

No 279

August 2015

Telstar

STOWUPLAND NEWS





Chairman's Column

Keith Welham, Stowupland Parish Council

I was pleased to welcome Alan Bickerdike and Kim Jennings to the Council following their co-option as councillors. Alan has been a resident for a number of years and contributed to the village in many ways during that time. Kim has been living in the village for just over a year and has been a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. We still have two vacancies on the Parish Council and Claire or I would be pleased to talk to anyone who feels that they could serve the village as a councillor. If you have just a few hours per month you can make a real difference. Or, if you feel that you would like to help but can't make the commitment to being a councillor, there is scope for helping with footpath condition surveys, maintaining areas of The Green, litter picking and so on. Please get in touch.

I attended the Neighbourhood Plan consultation in the village hall on 3 July and another display and consultation on the Plan at the Family Fun Day. Clearly, the group have made a lot of progress in the last few months, not least in preparing and analysing the questionnaires which went out in the May edition of Telstar. It is vital that we all contribute our views on how we would like Stowupland to be in the future. Change is inevitable; staying as we are is not an option, so make sure your views are heard.

I helped with the setting up on the Saturday afternoon and early on Sunday morning for the Family Fun Day. It was so disappointing that, just as we were enjoying a well-earned breakfast, the sky darkened over and rain started to fall. Some hardy souls braved the elements and Mr Jugglefun continued throughout. It was such a relief that the rain stopped after lunch and the sun came out for the open-air church service. I'm sure I speak for everyone who attended the Fun Day when I thank everyone who helped plan the event and work on the day, particularly the members of the small community events working group. So many people contributed to the success of the day and many who attended said they felt the day had a lovely community feel about it – something which some felt had been lacking at recent Music Day on The Green events. If you enjoyed the day, now is the time to volunteer to help plan next year's, if there is to be one. The small group who worked so hard this year need new volunteers to give up time for a few planning meetings during the year and a few hours setting up for the event.

'Thank you' too to Eddie for planning the Three Peaks Challenge and to everyone who took part. It wasn't a morning for a cross-country stroll and

Harrison wasn't able to take part. Congratulations to the soldiers from Wattisham and all the others who took part.

The people from Bosch who have been testing prototypes of new heavy-duty hedge cutting equipment have done a good job clearing the brambles and other bushes around The Green and it has cost the parish nothing. We are hoping that they will be able to return from time to time to keep brambles trimmed back and hedges trimmed.

I'd like to thank Liz Voden for taking on the work of collating Telstar. To find a volunteer to follow in Julia's footsteps was always going to be difficult but Liz stepped forward and I'm sure all readers will agree that Liz's first two editions have been excellent. Thank you Liz.

Cathy and I will be off on holiday before the deadline day for this edition and back home before it is distributed. I hope you all enjoy the rest of the summer whether it be on holiday or in Stowupland.

Keith Welham



*Harrison Kemp sat out this years
Three Peaks Challenge.*



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District Councillor's Report

Keith Welham

July 2015

There is still no news on a date for the public inquiry into the appeal made by Gladman against the refusal of permission for the development of 190 houses.

I have just completed a day as a judge on the Mid Suffolk Village of the Year competition. Only Hoxne and Stradbroke entered this year. However, it was very interesting to spend several hours in each of two parishes of approximately the same size as Stowupland. The judges talked to parish councillors and representatives of many clubs and organisations. We heard about the death of St Edmund and the Hoxne Hoard and how Stradbroke are using the former Court House as a library, Post Office and Café.

I am getting to grips with the new MSDC Tenancy Agreement which has been consulted upon and is now being adopted. One of the purposes of the new Agreement is to have a single document to cover Babergh and Mid Suffolk. Previously there had been some differences and some confusion as one group of staff have been required to work to separate guidelines for each authority.

I had always been sceptical about the 'Energy from Waste' at the Blakenham incinerator so was keen to join the visit arranged for Councillors. I was amazed at the range of waste objects which found their way to the plant; even engine gearboxes, bricks hidden in wheelie bins, whole mattresses. The residual waste is sorted; ash is sent to be processed as a construction material, metals go to be recycled and the rubble can be used in construction. The hot flue gases are used to create steam to drive a turbine which generates electricity for the national grid. In future, residual heat might be used to grow tomatoes on a huge scale.

I would encourage any group looking for funding for a community project to get in touch with me as grants are often available and from October this year I will have a small locality budget to spend on projects in Stowupland and Creeting St Peter.

I held my first 'councillor surgery' on Saturday 13 June in The Retreat and had only one person come to me with a query. I hope to arrange another in the autumn, perhaps in the village hall.

Keith Welham

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Parish Council Report

from Sandy Smith

Two new councillors have been co-opted and welcomed onto the Parish Council and they are Kim Jennings and Alan Bickerdike.

Matters of report from last meeting included the confirmation that Bosch have cleared a large amount of brambles from around the Green in a week long stint and it is hoped that they will come back for another week's work before too long. The footpath finger signs have arrived from SCC so these will be erected in the coming weeks. The sign on The Green has been repaired. A date has still not been set for the public inquiry into the planning appeal against the refusal of permission for the 190 houses in the village.

The Clerk reported that Gerry Doubtfire has been appointed by the church as their representative on the Churchyard Committee. She also reported that dog fouling signs had been erected on FP38 and asked if there is a preferred place for the remaining signs. The brambles overhanging the Church Road footpath from a garden in Sycamore Road were reported to SCC. As no action had been taken, Councillor Welham had cut them back but SCC are to be reminded that further work is necessary. The Clerk also reported that some repair to the wooden footbridge behind the church had been carried out by Mr Parris as SCC will not accept responsibility for the bridge, which is to be replaced as part of the Safer Journeys to School scheme.

The Police reported that in the last month there have been 3 crimes reported in Stowupland including theft to commit criminal damage, offender cautioned; malicious communication, offender officially warned; and an incident of arson where a rubbish bin was set alight at the Thorney Green Road bus stop. There has also been a number of arson attacks in Stowmarket so if anyone sees any suspicious activity then please report this to the Police. In addition there has been an ASB reported by the caretaker of the High School regarding youths on the tennis courts in the evening, in particular leaving litter behind. SNT have been checking whilst on patrols and moving on those found on the site. Following a speed check undertaken on 27 June, at Church Road and Stowupland Road, one driver was issued with a warning letter. The Police will also check out a possible abandoned car in the village and a road where cars are being parked too close to a junction blocking visibility to other motorists. SID has also been placed out this month on Thorney Green Road and Church Road. The Police, as in previous years, will be holding the SNT summer sports days during the summer holidays. This year we are holding one in the daytime and one in the evening. The first is scheduled for Saturday 25th July at 2pm and

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the second for Wednesday 12th August at 7pm. Ideally it's aimed at 10-17 years although nobody will be turned away.

SCC Councillor Green reported that the meeting between the High School and other interested parties had still not been arranged and he was unaware why. There is to be a large Fire Service public consultation and he encouraged everyone to look out for it and to respond. He has also given Highways the go ahead to action the 'gate' to the village to try and reduce speeding. Two residents in Church Road are concerned about a drain that they fear may be blocked and may possibly cause flooding to their properties. SCC will keep an eye on this situation. There was also concern as to why the traffic lights are still up outside Stowupland Hall when the work appears to have been completed. Also the damage to the verge markers opposite has not been remedied.

In the public forum a resident whose property borders the High School is still concerned about the amount of rubbish that has still not been cleared from the school's property. This will once again be mentioned at the next meeting with the school.

The Allotments sub-committee reported that the shed has now been moved to be in line with all the others on the field side of the allotments. Plots 29/30 & 55/56 have been taken over by new tenants leaving only plot 25 vacant and the blackberry bush has been cut back on plot 39/40. The Community Events sub-committee advised that there was another successful bingo night last month and that they would be stopping for the summer. The next one will be on 25 September. The Fun Day went well despite the weather. One of the acts would not perform because of the rain but the other one filled her spot. A good number of people attended the event despite the rain. The Finance and Policy committee proposed moving the review of direct debits to November and to discuss the precept at the October/ November meetings with an annual review of policies to take place each February. This was agreed. The Traffic, Travel and Safety sub committee stated that the extra speed gun that they have acquired needs to be calibrated and they will be approaching Onehouse to see if they will share the cost of this and then it will allow both villages to have a speed gun each. The Cemetery and Churchyard sub-committee reported that a meeting has been held with the maintenance people regarding the works that need to be carried out. It also proposed providing a further wheelie bin to be placed behind the memorial wall in the cemetery as people are dumping things behind this wall and for a new policy to be drafted for cemetery users and brought to Parish Council for approval. The Footpaths sub-committee met on 7 July and have identified a number of footpaths to be reported to SCC. The Neighbourhood Planning working group reported that the workshop day held in the village hall had not been as well attended as had been hoped for

in comparison with the stall at the Fun Day. It was felt that there might have been a presumption that the two events would have had the same material on display, but this was not the case. However, there was some good feedback, which has yet to be analysed. The initial mini-questionnaire has been analysed and it was found that 45% of the people had been resident in the village for more than 21 years, 14% own a business in the village and respondents stated that 1-2 bedroom houses were needed the most, followed by affordable housing with flats being the least required. 48% of people would like to see future development in the form of several small groups of houses. The junction of the A1120/B1115 was most important followed by safer routes for cyclists and pedestrians, and 80% were concerned with the speed of traffic through the village. Most people were anxious about lack of GP surgeries, schools and bus services.

Councillor Welham and the clerk met with the Playpark working group who reported that they were targeting the schools with a survey on what was required for the play park and once the equipment requirements are identified they will be applying for grant funding. The Clerk showed two possible options for new layouts of equipment.

Councillor Voden explained the workings of SALC to the new councillors and he reported that he would be standing down from the chairmanship of the Mid Suffolk South board at the next meeting on 16 July after completing his maximum 4-year stint.

Councillor Bickerdike advised that the traffic situation in Church Road between 8.30 and 9.00am is manic. The Chairman reported that the small goalposts on The Green were loose and needed to be concreted in again urgently before the school summer holidays start and is pursuing quotes for the job. The Clerk has been seeking advice on sorting out the village website which needs to be kept current and will be looking at some ideas with Councillor Jennings.

Old Newton Parish Clerk has suggested a joint venture for organising some local courses for new councillors and sharing the cost between parishes that have councillors who wish to attend. The manager of Steeple View has complained about people throwing dog excrement onto their property and has asked for some dog bins to be installed on the pathway behind their property. As it is difficult to get any such bins emptied as they are so far off the road, some alternative ideas are to be explored first with the manager.

The meeting closed at 9.28pm.

A note from the Clerk

(Claire)

It saddens me that I have to let you know how some of the residents in our village act.

The Parish Council received some correspondence from the manager of Steeple View this month. The Correspondence was related to dog walkers. Over the past few months dog walkers, using the footpath between the school field and steeple view, starting from the butchers, have been throwing dog excrement over the Steeple View fence on to the lawn for either the tenants or the handy person/gardener to pick up.

As a dog owner myself I cannot believe that this is happening. We have ample bins, both dog and multi bins spread around the village, you can even take it home and pop it onto your black bin. There really is no excuse for this to happen. I hope that the person(s) doing this is ashamed as they read my note and will think long and hard about their actions in the future.

Thanks

Claire

Good Neighbours Committee Member, Wendy Parris

It has been quite a busy month and promises to be even busier for the holiday period. Our campervan has been very poorly and has been to see Dr Mick and Nurse Daniel, but we are nearly there and are looking forward to packing everything inside and going off for some rest and recuperation. People often ask where we go and our stock answer is that we watch the weather forecast and turn left or right, hopefully in the direction of the nice weather. However there will still be a Good Neighbours service available for those who need help getting about the village or further afield. Don't forget the number to ring 07591 539 621. I will think of home occasionally (not often) so enjoy your paddle or meeting up with friends or family and whatever else you get up to in the summer. I will see you soon.

Wendy



July Meeting

We began with a short A.G.M., reports of our 2014/15 activities and finances having been sent out to members. These included thanks to all members, the Telstar team and Sally Wray, our independent examiner, and showed our finances to be in a good state. The committee members were willing to serve for another year and duly re-elected. Kim Jennings was welcomed as a new committee member.

Our speaker Matthew Champion told us how medieval graffiti was first discovered during a study of wall paintings in the church at Lakenheath. Graffiti has only been frowned upon since Victorian times. It was open to everyone and a chance for poor people to make their mark, literally. Pictures and symbols predominate, many to ward off evil, with masons' marks, heraldry and, rarely, text. Most moving are the 'plague inscriptions' made at times of the black-death, such as "1349 - God help us, God help us....."

Matthew was warmly thanked for his fascinating talk. To learn more and perhaps get involved in surveying churches, go to www.medieval-graffiti-suffolk.co.uk

What do you keep?

It's a problem, isn't it? Bryan Smith came across his receipt for a car purchased from Guichards' Service Station (which was next to the petrol station) in 1963. It cost £80! Thank you for getting in touch, Bryan.

Neil's Notes

The spelling of the following inventory does, of course, date from 1688.

A true and perfect Inventory of all the goods and Chattells of John Sowgate of Stowupland yeoman deceased prized [Appraised] by us whose names are here under writt this second day of January in the fourth year of the reign of Sovraigne Lord King James the Second over England Anno Dom.1688

In the Hall

The Tables & Chaires the puter & brass & other goods £03:05s:00d

In the parler

One bedd as it stand a table

A forme & Chairs one keep a cubbord £05:15s:00d

& other goods at Aprell and Lininge £05: 00s: 00d

In the Buttery Five beer vessells two powderinge tubbs two Kittles a frying pan & one tubb & other small things at	£02: 00s: 00d
In the Dayry One Barrell Churns a Cheese press with the cheese fats & milke bowls with other things belonging to the Dayry at	£02: 10s: 00d
In the parler Chamber One old bedd with some old Iron & other old lumber	£01: 05s: 00d
In the Hall Chamber one bedd as it stand & one trundle bedd some Chaires one hutch & other lumber at	£04: 00s: 00d
In the Dayry Chamber A p[a]rcell of Cheese with a few small things at	£05: 00s: 00d
In the Barne Corne in the straw & Corne threshed A fan [?] A bushell halfe bushell & a peck A seive & Corne Scuppit with some other small things at	£13: 10s: 00d ----- 42: 05s: 00D
In the Stable & Neathouse Cart harnis & plow harnis & one old Sadle & two Calves & some old lumber	£01: 10s: 00d
A p[a]rcell of new boards in a house belonging to John Skepper	£00: 15s: 00d
In the Yards Wood one old Cart a Tumbrill buck two ploughs & two paire of Harrows Some other Imployments of husbandry	£05: 00s: 00d
Five milk Cows at	£12: 10s: 00d
Three horses & one Colt at	£08: 00s: 00d
Six fattinge Bullocks at	£15: 00s: 00d
Four & thirty Sheep at	£06: 00s: 00d
Ten Loads of Hay at	£10: 00s: 00d
For the Fowles in the yard	£00: 06s: 06d
For his wearinge Apparell reddey money & debts good & bad	£20: 00s: 00d ----- £79: 01s: 08d
On the other side	£42: 05s: 00d
The sum total	£12106s: 08d

Richard Tastard
Peter Skepper 26 Feb:ry 1688

Continued from page 13

A few words need defining:

puter = pewter, lininge = linen, kittles = kettles, powderinge tubb = a tub in which meat was salted

ffats = vats, scuppit = scoop

The value of the possessions of John Sowgate [or Southgate] may not seem great but in an age when the vast majority of people would have nothing to leave, as a yeoman farmer he may not have been so badly off. In his will he left his house and land to his nephew, also John Sowgate. He also owned another house rented to a John Skepper and some other land rented to John Porter. The contents listed he left to his wife Dorothy.

Talking Point

Neil Langridge writes: 'The original Retreat was a beerhouse started by a blacksmith and farrier who had his forge in front of the building on The Green, no doubt thinking that many of his customers would partake of a pint while they waited.'

Continued on Page 14

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We are grateful for all donations whether they are clothes/shoes or bric-a-brac you no longer need. Unfortunately we had to close the furniture warehouse down, we could not get volunteers to run it on a regular basis; we are restricted to taking small furniture which will fit into the shop

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Continued
from page 14



The Retreat

For our next 'Talking Point', did the road we now know as the A14 disrupt all routes from Stowmarket to the village?

Musical Evening with Shipshape, 28th October, 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Please make a note of our special fund-raising event. Full details next month.

Programme;

Aug 5th 'Stowmarket's Lost Pubs' by Neil Langridge

Being on the main East/West route through the county Stowmarket naturally possessed a number of inns that would provide bed and board for travellers and stabling for their horses. Most of these flourished in the 17th and 18th centuries but the coming of the railway in 1847 signalled a decline. Smaller beer houses were encouraged by The Beer Act of 1830 that made licences easier to obtain. They proliferated in the second half of the 19th century, catering for workers in the town's increasing number of industries, but many, such as the Prince of Wales and The Staff of Life, closed in the early 1900s under pressure from the temperance movement. Recent years have seen more changes.

Sept 2nd 'Rich man, Poor Man, Odd Bods and Rascals' by Sheila M. Wright

Examples of rich and poor individuals and their lifestyles, going on to eccentrics and naughty little schoolboys! In the days before modern media, it was easier to be eccentric, as there was less awareness of the norm.

We meet at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome and refreshments are available. Admission is £1 for members, £3 for non members. We look forward to seeing you.

The Vicar's Letter

Revd Chris Hood

Greeting from your Curate,

As I write this piece it has been a little less than a month since we moved into the benefice and just under a week since I was ordained at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. It was a wonderful occasion which many of my family and friends were able to attend. I am aware there were a number of people attending from the new churches I will be serving. If you were one of those who was there, many thanks for being a part of such a special day for me.

I would also like to pass my thanks on to the many people I have met since starting my new role. I have met lots of people and been made to feel very welcome into this community.

The first official event I attended as Reverend Chris was the Service on the Green, which was part of Stowupland's Community Fun Day. To see the school children singing, the Stowmarket band playing, and to worship outside with you all was a treat, which came towards the end of what had been a busy day. This week I have also had the privilege of meeting many new people, and have been in schools as Reverend David has led assemblies and introduced me to the children. It is still taking some getting used to when people walk past me and say "Hi Reverend Chris." I have now stopped looking over my shoulder to see who they are chatting to.

In a time of lots of changes it is good to know that the God who I pray to each day doesn't change: His love is unchanging and constant. It is in the knowledge of God's steadfast love that I look to serve you as a curate. I look forward to getting to know more of you as time passes and if you see me around please do stop to have a chat.

Yours,

Revd Chris

Holy Trinity Church

Vicar: *Revd David Swales* Tel: 01449 675503

Curate: *Revd Chris Hood* Tel. 01449 677257

Churchwarden: *Mrs Ann Doubtfire* Tel. 01449 770363

Mrs Sue Hayter Tel. 01449 613710

Church Email: holytrinityuk@hotmail.com



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Services in August 2015

Aug	2nd	9.30am	Parish Communion
		4.00pm	1st @ 4 Service – church with a difference!
Aug	9th	9.30am	Morning Worship & ✧ Trinity Starz ✧
		6.30pm	Evensong (<i>B.C.P.</i>)
Aug	16th	8.00am	Holy Communion (<i>B.C.P.</i>)
		9.30am	Morning Prayer (<i>B.C.P.</i>)
Aug	17th (Mon)	10.30am	Songs of Praise at Steeple View - <i>All Welcome!</i>
Aug	23rd	10.30am	BENEFICE TREAT - Outing to Yarmouth
		11.00am	Benefice Service at Wetherden
Aug	30th	9.30am	All-Age Family Service
		6.30pm	Denery Evensong at Gt. Finborough

(B.C.P. = Book of Common Prayer)

A PRAYER:

Grant us, O God our Father, the love that is always ready to forgive; the love that is always ready to help; the love that delights to give rather than to get.

And so grant that, living in love, we may live in Jesus.

FAMILIES!

Please come along on Sunday 2nd August to the '**1st @ 4' SERVICE** at 4.00pm and enjoy this popular 'Church with A Difference' (with some snacks afterwards)!

Then please come to our bright and friendly **ALL-AGE FAMILY SERVICE** in church on Sunday, August 30th at 9.30am and do stay and have FairTrade refreshments and a chat with us in the hall afterwards!

Holy Trinity Church (continued)

STEEPLE VIEW:

The residents warmly invite you to join them for their Songs of Praise Service on Monday, 17th August at 10.30am and which is followed by a short Communion for those who wish to stay.

PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH:

Come along and enjoy our popular Ploughman's lunch in congenial company on Tuesday August 18th at 12 noon in the Church Hall.

BEETLE DRIVES:

We welcome everyone to come along and enjoy some fun in a very friendly atmosphere at the Beetle Drives which will be held on Tuesdays, 4th and 25th August at 2.30pm in the Church Hall.

WEEKLY OPEN CHURCH:

Holy Trinity Church has an Open Church Session from 2pm to 4pm each Wednesday.

Come on in for a free cup of tea/coffee and a chat, to wait for children coming out of school, perhaps for a quiet prayer, or just to enjoy your Parish Church, or to enquire about church activities etc.

FOOD BANK BOX:

If you would like to donate items for the Food Bank to help those in need of a helping hand, there is a box at the back of the church for you to leave your items. Thank you!

CHURCH HALL HIRE:

Please remember that the well-appointed Church Hall is available for hire at reasonable rates, and would be ideal for children's parties and small groups/meetings. For more information please contact John & Ann Parsell on 01449 672592. Thank you.

OPEN GARDENS DAY:

I would like to give a huge vote of thanks to all the gardeners for their hard work in opening their gardens for so many people to enjoy. Also thanks to everyone who joined in with their wonderful crazy containers, and to everyone who helped in any way. This fun day has raised the wonderful sum

of £1,066.28 towards the maintenance of the church. Please note we also had two donations in kind by programme sponsors: £15 meat voucher from M&M Butchers and free MOT from Stowupland Fast Fit (any proceeds we get from these will be added to the Open Gardens total).

SERVICE ON THE GREEN:

It was a lovely service in the summer sunshine which was enjoyed by many to music by The Stowmarket Concerts Band. Our grateful thanks go to the Parish Council and to everyone who helped to make this event such a success. The collection raised £51.57 for charity.

PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of Christ's Church:-
14th June - Noah-James Wright

FUNERALS

Our love, sympathy and prayers to the families of those who have recently died:

16th June - Richard Quick

30th June - Marjory Delf

Telstar is also available as a link on the Parish Council website:

www.stowupland.org

CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

Book Group:	Patricia Hodgkins	01449 672127
Baby and Toddler Group:	Liz Purnell (Email liz@rllmuk.co.uk)	07810 442424
Bowls Club:	Susan Boorman	01449 614673
Country & Western Dance:	Winston & Janet Adams	01206 501866
Dance Club:	May & Paul Durham	01449 672601
Local History Group:	Marion Harris	01449 770895
Short Mat Bowls:	Pam Fayers	01449 770080
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Stowupland Bowls Club

Mary Bloom

The last of the County Ladies matches (for the Jubilee Vase) at Stowupland, have now been played. Suffolk beat Lincolnshire recently in a very successful encounter. Our thanks go to members who helped to organise the event, especially to the ladies who did the catering. We are especially proud of Pam Ward who was selected for the Suffolk team. We are now more than halfway through the 2015 programme, and members have been playing with varying results. But that's how it is, you win some, you lose some.

Sports & Social Club

BAR MANAGER REQUIRED

The Sports and Social Club would like to hear from anyone interested in managing our external bar in the Village Hall for major bookings.

We are looking for someone who has bar experience and would be willing to work occasional Saturday nights and sometimes Fridays. Plenty of notice of events would be given. This would be a paid role in the region of £7.00 to £8.50 per hour (based on experience). Applicants must be aged over 18.

If you are interested, or would like to have a chat about the role, please get in touch with Neal Smith at neal@stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk, or on 0772 559 1785.

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Countryside Rambler

Brian Ward

Summer is here at last with the children's summer holidays about to start. If your children are interested in nature or just enjoy being outdoors, why not contact the RSPB or your local wildlife trust as they organise terrific activities during the holiday period.

Over the past month my wife and I have been away again to Rutland watching the Osprey chicks. On our last visit they were standing on the edge of the nest preparing to fledge and in a few months will be on their way to Africa following their parents. How do they know where to go?

We spent a few days in East Yorkshire with friends and whilst there we saw Dabchicks with their black and white stripy young. The parent birds were diving and catching small fish constantly to feed the ever hungry chicks. A surprise for me was a colony of Marsh frogs residing in the fishing lakes on the holiday site. They are large green frogs and very vocal. They were introduced to Britain from Hungary by a zoologist in 1935 and now thrive in several locations being much larger and more aquatic than our native frog. I believe there are ongoing studies to determine if they are detrimental to our native species. The croaking can be heard hundreds of metres away and I can only describe it as like an alarmed Guinea Fowl. I was also amazed at the distance they can jump, probably two metres in one leap.

I was fortunate to spend a day out with a professional photographer recently who undertakes work for the RSPB and the Wildlife Trust. We visited Strumpshaw Fen to photograph the wildlife that inhabits the area. We also photographed an unusual dragonfly called a Scarce Chaser; this was the first I had ever seen. We then travelled to Winterton on Sea to see the Little Tern colony; unfortunately they have had a terrible breeding season. The females lay their eggs and start to incubate them, the males go off to feed and return with small fish and Sand Eels. The problem was a lack of fish present, so the females were leaving their nests to try and feed themselves and the Crows then predated the unattended eggs. As far as I know none of the colony reared young this year! It is a real worry for the future of this elegant small Tern.

From Winterton we travelled up the coast to Horsey to photograph the seals. They were very obliging, playing in the surf quite close and giving us quizzical looks as they bobbed about in the surf. Then they haul themselves out of the water and sunbathe on the beach. If you wish to see seals at close quarters Horsey is well worth a visit.

I came across a wild honey bees nest recently and foolishly attempted

to go close to study it and got stung. A hasty retreat was made with a few angry bees in pursuit. That will teach me not to approach in future. I am always saying nature comes up with surprises, well; I was at Nacton shores recently watching a Skylark feeding amongst the vegetation from the comfort of my car, when to my disbelief it started to eat a discarded sandwich. It flew off with its beak full of sandwich to feed its young nearby. In my mind Skylarks are truly insect eaters with a diet of seeds in the winter, I would not have believed it had I not witnessed it myself. Whilst in the same area I saw a pair of Shelduck with five small ducklings. As ducklings go they are my favourite ones. Whereas most ducklings are yellow and brown, the young of the Shelduck are black and white and quite cute.

To bring you up to date, the Cuckoo hatched and the Reed Warblers did an exhausting job of rearing it. It has been ringed by the BTO for further studies. It will fly to Africa in a few weeks time on migration; let's wish it a safe journey. A few other surprises during June and July, we had a pair of Yellow Hammers drinking from our pond also a Hummingbird Hawk Moth and a Spotted Flycatcher was seen in a nearby village. Most recently we saw a Barn Owl hunting at dusk along Saxham Street. What a sight and local as well.

Brian Ward.

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August Dates

Sun	2	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	3	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	4	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Tues	4	Beetle Drive	2.30pm	Church Hall
Wed	5	Book Group	2.00pm	
Wed	5	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Wed	5	Local History Group (see page)	7.30pm	Village Hall
Thur	6	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Sun	9	Open Triples Tournament (see page)	10.00am	Bowls Club
Sun	9	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	10	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	11	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Wed	12	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Thurs	13	TELSTAR DEADLINE DATE for September issue		
Thurs	13	Parish Council	7.30pm	V.H. Meeting Room
Thurs	13	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Sun	16	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	17	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	18	Mobile Library	9.30am	Jubilee Court
Tues	18	Mobile Library	9.55am	The Green
Tues	18	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Wed	19	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Thur	20	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Sun	23	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	24	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	25	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Tues	25	Beetle Drive	2.30pm	Church Hall
Wed	26	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Thur	27	P.C. Finance & Policy Meeting	7.30pm	URC Chapel
Thur	27	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Fri	28	Coffee Morning	10.00am	URC Chapel
Sun	30	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall

If you wish to attend one of the events listed, and would like help with transport, please contact Good Neighbours on **07591 539621**

September Dates

Tues	1	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Tues	1	Beetle Drive	2.30pm	Church Hall
Wed	2	Book Group	2.00pm	
Wed	2	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Wed	2	Local History Group (see page)	7.30pm	Village Hall
Thur	3	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Sat	5	P.C. Cemetery & Churchyard W.G.	10.00am	The Churchyard
Sun	6	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	7	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall

Future Events in 2015

Sept	9	Baby & Toddler Group re-starts (9.30am, Village Hall)
Sept	13	Walker cup (see page)
Sept	16	W.I. – Turkish Embroidery & Handcrafts (7.30pm, Village Hall)
Sept	19	Freeman C.P. School 150th Anniversary (see page)
Sept	25	Community Bingo (doors open 7.00pm, Village Hall)
Oct	28	Musical Evening with Shipshape (see page)

Diary Dates

Contact Marion by email: marion@astronomer.plus.com or Tel: 01449 770895
For contact details for clubs / groups etc. See page 19



Stowupland W.I.

At the June meeting, following what has become a tradition, members, guests and visitors enjoyed strawberries and cream, with shortbread and homemade meringue kisses. This was accompanied by a choice of Pimms or orange juice and lemonade.

As our delegate for the W.I. Centenary A.G.M. at the Royal Albert Hall, Irene B. gave a summary of her day. The attendance of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, with Princess Anne and the Countess of Wessex was the highlight of the day. We were then entertained by Gillian Grinham in the guise of Joyce Grenfell. Gillian's renditions of some of Joyce's songs and monologues were a joy to listen to and brought back fond memories.

We normally have an in-house raffle, but this time the proceeds of £50.50p. will go to the charity Macmillan Cancer Support. This is in recognition of its excellent work in the care of the terminally ill. We had our usual competitions with the following results; flower of the month 1st Mary C, 2nd, Shirley, 3rd Brenda. For the plastic item competition Maureen was the winner with Shirley 2nd and Claire 3rd

A ballot taken a couple of months ago resulted in the decision that there would be no August meeting. However, we are back in full swing on September 16th with our speaker's subject "Turkish embroidery and handcrafts". Guests are always welcome to our meetings – please contact me for details. On the 30th we are hosts to the Gipping group and our speaker will be Helen McDermott (members only for this).

Deadline for the visit to Audley End House, near Saffron Walden, is August 14th. For full details, please contact Judy Clarke (Tel; 01449 615386)

Half-a-Mow My thanks go to Roger Carter for again undertaking the cutting of that area. The annual cut ensures that the vegetation doesn't get out of hand, but allows nature to flourish. This could be seen in the spring with the flowering of the ladysmocks followed by a wonderful display of meadow buttercups.

Report by Judy Clarke

All new online feedback platform for health and social care in Suffolk



Healthwatch Suffolk, which has the job to ensure that the voice of local people and communities is fed into the heart of NHS and care services, has launched a new engagement tool to help people in Suffolk let health and care bosses know what's good and what's bad about health and social care in the county.

The Feedback Centre is accessible via a variety of devices including mobile phones, ordinary PCs and tablets, just by going to Healthwatch Suffolk's website - www.healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk. People can easily and anonymously rate the care that they received in an engaging and simple way from wherever they are.

It is important that everyone has the chance to be heard. People can therefore share their views using numerous methods including physical comment, postcards (by freepost), by telephone or directly with staff at community events across the county.

Recent research has shown that half of the public who considered complaining about NHS services did not. Many people were put off because they expected the process to be too bureaucratic and others believed it would make no difference. Healthwatch Suffolk believes that by helping patients to more easily express their views we can improve health and social care.

Tony Rollo (Chair of Healthwatch Suffolk) said:

“We are here to make sure that the patient voice comes through loud and clear to the professionals who make decisions about health and social care in the county. As an independent organization, we hope to gain the trust of the public to tell us their full experiences of local services; the excellent and the good, as well as where things need to improve. We hope that by creating a familiar tool, we will be able to engage many more people in celebrating and improving health and social care here in Suffolk.”

For more information please visit the Healthwatch Suffolk website (www.healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk), email info@healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk or call 01449 703949 to speak to a member of the team.

For further information or enquiries about this article please contact:

Michael Ogden (Information Services Manager)
01449 703949 Email: michael.ogden@healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk

Healthwatch Suffolk

12&13 Norfolk House, Williamsport Way, Needham Market, Suffolk, IP6 8RW
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Autumn training sessions for new volunteers are being held at:

Moulton Village Hall starting on
Tuesday 22nd September

&

Blackbourne Centre (Elmswell) starting on
Thursday 24th September

Training runs one day a week for 8 weeks
9.30 – 2.30, (excluding the Oct. half term)

Would you like to find out more?

call us on 01379 678552 / 678224
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On Sunday afternoon, 28th June, we enjoyed a visit to Stowmarket URC Flower Festival where this year the theme was 'A Moment in Time'. Those who were able walked to Abbots Hall and looked round the house and walled garden, whilst others stayed and looked at the lovely flower arrangements. This was followed by a Songs of Praise, where each Church within the partnership had a representative who had chosen a hymn and they told the congregation why they had made the choice. It was most interesting. Following the service we had a lovely tea. This was the annual Central Suffolk Area Partnership event when people within the partnership join together.

Rev Tim Yau led our morning service on 28th June when we welcomed the son of Robert and Lucy Carter, George Henry, into the family of the Chapel. They were supported by their families and friends at George's baptism

I am pleased to say that by the time you receive your August magazine the alterations will be finished. The builders have done a brilliant job and our grateful thanks are extended to Lew Hart who has looked after the whole project and without whom it may not have happened. Also thanks to our minister who worked very hard to facilitate grants towards the costs and the generosity of those who have supported our various functions.

Our next Coffee Morning is on 28th August 10am to 12 noon. Please pop in if you have time. It's a very friendly event.

An advance notice, the Chapel will be open on 12th September 9am to 5pm for the Suffolk Historic Churches Cycle Ride. If anyone is interested in taking part in the cycle ride, sponsorship forms are available from Joyce Gardiner (01449 676149).

Services at the URC Chapel are held each Sunday at 10.30am and we cordially invite anyone who wishes to join us in our worship. A warm welcome awaits you.

Our speakers for August are as follows:

02 August	Jane Paterson
09 August	Clive Herrod
16 August	Irene Martin
23 August	Alison Smith
30 August	Veda Berriman

Afternoon Fellowship

Just a reminder that we do not meet again until the beginning of October and it will be a Harvest meeting.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us at our meetings (Male or female). Come and enjoy the fellowship.

Mary Clark

U.R.C. Minister's letter

Pastoral Letter from Stowmarket

With the reality of terrorist attacks in various parts of the world over recent weeks, our Stowmarket URC Thursday morning Pause for Prayer services have twice in successive weeks centred on prayer for the victims and perpetrators of the violence and for the leaders of the nations of the world as they grapple with these situations and associated refugee problems. But of course the problem of violence in the world has always been with us. In the seventh century BC the prophet Habakkuk faced with the militant advance of the Babylonians cried out to God “How long, O Lord, must I call for help but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, Violence, but you do not save? Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong?” (Habakkuk 1v2-3 NIV)

In our Thursday morning Bible Study Group we saw in Isaiah 40-55 how God’s servant brought a message of hope of return from exile to God’s people in Babylon, but then saw in Isaiah 56-66 that for the returned exiles hope for the future was mixed with the nasty realities of their present situation. It was to these people that the prophet Haggai brought a series of short messages in the year 520 BC challenging them to get their priorities right and place God at the centre of their lives, in their case by rebuilding the ruined Temple of the Lord in Jerusalem. That is a call that we all need to hear in every generation. How easy it is to get downhearted by the problems in the world or preoccupied with the everyday things of life, but we need to ensure we allow God to be at the centre of our lives and seek to do His will in our generation both in our lives and in our corporate life in the churches of Stowmarket and district.

Yours in Christ,

The Revd Richard Edwards (retired Minister at Stowmarket)

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Village Hall Management Committee

Reg.Charity No 304822 — Jerry Voden VHMC

Hello from the Village Hall Management Committee, just a quick update for the August addition. It has been another busy month. Thanks to Colin Churchill and Sally Reeves for all their help in the renovation of the village hall garden. The committee are seeking urgent quotes to repair the old wooden surrounds with new wood, once this is done and with the new plants the area will start to look much better.

Mike Hawkins and his team recently decided to stand down from the role of providing bar services for functions that take place mostly on Saturday nights and some Fridays in the Village Hall. The committee would like to thank Mike and his team for their time covering the bar and all their efforts in making it all work smoothly.

The Sports and Social Club committee will be looking for someone to take this role on as they are responsible for providing a bar service in the hall for all functions that request one. Please see their advert in this month's addition.

The Committee are still looking for a volunteer secretary and as always this is quite urgent as other members of the committee are doing a dual role. We meet once a month and mostly the role is answering correspondence and minute taking.

Please get in touch with Jerry Voden on 01449 770334 if you feel you can help or would like to know more about the hall and committee work

The bookings remain steady but as we move into the summer season we hope that the use will pick up at weekends. If you would like further details of what the hall has to offer please call our booking secretary Hugh Blanch on 01449 612156.

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The Three Peaks Challenge



The Stowupland 3 peaks challenge was attempted by 33 people including 20 soldiers from Wattisham Air Base on a very wet and miserable Sunday 5th July.

All of the participants were successful in scaling all 3 peaks. Harrison Kemp a ten year old boy in the village with Cerebral Palsy, who completed the 3 peaks challenge last year, decided he would sit this one out this year due to the rain, and instead cheered people on from the start and finish line.

A new world record was set for the fastest time to scale all 3 peaks. The 7.5 mile cross country route was completed in just less than one hour. The young soldier from Wattisham who represents his regiment in cross country events simply said "it was brutal!"

But the real star of the show this year was Harrison's Mum Kelly. Initially setting off with the main group of runners, her intention was just to run as far as the first way point to insure the soldiers did not get lost! As a keen runner though, she decided she would run a bit further and then a bit further again. Kelly put to shame many of the soldiers by finishing in 4th place in a very impressive 1hr 4mins and 43sec.

This year the money raised from the event will go towards a pedal powered trike for Harrison. This will enable him to have improved mobility and will be a great way for him to get around the village.

Over £100 pounds was collected on the day with the church collection and a cheque from Wattisham Air Base yet to be accounted for.

Once again the event was a great success and has even attracted interest from a walking group in Felixstow. At this rate Stowupland will soon be an internationally recognised climbing destination.

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Open for business on GOOD FRIDAY 2015.

Although we are now closed for the winter there is plenty of work going on behind the scenes. All the plants will soon be moved into the poly-tunnel to overwinter in the dry. Orders are being placed for new varieties to add to our collection. A desperately needed shade tunnel is being erected behind the scenes to house all the shade lovers. But most exciting of all is the new perennial border that is being developed which will be stuffed full of the plants that we sell so that customers can view the plants growing naturally.

Have you found us yet? Your local, friendly nursery just around the corner on the A1120 @ Earl Stonham, (near the Shepherd and Dog pub). A fantastic nursery with over 300 varieties of perennials.

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Family Fun Day

Thank you to all the brave souls who ventured out to our Family Fun Day. After months of organising the last thing we wanted was rain. We were all up and about by 7am and the sun was shining brightly but by 10 o'clock we were all wet and cold. Some of the stall holders gave up by lunch time and one half of the entertainment decided not to come at all. Our thanks go to the stall holders who battled on and the group, 1990, for agreeing to stay and play in the rain. The children had great fun with Mr Jugglefun and the wet bouncy castle didn't put them off at all! We wouldn't like to say the Good Lord shows favouritism but just before the church service the sun came out and continued to shine for the rest of the day, when, happily, more folks decided to join us! The flyover from the Sea King rescue helicopter (organised by Jerry Voden) was emotional as the squadron are moving to a new base and that was its final flight for us. We would also like to thank the folks who helped with the tents, fencing etc.

On a sadder note there are now only three people on The Community Events Committee. We are going to try to continue organising the bingo and the old folk's Christmas parties, and helping out at the quiz evenings. We don't like to think there will be nothing going on in our village but that is what will happen unless more volunteers come forward.

Linda Freeman on behalf of The Community Events Group.

Combs Ford Surgery -

Named Accountable General Practitioner

The Government is contractually requiring general practices to allocate a named accountable GP to all patients. However, we are not required to inform patients individually but to advise patients by means of our website and practice leaflet that a named GP has been allocated.

Patients should be aware that from a practical point of view they are able to consult any of the clinicians available including Partners, salaried GPs and locum GPs together with Nurse Practitioners and the Minor Illness Nurse.

www.combsfordsurgery.org.uk

Thank you to the residents of Oak Rd who raised £70 50 pence towards this year's Barnado's appeal.

Jerry Voden

Family Fun Day Draw 05.07.15

List of Prize Winners

Ticket Number	Prize
0245	£50 cash
0449	£50 M & M meat voucher
0033	Baylham Rare Breeds Family Day Ticket
0263	Meal for Two at The Retreat
0050	Engine Kit from Jayar
0183	M.O.T. at Stowupland Fast Fit
0264	AirCon Re-Gas at Riverside Autos
0047	£10 Morrisons gift voucher
0253	Aspalls Goody Bag
0172	Case of James Whites Juices
0452	Case of James Whites Juices
0271	Two Prints from The Framing Shop
0144	Miniature oil painting of Kersey
0458	Hanging basket from Roots & Shoots
0402	Car Valet from Gammers
0171	Hamper of goodies from ASDA
0282	Brewing kit from Muntons
0274	Book from The Works
0498	Framed print of Sea King Helicopter
0179	Service up to £100 in value from FastTest
0320	AirCon Re-Gas at FastTest
0553	Bowl of fruit

If you have a winning ticket and have not yet claimed your prize, please contact Keith Welham or Claire Pizzey as soon as possible.

The organisers are grateful to the individuals and companies who donated prizes for the draw.

The Walker Cup – *Stowupland v Old Newton*

Just a reminder, the annual walking competition takes place on Sunday 13th September. The village that has most walkers that make the journey there and back wins the cup. The route follows footpaths between the two villages and at a gentle amble the walk should take a total of about 1 ½ hours there and back.

The competition is open to all ages from 0 to 90+ so even if you have to be carried you will count as a 'Stowupland walker'. Just register at the Retreat before you start and on your return.

There's a £1 entry fee with all proceeds going to charity (extra donations will be very welcome). So, it's a good cause, you'll see some lovely countryside and if we win we get a lovely shiny cup. What more could you ask?

Margaret Gough, Stowupland PC Footpaths Group

Stowupland Falcons FC

With the summer break now coming to an end, the Club is starting to ramp back up for the upcoming season.

The adults this year will be competing in Division 2, Intermediate C, and Division 4. The Reserves move into Intermediate C after their second successive promotion. They also won the Club Colours Cup last year in a great final held at Henley in May. The 1st team will continue their push for promotion, but it is a tough division to get out of, so fingers crossed. The A team move to Division 4, but this is due to a large number of teams pulling out from the league, so the overall leagues are reduced in number.

Pre-season training is in full flight and we welcome any new players to come along on a Thursday to train.

The youth teams are also gearing up, with hopefully two new teams starting this year. Our girls section will hopefully grow this year and we would welcome any girls interested in playing to come along to our Saturday morning sessions for girls.

During the summer we are also hosting some football summer camps run by Inspire Suffolk (ex ITFC Trust). Please see their website for booking. £10 per session, ages 5-13 welcome.

Our teams are also now open for sponsorship by local businesses. If you are interested, please get in touch.

The new season commences the first weekend in September, and we hope to see some of you cheering on the teams on Saturdays and Sundays.

Stowupland Cricket Club Report

Firstly I would like to apologise for the lack of reports over the first few months of the season. This was due to our long serving chairman Bob Moore stepping down for family reasons and he has been replaced by Jo Abbott. The Club would like to thank Bob for all his work and commitment over the years. Now this has been resolved the monthly report should now be completed for you all to read.

In addition to our 2 Sunday teams, midweek team and various junior teams, we have decided again this year to have a Saturday side at the club who have been entered into the Two Counties Division 8 West league. All 3 weekend teams are again doing very well this season. The Saturday team is sitting first in their league after losing their first game of the season last week. Both Sunday teams gained promotion into division 3 and 4 last season, and are once again at the top end of the table; with the first team in second place and the second team sitting at the top of the table still unbeaten.

As stated in the above paragraph this year we have decided to run a Saturday XI again after a few years without one. So far this season we have played 11 games, winning 9, drawing 1 and losing 1, leaving us 7 points ahead of second place. Most notably during these first 11 games, Tom Wray scored his first 100 for the club away to Exning II scoring 104 not out and Gavin Johnson also scoring 114 not out vs Eye. There are also various 50s to report from Shaun Langford, Tom Wray, Kieran Gregory and Scott Gregory. Luke Abbott also scored his first 50 for the club against Stowmarket and also took 5 wickets in the same match. He became only the 3rd person in the clubs history to score a 50 and take 5 wickets in the same game.

After an unbeaten season last year, the Sunday First XI this year have started strongly, winning 6 and losing 2 of their first 8 games. This has left them 2nd in the league at the half way stage. Batting again from the team has been superb with Trevor Scarlett hitting the only 100 for the team so far in the first game against Tuddenham, with various 50s from Trevor Scarlett, Tom Wray, Kieran Gregory, Grant Wearing and David Cobourne. With the ball we have been equally as good with various 5 wicket hauls this season from Luke Abbott 7-16, Tom Abbott 6-26, Dan Marsh 5-43 and Rob Fox 5-25.

Sunday 2nd XI remain unbeaten for the second season in a row after winning all of their 6 games, this is a great effort from the team as various players from the under 15s have been playing regularly for the seconds and occasionally the First XI and Saturday XI. Throughout the 6 games various people have contributed with runs, most significantly Ollie Walters 88 not

The Retreat

Stowupland

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8am - 10am
Bring your dog too!**



**AUGUST - BBQ every Sat.
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activities!**



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Stowupland Village Website

www.stowupland.org

Parish Council Minutes of meetings and agendas are displayed at the Village Hall notice board (left of main entrance)

Parish Council:

Chairman - Keith Welham 01449 673185

Vice Chair - Jerry Voden 01449 770334

Morris Brand 01449 770678

Roger Carter 01449 612856

Rick Hamilton 01449 775403

Ben Miller 07765 408001

Ray Studd 01449 676606

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Claire Pizzey

2 Broomspath Road, IP14 4DB

01449 677005

email: clairepizzey@outlook.com

You can contact the Clerk as follows:

Tues – Thurs from 10.00am – 12.00noon

Mid Suffolk District Council:

Keith Welham 01449 673185

Keith is happy to help you with any District Council matter.

Suffolk County Council

Gary Green 07545 423824

gary.green@suffolk.gov.uk

Police Safer Neighbourhood Team

PC 1443 Stefan Henriksen

Police Station, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket
IP14 1NJ 01473 613500

stefan.henriksen@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Good Neighbour Scheme:

HELPLINE No. 07591 539621

Village Hall Bookings:

Hugh Blanch – 01449 612156

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If an event has been organised, whether a one-off or a regular one please do not assume that everyone knows the details, venue, date, etc. Advertise it in Telstar

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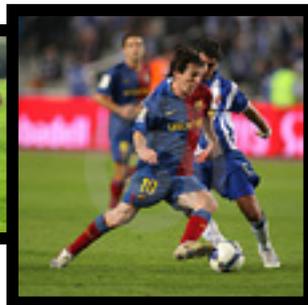
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for the village

**DEADLINE DATE:
13TH AUGUST**

FREE SUMMER SPORTS



Come along and join your local officers at:

- Chilton Fields.....

2pm Wednesday 22nd July & 7pm Wednesday 26th August

- Pikes Meadow Combs Ford.....

2pm Friday 24th July & 7pm Thursday 20th August

- Stowupland Village Hall.....

2pm Saturday 25th July & 7pm Wednesday 12th August