Telstar

Stowupland News

No 401
November 2026



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CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

MONDAY	21st DECEMBER	6.00am – 4.00pm
TUESDAY	22nd DECEMBER	6.00am – 4.00pm
WEDNESDAY	23rd DECEMBER	6.00am – 4.00pm
CHRISTMAS EVE	24th DECEMBER	6.00am – 12.00pm

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CLOSURES

CLOSED

25th, 26th, 27th & 28th DECEMBER

NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS

TUESDAY	29th DECEMBER	6.00am – 1.00pm
WEDNESDAY	30th DECEMBER	6.00am – 1.00pm
THURSDAY	31st DECEMBER	6.00am – 12.00pm
FRIDAY	1st JANUARY	CLOSED

REGULAR OPENING TIMES

MONDAY	6.30am to 1.00pm
TUESDAY	6.30am to 1.00pm
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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

NOVEMBER 2026



Welcome to November's edition. I'm going to start with an update on the Walkers Cup. We have a final figure for the money raised. It was £634 from donations and £158.28 from refreshments, which included the BBQ, making a grand total of £792.28, plus any tax claimed back from Gift Aid. This is about a 13% increase on last year, so not only did we win, but we also increased our fund raising, so a good job by all. The cup itself is now in pride of place in the sports and social club, and here's a lovely photo of it. We're going to have to work hard to ensure it remains here next year!

The information about this year's community Christmas quiz is in this edition. Please remember to book your team in as it's a very popular event, and we don't like to disappoint. The bar will be open for drinks, but bring your own nibbles. Don't forget, the most festive team gets a prize. The Telstar team arranges community events and supports activities and events in the village. We are, however, a small team, and extra hands are always welcome. Might you be interested? See back page for details.

Stowupland Falcons are also going to be holding a Christmas Quiz and Hamper Draw; no date yet, so more details will be in next month's edition.

Holy Trinity's annual Christmas Fair will be taking place this month, which is always worth a visit for your Christmas shopping.

November is, of course, a remembrance month and our local Church will be holding a remembrance service. Details are inside. When we mark Remembrance Day, we pause to honour the courage, sacrifice and service of all those who have given so much in times of conflict. It is an important opportunity to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy today, remember those who never returned home, and acknowledge the sacrifices made by veterans, service personnel and their families. By coming together in remembrance, we help ensure that their stories and contributions are never forgotten.

Finally, I hope you like our front cover, which this month is of Needham Lakes, and is courtesy of our regular photographer, Keith Hyland.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

OCTOBER 2026

LGR decision for Suffolk withdrawn

On 7th September the government announced it had withdrawn its plans for local government reform in Suffolk to allow further review. Councillor Andy Mellen, leader of MSDC said at the following day's cabinet meeting "Yesterday's announcement by the Secretary of State for Local Government Angela Rayner, withdrew the decision made 6 months ago on reorganisation of Suffolk's councils. This is disappointing and deeply regrettable. Disappointing because it is another sudden change of course by this government, but without a clear direction of travel for the future. The decision to pause and review the process plunges us into a prolonged period of uncertainty, particularly for council staff, and for elected members as well."

So now we will have District Council elections next May. Council staff continue to work diligently to provide all our council services during this time.

Waste Collection update

Thank you for reporting the issues with refuse collection from residents affected by the Cadent roadworks. Bins have now been collected but any further problems please let us know or report online. (see links below)

Your food caddies are making a BIG difference! Since we launched our food waste collections in June, we've now collected over 2,040 tonnes of food waste from caddies. Fantastic news as this gets to be recycled into biofuel and biofertiliser

Please make sure to put your caddy out - with the handle up - the night before collection, beside rather than on top of your other bin

Babergh and Mid Suffolk weekly food waste collection facts:

- we have 16 dedicated food waste vehicles and crews
- the crews travel around 9,000 miles a week
- each vehicle is powered by either electric or low-emission hydrotreated vegetable oil
- collectively, the food waste crews alone empty over 20,000 caddies a day and over 100,000 a week
- your caddies are first emptied into a 'helper bin' which looks a bit like a normal waste bin, this is then hooked and loaded into the lorry
- crews may leave your caddy on its side after collection to show it's been emptied

- your caddy contents are turned into biofuel and a biofertiliser at these anaerobic digestion facilities Biogen in Halstead, Essex and BioteCH4 in March, Cambridgeshire.

Concern over new planning reforms

Mid Suffolk councillors have hit out at Government planning reforms, warning they could leave local communities with less say over new developments.

Council Stringer put this in a motion at the September MSDC meeting and this was unanimously supported. As a result, the district council is to write to the Government to raise concerns over changes to Neighbourhood Plans, green spaces and the way planning applications are decided. The council is particularly concerned about the withdrawal of national funding for Neighbourhood Plans and new rules which will reduce councillors' ability to call planning applications in their wards before a committee. In addition, changes in the new NPPF mean the rules relating to development in and around settlements have changed which may impact on current green pockets of space within communities.

Mid Suffolk District Council are providing funding for parishes to help with their Neighbourhood plans since the government money was withdrawn.

Our next councillor surgery

This will be in Haughley in the Green Room at the village hall on Saturday November 7th 10am – 12pm. The community café will be running alongside so grab a cuppa and come and talk to us.

Useful links and funding

We still have plenty of money to allocate from our locality award budget so please contact us and apply:

Locality Awards - Mid Suffolk District Council - babergh.gov.uk / midsuffolk.gov.uk

Pride in your Place Grants applications are now open. Funding opportunities and support - Mid Suffolk District Council - babergh.gov.uk / midsuffolk.gov.uk

My bin hasn't been emptied - Babergh District Council - babergh.gov.uk / midsuffolk.gov.uk

Stowmarket Innovation Gateway Skills Courses: Workshops & Skills Programmes | Stowmarket Innovation Gateway | Suffolk

Cllr Janet Pearson
Janet.Pearson@midsuffolk.gov.uk
07928 512592

Cllr Agnes Watson
Agnes.Watson@midsuffolk.gov.uk
07599 828819

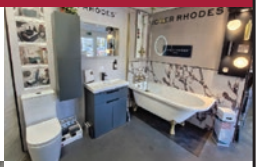
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COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

OCTOBER 2026

Cllr Andrew Stringer, Upper Gipping
Broadway House, Broad Road, Cotton, Stowmarket, IP14 4ND
07774 199061 - andrew.stringer@suffolk.gov.uk

Local Highways Issues

Following on from the visit from our local highways engineer, a number of actions have been identified to help with road safety and community concerns.

The two speed surveys funded from my local highways budget are now booked in for November 18th until 3rd December.

SCC have suggested Stowupland takes advantage of the ANPR service as there is already a pole in church road for this purpose.

I have sent a copy of the plan for the proposal for junction A1120/B1115.

Council predicts £7.8m overspend this year

At Cabinet on 17 September, the most recent financial forecasts for the council were discussed, based on the outturn for quarter one of 2026-27. The council is currently predicting that it will overspend by £7.8m by 31 March 2027, and the overspend will need to be funded by the council withdrawing money from its risk reserve. The council is required to hold 5% of its annual revenue budget in unallocated reserves in order to be considered financially resilient, and the £7.8m drawdown means that the unallocated reserves would be £3.7m short of this 5% figure, at 4.6%. If this happens, the council will need to write to the government to inform them. The overspend at the council is in a number of areas, mostly in adult social care (care purchasing), children in care, inclusion (Special Education Needs and Disabilities or SEND), and home to school transport for pupils with SEND. The council needs to save as much money as it can between now and the end of the year to reduce the amount it will take out of its reserves.

The council's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit, which funds education, is predicted to increase by £104.8m by the end of the year, mostly the high needs block which funds SEND education. The government has a statutory override in place for this debt until 31 March 2028, after which date the government is due to take over funding SEND provision from local authorities. The council also expects the government to write off £147.5m of this debt this autumn via High Needs Stability funding. However, the rate at which this debt continues to grow means that the council will still owe many millions to the government by March 2028, as even after the £147.5m

is taken off the debt, the council is still predicting a deficit of £121.2m by March 2027. The council will be hoping that the government will provide more funding or write off more of this debt.

Update on Local Government Reorganisation

On 7 September, the government announced that it was withdrawing plans for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in a number of areas including Suffolk. This means that the plans for three unitary councils for Suffolk are currently off the table and subject to a government review. The announcement follows decisions by several councils, including Suffolk, to mount legal challenges to the government over LGR decision-making. This means that there will no longer be elections to the unitary councils in May 2027, with the elections for districts and Ipswich Borough going ahead as they would have normally. At the moment, the mayoral election for the new mayoral authority for Norfolk and Suffolk is also due to go ahead, with the government announcing no changes to this programme. Councils in Suffolk will need to wait to hear from the government on the outcome of its LGR proposals review, there is currently no confirmation on when this will be completed.

Legal breaches at the council (Section 5A Report)

At Cabinet on 17 September, the council's legal breaches over the LGR challenge to the government were discussed, with the council maintaining that the breaches were 'minor and inadvertent'. The council was in breach of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 in two respects in June, when the Leader of the Council made an executive decision to lodge a legal challenge against the government:

When an executive decision is made, it should be published as soon as 'reasonably practicable'. In this case, the decision was made on 18 June but not published until 26 June. This meant councillors were not aware of the decision in time to formally challenge it (decisions have to be 'called in' for scrutiny by 4pm on the second working day after the decision was made). This meant the Leader's decision was effectively made behind closed doors and could not be challenged as per the council's constitution

When a member of the council's Scrutiny Committee requested information about the executive decision, they should have received the judicial review information within 10 days of their request, but this deadline was not met

The Cabinet decided that additional training on these processes would be a suitable measure to prevent future breaches. Section 5A reports are very rare and a serious matter for councils, as they are only produced when a council has admitted maladministration or breached the law.

A14 and Transport Resilience

The case for an Ipswich northern route or an alternative crossing over the River Orwell was also discussed at Cabinet on 17 September, with the council agreeing to pay consultants £300k to look again at the options for improving traffic in Ipswich when the Orwell Bridge is closed. The council last looked at options for this a few years ago, with plans for an Ipswich Northern Route scrapped by 2020 due to opposition from the communities where the routes were proposed, and the lack of funding. It is likely that any major infrastructure options, such a northern bypass, tunnel or second bridge, would cost between £500m to over £1bn and take over a decade to implement. The A14 is a trunk road and the responsibility of National Highways rather than the council, and any major project would need government funding as the council would not be able to afford it. This funding is not guaranteed to become available. The Cabinet report also noted the importance of improving rail routes for the port, such as the long-promised works on junctions at Ely and Haughley. Improving the Ely junction would enable an additional 2,900 rail freight journeys, meaning 98,000 fewer lorry journeys for the port, and these projects could be delivered in the short term. Fewer lorries on the A14 would be benefit communities all along the length of the A14 which suffer excess traffic when the road is closed, although some villages such as Elmswell would have more railway gate closures.

Impact of Better Recycling

My group met recently with officers from the council dealing with waste, who provided us with some data on Better Recycling and how the roll out of waste collection changes had been going in the county since June. While household waste and recycling are collected by district and borough councils, Suffolk County Council is then responsible for processing the waste. Residual waste, which is waste that cannot be used for something else, dropped from 4,077 tonnes per week in April/May to 3,225 tonnes per week since June. Mostly this is due to food waste being collected separately and processed in anaerobic digestors. Over a year, that would be equate to a reduction of over 40,000 tonnes for all of Suffolk. Due to the engagement work and publicity undertaken by councils about the changes, an increased amount of glass, plastics and cartons are also now being collected since June.

Funding for the Fire Service

The wildfires occurring across the county this summer due to dry weather and extreme heat have highlighted shortfalls in the equipment needed by Suffolk Fire and Rescue. The current budget for equipping fire and rescue workers covers replacing the standard equipment they use, but wildfires such have the one at Dunwich Heath require different and specialist

equipment for the fire service to fight them safely and effectively, including off-road fleet for areas their existing vehicles cannot access, clothing and personal equipment (PPE) for firefighters that can protect them for prolonged incidents, and boots with better grip for outdoor terrain. The fire service is still calculating the cost and preparing a debrief on the Dunwich Heath fire, this may mean they require more investment to be adequately prepared for future wildfires, given the hot summers are likely to continue or worsen. It is also possible that they may need more investment for equipment used in flooding incidents, as these are also likely to increase in number and severity. The Fire Brigades Union in Suffolk has written to the government to request increased funding for fire services across the country to deal with the new dangers they are facing.

Care Leavers Winter Ball

Suffolk County Council acts as a 'Corporate Parent' to the children and young people who are taken into its care, and as many young people in care miss out on events like their school prom, the council is holding a Winter Ball for its care leavers on 27 November during National Care Leavers Month. The council is requesting donations of prom dresses, suits/formalwear, shoes and accessories and financial contributions towards the evening, and the Leaving Care service have set up a Go Fund Me so residents and businesses can donate. Donations of clothing, shoes and accessories can be dropped off at the Info Bar, Constantine House, Ipswich, IP1 2DX.

The link to the Go Fund Me site for the event is here:
https://gofund.me/71c92855d

Social Media and Helpful Links

Follow us on:

Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/scc.green/

Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/suffolkgreens/

Group Website - https://suffolkgreens.org.uk/

Cost of Living help and advice: https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/family.page?familychannel=6

Benefits advice and support: https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/adult.page?adultchannel=0

Flood preparation advice: https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/suffolk-fire-and-rescue-service/fire-and-rescue- safety-advice-in-the-community/what-to-do-in-a-flood

https://suffolkprepared.co.uk/get-prepared/risk-advice/flooding/

Flood recovery advice and support: http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/about/flood-recovery-information-for- suffolk

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

OCTOBER 2026

The meeting opened at 7.30 with 11 Parish Councillors present, 8 members of the public, 2 Mid-Suffolk District Councillors and 1 Suffolk County Councillor. Donna Bridges was in the chair.

Cllr Donna Bridges welcomed Keith Welham, who was co-opted onto the Parish Council.

A dispensation was agreed for Cllr John Dickson, allowing him to take part in discussions relating to the village hall and Play Park area but not to vote.

Matters of Report: Several matters are still outstanding as responses are awaited from other parties.

Public Forum: Updates were requested about proposals for ongoing and future work around The Green. Ongoing works have caused disruption to bin collections, with many residents being unable to drag their bins to where the bin lorries will collect (Dis. Cllr Agnes Watson agreed to sort it). A resident from The Green area reported the hedgehog in the log pile is doing well. From Saxham Street, concern was expressed about the state of the road surface, which is 'dangerously slick'. Cllr Bridges asked the resident to report this direct to the Highways Portal as this is not a parish council matter.

Update from our County Councillor, Andrew Stringer: Dates for the traffic survey to take place along Saxham Street and Church Road have been agreed. These would take place towards the end of the year, during school term time and would last several weeks. A request had been made for a change in the junction layout for the turning into Saxham Street, but this was rejected by the county council without explanation.

Report from our District Councillors: A bollard has been re-positioned in Trinity Walk so pedestrian access is not blocked by parked cars. The Taxi-bus has ceased to operate.

Planning: There were no new planning applications. Regarding previous applications: DC/25/02284 - Regarding the erection of a cart-lodge in front of a property on Church Road, planning had been granted for an open cart-lodge, so concern was expressed that it now had large white doors. DC/26/03065 – erection of 12.0 m Street works Pole and smart metering enclosure at Stowupland Pumping Station to go ahead.

Playpark and Occupation Licenses: These are ongoing matters as the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee need to determine and legalise various matters relating to several issues relating to responsibilities and maintenance.

Neighbourhood Plan: Cllrs were pleased to report that the 30 residents who had attended the 'drop in event' had been keen to share their thoughts about the new Neighbourhood Plan. The consensus was that any new, large scale housing developments would be detrimental to the 'community feel' of the village. If the village was obliged to have new estates, then it was imperative that

the infrastructure was updated to cope. More housing would mean more cars and lorries driving along the village roads, more demands being made of local health services. Have your say…

The next stage for the PC is to draw up a survey which would be delivered to every home in the village to determine what local people do and don't want for the village they chose to live in. Some residents had agreed to help deliver and collect these surveys. Some funding had been made available to help towards the cost of producing the plan, but there was a shortfall the PC would need to meet.

Churchyard & Cemetery: With an ageing population, many visitors attending functions in the church and/or hall need to be driven along the track/pathway across the churchyard. This path was not constructed for vehicular use and is at risk of becoming unsafe for pedestrians. It was agreed to seek professional advice as to how to proceed so the buildings and churchyard were accessible to all. Whilst the Topple Test had not found any major issues with headstones in the churchyard, there were a couple of stones that could do with attention. It was suggested that the new gardener be consulted. One grave area had a bee/wasp nest nearby. It was decided that as winter was approaching, no action should be taken at present, but the cemetery committee would keep an eye on it.

Village Green and Biodiversity Group: Two Private Track Signs had been ordered and would be put in place. There are ongoing discussions between the PC and Cadent regarding the gas works and road closures around The Green area.

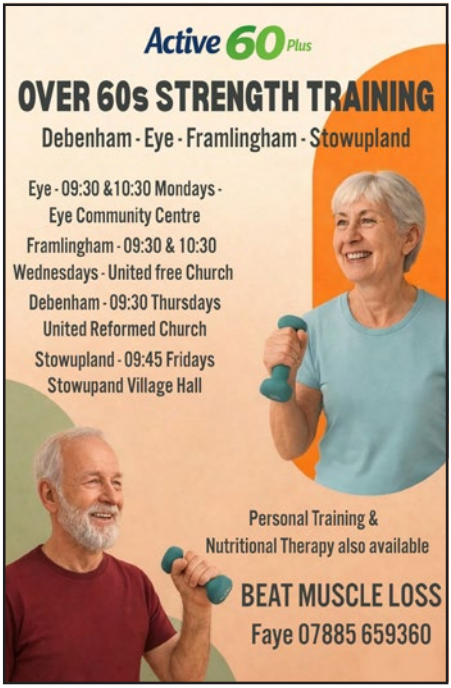
Cllr Welham spoke about ongoing plans for the Wildflower Meadow area. Since it was now too late in the year for mowing to best manage a wildflower meadow, the biodiversity group had decided to leave any cutting till early spring. Quotes would be obtained for this. 19 people had turned out to help with the bulb and wildflower planting along the mounds, a very successful morning's work and the area tackled should look spectacular in the spring. Further bulbs and seeds for some of the shadier areas are to be ordered and will need planting to ensure the whole of The Green looks amazing next year. Although many people found their sunflowers struggled to match the heights of the winner, the challenge will be issued again for 2027 and the Bio group will be distributing fresh seeds with Telstar.

Clerk's Report: It was agreed that from January 2027 Parish Council meetings would commence at 7.00 pm instead of 7.30 pm. Meetings will not last more than 2 1/2 hours (this to include public exclusion time).

Reports from Councillors: Fly tipping on Rendall Lane, speeding vehicles along track/footpath at Mount Pleasant Farm. Resident was advised this should be reported to police. Thanks were given to all the walkers who helped Stowupland regain the Walkers Cup. Concern about double parking outside a property along The Green, which was impeding pedestrians. Many of the 30 mph repeater signs are becoming very faded. The council would investigate whether the PC could replace or repaint them.

Date of next meeting

Thursday, November 5th: Next PC meeting at 7.30 pm at the URC Church Hall; all welcome to attend and listen.



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BRIAN WARD

As I write this article at the beginning of October, the temperature outside is still in the low 70s; that is truly remarkable but possibly worrying at the same time. Are we in for hotter summers as they predict? Do we, as a nation of keen gardeners, change our normal planting routine to a more Mediterranean style? These questions will only be answered in time as we progress through the years. I grow a lot of palms, tree ferns and various agaves; they have thrived during our hot summer. I also have a fig tree, which delivered a bumper crop this summer and I was able to enjoy up to three figs for breakfast on most mornings. Other plants in the garden have suffered in the heat, but I will persevere in growing them as I enjoy the foliage and flowers.

I have now put out my bird feeders for the Autumn/Winter, after duly cleaning them and filling them with sunflower hearts; as normal, I expect it will take a while for the birds to return, as there is still plenty of wild seed in the surrounding countryside. Whilst on my rambles I enjoyed the super crop of blackberries; in every lane, path or verge side I was tempted by the shiny black fruits, probably I was over enthusiastic some days, but they were too delicious to walk past.

If you venture to the coast in the next few weeks, it pays to scan out to sea, if you have a pair of binoculars or a scope, especially if weather conditions are favourable, i.e., calm and bright. I was in North Norfolk recently with a group of fellow bird watchers; we scanned the waves and there were many sea birds out there, some perhaps you may not expect to see on our coastline. There were red throated divers, many still in breeding plumage, juvenile gannets diving in the surf, a pair of eider ducks, guillemots, razorbills, scoters, and even a few sandwich terns still diving for a fish before they migrate. One of the ultimate sights you must see is the wader spectacular at Snettisham RSPB. You must select an extreme high tide at the right time of day to get the benefit from tens of thousands of waders of all species taking to the air in a mass of swirling flocks. If you are really fortunate, these birds will fly low from The Wash, over your head, and roost on the lagoons just inland. You may spot a celebrity amongst the crowds as this draws keen birders from far and wide. I met Iolo Williams (Springwatch presenter) there a few years back; we had a quick chat. What a gentleman to give us the time and even a photograph with him to remember the day.

Hard to believe Autumn is here; with it comes the glorious leaf colours and chilly evenings, but I enjoy a brisk walk this season of the year to soak up the atmosphere and the sunny days we still have. I hope to bump into some of you on my walks.

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Saturday
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RAMBLINGS FROM THE POTTING SHED

PAULA WILLMOT

Once again, November brings photographic quality early mornings, colours and hues that make us all agree Autumn is a fabulous time of year. I think most of us are just grateful that our grass has come back; even the farmers are reporting that this new grass is now like Spring grass…who knew! This is also the time to visit garden centres for summer rejects. Plants that are piled into unsightly areas of garden centres, retailing for next to no money. I recently picked up David Austin's Rambling Rector in one such garden centre….for £12. Just watch for disease or mites, and I always pull out any weeds from garden centre plants; they can keep those.

November tasks in the meadow garden are as follows:

- Winter squash, varied, colourful and nutritious; there's a world of varieties to tempt us. Also good for encouraging young ones into the garden.
- Net the surface of ponds to catch falling leaves or clear out old weeds and dead plants ready for fresh rainwater.
- Separate large or congested clumps of herbaceous perennials using 2 forks, a spade or knife. Replant vigorous sections and discard woody centres.
- Stake new trees and large shrubs to prevent wind rock. This will avoid damage to the rootball. Angling a simple stake at 45 degrees and fixing with a tree tie will work perfectly.
- After frosts blacken the foliage of dahlias, lift the tubers, cut back the stems, dry and store in frost free conditions.
- Move indoor plants nearer windows now that the sun is not so strong, positioning away from drying heat sources. Also reduce the watering of cacti and succulents.
- Tree ferns will also need to be wrapped. I tend to fold the dead fronds back into the centre of the plant before covering in fleece. But don't let the pots get frozen as this will damage the roots.
- Keep an eye on your outdoor pots. The freeze thaw of rain and extreme cold can often shatter even the most frostproof of designs.

Some of our famous garden experts have been sharing their reviews of the year's challenges. One of my personal favourites is Rachel de Thame. She echoes what many of us do in our own gardens and favours tried and tested plants that never let us down. Her 'go to's' are dahlias and cosmos, but she recommends a foundation of indestructibles. Verbena, of course, but the smaller varieties like 'Bampton' and 'Buenos Aires' alongside zinnas. Matt Collins has firmly stated he will be planting hawthorn next year, as the woody stems and deep roots have inbuilt drought protection. None of us can underestimate the sheer coolness trees and greenery gave us, so perhaps robust trees are the way forward for next year? Anyway, enjoy your plots and happy gardening 🙂

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Paracise - 11.15am to 12.00pm

Wednesday evenings

Paracise - 6.45 to 7.30pm
(with the option to weigh in from 6.30pm with online weight loss support available)

Call Jo: 07913 922926 **Email:** jo@josfit4all.co.uk **Website:** josfit4all.co.uk

STOWMARKET ECO FUTURE GROUP



#LoveWhereYouLive

https://stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk
Email: stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com

Collection of hard to recycle items

Collections continue at our monthly Repair café but please be reminded that the Market Stall collections have now stopped. This is because many of our items are now recyclable in the new bins. The Repair Café is held on the 2nd Sunday of the month (8th November) at Red Gables, 2- 4 pm.
stowrepaircafe@gmail.com

UPDATE ON ITEMS COLLECTED: Blister packs, Coffee pods – plastic and metallic (not mixed), Pet food pouches (empty, clean & dry), Spectacles (no cases), plastic make up containers, mobile phones, batteries, Bicycle inner tubes. (Pet food pouches can also go in Tesco soft plastic bin; Tesco also has a make up container collection point. Batteries are also recyclable at any supermarket and Argos)

Mid Suffolk Green Party Evening Socials are held monthly at Fred's Bar on the third Tuesday of the month. All welcome.

People's Emergency Briefing

A National Emergency Briefing was held in November last year when leading experts set out the evidence on the climate and nature crisis to an audience of national decision makers. Presentations were made on the latest research on these subjects: Nature, Climate, Tipping Points, Weather Extremes, Food Security, Health, National Security, Economics and Energy Transition. Each presenter also suggested practical solutions and ways forward.

A 50-minute film has been made of the Briefing, with a variety of well-known people watching and commenting on each section.

The film is being shown widely to community groups and in workplaces and is followed by a discussion. The strength of the presentations is that they are watched by people who live or work in the same area, communities who, in the event of an emergency, will be working together to look after each other. It is not an easy watch but a very important one.

Stowmarket Eco Future Group is hosting two screenings in November – Wednesday 4th November and Monday 30th November.

Venue: Stowmarket Methodist Church Hall, Regent Street, IP14 1RH
7:15 for 7:30 pm

Please email to book your place (address above)

Important: If coming by car, please park in Gipping Way Car Park and walk down Union Street to Church. Screenings are free of charge.



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November is a time of remembrance and reflection, providing an opportunity to recognise and remember those who have served, and continue to serve, in the Armed Forces.

citizens advice Mid Suffolk

It is also important to recognise their families, and those who provide care and support to them. This period gives everyone a chance to reflect on their service, commitment and on occasion sacrifice, and to ensure that their contributions are remembered and valued.

At Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice, we are proud of our strong connection with the Armed Forces community and recognise the importance of continuing to support those who have served, and those who remain connected to the Armed Forces.

Our commitment is summed up in our motto: "You served us. Now we are here for you." Since 2025, through our Veteran Connect Project, we have been committed to ensuring that members of the Armed Forces community know that support is available and that they do not have to navigate challenges alone. During this time, we have had the privilege of working with individuals from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences.

We provide free advice on:

- Benefits & Tax Credits
- Universal Credit
- Consumer
- Education
- Employment
- Managing Finances
- Health
- Housing Rights
- Legal
- Money Advice & Debt
- Relationships & Family

Our service is designed to connect veterans, serving personnel and members of the wider Armed Forces community with the right organisations and services, helping them access the support they need and deserve. By providing guidance and connecting people with appropriate sources of support, we aim to make it easier for individuals to navigate the services available to them and take the next steps towards improved wellbeing and stability.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

STOWUPLAND WILDFLOWER AND BIODIVERSITY GROUP

Mounds and ditches on The Green
The top and sides of the mounds for volunteers were strimmed and clumps of dead vegetation were removed to enable a group of 19 volunteers to plant native daffodil bulbs and wildflower seeds on 26 September. Further planting was planned in mid-October. We will also be sowing extra seed to complement seeds produced by the wildflowers. We will need to keep an eye on what germinates next spring to avoid any single variety over-dominating.

If any individual or group would like to volunteer to care for a length of the mound, we will be pleased to provide seeds and bulbs, but please, do not plant garden bulbs or plants. This shouldn't be too onerous - half an hour every fortnight or so. It is important that only seeds and bulbs that we provide are used to ensure that only native species are used. Some residents have saved wildflower seeds from their gardens; these should be fine to use, but please let us know before you sow.

We have seeds specially selected for shady areas for sowing on mounds close to trees.

Wildflower Meadow
The meadow was not cut at the same time as the half-a-mow. Due to the weather, the grass dried up, wildflowers did not flourish, but knapweed thrived. Knapweed attracts insects and finches feed on the ripe seed, but we need to remove some of the knapweed, or it will take over the whole area.

It was decided to leave the area unmown but to plan ahead for next year, concentrating on just part of the area – near the Retreat pond. We hope to mow and scarify that section, leaving the remainder to naturalise. We hope then that the whole area can be mown, baled and taken away. Another option will be to hire Grillo from MSDC to cut, collect and leave the mown grass at the back of the plot. Further work will be required to enable planting in autumn 2027. – Group to rake and leave under hedge. Either way, it will potentially need further raking and mowing.

Trees near Corner Farm
The fruit trees planted some years ago are in need of pruning.

Fruit Trees at the High School
An area is being prepared for planting espaliers to the rear of the sixth form block. Traditional fruit trees will be ready from 10 October for planting by students.

A working party is planned for 14 November to prune trees in High School Orchard. A replacement Lady Henniker apple tree is required to replace one that has died. Additional plum trees will also be sourced.

Mulberry Centre
Students produced a good crop of vegetables that the students were able to take home. They have four pumpkins growing vertically around the edge of their garden. We will be handing over more pumpkins and meeting students for tea and biscuits just before Halloween.

Sensory Garden at Barley Close
The plants suffered in the hot, dry weather. Members of the group will carry out a pre-winter tidy and plan for next year.

Sunflower Competition
We will be ordering new seed for next year's competition fresh seed for next year's competition. The work of counting seeds into envelopes will be shared out at the next meeting.

Biodiversity Budget
Very little of the group's budget has been spent this year as we have focused on planting the mounds and ditches. We need to budget for mowing the wildflower area if we are to have success in growing colourful flowers.

Dates for the Diary 2026/27

Workday - General green area maintenance - Fridays, 13 November, 11 December, 8 January.

Workday – Saturday 14 November - High School Orchard – tree pruning.

Biodiversity meeting: Monday 23 November, 7.30 at URC Hall.

Spring 2027 – Mowing, scarifying and seeding Biodiversity Meadow area.

Our next meeting is at 7.30 on Monday 23 November in the URC Meeting Room. Everyone with an interest in wildflowers and biodiversity is welcome to come along.

Contact us: To find out more, please telephone Keith on 01449 673185, email keithwelham48@aol.com or come along and talk to us when we are out and about in the village.

Keith Welham
keithwelham48@aol.com or 07831 705 714

SOAP



Calling all over 60's

Come along to meet old friends, new friends and enjoy a morning of company, activities & good cake in a welcoming social environment.

Our next event is

Wednesday 2nd December, 10:00 - 12:00

at Stowupland Sports and Social Club.

Please do join us.



If you would like any further information, please do email paulamurton@stowuplandpc.co.uk or call 07704 701095

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Citizens Advice

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

Adrian Ramsay – Green Pary
WaveneyValleyOffice@parliament.uk
01379 830200

Mid Suffolk District Council

www.midsuffolk.gov.uk

MSDC General Contact No. 0300 1234000

Janet Pearson - janet.pearson@midsuffolk.gov.uk
07928 512592

Police

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

Samaritans – 116 123

Stowupland Village Website

www.stowupland.com

Parish Council Website

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Suffolk County Council

www.suffolk.gov.uk SCC - General No. 0345 606 6067

Andrew Stringer - andrew.stringer@suffolk.gov.uk

Schools

Stowupland High School -
www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk - 01449 674827

Freeman Community Primary School -
www.freeman.suffolk.sch.uk - 01449 612067

Vets

Cedarwood - 01449 676966
Stowe Vets - 01449 613130

DIARY DATES

If you know of any events happening in the village that I may not have picked up on please do get in touch by 7th of the month at stowman@stowman.plus.com or 07951 037749.

Please note – Diary Dates lists community events in Stowupland, for advertising all commercial events please contact Sally Wray - adverts.telstar@hotmail.co.uk

NOVEMBER

SUN 1	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music club
TUES 3	16:00 Village Hall	Young Carers Club
WED 4	14:30 Various locations	Book Group (01449 672127)
WED 4	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office
WED 4 Women"	19:30 URC Hall	Local History Group - "Stowmarket Business
THURS 5	19:00 Village Hall	Short mat bowls
THURS 5	19:30 URC Hall	Parish Council Meeting
SUN 8	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music club
WED 11	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office
THURS 12	19:00 Village Hall	Short mat bowls

SUN 15	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music club
WED 18	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office
THURS 19	19:00 Village Hall	Short mat bowls
SAT 21	Village Hall	Craft Fair
SAT 21	Evening Village Hall	Christmas Concert
SUN 22	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music club
MON 23	19:30 URC meeting Room	Biodiversity Group
TUES 24	09:30 Jubilee Crt. 09:55 Green	Mobile Library
WED 25	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office
THURS 26	19:00 Village Hall	Short mat bowls
FRI 27	10:00 - 12:00 URC Chapel	Coffee Morning
FRI 27	eyes down 19:30 Village Hall	Community Bingo
SUN 29	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music

LOOKING AHEAD

DECEMBER

WED 2	S.O.A.P
FRI 11	Community Quiz

Cllr Agnes Watson - agnes.watson@midsuffolk.gov
07599 828819

Mobile Library - 07721 879855

Parish Council

Donna Bridges - Chairman - 07736 348335
donnabridges@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Terry Easter - 07958906176
Terry.easter@stowuplandpc.co.uk

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

Debra Melhuish -07979125904
debramelhuish@stowuplandpc.co.uk

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

Peter Scopes - 07557 273262
peterscopes@stowuplandpc.co.uk

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

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

Clerk to the Parish Council - Rachel Belcher-Nairn
parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk - 07704 701095

Parish Council Minutes of meetings and agendas are available on the Parish Council Website www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Village Hall Bookings

Lisa Tunbridge - Phone - 07515859337
stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

Village Clubs

Book Group - Patricia Hodgkins - 01449 672127

Community Events - Keith Welham - 01449 673185

Country and Western - Pat Murphy - 01449 677405

Local History Group - Jerry Voden - 07951 086383

Short Mat Bowls - Pam Fayers - 07713026696

Sports and Social Club - Mark Dye - 07799 662491

Stowupland Cricket Club -
www.stowuplandcricketclub.co.uk/

Stowupland Falcons Football Club -
stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk

Stowupland Sports Centre -
info@stowuplandsportscentre.co.uk - 01449 672531

Stowupland Wildflower & Biodiversity Group -
Keith Welham - 01449 673185

Stowmarket Wildlife Group - Heather Salmon
-heathersalmon50@gmail.com - 07722 871205

SUFFOLK'S RIVERS

You might know Suffolk'srivers,
Or a clue you'll need, likeme.
The route they take andwheretheyflow, Before they reach the sea.



Along river in this county.
The **Stour**, through Manningtree, Runs along the Essex border. Joins Harwich at the sea.



The **Orwell** starts in Ipswich, mainly a tidal flow.
Itreally is an estuary.
Joins the sea at Felixstowe.



The **Blyth** river starts nearLaxfield.
It'swhat we all aretold.
Itenters into the North Sea,
'Tween Walberswick and Southwold.





The river **Gipping** passes close. A river that we know.
Travels all the way to Ipswich Into the **Orwell's** flow.



Another Suffolk river
The Waveney that we share
Flows from Suffolk into Norfolk
And jpins the River Yare.



The Deben passes Sutton Hoo
KingRaedwald,theycame to bury.
Thenitflowsandmeets the coast.
Butwhere?AtFelixstowe Ferry.



The **Alde** flows past SnapeMaltings.
AtAldeburgh meets the sea.
Above are facts on waterways.
Itrust you will agree

The Really Lovely Watery Poetry Company

Community Bingo Night



All cash prizes

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STOWUPLAND VILLAGE HALL
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EYES DOWN 7:30 PM

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CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT

STOWUPLAND VILLAGE HALL

FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER

DOORS OPEN 7:00 PM

QUIZ STARTS 7:30 PM

£3 per person - Teams of Up to 6 People

Prize for most festive team

Village Hall bar will be open for drinks

Bring your own nibbles





To enter a team please ring Keith on 01449 673185

A Stowupland Community Event brought to you by the Telstar Team

STOWUPLAND LADYBIRDS

We have now been meeting in the village for over 6 years since forming after Covid.

We get together on the second Thursday of the month in the Chapel, and are a very friendly, successful group, with interesting speakers, and we also enjoy parties to celebrate various seasonal events during the year.

We would be happy to welcome new members, so if you want any info, please contact either Colleen on 07917443743, or Mary on 01449 678403

STOWUPLAND FALCONS

I will start by saying a massive well done to the Stowupland Walkers who defeated Old Newton in the annual Walkers Cup. I understand it has been some years since Stowupland last won it!

The football season is now fully up and running and our 25 teams are all playing regularly. Unfortunately, we have had to withdraw our U16 girls due to a shortage of players and 2 players sustaining serious injuries. Always disappointing when this happens.

It is pleasing that the weather has been kind to us, with just enough rain to keep the pitches playable. Our first team have now played 7 league games, winning 4, drawing 2 and losing 1. We have games in hand over all the teams above us due to not being able to play at home at the start of the season with the overlap with cricket. I will take this opportunity to congratulate the cricket club, whose first team gained promotion. The reserves are still without a manager, but all credit to the players who are sticking together and making sure we get our fixtures played.

For the next article, I will be able to update you with how our boys, girls and mixed teams are doing.

That's it from me.

Colin Herbert
President
Stowupland Falcons FC



CHRISTMAS QUIZ & HAMPER NIGHT

DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

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REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE 10am - 4pm
For further details contact Ann Doubtfire Tel. 01449 770363

STOWMARKET U3A

The motto of the u3a is 'Learn, Laugh, Live ', and Stowmarket u3a allows you to explore new interests, make new friends and have fun. If you are no longer working full time or raising a family, now's the time to make the most out of life. For a modest fee, members can access monthly meetings, interest groups, outings, and events.

Our monthly meetings are friendly, relaxed afternoons where members come together to enjoy interesting talks, good company, and some time to socialise and chat. Recent meetings have included talks on AI exploring the Antarctic and the impact of climate change.

Monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month, at 2:30 pm (doors open at 2 pm for refreshments), at the Salvation Army Hall, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket. New members are always welcome.

Our next meeting is:

- **18 November – a talk by Bobbie Darbyshire: "A Beginning, a Muddle and an End – where do novelists get their ideas?"**

Our three walking groups (short, medium, and longer walks) are very popular and offer the opportunity of friendly social exercise with a nice coffee and cake or pub lunch at the end. Our history group combines talks by members and visits to local historic attractions. Their most recent visit was to the Long Shop Museum in Leiston. The Gardens and Things group have a variety of interesting trips, the most recent being a boat trip along the River Stour and a guided tour of Flatford Mill.

Amongst our 30 Interest Groups we also have three language groups, table tennis, Pilates, photography, singing, canasta, acoustic guitar, and more.

For more information, visit our website: www.u3astowmarket.org.uk. For membership enquiries, email membership@u3astowmarket.org.uk. Registered charity 1002987.

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- A small meeting room or a Social Club (no bar).
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www.hallbookingonline.com/stowupland/

1st & 3rd Stowmarket (Phoenix) Scouts

Christmas Post Service

Let us deliver your Christmas cards in **Stowmarket (Inc Combs Ford) PLUS Stowupland and Onehouse.** You will be saving money and supporting your local youth. This year any profits will go towards assisting our 4 young people attending the World Scout Jamboree in Poland in 2027.

Post your cards together with just **45p per card** into one of our collection boxes and we will make sure they are delivered in time for Christmas.

Please avoid packaging for the cards and money. **Loose Is Best!**

You can find our post boxes from Friday 13th November at:

"Stowmarket Library"

"StowHealth" and "Combs Ford Surgery"

"Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre"

"M&M Butchers (Stowupland)"

"ZarKeys (Meadow Centre)"

"Baldwins" **"Tesco"**

"Co-operative (Combs Ford)"





Last date for posting is Wednesday 16th December

Please remember to fully address your cards. **We will <u>not</u> deliver to addresses outside the areas indicated above.**

For more details of our service, or if you would like us to collect cards specifically from your organisation, please contact us at post@stowscouts.org.uk

ALL SOULS SERVICE

Sunday November 1st
Stowupland Church at 3 pm
Haughley Church at 5 pm

Over the years there are many people we have loved but have now died. The All Souls service is a time to remember them.

You are very welcome to come to this service, it does not matter how long ago someone died or where their funeral took place.

We hope you will be able to join us, together with other members of your family or with friends who would like to come. You will be welcome at either of the services, whichever one is most convenient for you.



NEWS FROM STOWMARKET CHORALE

As we approach the final concert of our 125th Anniversary year, we are sad to be unable to perform in our regular Stowmarket concert venue, the United Reformed Church. However, we are delighted to be trying a new venue, Needham Market Community Centre. A large, roomy and welcoming space, which enables us to have a café style concert, everyone sitting informally at tables with a drink from the bar, listening to great music. Savoury nibbles will be provided by the Chorale and included in the ticket price.

The music for this concert is a gorgeous mix of familiar show tunes including 'One Hand, One Heart', 'America' and 'Tonight' from West Side Story, 'You'll Never Walk Alone' from Carousel, 'I Dreamed a Dream' from Les Misérables and excerpts from the musically delightful Fairy Queen by Henry Purcell, a semi opera inspired by William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream.

An evening of beautiful live music in Needham Market!

Tickets are available for this concert, which takes place on November 21st at 7 pm from our website www.stowmarketchorale.org.uk or Tel 07733 298621. Price £20.00, Under 19s free

Do get in contact on the above number if you would like to reserve a whole table [6-8 people].

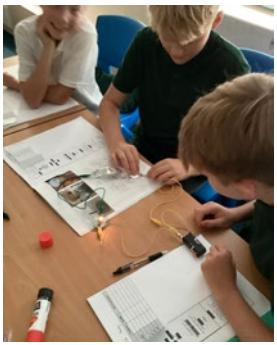


FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Teaching & Learning

The children have settled beautifully into the new academic year and have already been busy with their learning.

Oak Class, Year 6, have had an exciting week in their science lessons, exploring the topic of electricity. They have been investigating conductors and insulators in both series and parallel circuits. Throughout their investigations, they hypothesised, planned, recorded their results, and drew conclusions from their findings. It is safe to say that we have some real scientists on our hands!


Reading is such an important skill, and as a school we are passionate about promoting reading for pleasure. We want our children to develop a genuine love of reading and become fully immersed in the books they enjoy. Throughout the year, the classes are paired and read together. Year 6 visited Year 2 to take part in some shared reading sessions. It was wonderful to see our Year 6 pupils acting as exceptional role models, supporting and encouraging the younger children. Equally, it was lovely to see the Year 2 children so enthusiastically joining in and sharing their enjoyment of reading with the older pupils.





Willow class, Year 5, have continued their learning in Geography about countries and cities around the world. The children have been developing their map-reading skills by using atlases to locate major countries across Europe, North America and South America, before identifying some of their capital cities. They worked carefully with their atlases to find different locations and discussed what they noticed with their partners. The children also drew upon their previous knowledge of continents, the equator, latitude, and longitude to help them understand where different places are situated in the world. It was fantastic to see Year 5 working so collaboratively and confidently, whilst also becoming increasingly skilled geographers!





Hazel class, Year 4, have made a fantastic start to the year, settling back into school with enthusiasm and a positive attitude to learning.

Each Tuesday, the children enjoy swimming lessons at Stowmarket Leisure Centre. In Reading, *The Queen's Nose* is helping the children develop key skills, including retrieving information, distinguishing between facts and opinions, summarising events, and making connections with other texts. In Maths, they are exploring numbers up to 10,000 and using new resources to support learning. In Science, they have been studying living things and their habitats, learning how scientists classify organisms into groups. This links closely with the children's Art project, where they are using the flora and fauna of tropical rainforests as inspiration for drawings, textile techniques and repeating pattern designs. The children are looking forward to creating our own printed fabric designs later this term.

'From tiny acorns do might oaks grow'







STOWUPLAND
LOCAL HISTORY
GROUP

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Coming up...

Our next Meeting is at the URC Hall on **Wednesday, November 4th,** when we will welcome Gill Marchant to talk about **'Girl Power: A brief Look at some of the Businesswomen of Victorian Stowmarket.'**

December will be our last meeting of 2026; join us on Wednesday, December 2nd for some 'Winter's Tales from Stowupland'. All are welcome; there is no charge.

Looking back to September, we welcomed Don Mobley, who spoke of his memories of being **on the Nuclear Edge: F-111F at RAF Lakenheath**. This talk was about a period of history that most of us lived through and hoped the 'powers that be ' would come to their senses and stop 'sabre rattling'. After recounting his experiences, Don encouraged our members to share some of their thoughts, after which we were grateful for the refreshments organised by Liz and Annie. The following gives a taste of Don's Briefing as written up by Jerry; it can also be listened to in Jerry's Jabbas on our local history group website. His presentation described NATO's nuclear deterrent during the closing years of the Cold War, through the personal experience of an F-111F aircraft commander serving with the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing.

RAF Lakenheath was at the heart of the confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Forward-deployed American forces acted both as a strategic "tripwire" and a visible demonstration of NATO's ability and determination to respond to aggression. Their presence ensured that any attack upon Western Europe would immediately involve American forces and risk escalation into a much broader conflict.

Effective deterrence depended upon three essential elements: capability, credibility, and survivability. The F-111F combined long-range strike capability and nuclear delivery with sophisticated terrain-following radar and low-level penetration. Intensive, realistic training demonstrated that its aircrews were prepared to conduct their missions under demanding conditions. Its ability to penetrate heavily defended airspace also meant Soviet planners could not assume that their air defences would prevent a retaliatory strike. They therefore had to plan on the basis that significant numbers of F-111Fs would reach their targets, greatly increasing the risks and potential cost of aggression.

Operation El Dorado Canyon against Libya in April 1986 provided a real-world demonstration of the aircraft's capabilities. This exceptionally long and complex mission validated the F-111F's range, aerial refuelling, low-level navigation, crew coordination and precision night-strike performance.

Don's presentation also considered the considerable personal responsibility carried by nuclear-capable aircrew. It concludes with the paradox of deterrence: the more convincingly crews prepared to fight, the less likely war became. Finally, it considers how these Cold War lessons remain relevant to Russia, Ukraine, NATO and the F-35 force now based at RAF Lakenheath.

Jerry adds, Don's presentation gave our history group a personal view of nuclear deterrence during the final years of the Cold War. His aviation career began at 12, when his father, a former US Air Force and United Airlines pilot, started teaching him to fly. After graduating from the US Air Force Academy, Don served for 29 years in flying and staff roles around the world. In 1987, he arrived at RAF Lakenheath to fly the F-111F with the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing.

As an aircraft commander, Don trained and was certified for the nuclear mission. He explained how the wing's aircraft, crews and readiness helped make NATO's deterrent credible. What stayed with me was the responsibility carried by those aircrews: they prepared for a mission they hoped never to fly. Don brought the story up to date by discussing security in Europe and the continuing presence of two F-35 squadrons at RAF Lakenheath.

If you remember, in last month's Telstar, Neil wrote about the 1939 Survey, which local historians find invaluable for researching who was living and working in an area just before the Second World War. When researching families from Victorian times, earlier census returns are indispensable, but 'pictures often do speak louder than words', and access to tithe maps and the associated apportionments are useful in not only discovering who was living were in 1840 but also who owned which pieces of land and what the names of those fields were.

Neil will explain a bit about tithes - In our Telstar articles we often refer to the tithe map and tithe apportionment. Many will know that a tithe was a portion of a person's income that was paid to the parish priest.

Based on a Biblical injunction to give a tenth of income to the works of God, the tithe was a legal obligation in England early on. This meant it became part of the parish rector's income and in return he was responsible for the upkeep of the church chancel. The rector was originally the vicar of the parish, but later on the right to tithes could be sold to a lay person. Sometimes the tithe became attached to a particular property, as in the case of Tithe Farm in Stowmarket (The Uplands). In recent times, owners of such properties have had a nasty shock to find that they are in law liable to contribute towards the upkeep of the parish church and have had to go to court to sort this out.

Originally tithes were paid in kind from the produce of land; this method led to endless disagreements and haggling, so the tithe usually took the form of a fixed cash payment. This was embodied in law by the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836, whereby the tithe was converted into a rent payment.

Surveyors were appointed to survey each parish and draw up a map, of which 3 copies were produced. Each piece of land liable to tithe was numbered and a list known as the apportionment gave details of each piece, including names of the owner and occupier of the area, use of land such as whether the land was arable or pasture and also the name of the plot of land, where one existed. Most of these maps were produced around the year 1840.

These details are very useful for local and family historians, especially as this was a time when the first detailed census was taken in 1841 and directories started to be issued, so these can be used together. Tithe apportionments and copies of tithe maps can be consulted at county record offices and, in recent years, have become available online on a subscription to the Family History site. Tithes were abolished in 1936 by an act of Parliament, but landowners paid a small charge over a further 60 years to redeem all tithes by 1996.

This map (a copy of which is held in our Archives) shows a section of the Tithe map for Stowupland. It shows the fields to the North and South of Rendall Lane. To the left of the map is Walnut Tree Farm and to the right is Stowupland Hall; above the Hall is Cooper's Farm. As well as owning the fields around the farmhouse, Elizabeth Cooper also owned Uplands Farm further along Saxham Street. Cooper's Farm no longer exists, but the farmhouse still stands, though now divided into 2 homes.

Each field on the map is numbered and details can then be checked against the Tithe Apportionment document. There were some 700 fields in the parish of Stowupland. Numbering started at the North end of Saxham Street, with fields along Rendall Lane being in the 200s. The Green is 400 and then numbering continues down to the River Gipping, the then border with Stowmarket. An earlier researcher has pencilled in some of the field names, but they make interesting reading in the apportionments.



This section from the 1840 Tithe Apportionment shows some fields owned by Elizabeth Cooper. Some names are simple enough, such as orchard or The Long Plough, but who were Damant or Streets Johns?

			Plantation	Wood	0	1	14		
		133	Granary Piece	Pasture	0	1	25		
		134	Orchard	Pasture	0	0	27		
		135	Buildings and Yards		1	1	18		
	Herself (continued)	136	Green Yard or Approach	Pasture	0	1	6		
		137	Plantation	Wood	0	0	30		
		138	Garden	Garden	0	0	38		
		139	Plantation	Wood	0	1	32		
		140	Home Meadow	Meadow	10	1	36		
		161	Long Field	Arable	10	1	28		
		162	The Long Plough	Arable	6	3	20		
		200	Great Johns	Arable	7	2	30		
Tithes		201	Further Damants	Arable	5	1	0		
		202	Middle Damants	Arable	4	3	29		
		203	Cooper's Field	Arable	4	3	30		
Cooper Elizabeth (continued)		204	Little Johns	Arable	4	1	7		
		205	Cooper's Pightle	Arable	4	2	7		
		206	Damant's Meadow	Pasture	6	0	19		
		213	Streets' Johns	Arable	6	2	1		
					133	3	14	6	4 4

Is Local History boring? Not when it helps you understand the place you live.

SLHG Membership for 2027 is now open: Please contact Jerry Voden on 01449 703717 or secretary@stowuplandlocalhistorygroup.org. with any queries about joining us or hearing about Stowupland's past.

'These Held Not Their Lives Dear'



Memorial Plaque in Holy Trinity Church above the names of 37 local men who died in WWI and 10 who died in WW2. But this does not tell the full story of those who returned physically and mentally scarred. Or how village life changed as local people adjusted to the impact of living through periods of conflict.

"Proudly you gathered, rank on rank to war,
As who had heard God's message from afar;
All you had hoped for, all you had, you gave
To save mankind – yourselves you scorned to save."

These words are from the second verse of 'The Supreme Sacrifice' as written by John S. Arkwright and first sung in Westminster Abbey on November 11, 1920 and still sung during Stowupland's Remembrance Service during the collection for the British Legion.

LOCAL DRINKS LOCAL PEOPLE LOCAL SPIRIT

FINBOWS TAP
COFFEE -BEER- SPIRITS

DID YOU KNOW THAT FINBOWS TAP IS MORE THAN JUST A TAPROOM?

Located in the heart of Finbows Yard, Bacton, we bring together the very best local beers, spirits, wines, coffee and soft drinks from independent local producers.

Join us for our popular **Quiz Nights** on the third Thursday of every month (please prebook to be involved!) and **Yard Nights** on the last Friday of every month.

Check our website or follow us on social media to see what's coming up next.

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U.R.C CHAPEL

NEWS

The United Reformed Church

Minister: Vacant

Secretary: Brian Hewitt 07500734113

The next coffee morning to be held at the Chapel is on **Friday 27 November, 10 am to12noon. A Christmas draw will be held at this event**. Please give us a visit.

We united on 4 October, at the Chapel, for our Harvest Festival Service when the Chapel was beautifully decorated with flowers and produce. Once again, this year's Harvest has been especially difficult for many farmers and yet they continue to operate to some of the highest standards in the world, ensuring the food we eat is of high quality, safe and nutritious. This year we decided to send our offering to YANA (You are not Alone) (Rural Mental Health Support). Donations of produce were made to the food bank. Thank you to all those who contributed to make these very worthwhile donations.

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

The Speakers for November are as follows:

01 November	William Glasse
08 November	Nigel Crisp
15 November	Keith Scarff
22 November	John Webb
29 November	Ron Wade

Joyce Gardiner

ELDER'S MESSAGE

Philippians 3:13 Living Bible

No, dear brothers, I am still not all I should be, but I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.

Walking in the Lake District can seem tame and calm, but in poor weather with a bit of fog it can be terrifying and disorienting. Hence the need for a compass to navigate across the terrain. Fix your compass on a distant point and keep your focus on that point and you will continue to go forward to your destination. Don't look back, or you'll lose your way.

Much like life, the journey of our lives lies ahead and not behind us. We are all on a journey. Life is a journey, beginning at birth, filled with choices.

We are all headed somewhere. At times, we are not certain where life's journey will take us. Throughout life, we need to ask ourselves if we are headed in the right direction. Perhaps, even more apt, is: do we know where we are going? And if we know where we are going, what do we need to know to move forward?

As we journey through life with a commitment to follow God, we should always journey forward in faith. The Christian journey isn't about becoming strong enough to handle life on our own. It's about discovering that God's grace is sufficient for whatever lies ahead.

The apostle Paul acknowledges that he has not yet attained perfection but chooses to leave behind what lies behind and press forward toward what is ahead.

Our eyes are in the front of our heads, not the back. So, we can look forward. At this time in the life of our church at Stowmarket, it is a time to look forward and devote ourselves to the call of God wherever we may find ourselves. We are not alone; we have a big cloud of witnesses who have gone before us. We have God with us.

God's plan for our lives may not yet be clear, but in the fullness of time he will reveal his plan to us, and in the meantime, he gives us the grace to handle whatever befalls us.

May God be with you all,
Anne Scarff (Stowmarket Elder, now worshipping at Stowupland)

COFFEE MORNING

Friday 27th November 2026

Stowupland URC Chapel
10am – 12noon



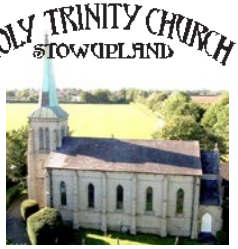
Coffee, Tea and Cakes

All welcome

There will be a Christmas draw included

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

NEWS



Rector: Revd. Andy Buttress Tel. 07749 265571

Curate: Revd. Alison Roberts Tel. 613037

Churchwardens: Mrs Ann Doubtfire Tel. 770363
Mrs Sue Hayter Tel. 613710

Facebook Page: *https://www.facebook.com/haughleybenefice*

A Church Near You: *https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2086/*

BUMS AND BUCKS

It is a common thought that two of the main things a church tries to do are get as many bums on seats (to reverse the alleged decline in church attendance), and get as much money from its parishioners as it can (to repair the roof, organ or whatever else is in danger of collapse)! This perception isn't helped by the media and, to be honest, by many churches that always seem to be asking for money.

In the past, at Holy Trinity, a bag or collection plate was passed around during a service, but we no longer do this. We don't want people to feel awkward when they come and we don't want people to feel we are always asking for their money. Now the reality is that we need £720 per week to break even and we have a weekly shortfall at the moment. Donations and giving to the church are therefore always gratefully received! But in wanting to counteract this general perception that we only want bums and bucks, we have decided not to ask people for money when they come to church.

Rather, if people come to church, we want them to know that they are not a number or a £ sign but a VIP (very important person). We want people to feel they are part of a warm and welcoming community where it is natural and safe to explore faith and do life together - where people are valued not according to their bank balance but their own self.

You will be warmly welcomed at all our services. And now that November is upon us, you are particularly welcome to join our special Memorial Service at 3 pm on November 1st, remembering our loved ones who have died in recent years. Then on November 8th it is Remembrance Sunday when we remember those who have suffered or died in conflict. These two events are good examples of what a church should be doing in a community. At Christmas we celebrate together, but at this time of year we reflect together.

Also, just a reminder that a new children and families service is starting on January 3rd 2027, called Messy Church – watch this space.

Have a great November,

All the very best, *Andy*
Revd Andy

PRAYER: As I reflect this November on family and friends who have died, help me to draw comfort from you, Jesus, for you have defeated death. Amen.

Date	Stowupland	Wetherden	Haughley
Sunday 1st	3.00pm Memorial Service	11.00am Benefice Communion	5.00pm Memorial Service
Wednesday 4th	10.00am Morning Prayer and Praise		
Sunday 8th	10.50am Remembrance Service	10.50am Remembrance Service 3.30pm Forest Church	10.50am Remembrance Service
Monday 9th	11.00am Service at Steeple View		2.00pm Service at Mere View
Tuesday 10th			5.00pm Pizza Church
Wednesday 11th			11.00am Armistice Service – The Green
Sunday 15th	9.30am Morning Worship	11.00am Sunday Praise	11.00am Joint Service with URC
Wednesday 18th		10.00am Morning Prayer and Praise	
Sunday 22nd	4.00pm Evening Service	11.00am Communion Service	9.30am Communion
Wednesday 25th			10.00am Morning Advent Prayer and Praise
Sunday 29th			11.00am Benefice Communion

CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2026

The Churches of Haughley with Wetherden and Stowupland

(For more information please contact Revd Andy Buttress:
email revandybuttress@gmail.com)

Morning Prayer & Praise – an informal 30-minute service on a Wednesday with refreshments

Sunday Praise – an informal service of up to 45 minutes with refreshments for all the family

Evening Service – a varied format which may include Celtic, Ecological or Pilgrimage themes

Communion Service – a service of worship, teaching and the celebration Jesus' death and resurrection

Morning Worship - a service of worship, teaching and prayer

Forest Church – a service for all the family, outdoors and in.

Remembrance Sunday Service

8th November @ 10.50am

Holy Trinity Church, Stowupland





SPORTS SUPERFAN

The F1 edition!

Let's start this off with the answers from last month's quiz.

1=C The Premier League spent £3.5 billion this summer.

2=B Bruno Fernandes scored a hat trick against Ipswich Town FC.

3=A Erling Haarland joined Manchester City for 51 million.

In August, I was fortunate enough to visit Silverstone Museum, the home of British motor racing, for my 12th birthday. It was a great day out for the whole family and I would definitely recommend it to any F1 fans out there!

July was particularly exciting for us F1 fans; Britain held the Silverstone Grand Prix. We had five British racers out on track, including seven times world champion Lewis Hamilton; Mercedes driver George Russell and the reigning world champion Lando Norris. Unfortunately, the scarlett Ferrari of Charles Leclerc was victorious on the day.

At this moment in time, Kimi Antonelli (the now 20 year old) leads the championship standings with 8 wins to his name. He is followed by George Russell in second place, and in third place is Lewis Hamilton, now in his second year with Ferrari.

Disappointingly, my personal favourite driver is not doing so well - Oscar Piastri sits in 7th place in the World Championship, with 120 points, 34 clear of Isack Hadjar and 43 adrift of Max Verstappen. I am now looking forward to the Las Vegas Grand Prix on November 20th -22nd.

Think you know a bit about motor sports? Have a go at these True or False questions:

1. There was only one driver who moved teams this year.

2. Nico Rosberg pipped Lewis Hamilton to the 2016 World Drivers Championship by 5 points, only to retire 5 days later.

3. Micheal Schumacher raced for McLaren.

Toby Bonsall, Sports Superfan, aged 12.

COLUMBYNE CLOSE

Misuse of Track across the Green to and from Columbyne Close.

Residents living beside the track that goes from Green Farm to Columbyne Close have noticed a lot of traffic using this track - sometimes at speed - to access or egress Columbune Close. This is prohibited. This is a private track with no right of way to anyone other than the residents (or their guests) that live beside the track. It is clearly signed that this is a private track with no access to Columbyne Close at one end and at the Columbyne Close end that it is a public footpath with no vehicular access. Please could villagers be considerate and not us this track as a short cut.

Stowupland Parish Council.



THE TELSTAR TEAM

Editor - Sarah McManus – 07849 506898 - The editor welcomes contributors. Please send all articles and contents to articles4telstar@hotmail.com or write c/o 4 Oak Apple Drive, Oak Farm Meadow, Stowupland, IP14 4FH.

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

Diary Dates - Neil Langridge – stowman@stowman.plus.com 07951 037749. To let the village know the date and venue of your event contact Neil to be included in the diary dates.

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

Telstar is distributed by a team of volunteers who deliver the magazine to over 1350 homes in Stowupland. The magazine is produced 10 months of the year, with July/August and December/January being combined editions, so our volunteers can have well earned summer and Christmas breaks.

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

Publicity and Distribution Assistance: Keith Riches

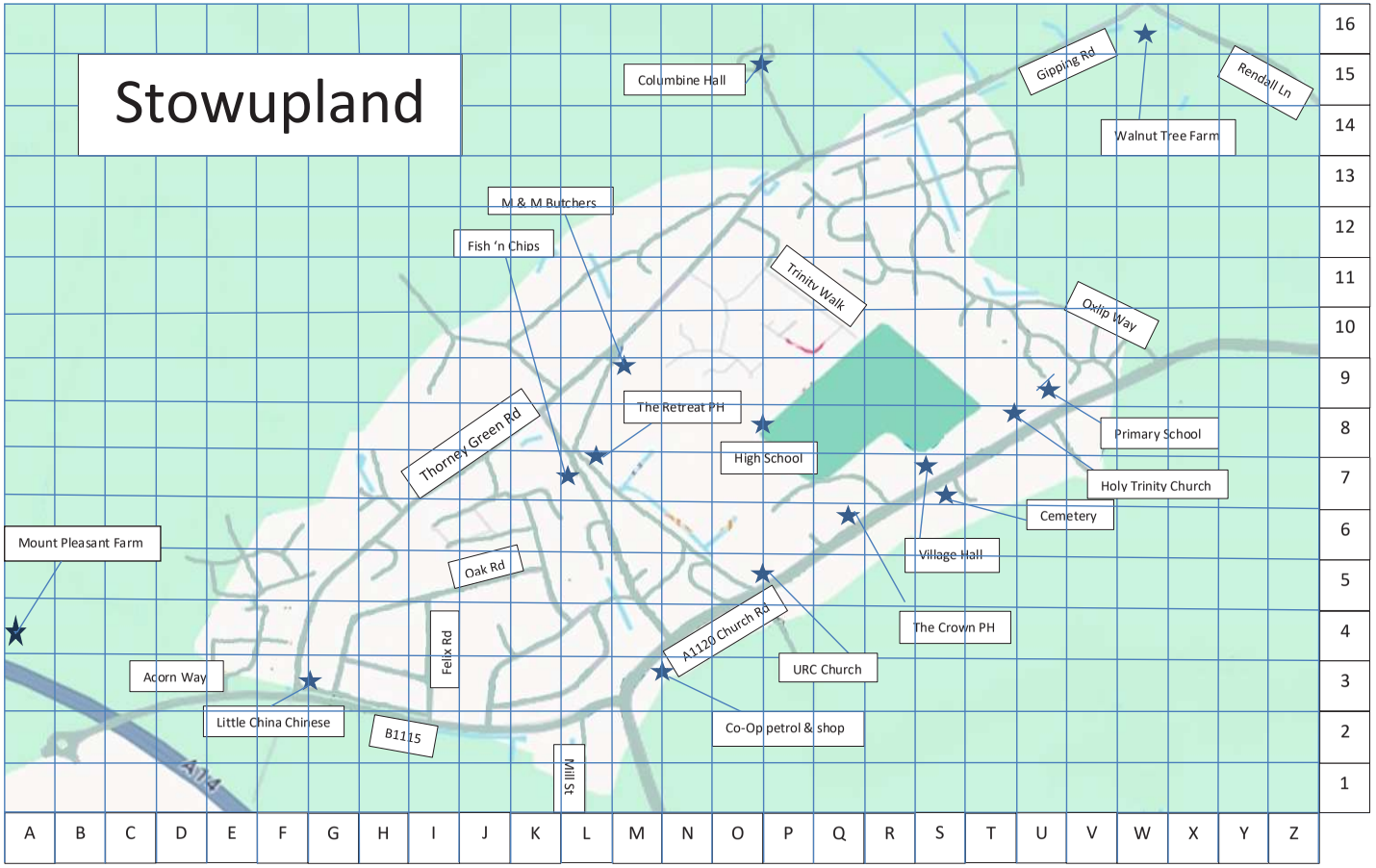
From the Telstar Committee
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Telstar – for the community, by the community.

Deadline Date: 7th November 2026 for Dec 2026 & Jan 2027 Edition

Printed by Gipping Press Ltd. Tel: 01449 721599. Web: www.gippingpress.co.uk


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Cemetery
Mount Pleasant Farm
Oak Rd
Village Hall
The Crown PH
Felix Rd
A1120 Church Rd
URC Church
Acorn Way
Little China Chinese
B1115
Co-Op petrol & shop
A14
Mill St
16
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TELSTAR

Got a little time to spare?
We could use your talents!

Love chatting to people?
Enjoy organising things?
Have an eye for detail?
Like helping at community events?
Or simply want to get more involved in village life?

Join the Team Behind Your Village Magazine

We produce the monthly magazine, sharing local news, clubs activities, events, political updates and interesting articles with residents. We also organise monthly community bingo and quarterly quizzes to help support the magazine.
You don't have to do everything or make a huge commitment.
Maybe you'd enjoy helping with community events. You might be great at proofreading, organising, advertising, or simply coming up with new ideas.

Many hands make light work, and new faces bring new ideas.
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Contact: articles4telstar@hotmail.com

