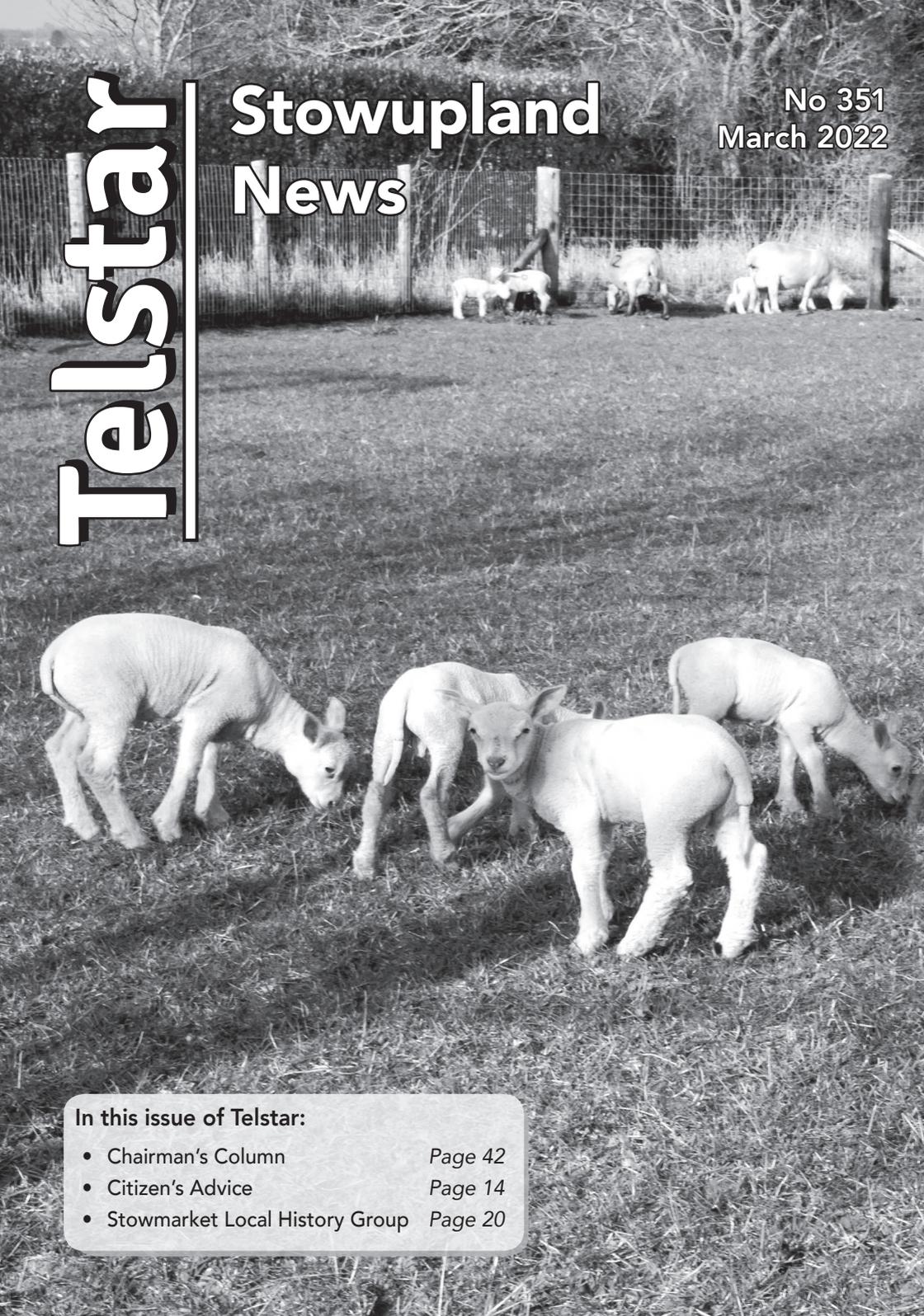


Telstar



Stowupland News

No 351
March 2022

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EDITOR'S NOTES

MARCH 2022



Welcome to the March Issue of Telstar. You will have seen some changes around the village which the Chairman of the Parish Council talks about in her column. Hopefully we will soon see the back of the various roadworks!

There is lots of news from our village clubs and plenty to look forward to in the coming months. I am sure that will be music to all our ears. The past couple of years have been a bit of a damp squib, to say the least!

Citizens Advice share more of their valuable information this month. They are a great help in difficult times but also answer questions that might occur in daily life. This month they tackle when to tell an employer you want to leave. Their contact details are on their page if you need to get in touch or just want to check their website.

Do join the Wildflower & Biodiversity for their family day on the 19th March at the village hall. If you have an old teapot you will be able to make it into a bird nester. Thank you to those who left a teapot on my doorstep and, if you would like to repurpose an old teapot please drop them off at 16 Oak Road or bring them along on the day.

I must apologise for an accidental error in the Diary Dates last month – there is no Wildflower & Biodiversity meeting in February.

If you want to 'do your bit' for the community, there are plenty of opportunities. Freeman Community Primary School are looking for new governors, Holy Trinity needs an organist. The Parish Council need helpers for the Queen's Jubilee or you could just join the Jubilee Ladies Choir and sing your heart out!

Many thanks go to our poets who keep providing us with their verse, Grace Sochacz and The Really Lovely Poetry Company. Without our contributors Telstar would not exist, so my gratitude to everyone who takes the time to send something in.

Kay

Thanks to Ace Photographer Keith Hyland for our cover photo.

Many thanks to Frances, Jamie and Karen who very kindly helped my Mum when she fell on footpath 32. Also, my thanks go to the great NHS ambulance service who came to Mum quickly. I know the lady paramedic said she lived in Oxlip Way, but I didn't get her name.

DOWN TO EARTH

KATE ELLIOTT

As I get older, I love March more and more. There is a real sense of a long and arduous journey coming to an end and the garden starts to come to life. No other month has such promise and although the month can have some of the coldest weather of the year, there is a real chance of some warm sunshine.

I go outside, sniff the air, and recognise that spring is here. It feels like a prize for enduring the long winter months - that little bit of extra light, the flowers peeking their heads above winter's parapet, the extra volume of birdsong and the smell - yes, the actual scent of plants growing.

At this time of year the sweet violet is at its very best. One of the most modest of plants yet the most beautiful of flowers. Perfectly suited to any garden and wonderful in pots on a windowsill, they are a woodland plant and by bringing them into your garden - or even a pot by your back door - you can capture the essence of a British woodland.

Pick a little bunch and a room will be filled with their delicate fragrance. People have tried to copy this in sweets and soaps, but nothing can compare to picking a few flowers on their spindly stalks.

The flowers rise on stalks from heart-shaped, fragrant green leaves, that remain modest all winter but are now creating fresh new growth.



The leaves in turn sprout from a knobbly stem, which throws out runners, just like strawberry plants and new plants root along their length. In the right conditions violets will spread quickly. They can be moved around easily too. The best time to do it is immediately after flowering and a well-established clump should be spilt up every few years to encourage it to spread further.

I have done this at Columbine and now they are thriving.

There is temptation to rush out into the garden on the first sunny day and sow outside masses of seeds. Stop.

Feel the soil. If it is cold to the touch, then few seeds will germinate. While there is no point in delaying things if the conditions are right, there is little to gain by trying to cheat the seasons or the weather.

A good rule of thumb is that if the weeds are not growing then it is too cold for your seeds. Prepare the soil and leave it. When a flush of weeds starts to grow, hoe them off and sow your seeds - this way your seeds will avoid competition in their first vital weeks of growth.

As soon as your soil is dry enough to rake without the soil sticking to the tines and does not feel cold to touch, you can sow carrots, broad beans, spinach, parsnips and rocket. Always sow as thinly as possible. March is the perfect time to sow seeds under cover for planting outside about a month or so later, when the soil has warmed up a little and there is more daylight.

A greenhouse is best, but a porch or spare windowsill works well too. There is a range of salad plants that grow well in cool spring weather which do not thrive in the heat of summer.

This is what I concentrate on in early spring:

Rocket

Mizuna

Corn salad

Lettuces - 'All the Year Round' and 'Little Gem'.

Other jobs you can be doing this month are:

Plant new roses or other shrubs and climbers.

Pick off any seed heads on daffodils and other spring bulbs, but leave the foliage to die back naturally.

Plant onion and shallot sets.

Sow sweet peas in a greenhouse or on a sunny windowsill.

Keep putting out food for garden birds.

Check tree ties aren't too tight and that stakes are still firmly anchored in the ground.

Scatter general-purpose fertiliser over flower beds and around roses, shrubs and hedges.

Finish pruning roses early in the month.

Plant faded forced bulbs such as hyacinths out in the garden for blooms next year.

If the weather is mild we give our grass its first trim at the beginning of this month. The intoxicating smell of cut grass as the sun sets on a March afternoon is one of the most exciting moments in the entire gardening year. That urge to be outside - because spring is here.



COMMON-TATER

KATE ELLIOTT

Your potatoes should be chitting away nicely and developing good shoots. It is too early to plant potatoes - April is the month for doing that (see next month's article). The soil must be dry and if not exactly warm then not cold to touch. I am happy to say I have never done this but farmers of old would drop their trousers and sit bare-cheeked on the soil to test the temperature. Perhaps this won't go down well on the allotments or in your veg patch with your neighbours watching, but the principle is good.

While we may not be able to plant our potatoes until next month, we can prepare the ground. Potatoes are very good for planting in new ground that you want to use later in the year, as they open up the soil and their thick top growth stops any weeds growing.

Ground for potatoes should be well dug and richly manured. If that is not possible, add some garden compost and remove any weeds. You can grow first and second early potatoes in a large bag or container. Polypropylene potato growing bags are designed especially for this purpose and are handy if you're short of space. However, you can plant potatoes in an old compost bag with similar results. More about how to do this next month.

Growing your own potatoes - anything edible - should be considered a treat. This is right at the core of the pleasure of growing your own. It is the best tasting, healthiest option possible.



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COUNTRYSIDE RAMBLER

BRIAN WARD

Spring is just around the corner YIPPEEE!! The days are now slowly lengthening, and the sun is getting higher in the sky, and some days you can appreciate its warmth. Locally, there has been a good show of aconites and snowdrops and the garden bulbs are now showing some growth. In our woodlands look out for wood anemone, oxlip, celandine and violets and if you are by a lake or river look for crowfoot and the brilliant yellow marsh marigold. There has been an abundance of hazel catkins but look out for the birch, alder and poplar catkins.

The early nesting birds are beginning to pair up, so make sure your nest boxes are clean in preparation of a potential pair taking up residence. Early queen bees will be out on sunny days looking out for suitable nest sites, some bees prefer natural holes in the ground but sometimes a bird box is chosen, please do not phone pest control just enjoy them as they go about their busy lives and they will do you no harm.

As the weather turns warmer look out for early emerging hedgehogs. If you spot one in your garden, they will enjoy a meal of cat food [not fish] and a saucer of water to help them along until enough natural food is available.



I know I am eager, but I cannot wait until the early summer migrants arrive.

The chiffchaff with its repetitive song, the twittering of swallows and the harbinger of spring, the cuckoo, but I must be patient as they are a few weeks away as yet. The cherry plum is normally the first of our wild bushes to burst into bloom and if the weather is kind you may spot its white blossom in the hedgerows and along the A14 embankments. Blackthorn should follow then crab-apple also watch for the pussy willow catkins they are particularly essential for the early bees.

Now most restrictions have been lifted we can enjoy more freedom and travel further afield. I have lost count of my excursions to reserves and wildlife sites I have visited recently, but the main ones are Lynford arboretum looking for hawfinch and crossbill. Abberton reservoir to study the wide variety of duck and sawbills, also the spectacle of thousands of duck in flight. Minsmere is one of my favourite reserves, it will always turn up a few surprise rarities along with its equivalent, Norfolk reserve Titchwell. Always a joy to stand on its windswept beach and do a bit of sea –watching as divers and auks can be spotted.

Please all stay safe and enjoy your country walks.

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Golden Charter
Funeral Plans 

STOWUPLAND WILDFLOWER AND BIODIVERSITY GROUP

Our group met again on 24th January to discuss progress and plans for 2022. It was pleasing to see twelve people at the meeting with a variety of talents all contributing to the group chaired by Keith Welham.

We nervously await the appearance of the bulbs planted on two areas of The Green last year. By the time you are reading this we hope they will have appeared! A second Family Event is planned at the Village Hall for Saturday March 19th. from 10 till 12.

A number of self-assembly bird boxes supplied by Stowmarket Men's Shed and bug hotel kits will be available for local people to put together and take home. Due to the limited number of bird boxes kits available anyone interested should reserve a box with Keith Welham or Kay Easter beforehand (priority given to Stowupland residents), but there will be enough bug hotel for everyone to have one. There will also be some teapots available for anyone wanting to try converting these for bird nesting as outlined in February's Telstar. We are looking to involve children in the activities as much as possible and there will also be wildflower seeds that children can plant up in pots. All seeds, pots, and compost will be provided. Refreshments will not be available so please bring your own if required. An eye-catching poster designed by Stella Frangleton with details of the event will be displayed on village noticeboards.

Trinity Meadows

It was noted that Bloor had yet to complete the tree and shrub planting and bird box installation as agreed in the planning approval. The Parish Council have contacted Bloor to look into this.

Wilding areas on The Green.

An area between The Retreat pond and the bench was considered the best area for the first phase of wilding. Advice is to be sought on how best to proceed with establishing this as a wildflower area. The Retreat pond is also due to be cleaned out. Other areas around the village are to be considered for future wilding.

Visit to Gallowfield Wood.

A visit to this community woodland area near Haughley has been arranged for Monday 23rd May, further details of this should be available in next month's Telstar.

Other plans for 2022

Stowmarket Men's Shed have offered to supply owl boxes for both Tawny Owl and Barn Owls. We hope to obtain two of each type and identify suitable sites possibly including the cemetery area. Barn, Tawny and Little Owls have all been sighted around Stowupland.

Enquiries are to be made as to whether residents in Saxham Street may be interested in encouraging wildflowers to grow along the grass verges between the pavement and road.

The next meeting of the group will be 7.30 Monday 14th March, 2022 at URC Chapel meeting room.

Anyone wanting further information about the group should contact Kay Easter 16 Oak Road. email - kay.telstar@gmail.com or Keith Welham keithwelham48@aol.co.uk

*Stowupland
Wildflower &
Biodiversity*

FAMILY DAY

19th March

10 am - 12pm

Village Hall

*Enjoy making
bird boxes,
teapot nesters,
insect hotels and
planting seeds!*

*To avoid
disappointment,
book a bird
box/teapot nester
kay.telstar@gmail.com*

Greetings from Stowmarket Eco Future Group.

stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com

https://stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk



Website: We now have a website where you can read what's going on locally.

Thank you to everyone who is supporting our **monthly market stall and crisp packet collection**, and especially to the Volunteers of Stowmarket for hosting it. We have adjusted the time because we found that people liked to come early. Every month the collections grow, and we have now negotiated with the council that we can take TetraPaks as well. A lot of work has gone on behind the scenes to sort out storage and transport for these items. We are grateful to East of England Co-op for helping us with boxes.

Next Market Stalls: 24th March and 22nd April (4th Thursday **9.30-11.30**)

Additional Crisp packet collection at Red Gables 1st Sunday of the month 2-4 pm

Watch this space for News of our exciting **Exhibition** "Every Garden Matters- How to save the world one garden at a time" which is being held at the Museum of East Anglian Life from 9th April to 8th October 2022.

Several **Litter Picks** have taken place, but wouldn't it be great if people did not drop their litter in the first place! There is so much else that needs doing urgently – it would be good to be able to cross that job off the list.

This month's challenge is "Reduce"

Can we Reduce what we have?

The miles we travel?

The food we waste?

The amount we throw away?

The amount we buy?

Can you share items with friends or neighbours instead of everyone having one of their own?

Reducing is about personal choices so it's difficult to suggest ideas.

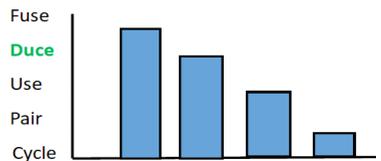
One idea is to look at what goes in your rubbish bin and have a think about how you could avoid it.

The good news is that "Reducing" is money saving too. As Covid restrictions start to lift, sharing meals with friends is a lovely way of reducing-cook for several households in one place and you have reduced the energy used if everyone had cooked separately.

NB: It is difficult to write this without being very aware that living in a wasteful way is an offence to folk who are struggling to make ends meet. Having choices like these is a privilege. Reducing is good for the environment, but just as importantly, it acknowledges the needs of others and enables us to share with each other.

For the planet's sake, we all need to move towards a new way of living.

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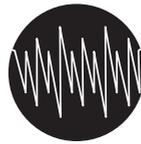
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I've just been offered a new job and now I need to tell my current employer. The new company wants me to start as soon as possible. The problem is, we're already a bit short-staffed where I am now, and I don't know how soon I'll be allowed to leave. How should I bring all this up with my boss?



Mid Suffolk

Congratulations on your new role. It can feel awkward telling your current employer you're moving on. The time between telling your employer you've found a new position and you actually leaving is known as your notice period.

If you've been in your current job for less than a month, you won't have to give any notice period (unless your contract says otherwise). If it's more than a month, you'll have to give at least one week's notice. Your contract should make it clear exactly how long is expected.

If you don't have a contract, and your employer has no written record of you agreeing to a notice period, you should give at least one week's notice.

It's worth waiting until your new employer has confirmed your employment, for example by giving you a start date before handing in your resignation. It's then best to resign in writing (email is fine), so that you have a record of the date you told your employer. On the Citizens Advice website, we have a section on resigning with tips on how to write this letter. This can be found at citizensadvice.org.uk/work/leaving-a-job.

You can work a longer notice than the one in your contract, if you agree it with your employer. If you're keen to move on sooner rather than later, it may also be possible to negotiate a shorter notice period than your contract says. If you want to go down this route, it can be useful to reassure your current employer that you will tackle any urgent work before finishing.

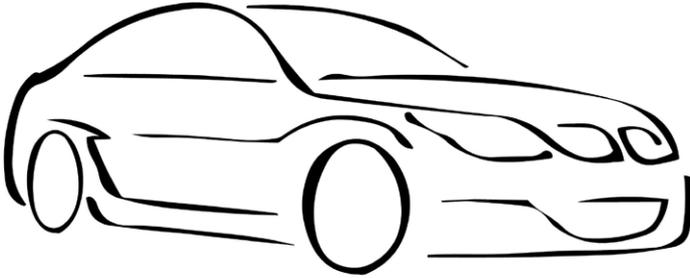
Fixed-term contracts are a bit different, as you won't need to give notice if you intend to leave on the last day of contract. Leaving early would usually mean giving at least one week's notice, unless your contract says otherwise.

Don't forget about your holiday days during your notice period. If you have unused paid holiday you should speak to your employer about either taking these during the notice period or being paid for them.

Finally, sometimes people can change their mind about moving jobs or find their circumstances alter. If this happens to you, you should speak to your current employer to see what the options are and if you can stay in your current role.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. For more information and our opening hours go to midsuffolkcab.org.uk.

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FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Everyone at Freeman CP School was very sad to hear about the fire at Nutshells Tea Room. Not only have members of staff enjoyed a drink or meal at Nutshells over the past couple of years (as I'm sure a lot of our parents/carers and children have) but each year we've taken the children in our Nurture group on a trip to the tea room to help build their confidence and independence. The staff at Nutshells were always very welcoming and accommodating, serving each child separately to allow them to practise placing an order and paying for it, and helping to boost the children's self-esteem. We are relieved everyone is safe and well and wish them all the best with getting Nutshells back up and running again.

Beech Class News

In this edition of Telstar we will be looking at what our Year 3s, Beech Class, have been learning so far this academic year.



Our Beech Class teacher is Mrs Gerry, who is also our deputy head teacher. Mrs Gerry has been teaching for 14 years, 7 of which have been at Freeman CP School and during her career she has had experience of teaching in every year group.

In Science, Beech class have been exploring magnetism. They learnt that magnets have two poles and examined what happens when the two poles are put together, using the vocabulary 'attract' and 'repel'. They had fun testing different materials with their magnets, investigating which were magnetic and discussed that although items made from metal are attracted to a magnet, not all metals are magnetic.

Beech class have also been exploring friction by sending a car down a ramp which they covered in different materials. The children planned the investigation, identifying a question they wanted to answer, the equipment they needed and what measurements needed to be taken.



Rocco picking up a tub of paper clips with his magnet

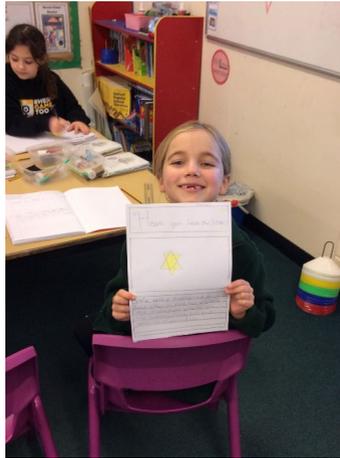


The table leg was attracted to Millie's magnet

When they completed the investigation, the children measured the distance the car travelled when it came off of the ramp, using this information to identify the material with the most friction and the least friction by comparing all their results. In English, Year 3 wrote their own version of the story 'Star in the Jar' by Sam Hay. They had a class star, which they named Galaxy, however, unfortunately, Galaxy the star went missing so the children searched the school building and playground trying to find her. They created posters to put up around the school telling everyone that Galaxy was missing and offering a reward if she was found. By the end of the day, children in several other classes were helping with the search but to no avail. Luckily, she eventually reappeared safe and sound.



Trying different materials on the ramp



Charlie with her poster asking for help finding Galaxy



Searching for Galaxy the star in the school hall

In PE, Mrs Boyce, one of our HLTAs, has been teaching children how to play dodgeball. They've been learning the skills needed to play dodgeball, including doing various activities helping them to practise throwing accurately at a moving target. Next, they will learn to jump, dodge and duck to avoid being caught by the ball and then use everything they have learnt to play in a class tournament.

We hope you've enjoyed reading about Beech class and we will be back next month with more news.

'From tiny acorns do might oaks grow'



Practising their dodgeball skills

FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY

School Governor Vacancy

Did you know that you don't have to be a parent or member of staff to be a school governor?

- School governors are also drawn from the local community and come from all walks of life.
- We are looking for a Trust governor from the wider local community and a Parent governor from the parent/carer community of the school to join our governing body.
- If you have an interest in education and can commit to one evening (Thursday) six times a year and occasional visits (termly) during the school day.
- We'd be very pleased to hear from you to discuss further the role of a governor at Freeman Community Primary School.

No prior knowledge is necessary; a comprehensive range of training and support is provided. It's an exciting opportunity for you to:

- acquire new skills;
- participate in teamwork;
- contribute to the community;
- make a difference to children's lives.

To see what our governors do please visit the school website www.freeman.suffolk.sch.uk

For an informal chat and an application form please contact:

Sue Hayter - Chair of Governors or Daniel Pettitt- Headteacher
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LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

With no January meeting, our year commenced with a meeting on Wednesday, February 2nd when we welcomed Sarah Doig back. On this occasion there was no singing instead she and Neil Langridge gave us a presentation on **2 Suffolk Historians: Edmund Farrar and Charles Partridge**. Jerry will share his review with you in next month's Telstar.

On **Wednesday March 2nd** we will be welcoming Val Dudley who will give us some tantalising insights into medieval Stowupland in her talk '**Stowupland 1291, rebuilding Thorney Hall**'.

On **Wednesday April 6th** we are looking forward to Stephen Poulter sharing with us some of **Suffolk's Lost Heritage**. But first will be our AGM, yes, it's not been a year since the last one but this is all part of our reorganisation, along with our membership period running from January to January. If you haven't renewed there is still time, or if you want to become a member Christine would love to hear from you (01449 771430).

Neil has been busy putting together a programme of speakers for our coming year, and we hope to arrange some visits as well. Please make a note in your diary that in September we will meet on the third Wednesday not the first.

SLHG Programme of events – 2022

- Mar 2 Stowupland in 1291 – the rebuilding of Thorney Hall by Val Dudley
- April 6 Suffolk's Lost Heritage by Stephen Poulter (+ short AGM)
- May 4 The Thorney Green Road Dig by Martin Cuthbert of Cotswold Archaeology
- June 1 "Keeping the Peace in Medieval Suffolk" by Dr. Nick Amor
- July 6 "Soil Sisters" – the Women's Land Army by Nicky Reynolds
- Aug 3 TBA
- Sept 21 TBA (note change of date)
- Oct 5 Haunted Pubs by Ed Nicholl

We do still have some spaces to fill, do you know of any speakers you might like us to invite? Neil has excelled himself organising speakers over the last 10 years but he hopes that someone else may be interested in sharing the role of events organiser or publicity officer. Could you design our monthly poster, post our events on Facebook or source and contact new speakers? Interested in helping please speak with Neil about what you might like to do.

Just too late to be included in last month's Telstar, Neil unearthed more details about **Rev. Leslie Brame** (the internet can be useful). He found this photo of Leslie with his parents. Was this outside Church Walk?

He also came across a report of a talk that Jillian, Leslie's daughter, had given to the Auckland Branch of New Zealand China Friendship Society in 2009. When Jillian was born both her parents were missionaries working in China during the early 1940's; one for the London Missionary Society and the other for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.



As the writer of the report said, *'whatever their success or otherwise at proselytising, they certainly made a significant contribution to the war effort and the life of the Chinese people...whilst living in Southern China Leslie and his wife sheltered downed American airmen who were part of General Stillwell's forces ferrying supplies and men over the Himalayas and helped them return to their base, while his wife travelled to and from Beijing with money belts strapped around her waist to fund the resistance and their activities. At the same time, the Brame's introduced self-help projects for the local people to gain income and support – candle making, charcoal production, and many others.'* The family returned to England in the mid-40s, they then spent time in Samoa before settling in New Zealand.



This photo shows Leslie with his daughter Jillian, Leslie died in early 2009.

From our Archives: our website (www.stowupland.localhistorygroup.com) continues to be a labour of love but together with Telstar we hope it will become a very useful resource. Our pages can only give a few sketchy details but with your help we can build better pictures of life as it was lived in Stowupland.

We have just uploaded some articles on **Stowupland's Health Services**. Before the NHS and free access to GP services all medical care had to be paid for by the patient. In 1928 the Stowupland & Creeting St Peter Nursing Association was formed, subscriptions were 1d a year and a nurse was paid £104.00 a year. Nurse Boyce was our first nurse but others were Gelder, Cox, Keeble, Cobbold and Knights and of course Nurse Minns. In 1938 when Nurse Cobbold succeeded Nurse Knights they made 2,688 visits, of which 10 were midwifery and 16 maternity cases.

In 1962 Nurse Edna Maud Minns retired having provided health care for Stowupland and surrounding areas for over 30 years. In later life she moved into Jubilee Court before she died in 1985, age 84. In the 1950s she played a big part in forming the **Over 60s Club**, or as it was first known **The Old Peoples Welfare Club**.

From the 1970's we have a press cutting that revealed the difficulties created for local people when the Stow Health opened. The centralisation of GP services in Violet Hill Road had made things worse for many people as they had further to travel *'especially as there is not an adequate bus service and in many cases the journey has to be made on foot'*. The parish council wrote to the Health Minister about *'the problems arising from people in the village requiring medical attention'* but local officials described the chances of Stowupland having its own surgery or dispensary as 'slim.'

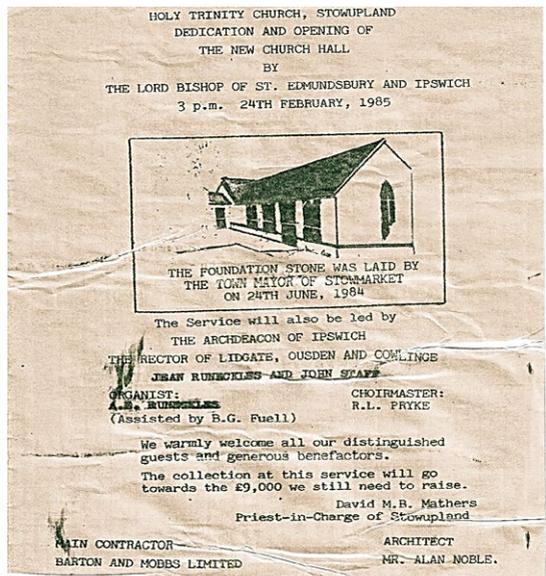
Any general queries or if you can share any stories of our Stowupland's past please contact our Secretary, **Jerry Voden on 01449 703717; voden@btinternet.com**

DOWN MEMORY LANE

50 years ago (i.e.1972), the Rev Edmund Banyard explained to a local reporter that as *'Stowupland was an expanding village and the work of the church was growing'* our Congregational Church needed to be extended. It had been hoped to build to the side or rear but unable to get any land the extension was put in front of the original building.

12 years later Holy Trinity built a new Church Hall to the rear of their church. The priest-in-charge of Stowupland at the time of the extension (1985) was Rev. David M.B Mathers. The hall cost £35,000. Were you one of members of Stowupland High School who made a plaque to commemorate the opening of the hall?

For those of you who didn't google it, a cheesie bug is commonly called a Wood Louse, and a Bishy Barnie Bee is a Ladybird.





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MOONLIGHT

Sometimes in the moonlight,
In the depth of the night,
The silhouettes of horses,
Are a lovely sight.

Sometimes in the moonlight,
Ghostly shapes you see,
They are shapes of poachers,
Setting their traps with glee.

Sometimes in the moonlight,
On the glittering pond,
You will hear the frogs and toads,
Singing their midnight song.

Sometimes in the moonlight,
Lovers will embrace,
And girls will be dreaming,
Of gowns made of lace.

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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www.midsuffolkcabp.org.uk - 01449 676060
or 01449 676280 - 5 Milton Road South,
Stowmarket, IP14 1EZ

Doctor

Emergency - 999
NHS Direct - 111
Combs Ford - 01449 678333
Stowhealth - 01449 776000

Emergency Numbers

Power Cut - 0800 31 63 105
Gas Leak - 0800 111 999
Water Leak - 0800 771 881

Good Neighbour Scheme

HELPLINE: 07591 539621

Member of Parliament

Jo Churchill - jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk -
Constituency Office, 10 Hatter Street,
Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LZ - 01284 752311
House of Commons - 02072 198487
<https://www.jochurchill.org.uk/>

Mid Suffolk District Council

www.midsuffolk.gov.uk
Keith Welham - keith.welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk -
01449 673185
Rachel Eburne - rachel.eburne@midsuffolk.gov.uk -
01449 673311

Police

<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us>
<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice>

Police Safer Neighbourhood Team

PC 14443 Stefan Henriksen - Police Station,
Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1NJ
stefan.henriksen@suffolk.pnn.police.uk - Phone: 101

Samaritans – 116 123

Stowupland Village Website

www.stowupland.com

Parish Council Website

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Suffolk County Council

www.suffolk.gov.uk 01449 673185
Keith Welham - Keith.Welham@suffolk.gov.uk
SCC – General Contact No. 0345 606 6067

Schools

Stowupland High School -
www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk - 01449 674827
Freeman Community Primary School -
www.freeman.suffolk.sch.uk - 01449 612067

Vets

Cedarwood - 01449 676966
Stowe Vets - 01449 613130

DIARY DATES

MARCH

WED 2	9.30 am	Village Hall	Baby & Toddler Group
WED 2	2 - 4 pm	Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
WED 2	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Local History Group – “Stowupland in 1291” Val Dudley
THURS 3	2 - 4 pm	Village Hall car park	Choose Refills pop-up shop
THURS 3	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Short mat bowls
THURS 3	7.30 pm	URC Hall	Parish Council meeting
SUN 6	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Country & Western Music Club - Marc James
MON 7	evening	Village Hall	Dance Club
WED 9	9.30 am	Village Hall	Baby & Toddler Group
WED 9	2 - 4 pm	Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
THURS 10	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Short mat bowls
MON 14	evening	Village Hall	Dance Club
WED 16	9.30 am	Village Hall	Baby & Toddler Group
WED 16	2 - 4 pm	Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
THURS 17	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Short mat bowls
SAT 19	10 am -	12 Village hall	Bio-Diversity group Family Day
SUN 20	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Country & Western Music Club - Julie Dawn
MON 21	evening	Village Hall	Dance Club

TUES 22	9.30 Jubilee Crt. 9.55 Green	Mobile Library
WED 23	9.30 am Village Hall	Baby & toddler group
WED 23	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
THURS 24	7.30 pm Village Hall	Short mat bowls
FRI 25	10 am – 12 URc Chapel	Coffee morning
SUN 27	7.30 pm Village Hall	Country & Western Music Club – Tim Staff
MON 28	evening Village Hall	Dance Club
WED 30	9.30 am Village Hall	Baby & toddler group
THURS 31	7.30 pm Village Hall	Short mat bowls

APRIL

MON 4	evening Village Hall	Dance Club
WED 6	9.30 am Village Hall	Baby & toddler group
WED 6	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
WED 6	7.30 pm Village Hall	Stowupland Local History Group “Suffolk’s Lost Heritage”
THURS 7	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Choose Refills pop-up shop
THURS 7	7.30 pm Village Hall	Short mat bowls

LOOKING AHEAD

27 April	Suffolk Wildlife Trust – “Looking for the Goshawk – The Lost Raptor”
2 – 5 June	Platinum Jubilee events
27 SUN 10 July	Stowupland Village Open Gardens

MSDC General Contact No. 0300 1234000

Mobile Library - 07721 879855

Parish Council

Sally Reeves – Chairman - 01449 745739

sallyreeves@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Beeson - 07918 808387

laurabeeson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Donna Bridges – 07736 348335

donnabridges@stowuplandpc.co.uk

John Hayward – 01449 674717

johnhayward@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Johnson - 07826 851030

laurajohnson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Debra Melhuish -07979125904

debramelhuish@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Paula Murton - 07906 677817

paulamurton@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Kevin Stevens – 07747 605042

kevinstevens@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Ray Studd - 01449 676606

raystudd@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Jerry Voden - 01449 703717

jerryvoden@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council – Claire Pizzey

parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk - 01449 677005

2 Broomspath Road, IP14 4DB

Parish Council Minutes of meetings and agendas are available on the Parish Council Website

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Village Hall Bookings

Colin Booker - Phone - 07862740830

stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

Village Clubs

Baby and Toddler Group -

Kelly Woolnough - 07776 206430

Book Group - Patricia Hodgkins - 01449 672127

Stowupland Bowls Club - Graham Newman -
01359 240846

Community Events - Keith Welham - 01449 673185

Country and Western - Pat Murphy - 01449 677405

Dance Club - Mary Durham - 01449 672601

Local History Group - Jerry Voden - 07951 086383

Short Mat Bowls – Pam Fayers – 07713026696

Sports and Social Club - Andy Parkin - 07796 274905

- www.stowupland-sports-and-social-club.co.uk

Stowupland Cricket Club

www.stowuplandcricketclub.co.uk/

Stowupland Falcons Football Club -

stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk

Stowupland Sports Centre -

info@stowuplandsportcentre.co.uk - 01449 672531

Stowupland Wildflower & Biodiversity Group –

kay.telstar@gmail.com

Stowmarket Wildlife Group - John Thompson -

swtstowmarket@gmail.com - 01449 676471

"Poem - Lay- Piece - Rhyme - Writing - Ballad - Song - Air - Refrain - Ode - Lyric."

What do you call yours?

How goes the poem writing?
Have you cracked the secret slot?
If not, the following may just help,
More likely, it will not.

When you sit to write a poem,
And nothing comes to mind.
Process is not difficult,
It's only words to find.

If you write a poem,
You might like it to rhyme.
But some would say, "That's difficult,
And takes a lot more time."

When you write a poem,
In verses, that's a trend.
But then there is, how many?
When will the poem end?

If you write a poem,
You'll need some inspiration.
Let's not worry about the facts,
Just use imagination.

Some people say that you'll do well,
If lines, they are a - scanning,
You can sit back with a happy face,
And say, "It's in the planning."

Let's assume ideas flow fast,
You've got the perfect theme.
But don't get cute, stay on the ball,
Remember the rhyming scheme.

So don't give up before you start,
Don't worry about the speed.
The question, when it's finished,
Is it worthy of a read?



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STOWUPLAND LADYBIRDS

Following the demise of Stowupland WI last summer, a new group called Stowupland Ladybirds has been formed. We met for the first time in September for any ex-WI members that wished to join us.

We have a monthly meeting with a variety of things to enjoy and lots of socialising too, although due to restrictions at the moment our numbers are limited.

Watch this space for updates!

Colleen Buckle

SDCC Membership Secretary and Treasurer

Tel: 07917 443 743

STOWUPLAND OPEN GARDENS

Stowupland Open Gardens will be returning after a 4-year absence on 10th July 2022. It will be part of the St. Elizabeth Hospice Great Garden Trail. The Hospice is there to improve life for people living with life limiting illnesses in Suffolk

There will also be a donation made to Holy Trinity Church.

The village has grown over the last 4 years, and it would be great to hear from anyone who would be interested in opening their garden for this worthwhile cause. We already have a mixture of regulars and newcomers who have agreed to open.

If you would like your garden to be considered for this event, please send me an email at nigelnapier01@gmail.com

STOWUPLAND BOWLS CLUB

Hello to you all and I hope everybody is keeping well.

The bowls season is now approaching and so the work on the green is starting. The grass seed has taken well since being sown in October and, in fact, has had its first cut of the season. It has been fed with fertilizer as well so it will be ready for the season, weather permitting. There are jobs to be done in the flower borders and the benches cleaned and stained.

The committee are meeting soon to work out the plan for the year, but we will be holding a "Jubilee Day" where residents of Stowupland can come and play for a trophy; so, please come along during the Jubilee weekend in June. All equipment will be provided free to use.

As soon as this year's programme is ready a copy will be on show in our display cabinet by the gate at the Club.

New players are welcome and anyone wanting to take up this relaxing sport can come and try it out without any obligation or commitment.

You can contact me on 01359 244591/ 07741406385

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STOWUPLAND CRICKET CLUB



On a cold and frosty morning in the winter, cricket may not be the first thing on everybody's mind, but Stowupland Cricket Club has started its winter training for both adults and juniors and is already gearing up for a full summer of fixtures.

Junior training takes place on Saturday mornings; up to year 6; 10am -11am, years 7-11; 11.00 - 12.30. Adult nets have also resumed at Ipswich School on Sunday evenings, 6-8pm. We look forward to welcoming any interested new players - whether you are an adult looking to return to the game or a youngster interested in giving it a try, just contact us on the email address below.

Also, back on the agenda for the cricket club is the monthly quiz night, to everyone's delight...can anyone beat the mountain rescue team this year! The first quiz for 2022 will be held at the clubhouse on Friday 1st April 7.30pm start. Entries are welcome and jokes are being gathered, just come along to see how good they are!

For further information about Stowupland Cricket Club or any of the above please email Melanie Blanchard - mcblanch@hotmail.co.uk



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STOWMARKET CONCERT BAND

FOUNDED IN 1962
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 290209



60th YEAR BONANZA FOR THE BAND

2022 marks a special year for Stowmarket Concert Band, being our 60th anniversary, and we are keen to make it as fun and exciting as possible for all involved.

From its very first performance after 16 pupils of Stowmarket Modern School found some second-hand instruments in a cupboard, the band has taught music to many hundreds of musicians, some who have gone on to professional careers, others who play just for pleasure.

60 years on we pride ourselves on being a registered charity who promote music within the community and continue to teach youngsters (and adults) the joy of playing a brass instrument. Following the last two years of playing across zoom, in small groups and mainly outside it was wonderful to get back inside just before Christmas for our first 'real' concert in 2 years.

Building on this, we are about to launch a new beginner band to meet on Monday evening from 6.30 – 7.30 at Abbots Hall Primary School and welcome interested parties of any age to join. We provide an instrument, music, tuition and uniform for just £5 per month. Please contact us at the email address below for further information.

Already in the calendar we have several planned concerts over the jubilee weekend kicking off with our usual march in the Stowmarket Carnival and our 60th anniversary celebratory concert will take place in September. Further details will follow but if you have ever been a member of the band we would love you to be a part of this, whether you join us to perform or just come along to listen and chat.

Various plans are underway to make this the best year yet, just watch our social media posts, email us at: info@stowmarketconcertband.org.uk or check out our *NEW* website for further information; <https://www.stowmarketconcertband.org.uk/>

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The chance to play and perform with others in a small group in our weekly practices (All year round, Monday 6.30-7.30 at Abbots Hall Primary School)

Uniform provided - no need to buy and will be replaced when grown out of it!

The opportunity to complete subsidised ABRSM Music Medals assessments (optional, no pressure!)

As part of the Stowmarket Concert Band

The opportunity and support to progress to our training band and then become a member of the main band

Regular chances to perform concerts alongside players of all age and abilities

Subsidised activities such as workshops or trips to concerts

Social activities like BBQs, camping or laser tag!



Do you play the piano? or the keyboard? or perhaps the organ?

Can you spare some time on a Sunday?

Then maybe you are who we are looking for.

Holy Trinity Church in Stowupland is looking for one or more people who would like to help us with music in church on a Sunday to accompany the singing at the services and play music before and after the service.

We are looking for someone who could play once a month or more. There are opportunities for training to play the organ if needed. And a fee is payable for each service.



*If you would like to find out more,
please contact Alison on 01449 613037
or Rev. Brin on 01449 770921*

JUBILEE LADIES CHOIR

We were able to start practices again on January 18th, and it was a pleasure to sing songs not associated with Christmas! We had been singing them since September!

We have welcomed four new members recently but would love to welcome some more.

It was lovely to share a tea/coffee and biscuits once again.

No auditions, age no barrier, young or old, ability to read music helpful but not essential, many of us don't read music but are guided by those who do. Have a look at our Facebook page!!

Come along any Tuesday evening at 7.30 p.m. in the United Reform Church, Stowmarket, which we use because of the great acoustics, to see if it might be for you.

We're available to sing at weddings, funerals, and any other event. Platinum Jubilee celebrations perhaps?

Further information or questions please call Di Balaam 01449 736374



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HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

NEWS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STOWUPLAND

Vicar : Revd Brin Singleton Tel. 770921
Churchwardens : Mrs Ann Doubtfire Tel. 770363
: Mrs Sue Hayter Tel. 613710

Email: brinsingleton@btinternet.com

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2082/benefice/>



Dear Friends,

I should begin with a message of support to all affected by the recent fire at Nutshells, our thanks to our Rescue Services and our thoughts and prayers for the rebuilding ahead, which I'm sure the whole community would encourage, support and hope for.

The Christian Faith in times of adversity looks for signs of hope, of light in darkness, and the themes of our faith this month begin in self-examination and challenge at Ash Wednesday, following the path of Jesus' Spirit led desert journey ^{Luke 4.1-15}, on through the respite of Refreshment Sunday that is Mothering Sunday, to the ultimate trial and ultimate hope of April's Passiontide, Holy Week, Triduum and Easter's new dawn.

But March begins with our remembering Jesus' preparation for His ministry among us, by His testing journey through the wilderness, following the foundational story of His people in their forty-year trial through the desert told in Exodus 13. A sojourn which ultimately prepared them to rebuild their nation entering a land of promise as God had led them. So often in trial and challenge we need the encouragement of others, those who have in some way come through the test that whatever sustained them may provide hope for us through our trials.

So, we in faith look for signs of hope, whatever the challenge before us, that we may find strength to trust to our futures, to serve each other's needs above our own that all may find hope. Often, we see Lent as a personal and inner journey, yet even in Jesus' trials, as He is tempted to follow the easy self-serving path, He overcomes such trial by seeing the bigger vision, that He should offer hope for all God's people in trusting to God's Word, as His own hunger and thirst for God's purpose for all God's people. Our own trial through pandemic has taught us to set aside our self-serving ambitions to serve the needs of community and nation. We have found strength and solidarity to look to the right, to be accountable for each other's safety and build together our hope for our future.

Grace and Blessing to all who at this time of challenge and trial look for signs of hope.

Yours in Christ, *Brin.*

Rector@ Haughley with Wetherden & Stowupland.

See www.achurchnearyou.com for this year's Lent course.

PLEASE NOTE: All services may be subjected to change by government rules in force at that time.

Services in March 2021

2nd Mar	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday Benefice Service at Wetherden
6th Mar	9.30am	Parish Communion
13th Mar	9.30am	Worship for All
20th Mar	9.30am	Morning Prayer
27th Mar	9.30am	Mothering Sunday Service

A PRAYER: Holy Spirit of God, inspirer of all that is good and true in life, come into our hearts and fill them with your light and strength. Help us to hate all sin and selfishness, and to fight against them with unfaltering courage and resolve; because we cannot prevail without your help, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

CRAFT FAIR 2022: The Holy Trinity Craft Fair will, as usual be held on the May Bank Holiday weekend, Saturday 30th April and Sunday 1st May.

JUBILEE FLOWER FESTIVAL 2022: The Community Events Team from Stowupland Parish Council and Holy Trinity Church are currently planning for the celebrations of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in June. On Friday the 3rd, Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th, Holy Trinity Church will be the host to a Flower Festival celebrating 70 Glorious Years of Queen Elizabeth’s Reign.

To all who would like to take part, creating a colourful memory of ‘70 Glorious Years, the Invitation is open to Individuals, Clubs, Schools, Sports, Residents, Business - in fact any that have links to Stowupland.

Mrs Ann Doubtfire, Church Warden, Holy Trinity
Telephone: 07747660813 or email : anndoubtfire1@gmail.com

Stowupland Village Hall

Excellent facilities - competitive prices



Our Village Hall is just the place for clubs and groups to meet or for special functions, such as parties, receptions and exhibitions.

There is one large room suitable for 140-300 people depending on the event. A small one seats up to 20 people. There is a well equipped kitchen, ample parking and a licensed bar, plus a new audio-visual system included in the standard hire charge.

Interested? Look on our website at www.stowupland.com/village-hall.
Call or email Colin Booker, our booking secretary to arrange a viewing or make a booking.
Tel: 07862740830. email: stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com



U.R.C CHAPEL

NEWS

Minister: Revd Robert Sheard
Telephone 01449 678173

The spring flowers are peeping through, and we are beginning to hear the noise of people cutting their grass. Also, the nights are pulling out and it's not getting dark until about 5pm all signs showing that spring is on its way. The last two years we have been restricted with our Mothering Sunday get togethers with family but hopefully this year will be different.

Our next Coffee Morning is on **Friday 25 March 10-12noon**.
Please come and join us for a cuppa, cake, and good company.

Services continue to be held at the URC Chapel, Church Road, Stowupland each Sunday at 10.30am and you are cordially invited to join us in our worship. A warm welcome awaits you.

The Speakers for March are as follows:

06 March No service at the Chapel as it is the Anniversary at Stowmarket URC

13 March David Atkins

20 March Alison Fenning

27 March John Webb (Mothering Sunday)

Joyce Gardiner

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Matthew 4: 1-11 The Temptation of Jesus

Then the Spirit led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the Devil. After spending forty days and nights without food, Jesus was hungry. Then the Devil came to him and said, "If you are God's Son, order these stones to turn into bread."

But Jesus answered, "The scripture says, 'Human beings cannot live on bread alone, but need every word that God speaks.'" Then the Devil took Jesus to Jerusalem, the Holy City, set him on the highest point of the Temple, and said to him, "If you are God's Son, throw yourself down, for the scripture says: 'God will give orders to his angels about you; they will hold you up with their hands, so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones.' Jesus answered, "But the scripture also says, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' Then the Devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in all their greatness.

“All this I will give you,” the Devil said, “if you kneel down and worship me.” Then Jesus answered, “Go away, Satan! The scripture says, ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!’ ” Then the Devil left Jesus; and angels came and helped him.

March this year is the beginning of Lent, for most people it seems to start on Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day as it is more commonly known, but actually Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on the 2nd of March, which starts forty days of Lent excluding Sundays. It is not normal within the United Reformed Church, to celebrate Ash Wednesday, but many other traditions do, it is very much a day of prayer, penitence, preparation, and fasting. you can often tell if somebody has been to an Ash Wednesday service, as they will have a cross of ash upon their forehead. Traditionally the ashes come from the burning of the previous years palm crosses, and is a reminder that as we came from dust we will return to dust, symbolizing our sinful nature and need for salvation. An Ash Wednesday service can be seen as mournful, but it shouldn't be, but as a reminder of our preparation throughout Lent, reminding us of Jesus's forty days in the wilderness, preparing himself for Ministry, and as we use Ash Wednesday and Lent to prepare ourselves for Easter. This time should also be used as a time of reflection to see and hear where God is calling us to be, as we head to the joy of Easter morning.

Yours, Robert

*Reverend Robert Sheard Minister of the Stowmarket group of Churches.
The group consists of Stowmarket, Debenham, Mendlesham, Haughley & Stowupland)*

COFFEE MORNING



**Friday 25th
March 2022**

Stowupland URC Chapel

10am – 12noon

Coffee, Tea and Cakes

All welcome

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Spring has arrived at last as the snowdrops are in bloom in the cemetery and the daffodils are just showing. Around the village the bulbs planted by the Wildlife and Biodiversity Group are coming through and will multiply over the coming years. I always breathe a sigh of relief as I greet Spring because I am not a winter person. Don't get me wrong I love the snow, it's the damp dark days that get me down. With the onset of Spring, it seems that the tempo has also picked up to get some of the jobs around the village completed.

By the time you read this the post project to protect The Green and prevent parking on it will be completed. No Parking signs will have been placed on the parts of The Green that are not part of the post project. The crossing at the Co-Op should be finished and operational and the top surface on the Safer Route to School across The Green is scheduled for March. As is the removal of the sandbags and alterations to the bus stop at the Maple Rd bridge. The road surface that is beside the entrance to The Pippins is scheduled for repair and resurfacing again as it dropped considerably after it was installed but, as yet there is no date. I hope that will see the end to roadworks in the village for a while as over the last months it has seemed never ending.

The revised planning application for Diapers Farm was out for consultation at our February meeting. Diapers Farm is the first area of land on the right as you go down the hill after the Mortimer Way roundabout and Ashes Farm is the land that runs behind the houses at the bottom of the hill. Your Parish Council continued to object to the application as there is still not a confirmed resolution to the A1120/B115 junction. It is proposed as a roundabout, but it needs to have capacity and be big enough to cope with the traffic from Diaper and Ashes Farm as well as Taylor Wimpey site, should it get planning permission. It also needs to consider any additional traffic accessing the Gateway 14 site for employment. Your Parish Council is given to understand that all parties are meeting to find a resolution, but it is all about who is funding what it seems. Your Parish Council continues to press for a resolution that is right first time.

It seems finance is going to be a worry over the next year for all of us and your Parish Council is no different. We have raised the precept amount by a small margin of 3% and if costs escalate above that we will need to keep a very tight rein on expenditure. Your Parish Council had to balance the increase in its costs with its desire to not burden the finances of residents.

There is a pot of money from the Community Infrastructure Levy but that is for use on new projects not ongoing costs or maintenance. If any village group is looking to start a project, then please speak to the Clerk or a Parish Councillor as we may be able to help with some funds from this pot of money.

I would encourage you to come along to a Parish Council meeting if you can. There are a lot of big issues that your Parish Council is dealing with currently and your views are welcome. We do have one more vacancy for a Parish Councillor so if you would like to join and shape the village for the future, please contact the Parish Clerk or myself for further information.

Sally Reeves

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

FEBRUARY 22



The meeting opened with 2 members of the public, 6 Parish Councillors and SCC & MSDC Councillor Welham. The Chairman stated that she has been in contact with the proprietors of Nutshells to offer any support that the PC are able to offer them following the devastating fire last Saturday.

Council Report:

The full SCC and District Council reports can be found elsewhere in Telstar. Cllr Welham advised that District Council Officers are also supporting the proprietors of Nutshells.

He advised that he has spoken to the SCC Rights of Way officer regarding the state of footpath 35 through the school grounds. The Parish Council asked him to find out what SCC call the definitive route of the footpath to the rear of Trinity Walk, as they find that every person they speak to at SCC gives conflicting advice. They also questioned the report from SCC that the lighting upgrade is complete whilst they are still waiting for an answer from them following their request 2 months ago on a price per light to upgrade to LED's. Cllr Welham will chase this.

Matters of Report:

SCC have confirmed that the start date for the removal of the sandbags will be 28th March. The posts for the Green are being delivered on 4th February and work will start on 7th. As the issue of a hole made by a contractor in the hedging around the Bowls Club has still not been resolved it was agreed that the PC will donate 4 hedging whips to plant in the gap.

The Heritage Officer has asked the PC to provide evidence as to why they feel that a property in Mill Street is in 'poor' condition so that they can decide on the best person to investigate the current situation.

Public Forum:

The only comment made was the fact that the 'beware of pedestrians' sign re-erected by SCC in January is still facing the wrong way and can only be seen by drivers via their rear-view mirror.

Annual Parish Meeting:

The PC are struggling to find a large enough venue within the village to hold the annual parish meeting in April/May. It was part of the planning application for the 6th form building that the school would provide space for community use but despite contacting the school, they are not responding to any requests. SCC Cllr Welham advised that he would contact the school to see if he could resolve the matter. It was agreed that the meeting will have a localised format with groups within the village doing their own presentations.

Queen's Jubilee:

The PC will be registering notification of lighting the beacon at 9pm on the Thursday. They were disappointed to find that the PCC have decided to move the flower event scheduled for that weekend to another weekend.

Village Walk Leaflet:

The Chairman has been trying to contact the person named on the current village walk leaflet to find out if there is an electronic version of the leaflet available but cannot get any response. If there is no electronic version, then the whole leaflet will have to be started again from scratch which is a huge undertaking. After much discussion it was agreed that Cllr Welham should speak to MSDC to see if the grant could be put on hold until the Trim Trail is up and running and then the 2 projects could be combined.

Sub-Committee/Working Group Reports:

Biodiversity and Wildflower - A family day has been scheduled for 19th March when nesting bird boxes will be made as well as how to recycle old teapots also for nesting. The MSDC Biodiversity Officer will be contacted for advice on the planting of wildflowers around the Green.

Cemetery and Churchyard - The Chairman proposed that a budget of £750 be made for the planting of hedging to the rear of the cemetery which will be paid for from the CIL fund. It was also agreed for 2 tawny owl and 2 barn owl boxes to be purchased and erected at the rear of the cemetery and an application be made for funding from the MSDC locality budget. The 'topple test' on the gravestones will be carried out before the next meeting.

Environment – The Green committee have proposed the siting of ‘No Parking on The Green’ signs at 7 locations around the Green plus a further Private Track sign for the track leading from the A1120 to the Paddock.

Finance and Policy – The committee proposed that a quote to remove moles from the play park be accepted and also one from MPM Computers for the renewal of the PC domain and e-mail hosting.

Planning – There have been 2 planning applications, one for an extension in Mill Street and one for an extension in Trinity Walk. It was agreed to support both of these. The Chairman reported on a meeting with Taylor Wimpey to discuss their proposals for 256 properties to the rear of the allotments.

It was decided that the PC should maintain its objections to this development on a number of specifics.

MSDC have advised they have granted planning permission to applications in Trinity Walk and Saxham Street.

Transport, Traffic and Safety – Cllr Voden has spent some time with the Stowmarket speedwatch team and seen how they move their SID device each time and has concluded that this is going to be a very difficult undertaking for the volunteers in Stowupland due to the age of the people involved. These devices are mounted high on poles so ladders are required and the devices are extremely heavy. This would mean that the one near Devon Road is too close to the highway to be removed safely and would need to be relocated and 3 new sturdier poles would need to be purchased. As the Stowmarket team are employees and not volunteers, it was decided to explore whether they would be prepared to expand their operation into Stowupland on a long-term basis and the costs involved. If this is not an option, it is hoped that the extra roundabouts and crossings connected to the new developments will slow down the traffic sufficiently within the village.

Chairman’s Report:

The Chairman proposed that the PC should accept the quote of £830 for the signs for around the Green which will be funded from CIL monies. She also proposed that the quotes for the refurbishment of a bench and for a concrete base for an existing bench, both in the cemetery, as well as a quote to rehang and paint the cemetery gates be accepted. Another proposal was to accept a quote for a concrete base for the new wheelie bin housing opposite the fish shop which will be funded via a grant application from the MSDC locality budget. Two e-mails have been sent to Bloor Homes about their failure to comply with their landscaping commitments on Trinity Meadows phases 1 & 2 and it was agreed to send another final e-mail with 14 days to respond before referring to MSDC for enforcement.

The final proposal was for Cllrs Studd and Stevens be given authority to write the action request for the MSDC planning portal and that District Cllr Welham be asked to intervene on behalf of the PC. The Chairman also thanked the Cllrs who attended the Gateway 14 meeting.

Correspondence:

Correspondence was received from 4 residents, one regarding an altercation about the use of the football pitch behind the Church which was referred to the Village Hall committee, one for information about the gritting of Saxham Street and one about the heavy lorries using the A1120 which is used as a diversion route when A14 closed. The PC will contact Highways England to ask for an 'ignore your sat nav' sign to be placed on A14 to alleviate some of the Norwich bound traffic and to liaise with Earl Stonham PC. The final one was from a cyclist who was knocked off his bike at the A1120/B1115 junction, this will be passed to SCC. MSDC sent information on the Spring Clean Suffolk 2022 campaign which will be forwarded to the Green committee. St Elizabeth Hospice are requesting permission to erect a small gazebo on the Green for the open gardens event on 10th July, Telstar thanking the PC for their donation and a request for holding an event on the Green but will be redirected to either the Retreat or Village Hall.

The meeting closed to the public at 9.18pm.

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DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

MARCH 2022

Mid Suffolk District Council Budget

The draft 2022/23 budget was scrutinised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee last month and is due to be considered at full Council on 24 February. This meeting is required to set the precept for next year.

Current indications are that the net budget is expected to be nearly £9 million. There are no proposals for a council tax increase; the amount payable by a Band D household will remain £171.59 per annum.

However, the amount raised will increase by £285,000 (to £6.96 million) due to increases in the number of households paying the tax. Currently the draft budget forecasts a surplus of nearly £6 million which includes a projected accumulated underspend of £4.8 million from the current financial year.

Council House Rents

The Administration is proposing an increase of 4.1% in rents. If agreed on 24 February, the average social rent will increase by £3.45 to £87.84; affordable rents will, on average, increase by £4.99 to £126.33.

Fees and charges

An updated list of fees and charges for 2022/23 has been agreed by Mid Suffolk District Council. The majority of these are unchanged with no increase. There is a 3-4% increase for garden waste bin collections and for bulky waste items collection.

Planning – Land south of Stowmarket Road

Representatives of Taylor Wimpey met with Sally Reeves, Claire Pizzey, and both Rachel and Keith to discuss proposed changes to their development proposals. They are in discussions with both MSDC and SCC over the changes and proposals to secure a roundabout solution for the A1120/B1115 junction.

Police and Crime Commissioner Precept

Keith is a member of the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel. The Crime Plan and Precept were considered at the Panel meeting on 28 January. Members made requests for more visible policing, especially in rural villages, and officer attendance at Parish Council meetings. The Commissioner proposed an increase of 4.2% on the element of Council Tax which is provided for Suffolk Constabulary. After lengthy discussion, this was agreed; it will mean an increase of £9.99 per annum, resulting in a total of £247.68 for a Band D property.

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COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

MARCH 2022

Cabinet Meeting

1 February 2022. The Cabinet met and approved the core budget and voted to pass the budget through to Full Council to be finalised on 17 February. It is proposed that Council Tax will rise by 2.99% - an increase of £41.76 for a band D property from £1397.16 in the current year to £1438.92 in 2022/23.

The Cabinet also approved adoption of the Carbon Budget, as well as the recommendations to enhance Suffolk Biodiversity – making this a key priority moving forward.

Transport East

The regional transport body, Transport East, has drafted its new strategy for the future. It explains the investment and priorities Transport East aims to provide, to develop a leading transportation network.

I have expressed concerns around the emphasis on profit and growth. Instead, a strategy for the future should focus on improved public transport, greener energy, and walking and cycling infrastructure. Our group has submitted our comments to Transport East, in the hope they reconsider their strategy.

For more information, visit: <https://www.transporeast.org.uk/>

New Discovering Suffolk App

As part of the two year 'Discovering Suffolk' project, Discover Suffolk has launched a free mobile app to help access and enjoy the countryside. The app provides over 100 guided walking, cycling and riding trails to explore.

To download the app for free, go to the Discover Suffolk website <https://www.discoversuffolk.org.uk/discover-suffolk-app/> or search for 'Discover Suffolk' in the app catalogue on your phone.

Suffolk Libraries Day 2022

Suffolk Libraries Jumpstart January wellbeing campaign ran again throughout January. Working with Wellbeing Suffolk, Suffolk Libraries offered a programme of free online fitness activities and wellbeing drop-ins. Hundreds of people enjoyed the activities which included yoga, pilates, and creative dance.

Suffolk Libraries is running an online book festival in March, as part of Suffolk Libraries Day 2022. Suffolk Libraries Day is a celebration of the county's library service and their main fundraising event. Libraries will also be confirming special events nearer the time.

For more information, visit: <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/whats-on/festival/suffolk-libraries-day-book-festival>

Sunday 5 June Big Jubilee Lunch

SCC will not charge fees for road closures for street parties on that day – on residential streets with no through traffic. Applications must be made to SCC by 27 March. Details are on the SCC website.

Safer Route to School, Removal of Sandbags, Works at Bus Shelter

Advance warning signs are in place showing a start date of 28 March for the gravel surfacing to the safer route, changes to the bus stop markings, kerbing and footway works at the bus shelter and removal of sandbags.

A14 Upgrade

Currently there are overnight closures between junctions 50 and 52 westbound with diversions through Needham Market. In mid-March there will be overnight closures for 5 nights eastbound. Traffic will be diverted off at junction 50 and signed along A1120 to the Cedars roundabout and then through Needham Market.

Major reconstruction of the A14 concrete carriageway at Woolpit is programmed to start in January 2023.

Stowmarket recycling centre

The centre will be closed from 28 February to 14 March for resurfacing. Residents are recommended to check via the SCC website if the works are likely to overrun. No bookings can be made until the centre reopens.

Locality Awards

Each County Councillor has a locality budget of £6,000 a year. I still have a small part of that sum unallocated; and I welcome requests from community groups. The small amount unspent can be carried over to next year.

Keith Welham

County Councillor of Stowmarket North and Stowupland

Keith.Welham@suffolk.gov.uk

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**Leylands Farm,
Middlewood Green.**

ABBA NIGHT

Save the date!

An evening with a live ABBA tribute band to raise money for McMillian Nurses and The Ipswich hospital Blossom Appeal.

Dance the night way in your most outrageous 70's costume (strongly encouraged, but optional).

Bar and BBQ, £15 per ticket.

Look out for more info, to follow.

June 25th 2022

THE TELSTAR TEAM

Editor - Kay Easter – kay.telstar@gmail.com - 01449 677261 – 16 Oak Road
Kay welcomes contributors to the magazine, either one-off articles or regular columns.

Business Advertising - Sally Wray - adverts.telstar@hotmail.co.uk - 01449 676612
Businesses with a Stowupland connection can advertise at very reasonable rates.

Diary Dates – Neil Langridge – neil@stowman.plus.com - 01449 616275
To let the village know the date and venue of your event contact Neil to be included in the diary dates.

Distribution Co-Ordinators – Keith and Cathy Welham – 01449 673185
Colin Vickridge and Keith Welham are our proofreaders and Jerry Voden chairs meetings of our team. The entire team are unpaid volunteers.

Telstar is distributed by a team of volunteers who deliver the magazine to over 1,100 homes in Stowupland. The magazine is produced every month, with the exception of December and January, which is a combined copy that gives our trusty team of volunteers a well-earned Christmas break!

Telstar is funded by grants from Stowupland Parish Council and Mid Suffolk District Council as well as income from business advertisers.

Telstar – for the community, by the community.

From the Telstar Committee

Please note that the opinions expressed in letters and articles are not necessarily those of the Telstar Committee. We cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of material submitted for publication. We reserve the right to include, edit or amend as we think appropriate. Telstar is produced in good faith but errors or omissions may occur during the process of production. If this is the case, please let us know so that errors may be corrected.

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THE FALCONS GRAND NATIONAL RACE NIGHT

FRIDAY 8TH APRIL

STOWUPLAND VILLAGE HALL

DOORS OPEN 7PM - FIRST RACE 7:30PM

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