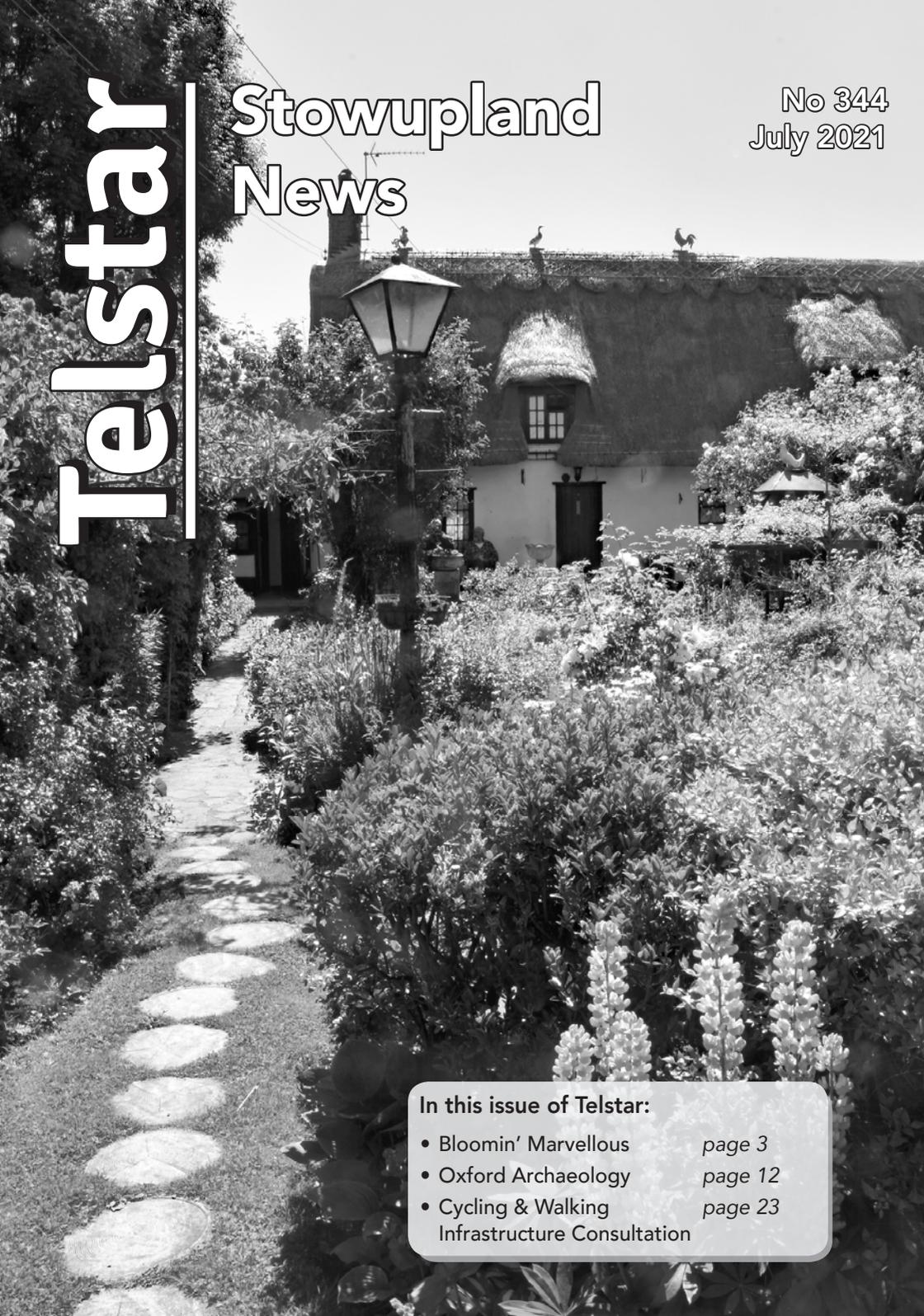


Telstar



Stowupland News

No 344
July 2021

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EDITOR'S NOTES

JULY 2021



Every month I try to think of a theme for our contributors so that Telstar is a cohesive read. To be honest, this month, I was scratching my head when I received a handwritten note about Open Gardens. The event is on the back cover, and I have written an article about Roy and Rita who open their garden for charity within these pages. You can see their cottage gracing our front cover.

So, charity became the theme for July! We all have inklings of 'things' that happen or have been mentioned in the village, but this was a chance to find out more about the charitable work that goes on here. It is quite surprising just how charitable we are here (although I really shouldn't be surprised, we're lovely people)! There are a lot of opportunities to get involved whether that is organising an event, giving your time or money, or donating things you no longer need.

Sometimes, when you think of charity, you just think it's someone else asking for money. We have covered some charities in the past, SARS springs to mind. I personally feel that giving some space in our village magazine is very worthwhile. All publicity is good for charities that are struggling more than ever but have been so needed during these difficult times.

So, don't just designate this month's issue to the recycle bin like you might with those letters that want donations. Do read on and find out more about the interesting things people here do. There are plenty of opportunities for you to get involved if you want to – that's all part of village life (did I mention we're lovely people)!

Kay

Front cover Roy & Rita Cooper's Cottage, courtesy of Ace Photographer Keith Hyland.

BLOOMIN' MARVELLOUS!

I received a message for a post to be put in Telstar. Roy had popped round with a note to advertise his 'Open Garden' and he'd spoken to Terry as I was still in the shower! So, I didn't have the chance to speak to Roy at the time but went and saw him on a later day.

I had visited Roy and Rita's Garden on other occasions when they had opened. It is one of those places that is quite magical. As a gardener myself I find every nook and cranny an inspiration. The ideas and the planting mould together to give an experience you don't forget in a hurry. It just all works, and it's no wonder that people sometimes approach Roy and Rita to see if they'll sell up!



I found myself walking up the garden path to be greeted by white doves and blackbirds sharing a meal near the open door. I called out and Rita came out to meet me and she called Roy in from somewhere in the garden, I hadn't seen him on my way in. I was invited to sit and chat and find out a bit more about how this lovely couple became involved in the Open Gardens.

Roy and Rita first opened their garden some 22 years ago in aid of Holy Trinity Church. They have opened six times for St. Elizabeth Hospice and the Salvation Army, two charities that are close to their hearts. As you can see by the poster on the back cover, they are opening their garden again. This is their way of supporting two charities that have cared for them and those close to them. At one of their open garden events a gentleman knocked on their door and said he had been evacuated to the cottage during the war.

He had knocked on the door all those years ago, as a child from London, to be met by Miss Wildman, who said she already had one evacuee and couldn't take another. When the boy burst into tears, she couldn't help but take him in. In true Rita and Roy fashion, he was invited in, and he described how they had slept on mattresses on the floor and used the old outhouse around the back (which is still there but not in use).

Rita was born in Stowupland, in Columbyne Close and together with Roy she has lived in smallholdings in the local area. As I spoke to Roy and Rita it became clear that the two of them would never have made farmers, they simply could not kill a living thing! They did, however, raise calves to sell on to farmers and had 1200 free range chickens - all called Maud! Rita used to call them in at night and get them down from the trees. Roy was a Parish Councillor for eight years. He laid the village footpaths with a little help from Jerry Voden. He dug out the pond near the Retreat and helped with its maintenance. He speaks with pride about the Music on the Green events that he was involved in, even getting Rita to run the hot dog stall!



(She swears, in jest, that her feet are bad because of all this hard work over the years). Roy also has an interest in antiques and opened the antique centre in the old town hall in Needham Market. This passion for old things is evident, not only in the restoration of the village funeral bier which now stands in his garage, but the summerhouse that he built on the site of his old aviaries. Roy used to breed owls and he proudly brought out Flossie, a beautiful taxidermy of a Snowy Owl. When she died, he stopped breeding owls, but his love of living things has carried on. There are doves flying above me and Roy has lost count how many there are now. Some have mixed with racing pigeons that pop in to say hello. Squirrels, hedgehogs, foxes and even a deer come to this special place. Unfortunately, it would seem that an otter visited too, as it decimated his koi carp ponds where he had some fish for 30 years. The carp ponds are gone now but, in their place, wildflowers grow.

The cottage was built in 1560 and it is probably the most recognisable cottage in the village. When the thatch was redone in recent years, two cockerels and a duck are firmly fixed on top! Clearly, this is the home of people with a wacky sense of humour and a love for life!

Many thanks to Rita and Roy for sharing their story with me (and you).

Please do go along on one of the Open Days and give generously, you will not be disappointed.

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Over the last year and since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic we at St Elizabeth Hospice have been adapting our care to ensure that we can continue to provide help and support to local people. The impact that the pandemic has had upon our services being vast.

It has now been a year since the first lockdown started and we thought you might appreciate an update on the work of the hospice and the changes which we have made. I am delighted to enclose a copy of our latest newsletter which provides information and updates from around St Elizabeth Hospice. We like to stay in touch as much as possible with community groups like yourselves, as so many individuals within your community have been impacted by our care. This newsletter will tell you all you need to know about our services, how you can support us, plus what's coming up in the world of events and other fundraising activities.

With the outbreak of COVID-19, the importance of St Elizabeth Hospice's care is greater than ever. From April 2020 – January 2021 we cared for 273 patients on our In Patient Unit in the hospice in Ipswich and supported 1,852 patients in the community.

One of the key changes which we implemented was the creation of The Hub. Established within a week, it is an expansion of the hospice's OneCall service. Since April 2020, more than 11,400 calls came into The Hub for advice and guidance, representing an increase of 18% in comparison to the previous year. The Hub also serves as a logistics centre, to co-ordinate end-of-life community care and to receive and distribute extra PPE to healthcare providers.

Due to the restrictions our fundraising has also been hugely impacted as our large scale mass participation events have not been able to take place and our shops have been closed for many months over the course of the year.

With the shops now re-opening many of our volunteers are unable to return at the moment to assist. We have an **urgent plea**, if you know of anyone who would be interested in volunteering in our shops throughout East Suffolk, or you are able to share this request to your group, this will be a great help. For those who are interested or would like to find out more please contact our volunteer team on 01473 707939 or email volunteer@stelizabethhospice.org.uk. Any assistance would be very much appreciated and gratefully received.

We really hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and please feel free to share the contents of it to those in your community. If you have any queries or questions at all or if you would like an electronic copy of the newsletter then please do not hesitate to be in touch.

FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



At Freeman CP School we like to support charities whenever we can, whether it's a larger charity such as Children In Need, the Poppy Appeal or the World Wildlife Fund; a local charity such as the East Anglian Children's Hospice or charities which have supported current or past students such as the Children's Liver Disease Foundation and St Elizabeth's Hospice.

The children enjoy coming up with ways to raise money for these charities and our parents/carers/grandparents and staff have always been very generous with their donations, even over the last 15 months when family members have lost jobs and money has been tighter than normal. In November and December last year when we had Children In Need, the Poppy Appeal, Christmas Jumper Day and a Christmas Raffle to raise funds for the school, all within 6 weeks and with Christmas imminent, we still raised just under £2,000! We are very lucky to have such benevolent families and staff members at our school.

Below we have highlighted two of our most recent charity events; a visit to our younger years by the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary and the summer raffle organised by the Friends of Freeman.

Suffolk Owl Sanctuary

As we haven't been able to participate in our usual trips this year, the children were very excited to hear we were having a visit from the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary in June. If you are not aware, Suffolk Owl Sanctuary is a registered charity based at Stonham Aspal which cares for and rehabilitates owls and other birds of prey at their on-site Owl and Raptor hospital. They also promote and raise awareness of conservation projects for raptors both in the UK and worldwide (for example, vultures in Africa who are endangered and yet play a vital role in the ecosystem). The Suffolk Owl Sanctuary is open to the public all year round although due to COVID have had to close for most of the last year which means money raised through donations and people visiting the sanctuary, which they rely on, has been significantly reduced.



We were happy to support a local charity whilst also providing an exciting experience for the children which supported their current learning. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting Auckland who was an Australian BooBook Owl and thanks to the parents' generous donations we were able to donate an additional £40 to the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary. Further information on the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary can be found at <https://www.owl-help.org.uk>

Friends of Freeman

Friends of Freeman is a registered charity consisting of parents and grandparents of children attending Freeman CP School and staff, who raise funds for the school to support and enhance the educational resources and social well-being of all the children from Reception to Year 6. They have been a vital source of income for the school during recent times when we have experienced various funding cuts.



In the past, Friends of Freeman (FoF) have organised a wide range of events to raise money including discos, summer fairs, Easter tombolas and even bungee jumps! In June this year, after having it cancelled several times due to Covid, the secretary of Friends of Freeman, Alex Ratcliffe, completed a bungee jump to raise funds for FoF, donations for which can still be made at www.gofundme.com/bungee-fof. The money received from such events has funded items such as Outdoor Play equipment, iPads for the classrooms, Bikeability Road Safety courses for our Year 6s, a wet play canopy for the Early Years Unit and even travelling Pantomime shows, bringing Theatreland to the school!

As FoF were unable to hold a summer fair this year, they organised a 'dress-down' day last term where the children were invited to come to school in non-school uniform for a £1 donation. FoF then used the donated money to purchase summer hampers sourced locally from Alder Carr Farm and are currently selling raffle tickets with the lovely summer hampers as prizes. Raffle tickets are £1 a ticket and are available from the school office until Monday 12th July with the winners being drawn on the 14th July. Anyone is welcome to enter the draw!



More information about Friends of Freeman can be found at friendsoffreeman.co.uk

And finally...

We would like to thank all the parents, carers and other family members who have generously donated to the charities we have supported over the years and to those charities who have supported us, such as the Rotary Club who have kindly gifted dictionaries to the school and the Woodland Trust who donated saplings to plant in our school field.

Freeman CP School

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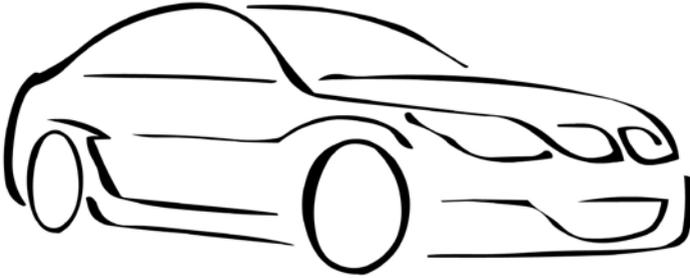
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Oxford Archaeology: Dig at Trinity Meadows, Stowupland.

Oxford Archaeology East have been undertaking fieldwork around Stowupland for the past few years prior to the development of Trinity Meadows taking place. We have been working on behalf of the client, Bloor Homes, and their planning consultant, RPS.

Over the years we have undertaken trial trenching and open area excavations, initially within the fields where the Trinity Meadows development stands, and more recently in the field to the east, where over the past 2 months we dug trenches and a large open area to identify, dig and record all the archaeological remains present prior to further development taking place.



The results have been very interesting, with the remains of a small medieval farmstead, or settlement, being found, which fronted onto Gipping Road. Most of the archaeological remains date to around the 11th to 13th centuries, a time known as the “high medieval” period. We know this from the dating of the finds within the ditches and pits we have dug on the site, often pottery and occasionally metalwork, such as coins, or iron tools.

Once we stripped the topsoil of the site, the archaeology was visible in the form of dark lines and “blobs” which you can see clearly against the geology of the area, which around Stowupland is a heavy chalky clay. These dark lines and blobs represent what were open ditches forming enclosures and delineated trackways, and backfilled pits, all activity associated with the small settlement.



The settlement appears to have lasted until the late medieval period, with a focus of activity adjacent to Gipping Road, but by the post-medieval period (i.e. the 16th century) the settlement is abandoned. The land then becomes open fields bounded by large ditches and used for agriculture and stayed much the same until the residential development we see today was built from 2018 onwards.

The finds recovered from site include pottery, coins, metalwork and animal bone. Much of the finds assemblage is one typical of Suffolk medieval rural settlements. Much of the pottery is produced locally, but there was also pottery from Essex, Norfolk and Buckinghamshire and even further afield with Cologne stoneware also being found. This demonstrates the link between this small farmstead and the market in Stowmarket during the medieval period.



The animal bone found identified the farmstead kept cattle and some sheep, goat and pig. Evidence for butchery was also seen on some of the bones. Some charred grains of wheat and rye were also found, suggesting these crops were being grown in the surrounding fields and used for flour production to produce breads and animal fodder.

The team of archaeologists on site are all professionals and undertake this work full time, paid for by developers as part of the planning process.

The report on our 2017 excavations under the current development can be found at: <https://library.oxfordarchaeology.com/5008/> and a short journal article was recently published in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology, 2020.

Photo captions

Photo 1: trial trenching being undertaken in the field east of Trinity Meadows during April 2021

Photo 2: aerial photo of the excavation area east of Trinity Meadows, dug during May 2021

Photo 3: a hole dug into one of the medieval ditches, showing the dark, charcoaled fill.

All photos courtesy of Oxford Archaeology.

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Please take every opportunity to ensure that criminals are not able to spoil your day by following a few simple steps:

- Always lock your external doors, even when you are at home.
- Check the doors and windows are secure before leaving the house or at night, especially doors like French doors that may not have been used for months. Don't assume another member of the household has done it.
- Don't leave keys in the locks or within reach or sight of the door or window. Make sure you have a fire plan so everyone in the house can leave quickly in the event of an emergency.
- Windows should be left secure when a room is unoccupied, even if you are still in the house.
- Never leave a door or window insecure to allow a pet or family member access.
- Never leave car keys within reach or sight of the doors or windows.
- Lock cycles in a secure shed or garage. Fit a secure ground anchor and lock them to that too.
- Always lock tools away after working in the garden to prevent them being used to force entry.
- Ensure your rear garden is secure and lock gates.

For more information on home security please go to <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/homesecuritychecklist1.pdf>

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DOWN TO EARTH

KATE ELLIOTT

I've realised two things. Firstly, you can never have too many climbing roses - or any other flowering climber for that matter. Vertical colour is always a good thing. Secondly, how magnificent many roses look if allowed to grow as big as they really want to rather than being constantly clipped to stay within the limits imposed by our gardens. So, if you have room on your house or a suitable tree (an old apple tree is perfect) try growing a rose up it. But even if this is not practical, then pergolas, arches, fences and walls are all ideal for training a rose over.

There are two types of climbing roses - climbers and ramblers. The major difference between the two is how and when they flower. There is a simple rule. Ramblers only flower once for a maximum of six weeks in summer and tend to have many more and smaller flowers than a climber. Many ramblers are also very vigorous, such as 'Kiftsgate' which we have here at Columbine, covering the stump of an old ash tree at the end of our bog garden.

They also produce their flowers differently. Climbers form their flowers on new wood that grows in spring before flowering whereas ramblers do so on the growth that took place in summer and autumn after flowering.

It follows from this that the two types of roses need very different pruning regimes. Put very simply, ramblers should be pruned after they have flowered and climbers before they flower.



The best time to prune climbing roses is in late autumn although they can be done as late as March or April. The idea is to create and maintain a two-dimensional framework of approximately five long stems trained laterally and tied to wires with side branches breaking all the way along these main stems. It is these side branches that grow vigorously in spring and carry the flowers. Ideally a third of the plant is removed right to the ground each year - the oldest, woodiest stems - so that it is constantly renewing itself. Left unpruned a climber typically becomes very bare at the base with a cluster of flowers right at the top or at the edge of a complete tangle. If you do have such a tangle then the best thing to do is to prune it all back very hard and start again.

Ramblers are even more prone to create a complete and very thorny tangle - often a result of trying to restrict too vigorous a plant in too small a space. The best option for a rambler is to plant it up the side of a tall tree and simply let it grow.

My favourite climbing roses for North or East facing positions:

Madame Alfred Carriere - pink
Souvenir du Docteur Jamain - rich burgundy
Zephirine Drouhin - pink
Climbing Iceberg - white
New Dawn - pale pink

My favourite for South or West facing positions:

Kiftsgate - white, rambler
Constance Spry - pink
Wedding Day - white, rambler
Paul's Himalayan Musk - pink, rambler
Rambling Rector - white, rambler

The tomatoes that I planted in our greenhouse and polytunnel in May are growing well and need regular attention. I keep tying in the new growth to upright canes and I keep on top of pinching out sideshoots before they get out of control. Make sure you water regularly and feed them once a week with either a tomato feed or, if like us, you have comfrey growing in your garden, you can make your own comfrey feed.

Fill a bucket about half to three-quarters full of comfrey leaves. Place a brick on top of the leaves to press them down. Fill the bucket with water and leave to steep for three to four weeks. The water will turn into a dark 'tea' and will brew darker and stronger the longer you leave it. I highly recommend you place a lid on the bucket or failing that, keep it as far away from the house as possible, as it is the most foul-smelling potent liquid you will ever smell - but your plants will love you for it.

Draw the comfrey feed from the bucket wearing gloves and dilute it by using one part feed to ten parts water and feed your plants weekly. It is high in just about every nutrient a plant needs, including the big three, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. It is particularly good for tomatoes but can be used for any plant that needs a helping hand.

Here are some more jobs you can be doing this month:

- Water, feed and pick sweet peas regularly and remove any seed pods to prolong flowering.
- Cut lavender for drying, choosing newly opened flowers for the best fragrance, then hang up in a cool, dark place.

- Sow biennials such as foxgloves, honesty, forget-me-nots and wallflowers, for blooms next year.
- Water thirsty vegetable plants such as beans, courgettes, tomatoes and pumpkins regularly.
- Sow a last batch of peas.
- Cut garden hedges.
- Dead head bedding plants and annuals every few days to encourage more flowers.
- Cut down broad beans after harvesting, but leave the roots in the soil to release nitrogen as they decompose.
- Take cuttings from fuchsias, coleus and pelargoniums.

July is a month to relish. It is a time of plenty with meals eaten outside on warm summer nights. So, take time to sit and eat, enjoying a glass of what most tickles your fancy and watch the dusk wrap itself gently around the garden.

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WILDFLOWERS, TREES AND BIODIVERSITY



Are you interested in improving our village with wildflower planting, trees and hedges or encouraging birds, insects and mammals? So many people said how attractive The Green was when it was yellow with buttercups and were disappointed to see them disappear.

Our Green could be more attractive; we could have areas of wildflowers, plants to attract birds and insects – we need volunteers to come up with ideas. We have an opportunity to have a community orchard; it would be planted on the Linden Homes site – we need volunteers to care for it so that residents can enjoy the fruit. And we can expect to take over Thradstones Meadow – that will offer huge opportunities.

We could make bird boxes, bug hotels, overwintering places for newts. We could fill in gaps in hedges. How about wildflower verges? Native trees? Improving the tree canopy to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee next year.

We have a long list of suggestions, but our list of volunteers is a bit short. We need people to help plan projects, people who will plant hedges and trees, people to make arrangements for parents and children working together to make bird boxes.

If you are interested in birds, bees, flowers or trees or anything that would improve the environment or diversity of Stowupland, please get in touch with one of us.

It is our intention to set up a meeting in mid July to start the ball rolling. There is no obligation to commit to anything at this stage, just to get together and see what is possible. Let us have your contact details and we will be in touch with you with the arrangements.



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COUNTRYSIDE RAMBLER

BRIAN WARD

The year is suddenly rushing by, we are in June and the longest day is with us. As I write this, it is only early June, but I have noticed a distinct lack of insects; butterflies are fewer than other years, also damselflies and dragonflies are less abundant. Obviously, this will have a knock-on effect to all that prey upon them and that is a lot, as insects start the food chain. Not only birds predate insects to feed themselves and their offspring but shrews, bats and even lizards will all be affected.

I managed a short break in mid Wales when the restrictions were lifted. As a small group of avid birdwatchers/photographers we stayed in our usual b&b with a local nature reserve within walking distance. We managed to observe Dipper, Pied Flycatcher, Chough, Whinchat, Raven and some of the other Welsh specialities. One bird I was hoping to see or hear was the Wood Warbler but to no avail: not a single bird even at some of the known sites. I would like to think we were just unlucky or is this bird in decline along with many others? The weather was not ideal, but we made the best of it.

My wife and I have moved house and we are now nearer the village with all its amenities within walking distance. One of the first things I have done was to erect a bird feeder; things were slow to begin with - only Collared Doves, but now into early summer Goldfinches, Greenfinches and various Tit species have found us; we even have a small flock of Linnets that frequent the open space at the front of the property, and they soon found the sunflower hearts I scattered about.

Now we can travel further afield I have been visiting some of our nature reserves. It appears that everyone has the same idea as all the places I visited were very busy. Maybe more people are appreciating what nature has to offer and it's mainly free! The only way I avoid the crowds is an early start and it pays dividends as you are on site as the wildlife wakes up. The first few hours are magical, the badgers are going to bed and the daytime shift begins. To watch the sunrise at this time of year is truly spectacular. Just sit down in a suitable spot, close your eyes and listen; then visualise what you hear: maybe Woodpeckers, Warblers, always a Robin and maybe a deer barking away in the distance, or a large bee buzzes past. Even the smells are stronger at this special time, lush vegetation, the smell of pine trees or even a fox that passed by a few minutes before you arrived. Even if you return home for a late breakfast the day seems to go on forever, some may say 'No, thank you', but me, I love it. Stay safe and well and give an early morning start a go.



'Observe, don't disturb' *our wildlife says police*

'Observe, don't disturb' is the message to visitors who go to the Suffolk coast this summer to enjoy the county's wildlife.

Suffolk Constabulary has signed up to the national initiative Operation Seabird, led by the RSPCA, to raise awareness of the importance of protecting and preserving our rich wildlife habitats and tackling disturbances to seals, sea birds and nesting birds.

Officers will be out and about meeting visitors in specific locations across the county, including the Stour and Orwell Estuaries, Covehithe, Orford Ness and Hollesley Marshes – between the beginning of June and the end of August.

They are targeting coastal areas where people and animals interact, such as sites with nesting seabirds. Previous incidents along the coastline nationally have included dogs off leads disturbing nesting birds or seals, wild campers lighting fires on the beach dunes and causing significant damage to the fauna, quad bikes or 4x4 vehicles riding over nesting areas and canoeists getting too close to seals.

Nationally, Operation Seabird is urging people visiting Britain's coastline to:

- maintain a significant distance from wildlife, both at sea and around the coast
- never get close enough to touch animals or take selfies;
- read signs and stick to paths
- keep dogs on leads where instructed to do so and keep dogs under control at all times

Sgt Brian Calver of the Suffolk Rural and Wildlife Team said: "We have a beautiful coastline in Suffolk with a rich and varied wildlife habitat and bearing in mind the limitations we have had to adhere to over the past year it is only natural we want to get out and about to explore and learn about this wildlife on our doorstep.

"However, we do need to be wary of the impact our fascination with such wildlife can have. We all have to assume this responsibility and enjoyment of the wildlife should be done at a safe and sensible distance without disturbing the animals.

"Operation Seabird will see us engaging and educating visitors, but people need to be clear that we will take action against anyone who wilfully and intentionally damages and disrupts our wildlife and their habitats."

Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore said: "I really welcome the Constabulary's support for Operation Seabird. Suffolk has outstanding and very rich biodiversity and is a major attraction for the county's visitors and day trippers – it is one of Suffolk's "Jewels in our crown."

"Our natural heritage requires very careful management and care so it continues to thrive for the benefit of all.

"I would ask people to be particularly mindful of the need to do everything possible to look after this heritage so please respect the animals' habitats, keep your distance and leave them well alone."

Operation Seabird was launched in 2020 by North Yorkshire and Humberside Police along with the RSPCA and is supported by local authorities, RNLI and wildlife trusts.

Anyone who has witnessed deliberate and intentional disturbance of coastal wildlife and their habitats should contact the Police on 101, quoting Operation Seabird.

For concerns about the welfare of an animal, please contact the RSPCA's helpline on 0300 1234 999.

To help the RSPCA continue rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming animals in desperate need of care please visit our website or call our donation line on 0300 123 8181.

CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE CONSULTATION

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have just launched a public consultation around cycling and walking Infrastructure.

We hope this will give our residents and communities the opportunity to let us know about improvements they would like to see regarding their local walking and cycling routes and facilities. The consultation will help us to develop our Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.

The platform for engaging with this consultation, as well as further information and context about the consultation, is available online and will remain open for two months:

<https://baberghmidsuffolkactivetravel.commonplace.is/>

In order to contribute to this consultation, people simply need to click on "[View map and comment](#)", then "[Have your say](#)". The platform will then invite users to place a 'pin' on the map, to identify the location that any comments or suggestions refer to, and then answer a few short questions about how Walking or Cycling can be improved in this location.

STOWMARKET U3A:

I'm sure some of you have heard of Stowmarket u3a and may already be members but as we are all venturing out more into society once again, I wonder if you are looking for new activities to join, new people to meet.



If you are retired or semi-retired perhaps you would be interested in Stowmarket u3a, a group that only costs £15 a year to join for a monthly talk at the URC in Stowmarket on a wide range of topics, and the possibility of joining one or more of our interest groups which meet in people's homes or local venues.

We will be holding an afternoon picnic in the grounds of Stowmarket Town Council officers on Wed 18th August from 2pm till 4.00pm to which you are invited to meet us and find out about our group. Look for our banner and yellow and blue ribbons. We will also be holding another open afternoon show casing groups on Wed 15th Sept from 2.30pm to 4.30 in the URC Stowmarket.

If you would like to learn more before then, please go to our website www.u3astowmarket.org.uk

Hope to see some of you soon,
Glynis Hunt Chair



DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

I'm sure there must be some ladies out there who do!

We are the Jubilee Ladies Choir, Stowmarket (see us on Facebook) and practice on Tuesday evenings at 7.30, at the URC Stowmarket, because of the brilliant acoustics. There are no auditions, the only criteria being that you can sing in tune! Age is no barrier, the young and not so young are welcome, as are beginners or experienced singers.

Our repertoire includes popular classics, pop, folk and songs from the shows and we are available for weddings, funerals, charity and other events as well as putting on our own concerts. Members come from several surrounding villages including two of us from Stowupland so transport needn't be a problem.

All being well, our next rehearsal is planned for Tuesday August 17th and we invite you to come along and listen to see if it might be for you. We are a sociable group of about 40 ladies, sopranos, mezzos and altos. Singing with others is very therapeutic, as well as being fun.

Our musical director and pianist are both excellent, as well as being very helpful and guiding us through the music.

For further details or any questions please call Di Balaam on 01449 736374

Avril Hunt

VOLUNTEER TRUSTEES REQUIRED

At Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk, we believe that children and families deserve the best possible start in life, to have choices and chances to live the best lives they can.



**Mid & West
Suffolk**

We are currently looking for new trustees that can add their range of knowledge, skills, business acumen, talents and experience to our existing team.

Can you offer any of these skills?

Management skills - Financial knowledge and budgeting - Experience of accessing funding and grants for charities - Using creative ways to raise income through fundraising - Good communication skills - Experience of strategic and financial planning - Awareness of confidentiality, equality and diversity - Awareness of Charity Commission requirements and good governance procedures - An understanding and appreciation of children's and families changing needs.

Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk is a part of the national charity Home-Start UK, with local Home-Starts in over two hundred communities. We recruit and train volunteers to help families with young children. Our home visiting volunteers support other parents by visiting them in their own homes for a couple of hours each week. We also run family groups for parents and children to attend. We support families in situations as diverse as isolation, bereavement, multiple births, illness, disability or who are just finding parenting a struggle. We provide non-judgemental practical and emotional support and help build the family's confidence and ability to cope. We currently have a charity shop in Eye, and an online eBay Hub in Stowmarket.

This is a great opportunity to give something back to your community by sharing your skills and knowledge, and a great way to meet new people. The Board of Trustees meets 4-5 times per year, and as a guideline, spends around 3-5 hours per week on their duties.

Please call Amanda Jacques on 07540 282074 or Angela Dennis 07936 913928 if you would like to discuss this further.

We are also recruiting for home-visiting volunteers, volunteers to help in our weekly groups, and volunteers to help in our shop in Eye.

Please see our website www.homestartmidandwestsuffolk.org.uk for more details.



SUFFOLK
Community
Foundation



SENSORY ARK

Wednesdays 10:00 am to 12:00 pm from 9th June 2021

Red Gables "Sensory Ark" Project

As we slowly emerge from the Covid-19 lockdown our experiences are very different, some of us might be feeling frazzled, overworked, and in need of some individual recovery time, whilst others might be feeling isolated and craving some social interaction.

Sensory Ark offers the opportunity to relax outdoors, whilst doing something creative.

On offer is some gentle drawing and creating time for adults of all abilities help and guidance will be on hand from Stella Davis, an experienced artist and mentor. Those attending are welcome to bring their own materials however good quality materials will be provided free of charge.

The focus is on time to "lose" yourself in painting or drawing by being absorbed in what you are creating. It does not have to be a masterpiece – the pleasure is in using the materials to make a piece of work.

We will meet in the beautiful gardens and Spinney at Red Gables; however should it rain; we will meet in the hall at Red Gables whilst observing Covid safety guidelines.

There is no charge for these sessions and we hope that any photographs of the work created can be displayed at Red Gables and used to encourage and inspire others.

Participants are welcome to bring their own refreshments and a packed lunch if you would like to stay on and eat together afterwards.

There are 10 places available each week, to book your free place please contact Stella

07599 398866

artwisestella@gmail.com

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Stowupland Village Hall

Excellent facilities - competitive prices



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

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

Interested? Look on our website at www.stowupland.com/village-hall.

Call or email Colin Booker, our booking secretary to arrange a viewing or make a booking.

Tel: 07862740830. email: stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

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- Referral to the appropriate specialist if we determine Chiropractic cannot help you

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Marie Broodryk
M.Tech.Chiro., CCFC, MRCC



Grant Talmage
M.Chiro

Registered with The GCC, RCC, SCA & BCA

7 Stowupland Road, Stowmarket, IP14 5AG

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Not exactly a recipe but some ideas for Summer Salads rather than the same old lettuce, tomato and cucumber!

Tomato and Mozzarella - slice some juicy tomatoes, slice mozzarella and alternate in a dish. Drizzle over some dressing or just a little olive oil and sprinkle with torn basil leaves.

Orange and Watercress - Segment a large juicy orange and mix the segments with a bag of watercress. Make a dressing of olive oil and orange juice and drizzle over.

Red Cabbage Coleslaw - Slice finely a small red cabbage, a couple of red onions and carrots. Dress lightly with vinaigrette and toss until well mixed. You can also use mayonnaise, but it looks a little messy as the cabbage bleeds its colour.

Mixed Tomatoes and Rocket - halve red and yellow cherry tomatoes and mix with a bag of rocket. Make a dressing using red wine vinegar, soy sauce and honey and drizzle over the leaves and tomatoes.

Cucumber and Mint - Dice some cucumber and make a dressing with natural yoghurt and chopped mint. Mix it all together and add some mint leaves.

Couscous and Pine Nuts - Make up some couscous (as per the packet) add some toasted pine nuts and chopped baby spinach leaves. Mix with a dressing of your choice or just olive oil.

Spicy Couscous - Add curry powder (or turmeric and cumin) to the water when making up the couscous. Add a few raisins and chopped dried apricots. Mix together with a little olive oil.

Pasta Salad - an old favourite that you can add nearly anything to. Cook and chill some pasta shapes. Mix in tuna or chicken or bacon or cooked salmon flakes and vegetables of your choice – sweetcorn, sundried tomatoes (or fresh), peas, mushrooms, chopped baby spinach or rocket, sweet peppers, mange tout, baby sweetcorn, broccoli florets, courgettes etc. The choice is endless -whatever you have or what takes your fancy. Combine the ingredients with your choice of dressing or olive oil.

Mind and Soul

Wherever you are, whatever you be,
Your mind is awake, your spirit is free,
Sometimes there are bad thoughts, sometimes good,
Whatever they are, they are private in thought.
When you are sleeping or wide awake,
Your thoughts and your dreams,
No-one can take,
If you are unconscious or locked up maybe,
Your thoughts are within you,
Your spirit is free.

By Grace Sochacz.

Stowupland Sports & Social Club are looking to recruit: -

PART TIME BAR MANAGER

Experience of working in a bar and customer service at supervisory level
The role will consist of working some evenings and weekends
Punctual trustworthy & reliable
Responsible of stock control
Organise staff rota & cover
Maintenance requirements, hygiene & cleanliness of bar & cellar area
Is aware of licence legislation and ensures he/she and staff adhere to it
Attend monthly evening committee meetings

BAR STAFF

Looking for bar staff to work in the Village Hall on a casual basis.
You will be available to work Friday and Saturday evenings from
6.30 – midnight when a bar is booked for a function
Bar experience would be useful but not essential
Punctual, trustworthy and reliable

If you are interested and believe you have the appropriate skills please
contact: -

Mark Dye, Vice Chairman Sports and Social Club
markdye18@hotmail.co.uk

Church Road, Stowupland IP14 4BQ



THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY

The Queen's Green Canopy is a project that has recently been launched by HRH The Prince of Wales to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. The motto is to 'plant a tree for the Jubilee'. More details can be found on <https://queensgreencanopy.org/>

Perhaps this could be a project to tie in with Mid Suffolk Council biodiversity plan that has been spoken about previously in Telstar. Do let your Parish Councillors know if this is something you wish to see in Stowupland.

QUIZ

1. How can you tell how old a tree is?

C) The number of rings inside its trunk

These rings show the tree's cycle of growth, with the lighter rings showing spring growth and the dark rings showing its growth during late summer, early Autumn. There are ways of telling how old a tree is without it needing to be felled. While trees grow at different rates pending on things like soil quality and light levels, you can get a rough estimate of tree age by measuring the tree's circumference and dividing it by 2.5. Go and measure a local tree and find out how old it is!

2. The Whomping Willow is a tree from which series of books?

D) Harry Potter

Did you guess it correctly? The Whomping Willow is a magical tree from the wizarding world of Harry Potter. Its large branches act like arms and can attack anyone who gets too close!

3. How do trees benefit us?

1. Through slowing the rate of climate change
2. By helping to prevent flooding
3. Providing a home to lots of wildlife
4. Cleaning our air

If you chose any of the above answers, then you're correct. Trees have a huge number of benefits and that's why we need to do our best to protect them.

4. What is the purpose of tree bark?

B) It serves as a protective barrier for the tree

The role of bark is to protect the tree. Whether it is protecting the tree from water loss, warding off bacteria and fungus or shielding it from the sun's scorching heat, bark is pretty impressive.

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

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

Mid Suffolk District Council

www.midsuffolk.gov.uk
Keith Welham - keith.welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk -
01449 673185

Police

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

Police Safer Neighbourhood Team

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

Samaritans – 116 123

Stowupland Village Website

www.stowupland.com

Parish Council Website

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Suffolk County Council

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

Schools

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

DIARY DATES

JULY

THURS 1	2-4pm Village Hall car park	Choose Refills pop up shop
THUR 1	7.00 – 9.30 PM Village Hall	Short mat bowls
FRI 2		
SAT 3		
SUN 4	7pm Village Hall	Country music
MON 5	6.30 pm Village Hall	Dance Club
TUES 6		
WED 7	9.30 pm Village Hall	Baby and Toddler Group
WED 7	2-4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile PO.
WED 7	7.30 pm Village Hall	Becoming a House Detective by Stephen Poulton
THUR 8	7.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Parish Council meeting
FRI 9		
SAT 10		
SUN 11		
MON 12	6.00 pm Village Hall	Dance Club
TUES 13	9.30 Jubilee Ct, 9.55 the Green	Mobile Library
WED 13	9.30 pm Village Hall	Baby and Toddler Group
WED 14	2-4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile PO.
THUR 15		
FRI 16		
SAT 17		
SUN 18		
MON 19	6.30 pm Village Hall	Dance Club
TUES 20		
WED 20	9.30 pm Village Hall	Baby and Toddler Group
WED 21	2-4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile PO.
WED 21	7.30 pm Village Hall	W.I. – Strawberries and cream tea
THUR 22		

FRI 23
SAT 24
SUN 25
MON 26
TUES 27
WED 28
WED 28
THUR 29
FRI 30
SAT 31

6.30 pm Village Hall

Dance Club

9.30 pm Village Hall

Baby and Toddler Group

2-4 pm Village Hall car park

Mobile PO.

7.00 – 9.30 pm Village Hall

Short mat bowls

AUGUST

SUN 1

MON 2

TUES 3

WED 4

WED 4

Wed 4

THUR 5

6.30 pm Village Hall

Dance Club

9.30 pm Village Hall

Baby and Toddler Group

2-4 pm Village Hall car park

Mobile PO.

7.30 pm Village Hall

Charlie and the Dig by Charlie Haylock

2-4 pm Village Hall car park

Choose Refills pop-up shop

STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Face to Face meetings Resume

We will be meeting on the second Thursday of the month at Stowupland Bowls Club
Numbers are still limited due to Government Restrictions. If you are planning to
attend our meetings then we ask that you contact the Clerk in advance

Tel: 01449 677005 Email: parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Rachel Eburne - rachel.eburne@midsuffolk.gov.uk -
01449 673311

MSDC General Contact No. 0300 1234000

Mobile Library - 07721 879855

Parish Council

Sally Reeves - Chairman - 01449 745739

sallyreeves@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Beeson - 07918 808387

laurabeeson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Philip Deal - 07957 623326

philipdeal@stowuplandpc.co.uk

John Hayward - 01449 674717

johnhayward@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Johnson - 07826 851030

laurajohnson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Debra Melhuish - 07979125904

debramelhuish@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Paula Murton - 07906 677817

paulamurton@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Ray Studd - 01449 676606

raystudd@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Jerry Voden - 01449 703717

jerryvoden@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council - Claire Pizzev

parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk - 01449 677005

2 Broomspath Road, IP14 4DB

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

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Vets

Cedarwood - 01449 676966

Stowe Vets - 01449 613130

Village Hall Bookings

Colin Booker - Phone - 07862740830

stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

Village Clubs

Baby and Toddler Group -

Kelly Woolhough - 07776 206430

Book Group - Patricia Hodgkins - 01449 672127

Bowls Club - Graham Newman - 01359 240846

Community Events - Keith Welham - 01449 673185

Country and Western - Pat Murphy - 01449 677405

Dance Club - Mary Durham - 01449 672601

Local History Group - Jerry Voden - 07951 086383

Short Mat Bowls - Pam Fayers - 01449 770080

Sports and Social Club - Andy Parkin - 07796 274905

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

Stowupland Cricket Club

www.stowuplandcricketclub.co.uk/

Stowupland Falcons Football Club -

stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk

Stowupland Sports Centre -

info@stowuplandsportscentre.co.uk - 01449 672531

Stowmarket Wildlife Group - John Thompson -

swtstowmarket@gmail.com - 01449 676471

W.I. - Mary Coltart - 01449 678403
coltart2001@yahoo.com

THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY

5. What element do trees store large quantities of in their tissues?

Carbon

Trees absorb carbon during photosynthesis, which is then used to help the tree grow. Once the tree has absorbed the carbon it has been "captured". By removing carbon from our atmosphere, trees help slow the rate of climate change.

6. Amber is made from which fossilised part of a tree?

B) Resin

Amber is the fossilized remains of resin, which is produced by trees in response to wound, helping to seal the wound and keeping out harmful intruders. Sometimes insects can get trapped in the amber, preserving them for millions of years.

7. Why is the sandbox tree nicknamed the "Dynamite Tree"?

D) Its fruit explodes, sending seeds flying at 150mph

The "Dynamite Tree" is one of nature's many wonders. The sandbox tree is covered in spikes, contains toxic sap, and has exploding fruit. Nicknamed the "Dynamite Tree," its fruit explodes when ripe, sending hardened seeds over a 60-foot radius at 150 miles per hour.

8. How long have trees been on Earth for?

C) 370 million years

It is estimated that trees have existed for around 370 million years. To put that into context, dinosaurs became extinct 66 million years ago. Amazing!

9. In Europe the average country has 38% covered in forest.

What percentage of the UK is covered in forest?

1. 13%

Research shows that just 13% of the UK is covered in forest. The good news is that we can help change that, by planting trees and protecting the ones we have.

10. Peter Rabbit lived in a burrow of which type of tree?

1. Fir

In The Tale of Peter Rabbit, 'a very big fir-tree' is where Peter Rabbit and his family call home.

Quiz courtesy of <https://queensgreencanopy.org/>

STOWMARKET ECO FUTURE GROUP



Come and find us at the Primadonna Festival,
Museum of East Anglian Life
30th, 31st July and 1st August 2021



Charity Shops

When I was a kid, we had jumble sales, not charity shops. They seem to have gone up market. They are great for raising funds for good causes, and for finding bargains. Some of my favourite things are clothes, books or pots and pans that I've found in charity shops. It's very satisfying to find the thing you've been looking for. They are great for the environment too – as we are encouraged to **Re-use, Recycle and Repair** with new enthusiasm. It takes a change of mind-set to **Refuse** to buy new. When my kids were small, we had a big bag of clothes that kept getting passed around different sizes of children. Somebody asked once "who bought all this new?" and none of us knew the answer!! I see the same thing happening now on social media sites. We mustn't forget either, that sometimes we just give stuff away - passing on things that we no longer need makes huge sense. They might go to friends or family, or we might find a home for them through freebie sites. We are also doing our children a huge favour if we give them second (third/fourth ...) hand toys instead of loading their planet up with tons more plastic. Things that have a bit of history to them seem more valuable somehow.

SEFG has a sister Facebook page – the 5R's Refuse, Reduce, Re-use, Repair, Recycle - why not drop in and have a look or add your own ideas.



We understand that some people prefer events news by email rather than on Facebook, so we are just about to launch a monthly newsletter. Please contact stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com if you would like to be on the circulation list.

Charity is not just about giving or receiving things. It's a very easy jump to make to think about giving and volunteering our time and energy to things we care about. I like this quote:

(I admit that I had to look up who Kathy Calvin is - the former President and Chief Executive Officer of the United Nations. She worked on decreasing child mortality, empowering women and girls,

"Giving is not just about making a donation.

It is about making a difference."

Kathy Calvin

creating a clean energy future, using mobile technology for development, and improving U.S.-UN relations, and was named one of Newsweek's "150 Women Who Rock the World," in 2011 – Wow! That told me!)

One of the great things about Stowmarket Eco Future Group is that it has grown fast (0-400 people in 9 months) with so many people willing to give of their time, energy, expertise and concern for the environmental future of us all. **What life will be like for us all in Stowmarket and surrounding villages in ten years' time, depends very much on how we all behave now and what we ask from our local and national politicians.**

Please continue to save your **empty crisp packets**. SEFG collects them for recycling on the first Sunday of each Month 2-4pm at Red Gables Volunteer Centre, Ipswich Street. Thank you

THE REFILL REVOLUTION

As a nation we are getting better at recycling and are becoming more aware of plastic waste and the effects it has on our planet but there is still a long way to go and single use plastics is something we can all reduce in our daily lives without too much effort.

Choose Refills are a new Stowmarket based mobile eco refill shop offering a range of eco friendly and vegan cleaning liquids and hair and body products. We also have our own range of natural self care products such as soap bars, hand lotions and more liquid refills that are locally made in Stowmarket, helping to support local producers too.

Refilling your empty bottles is becoming more popular but refill stations tend to be in the larger towns. We wanted to make it easier for everyone to refill so our mobile shop is making regular stops in smaller villages throughout Mid Suffolk, bringing the refill revolution to rural areas. Working with local communities we have regular refill shop locations giving customers the opportunity to bring their bottles along to be refilled from our bulk containers. Once these are empty, we send them back to our suppliers to be cleaned, refilled and reused, ensuring the closed loop system of recycling.

So, after much planning and Covid delays, **Choose Refills** first rural pop-up shop was held on Saturday 1st May at The Punchbowl Community Inn, Battsford which was very successful and in the space of two hours, we refilled over 45L of liquids, saving at least 60 single use plastic bottles. We are constantly striving to make our service available to all so have introduced free local delivery and doorstep refills as well as a click and collect service from our pop-up shops.

Together we really can make a difference!

Visit our website www.chooserefills.co.uk for more information about our locations or follow us on facebook for the latest updates.



STOWUPLAND CRICKET CLUB



May 2021 will likely be remembered for the number of games called off rather than played, however the month has seen a successful start for the junior teams.

The under 15 side were successful against Woolpit early in the month and the under 13 side unbeaten in all 3 games played during May. The under 11's played and won 2 games and both the under 9's and under 7's did well in their festivals, several of them playing matches for the very first time.

The 1st XI started the month with an abandoned game against St Margaret's that featured an innings of 62 by Tom Wray which was followed by three weeks where rain stopped play. The month ended with a loss to Maldon where Tom Wray was once again top scorer with 40. George Yardley took 3 wickets for 27 but it wasn't enough to keep the visitors at bay. June started with a win away at Great Bromley last weekend with Lucas Howard making 77 and both Tom Wray and Luke Abbot 39. A magnificent 10* from Adrian Sturgeon to win the game in the final overs kept a smile on everybody's face.

The 2nd XI started with a poor performance against Stradbroke but fought back two weeks later at Earls Colne where they lost by 3 wickets. Top scorer Louis Blanchard hit 65 (50 in partnership with his dad) with Andrew Parkin making 44 in support. There were 2 wickets a piece for Andrew Deere, Patrick Stephens, and Louis Blanchard.

With plenty of cricket to come over the next few months, the bar is now open during both training and match days (in line with current Covid-19 regulations) and all spectators are welcome.

For further information please email Melanie Blanchard - mcblanch@hotmail.co.uk

Rodent Control - Insect Control - Bird Control - Pest Disinfection

Lewis Clarke
07568 480928
lrcservices95@gmail.com
Wasp Nests From £50



STOWUPLAND BOWLS CLUB

We are back into the world of bowling and enjoying every minute and with the league programmes operating again things have returned to almost normality. Just a few precautions in place, and rightly so, for the well-being and peace of mind of the players.

We endured the usual start to the season of cold winds, some rain but the weather has now become more pleasant, and it is good to be in the fresh air.

Building up to the start of league matches we enjoyed 3 afternoons weekly of roll-ups (practice matches) to hone our skills, with any number between 6 and 15 participating each day and we all had enormous fun intermingled with some serious bowling.

The Club wishes to thank Kay and Terry for their article in last month's issue of Telstar. If that does not inspire others to take up the challenge, then nothing will. They have adapted to bowling (like a duck to water) so easily, but with some trepidation which all newcomers experience, but that quickly disappears. We are all looking over our shoulders now!

With the initial league matches in mind there was a considerable number of postponements all of which are Covid related. For one example, with the recent relaxing of Government rulings many players opted to take advantage and go on a break/holiday causing teams to be short of players. Many fixtures, including some of ours are being changed to alternative dates as a result.

Our match results up to and including 2nd June for those matches not affected: -

18 May	Mendlesham	Away	Won	48 - 24	7 points
5 May	Woodfield B	Home	Won	43 - 23	7 points
26 May	Gipping Valley & EE Swallows	Home	Lost	40 - 51	1 point
2nd June	Wortham	Away	Lost	36 - 61	1 point

Stay safe Stowupland.

David Begg

MEMORY LANE

The wall in Jubilee crescent to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee year in 1978. Do you remember the wall being built?

2022 will see the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and hopefully we will see something new in the village to mark the occasion!

One unusual feature of the new Mid Suffolk District Council housing estate at Stowupland is a brick wall bearing a pattern of the FA Cup.

Mr. Colin Hart, senior architectural assistant for Mid Suffolk District Council, who designed the wall, said that it was built on the estate in Jubilee Crescent after Ipswich Town won the FA Cup last year.

"The wall was built to mark Ipswich's victory in the FA Cup in the Queen's Jubilee year", said Mr. Hart. *CPM 16/2/79*



MEMORY LANE UPDATE

As with all old memories some of them were slightly misinterpreted in our last issue. The old red ore pits were actually in the area where the council bin lorries now reside in Creeting Road. Stowmarket Timber Yard was also in the area, and they stored their timber on the boggy ground there.

The pits mentioned at Charles Industrial Estate were in fact sand pits – hence the Sand Martins. Apparently, there was a special vein of sand that was suitable for a moulding engineer. The Kindred family, who lived in Stowupland, had the pits at this time. Also, another small builder, George Gosling, owned part of the pits.

The old Post Office featured last month was the home of Mr & Mrs Wilding. Mrs Wilding ran the post office and Mr Wilding used to make shoes and leather work.

I hope I've got it right this time, apologies if I haven't.

Ed.



LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

On 2/6/21 the Stowupland Local History Group Committee welcomed members and guests back to the Village Hall, for our first face-to-face meeting since March 2020. It was really good to be able to meet and chat again. For this first meeting three members of the committee gave short presentations on **'What they had been doing during Lockdown.'** From next month it is hoped to return to our normal format of having guest speakers (fingers crossed!)

Sandra our Chair opened the meeting with a briefing about Covid precautions in the hall and an update on committee meetings since January 2021. The committee had been using Zoom to meet up and talk about recent events in the village and trying to put together a programme of events ready for when we could meet again. The Zoom meetings were a learning curve for everyone and Dave had kept it all together using his computer skills, to ensure all went to plan.

Sandra then introduced Jerry Voden as the groups newly co-opted Secretary. Jerry had taken over from Judy Clarke who was a founder member of the group and in the role of Secretary from 2011 to 2020. All expressed thanks to Judy for all her hard work for the group.

Jerry's Telstar, then and now. (Our village magazine).

Jerry spoke of the history of Telstar which was first published in the village as an A4 type written nine-page magazine in August 1963. Its aim was to bring news to all corners of the village of Stowupland. It came under the umbrella of the Parish Council and had a volunteer editor, there was news from village organisations and Gipping Rural District Council and at the time was published quarterly. The name came from the Telstar satellite which had gone into orbit in May 1963 and was at that time sending back information to its control room. 2004/5 had brought change with a new editor Julia Gladwell and a new A5 format was brought in, and from results of Parish plan 1 survey's it had been decided that there was a need to publish it monthly. This had gone ahead, and this is where we are in the present time. There are also copies of back issues of Telstar on the village web site run by Dave Pring which go on monthly. For more information on the history of Telstar please either see copies of Telstar or on the web site there are two articles Telstar **"then and now"** and also in the latest edition Mervyn Gamage remembers... Mervyn was the son of the first editor Reg Gamage.

Jerry thanked all committee members both past and present, our advertisers, contributors and distributors who go out in all weathers to ensure the magazine reaches doorsteps on time. Kay Easter is our editor and the current themes that Kay has been working on is embracing change and also coping with lockdown. The committee are committed to producing a high standard of magazine for the village and this has now happened over 58 years, so long may it continue.

Neil's History of Thorney Manor.

Neil had been doing a lot of research into Thorney Manor which it was thought was at one time part of Stowupland village. It was on the site of the now Stowmarket train station car park which had been constructed in 1847. Neil went through a number of slides showing maps and river navigation channels from 1793 and a tythe map from 1841, these were made to arrange for taxes to be collected from the population at this time. During his research Neil had been notified of an exciting find in a document in Latin. Translation revealed that the document related to a manor house from 1291 which was extremely rare. It was also noted that the manor house had needed refurbishing and timber had been brought in for this task from Oaken Hill (near Badingham) and Neil was excited to realise that the Manor House in question was our Thorney Hall. Although the Hall had various owners and has now been demolished it existed for nearly 550 years.

Neil is hoping to expand his research on the subject and has been in touch with Val Dudley who had found the 1291 document. It is hoped that Val would come along to a future meeting to speak further on this subject.

Sandra's Recording History

Sandra asked the question, '***What was it like at the turn of the century?***' Personal experience of history and local history was passed on to the future generations by parents and grandparents in the main, but everybody at the time that historical events are being recorded could have a different take on what was happening at that time.

Today social media, eg Facebook and the many other forms of communication are used to record events, however it was noticed that when you come to look at that event on your computer system, it is very difficult to find the piece in question. Whereas with a newspaper cutting or article it can be preserved for future generations in a scrap book or display area. The SLHG, with Dave's help, are in the process of setting up a web site. Sandra asked those present to think about the sites content and share any contributions and input to the groups committee members as to what they may like to see on the site would be welcome.

Neil future SLHG programme of events.

On 2nd June we were happy to see some 18 people attend our first meeting at the village hall since March 2020. I have been a little wary about booking the programme too far ahead as the situation is still uncertain but the following events have been booked.

UPDATE: Due to the extending of the restrictions until 19th July we have reluctantly decided to postpone the talk by Charlie Haylock "Charlie and the Dig" planned for 7th July. The reason is that there will be limited numbers allowed in the hall, and we would expect attendance to be above normal for this popular speaker and we want everyone who wants to come to be able to. We hope to welcome another speaker for July 7th but at the time of writing we cannot give details of what the talk will be, refer to the parish website, Stowupland Local History Group Facebook page and local noticeboards. Charlie Haylock will now be with us on 4th August if restrictions on number are lifted as planned.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 7th July | Becoming a House Detective by Stephen Poulton |
| 1st September | Behind the Scenes at "Who Do You Think You Are".
by Gill Blanchard
Gill is a professional genealogist, author and speaker who has worked as a researcher on the BBC programme Who Do You Think You Are including the Mary Berry episode. |
| 6th October | Suffolk Witches by Pip Wright
Pip has spoken to our group many times and is always a popular speaker. |
| 3rd November | TBA |
| 1st December | "In the Fields of Frost and Snow" by Hexachordia Music, mirth and merriment for the festive season, revealing what Christmas and New Year was like for folk at all levels of society in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. |

Meetings are held at Stowupland village hall starting at 7.30pm. All government guidelines in force at the time will be followed.

Neil was looking at events for 2022 and will produce a programme when the details are finalised.

There were certain rules that trustees of village halls were expected to adhere to, ***'the hall was to be used for the purposes of physical and mental training and recreation, and social, moral and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms, library, lectures, classes, recreations and entertainments or otherwise, as may be found expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants, without distinction of sex or of political religious or other opinions'***

The 60's saw the hall well used for a wide variety of events, including weddings and dances, WI, whist drives, jumble sales, and amateur dramatics. Monthly meetings held by WI and other village organisations were charged 7/6 (7 shillings and 6 pence) + electricity, whilst jumble sales were charged 10/- (10shillings or 50p) +electricity.

In 1963 a suggestion was made that the Stowupland Flower Show and Fete should be moved from its historic location at Stowupland Hall along the road to the Village Hall. Despite concerns that **'car parking problems would arise'**, the move was made in 1965.

This press cutting from 1966 shows Diana Pring trying her hand at **'Hit the Rat'**. Can anyone explain what this entailed?

This decade also saw the village hall being used as classrooms whilst the primary school was extended. The original electric fan heaters were replaced with oil-fired central heating, and it was claimed that Stowupland would be the first Suffolk village to have a centrally heated hall. Then in 1970 plans were drawn up for better outdoor facilities. The plan that was drawn up included a grassed children's play area, a pond, a bowling green, tennis court and club house but also a putting green and 9-hole golf course! Work went ahead on extending the hall, but I assume the outdoor facilities were modified.

The last record in our archives is an invitation card from 1981 sent by The Stowupland Village Hall Management Committee requesting the pleasure of the company of Mr & Mrs J Carter at the Silver Jubilee of their Village Hall and the Official Opening of the new Extension.

SLHG Committee:

Sandra Walker (Chair) - 01449 673296: sawalker2000@hotmail.com

Jerry Voden (Secretary) – 01449 703717: voden@btinternet.com

Christine Williams (Membership and treasurer) - 01449 771430:
christine.stowupland@gmail.com

Neil Langridge (Research and publicity) - 01449 616275: neil@stowman.plus.com

Dave Walker (IT support) - 07986 638029: dave@dwdriving.com

TOOLS WITH A MISSION

Who are they and what do they do? Tools with a Mission (TWAM) is a charity based in Ipswich. They collect good quality second-hand tools, sewing machines, computer equipment and so on from all over the country, refurbish them and send them off to third world countries, usually in eastern or southern Africa, where people are trained in a skill such as carpentry, plumbing, motor mechanics, building, agriculture, sewing and needlework.

I have been a local collector for nearly 15 years now and I get calls from all around the Stowmarket area. Sometimes it's someone wishing to donate a sewing machine, computer or gardening tools that they no longer use; on other occasions I have been asked to arrange collection of a shed full of tools, everything from bench-mounted lathes to sets of spanners, chisels and screwdrivers. Tools need to be in usable condition; new handles can be fitted to rakes, hoes, forks, spades and all sorts of hand tools; and saws and chisels can be sharpened. When ready to send abroad, tools are loaded into shipping containers and transported to an east African port where they are handed over to a local TWAM representative who arranges delivery to TWAM projects.

Good, fairly recent, textbooks in key subjects, and children's and adult's reading books of good quality are also sent abroad for schools and libraries. Materials for making clothes and knitting wool are gratefully received. If you have any you could donate, please let me know.

I store everything that has been donated in our garage until there is enough for a TWAM van to come and collect. Please give me a ring (673185) if you think you have something which you wish to donate, and we can arrange a drop off at 2 Rambler Cottage.

Keith Welham

Locality Awards from your MSDC District Councillors

In recent years a number of Clubs and organisations in Stowupland have benefitted from grants through the District Councillor Locality Award process. The scheme has provided equipment for indoor bowls, kit for Stowupland Falcons, a glass washer for the Sports and Social Club, and helped towards the cost of a shed for Baby and Toddler group equipment, repairs to the Bowls Club pavilion, an oven for the Village Hall, carpet for pre-school, mower for the cricket club and environmental projects at the Freeman School....and many more.

If you are part of a club or organisation in need of funds for new equipment or a project you wish to undertake, please consider applying for a Locality Award. If you have applied in the past, you will know the process; it's pretty much the same this year as in the past and, if you would like to apply this year, please email me keith.welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk for an application form.

For anyone who has not applied before, if you wish to apply, please get in touch with me by email or by telephone (01449 673185).

You have until the end of the year to apply but it's best to get in early as I'm sure there will be more applications this year than ever before. Some applications came in quite late last year. Even if you are not able to fully complete the form, I would like an indication of whether or not you might apply and as much other detail as possible.

If you know of an organisation in your village that might also wish to apply for a grant, please let them know about the scheme or let me know so that I can contact them.

Keith Welham and Rachel Eburne



U.R.C CHAPEL

NEWS

Minister: Revd Robert Sheard
Telephone 01449 678173

As the weather is often the topic of conversation, we are happy to have had some very sunny days and hope that the morning frosts are behind us. Bedding plants are being planted in the gardens and in pots. We are so fortunate not to have the extremes of really bad weather as happens in other parts of the world.

I have been particularly watching the weather forecast as our Granddaughter, who was due to marry last June, will hopefully, by the time you read this, be married. The date being 6 June at a Church in Norfolk.

We are watching to see what happens with the virus but hope to be able to have coffee mornings again soon.

Services continue to be held at the URC Chapel each Sunday at 10.30am and you are cordially invited to join us in worship. A warm welcome awaits you. Please note this may change if the situation with the virus alters.

The Speakers for July are as follows:

04 July	Stephen Horrex
11 July	Rev Richard Edwards
18 July	Derek Ames
25 July	John Webb

Our Minister continues to stream Sunday Services on Zoom each week at 10.30am for those who are not able or don't feel safe mixing with others. Also Pause for Prayer is on a Thursday morning each week at 9.30am for half an hour of devotion which is also on Zoom. The code for both is 878 9703 9806 password 269834 if you would like to join with us you are most welcome.

Joyce Gardiner

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

John 14: 4-6

⁴ You know the way that leads to the place where I am going."

⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; so how can we know the way to get there?" ⁶ Jesus answered him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except by me.

Dear Friends,

Even though I've been here for a year, I have to admit that I still don't know my way around the area; of course this is due to the pandemic and not being able to get out and about, so when I come to a sign in the road saying road closed, follow diversions, it worries me a little bit.

Does it mean that the way that I need to go is barred, or does it mean that it is further up the road, and I can take the risk and carry on with my usual journey. This happened to me the other day, when I was going to take a service at our Mendlesham Chapel. The route

I usually take was signed: road closure, follow diversions.

But it was not clear where the diversions were going, so I took the risk of continuing on my usual route, and hoping that I would get to the turning that I needed before the road I needed was closed; so you could say I went forward in faith. As I drove along the road, I kept seeing more road closure signs; eventually I got to the road where I needed to turn off, and just after that turning I saw yet another sign, it made me think that if I had followed the diversions, where would I have ended up, nowhere near where I needed to be!

This is how life is, especially the Christian life. We all have roads that we travel on, sometimes they are planned, and other times we just let the road take us where it goes, as we travel, we can come across diversions,

sometimes things or people block our way, or at other times it may be God leading us down a new road, to something different and exciting, but we have to put our trust in him because he knows where he wants us to go. Our roads will lead us in many directions, and some may not be in the way we want to go but if we dare to walk them, it will give us an interesting life and, on the way, we may get to know God better.

In the book *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan we find the Story of Christian making a journey from his Home to the Celestial City, the City of God. But the Story could be about any Christians journey through life. So, I would like to leave you with these words of Christian which remind us how ever hard life's Journey gets its always worth pressing on with.

"I will climb up to the mountain top never mind if the path is steep, for I know that through strife leads the way to life, and the wayfarer must not weep. So, courage my heart, don't faint, don't fear though the rough rock makes the way slow, The easy track only leads me back, up and on is the way I must go soon."

His progress was slower, then he went on his hands and knees because the way was very steep; on is the way I must go. Soon his progress with slower, then he went on his hands and knees because the way was very steep. But it was all worth it because as he reaches the top, his burden falls from his back and is never seen again.

Yours in Christ, *Robert*

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

STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL

VOLUNTEERS MORNING

Saturday 24th July
Sports & Social Club
10:00am

Please call the council to discuss what help we require around the village.

We look forward to hearing from you!

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

NEWS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STOW VILLAGE



Vicar : Revd Brin Singleton Tel. 770921

Churchwardens : Mrs Ann Doubtfire Tel. 770363

: Mrs Sue Hayter Tel. 613710

Email: brinsingleton@btinternet.com

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

Dear Friends:-

Last month I posed the question to our congregation, 'do you remember the story about.... Jesus' family...

The time when it was said, 'He's out of his mind!', and his family asked for him outside?

Well there has been plenty of concern and asking after our families at this time, I pray you have all kept in touch, hopefully having been able now to visit at least outside, and to share in care and compassion whatever needs or challenges you have faced and may yet face.

But this story remembered of Jesus is that of a time he'd got himself into a bit of a situation. He'd been telling everyone the trial was over, the Kingdom of God was near, and he'd been into synagogues and into homes, he'd healed of demons, fevers, lepers, paralytics... and dined with tax collectors and other ne'er do wells.

Have you ever been worried about family mixing with the wrong crowd and getting into trouble, falling foul of regulations? Well on this occasion, Jesus had gone home, the crowd had followed and entered in and they couldn't even eat! Family were sent for to restrain... not the crowd but Jesus – to get him out of there!

Well Jesus' mixing with the wrong crowd had got him noticed by the authorities, and now they started up the rumour mill – 'Teachers of faith don't dine out, they fast, John the Baptist fasted he spoke of God's judgement, but you Jesus heal those cursed, you forgive, you break the Sabbath, you pluck grain, while others fast you eat!'

Have you ever tried to stop someone in your family getting into a confrontation? But Jesus just kept answering back saying 'Which is easier, be healed or be forgiven! Only those who are sick need healing, I come not to those in the right but those caught in the wrong! The Sabbath is for people, and the son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath! Is it the law to do good on the Sabbath or to do bad?'

And now Jesus' family were sent for, they had to do something, this was the age of stone throwing!

Have you ever been sent to rescue one of your kin from an ugly confrontation?

I wonder what Jesus' family had heard that they should come for him, 'Jesus is in a real fix, come get him out of there, they're saying he's out of his mind, he has the demon Beelzebul!' Jesus seems to have really wound everyone up, the Jerusalem authorities consulted the VAR, Vision Applied Rhetoric and decided, 'Only Demons can cast out Demons!' they say.

Well sounds like it all had the makings of a real barney. The ref' has held up the card, but he's being faced off, yelled at and the rest of the team try to drag them apart – 'leave it, it could be so much worse, walk away!' Jesus though was having none of it and pushes away his family's attempts at rescue, yelling at his accusers– 'blaspheme the Spirit and be in eternal sin!'

Someone called out, 'Your Mother..., Your brothers, are outside, asking for you'. I imagine the room was still, one of those pin drop moments. Looking round the room, Jesus held the moment 'Here are my mother and my brothers' he said and maybe he looked at the authorities, surely he saw them straight 'Whoever does the will of God, is my brother and sister and mother.'

The question for us today, who remember this story, who today look for God's Kingdom come amidst this shadow on all our livelihoods, who look for things to be better...The question for us today, are we going to hold the moment and ask, who is our mother, father, brother, sister? Are we going to hold authority to account should they deny people their right mind, should they deny food, shelter, security, health and livelihood in recovery? Recovery is for the people, let us condemn no one's hope of livelihood.

Yours in Christ. Brin.

Rector at Haughley with Wetherden & Stowupland

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

Services in July 2021

4th Jul	9.30am	Parish Communion
11th Jul	9.30am	Worship for All
18th Jul	9.30am	Morning Prayer
25th Jul	6.30pm	Parish Communion

Our own parish webpage AChurchNearYou-Stowupland is getting over 150 views a week, and across our three churches – Haughley with Wetherden and Stowupland, over 400 of you take a look each week. So, we hope we will be able to get our plans online whatever our haste in the changes of these coming weeks.

AChurchNearYou – Stowupland

[https://www.achurchnearyou.com/ church/2086/](https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2086/)

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

Firstly, on behalf of the Parish Council, I must say congratulations to Keith Welham on his election as our Suffolk County Councillor. He has a large area to cover and there is a lot to do clearing the backlog of works to be completed. Whilst I congratulate Keith, we must also spare a thought for his wife Cathy who will now see even less of him.

Phase 3 of the Trinity Meadows development is causing the Parish Council a real headache. Our frustration with Mid Suffolk District Council Planning Dept is at fever pitch. As I reported previously the plans were approved by MSDC without anyone on the planning committee having sight of the plans for the controlled crossing at the Co-Op or the Highways Safety Assessment for it. To date neither your Parish Council nor our District Councillors have been able to have sight of either, despite repeated requests by both so I am unable to report its exact location or a time scale for completion. All I can report is that Bloor homes should not commence build until the crossing plan has passed a safety assessment and no occupation of the homes on phase 3 can happen until the crossing is completed.

Bloor Homes had to submit a Traffic Management Plan to MSDC for approval prior to commencement of any building works for Phase 3. Parish Councils are not automatic consultees to this but thanks to our vigilant Parish Council Planning Officer we became aware that the proposed route was using Gipping Road and Rendalls Lane. Before the plan was approved Bloor Homes saw fit to start using Gipping Road for construction traffic to access and leave the site. Road signs were removed, hedges grubbed up and footpaths obstructed.

Your Parish Council, and residents, objected to our District Councillor and wrote direct to MSDC Planning Dept. The outcome is that in future all construction traffic for phase 3 will access and leave the site via Oxlip Way. This is something that we must keep an eye on.

Your Parish Council is so disgusted with the way they and our residents have been treated over the planning and traffic management issues that our District Councillors are to raise this with the Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council and arrange for a Planning Officer to attend our Parish Council meeting. At this point it is felt that both residents and your Parish Council have very little faith or trust in MSDC Planning Dept.

We now have volunteer litter pickers who will keep an eye on the Playpark, and I am very grateful to them. Despite our Community Caretaker regularly emptying the bins they seem to be constantly full to overflowing.

The signs on the entrances to the Playpark state clearly that under Covid 19 restrictions no food or drink is to be consumed in the Playpark. It seems those using the Playpark choose to ignore that. The bins are filled with food wrappers, drinks cans and even, believe it or not, unbagged used nappies. Please, I cannot emphasis it enough, do not consume food or drink in the Playpark and wherever you are in the village please TAKE YOUR LITTER HOME WITH YOU. We are very lucky to have volunteers who pick litter regularly around the village to keep it looking neat and tidy so please, everyone, do your bit to help.

The Safer Route to School drags on with the stretch that goes across The Green still waiting for the top surface to be applied. There appears to be problems with the route through the High School land but your Parish Council has demanded that regardless of the issues at the school the piece on The Green is completed. It is sad that having taken so long to get the route approved and, as we were advised, agreement being reached ages ago Suffolk County Council has let it drag on for so long.

Many of you have complained about the way The Green and other areas of the village were left after the grass cut at the beginning of June. The contractor has been spoken to and we hope for better in the future. We all want to be proud of our village environment.

Temporarily the Parish Council meetings are being held on the second Thursday of the month in the Bowls Pavilion next to the Village Hall. Although these meetings are open to the public there are space restrictions given Covid 19 regulations so if you plan to come along to a Parish Council meeting, please let the Parish Clerk know in advance.

Enough of grumbles and moans now and a request for your help for something nice. An announcement has been made regarding the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration in June 2022. There is to be an extra bank holiday for national celebrations and your Parish Council would like to arrange some events in the village. We can't possibly manage that alone so if you would like the village to be part of the celebrations then please come forward and volunteer to help us arrange something. Please contact the Parish Clerk so that we can come up with some ideas and start planning now.

As I write this, we are waiting to see what and if any Covid 19 restrictions are lifted on the 21st June, but in the meantime please stay safe and look out for each other.

Sally Reeves

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

JUNE 2021



The first face to face PC meeting post Covid-19 opened with 8 Parish Councillors, 4 members of the public and both MSDC Councillors present. There was a last-minute change of venue from the Village Hall to the Bowls Pavilion, but we all found our way there.

Council Report:

Congratulations were extended by the Chairman to Cllr Welham for securing the SCC seat. Both reports from SCC and the District Council can be found elsewhere in Telstar. Cllr Welham is pursuing the removal of the sandbags and establishing what, if any, locality budget was left by the previous incumbent. In response to points made in the public forum, the District Councillors clarified that the site entrance to the Bloor's site from Gipping Road was an unofficial access and that no official permission has yet been given to start works on the site.

An enforcement officer has visited the site but found the gates locked as he did not attend until after working hours. The MSDC have asked for a copy of the drawing relating to the proposed crossing at the Garage but no one appears to have seen it as yet and it has not been clarified whether SCC have even approved it. The Chairman advised that a very strong letter had been sent from the PC to MSDC outlining all the issues that MSDC Planning Dept have failed to monitor in respect of this site. The whole affair is to be escalated to the MSDC Chief Executive as the Planning Dept is apparently not fulfilling their role. A planning officer from MSDC will be asked to attend the next PC meeting. As part of the new boundary commission changes, Stowupland will come under the North Suffolk constituency which runs between Thurston and Bungay area.

Matters of Report:

The SID device on loan from Old Newton PC has been erected on the B1115. Quotations have been sought for footpath along the Green in preparation for the grant application for the Trim Trail project. Paul Horne from SCC is still chasing the necessary approval to construct the safer route to school hopefully during the summer break. The Facebook page is now live. A request has been made on the SCC portal for a traffic count at Saxham Street. A meeting will be arranged with the grass cutting contractor to discuss the molehill problem. Outstanding work with SCC has been passed to Cllr Welham to pursue. Everything else is awaiting a response.

Public Forum:

A resident wanted to know why MSDC had reneged on their planning conditions that Gipping Road should not be used as a site entrance. After all it was deemed unsafe for phases 1 and 2 and nothing has changed on the size and safety conditions of the road during the intervening period in fact it has got worse as they have closed off the footpath pushing even more pedestrians onto the narrow road as well as removing the warning sign of 'pedestrians walking' erected by SCC. It is difficult for cars to squeeze past the lorries accessing the site let alone larger vehicles. There are a lot of horses using this road, many with small children on board, which is a real danger to both animals and riders. None of the residents in Gipping Road were consulted on this and I very much doubt that we will receive any form of compensation for the inconvenience we are having to suffer for a development that we did not want in the first place. Whilst erecting their more permanent fencing alongside the track at the beginning of the month, they moved the temporary fence across the track narrowing it down to less than a metre with the big feet holding the fence which meant that you had to step over them. It was only for a couple of days but was unnecessary as the temporary fencing could have been removed as they went along. Another resident agreed with these points and also advised about a vehicle being forced off the road in Rendall Lane by a low loader coming from the site. She also feared that the use of this unofficial site could then be justified as giving a permanent access to the development once completed. Another point questioned was whether the current grass contractors were giving value for money as she felt that the cutting of the grass was rushed with a scruffy finish as bits were missed, molehills flattened and the edges not left tidy. Another resident advised that footpaths 38 and 39 were overgrown with nettles, brambles and at one point with an overgrown hedge.

The next resident queried why some people were being denied access to the recycling centre as their trailer had a twin axle rather than a single axle. There was also concern about the rubbish from the High School that has been pushed up against the resident's boundary and the large broken branch that is causing a problem as well as the risk of flooding from a blocked pipe on school property. Lastly a resident asked if the speed sign currently located on Devon Road could at some point be moved to Church Road which the PC agreed to look into as the Speed Watch Committee are doing a lot of work with regards to speeding in the village. It was acknowledged that the PC are currently borrowing this from another village and it needs to be returned in a few weeks. There were positive comments that this does seem to be making road users think more carefully about the speeds they are driving.

Bio-Diversity:

To promote bio-diversity within the village, some areas for consideration were Reeds Way, junction of Hornbeam Road and Sycamore Way, Park Farm, Community Orchard on Linden's site and on Bloor's site. In order to have long term sustainability, it will require the commitment of volunteers to continue caring for these areas and perhaps some changes to the cutting schedule.

Volunteer Day:

Some ideas were put forward for works to be carried out on Volunteer Day. As well as staining the fencing at the cemetery, the verges need cutting back along Church Road between the High School and the Village Hall, possibly extending the den area and cleaning road name signs. Cllr Deal will be co-ordinating this.

Beacon:

It was agreed that the beacon should be lit at some time in memory of those who have died as a result of the pandemic and to give thanks to all those who have given assistance during this difficult time. The timing of this is currently uncertain as it will depend on Government guidance.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration:

It was agreed to see if there is a willingness amongst residents to take part in setting up a working group for the Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations in June 2022 when there will be a 4 day bank holiday.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Allotments – It was proposed that plots 1 & 2 should be cleared and it was felt that plot 39/40 needs clearing before it can be let and that the tenant of plot 38 should be contacted regarding levelling of their plot as it is very dangerous and one allotment holder has already had an accident as a result. It was also proposed that the allotment ditch that runs alongside the B1115 should be landscaped and an application be made to the Parish CIL be made to cover the cost. Quotes for this will be sought.

Cemetery and Churchyard – The installation of the new slabs in the cemetery interment area and work on the trees are expected in mid-July. Work has been completed on the new gates. The sub-committee proposed that the fence at the front of the cemetery should be stained as part of the volunteer day. A budget of up to £100 was proposed for a new membrane and stones at the churchyard to keep down the weeds.

Environment – A report was received from the sub-committee suggesting that 7 ‘No Parking On The Green’ signs should be purchased and erected at strategic points, that a quote should be obtained to extend the posts in order to protect the Green and to request a donation for those posts that have been erected by the butchers. It was agreed that quotes will be sought for the new posts and for reflectors to be placed on the trial posts. It was proposed that the management of Thradstones Meadow should come under the remit of the Environment sub-committee and that SCC be asked to look at the faded 30mph signs around the Green and in Church Road. A donation of £20 per day be made to the Sports and Social Club for the use of their premises on the Litter Pick and the Volunteer days.

Finance and Policy – It was agreed that the quote from Stock Signs should be accepted for the cycle dismount signs at footpaths 32 and 46. The quote from Joe Hearn and Mini Waste Skips to clear the rubbish from the allotments was also accepted. The annual governance and accountability return was noted, and figures and reviews were accepted.

Neighbourhood Planning – Councillors discussed whether to update the neighbourhood plan. It was felt that it would be difficult to persuade people to join the working group whilst the general feeling in the village is that the current plan was completely ignored by the MSDC Planning Authority and the general lack of faith in MSDC. The joint plan for the area is still being worked on and it was decided at this current time not to update the neighbourhood plan.

Planning – Councillors approved a new application in principle for an extension to a property in Oxlip Way but have concerns about vision issues. MSDC have approved a change of use of land from agriculture to tourism and an extension to a property in Gipping Road. The reserved matters for phase 3 of Bloor Homes have been approved.

Play Park – The new equipment for the play park has been ordered. There is now a volunteer litter picker for the play park.

Transport, Travel and Safety – It was reported that they now have 4 members in the speed watch group. The SID on loan from Haughley is due to be returned shortly and it was proposed that quotes should be sought for one of our own as well as a new lightweight speed gun.

Councillors Reports:

Cllr Hayward reported that the path along Thorney Green was very overgrown.

Cllr Deal advised that the HGVs from Bloor’s phase 3 site were using Rendall Lane on a very frequent basis.

Cllr Voden advised that he and the Chairman had been looking at the environment project at the pond by the Retreat. This has not been looked after for some time and was now very overgrown with a hole in the fence between the Retreat and the pond which needs repairing. The landlord is aware of this. There is also some barbed wire in there that needs removing and the area cut back. Cllr Melhuish also mentioned the overgrown verge on Thorney Green Road and also Church Road. Cllr Reeve advised that the resident in Columbyne Close was once again parking their car where MSDC had re-seeded the grass and that this was a matter for the District Council. The hedge at Wren Cottage was very overgrown to the extent that it was impacting on the visibility of motorists on Church Road.

Chairman's Report:

The Chairman suggested that a donation of £15 should be made to the Bowls Club for the use of their pavilion for tonight's meeting. As there is a problem with double booking of the Village Hall on a Tuesday, it was proposed that the day for future Parish Council meetings should be changed to a Wednesday evening but this proved difficult for some Councillors so it was decided to revert back to the 2nd Thursday in the month with effect from July 2021 and for the time being to continue in the Bowls Pavilion whilst current Covid restrictions are in place. It was thought that the Biodiversity Group is set up as a Working Party of the Environment and Greens sub-committee. It is becoming difficult to keep up with the litter generated so more hours will be required from the community caretaker to keep pace.

Correspondence:

A newsletter has been received from St Elizabeth Hospice which will be forwarded to Telstar to publish if they have room as will details of a travel consultation from MSDC which is due to close for comments in July. MSDC have advised that the deadline for the tree, hedgerow and wildflower planting has been extended, a notice of an examination hearing lasting 3 weeks and a suggestion of 3 different names for the development opposite the URC. It was felt that the best suggestion was Cornfields. They were also asking for names for the 5 roads on the Bloor's phase 3 site. As phases 1&2 have wildflower names beginning with C, the PC will suggest some beginning with D. A resident advised that the car park at the High School was being used after 6pm and this will be forwarded to SCC Planning. There was a letter advising of the accident suffered by an allotment holder and an introduction to business from a company called Greener Gardens Suffolk.

The meeting closed to the public at 9.40pm with a reminder that the July meeting will be at the Bowls Pavilion on Thursday 8th July.

Sandy Smith

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

JULY 2021

MSDC Annual Council Meeting

The Annual Meeting took place on 24 May at Wherstead Park. Paul Ekpenyong was elected Chairman for 2021/22 on the casting vote of the outgoing Chairman. Almost every vote was tied, and the Chairman decided every vote. Currently the Conservative and Independent Group has 17 seats and the Green/Liberal Democrat Group has 17 seats. Our group offered to work with the Conservative Leader for the benefit of the residents we serve, but the offer to share the workload was turned down and all but one of the committee chairs and vice chairs was appointed from that group. The one exception is that Keith continues as Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

A recommendation from Overview and Scrutiny that MSDC appoint an observer to Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice was also rejected on the casting vote of the Chairman, even though he and fellow Conservatives had spoken and voted in favour at the Scrutiny meeting.

Rachel has stood down as Leader of the Green Group after 3 years and Andrew Mellen has been elected as her successor.

Future format of Council Meetings

The legislation allowing virtual council and committee meetings has expired. Our first face to face meeting was on 24 May. Meetings will continue to be broadcast via YouTube but any member of the public who wishes to speak will need to be physically present in the meeting. Informal meetings, briefings and training will continue to be held virtually.

Planning – Bloor Phase 3

There have been applications for approval of reserved matters and an application in respect of various conditions imposed at the time of outline planning approval. Some of these conditions are still awaiting approval; one is the condition requiring approval of a construction management plan before works commence.

Works commenced without that approval and a site entrance/exit was constructed on Gipping Road, and HGVs have been using Gipping Road and Randalls Lane for the last two weeks. The construction route map in the application shows deliveries via Oxlip Way and exit from the site via Gipping Road. This proposal is still under consideration, but we have made it clear to Planning Officers that use of Gipping Road should not be allowed. Use of Gipping Road as an HGV route has ceased after we put pressure on MSDC Planners; we have also asked for enforcement action to halt works until approval is given

And we have continued to ask for a drawing of the revised controlled crossing scheme and a copy of the Safety Audit, to no avail.

No response has been received concerning the link from Phase 2 to the Trinity Walk bus shelter.

Linden Homes Site

Keith has received emails and telephone calls from residents expressing concerns about parking on Thorney Green Road, queueing of HGV's at the B1115 site entrance and damage to the track to Pooles Farm. In response, Linden have taken action: the new on-site parking is in use, site entry arrangements have been improved and a more extensive repair of the damaged footway in Thorney Green Road has been carried out. The contractor has offered to improve a short length of the track towards Pooles Farm; Keith has asked that the details be agreed with the Parish Council.

Development opposite the URC

The timescale for the full or partial closure of A1120 to complete construction of the access road has not yet been agreed. We have asked that utility connections into the site are arranged to be laid during this closure. Timing of the road closure(s) is a matter for SCC; Keith, in his role as County Councillor, has asked to be consulted on any traffic restrictions on A1120.

Review of MSDC Corporate Plan

MSDC have commenced a review of the Corporate Plan and all-party discussions on the Delivery Plans which should ensure that we meet the targets set in the Corporate Plan. This work will need to take into account the following trends:

Relative deprivation is rising in Mid Suffolk;

Housing costs are high; and homelessness is rising;

Very high levels of fuel poverty and food poverty;

Due to lack of transport, isolation is an issue.

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COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT TO STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL JUNE 2021

Election Results

I am delighted to have been elected with a majority of 139. My division covers Stowupland, Creeting St Peter, Cedars Park, Chilton Leys and the northern part of central Stowmarket. Conservatives remain the largest party with 55 seats. The Green Party became the second largest party increasing their number of seats from 3 to 9.

Opposition Group Appointments

Green Party, Liberal Democrat and Independent Councillors have formed the GLI group as the official opposition to the Conservative administration. Andrew Stringer was elected Leader and I have been given the Shadow Cabinet role as Spokesman for Highways, Public Transport and Rural Affairs.

County Council AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Council was held at Wherstead Park. Matthew Hicks was reappointed Leader of the council and Graham Newman becomes Chairman. The meeting consisted of appointments to Cabinet, committees and outside bodies. The first meeting of the new Cabinet will be on 15 June; the next full Council Meeting will be on 8 July.

Induction and Training

A full induction package has been prepared for all councillors, covering every aspect of the council's responsibilities. I have so far attended around 20 virtual training sessions with many more in the diary.

Locality Budget

Each councillor has a locality budget of £8,000. I have already received 2 requests for funds from 2 local organisations. I will be providing an article for Telstar in due course to explain various sources of funding which might be available from SCC and MSDC.

New School for Stowmarket

A new school, to be called the Grace Cook Primary School, is proposed for the Northfield View area of Chilton Leys. The new school will be part of the Orwell Multi-Academy Trust. Opening is planned for September 2022.

Highways Issues

I have taken up around 20 separate issues with SCC Highways; some of these have been outstanding for 2 years or more. I have asked for confirmation that the length of the Safer Route to School across The Green be completed during the school summer holidays. I will be meeting with a Highways Officer and the Parish Council to agree a timescale for removing the sandbags on Thorney Green and I will investigate providing a contribution towards the cost of the scheme to protect The Green with wooden posts.

Other Recent Issues

I have been asked for help with a number of education related issues and concerns over public rights of way.

Keith Welham

County Councillor of Stowmarket North and Stowupland

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Telstar – for the community, by the community.

From the Telstar Committee

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Stowupland Open Gardens On the Green

Three lovely cottage gardens will be open on

July 4th 1pm-6pm

In aid of St Elizabeth Hospice

Any donations gratefully received for a wonderful cause.



The gardens will be open again on July 11th
in aid of the Salvation Army who have helped
so many people in these dark times.