

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The District Council has now announced the dates of its meetings, and the Parish Council has therefore been able to fix the dates of its meetings until the end of the year. These are Monday, April 22nd., May 20th., July 8th., Sept. 16th., Oct. 28th., Dec. 2nd.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

"Spirit of Suffolk" Festival, Sunday, 23rd. June 1974 at Chantry Park, Hadleigh Road, Ipswich.

This event will shortly be receiving publicity in the remainder of the local press! However, it is felt that this short preliminary notice in the Chronicle will be welcome and of interest. The object is to provide an opportunity for Suffolk villages to raise money for their own Community Council funds. In supporting the Festival we shall therefore be helping ourselves. Tostock C.C. has decided to take part by staging an exhibit or stall to 'project' Tostock. In addition to this, all Community Councils are being encouraged to nominate a candidate for the "Miss Spirit of Suffolk" Competition. This has proved most popular and successful in past years and it would be very pleasant to have Tostock represented by some budding Miss World.

The sub-committee appointed to organise Tostock's effort consists of Mr.E.R.Hughes of Green Farm, Mr.F.D.Styles of Jasmine Cottage, Mr.S.C. Reynolds of 2 Perkins Way, and Mr.D.R.Beales of High View, Wood Close. Ideas and suggestions will be very welcome and should be made known to any one of the above named sub-committee members. To one of them also should be sent the names of candidates for the "Miss Spirit of Suffolk" Competition.

Static Displays and/or stalls featuring some aspects of village life would be ideal, but we are asked to state our intentions as soon as possible. The Darts Competition has always proved a great attraction - and here Tostock should be able to shine.

Please keep a look-out for notices concerning further C.C. activities, outside the Village Hall and the Post Office.

Please note that, as in previous years, Community Councils will keep all the money they raise for their own funds.

VILLAGE HALL

By the time you read this in the Chronicle most of you will already be aware that there is to be a New Village Hall, for its beginnings will have been evident on the site to the North of the Playing Field. The Management Committee decided to go ahead knowing that there was not quite enough money in the kitty, and that a loan would be necessary. Fifteen members of the village have already offered to act as guarantors to secure that loan. If any one feels that he or she would like to help in this way, would they please get in touch with Mr.N.Fowler or Mr.F.D.Styles. A full review of the project will be given at the A.G.M. on 8th. April.

THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, TOSTOCK.

Easter will soon be upon us. First there is the service of Holy Communion at 10 a.m. on Passion Sunday, 31st March. Then on the following Sunday 7th April which is Palm Sunday, there will be Mattins at 10 a.m. and full

Evensong at 3.30 p.m. on the same day. On Maundy Thursday, 11th April there will be a service of Holy Communion at 7.30 p.m., and on the following day, which is Good Friday, there will be a devotional hour at 12 noon.

By arrangement with Norton we are proposing to hold our Family Service on the third Sunday of every month at 11 a.m. The first service will be held on 21st April. By this arrangement we hope to attract many families and their children at what may prove to be a more suitable hour. Do make a special effort to come.

On 24th April at 7 p.m. the annual Vestry and Parochial Church Council Meeting will be held in the Village Hall.

#### TOSTOCK WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

At the February meeting a social sub-committee was formed and it is hoped that several coach outings will take place in the near future.

Mrs. Lockley gave a talk on 'Mixed Borders' and showed many coloured slides of the attractive garden which she and her husband have laid out in Thurston.

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

The Annual General Meeting was held in Tostock Village Hall on Feb. 26th. Officers elected were as follows:

Chairman - Sheelagh Millman. Vice Chairman - Michele Faiers.  
Secretary - Nancy Hele. Treasurer - Coral Unwin.  
Officers: Derek Beales, Ralph Brett, Derek Hele, Nicholas Millman,  
Graham Styles.

Plans were made to hold a 10 - week 'Theatre Workshop' course, commencing after Easter, when creative drama, voice production, and stage management will be studied and practised - and play readings included. It is hoped to present a three-part show entitled 'HAT TRICK' in December, consisting of Olde Tyme Music Hall, Mini-Pantomime and Modern Revue. Social events this year included the annual Dinner and Dance held at the Swan Hotel, Lavenham in January when 28 members enjoyed a very pleasant evening, and a visit to 'My Fair Lady' at the Theatre Royal, attended by 38 members. There will be an informal dance on St. George's Day 23rd. April - details to follow.

New members are always welcome and they should contact Mrs. Hele of Strawberry Cottage, Norton Road. Tele: Beyton 360.

#### TOSTOCK BROWNIES.

In April, weekly meetings will resume on Friday evenings - 6 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. commencing on 26th April after the Easter break.

It is hoped to organise a visit to Bury Theatre Royal on Friday, 19th April to see 'Toad of Toad Hall'

We send our very best wishes to Clare Hines, Sally Anne Wordley and Julia Ottley who will shortly be moving to Guides. The two former Brownies have been with us for well over three years and rarely missed a meeting or activity in all that time. Each has gained her Highway badge and they hold twelve interest badges between them.

#### LOCAL HISTORY      Tostock Church School.      Part II

In this instalment Mrs Elsie Manning recalls people and incidents from her childhood days at Tostock School between 1904 and 1911. She lived then in a cottage called 'Sunnyside', part of the house on the green which is now called Jasmine Cottage. Mrs Knock (Elsie's mother) had a white and yellow jasmine growing round the rustic porch at the side of the cottage, and this

may well be how Mr Styles' house acquired its name. Thus Elsie did not have far to walk when she heard the school bell ringing. This bell was centrally placed in the roof of the school in a little turret which is no longer there. There was a first and a second bell (the second to hasten the late comers) and senior pupils thought it quite an honour to be allowed to ring the bell.

There were two teachers, Miss Grace Ingram and Miss Mabel Ingram, both in their twenties. Their father used to drive them to Tostock each morning from Elmswell in his pony and trap and they were never late. He returned to fetch them every afternoon. The timetable of lessons never varied. There was Scripture, Arithmetic and Reading from 9 a.m. till 12 noon, and History and Geography from 2 to 4 p.m. In Scripture lessons there was much learning by heart of the catechism and of Bible passages. During the mid-morning break there was always 'Drill' - with dumb-bells - in the playground in front of the school when it was fine, but indoors in time to the piano if it was wet.

Discipline was very strict and the pupils had a very healthy respect for Miss Grace especially, who would stand no nonsense. Nobody dared take liberties with her. Miss Mabel was a gentler character. She played the piano for hymns on Friday mornings (instead of Scripture) and singing lessons. She was Elsie's first music teacher. Elsie was very fond of her, but even with Miss Mabel she was almost afraid to cough during a piano lesson. Elsie was once caned by Miss Grace and often used to hear her say she'd 'knock their heads together'. "Many's the time", Elsie added, "I've seen plaits flying when she boxed their ears". Slightly shocked the Tostock Chronicle ventured to ask at this point, "But Elsie, were they good teachers?" "They must have been," she replied. "We learned. We just had to learn. I never forgot my tables. I could read when I was four and I loved it. On one occasion when I was very small I was brought in from the small room at the back to read to the whole school." With so many children in that crowded room one can easily see that not much would have been learned if Miss Grace had not kept them on a tight rein!

There was much use of the blackboard for all subjects; and handwriting was done in copy books in that beautiful but now old fashioned cursive script.

Tostock's rector, the Rev. Julian Tuck took Sunday School in the building on Sunday afternoons and the pupils had to learn all the Prayer Book collects. He was the chairman of the school managers and he used to come down to the school from the old Rectory nearly every morning. If any of the bigger boys had been really troublesome he would deal with them for Miss Grace by caning them across a desk - 'four of the best', in front of everybody! This was quite normal in those days so we should surely not think too harshly of this godfearing man.

In the next instalment Mrs Elsie Manning recalls her return to the school in 1917 to work there as a pupil teacher until 1921.

SPORTING NOTES

TOSTOCK FOOTBALL CLUB

Results of recent matches:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Tostock v Springfield<br>(Cup and League Quarter Final) | Lost 2 - 4  |
| Tostock v Post Office (Bury Club)                       | Won 3 - nil |
| Tostock v Vitality (Home)                               | Won 3 - 1   |
| Tostock v Vitality (Away)                               | Drew 4 - 4  |
| Tostock v Bardwell (Away)                               | Lost 2 - 7  |
| Tostock v Beck Row (Away)                               | Won 3 - nil |
| Tostock v Barnham and Euston (Home)                     | Won 3 - 2   |

Forthcoming fixtures:

Tostock v St Edmunds (Away)

7th April

It is hoped to play certain games which had to be postponed earlier in the season. If they can be arranged our opponents will be : Bardwell(Home) Civil Service (Away) and Rougham (Away).

The team has had an unfortunate spate of injuries recently and in the matches immediately ahead we may have to take the field without Bruce Diaper, Keith Bryant, Roger Faiers, Richard Everitt and Dennis Friend. It is good to know that we can still produce a side. Here at any rate is a real chance for the reserves to show what they can do!

at the present time Tostock is lying 4th in our big league which includes about eighteen clubs.

The date of the usual end of season game, 'Married v Single' is not yet firm, so look out for the notice of this event which has not been forgotten.

#### TOSTOCK DARTS CLUB

Wetherden League - Tostock now lead the field by 6 points and with only one match to play seem certain to be the winners again this year. Of the 22 matches played, Tostock D.C. have won 20 and lost 2.

Wetherden Knock-out Cup - The final, against Elmswell Fox, will be played on Friday May 10th at the Wetherden Maypole.

Wetherden League cup presentations and Finals Night will this year be on May 17th at Wetherden Village Hall.

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#### STOP PRESS

At the Annual Parish Meeting on 28th March it was confirmed that Dr. Hodgkin will be leaving the district next June. The meeting supported a suggestion that a suitable gift be presented to Dr. Hodgkin from those villagers who might wish in this way to show their appreciation for all that he has done as a trusted adviser and friend. The Parish Council will decide upon a suitable gift when they know how much money has come in. Contributions from any who would like to support this fund should be handed in at the Post Office or delivered to Mrs. Andrews in a sealed envelope marked "Dr. Hodgkin Appeal Fund."