

# Telstar



## Stowupland News

No 336  
October 2020

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# EDITOR'S NOTES

OCTOBER 2020



As we head into October the full force of Autumn becomes apparent. The trees are starting to lose their leaves and everywhere is golden. Holy Trinity will have celebrated the harvest last week, and there is much to celebrate. The hedgerows have been full of fruit and our gardens have been giving produce all summer (for those that have a veggie patch). Kate tells you what to do with all those fallen leaves in Down to Earth. I can't mention Kate without a quick nod to her fantastic article in Garden News. We are certainly lucky that she takes the time to grace our pages!

Read further along in the magazine and you will see that the 'Easter' kitchen has been very busy using all the aforementioned produce, so if you have a glut of veg there are some ideas what to do with it!

Now, forgive me please, for using the 'C' word. Christmas will be on us before we know it. We have gift ideas, Christmas cooking, a Christmas competition and the opportunity for the entire Stowupland community to come together to celebrate Christmas with our very own tree in the Stowmarket Christmas Tree Festival! We do need everybody to help out if they can, by just doing one simple thing, decorate a star to go on the tree. More details follow...

This month sees the last newsletter from Stowupland Local History Group but they will continue with their usual column. The Group's meetings will be recommencing at the Village Hall, so if you've been bitten by the local history bug, do go along, I'm sure you will be welcome. Sandra Walker, who holds the archives for Stowupland, has provided us with lots of interesting articles over the past months when we have had little else to fill our pages. I am very grateful to her for her input and especially as she digs things out for me to use in Memory Lane. Her help has been invaluable.

We have had a tight contest for the 500 Words Competition, the result follows in the magazine. Well done to everyone who took part, it's not easy to stare at a blank page and come up with something!

**NB:** Stowupland Local History Group will not be recommencing their meetings until February 2021 due to the latest Covid advice.

Please check with organisers before attending anything as Covid restrictions may change.

Many thanks go to Keith Hyland for his support in providing our cover photos, this month taken at the allotments and last month a collage of our schools.



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# AND THE WINNER IS...

## **Sam Hamilton.**

Congratulations to Sam on winning the 500 Words Competition!

Thank you to everyone who took part, it was a close run thing between the winner and the runner up.

There were a panel of five judges who independently read all the entries. They had no idea who wrote them or how old the entrants were. They were just instructed to look for the most engaging story with a good idea behind it. As the age range was so big, grammar and structure were discounted.

Their comments on the winner were that the story could easily be part of a much bigger story and that the judges felt it was a 'proper' story.

We have printed it here for you to read yourselves but we have not proofed it, it is in its raw state so that we don't change any of the contexts.

I am glad that I didn't have to make the final decision; so many thanks go to the judges. They were all chosen because they are readers and had no connection with any of the entrants.

Well done to everyone who took part, it is not easy being faced with a blank page and coming up with something, especially when you have little life experience.



## ***Lola and the typewriter***

Once there was a girl called Lola. She loved horror movies and books, one year when she turned seventeen she decided to write a book. The book was going to be called "The Secret corridor." She and her parents thought it was a brilliant idea but whilst the girl was writing the book the typewriter she was using began shaking and in a split-second the girl was gone. The next morning the mum and dad of the girl looked in her room to see if their daughter was there when they saw the typewriter. The last sentence typed was a speech, it went "we have the girl locked up in our secret locker. The parents thought lola wrote this and they were very proud. A couple of minutes later they got sucked into the typewriter too. At first there was nothing, and then something, there was a dark long corridor and being very curious they went over to it. They heard screaming and cries for help but they couldn't locate the source of it and before they could start searching they saw dark, shadowy figures linger around the room very speedily and before they knew it they were hanging in a large locked locker with their daughter hanging beside them. They were both quite confused so they asked lola if she had any idea, she replied and said "We are all inside my book and this is a secret locker that dark shadowy figures lock people in if they dare come into their corridor." the parents asked their daughter if there were any ways to exit.

The daughter said that they could escape if they had a sharp object and luckily the dad was carrying a knife as he used it for cooking once and forgot to take it out of his pocket. The daughter said that there was only one problem, there was a little boy that suffered in here for years and he had some scissors but he was too hungry to break out. The boy suffered for years but couldn't die and that was because he was destined to become one of the dark figures and that he became one inside the locker and never got out so every four years he looks around the large locker for anyone to eat to stop his hunger and this year was exactly 88 years after the boy had suffered. The girl said that they were probably doomed when the dad came up with a probably successful plan. It was basically that as the figure would be really hungry he would be quite slow so he could quickly try to escape whilst the boy tries to get to the people to eat them. Ten minutes later the boy started crawling towards them and the dad managed to escape and the others did too and when they exited the school they were back home and the girl threw the typewriter away never to be seen again.

## **CHRISTMAS IS COMING...**

I make no apology for being prepared! I can nearly hear your groans as you go through the magazine and read about Christmas "it's too early!"

Well, here at Telstar HQ, we have to think ahead and be prepared. As you will be reading this in October I will already be thinking about the Christmas Bumper Issue. As we have to have everything ready to print during the first week of November for the December Issue, it is now that I am thinking of launching the Christmas Cover Competition.

The Christmas Cover Competition is open to everyone in the village. What we would like is a photograph, design or drawing that depicts the Christmas Season. The prize is for the whole village to see your picture gracing the cover of Telstar for the December/January double issue. For this special occasion we will be printing the cover in full Technicolour!

The Telstar committee will decide which picture wins and, if we're lucky enough to have two wonderful pictures, we will print one on the back cover too.

So, get those cameras clicking, computers graphically designing or paints painting.

Your picture needs to be portrait rather than landscape and fit an A5 page. Bear in mind that we still have to fit our title on the cover so don't have the interesting bit in the top left corner!

Send your pictures to [kay.telstar@gmail.com](mailto:kay.telstar@gmail.com) or drop them off at 16 Oak Road.

All entries must be in by the 31st October

*Good Luck to everyone!*

# RECIPE OF THE MONTH

## Christmas Cake

Make at least two weeks before Christmas but the longer it matures, the better it will be. Pierce and add brandy or rum (optional) periodically up to Christmas for a boozy, moist cake.

### Ingredients

8 ozs. butter or margarine

8 ozs. soft brown sugar

1 tablespoon treacle or golden syrup

4 large eggs

3-4 tablespoons sherry or cold tea

4 ozs. self raising flour

6 ozs. plain flour

¼ teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon mixed spice

Pinch of ground cinnamon

Pinch grated nutmeg

12 ozs. currants

12 ozs. sultanas (half of them chopped)

6 ozs. seedless raisins

2 ozs. each of: chopped peel, ground almonds, glace cherries (quartered)

### Method

Grease and line an 8" or 9" cake tin with two thicknesses of greaseproof paper.

Cream the fat and sugar together.

Beat in the treacle.

Beat eggs, sherry or tea and mix them in, alternating with the flours, sifted with salt and spices.

Add all the remaining ingredients but do NOT overmix.

Mixture should be fairly stiff, put into prepared tin and level off. Leave to rest for ten minutes, then give the tin a gentle tap on the base to settle the mixture.

Bake for ¾ hour at 160 C then reduce temperature to 140 C for about 3 – 3 ½ hours more. Test after 4 hours by inserting a skewer in the centre. If it comes out clean the cake is ready.

This recipe was given to me by a family friend for my wedding cake in 1984. I have made it most Christmases since. If you don't want to ice it you can arrange almonds on top before baking and finish them off with an apricot glaze before serving.

Kay

# STOWMARKET CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

As you may have read in the Editors Notes, Stowupland are taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival this year.

We have been offered a spot in St Peter and St Mary's Church, Stowmarket. The theme for the entries in the church is Nativity. As part of that theme we have decided to use 'Stars' as the decoration for our Christmas Tree with a song called 'See the Star' appearing in the programme.

As you can imagine, the Telstar Team have been busy getting things prepared for this auspicious occasion! However, we do want to involve our community, just as the Star in the Nativity brought people together, Telstar want you to come together and join in the fun of decorating the tree.

It is not much that we ask, we just want people to decorate a star for the tree. To make it easier for everyone to take part we have blank stars and easy to use decorations at collection/pick up points around the village. If you can't get to a collection point just email me [kay.telstar@gmail.com](mailto:kay.telstar@gmail.com) or ring me 01449 677261 (just say stars when prompted by my phone guardian) and I will deliver! So, it is easy and accessible for everyone to take part.

Of course, you don't have to use the decorations provided. You have full artistic licence to decorate your star however you like. You can do a personal star, a family star, a group or club star, one for your church or school, it is up to you. What we would like though, is that you leave room on the back to write your family/club etc. name. So if I were doing a family star I would write 'Easter Family' on the back.

You can paint your star or colour it in with pens or crayons. You can stick Christmas paper on it or decoupage, if you want to go a bit fancy! If you are very artistic, perhaps a drawing of the Nativity? How about some tiny handprints of your little ones? I'm sure there are lots of ideas that I haven't even thought of.

Just bear in mind that the Christmas Tree Festival is seen by thousands of people and our tree is a reflection of Stowupland.

There will be some glitter at collection points as well as self-adhesive gems. Please return the glitter and any leftover gems when you drop off your star so that someone else can use them. Although the Parish Council has given us some funds for this, we don't have a limitless budget!

## **The collection/pick up points are:**

16 Oak Road, Stowupland – there will be a box in the porch

2 Ramblers Cottages, The Green, Stowupland (the blue cottage that faces M&M's)

1 Comfrey Road, Stowupland – at Trinity Meadows

Please return your completed star to any of the collection/pick up points – you can post it in the letterbox or back in the box, pop it in an envelope or bag to keep it safe.

Be creative, have some fun and be part of the community!

**NB:** The boxes will be at the collection/pick up points throughout October. Please return your stars by 7th November.

# HOW DID YOUR GARDEN GROW?

If you are a seasoned gardener or a new gardener I expect there will be a mixture of success and failure. The healthy looking cabbages on the front cover may well have you green with envy if the Cabbage White Butterflies have ravaged your veggie patch! Certainly 'growing your own' can have mixed blessings. On one hand, there is nothing like the flavour of your home grown veg. On the other, there is a constant fight with nature. It seems that everything has a pest or disease to contend with. But, it is well worth the effort in the end.

As the growing season is slowly coming to an end you may still have runner beans, courgettes and tomatoes that you really have had enough of. So, now is the time to get creative with your veg. You've probably already frozen down what veg you can and still it comes!

In the Easter kitchen, himself has been very busy. Now, I must tell you a little about himself, he was a chef for 40 years and has always had a veg patch at home. He has taken to growing some unusual things as he gets free seeds with a gardening magazine and seems to think he must grow everything. It's only a small veggie patch so can get a bit crowded. Anyway, this year we have had some lovely Globe Artichokes, they were delicious. We have Jerusalem artichokes, the ubiquitous runner beans, courgettes, French beans, carrots, parsnips, beets, salads... The list goes on. Among the unusual were Khol Rabi, Chinese leaves, Black Radish, Pak Choi.

This year we have the biggest glut of grapes. Some of our friends and neighbours have benefitted, as we simply can't eat them all. We have been considering making wine but judging by the brown sludge that is growing in my airing cupboard, which will apparently be Christmas Cider, I'm not really sure about wine.

Back to the kitchen, we have been raiding the hedgerows for fruit, which seems to be in abundance this year. Together with our own produce we have made, Plum, Greengage and Damson jam and we will be making Strawberry, Blueberry and Cardamom jam from frozen fruit and Chilli jam. Chutneys will be made with the excess veggies and plenty of soups and sauces that we freeze down and eat in the winter. Adding your veg to curry (or use last months recipe) or cottage pie is another way to introduce vegetables into the menu. One of our family favourites is Chicken Broth, such a simple dish but the whole family love it and request it. Funnily enough, our children have been privileged to taste some of the finest food with a Dad who is a chef, but they would have Chicken broth over Lobster Thermidor any time!

There are lots of recipes for soups and sauces, chutneys and jams all over t'Internet so I won't publish any here. Just remember before you discard your excess veg, check what you can do with it. Green tomato chutney and runner bean chutney are very popular. And, if you don't want to eat them yourself, they make great Christmas presents – everyone likes something handmade!

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# DOWN TO EARTH

KATE ELLIOTT

The beginning of October is my gardening new year. Summer is over. The harvest is in. Time to take stock, plan for next year, prepare and start again. The leaves are changing colour daily and the air smells of fruit, wood smoke and falling leaves.

There is no gardening substance so wonderful as leaf mould. It smells delicious and it is also enormously useful. Leaf mould makes a perfect addition in potting compost, it's ideal for mulching all woodland plants and when added to the soil it helps improve its structure. Unlike compost, which needs turning regularly and has to be made up of a good mixture of ingredients to get the right balance, leaf mould is the easiest thing in the world to make. You just gather deciduous leaves and put them in a bay made from four posts and some chicken wire and let them quietly get on with the process of decomposition. Not every garden is large enough to have a permanent bay for leaves. The answer is to put the leaves in a black plastic bag, leaving the top turned but not tied. Make sure the leaves are really wet and punch a few holes in the side of the bag to drain any water. They will rot down well and can be stored behind a shed or tucked away in any corner. When it is half-rotted - after about six months - I use it at Columbine as a mulch (I love that word) around the plants in our bog garden and I also put a layer on the bare soil in our walled vegetable garden. The worms work it in to make the richest most lovely tilth imaginable. When it is fully made and crumbly, I sieve it and add it as a component of my potting compost. There are very few gardens that cannot make some leaf mould from their own trees and shrubs - let alone from the millions of leaves that fall outside our front doors. What are you waiting for? Go and make some now - and do not waste a crumb - or leaf - of it.

Now is the ideal time to plant or move deciduous trees, shrubs and hedges even if they are still in leaf, as they have finished growing and the soil is still warm so the roots will begin to grow immediately. It is essential, of course, to give them a really good soak and to repeat this regularly until the ground is really wet.

Once the last of the summer crops has been picked, I like to give the greenhouse a good clean ready for winter. I wash the inside of the glass with disinfectant and scrub down the staging making sure I clean underneath, as these are the places where a lot of pests go to hibernate as the days shorten. Now is the time that I pin up my bubble-wrap insulation to the sides, doors and to the roof but I leave some vents free so there's still a chance to provide some fresh air on warm days.

## Here are some more jobs that you and I can do before the end of October:

Start digging any ground that you want to use next spring. Do not try and break it down but leave the soil in large slabs for the weather to break it down over winter.

Keep deadheading throughout this month - particularly plants like dahlias. This will extend their season and squeeze every last bloom from them.

Continue to collect seeds from perennial plants.

Plant biennials such as wallflowers, foxgloves and forget-me-nots.

Keep cutting the grass for as long as it keeps growing. Take out any thatch and moss and add to the compost heap.

Cut off any hellebore leaves that are obviously diseased and give them a good mulch with leaf mould or garden compost.

Pick apples and pears for storing.

Make sure tender plants are safely inside the greenhouse or house.

Continue planting spring bulbs but wait another month for tulips.

Until next month - get outside and relish every second of sun.



Raking autumn leaves to make leaf mould

# COUNTRYSIDE RAMBLER

BRIAN WARD

Autumn is creeping up on us, the chilly evenings are the first sign and wet dewy grass in the mornings is another. Some of our deciduous trees are starting to prepare to drop their leaves and within the next two months they will turn into all the rustic colours we expect to see, and with the first frosts they start to fall.

During early autumn I spend a lot of my bird watching time on the coast or river estuaries. This is the time of year birds use our coasts for feeding during the winter, such as Pink Footed Geese that have bred in the Arctic Tundra. They arrive on our coasts in family groups that then gather into vast flocks of thousands. They are a sight to behold as they lift off their roosting grounds and fly as the sun is rising to their feeding grounds, which are stubble and old sugar beet fields. The North Norfolk coast is my favourite for Geese, look closely amongst the Pink Footed Geese flocks and you may spot Bean Geese or White Fronted Geese. Most of these Geese breed on the Arctic Tundra, Greenland and Iceland, also at Svalbard. They fly to us to avoid the severe arctic weather and our coastal fields are ideal feeding grounds. If you can get to North Norfolk over winter and arrive near the roost site early then you are in for a spectacle, as thousands of geese lift into the air with the pink of the sunrise in the sky. Above all, the sound as the family groups call to one another, the sound is astonishing.

Another spectacle to be seen whilst in Norfolk are the waders at Snettisham. Check out the highest tides to take full advantage of the possible tens of thousands that will leave the mud flats as they are covered by the tide and fly to firm grounds, mainly the islands on the lagoons. Knot Godwit and Dunlin and Oyster Catchers are the main bulk but look out for Sanderling, Sandpipers and Ruff. North Norfolk draws thousands of bird watchers during the winter months and boosts the local economy as many people from further afield stay for breaks in the area.



*Photo of Avocet courtesy of Brian Ward*

I hope that I meet some of you on our local rambles, it will soon be welly boot and scarf time.

# SAM'S CHAT

Hello

I'm back at school after a long summer holiday and I am not ready for prep 6. We didn't go away for summer just did days out. It did go quick.

I went to clip and climb for the first time with a few of my friends and I really liked it. It was a bit scary at first climbing to the top but I have done climbing wall at the leisure centre so I wasn't scared long. Mummy doesn't like heights and I think she was scared watching us.

Me, my sister, my mum, my dad, my god mum and some friends made some clay gargoyles in Bury museum. That was fun too.

We went to Banham Zoo and Africa Alive as well. Jessica and I have Blue Peter badges so we get in free. I have a lot of Blue Peter badges. I try to do one every year. We sent off for the music badge but haven't got it yet. When it comes I will show you a picture.

Mummy did 20 marathons in 20 days. We stayed in Kent with her for some of the days. We ran a mile with her. She has 20 medals of the same shape but lots of different colours.

Our swimming lessons started again and it is harder as i haven't done much swimming in the summer holidays. We did go to an outdoor pool in Beccles once in the holidays but I didn't swim up and down lanes like I do in my lessons. Jessica and I slid down the slide a lot.

I won the 500 words competition after I thought I did a bad job at writing it so I feel amazed that I won it. I do the one for radio 2 each year but don't get far. I have some ideas for next year.

We have homework now we are back at school and I try to read to Mummy or Daddy every night. I need to go read now so see you next month.

Sam

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# CRICKET NEWS

## Spectator's view

**There's nothing like sitting watching cricket on a sunny afternoon, drink in hand, and that's exactly what you can do again now at Stowupland Cricket Club every weekend.**

Having just about survived lockdown without breaking any windows, as soon as it was allowed, the nets were open, and members of all ages were booking sessions to get back in form. A few weeks later junior training was back with around 50 youngsters ranging in age from 5-15 working hard to prepare themselves with the hope matches would be played soon.

Fast forward another month and junior matches are in full flow weekday evenings, the adults are fielding two teams in the local friendly league and a further two in the T20 at weekends.

In fact, the ground staff have been so busy of late that the mower has finally given up and thanks to some assistance from a council grant a new one is on the way.

The introduction of a new second XI this season is allowing many of our upcoming youth to experience their first taste of adult cricket; preparing the foundation for many years to come.

The club would welcome any new players, spectators, supporters, benefactors – just come along to the ground and enjoy the experience!



*Apologies from the printers for using the wrong article last month.*

# STOWUPLAND BOWLS CLUB

Our article for the September issue of Telstar missed that edition but there was news only of our friendly afternoon matches between members and that all were being played on re-arranged days namely, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

With the end of September getting closer at which point we expect to close down for the winter period, we will play as often as the weather permits during the remaining weeks. The November Telstar will have our final news for this year and we shall then be back next spring ready hopefully, for a return to a full league and club competition season.

Our matches these past few weeks have been played in a very relaxed atmosphere with such friendliness and professionalism, which have been very enjoyable days. We are missing the competitiveness of league matches and club competitions and unfortunately, the anticipated afternoon friendly match against our friends the Kit Car Club has had to be called off much to everyone's disappointment, which would have been the last bowls day of this year.

See you next month and TAKE CARE/BE SAFE.

*The printers apologise for printing the wrong article last month*

## ODE TO CANINE CLUB

There's Murphy and there's Jet  
Then Casper, Fizz and Scruff  
Around Stowupland village  
They really know their stuff

Robby ,Lottie, Oz and KT  
These pooches are all mates  
They sniff around the pathways  
Each wall each bush each gate

They do their rounds each day  
We humans tag along  
Through wind and snow and rain  
The owner dog bond must be strong

There's Cooper, Tilly and Rosie  
Then Phoebe, Joey and Tess  
Many more seen on the daily walks  
Whose names I cannot guess

The owner doggy social scene  
A part of village life  
A chance to put things into perspective  
In these current times of strife.



# LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Many thanks to Telstar's readers who contacted Kay to share what they know about Stowupland's water, it has been filed away in our archives.

As SLHG members still eagerly await the day when we can gather together again to learn about Local History, I have continued to trawl through our Archives. Last month I reflected on a local blacksmith who used alcoholic beverages to boost his profits and then, as smithy work became less viable, the forge was eventually demolished and replaced with a purpose-built village pub.

Often, but not always, the past history of a house is revealed by its name e.g. The Old Forge or Blacksmiths Cottage. For centuries blacksmiths, wheelwrights and carpenters were a vital part of the local economy and most roads had at least one workshop associated with a family's home. Skills were often interlinked with family members described as blacksmiths, carpenters, wheelwrights or coopers and the work was potentially hazardous.

In 1826 the Ipswich Journal reported that **'about 10 o'clock on Wed. night a fire broke out in the wheelwright shop of Mr Hart of Stowupland which with its contents to a considerable amount were entirely destroyed.'** We know that in the 1840's a John Hart and his family were living and working as blacksmiths and wheelwrights in Saxham Street. Whether the above fire occurred in these premises or if it was another Mr Hart our archive records don't say. We do know that for over 200 years a **Blacksmith Cottage** has stood in Saxham Street opposite Oak Tree Farm. But again, whilst we assume a Hart family lived and worked here, we can't be certain. We do know that in 1851 following the death of John Hart his widowed wife, Elizabeth, was listed as head of the household and her occupation was given as blacksmith - but did she work as a smith?



The Cottage survived the internal combustion engine replacing horse power but we don't know when the last anvil strike in the forge was, or who lived there between 1900 and the 1970s.

By now you may be asking what has all this got to do

with an **Octopus**. If you are Rachel or her friend who lived in Oak Tree farm in the 1980's you know the answer. I know because we have press cuttings in our archive that reported on David Hoser's purchase of Blacksmith Cottage and his conversion of the outbuildings into **Octopus Recording Studio**.



In the late 1970's David and his wife, Jenny, had been looking for a rural location to set up a recording studio. Hoping that Stowupland's road links made it an ideal place they bought the place without viewing it. It seems it was a bit of a shock when he realised the amount of work that needed doing to the 200-year-old property. But within a few months the old smithy was reverberating once more to a rhythmic beat. Though the clang from metal striking hot metal had been replaced by a synthesiser beat for 80's rock music.

Fortunately, the converted barn was well insulated but with few neighbours to observe the comings and goings perhaps this helps explain why few local people remember the existence of the studio. Although according to a press cutting ***'just about everybody on the local council came to vet and generally approve the new venture. Essentially what Dave managed to do was take what had been a local eyesore and restore it to its original condition, and on those grounds planning permission was not really too much of a problem.'***

Despite the bright pink Octopus that was painted on the outside wall there is confusion as to whether the studio was located at the Blacksmith Cottage opposite Oak Tree Farm or further down Saxham Street opposite The Driftway. Inside the walls had space for ***'acts which have used the studio to pin up their own particular piece'*** and also for ***'copies of 'standard' reject letters from major record companies so that the budding stars can get some idea of the kind of people they are going to have to deal with!'***

Did you buy an album entitled ***'So you think we're all farmers?'*** This was a compilation put together by the Hoser's and their engineer Tony Phillips as a tribute to some of the bands that had recorded in Saxham Street. What happened to Bandaxis, Bulk Erasers, Stray Trolleys, Nodding Dogs, Rich Gypsy or Dead Students and the Outpatients? Apparently, Nik Kershaw and Jim Wilde also spent time in the studio.



■ One of the last pictures, from Octopus Studio, Stowupland, summer 1980. From left, Dave Hoser, engineer/producer; Martin Newell, assistant lyricist; Tony Phillips, bass (seated) the late Malcolm Lynch, guitar. Photo COLIN BINKINS

### ***Can you add to this story?***

SLHG look forward to the day when we can meet again to share memories of how Stowupland has changed in our lifetimes and how our experience of village life might differ from earlier generations. Stay safe and stay Alert.

***'Christine will be in touch with our members regarding our plans for SLHG meetings. Information will be posted on our Facebook page (Stowupland Local History Group), when we know more.'***

# PUZZLE PAGE

## SUDOKU 1

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## SUDOKU 2

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					5			

# **IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

## **Citizens Advice**

[www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk](http://www.midsuffolkcab.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](mailto:jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk) -  
Constituency Office, 10 Hatter Street, Bury St  
Edmunds, IP33 1LZ – 01284 752311  
House of Commons – 02072 198487  
<https://www.jo Churchill.org.uk/>

## **Mid Suffolk District Council**

Keith Welham – [keithwelham@MSDC.gov.uk](mailto:keithwelham@MSDC.gov.uk)  
01449 673185

## **Police Safer Neighbourhood Team**

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

## **Samaritans – 116 123**

## **Stowupland Village Website**

[www.stowupland.com](http://www.stowupland.com)

## **Suffolk County Council**

Gary Green – [garygreen@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:garygreen@suffolk.gov.uk)  
07545 423824  
SCC – General Contact No. 0345 606 6067

## **Vets**

Cedarwood – 01449 676966  
Stowe Vets – 01449 613130

## **Village Hall Bookings**

Hugh Blanch – [stowuplandvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:stowuplandvhbookings@gmail.com)  
01449 612156

## **Village Clubs**

Baby and Toddler Group – Kelly Woolnough  
07776 206430  
Book Group – Patricia Hodgkins  
01449 672127

# DIARY DATES

There are still very few parish events to mention this month. The village hall will now be open again with safeguarding measures in place, there will be separate entrance and exit doors, social distancing rules should be observed in the hall and face coverings should be worn. Surfaces should be cleaned after an event either by the group using the hall or by arrangement with the hall management. As government rules on safeguarding may change at short notice before this edition of the Telstar appears it would be wise to check with the group contact that the event is still going ahead.

These are the events that I have been informed about.

## Stowupland Local History Group

Due to recent changes of Covid guidelines, SLHG meetings will not recommence before February 2021

## WI.

The WI are planning to meet in October however I do not have details of this meeting and I suggest members check with the organiser.

Yoga classes have resumed on Monday mornings and Jo's Fit4all on Tuesday and Thursday mornings both at the hall.

The mobile library will visit on 6th October 9.30 at Jubilee Court and 9.55 at The Green

I would ask anyone with information on future events in the village to get in touch with me so I can include their event in Diary Dates.



# Karen's Marathon Challenge

Hi, I'm Sam's Mum.

You've probably seen me running around the village at some point. I'm easy enough to spot. I'm usually wearing a brightly coloured bandana.

I used to run on the treadmill at the gym as I was too nervous to run outside. Since lockdown, however, I've had to venture outside. I love it. I have probably run along every footpath in and around the village. We have lived here for nearly 15 years and I have discovered footpaths we had never gone along before. We now spend a lot more time as a family exploring these footpaths more, and hiding rocks for SMR.

I turned 50 earlier this year and one of the goals I set myself was to complete 50 marathons for my 50th. Lock down put a bit of a hold on that. I did do a few virtual challenges - a marathon around the garden, run a mile every hour on the hour for 24 hours, 4-quarter marathon, among others. Sam also did his own marathon by running a mile every day in July. We are both members of Stowmarket Striders and completed a few challenges with them, which saw us both run Personal Bests at various distances. Even hubby Rick recently completed his first ever marathon. Jessica prefers to jump on the trampoline.

Now races have resumed I am back on track. I am currently in the midst of a 20 marathons in 20 days challenge. As I write this I only have four to go. That will take a big chunk out of my 50.

I'm also running a virtual challenge across America. The website tracks my runs and walks and moves me virtually along Route 66. It is quite an interesting idea. I get a Google street view of where I am each day and regular facts about the latest city or town. I've learnt a lot about America already.

I am raising money too for the Brain Tumour Charity in memory of my stepfather who died a few years ago. If you'd like to read more of my challenges and have a spare pound or so please visit my fundraising page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/KarenHamiltonFab50>

If you see me out and about shout hello. I will wave, even if I might not recognise who you are.

Karen

Rachel Eburne – rachel.eburne@MSDC.gov.uk  
01449 673311

MSDC General Contact No. 0300 1234000

**Mobile Library** – 07721 879855

**Parish Council**

Sally Reeves – Chairman – 01449 745739  
sallyreeves@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Keith Welham – Vice Chairman – 01449 673185  
keithwelham@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Beeson – laurabeeson@stowuplandpc.co.uk  
07918 808387

Philip Deal – philipdeal@stowuplandpc.co.uk  
07957 623326

John Hayward – johnhayward@stowuplandpc.co.uk  
01449 674717

Laura Johnson – laurajohnson@stowuplandpc.co.uk  
07826 851030

Paula Murton – paulamurton@stowuplandpc.co.uk  
07906 677817

Ray Studd – raystudd@stowuplandpc.co.uk  
01449 676606

Jerry Voden – jerryvoden@stowuplandpc.co.uk  
01449 703717

**Clerk to the Parish Council** – Claire Pizzey  
parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk - 01449 677005  
2 Broomspath Road, IP14 4DB

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 – Judy Clarke  
01449 615386

Short Mat Bowls – Pam Fayers – 01449 770080

Sports and Social Club – Andy Parkin  
07796 274905

Stowupland Cricket Club

www.stowuplandcricketclub.co.uk/

Stowupland Falcons Football Club  
stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk

Stowupland Sports Centre  
info@stowuplandssportscentre.co.uk  
01449 672531

Stowmarket Wildlife Group – John Thompson  
swtstowmarket@gmail.com 01449 676471

W.I. – Judy Clarke – 01449 615386

*Parish Council Minutes of meetings and  
agendas are available on the village website  
www.stowupland.com*



### **Fancy Dress and Costume Hire**

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[www.michaelbailey.net](http://www.michaelbailey.net)

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Saturday  
9.00am – 12noon



## **C.M.**

# **Hayward**

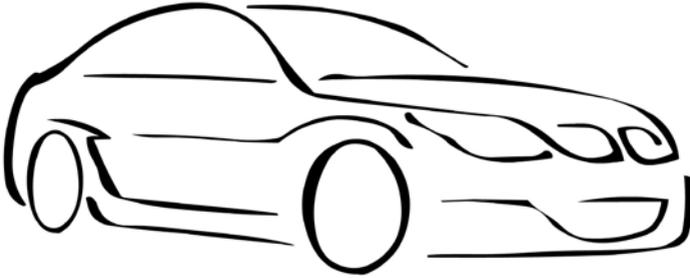
## **Electrical Services**

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Stowupland, Stowmarket,  
Suffolk. IP14 4BH

**01449 678213**



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Suffolk, IP14 5EP



# **U.R.C CHAPEL**

## **NEWS**

**Minister: Revd Robert Sheard**  
**Telephone 01449 678173**

At the time of writing this piece, we have had one very different type of service, with social distancing measures in place, masks being worn and no singing but it was good to at last have some form of worship and to meet briefly outside with others. It was very different to what we are used to. However, listening to the news today, we must all continue to remain very vigilant and take great care.

A big thank you to those who worked so hard in the preparation of making the Chapel Covid safe and to Richard Watson for his very comprehensive and thorough risk assessment.

### **The Speakers for October are as follows:**

- |        |              |                      |                           |
|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday | 04th October | William Glasse       | Harvest Festival service. |
| Sunday | 11th October | Michael Topple       |                           |
| Sunday | 18th October | Nigel Crisp          |                           |
| Sunday | 25th October | Revd Richard Edwards |                           |

Our Harvest Festival is on 4th October and the plan had been for Holy Trinity Church to join with us for this service but unfortunately this is not possible due to, you guessed, the pandemic.

**Joyce Gardiner**

## **Ministers Message**

### **Psalm 104: 27-34**

**27** All of them depend on you to give them food when they need it. **28** You give it to them, and they eat it; you provide food, and they are satisfied. **29** When you turn away, they are afraid; when you take away your breath, they die and go back to the dust from which they came. **30** But when you give them breath, they are created; you give new life to the earth.

**31** May the glory of the LORD last for ever! May the LORD be happy with what he has made! **32** He looks at the earth, and it trembles; he touches the mountains, and they pour out smoke. **33** I will sing to the LORD all my life; as long as I live I will sing praises to my God. **34** May he be pleased with my song, for my gladness comes from him.

Dear Friends,

I don't know about you, but I have found that Harvest this year has crept up on us with all that has gone on, particularly with Covid 19 and having to find new ways to be church! We find ourselves in the Harvest season.

Even though the Harvest festival can trace its history back to the Ancient Greeks, the Romans, and the Old Testament, and the Jews and even the pagan Britons, as a Christian festival it is comparatively a new festival (Compared to others.)

Morwenstow is a village on the north coast of Cornwall. In 1843, its vicar was the Reverend Robert Stephen Hawker, in that September, he announced, 'God has been very merciful to us this year, He hath filled our garners with increase, and satisfied our poor with bread ... Let us offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving.' So was initiated what we now think of as the traditional English harvest festival.

Victorian hymns such as 'We plough the fields and scatter', 'Come, ye thankful people, come' and 'All things bright and beautiful' helped popularize his idea of harvest thanksgiving, and the custom of decorating churches with local produce became widespread.

Churchgoers often spend a great deal of time decorating their church. Apples are arranged along windowsills, bunches of grapes are hung from unlikely places and vegetables arranged along steps, while bunches of wheat or barley are placed around the Church.

Displays of specially made loaves, trays of eggs and bunches of flowers - even, these days, tinned food adorn churches. In seaside churches the fishermen would bring part of their catch. Today the Harvest Festival could take a more modern form, focusing on new jobs such as working with computers, the idea being to thank God for all the Good Gifts He has given us.

This year our Harvest festival will seem much different, we will not be able to sing the Harvest hymns we will not be able to decorate our churches in the way we would wish, not be able to have fresh produce, all because of the Covid restrictions. Despite this, many churches will still be collecting tinned and dried produce for local food banks.

But despite the restrictions we can still celebrate harvest and give thanks to God.

*Yours,*

The Reverend Robert Sheard (United Reformed Church Minister of Stowmarket, Debenham, Stowupland, Mendlesham and Haughley.)

# HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

## NEWS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
STOWDLELAND

Vicar : Revd Brin Singleton Tel. 770921  
Churchwardens : Mrs Ann Doubtfire Tel. 770363  
: Mrs Sue Hayter Tel. 613710  
Email: [brinsingleton@btinternet.com](mailto:brinsingleton@btinternet.com)



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

Dear Friends:-

Jesus determined to face the trial of Jerusalem.

Where have we determined to go in our day?

Jesus leads the twelve and his followers from the seat of the Emperor's Temple at Caesarea Philippi toward Jerusalem, and they come to the large Jewish village of Capernaum on the shores of Galilee, become known as Jesus own city, where Peter lived amongst fellow fishers, farmers and merchants, and where Jesus' proclamation of citizenship in heaven had been met with some indifference.

Just as the rock of Peter's faith, when set to prevent Jesus' course to Jerusalem, becomes a stumbling block, so, as they gather at their home base, where livings are made and taxes collected, again the citizenship Jesus looks to build, is courted in terms of greatness. It seems Capernaum itself be littered with stumbling blocks, discarded grinding stones or thatbasalt rock littering path and field, or simply the rejection of their Elders in faith. At the mention of Temple tax Jesus likens his followers to children, inferring His followers might be in some way exempt. But Jesus pushes relationships between Rulers Adult citizens and children further, Heaven's citizenship is for the children, welcome the child welcome me. We hear Jesus' talk of His citizens confirming witness in dispute and seeking reconciliation and where none is accepted being set beyond the Kingdom as those without the building blocks of faith. And His followers are charged with binding and loosening, asking for and finding agreement that in the Kingdom come, it may be so. And ultimately the children brought before Jesus are given both their blessing and promise of heaven's citizenship.

And here today we stand en-route to citizenship of a new tomorrow, amidst suffering and death. And we in faith seek to build for our children citizenship in a world free from the indifference of our present modernity, pandemic and climate change, pollution and plastic, poverty and debt. Such as stumbling blocks in the path of our migration toward that new citizenship promising for all their share in fullness of life. Our cross, should we choose to bear it, is to shoulder the burden of such stumbling blocks for the sake of our children's children.

Stay alert, control the virus, save lives.

*Brin*

## Services in October:

4th Oct	9.30am	Parish Communion
11th Oct	9.30am	Worship for All
18th Oct	9.30am	Morning Prayer
25th Oct	9.30am – 10.30am	Church Open for Private Prayer.

Please note:-

November 1st would normally be the Memorial Services. This service will not be taking place this year, but during the normal pattern of worship i.e. at 9.30am, all the names of those who have had a funeral across the benefice in the past year will be remembered in the prayers.

### A PRAYER:

Most merciful God, in the midst of this pandemic we look to you in hope and trust, acknowledging that there is much in life beyond our present understanding.

Accept our compassion for the suffering; bless those who are working for their and our relief; and show us what we can do to share their task, as servants of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## All Saints & All Souls 1st November



### Subject to any further restrictions:-

Regrettably this year, due to pandemic restrictions greatly limiting capacity, we do not feel able to safely host our usual All Souls afternoon memorial service.

Whilst we will keep a short Act of silent Commemoration at our usual 9:30am Holy Communion service 1st November, you may like to light a candle at home to remember a loved one that weekend or light a virtual candle online:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/funerals/light-candle-remember-someone>

However, as with many families who were not able to hold funeral services in church this year we hope our All Souls memorial service can return to church in 2021. If you would like a member of our Pastoral Team to contact you please let me know.

With my prayers and warm regard

*Brin*

Rector at Haughley with Wetherden and Stowupland.

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Tel: 01449 612156. email: [stowuplandvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:stowuplandvhbookings@gmail.com)

## We can help control the virus if we all **STAY ALERT**

-  Stay at home as much as possible
-  Keep your distance if you go out (2 metres apart where possible)
-  Work from home if you can
-  Wash your hands regularly
-  Limit contact with other people



And if you or anyone in your household has symptoms, you all need to self-isolate.

**STAY ALERT › CONTROL THE VIRUS › SAVE LIVES**

# CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

As you may by now be aware the planning application for homes on the field behind Thradstones Meadow was approved by Mid Suffolk District Council. Part of the approval process was based on the developer of the site providing an operated crossing at the Co-Op. This you may say is a result however the Parish Council, with financial help from County Councillor Gary Green, paid a considerable sum of money for a Suffolk County Highways feasibility study that stated an operated crossing at the Co-Op was not feasible. You will see elsewhere in the Telstar a copy of a letter sent to various people asking for clarification on how such conflicting views from the same department can occur. Our concern is that it will be found, again, not to be feasible and the development go ahead anyway.

The Parish Council were also extremely disappointed that after all the hard work, by our residents, to develop a Neighbourhood Plan it was so disregarded by a committee of a council that approved the Neighbourhood Plan in the first place. A District Council that, to date, have not managed to publish a more up to date Local Plan than our Neighbourhood Plan.

Please do read the letter printed elsewhere in Telstar. Your Parish Council fights hard for your village but you will get a sense of the brick walls we face with both Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council. The Parish Council await responses to our letter from the Chief Planning Officer and the Planning Portfolio Holder. Their responses will be published in Telstar for all to read.

On a lighter but very irritating note I make a plea to all horse riders that hack within the village. Please do not ride your horses down enclosed footpaths where horse droppings in the middle of the footpath cause a nuisance to other users. I am specifically talking about the path from The Green through to The URC Chapel on Church Rd and the path from Thorney Green Rd through to Birch Close behind the bus stop. They are not wide paths and there is nowhere for pedestrians to step off to avoid the deposits. I know you are always asking vehicles to have care for horses and riders but, in this instance, I am asking you to have care for pedestrians.

Stay Safe and look out for each other.  
*Sally Reeves*

# STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL

2 Broomspath Road, Stowupland, Suffolk, IP14 4DB

Clerk: Claire Pizzey

☎ 01449 677005 📧 parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk



Mid Suffolk District Council Planning Services

Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2BX

*4th September 2020*

## **Regarding Grant of permission**

### **DC/20/01435 Outline Planning Application (All matters reserved) Erection of up to 80 dwellings. Land to the South of Gipping Road Stowupland Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4AX**

Stowupland Parish Council are very disappointed with the decision to grant planning permission on this site. This being totally against the Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan, as it was not an allocated site within the plan and is development outside the settlement boundary. Mid Suffolk does not have a current plan with agreed development sites therefore the Neighbourhood plan should have carried great weight in the decision process.

Parishes are being encouraged to produce neighbourhood plans so they can indicate where additional housing should be in their areas. In fact a few days before the Mid Suffolk decision the Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP the Governments Housing Secretary announced that he was putting extra money into Neighbourhood Planning as he wanted local communities to decide the right place for any additional housing within their area.

The Parish and the NP committee spent a lot of time and Mid-Suffolk money consulting with the village and producing the plan which went through a Mid Suffolk approval process. In fact we were considering updating the plan with additional sites for development, this site not being one of them as it pushes the village further into the countryside. This has now seriously muddied the water on our plans. It now makes us reconsider the effective use of neighbourhood plans. We would be advising other villages to seriously consider the benefit of producing a plan that is ignored by Mid Suffolk Planning.

You will be aware of the Cabinet's approval of the Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan a year or so ago. The Planning Officer's report to Cabinet was very positive about the Plan and recommended approval. This recommendation was followed, and the Plan adopted; it then became, and still is, the most recent approved planning policy document for development in Stowupland. How, then, can you explain why another officer of the same department could be so scathing about the plan and recommend approval of a development so completely in contravention of the Neighbourhood Plan?

We also have concerns about the deliverability of the controlled crossing of the A1120 that is a condition of the permission. A feasibility study that we commissioned Suffolk Highways to do could not identify a safe location near the COOP for a controlled crossing. We believe that at the Planning meeting Sam Harvey of Highways said she thought it was possible opposite the COOP and this seemed to be on the basis of the committee drawing of a design of an uncontrolled crossing which did not show two private driveways which would need to exit onto the crossing point. Access to those properties may well be prevented by any posts for signal heads or Central Island directly in line with those driveways. Why did the planning case officer not follow the request of one of our ward members and study a copy of the feasibility report or pay sufficient attention on his site visit not to notice those accesses?

SCC Highways are not giving a consistent view and this should have been investigated by the case officer before producing his committee report. He was able to state , 'What is clearly evident is that Church Road has an adequate footway along its north-west side.....' despite its width reducing to less than a metre and the narrowness of that footway being a concern in respect of an application for housing on land to the south of Church Road. So why did he hide behind the highways officer's view that a controlled crossing might be possible rather than have a look on site at the existing road layout and study the feasibility report on crossing options?

By granting permission with the committee agreed conditions related to the crossing point, if neither a safe nor affordable solution can be found, the developer will push for a crossing scheme that could prove unsafe. The feasibility study has already ruled out a safe option but officers could be put under great pressure to accept a scheme which will not be fit for purpose. Or the applicant may well seek removal of the condition and threaten to appeal if permission is not granted to removal of that condition.

The Parish Council is very concerned that if it is not possible to meet the condition the developers will ask for it to be dropped, MSDC will agree and the development will happen anyway. Please assure us that this will not happen.

Yours sincerely

On behalf of Stowupland Parish Council  
Mrs Claire Pizzey, Parish Clerk

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# PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2020



Another Zoom meeting opened with 7 Parish Councillors, Rachel Eburne (MSDC) and myself as the only member of the public

## **Council Report:**

The MSDC report can be found elsewhere in Telstar and there was no report from the SCC Cllr. Cllr Eburne advised that the consultation on the Gateway 14 is now open.

## **Matters of Report:**

SCC should be removing the debris from the broken sandbags and relay new ones in the Spring. The removal of the ash tree and ranch like fencing in front of the cemetery has been scheduled for October. Following a lengthy meeting with a representative from MSDC a report on the footpath link at the end of Trinity Walk will be made to PC next month. A letter has been sent to MSDC outlining the PC's concerns about the permission given for 89 new homes as advised last month. A couple of plans have been put forward for the bus stop near Maple Road and it was agreed that the cross path should be at the raised kerb where people get on/off the bus and either a gravel path laid to the existing shelter or the shelter to be moved to the bus stop which will all need to be discussed with SCC.

The High School Facilities Manager has been contacted asking when the hedges overhanging the footpath alongside the school field will be cut. The archiving of old PC paperwork has been completed and training for the Suffolk Cloud has been booked for 11 September. The barriers for the emergency access at Trinity Meadows development are due to be erected on 11 September. Matters of report relating to the cemetery and churchyard can be found under sub-committee reports. All others matters are still awaiting action or response.

## **Hunters Moon:**

Members of the PC met again at the Hunters Moon track to check that everything has been done to the originally agreed plan. The only outstanding matter is the placing of 4 posts which will hopefully be installed at the same time as the wooden posts trial.

## **Post Trial Project:**

It was agreed to go ahead with the trial using pressure treated softwood posts with post jackets to protect them from wet ground and the trial should be for 6 months before a final decision is made as to whether to extend it or to abandon it.

## **Cemetery Extension:**

It was agreed to request assistance from MSDC in forward planning the future requirement of additional burial space.

## **Sub-Committee Reports:**

**Allotments** – It was recommended that letters be sent to 3 allotment tenants regarding the state of their plots and a working party will discuss the re-letting of another 4 plots which are due to be relinquished in October.

**Cemetery and Churchyard** – The maintenance agreement has been signed by both the PCC and PC. The new gates at the cemetery and the cutting of the hedge in the churchyard are scheduled for the end of October. A new contractor is being sought for the siting of the new bench in the cemetery following the original contractor pulling out. The committee recommended that the cemetery caretaker is asked to quote to secure the headstones and memorials as identified during the topple test. Most of those in the churchyard are not dangerous but have become loose purely due to the dry summer and it was agreed to leave these until the spring before testing again.

**CIL** – Members confirmed receipt of the expenditure report for 2019/2020 and that it should be signed. Cllr Welham is pursuing to MSDC who have only charged Bloor Homes for CIL payments on 175 when they should have been billing them for 194 properties.

**Environment** – Recommendations have been made by The Green committee that the 2 memorial trees should be sited close to the existing tree line on the half a mow and that those that asked for these trees should understand their obligations in relation to the planting requirements and ongoing maintenance of the trees. It was also agreed that a new bench should be provided to replace the broken bench opposite Willow Wood; the current one needs to be removed and the concrete base made good before a new one can be installed. A further meeting of The Green committee is required before all the recommendations can be put forward.

#### **Clerk's Report:**

The Clerk reported that following a meeting with SCC Cllr Green, he was going to make enquiries as to why there were 2 different views made by SCC as to whether a pedestrian crossing could be installed outside the garage. Responses are still awaited from the planning officer and the portfolio holder in relation to the Gladman planning application and this will be required before the next PC meeting. The Clerk has been unable as yet to get any advice from Cllr Green about the best speed indicators for the village. She will also report on the SCC portal about the defacing of the no cycling signs on footpath 32 and see what action they intend to take. Now that the bus area has been taken for a builders' compound at the High School, buses are becoming a problem; as part of the planning application for the works at the school, the car park situated behind The Pippins should not be used between 6pm and 8am, but SCC have changed the timings without any consultation to 6pm to 6am. Vinyl paint has been splashed on the fence at the play park and two councillors have agreed to clean this up.

#### **Correspondence:**

Correspondence was received from the East Anglian Traction Engine Society regarding a proposed visit to the village in 2021. Although it would have been nice for these 65 vehicles to have been on display in the village, there is nowhere for them to be accommodated as parking on The Green is forbidden. MSDC have advised on a licencing consultation.

The meeting closed to the public at 9.13pm.

# **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

## **MSDC Council meeting**

The next meeting will be on 24 September; this will be the delayed Annual Meeting at which the Chair is elected; and committees and outside appointments are agreed. The meeting will be held virtually and can be viewed on YouTube.

## **MSDC finances**

Following completion of the Council's 2019/20 accounts, MSDC now has a surplus of £62,000 rather than a deficit of £318,000. The overall amount of reserves also changed, increasing to £18.048 million (excluding CIL funds) as at 31 March 2020.

In the Quarter 1 Report, analysis of costs and loss of income from Covid shows a potential overall cost of £970,000. This is before an estimated £790,000 grant from Government which is not due until later in the financial year. Some losses of income (such as from business rates) will not show in full until next financial year. The final cost will be taken from the Council's £1.04 million Minimum General Fund Reserve. Total reserves at 31 March 2021 are expected to be £12.683 million.

## **Gateway 14**

A public consultation on proposals for Gateway 14, which now includes land up to A14, is due to launch next week. The web address is [G14yoursay.co.uk](http://G14yoursay.co.uk) and you can register for updates.

## **Public Realm Review**

The Councils have carried out a review of the delivery of the public realm service which includes maintenance of open spaces, litter picking, public toilets and tree maintenance. Currently the service is provided by MSDC staff in Mid Suffolk, whereas in Babergh that work is contracted out. The aim is to have a common service delivery across both districts. Decisions on the preferred method of service delivery will be taken in the next few weeks and changes implemented in summer 2021.

## **Planning – site opposite URC chapel**

In recent weeks MSDC have issued a refusal in respect of a number of reserved matters and a permission in respect of a change in the housing layout. We have expressed concern in respect of construction management and drainage matters and sought clarification in respect of use of the bridleway for delivery of materials to site. We are also pressing for access to the URC car park and overflow car park to be maintained at all times. We hope to arrange a meeting with the developer and planning case officer, to which the Parish Council would be invited, to explain our concerns.

### **MSDC Housing Land Supply**

MSDC will soon be publishing details of housing land supply in the district. It is likely that this will show a supply sufficient for around 7 years and outstanding permissions for around 7,000 housing units.

### **Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre, Stowmarket**

More of the facilities at the leisure centre are gradually becoming available. For the latest information visit: <https://www.everyoneactive.com/reopeningmeasures/>

Work has commenced on a £2.2m upgrade and extension to the Leisure Centre, including a new gym, poolside features, changing rooms and catering facilities.

### **Stowmarket Middle School Site**

Planning approval has been granted for 38 'affordable' homes on the Stowmarket Middle School site, which is owned by MSDC. The development will be a mix of shared ownership and rental properties as follows: 6 one-bedroom apartments, 8 two-bedroom flats, 14 two-bedroom houses, 8 three-bedroom houses and 2 four-bedroom houses.

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# From Our MP, Jo Churchill

Recently I visited the Muntons site in Stowmarket with Trade Secretary Liz Truss MP to discuss the opportunities for businesses such as Muntons from future trade deals as we leave the EU.

The firm employs 270 to 280 people at its Stowmarket factory and exports to 76 countries, with overseas trade a crucial part of its business. The business has been in Stowmarket since 1948 and to this day remains a crucial part of the local business community. I am always discussing Muntons innovative sustainable approach to growing their business and was pleased to show the Secretary of State why Muntons is the greenest malster in the world.

I have visited Muntons on a number of occasions since being elected and I am keen to ensure that the Malt industry goes from strength to strength as we move to a new global trading relationship. Muntons has invested £30m into its Stowmarket site over recent years, with a further £25m of investment planned over the next three years.

It is important as we move to negotiate future trade deals we listen to our local businesses, both large and small, to ensure we strike deals that deliver for our communities and the local economy.

# **A1**

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# PUZZLE PAGE

## Solutions for page 20

### SUDOKU 1

5	7	6	4	8	1	3	9	2
2	3	4	7	9	6	1	8	5
1	8	9	5	3	2	4	7	6
8	1	3	2	4	9	6	5	7
9	6	5	8	7	3	2	1	4
4	2	7	6	1	5	9	3	8
7	4	1	9	2	8	5	6	3
3	5	2	1	6	7	8	4	9
6	9	8	3	5	4	7	2	1

### SUDOKU 2

6	9	2	7	5	1	3	4	8
7	8	5	3	6	4	1	2	9
4	3	1	9	2	8	5	6	7
2	1	4	5	9	6	7	8	3
8	7	6	2	1	3	4	9	5
9	5	3	4	8	7	6	1	2
5	4	8	6	7	2	9	3	1
3	2	7	1	4	9	8	5	6
1	6	9	8	3	5	2	7	4



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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!

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**Telstar – for the community, by the community.**

## **From the Telstar Committee**

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