silence from Tostock's tower. We also rang in the new millennium as planned and have continued to ring in each New Year since. Over the past ten years we have welcomed many visiting bands from all over the country. There have been at least twenty peals and countless ¼ peals rung, we have seen many people come and go from the tower and of the original ten who started four are still regular ringers, closely followed by another three who were late starters! We still meet most Monday evenings to practice and have managed to ring for every service since that first Christmas Eve back in 1999. We hope to carry on ringing for many more!

We must thank Maurice Rose and Elizabeth Teverson from Rougham who had the patience to teach us in the first place and remain special friends of Tostock. We also offer our thanks to Winston and Carol Girling from Stowmarket who give up so much of their time to come and ring with us.

All that is left for me to say is; on behalf of all The Tostock Ringers may I wish you a very Merry Christmas and A Peaceful New Year. Sue Marriott. Tostock.

CAROL SINGING

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR CAROL SINGING IN AID OF
St. NICHOLAS HOSPICE, MEET AT THE TELEPHONE
KIOSK AT 6.30p.m. WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER.**

CONGRATULATIONS

AND

THANK YOU

TO

TOSTOCK

FOR RAISING

£111.66

IN THE 2009

HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION

WELL DONE !

Thanks to those who gave to this years Cancer Research UK Collection and especially to Mrs P Borley, Mrs J O'Reilly and to the Gardeners Arms.

Doreen Buckle

BOB AND MARY AUSTIN of The Croft would like to sincerely thank all the kind friends and neighbours in Tostock who have helped them during 2009. It has all been much appreciated.

The Leys Pond: A Cleansing Experience!!

Can I say a big 'Thank You' to all those people who helped, in one way or another, with the cleaning/clearing of the village pond.

We removed masses of water soldier weed and bulrushes that were clogging the surface, as well as thinning out the willow trees. It was a very worthwhile job and done at very short notice. Because of all the dry weather we had had, the water level was really low and an opportune time to carry out this work. (or not so low if you only had short wellies on. We discovered some residual water in deeper areas just too late!..)

People involved were Lynne, Di & Dave, Leon, Jane, Anthony & Sarah, Matt, Paul, Diana & Mick (Mike or Michael), Gail, John & Kath and Keith.

This is to be an annual event, maintaining the pond and the undergrowth around it, and keeping it to a good standard. Other volunteers will be sought for next year... Watch this space next September/October time.

Ours is one of the best village ponds in Suffolk, according to The Suffolk Wildlife Trust, and the meadowland surrounding it, has a huge diversity of quite special plant species, which we must also look after.

Once again, my thanks to all concerned. A job well done..

Denis Harman.

10th October 2009

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART IN THE VILLAGE QUIZZ. £121. WAS RAISED FOR St. NICHOLAS HOSPICE

Elizabeth Dunn

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

November 2009

Many thanks for your very kind and generous support, again this year.
A total of £458.65 was raised from the various collections in the village.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the collectors:-
Liz Duvall, Mark and Corrinne Jull, Jane Sherwood, Mick and Heather Spencer,
Pippa Swallow, Pat Williams, Steve and Jill at the Gardeners Arms.

Richard Duvall
Honorary Local Organiser.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Sunday December 6th 10am Joint Benefice Communion at Tostock.
3pm Christingle at St Mary's Church Pakenham.

Sunday December 13th 10am Morning Praise.

Sunday December 20th 10am Holy Communion BCP
3pm Carol Service.

Christmas Eve 3pm Crib Service.

11.30pm Midnight Communion St Andrew's Church Norton.

Christmas day 10am Family Communion.

Sunday December 27th 10am Joint Service Holy Communion Norton.

Sunday January 3rd 10am Joint Benefice Service at Pakenham.

Sunday January 10th 10am Morning Praise.

Sunday January 17th 10am Holy Communion BCP

Sunday January 24th 10am Morning Prayer.

Sunday January 31st 10am Morning Praise.

St Andrews Church Social Committee

The Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 21st November was attended by many friends and helpers who between them raised £752.44 for church funds. Many thanks to everyone for an enjoyable and successful event.

Bingo continues to flourish on the last Tuesday of the month, though there won't be one in December... but be ready for "eyes down" on January 26th 2010

The December Coffee Morning will be held on Tues 8th at 10.30am in the Village Hall as usual. On January 12th 2010 we hope the weather will allow us to hold the first social event of the year (Bring any unwanted Christmas gifts to the Coffee Morning... they won't go to waste!!!)

Village Hall news

We are now approaching the end of the year and I would like to give a special thanks to all the Village Hall Management Committee members for the support they have given me over the past few months.

Our social/fund raising events have been extremely successful, and obviously latterly that includes the Ceilidh and the Race Night. We were delighted that so many villagers attended the events and are always pleased to see new faces. A lot of hard work goes on in the background but it is always worthwhile when we do have such a good time on the night!

Thanks to everyone for their help.

We have a committee meeting scheduled for January and will probably talk about fund raising events for next year - if any villager does have any ideas of social events that they might like to see going on in the village hall please let us know. We really would welcome any suggestions.

Lastly on the village hall, you will notice that work is now nearly complete on the car park. What a difference already. We were lucky enough to receive a generous grant from Suffolk County Council via our councillor Jane Storey and a donation from our own Parish Council.

*Lynne Jones
Chair Village Hall Management Committee*



K. C. NICHOLS

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Ladies - and maybe gents!

If you are a knitter and are sitting twiddling your thumbs during the darker afternoons and evenings, a few of the ladies in the village have started knitting for the Medical Missionary, a registered charity of Christians working with the developing world. They are so appreciative of any knitted garments that we can provide for the children and babies, particularly premature babies. We do have one very simple pattern (all in garter stitch that you can manage whilst watching the TV!) and if you would like a copy please let Pauline Heywood know at Cruachan, Norton Road (270339). Any colours will do, but not all white - I believe this colour represents death.

We also have a very simple set of instructions for baby blankets for Africa - all in double knitting wool.

So please give this idea a bit of thought - it is very satisfying. I have a contact in Chelmsford where I can deliver the goods, and already have quite a few pieces in my bottom drawer!

Lynne Jones, Glentor, Norton Road (272668)

WINTER SUN

Why not try Skylark Resort, Goa, in India. A wonderful, small, family run hotel, tucked away in the beach resort of Colva.

Located in the south of Goa, Colva is on one of the longest white sandy beaches in the world. (30kms)

Skylark is owned and run by Snowkon Gonsalves and his wife Debbie (originally from Bury St Edmunds), who will make you feel most welcome and help with all your holiday needs. Lots of little beach shacks are scattered along the shoreline, where you can enjoy fresh fish straight from the Arabian sea (kingfish, pomfret, large prawns etc.) or try some of the local Goan dishes. Why not sit with a drink at sunset and watch the sun go down! If you are an early riser, then an early morning beach stroll will see you watching the local fishermen bringing in the catch from their nights fishing. Southern Goa is far less commercial than that of the north coast, so a more relaxing time can be enjoyed. The best times to visit are from November to March.

Check out the hotel website at: www.skylarkresortgoa.com

For further information/help on visas, how to get there, flights etc.

contact Denis Harman on 01359 270283

or e-mail: denis.harman@btinternet.com

Flower Show 2009.

As promised, here are the accounts for the 2009 Flower Show

Income		Expenses	
Class entries	£66.60	Cash prizes	£37.00
Door	£28.00	Judges expenses	£25.00
Teas	£26.10	Prize tokens	£30.00
Raffle	£61.00	Children's prizes	£16.00
Donations	£2.90	Stationery	£78.40
		Cup engraving	<u>£33.00</u>
Total	£184.60		£219.40

Subsidy from Garden

Club £34.80

£219.40

Please note that stationery includes printing costs for entry cards, schedules etc.

Many thanks to the Village Hall Management Committee who allow this event to take place free of charge.

Barney Harrison

Tostock Book Group

There won't be a meeting of the Bookgroup in December, so our next discussion will be at the home of Rosemary Lister, Woodend Green Cottage, 8pm on Wednesday 13th January, 2010. The book to read is "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" by Mary Ann Shaffer. As this book is in very high demand at the library, we may not be able to borrow many copies, so please provide your own copy if you can... a Christmas present idea perhaps?!

Julie Harrison 270247

YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUP-update

The group has had four sessions to date and all well attended – anything between 30 to 40 youngsters! They meet alternate Friday evenings at the village hall. The group is led by a paid Youth Worker, and strongly supported by excellent volunteers, and a small committee. Money from the Parish Council has enabled the club to get established and the progress of the group and its finances will be reviewed after 6 months. Many thanks to all who have supported in any way and helped to get the group started.

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