

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Officers for the year were elected as follows:

Chairman	-	Mr.A.S.R.Villar.
Vice Chairman and Treasurer	-	Mr.F.Armstrong.
Representative on the Village Hall Management Committee	-	Mr.R.Mulley.
Mid-Suffolk Area Committee Representative	-	Sir James Currie.

A vote of thanks was passed and has been sent to Mr. Mann to express appreciation for the wonderful condition in which he has kept the Leys this year.

N.B. The collection for Doctor Hodgkin will be closed one week from the day on which you receive this copy of the Chronicle.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Readers are reminded that the "Spirit of Suffolk" Festival, details of which were given in the April number of the Tostock Chronicle, will be held on Sunday, 23rd June at Chantry Park, Hadleigh Road, IPSWICH. It is surely worth repeating also that, as in previous years, Community Councils will keep all the money they raise for their own funds.

NEW VILLAGE HALL

Steady progress is being made on the site and it is encouraging to note that building is now well up to schedule. A further £1,000 are still needed and our target for this year is £500. To achieve this, the following activities have been planned. Make a note of the dates, and please give your support.

June 29th. Village Hall Sale - opening at 3.00 pm. A collection of produce, tombola prizes, old books, records, childrens' toys, small furniture and 'white elephants' will be made on the 27th and 28th June.

July 6th. Grand Dance with Buffet at Norton Village Hall, 8 to 12 pm. Dancing to Johnnie Haines' Band. Licenced Bar. Tickets £1.50.

Other Events Planned.

September	-	Childrens' Sports.
	-	Sponsored cycle ride.
	-	Disco Dance.
October	-	Jumble Sale.
November	-	Bonfire Party.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION - Mid Suffolk

In the expectation that Tostock will again be competing in the Best Kept Village Competition, we are now able to announce the dates on which judging will take place. These are the 26th, 27th and 28th June.

Westhorpe defeated us narrowly in the County competition last year, but this 1974 Mid Suffolk Contest gives us our opportunity to lead the field once again. There are many parts of the village, outside

our own gardens, which are our collective responsibility. Working party activities and timings will be displayed at the Post Office. Keep an eye open for these and help if you possibly can. This is essentially a team effort.

THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, TOSTOCK.

We learn with much regret that our Rector will be resigning the benefice of Norton and Tostock at the end of July. He is going to Easthampstead in the diocese of Oxford. We shall miss him very much, for him personally as also for his work for the church and the community.

The Annual Vestry and Parochial Church Council Meeting was held on 24 th April when officers were elected. The following were re-elected: Mrs Woodley as Secretary, Lady Currie as Treasurer, Mr Mulley and Sir James Currie as the Churchwardens.

The Diamond Jubilee of the Diocese will be celebrated on Sunday, 26th May by a Family Communion. This will take the form of a joint service with Norton to be held at Tostock at 10.30 am. The Rev. Basil Butler-Smith will officiate and the Bishops Pastoral Letter will be read.

The Annual Church Appeal will take place in the second half of June. Its success is so essential to the finances of the church, and while we know that there are so many demands on all of us, we hope that you will as usual give as much as you can to this ancient church.

CHAPEL NEWS.

The Women's Fellowship Rally will be held on Monday, July 8th. The speaker will be Mrs. Hughes from Stowmarket and the soloist Mrs. A. Bloss, also from Stowmarket. Chairman: Mrs. Berry of Thurston. We extend a welcome to all.

DERBY AND JOAN CLUB. OVER 60's.

Mr. Stanley Sage of Gweek Cottage, Leys Road has now taken over from Mrs. Scott as Secretary of the Over Sixties Club. He asks us to publish this reminder that the annual outing to Felixstowe will take place on Tuesday June 11th. As usual lunch and tea will be taken at the Alexandria Cafe.

The Annual Sale which took place on May 4th realised the excellent total of just over £70. Members wish to thank all those who helped with contributions and in other ways to make it a great success.

TOSTOCK WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

After enjoying the warmth and comfort of the communal room in the Croft bungalows during last winter's fuel crisis, members are now once again holding their meetings in the Village Hall. The main business of the April meeting was a discussion of the resolutions for the A.G.M. It was agreed that members should help with the catering for the Community Council Dance on 6th July, and that they should also man the Produce stall for the Sale in the Tostock Village Hall on 29th June. Both events are to raise money for the new Village Hall which we much look forward to using next winter. The evening ended with a lighthearted musical quiz arranged by Mrs. Elsie Manning.

RED CROSS. Village Representative.

Mrs. Scott recently moved from Norton Road, Tostock. She used to be our Red Cross village representative, helping with welfare concerning the aged, the infirm and the handicapped. Her duties have been taken over for the time being by Mrs. Margeret Grooms of Sandlappers, New Road, (Tel: Beyton 688) Mrs. Grooms wishes to make it known that unfortunately she does not have sufficient time to attend meetings and visit people as much as she should, and as much as she would wish. Anyone who may feel able to take over this work as our village representative is asked to get in touch with Mrs. Grooms at the above address. Mrs. Grooms adds that she would gladly continue to use her car for any necessary driving or collecting if someone else were willing to take over the job but has no means of transport.

Mrs. Errington states that the recent house to house collection on behalf of the Red Cross produced the splendid sum of £19.25 - the best yet.

TOSTOCK OPERATIC AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The T.O.A.D.S. are continuing happily with their 'Theatre Workshop' course, despite a drop in numbers due to various members taking exams, moving house etc. However, firm plans are going ahead to present a well known Musical in December which will be a delight to family audiences.

Members are very gratified to see the rapid progress of the new Village Hall and they will be working hard to raise funds for the venture. It would be wonderful if the Christmas production could be presented on home ground!

As always we welcome new members and make a special plea for people of all ages to join us. Please contact Mrs. M. Hele (Tel: Beyton 360).

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

A recent sale of tin foil and silver paper collected by Tostock Brownies, Elmswell School and local residents amounted to £2. This taken together with donations, has resulted in a donation of £4 being sent to the Association.

TOSTOCK BROWNIES

Weekly meetings will be held at our summer 'home' - the Nissen Hut Tostock Old Hall, by kind permission of Captain Errington, starting on Friday 7th June.

The Brownies thoroughly enjoyed their theatre trip to see 'Toad of Toad Hall' and their next theatre visit will be on Saturday 20th July when the whole Bury Theatre Royal will be taken over by local Brownies to see the Cambridge Theatre Workshop Ballet.

A successful sponsored 'hush-in' was held at the Village Hall on 18th May when most of our Pack excelled themselves by keeping quiet for 3 to 4 hours - a great strain on such naturally exuberant children! As yet we do not know how much money this has raised for the new Village Hall, but will give details in the next Chronicle.

Plans for the Autumn include a Diamond Jubilee concert.

MORRIS DANCING

A Morris Dancing team is to visit our Village on Saturday 15th June in order to give a demonstration of their ancient art. At the invitation of the Licensee, Mr. John Griffiths, the dancing will commence at 8.00 pm on the forecourt of the Gardeners Arms.

Continuing her recollections of Tostock School, Mrs. Elsie Manning remembers that one of the 'characters' of the school was the daily cleaner named Alice Nunn who lived with her old mother near the top of Flatts Lane. They were North country folk, and both their cottage and the school were kept spotlessly clean during all Alice's years at Tostock. She did her work beautifully but had an incurable habit of grumbling. When cleaning the two classrooms she had to move the easels and blackboards. One of her favourite grumbles was, "I can't hardly move them old teasles! They're too heavy for me!"

A word more about the Rector, The Rev. Julian Tuck, known to the children as Jackie Tuck. He was sometimes heard to say, "There are two things in this world that I do not understand: one is Algebra and the other is Alice Nunn!" All agree that he was a most sincere man and a very conscientious rector, much respected by all in his quite large congregation. It must be admitted though that he was a source of merriment to some - probably the younger ones - because he spoke with a lisp. He was a very keen ornithologist and the walls of his study in the Old Rectory were lined with cases of stuffed birds and their eggs - a wonderful collection.

For many years Mrs. Tuck regularly played the pedal organ in the church until ill health made it necessary for her to ask Mrs. Manning to take over the task from her. Elsie played for about two years and then, in about 1920, handed over to Miss Mash who has been playing the very same organ every Sunday for well over fifty years and still does so to this day. Noone knows better than she how to coax music out of that venerable and sturdy instrument of which she has grown so fond.

Another 'character' was Ted Everitt's father Charles who not only rang the bells but used to light the fire which heated the church most efficiently, keeping it beautifully warm long before the days of electricity. To do this he used to lift the iron grating at the back of the central aisle and go down the steps which led to the stove.

When she was eighteen Mrs. Manning came back to the school and taught there from 1917 to 1921. There were three teachers and about 70 pupils then - amongst whom were Ronnie Mulley, his brother Brian and his young sister Sheila. Honey taught the infants and Standard 1. Some children came at the tender age of three. Naturally they tired easily and when taking the babies' class in the afternoon in the back room Elsie would often say to them, "Put your heads on the desk and have a little nap." The children were given beads and string with which to make necklaces and one of her constant problems with the tiny ones was how to stop them from sticking beads into their ears and up their noses!

The pupils were allowed to bring an apple to school and eat it during play-time. Some there were who brought no apple, and they would call out, "Can I have the core? Give us the core!" One is reminded of the answer in the story: "There ain't goin' to be no core."

One day Elsie was on duty in the playground during the mid-morning break. All of a sudden she was surprised to hear the church bells ring out. It was 11 a.m. on November 11th. 1918 and they were pealing to announce the signing of the Armistice which heralded peace at last at the end of the first World War.