

COMMUNICATING
TELSTAR
IN STOWUPLAND

No 273

February 2015

Chairman's Column

Keith Welham, Stowupland Parish Council

The last few weeks of 2014 and most of January has been taken up with dealing with the proposal to build some 190 new homes on greenfield land stretching from Gipping Road to A1120 Church Road. Some residents received a leaflet from Gladman, a property development company; most residents did not. As soon as the Council were notified of the proposal, we agreed that every household in the village needed to be made aware. Around 250 residents filled the Village Hall for a public meeting held at the end of December and everyone who spoke at the meeting is against the proposal.

Among the reasons given were concerns about traffic. The A1120 is already too busy and congested at school times. Heavy lorries make the road unsafe for cyclists and traffic speeds past pedestrians using the footpaths to the schools. The majority of the development would take access via Gipping Road which is a narrow country lane, barely wide enough for cars to pass. To widen this lane and provide a footpath would ruin its rural character.

Other concerns expressed were that there would be insufficient school spaces and that the existing sewerage system cannot cope at present and would be likely to flood or back up if further houses were joined to the system. The site is presently open fields and unsurfaced footpaths used by ramblers and dog walkers; residents are totally against the loss of wildlife habitat and urbanisation resulting from a large housing development bringing with it more tarmac and street lighting.

The Parish Council received notification of the outline planning application and this was discussed at their January meeting. It was agreed to hold a second public meeting on 28th January in the Village Hall. Relevant documents would be available from 6.00pm and every household should have received a leaflet to encourage people to attend, discuss informally and prepare their responses to the consultation. An extension until 2nd February has been granted for people to make their responses to the Mid Suffolk District Council. Although comments made after that date will be taken into account, it is important that as many people as possible give their views, whether for or against the proposal, to Mid Suffolk District Council as soon as possible.

The development, if approved, would increase the number of houses in the village by 20%. Residents fear that to have all these houses built in the planned short timescale would de-stabilize the village. The meeting agreed that such a huge number of houses are not needed in the village; it is likely that people who buy them will have to commute to Ipswich, Bury or beyond for work.

The village needs small scale developments so that existing residents do not have to leave the village. However, the size and location of the current

application site, together with the proposed rate of building completion is, in my view, totally inappropriate. Almost all of the residents to whom I have spoken share that view. I accept that there will be some who feel differently. Whatever your views, I urge you to let Mid Suffolk District Council know.

Very successful pre-Christmas parties were held at Steeple View and Jubilee Court. A fun bingo session and raffle with a wide range of prizes were followed by party food and a sing-song. Many thanks to Brenda, Linda and their band of helpers for making the arrangements and ensuring that a good time was had by all.

A number of people have pointed out to me the damage being done to some of the paths across The Green by horses. There are deep holes made by horses' hooves on some of the paths on The Green which are used by dog walkers. Would it be possible for riders and people leading horses to keep off the grass paths when the ground is soggy and use other parts of The Green?

We are very close to agreeing the final detailed proposals for the pedestrian and cycle route across The Green. As part of the scheme the bus stop will need to be moved a bit further away from the A1120 junction to make it safer to cross from the Maple Road side of the road when walking or cycling towards the schools. The area of land to be included within the Village Green in exchange for the land upon which the new route is to be constructed is now agreed and we are awaiting an undertaking from the school that they will continue to maintain that area which is currently within the school site. The exchange of land needs parliamentary approval; hopefully this will be forthcoming before the General Election to make a start of construction in the 2015 school summer holidays a possibility.

We are still awaiting approval from Mid Suffolk District Council of the area to be covered by our Neighbourhood Plan. This approval should be received very early in February, before the first meeting of the working group on 11th February. We hope to agree a project plan and programme at that meeting and we will then start work in earnest. We have a good number of volunteers to work on the Plan but there may be a few more people interested in helping with this. If you are interested, please get in touch with me or with our Clerk, Claire.

In closing, I'd like to urge you to consider standing for election to the Parish Council, or proposing someone who you feel would be an asset to the village. If you would like to find out what might be involved, please contact Claire or me.



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Allotment Life

David Andrew

January is the month when we tend to neglect the allotment because there is little change to mark the passage of time. A few dark shadowy figures have been seen trundling past in the early morning with a small bag of kitchen scraps for the compost heap whilst others come to dig up carrots, leeks and parsnips from the rain softened ground. Apart from this, there is a lack of any real activity

as the purple sprouting broccoli is growing quite strongly but showing little sign of anything purple or sprouting and the spring cabbages look as though they are about to give up the unequal struggle against the elements. Many of us, therefore, resort to dreaming of warmer days when we can open up the shed and resume reading the paper, having that well earned cup of something or just sitting in the sunshine waiting until it is time to return home.

It is also the time of year when New Year's Resolutions are made and some suggestions are:

1. To clean all tools before putting them away.
2. To not expect that everybody is grateful for all those surplus courgettes and marrows. They may occasionally prefer a few potatoes or beans!
3. To avoid throwing all the many stones (and slugs) that continually appear on our plot onto a neighbouring plot and then to sympathise with him about the problem on his plot.
4. To try and get to grips with crop rotation. This may be more difficult than it sounds because some of us cannot remember what we had for dinner last night let alone what or where we sowed and planted last year. If only we had written something down!
5. To not bore friends, family and dinner guests with 'it has all come from the allotment.' It is all very well to think that home grown vegetables are 'cool' but to virtually force feed everyone with vast quantities of the stuff is another matter entirely.

Finally, a more serious matter. Two of our sheds have been broken into and the contents stolen. Most allotment sites are targeted after dark and usually by badly organised hooligans rather than hardened criminals. A sturdy padlock and secure doors and windows are often enough to deter these people as the effort to break in is likely to be too great for any possible reward obtained. Also, it is essential to be vigilant at all times and to report any suspicious behaviour to the local police. I remember that several years ago a strange vehicle was seen parked adjacent to the allotments and was reported by a resident. The police attended, apprehended the culprit before any items could be removed from the site and brought the matter to a satisfactory conclusion. They will help if they know about it.

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Parish Council

Bits and Pieces

Claire Pizzey, Parish Clerk

Planning Applications

Application No.: 3481/14

Location: The Croft, Church Road, Stowupland

Application: Demolish two walls of pantry and fill in opening between lobby and dining room with panel and door

Parish Council decision: Support.

Application No.: 3994/14

Location: Ashdown, 22 Birch Close, Stowupland

Application: Erection of garage in front garden.

Parish Council decision: Support.



Notecards

We have produced a series of Notecards with various views of Stowupland – eight pictures in all, the cards are packed with a selection of four pictures per pack at a cost of £2.99 per pack for Telstar funds. These cards are now available to purchase and we would express our thanks to **M & M Butchers** and **The Post Office** for agreeing to sell these on our behalf.



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Parish Council Report

Sandy Smith

DECEMBER & JANUARY MEETINGS

The January meeting opened with twelve members of the public present to which the Council Chairman read out the following statement: 'A formal planning application has been received but members will not this evening be formulating a response to that application. I will therefore discourage any debate as very few people have yet seen the application documents. We will be holding a public meeting on 28th January in the Village Hall. Relevant documents will be available from 6.00pm and residents will be encouraged to attend, discuss informally and prepare their responses to the consultation. An extension until 2nd February has been granted for people to make their responses to the Council. A hopefully brief meeting will then take place as from 7.30pm to give an opportunity for residents to voice their comments on the application. Residents should make their views known at the meeting on the 28th or in writing or email before the extraordinary meeting, which will be held by the Parish Council on the following day, 29th January, at 7.30pm in the URC meeting room. At this meeting Councillors will decide the comments to be made to the District Council.'

Matters of report from the November meeting included that a wooden fence has been erected at the bridge over the ditch by Corner Farm. It will be painted white and reflectors will be fixed on both sides. The fence at the playpark will be repaired and Anna Wells has reported that she has two further volunteers to help with sourcing grants for new playpark equipment and will be gaining parents' views.

The Chairman reported on a meeting with the Falcons Football Club. The club have written to the Suffolk County FA and the Suffolk and Ipswich League advising that there are no toilets on The Green and that players and officials have been witnessed urinating in public. They have asked for a circular to be sent out to clubs and referees that have matches on The Green about proper conduct in a public place. In future, the club will observe a two minutes' silence on Remembrance Sunday and kick off their matches immediately afterwards. Referees have been reminded to clamp down on swearing on and immediately adjacent to the pitch. The club have employed a mole catcher and moles have been eradicated from the school and village hall pitches. The club have asked to meet with the Parish Council to discuss parking for the 2015 five-a-side weekend. The Chairman requested a later start particularly on the Sunday but they are reluctant to start any later than

9.00am, which in past years has resulted in the tannoy being in use from soon after 8.00am on both days.

The land on Thorney Green Road, chosen with a view to possible development of affordable housing, is not registered with the Land Registry but the owner has now been traced. There is still no news as to when the ATM will be installed at the Post Office. The successful bid for training grants will result in the Parish Clerk being responsible for the accounts and Mid Suffolk District Council taking the recognition for arranging the training courses. The Parish Council is preparing a draft media policy and awaiting guidance from Suffolk Association of Local Councils before completing the policy. One of the quotes for the pollarding of the two willow trees on The Green has been accepted and work will start on 20th February with notice to be given to the Football Club in case of any scheduled matches during the following weekend. The Chairman reported back at the January meeting that the Christmas Parties at Steeple View and Jubilee Court had gone very well with a number of residents' visitors joining in with the festivities.

When the December meeting was opened up to the public, one resident advised that the proposed housing development would increase the size of the village by around 25% putting pressure on roads and querying the capacity of the schools to take more pupils. It was agreed that all concerns relating to this development would be addressed at the Public Meeting held on the 17th December. Another resident advised that she was a planning consultant and had done some research into Gladman and found that they had submitted a number of aggressive planning applications around the country. She will assist in fighting this application and said that it is important that the Parish Council submit their Neighbourhood Plan as soon as possible. Comments voiced in the January meeting included one resident who felt that the date of the public meeting should have been made earlier as it was felt that even with the extension of four additional days for residents to deliver their comments to the District Council, this was insufficient. The Chairman defended the decision as it takes time to get all the documents organised and the difficulties in getting a room in which to hold the meeting as well as letting all residents know of the venue and its timing. He did advise that the date of the 2nd February to get views to Mid Suffolk District Council was purely an advisory date and views submitted after this date would still be considered by Mid Suffolk District Council. Another resident enquired as to how the information on the date and time of the public meeting would be disseminated to residents. They were advised that a group of volunteers had been arranged to distribute leaflets to all households and notices would be put up on all Parish Council notice boards. It was also queried why one resident who lived in Gipping Road had not received a letter from Mid Suffolk District Council advising of the planning application and also why

the letter was only a standard letter giving 21 days in which to reply and not one used for major planning applications. The meeting then closed to the general public.

It was agreed to sign the de-registration and exchange of land documents relating to the shared route across The Green, subject to confirmation in writing from the school that they will continue to maintain the transferred area which is slightly larger than the land being taken from The Green. The small building that currently stands on this land will have to remain as it houses gas meters and pipe work for the school.

The first meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan working group has been arranged for 11th February at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. There is a good cross section of volunteers who have come forward to comprise the working group and they will be contacted to advise on the time of the meeting. The consultation by Mid Suffolk District Council on the boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area is due to end on 30th January and conformation of the Plan area should be received in good time for the meeting.

All Parish Councillors were invited to the December Finance and Policy meeting to look at the draft Community Infrastructure Levy charging policy. Parishes with a Neighbourhood Plan will receive 25% (15% without NP) of the levy with a cap at £100 per property in the village. Mid Suffolk District Council will receive 100% of the money from any development and all authorities will be looking for a share of that money. The Parish Council need to have a voice at the table to ensure that as much as possible of the levy will be ploughed back into the village rather than being distributed into the wider area. One authority not mentioned in the draft charging policy is the police. It is also evident that developers are 'coming in via the back door' and that Neighbourhood Plans need to be put in place in order to stop inappropriate development. The Parish Council need to think quickly about what facilities are required by the village and can be generated by money available from any housing developments.

The Council has agreed that sufficient funds should be set aside to gather evidence and fight the Gladman planning application. The Parish Council are also seeking information on Mid Suffolk District Council's 5-year land supply and buffer policy and hope to have this before the public meeting at the end of January.

The Finance and Policy committee had recommended a 2% increase in the precept for the coming year. This would mean an increase of £1.01 per annum for a band D property for that part of their Council Tax. This proposal was agreed. The Traffic, Transport and Safety Committee advised that their new volunteer has received training and has been out on a speed-watch. The speed gun is to be re-calibrated in the next few weeks. The

Cemetery and Churchyard group reported that the cemetery gate was in a very sorry state and that some parts of it were beyond repair. It was felt that a replacement gate in the same style would be prohibitively expensive and they may need to consider a more modern style. It was agreed that costs and designs should be sought and brought back to Parish Council for consideration. As the Emergency Plan information is still unavailable, it was agreed that Councillor Voden should arrange a meeting with the various parties to get everything handed over. It was reported that Suffolk Association of Local Councils had received a letter from Councillor Newman in respect of the proposed changes to the Ipswich to Peterborough train service. It is proposed that this will now terminate at Ely where it will be necessary to change trains to pick up the Cambridge to Peterborough service. A meeting is to be held on 23rd January to discuss the setting up of a new train franchise and Councillor Voden will be taking the Parish Council's objections to the proposal to the meeting.

In December Councillor Brand reported that the footpath between Hornbeam Road and Thorney Green had a number of potholes in it and, where it is poorly lit at the Hornbeam Road end, it is dangerous during the dark nights. This will be inspected before the next Parish Council meeting. Councillors Voden and Perks attended the last Suffolk Association of Local Councils meeting and reported on two presentations given about the finances and cuts to come to Local Authorities. One was given by Suffolk County Council who have already made huge cuts and will be making further cuts next year and over the following two years. They reported that there was little in the way of income coming into the Authority. By contrast Mid Suffolk District Council were more optimistic on their income and how they were going to invest despite cuts of £2.3million over the next three years. Councillor Carter advised that he had been contacted by Bosch who were looking for a hedge to cut to try out a new piece of equipment. They were referred to the Chairman but he has heard nothing from them.

The Chairman reported that he had been contacted by a resident of Reeds Way about trees that need cutting back as they overhang the path. Caroline Byles has been informed of this. Suffolk County Council has granted planning permission for their development at the High School. The number of new car parking spaces has been increased to eleven. No details of access improvement were available but the recommendation to members was to approve, subject to the inclusion in the development of improvement works to be set out by highways officers and this was approved. The school have done a drainage study to alleviate flooding in the car park but nothing has been seen as yet so this will be chased in the New Year. Some of the benches on The Green are in need of treatment and it is suggested that all benches belonging to the Parish Council are inspected and repaired as necessary. The

Chairman reported that he had received complaints about horses damaging the paths across the half a mow used by dog walkers. There has been another report of hedging and other vegetation growing over the footpath between Birch Close and the bus stop.

Councillor Perks advised that building work has started at the school with a storage area for materials being set up by the football pitch. Councillor Voden asked if there had been any update on the request for a post box in Church Road and he was advised that nothing has been heard as yet. Councillor Brand advised on the poor condition of the tarmac on the B1115 at the junction with Maple Road and also in Thorney Green Road. Both these have already been reported to Highways. Councillor Carter advised that he had reported water leaking from a fire hydrant near Green Farm. The fire brigade have checked the hydrant but said that it is the responsibility of Anglian Water. Meanwhile the water is draining into a pond. He also advised that the football pitch on The Green is becoming very muddy due to the frequent rain and it was agreed that the Football Club should be informed that they would have to suspend matches to be played on The Green until conditions improve. The small pitch is also suffering and steps will be taken to see if anything can be done to improve the drainage of surface water. The clerk advised that she had arranged for the streetlights to remain on overnight for two nights – Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Mid Suffolk District Council Councillor Byles reported that she had met the planning officer regarding the proposed development in Stowupland. The Government have made a £3,500 grant to all Suffolk authorities to work together and link services. She advised that the charge for emptying the dog bins is to rise by 25% next year. She advised that the Gladman planning application will be going to Committee in February and they will have the right to go to appeal if no decision on the application is notified within 13 weeks of submission. It is important that the Council receive representations from all interested parties. No decision has been made about any increase in the District Council part of the Council Tax but it is expected to be in the region of 2%.

Suffolk County Council Councillor Green did not attend the December meeting but wished everyone a Happy New Year when he attended the January meeting. He advised that the Council have purchased nine new gritting lorries and updated a further 29. They also have 112 private operators, such as farmers, who will assist with any snow clearance should it be required. He stated that there were 1,225 miles of priority one routes within Suffolk and these have been gritted 26 times to date. Priority 2 routes have been gritted 12 times. The Highways Agency has responsibility for the A12 and A14. The waste incinerator at Great Blakenham was finished on time and within budget and is now in operation following a period of

successful testing. It employs 47 people which will rise to around 200 if the go ahead is given for the erection of greenhouses for tomatoes using the heat generated from the incinerator. All this will give £8million of savings per year. 49 young people were caught truanting from school in the Ipswich area before Christmas and it is expected that there is likely to be a further sweep in the Stowmarket area in the forthcoming weeks. He advised that following some flooding to a garden in Church Road, two broken pipes were repaired and a manhole put in. There had been a backlog of 853 highway repair jobs, which has now reduced by 236 and it is expected that these will be cleared by the end of March. It is reported that the Council have saved £2million since Keir took over the highways contract. The Council are going to review the way they cost the installation of the speed reducing 'gateways'. He advised a meeting is to be held on 16th January at 7.30pm at the Crown Street Hub regarding the proposed closure of level crossings on the Norwich to London rail line in order to save 18 minutes on the overall travel time.

The Police advised that there had been one crime reported in Stowupland in November and this was for harassment, alarm and distress, and none in December, SID has been out twice in Thorney Green Road to encourage motorists to keep to the speed limit and a speed check was carried out on 16th/17th December but no tickets were issued. The SNT continue to regularly patrol Stowupland and hopes to set up a police cadets group for 13-18 year olds in the summer.

Amongst the correspondence received was a further letter requesting the moving of a relative's ashes and, as this is something which is normally handled by a funeral director who will liaise with the family and the Parish Clerk, a letter will be sent to them to that affect. Mid Suffolk District Council have outlined the charges for the election of Parish Councillors at the next election on 7th May 2015. The football club have asked for permission to park cars on The Green at their five-a-side tournament on 6th and 7th June. The Parish Council will have a meeting with the football club to outline details. A further letter has been received from a resident advising on the fact that there are 300 molehills on The Green and he will be responded to. A request for a grant for Headway will be forwarded to the Finance and Policy Committee. A resident has also voiced concerns about some sycamore trees that overhang his driveway from the cemetery but these trees are not unsafe so will be monitored. He has said that he is not happy with this decision so he is to be invited to discuss this further at the next Churchyard and Cemetery sub Committee meeting on 7th March. Correspondence received in January included an email from Phillip Wright at Suffolk County Council requested that the Parish Council should let them know some of their ideas as to what they would like to spend Section 106 monies on should the Gladman development go ahead. It was agreed that their past request for

traffic calming measures and an improvement to the junction near the garage would be top of their list but there may be others. A resident had enquired as to whether Parish Councillors have declared their interests in matters being discussed within the village. It was agreed that there had been no impropriety. Another resident had asked to see the register of interests. The resident who had suffered flooding within his property in Church Road had sent a letter of thanks for the help in overcoming the problem but also voiced concerns about whether further development at the school would cause flooding problems in the future. The Council will check out the drainage report with the school. A complaint was received about the state of the grass verges and pavements, particularly in Highfield Road and Devon Road, where people are parking vehicles. It was agreed to pass this to police and to Suffolk County Council to check on the state of pavements. The Chairman read a statement from Simon Burgess of Burgess Homes regarding what he felt was a premature planning request made by Gladman Developments as there are a number of other sites available where better phased lower density development could take place which he felt would be more suitable. His statement is in line with a request from Mid Suffolk District Council for landowners and developers to come forward with suggestions for suitable housing projects.



TELSTAR SUDOKU

The grid is 9 x 9, but has nine 3 x 3 mini-grids or 'regions' built in. Some numbers, called 'givens', are inserted to give you a start.

The goal is to fill in the empty cells, one number in each, so that each column and row in the main grid, and each region, contains the numbers 1-9 exactly once.

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

*Read something no one else is reading,
think something no one else is thinking,
and do something no one else is doing.*



MR ALLARD'S FARM SHOP

Direct From Our Farm To You

Down on the Farm:

So where did that one go, another year has slipped us by and the new one is well and truly upon us. Time to reflect upon what went right (or wrong, as the case maybe!!) and learn from it (hopefully). Thank You all so much for the invaluable support that you gave us this past year. It is so nice to link the farm produce to the shop and get so much wonderful feedback. The Christmas trade was fantastic this year and we hope that everybody who purchased anything from us has enjoyed it! Turkey and Beef sales were particularly strong (every year is different), and unfortunately we sold out of some products, Turkey's being one, so we will try to do better this year so as not to disappoint.

So what now will be happening this year?

Well, lots actually, so much to do, so little time! We will be planting new hedging on the Windmill field. In the future we intend to grass this field down and to start using it for more leisure based activities. Planning permission was granted for a straw shed at Walnut Tree so that should be built around May-June, this will help keep the animals on lovely dry straw during the Winter.

The William flock has once again expanded and is presently based at Mendlesham Green, along with William who has also moved to Mendlesham Green. It's funny how often history repeats itself. The

Bloom family originated from Mendlesham, so I suppose we've gone full circle via Stowupland, where next I wonder?...

Ducks are out again next week and pigs begin to leave us on mass in February/ March and then the cycle begins again, call in and sample some, it's always nice to see you!

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Countryside Rambler

Brian Ward

I hope you all had a merry festive season. I enjoyed it with my family on the north Norfolk coast. We rented a large cottage with large open fires which added to the atmosphere and, with the blustery Norfolk coast on our doorstep, many a good walk was had by all. I managed to creep out on a couple of mornings very early to watch the sunrise over Cley marshes with hundreds of noisy brent geese in the orange early morning sky. It was a sight that took one's breath away and one not to be missed.

I also visited Titchwell Reserve with all the normal waders in reasonable numbers and hundreds of teal and wigeon on the lagoons and nearby marshes. The marsh harriers were hunting even in the very windy conditions, seemingly with no effort for such large raptors. Sparrow hawk and kestrel were also hunting the marshes. I spotted a strange deer on the edge of a large reedbed and after talking to one of the rangers we came to the conclusion it was a Chinese water deer. This is the first one I have seen.

On another early morning excursion I visited Wells beach. It felt strange being the only one on the shoreline as it is normally quite busy, but to look back and only see your footprints in the fresh sand is worth the early morning start, and a photographer's delight as the big Norfolk skies light up with the morning sunrise and only seagulls for company.

I have had the pleasure of watching a lot of kingfishers recently; one day I set up a hide at a regular kingfisher hunting spot and waited. I was not disappointed as it caught quite a large rudd which it struggled to dispatch and eventually swallow. At one point it sat above the hide only a few metres away – this jewel of a bird is one of my favourites.

Minsmere is one place I try to visit frequently and on my last visit all the regular birds were present with a pair of whooper swans and a female brambling putting in an appearance. The path at Levington lagoon has now been completed and is now a pleasant estuarine walk. But beware of the path just beyond the boardwalk area crossing the reedbed, it was waterlogged on my last visit and it is best to stay on the new path on the sea wall.

The birds are still visiting our garden feeders even on some of the milder days. I have counted up to fifteen goldfinches on or around the feeders but the greenfinches and chaffinches are down in numbers compared with other years. I am looking forward to the next few months as the first migrants arrive and the countryside will spring into life. Snowdrops are already in bloom and the primroses are starting to bud; also the hazel catkins are blowing in the breeze – a welcome sign spring is just around the corner.

I hope to meet some of you on my rambles in 2015.



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'BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS ...'

Recently I called in to see friends that I hadn't see for many years. Both had been teachers in Liverpool which is where I originally met them – one had worked for me in the Youth Club of the Rock Church Centre – and the other, now retired, had worked their way up to becoming a Head Teacher of a Junior School in an Inner City Area.

The latter recalled an incident some years previous that started with a telephone call one Friday afternoon from another Head, who was concerned that a group of his children were being victimised, and could he, as a nearby school, help in any way. He readily offered to look at possibilities, only to find that, on Monday morning, 20 plus children arrived unannounced at their gates along with parents, and asked to be admitted! Strings were rapidly pulled – and the children accommodated successfully – and, to the credit of their new school – there was no further victimisation suffered.

The important factor in this incident is that my friend was the Head of a Catholic Junior School, and the children being unfortunately targeted were Muslims. It was, and remains, a wonderful example of how two separate faith communities were able to come together in mutual support and encouragement, and in so doing broke down barriers that too often keep us apart, and, hopefully, would have impressed a valuable lesson on all concerned, especially knowing that the children will now be adults and hopefully been moulded by the experience of welcome and kindness shown when at a vulnerable stage in their lives.

It reminded me of a song I used to sing that was included in 'Faith, Folk & Clarity' called 'Kid's Colour Bar'. The heading explains that 'in this sad story we see how childlike innocence is soon contaminated by social prejudice'. Initially the song captures seven year olds from different cultures playing together in the playground with laughter in the air. The song develops to an age where attitudes change, and prejudice and divisions begin to drive them apart, and asks what has happened to childhood innocence where colour, race and diversity is something to be feared not respected and celebrated?

Clearly, it doesn't always have to be like this – which is why I was so impressed with the incident in Liverpool. February, after all, is traditionally the month when some are encouraged to express their admiration for another through an anonymous greeting in the hope that love might flourish.

Maybe we ought to broaden this slightly, and see the month as making a commitment – part of a Lenten journey – where we seek to express a loving concern to our neighbour, whoever they might be, irrespective of creed or colour or race or kind.

Jesus after all, when asked who was the enquirer’s neighbour, chose someone from a different culture and religion, who would normally be a despised figure in the sight of His own people, and presented a Parable where the perceived ‘enemy’ becomes the hero of the hour and is commended for an act of kindness and goodwill towards another. He then leaves us in no doubt that this was, and remains, the way of the Kingdom of God – and that His sacrificial love was offered, not to create more barriers between people, but to break them down for the benefit of humankind.

This is not an easy path to take – but then He never said it would be, rather that it was the narrow – less appealing and often sacrificial Way!

God Bless,

Chris

Our Carol Service, on 14th December, was well attended and was taken by Mrs Mary Durrant. £170.00 was sent to East Anglian Air Ambulance. This was made up of £111.60 from the collection at the morning service and £58.40 from the afternoon service.

On 18th January, as part of the week for Christian Unity, we united for a service with Holy Trinity at the Church.

The money raised from the coffee mornings, which took place during 2014, was £638.26. Currently we are using this money towards the cost of alterations to make the Chapel toilets accessible to all. In addition £268.00 was raised in September for Macmillan Cancer Support.

To raise further funds for this project, we shall be holding a coffee morning on Friday, 20th February. Please note this is on the 3rd Friday of the month and not the last one as is usually the case.

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

Our speakers for February are as follows:

1st February	Veda Berriman
8th February	Revd Richard Edwards
15th February	Irene Martin
22nd February	Stephen Horrex

Afternoon Fellowship

On Monday, 15th December the Afternoon Fellowship held their Carol Service. This was led by Revd Chris Wood. Once again the music group and choir from Stowupland High School accompanied the singing and also did individual pieces for us to listen to. There were some very talented singers and musicians. The collection of £100.00 was sent to East Anglian Air Ambulance.

We recommence our meetings on 2nd March at 2.00pm, when the speaker will be Revd Chris Wood. We welcome anyone who would like to join us. (male or female). Come and enjoy the interesting speakers and fellowship also a cuppa.

Mary Clark



**All Prize
BINGO**
in aid of Air Ambulance

in **Stowupland Village Hall**
on **Friday, 27th February 2015**
at 7.00pm – eyes down 7.30pm
Entrance Fee £1.00 per person

Any prizes donated will
be gratefully received.

Minimum age 18 years

Contacts: Eve Hayward 01449 672 764 Beryl Locke 01449 673 087

FROM TELSTAR COMMITTEE

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Local History Group

Marion Harris – Tel. 01449 770 895 or
email: marion@astronomer.plus.com

3rd December Meeting

We thoroughly enjoyed our seasonal meeting, with fascinating items on display and excellent refreshments. A big 'Thank you' goes to all who contributed. A modern book about the history of football in the Suffolk and Ipswich League attracted plenty of interest, with photographs of clubs over many decades, including the Corinthians in 1938/39. We also saw a collection of farthings dating back to the 17th century, books of WWII cigarette cards and items from the archives, including pictures of the village petrol station. There will be more about the latter next month.

Gipping Chapel

Whether or not you were able to join our visit to Gipping Chapel last July, you may be interested in a DVD of the occasion, produced by Colin Pretlove and focussing on Roy Tricker's expert description of the history and architecture of this beautiful building. Copies can be obtained from Colin (tel. 01449 616 821). The not-for-profit cost of £5 includes a £1 donation to the Chapel.

“Talking-Point”

We asked about the previous names of the village football club and struck lucky with a detailed history on the Falcons website, another version of which appeared in Telstar some years ago, originally drafted by Fred Hollis. Extracts follow. Many thanks go to Fred, the Falcons and Keith Welham.

The adult section of Stowupland Falcons Football Club can trace its origin back to being formed in 1901 (although membership of a league – the Ipswich & District League – was not taken up until 1908 by the then named Stowupland Swifts). The game was played in the village by teams under the names of Stowupland Swifts, Stowupland United, Stowupland Athletic and Stowupland Wanderers for various lengths of time until 1932 when the Club became just plain 'Stowupland'.

Under yet another new name of Stowupland Corinthians, the club was one of just ten to form the new Ipswich & District League Division One when the league restarted in 1945/46 following the War years - with home matches being played on "Carter's Meadow".

The club has now been a continuous member of the Ipswich & District

League (now the Suffolk & Ipswich League) since 1964, and in the season 1964/65 finished second in Division Four (Section B). Steadily climbing through the lower divisions before reaching the ‘giddy heights’ of Division One for the first time in season 1972/73, but sadly this momentum could not be sustained as many of our near neighbours, some with much shorter histories, overtook the club on their way to the then ‘Premier Division’.

In those early days the good old ‘Green’ was the main playing surface and that was after the local farmer’s dairy cattle had been directed homewards. Local knowledge as to the consistency of the ‘pats’ played a part in determining whether to go into a sliding tackle or not. Villagers crossing the pitch on their bicycles could also be an interruption that many referees had not seen before, as were long delays for recovering the ball when the wind was blowing in the wrong direction. There were some consolations, not the least being changing in the ‘Retreat’ public house which whilst not having the most modern of changing facilities, offered somewhat unique pre and post-match refreshment opportunities.

The change of main venue to the Sports & Social Club in 1990 was very welcome and the club was able to start an ‘A’ side in addition to the First and Reserve teams.

.....

For our next ‘Talking Point’, who was the original owner of the petrol station?

Programme to mid-2015

4th February *‘Suffolk Breweries’ by Stuart Bowell*

Brewing was once an everyday occupation for the housewife along with baking bread. Increasingly this was taken over by commercial brewers and by the early 19th century most towns had breweries that supplied local inns and households. Stowmarket had two breweries: W.G. Ransons in Violet Hill Road (this later became a laundry and the building is now empty) and The Stowmarket Brewery, established in the 1830s, which subsequently became the town’s waterworks in Station Road.

4th March *‘Mid-Suffolk Light Railway’ by John Stark*

The Mid-Suffolk Light Railway was built too late for the great railway age. It never paid its way and was effectively broke before it opened. The line was not completed, the rails petering out in the middle of a field, but the working section managed to struggle on against the odds for 50 years.

In 1991, after almost all traces of the line had disappeared, a group of enthusiasts decided that this country railway should not be forgotten. The ‘Middy’ is now resurrected as Suffolk’s only standard gauge railway museum. A section of the railway at Brockford has been recreated with original station buildings which capture the atmosphere of this quirky line.

1st April ***'The Bombing of Stowmarket Congregational Church'
by Sue & Steve Williams***

On 31st January 1941, a lone German bomber dropped several bombs on Stowmarket, five of which fell on the Congregational Church in Ipswich Street. Remarkably there was only one fatality. Steve has collected many recollections from residents who vividly remember the event, which he published in a book in 2004.

6th May ***'William Pretty & Son – A Suffolk family
and corset manufacturer.'* by Roger Kennell**

William Pretty, son of a Bacton tailor, went on to form a partnership with a Mr. Footman in Ipswich, manufacturing ladies' corsets. The business was so successful that factories were set up in several Suffolk towns, the first being in Stowmarket. This factory was a big employer of young women during the second half of the 19th century

3rd June ***Evening visit to Buxhall Museum***

1st July ***'Suffolk Medieval Graffiti Survey'
by Matthew Champion***

The Suffolk Medieval Graffiti Survey was established in 2014 with the intention of undertaking the first large-scale survey of early graffiti inscriptions in the county. It is a volunteer led, community archaeology project that has found many overlooked examples in local churches such as Mendlesham and Finningham. The study of medieval graffiti is changing the way we think about how the inside of the medieval parish church may have looked during the middle ages.

We meet at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall (June 3rd excepted). Visitors are always welcome and refreshments are available. Admission is £1 for members, £3 for non-members.

We look forward to seeing you.



Outings

'Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' Ipswich Regent – 6th June at 2.00pm

I have provisionally booked seats for this show – the theatre is holding them until the end of January, so please get in touch as soon as possible, please. Tickets are £29.50 but there is a discount of £5 for more than 10 booking.

For further details contact me – Judy Clarke tel 01449 615 386

February Dates

Sun	1	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	2	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	3	Mobile Library	9.30am	Jubilee Court
Tues	3	Mobile Library	9.55am	The Green
Tues	3	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Tues	3	Beetle Drive	2.30pm	Church Hall
Wed	4	Baby & Toddler Group	9.30am	Village Hall
Wed	4	Book Group	2.00pm	
Wed	4	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Wed	4	Local History Group (<i>see page 22</i>)	7.30pm	Village Hall
Thur	5	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Sun	8	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	9	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	10	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Tues	10	Over 60 Club	2.00pm	Village Hall
Wed	11	Baby & Toddler Group	9.30am	Village Hall
Wed	11	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Thur	12	Parish Council	7.30pm	V.H. Meeting Room
Thurs	12	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Fri	13	TELSTAR DEADLINE DATE – March issue		
Sun	15	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	16	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	17	Soup & Pancakes (<i>see page 36</i>)	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Wed	18	Lent Lunches (<i>see back cover</i>)	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Wed	18	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Wed	18	W.I. – ‘A Celebration of the W.I.’	7.30pm	Village Hall
Thur	19	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Fri	20	Coffee Morning (<i>see page 25</i>)	10.00am	URC Chapel
Sun	22	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	23	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	24	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Tues	24	Beetle Drive	2.30pm	Church Hall

Wed	25	Baby & Toddler Group	9.30am	Village Hall
Wed	25	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Thur	26	P.C. Finance & Policy Meeting	7.30pm	URC Chapel
Thur	26	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Fri	27	Bingo for Air Ambulance	7.30pm	Village Hall

(see page 20)

If you wish to attend one of the events listed, and would like help with transport, please contact Good Neighbours on **07591 539 621**

March Dates

Sun	1	Country & Western Dance	7.30pm	Village Hall
Mon	2	Afternoon Fellowship	2.00pm	URC Chapel
Mon	2	Dance Club	7.30pm	Village Hall
Tues	3	Mobile Library	9.30am	Jubilee Court
Tues	3	Mobile Library	9.55am	The Green
Tues	3	Coffee Morning	10.00am	Jubilee Court
Tues	3	Beetle Drive	2.30pm	Church Hall
Wed	4	Baby & Toddler Group	9.30am	Village Hall
Wed	4	Book Group	2.00pm	
Wed	4	Coffee Church	2.00pm	Holy Trinity Church
Wed	4	Local History Group <i>(see page 22)</i>	7.30pm	Village Hall
Thur	5	Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm	Village Hall
Sat	7	P.C. Cemetery & Churchyard W.G.	10.00am	The Churchyard

Future Events in 2015

March	27	Community Bingo
April	24	Community Bingo

Diary Dates

Contact Marion by email: marion@astronomer.plus.com or Tel: 01449 770 895

For contact details for clubs / groups etc. see page 29.

There was a good turn out for the Annual Meeting, where members heard a run down of the year's activities, the speakers and demonstrators, outings, Federation events and community commitments. The president then thanked everyone who had helped in any capacity with the smooth running of the Institute. Finances were healthy, with funds swelled with providing the refreshments at the garden club meetings. The retiring committee were re-elected en bloc and Colleen accepted the presidency. The rest of the evening was devoted to light hearted pursuits – a quiz and bingo. The competition results were for the colour – 1st. Anna, 2nd. Shirley, 3rd. Rebecca. Flower – 1st. Mary C., 2nd. Brenda, 3rd. Mary M. The raffle ended the meeting. Two outings concluded the month, with the Agatha Christie play 'The Mousetrap' at the Regent theatre, Ipswich, and then a shopping trip to Norwich the following week.

December Meeting

Guests and members were greeted with a warm cordial drink as they entered the Village Hall. Retiring president, Judy, welcomed everyone. No business, just reminders for the January meeting and the annual sub. Details of a possible trip to Ipswich Regent for a musical in June, will be available in January. Colleen advised of a change to the knit & natter and the stitch & chatter meetings – these will be amalgamated into one evening per month. Irene gave a brief rundown of the centenary baton celebration she and Colleen attended in November. The evening was then handed over to 'Musicology', a singing group who entertained with a wide range of songs, varying from the sublime of Christina Rossetti's 'In the bleak mid-winter' to the ridiculous of Flanders & Swann's 'London Omnibus' – all much appreciated. It was then refreshment time with mince pies, sausage rolls, cheese straws and a beautiful Christmas cake (all home made, of course). Last event of the night was a draw in aid of 'Shelter' – the many prizes were given by members, supported generously by all present and raised £88.

With good wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Judy, the evening closed.

Since the above meeting, it has been discovered that the small complex in Barley Close is no longer run under the auspices of 'Shelter', but by another charity 'United Response'. However, as their aims are to look after the wellbeing of the deaf / blind residents, the proceeds of the raffle were passed on and the residents will benefit, as was the aim.

S.O.S. SAVE OUR STOWUPLAND

The planning application by Gladman Developments for 190 houses on land between Church Road and Gipping Road has caused a stir. Some people think it is 'a done deal'. It isn't. You still have time to write to Mid Suffolk with your views for Councillors to consider when they make their decision. Others say: "Where will our children and grandchildren live if we don't build more houses?" Mid Suffolk already has a plan for housing around Stowmarket for the next 15 years. Stowupland can grow as it has done over the past few decades without the need to turn our village into a suburb of Stowmarket.

190 houses: how many cars? how many extra people? how much more traffic? Development of this land means roads and street lights, and new roads onto Church Road and Gipping Road which will spoil the character of the village. The development site is outside the village and in the Suffolk countryside that people enjoy. Traffic at peak times will have an effect everywhere in the village, especially at the junction by the garage. There will be pressure on schools and health services which are already preparing for planned growth around Stowmarket. The natural environment and wildlife habitats will be lost. What sort of village will we pass on to the next generation?

This proposal is simply too much and in the wrong place. Stowupland is just beginning a Neighbourhood Plan where we can decide for ourselves how we want our village to grow. If you support some growth, and support the village deciding for itself where this should be, please object to the Gladman proposal (planning application number 4002/14). If you want to 'Save Our Stowupland' write to Mid Suffolk and let them know you think this is the wrong development in the wrong place.

Jackie Ward



**Coffee Morning
at Stowupland Chapel
on Friday, 20th February
10.00am to 12.00noon
Everyone welcome for
coffee / tea, cake and a chat.**



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*Help us plan the
Stowupland
of the future*

Change is inevitable, but we need to plan ahead to ensure that our village benefits from change.

Please come to the first meeting of the

Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

at 7.30pm

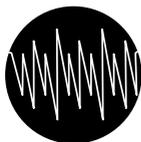
on

Wednesday, 11th February

in the Church Hall.

* CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

Book Group:	Patricia Hodgkins	01449 672 127
Baby and Toddler Group:	Laura Glasscock	07776 426 319
Bowls Club:	Susan Boorman	01449 614 673
Country & Western Dance:	Winston & Janet Adams	01206 501 866
Dance Club:	May & Paul Durham	01449 672 601
Local History Group:	Marion Harris	01449 770 895
Over 60 Club:	Jean Coleman	01449 775 116
Short Mat Bowls:	Pam Fayers	01449 770 080
Sports & Social Club:	Mark Campbell	01449 614 390
W. I.	Judy Clarke	01449 615 386
Community Events	Keith Welham	01449 673 185
Mobile Library:		07721 879 855



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Stowupland Community Events

Christmas Fun Days

Steeple View enjoyed a fun afternoon just before Christmas as did Jubilee Court. The Community Events Committee laid on a free bingo session and draw followed by tea and nibbles and a festive sing song. The festive sing song at Jubilee Court included some old war time favourites which were much enjoyed!



Thank you to the kind people who came along to help us. Even though the Events Committee

only has a few members we will continue to run our regular bingo evenings which enable us to provide these social occasions for the elderly in our lovely village.



Royal British Legion 2014 Poppy Appeal

Thank you very much to all of those who generously made donations in support of the 2014 Poppy Appeal. The total amount collected in Stowupland was £1,253.60 – an increase of £143.63 on the previous year.

A very encouraging result. A special thank you to all of those who gave their time and braved the weather to help with the house to house collections.

We are still in need of volunteers to help with the house to house collections in the future. If you feel that you could help then I would be very pleased to hear from you and I can be contacted on 01449 612 156.

Thank you again .

Hugh Blanch

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Letter from Mary Bloom

I have decided not to stand for the Parish Council at the forthcoming election in May. My reasons are mainly age and also the fact that I have not been too well lately.

My parents came to Walnut Tree Farm, Stowupland in 1927 and I was born in 1928. They worked very hard on a rented farm gradually building up a herd of cows which, of course, in those days were milked by hand. My father, Robert Allard, bought a three-wheeled milk cart in which were a milk churn and two serving cans. He pushed the cart into the village and around The Green daily to sell milk. My sister Ann and I would go to meet dad on the way home and have a ride on the cart. At that time the bungalows in Columbyne Close and houses in Trinity Walk had not been built.

Long-term residents of Stowupland will remember that our cows were walked on to The Green daily to graze (under the supervision of Geoffrey Southgate, who had a three-wheeled trike) and then back again at midday. We were able to do this as part of our land entitled us to graze animals on The Green: we were known as Commoners.

When dad retired from the Parish Council, I was elected on 25 May 1967, according to records. So it looks as if I have been a councillor for 48 years. Where has the time gone?

I know that I will miss the company of my colleagues and attending the meetings on the second Thursday of every month. I have long accepted that it is difficult – impossible – to please everyone all the time but I hope that I have done something for the village where I have lived for 87 years.

Mary



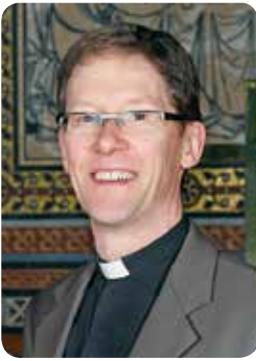
Baby and Toddler Group

The Baby and Toddler Group thanks The Golden Eagle Country and Western Club for the generous donation towards the children's Christmas party. £30 of this was donated by Peter, who participated in the 'Movember' project.

Moving on to Pre-School, it's time for us to say "Good bye and thank you" to the Baby and Toddler Group. Thanks to the mums who run the group, to Margaret, who looks after craft-time and song-time and to Wendy, Joan, Cathy and Alan who produce what is probably the best snack-time in Suffolk. Thank you, too, for a lovely party.

George and family.

The Baby and Toddler Group meets on Wednesday mornings during term time. *See centre pages.*



The Vicar's Letter

Revd David Swales

Dear Friends

Lent is early this year: it starts with **Ash Wednesday, on February 18th**. Lent is a time for looking honestly at ourselves – seeing our need to change and to be forgiven; and for looking also at God – the only one who can change us and forgive us. Some of the things we do with others can help us in this (such as our services and our Lent Course – see page 35). But time spent **alone** with God is also vital for each of us – even if it's only a few minutes in the day.

It's great to be part of an active and busy community – as the pages of this magazine testify – with so much going on, and so many opportunities for us to play our own part. But may God preserve us from ever getting caught up in activity for its own sake. Maybe this Lent can be a time for you to get the right perspective – God's perspective – on your life, and on all that you do. And I hope that your Parish Church – and I, your Parish Priest – can help you in this.

It's what we're here for.

Your friend and vicar,

David

Services in February 2015

February	1st	9.30am	Parish Communion
		4.00pm	1st @ 4 Service – <i>Church with a Difference</i>
February	8th	9.30am	Morning Worship & ★ Trinity Starz ★
		6.30pm	Evensong (<i>B.C.P.</i>)
February	15th	9.30am	Holy Communion (<i>B.C.P.</i>)
		9.30am	Morning Prayer (<i>B.C.P.</i>)
February	16th (Mon)	10.30am	Songs of Praise at Steeple View – <i>All Welcome!</i>
February	18th	9.30am	ASH WEDNESDAY BENEFICE COMMUNION at Haughley
February	22nd	9.30am	All-Age Family Service
		6.30pm	Parish Communion

(*B.C.P.* – *Book of Common Prayer*)



Holy Trinity Church

Vicar: *Revd David Swales* Tel: 01449 675 503

Curate:

Churchwarden: *Mrs Ann Doubtfire* Tel. 01449 770 363

Mrs Sue Hayter Tel. 01449 613 710

Church Email: holytrinityuk@hotmail.com



www.facebook.com/haughleybenefice

Lent Group, 2015. 'The Way'

The earliest Christians were called 'People of the Way'. We often see our own life as a Journey, and Jesus claimed he was the one who could guide us on the way – in fact, he said, 'I *am* the Way'.

Perhaps that is why, for hundreds of years, people have gone on **Pilgrimage**, a 'journey with a meaning', helping them in turn to make sense of that inner, spiritual Journey of Life.

The Way, starring Martin Sheen, is a film about a pilgrimage which is still popular today – the 'Way of St James' in Northern Spain. Each evening we will watch extracts from the film, and discuss the questions they raise. At the end, if you have time to stay on, we will relax over tea or coffee together.

We will meet on **Wednesdays from 25th February to 25th March** at 7.30pm in **Stowupland Church Hall**. *You* are welcome: no need to book!

There is no need to bring anything – just yourself! However, a Bible and notebook can be brought if you wish. If you can't make all the dates, it is fine to attend the ones you can.

And before all that, **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (18th) with Communion at Haughley Church at 7.30pm.**

A leaflet is available with more details: pick one up in Church, or contact Revd David.

A Prayer

Almighty God, lover of all people and giver of grace, look mercifully upon us who acknowledge our sins; create in us a pure heart and a steadfast spirit; and lead us in the paths of holiness and righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Facebook

Don't forget that our benefice has a Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/haughleybenefice

If you are a Facebook user, please visit us and 'like' our page for news and information about our churches.

NOTES FROM HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Woman`s World Day of Prayer

You are invited to join us for the Woman`s World Day of Prayer which this year will be held at St Mary the Virgin Church in Wetherden at 2.00pm and 7.00pm on Friday, 6th March. The service is prepared by Christian women of the Bahamas in the West Indies and is very colourful.

The Children`s Society

Thank-you to everyone who came to the Christingle Service held in the church on December 7th, and a special thanks to all those involved in the preparations to make it such an enjoyable occasion. We raised £233.99 for the above charity which includes a donation of £69 from the Christmas Ploughman`s Raffle. Thanks also go to the Freeman Community Primary School for their contribution of £56 from their end of term Christingle Service. All your help and generous donations are very much appreciated.

By the time you read this, the housebox collection should be almost completed, details in the next issue of Telstar.

Janet Burton

Steeple View

The residents warmly invite you to join them for their Songs of Praise Service on Monday, 16th February at 10.30am and which is followed by a short Communion for those who wish to stay.

Families

Please come along to the ‘1st @ 4’ **SERVICE** on Sunday, 1st February at 4.00pm and enjoy this popular ‘*Church With A Difference*’ (with some snacks afterwards)! Then please come to our bright and friendly **ALL-AGE FAMILY SERVICE** in church on Sunday, February 22nd at 9.30am. Do stay and have FairTrade refreshments with us in the hall afterwards!

Lent Lunches 2015

You are invited to join us for the Lent lunches of soup, rolls and cheese followed by tea or coffee. All of the lunches will be on Wednesdays, held in the Church Hall and start at 12.00 noon. There is no charge, but your voluntary donations will go to help fund the Youth Drop-In Centre ‘Café 52’ project in Stowmarket. We look forward to welcoming you! *Please see back cover.*

Soup & Pancakes Ploughman`s Lunch

Come along on Shrove Tuesday, 17th February and enjoy the popular Soup & Pancake Lunch in the Church Hall from 12.00noon. Something a little different in friendly company!

Beetle Drives

We welcome everyone to come along and enjoy some fun in a friendly atmosphere at the Beetle Drives which will be held on Tuesdays, 3rd and 24th February at 2.30pm in the Church Hall.

NOTES FROM HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Weekly Open Church

Holy Trinity Church has an Open Church Session from 2.00pm to 4.00pm each Wednesday.

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

Food Bank Box

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

Church 100 Club

Congratulations to the winners of the December draw:

1st No. 107 Mr G Doubtfire
2nd No. 19 Mr A Cooper
3rd No. 34 Miss S Stanford

and to the winners of the January draw:

1st No. 61 Mr M Mitchell
2nd No. 4 Mrs P Hodgkins
3rd No. 27 Mrs O Balls

Church Hall Hire

Please remember that the well-appointed Church Hall is available for hire at reasonable rates, and would be ideal for children's parties and small groups/meetings.

For more information please contact John & Ann Parsell on 01449 672 592. Thank you.

PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS.

We welcome into the family of Christ's Church:

23rd November Charlotte Hooper
Luke Coleman

BLESSINGS.

We give thanks for the blessing on
23rd November Mallory Wesley

FUNERALS.

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

10th December Joseph Fletcher
19th December Werner Gohler
5th January Majorie Paddy



For information on services and support available to older people and their carers from Age UK Suffolk and partner organisations, contact our Local Link volunteer for Stowupland:

Christine Williams
Tel: 01449 771 430



Stowupland post Office

WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Small Parcel promotion extended!

The fantastic news that the Post Office just decided to **extend the Royal Mail Small Parcel promotion until 29th March 2015!!**

As a reminder the Small Parcels promotion, is summarised below;

- Customers sending a Royal Mail 1st or 2nd Class Small Parcel of up to 2kg will now be able to send more for less this
- New bigger Small Parcel size - now 45cm x 35cm x 16cm.
- This represents a saving of up to 25%



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Saturday 8:00 - 16:00 Sundays 10:00 - 16:00

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The Crown

During 2014 The Crown underwent a major change in its fortunes after languishing on the open market since 2012 with little or no interest from any buyers. It had been owned by Tolly Cobbold for much of the twentieth century and had then been sold to various pub chains who had continued to support it as a village pub. However by March 2014 it was clear that The Crown would need substantial work and major investment if it was to thrive in the future.

After hearing rumours that The Crown was to be bought by a restaurant and take-away enterprise a local resident of neighbouring Gipping, Emily Shelley, persuaded her husband Rob, a regular customer, to make a surprising decision to jointly secure the Freehold. Despite some concern that they must be mad to embark on such a scheme when so many pubs are closing every week, they felt that The Crown deserved to be restored and revitalised for the local community.

They took possession of The Crown in August 2014 and immediately embarked on removing the Japanese Knotweed and obtaining planning permission for complete renovation to the entire building, a new kitchen, new toilets and a restaurant extension. Their plans were met with complete support and approval by Mid-Suffolk District Council and Stowupland Parish Council – not one objection was raised.

With approval granted in December 2014, building work commenced on 6th January 2015. The works are so extensive that the project will take at least six months to be ready for opening in Summer 2015.

Kind regards

Daniela Bruce
Maritime Cargo Services



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Andrew Bingham

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Letters Page

Dear Telstar

Please can you convey through the magazine a big thank-you to the Stowupland Community Group who, on the 9th December, bestowed on us not only their time and presence, but laughter, bingo (with wonderful prizes), food and capped a brilliant afternoon with some carols.

The tenants would also like to thank the Women's Institute for their 'treat' trolley. Every Wednesday throughout the year without fail!

Lastly, we would like to thank M & M Butchers who not only supplied the meat for Christmas Day, but cooked it and sliced it so that the staff at Steeple View had plenty of time to support the tenants.

What a brilliant Community!

Regards

*Steve Chawner,
Service Manager, Steeple View*



To whom it may concern

I am deeply disappointed that you have complained about our activities on The Green. My family have been Stowupland residents for a very long time and we are very happy here.

The quality of the earth and the abundant supply of worms keeps us healthy and active.

We are very sorry about the little piles of earth, and no, we are not trying to design a message that can be seen from the air!

We did hear a local farmer say that the grass re-grows thicker on disturbed ground, and that nice man who cuts the grass rolls the earth flat again.

So taking everything into consideration I think we are a benefit to the village and you really ought to get out and about more.

Best regards

Sid

Sid Mole



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Are you a keen reader?

Are you frustrated by only having your uninterested family with whom to discuss books?

Come and join our group of friendly, like-minded bookworms! We have been meeting, for over ten years, in each other's houses. You'd be amazed at the number of different opinions there are of just one book. It always makes for a lively discussion. We have a fresh book every month, chosen by a different person each time.

All this and tea and cakes too!

Why not come along and join us at Stowupland Book Group on the first Wednesday of every month?

To tempt you, here is a list of just some of the books which we expect to read in 2015.

'This Boy' by Alan Johnson

'Devices and Desires' by PD James

'Little Women' by Louisa M Alcott

'Neither Here nor There' by Bill Bryson

For more details, please contact:

Patricia 01449 672 127 or Ann 01449 672 592.



Support our Village Hall

Reg. Charity No 304822

The Village Hall is situated on Church Road and is available for Clubs, Groups, private parties and weddings.

Facilities include:

- Small meeting room, ideal for small group meetings
- Large main hall
- Licenced bar
- Kitchen area available
- Ample parking

For more details please contact our booking secretary, Hugh Blanch on 01449 612 156.

Also a range of recycling facilities some of which raise funds for the Village Hall.

We are still in need of volunteers and committee members and urgently require a Treasurer and a Secretary. If you are interested, please contact Jerry Voden on 01449 770 334.



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

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Shop opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 10.00am to 4.00pm

Warehouse opening hours are Saturday, 11.00am to 3.00pm

I will be happy to open the warehouse for you,
out of hours, if you are in need of furniture.

Once again I would like to thank you all for your generosity
over the past 20 months, without you we would not have survived.

Stowupland Village Website

www.stowupland.org

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

Parish Council:

Chairman - Keith Welham 01449 673 185
Vice Chair - Jerry Voden 01449 770 334
Mary Bloom 01449 676 549
Morris Brand 01449 770 678
Gary Burden 07725 182 805
Roger Carter 01449 612 856
Roy Cooper 01449 674 211
Rick Hamilton 01449 775 403
Ben Miller 07765 408 001
Nic Perks 01449 774 200
John Spitzer

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Claire Pizzey

2 Broomspath Road, IP14 4DB
01449 677 005

email: clairepizzey@outlook.com

You can contact the Clerk as follows:

Tues – Thurs from 10.00am – 12.00noon

Mid Suffolk District Council:

Caroline Byles 07515 730 097

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

Suffolk County Council

Gary Green 07545 423 824
gary.green@suffolk.gov.uk

Police Safer Neighbourhood Team

PC 1443 Stefan Henriksen

Police Station, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket
IP14 1NJ 01473 613 500

stefan.henriksen@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Good Neighbour Scheme:

HELPLINE No. 07591 539 621

Village Hall Bookings:

Hugh Blanch – 01449 612 156

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

Email reports, articles etc. to

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Distribution Co-Ordinator:

Sally Reeves

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To the team of distributors who trek the roads and streets of Stowupland each month. Thank You

Produced in the village,
for the village

**DEADLINE DATE:
13TH FEBRUARY**

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LENT LUNCHES

(A SIMPLE MEAL OF SOUP, ROLLS, CHEESE
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Wednesdays
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February 18th

March 4th

March 11th

March 18th

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Centre, 'Cafe 52' project in Stowmarket.*

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH STOWDELAND