

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS.

At long last the agony and doubt is over! Whoever it was who planted a conker on the Leys one hundred and fifty or more years ago could not have realised what would happen at 9 a.m. on Thursday, 9th January, 1975. The desperate efforts to save him had failed and the final decision was taken to end his life. Better that than to watch him slowly die, probably causing an accident meantime.

In ten minutes it was all over and his remains will serve for a while at least to give warmth in fireplaces.

May your memory live for ever, old chestnut tree on the Leys.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

Tostock Village Hall. The opening celebration dance was held in the new village hall on 24th January, 1975. We were pleased to see a lot of the residents of Tostock among the 140 who attended, but regret that some people were disappointed as numbers had to be limited. The hall was officially opened by Mr. Eldon Griffiths, who, with his wife, spent about an hour at the dance. We gratefully accord our thanks to the ladies who prepared and organised the buffet, and to all other helpers who contributed to the success of this event. Although not finalised the profit is expected to be in excess of £130. A presentation was made to Mr. F.D. Styles in appreciation of all the work he has done for the village before moving to Hepworth two months ago.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. A.S.R. Villar for contributing £500 to the funds for the specific purpose of buying new chairs and tables. One hundred new chairs are already in use, and twenty tables should be delivered very soon. Apart from enabling us to enjoy the comfort of the new furnishings ourselves, this enhances our ability to let the hall to other organisations outside the village, thus increasing our revenue and helping us to achieve our aim of obtaining maximum bookings.

The use of the new hall cannot be fully appreciated in the absence of adequate access and car parking. In this connection we convey our sincere thanks to Mr. A. Baulby for his work in levelling the car park area and donating a substantial amount of gravel for this purpose.

A stage has been constructed by Mr. Peter Ruddock and Mr. Keith Bryant together with committee member Mr. Peter Buckle. This work was done in their own time in the evenings and at weekends and we extend our thanks to them for a very professional job so speedily done. The stage has been greatly admired and is a credit to these craftsmen.

Further contributions to the new hall have been made by other village residents. In particular we say thank you to Sir James Currie who has given a projector and screen, to Mrs. Hopkins for the second-hand cooker, and to Mr. and Mrs. J. Reynolds, Mr. R. Mulley and Mrs. Walters for the carpets in the Committee Room. The projector and screen are currently being held by the Treasurer until we can provide a lock-up cupboard for this more expensive equipment; but we are hoping that someone will be responsible for this and undertake the showing of films, hopefully on a fund raising basis. If anyone is interested please telephone Beyton 247.

In order that everybody may be familiar with the cost of hiring the new hall, we append, for the convenience of users, the following list of fee scales:-

Dances, Wedding Receptions, Parties etc.	£15
Sales:- £5 or 10% of the takings, whichever is the greater.	
* Hall only:- Village organisations	£ 3
Outside "	£ 5
* Committee Room:- Village organisations	£ 1
Outside "	£ 2

* These rates applicable after 7.00 p.m. Before 7.00 p.m. add £1 or £2 per hour for village and outside organisations respectively.

In all cases the kitchen facilities are included.

Booking forms are available from the Treasurer and the key is held by the caretaker, Mrs. Block, Croft Corner, Tostock.

THE CHURCH OF ST.ANDREW, TOSTOCK.

The carol service on 22nd December was most enjoyable. The church was crowded and the familiar carols were interspersed with lessons, each of the six being read by a different member of the congregation. The annual bazaar which had to be postponed until the new village hall was ready, will be held there on Saturday, 15th February, at 2.45 p.m. Before Christmas a cheque was handed to the Rector, representing the collection made not only by the congregation but the village of Tostock for a "parting present", a parting which happily did not take place.

TOSTOCK WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

At the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday, 20th November of last year the following were elected to office for 1975:-

- President.....Mrs R.H. Dahl
- Vice Presidents.....Mrs R.H. Errington
-Mrs L. Williams
- Secretary.....Mrs J. Walters
- Treasurer.....Mrs R.J. Sulman
- Committee.....Mrs G.A. Andrews
- Mrs J. Reynolds, Mrs S.C. Reynolds,
- Mrs T.L. Ridgwell, Mrs N. Sweny.

On Monday, 17th February at 8 p.m. Mrs Ridgwell will be holding a Coffee Evening at her home. There will be a Bring and Buy Stall.

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

Following their successful production of 'The Wizard of Oz', and having enjoyed a well-earned christmas break, members are now rehearsing for the Spring Show - a double bill consisting of "HENRY HEREAFTER", a rather novel little comedy presenting a view of Henry the VIII and his six wives not usually shown in the history books! To complete the programme, a Musical Revue with the topical theme of 'Easter Bonnets' and indeed 'Hats' of every variety. Rehearsals are taking place every Monday (7 p.m.) at Thurston School and every other Thursday in the new Village Hall. New members are always welcome - please contact the Secretary, Mrs Beales of Wood Close. Telephone Beyton 218.

OVER 60 CLUB.

On 15th January at the new village hall a very happy and successful dinner was held. It was attended by thirty five members, and four guests from Norton. The caterers provided an excellent hot meal which was much

enjoyed, and the Club offers its special thanks to Mr. John Hazelwood for his generosity in providing the drinks. The evening closed with a cheerful session of Bingo. Our thanks to all helpers who made such a happy evening possible.

New members are always warmly welcome. Please swell our numbers if you are a senior citizen and have not yet joined us.

WEST SUFFOLK BLIND ASSOCIATION.

A donation of 30p. has been sent to the Association from money collected in a stocking at the Post Office.

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND.

A donation of £5 has been sent to the Association. This money has been raised from the sale of tin foil collected by Tostock Brownies, children of Elmswell School and local residents.

MARIE CURIE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION FOR INCURABLE CANCER SUFFERERS.

A collecting box has been held at the Post Office and as a result of donations £2.50 has been sent to the Secretary of the Association.

BRIDGE CLUB.

Bridge enthusiasts from Tostock and neighbouring villages have joined together to form a club. Meetings will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 p.m., with the exception of the third Wednesday in each month (the W.I. night) when it will be held on the Friday night.

A friendly invitation is extended to other Bridge players in the district. Beginners and experienced players will be equally welcome. If there are any further enquiries please contact Mick Spencer - Beyton 395.

TOSTOCK BOWNIES.

Proceeds from the annual Christmas Mini-market held on 14th December amounted to £55. The Brownies have decided they would like to send £20 of this to the 'Magpie' Appeal on television for a home for crippled children. We would like to thank our friends in the village who so kindly supported our venture.

The next event will be an open evening on Saturday, 22nd February, commencing at 7 p.m. with Brownie entertainment on an animal theme. Anyone interested is most welcome to attend. There will be no charge, but a collection in aid of the new village hall. Light refreshments will be served.

Meetings are now held on Monday evenings 6 - 7.30 p.m.

SPORTING NOTES.

FOOTBALL CLUB.

The team's position in the Bury and District Sunday League, is now half way with 12 points made up as follows:

Games				Goals		
Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
13	5	2	6	41	31	12

Forthcoming fixtures:

Feb. 2nd	Civil Service	Home (Cup)
Feb. 9th	Civil Service	Away (Cup)
Feb. 23rd	Bakers	Home
Mar. 2nd	Manns	Away (Cup)
Mar. 9th	Manns	Home (Cup)
Mar. 23rd	Beck Row	Away

DARTS CLUB

We regret that all tickets for the Supper Dance, to be held on the 8th of February, have now been allocated. However, tickets will soon be available for the dance to be held on the 5th of April in the new Village Hall. Dancing will be to the New Silver Aces and refreshments will be provided.

The Club's present position in the Greene King League - 1st, and in the Wetherden League - 3rd.

Our team in the Knock-out Cup have reached the semi-final, which is to be played at the Elmswell 'Fox' on February 27th. As the 'Fox' are old rivals, this should be a keenly contested match.

QUOITS CLUB

For some time now, preparations have been underway on the laying of 'Beds' for the recently revived game of Steel Quoits, at the rear of the Gardeners Arms.

The preparations are now complete and a club has been formed with a view to entering a team in the league.

Will anyone interested in playing, or just watching, this ancient game please contact any of the following Committee members:

Mr. J. Haslewood.
Mr. P. Buckle.
Mr. M. Buckle.
Mr. G. Everett.

Annual membership fee is just 25 np.