

Telstar

Stowupland News

No 352
April 2022

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EDITOR'S NOTES

APRIL 2022



To say that the last month has been eventful is an understatement!

We thought we were seeing a change in the pandemic and that we would be able to live with Covid. As I write, Covid is on the increase again, not least at Telstar HQ and our own team being struck with the lurgy! Thankfully, we are all now on the mend. But, as if a pandemic was not bad enough, war is raging in Ukraine. They often say that bad things bring out the best in us and certainly there has been some very kind acts in Stowupland.

Wendy, in Hornbeam Road, organised a collection of clothing, bedding and medical supplies to be taken to Ukraine. News of this was seen on Facebook 'All things Stowupland' and I'm sure lots of us were glad to be able to help.

I also had a phone call from Tony Shave of Thorney Green Road, who wanted to thank the kind person who anonymously left a bunch of daffodils on his doorstep and that of his neighbour. He told me it really made his wife's day. What a kind gesture!

I would also like to personally thank Fix A Mac in Middlewood Green, without their expertise Telstar would not be on your doormat this month. Just as I was preparing for the influx of articles my Mac died on me. So, as I sit here and type I am already late with this month's copy and the residue of Covid is not helping a bit. If I have made mistakes that get through to the final cut, I apologise.

Previously to all this excitement, I had already given notice to the Telstar committee. I am stepping down as editor and leaving the door open to someone with fresh ideas. Please do get in touch if you would like to be the next 'Voice of the Village'.

Kay, Editor

Kay.telstar@gmail.com

Cover photo by Ace Photographer Keith Hyland – Daffodils at Columbine Hall

EDITOR REQUIRED

Telstar is looking for a new editor.

There are no special requirements just an ability to know your way around a computer a little bit and common sense!

Kay is willing to mentor a new editor and show them the ropes.

Initial enquiries to Kay.telstar@gmail.com

DOWN TO EARTH

KATE ELLIOTT

It happens every April - I am bewitched by the simple greenness of everything. That luminous fresh lime green that begins speckling the hedgerows this month until by its end, the trees and all the hedgerows are fully out and clothed in blossom. Certainly nothing characterises April as much as the range of greens that shine like stained-glass windows. Sheer exhilaration.

Whilst I love the delicacy of many early spring flowers such as primroses and cowslips, there is something exuberantly joyful about the intensity of tulips. They are the first real blaze of colour of the year and are the most silkily of all flowers. I adore them.

Although the time to plant them is November, now is the moment to relish their wonderfully brilliant colour and choose your favourites to grow in your garden next year.

The very first tulips to flower here at Columbine are the species tulips 'Tulip sylvestris'. I planted these around five years ago in our New Orchard and they grow back happily each spring with buttercup-yellow flowers.

After the species tulips, the earliest to bloom here next is 'Prinses Irene' which has a chocolate stem and orange petals flushed with pink and streaked with plum and a touch of green. And one of my absolute favourites 'Exotic Emperor' which flowers for at least six weeks and looks good from the moment the buds begin to develop until it is almost dropping. It has large double white flowers with a delicate green flame. A magnificent tulip. I highly recommend it.

Parrot tulips come next and have frilly, fuzzy edges and always look to me as though they are caught in the middle of exploding out a rich splash of satiny colour. We have 'Black Parrot' which is actually a deep purple rather than black. 'Rococo' is a splash of crimson, and 'Flaming Parrot' has pale yellow flowers flamed with a raspberry streak.

The lily-flowered group is less flamboyant but I think my favourite. It includes the wonderful pure white 'White Triumphator' which we have growing under our pleached limes with cow parsley - a dreamy combination.

The last to flower and the last to stop flowering here is 'Queen of Night' along with 'Recreado' and 'Black Hero' - both very good, dark tulips.

Most tulips will only produce one good flowering bulb each year together with a number of smaller bulbs called bulbils. These may take a few years to develop a bulb big enough to flower, which is why tulips left in the ground tend to get smaller and more numerous each year. It is best to top up the display or buy completely fresh bulbs each year.

This is the time of year when rocket is at its best. There are two kinds of edible rocket, the Mediterranean salad rocket and wild rocket. Salad rocket has rounded leaves with varying degrees of indentation and at best almost

melts in the mouth, whereas wild rocket is deeply indented and tougher.

Both are delicious - but if I could grow only one it would be salad rocket as it is easier to germinate and much faster to grow. After radish it is the easiest of all seeds to germinate. Chuck them out onto any old soil or compost and they will grow. But the crucial thing is to sow thinly.



Rocket hates hot or dry weather and will run to seed quickly - but rich soil, some shade and plenty of water will delay that process. However, for the next couple of months, it is the easiest and fastest salad crop to grow and will do just as well in a pot or window box as in the vegetable garden.

April is one of the busiest months for a gardener - there is much to do.

You can:

- Plant out first early potatoes (*see Common-tater page 6*).
- Plant out onion sets.
- Sow bedding under glass.
- Sow runner-beans under glass in pots at the start of the month or direct sow where they are to grow towards the end of April.
- Sow tomatoes, cucumbers and chillies in a greenhouse or sunny windowsill.
- Sow sweet-peas at the base of supports.
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsias to make bushier plants.
- Open greenhouse doors and vents on warm days making sure you close them again at night.
- Sow hardy annuals straight into the ground such as poppies, cornflowers, marigolds and love-in-a-mist.
- Keep on top of weeds by regular hoeing.
- Sow sunflowers in a sunny, open site or in pots in a greenhouse or sunny windowsill.
- Start feeding houseplants once a week with a liquid fertiliser.

Nothing makes me happier than an April day in the garden - warm soil on my hands. In these early spring days the entire summer is poised and everything is possible.



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COMMON-TATER

KATE ELLIOTT

Now is the time to plant your potatoes. Potato planting is one of those things that must be done with rhythm and concentration, but in the end, it is simple enough. Stick a tuber in the ground, cover it up and wait for it to grow.

Ground for potatoes should be well dug and manured, preferably a month or so before planting. If that has not been possible, add some garden compost along the bottom of the planting trench or individual hole.

Make a shallow trench about 15cm (6 inches) deep and put the potatoes in the bottom at about 30cm (12 inches) spacing with the most shoots pointing upwards. The wider the spacing, the bigger the potatoes, therefore, new potatoes tend to be planted closer together and main crop - especially baking varieties - wider apart. Once planted, draw the sides of the trench back over the line of seed potatoes to make a low mound. A mattock is the ideal tool for this. Each row wants to be about 90cm (3ft) apart to allow room for earthing up (more about this next month). Alternatively, if your soil is lovely and crumbly dig individual holes and put one seed potato per hole using the above spacings.

If you're short on space - you can grow potatoes surprisingly well in a pot. Choose the largest pot you can find - an old plastic pot that is at least 40 litres or an old dustbin is ideal. Make sure it has drainage holes at the bottom. Place your potato pot in a sunny, frost-free spot. Add approximately 10cm of peat-free multi-purpose compost to the bottom of the pot and place three to five chitted seed potatoes (chitting see Feb issue) a hand width apart on the surface. Cover with 8-10cm of compost and water well. You can also grow potatoes in bags, old compost bags are great for this. Simply roll the sides of the bag down so it's just under a third of its usual height and follow the advice above.

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COUNTRYSIDE RAMBLER

BRIAN WARD

Well, spring has sprung and with it the birds are singing to proclaim their territories. Also, the sun is getting stronger, and the days are noticeably getting longer. I live at the back of the new Bloor Homes estate, where recently they have planted a large woodland belt between Gipping Road and myself. As this establishes itself it will be a haven for wildlife as they have used a wide variety of native trees and shrubs. I look forward to the blossom and the leafy canopy as the year progresses.

This time of year, on our lakes and rivers, you will encounter a duck-like bird with a dagger for a beak - the great crested grebe. This bird feeds mainly on fish and will dive under the surface in order to capture its prey. When in full breeding plumage they are quite magnificent with extended ear tufts and elegant posture. When a pair are preparing to nest they will indulge in what is called a weed dance.



Great Crested Grebe

The birds will gather weed in their bills and flick their heads from side to side whilst facing one another and it will culminate in both birds treading water being chest to chest. This dance is often performed several times, so seize the chance and try to visit a breeding site to watch this elaborate display. The nest is simply a floating platform made up of weed and other waterside vegetation; the eggs are off-white when first laid but soon turn a brown colour due to the staining from the wet weedy nesting material.

The great crested grebe's smaller relation is a little grebe. They have similar nesting requirements but prefer quieter and more secluded areas. These birds are quite dumpy in stature and appear not to have a tail: they will also dive when disturbed and will emerge quite a distance away from where they were observed.

The hares are doing what they do at this time of year: pairing up and chasing one another. The females are boxing off unwanted males, and sometimes these bouts can be quite violent with fur flying and a lot of vigorous activity. Hares live mainly on open arable fields but will venture into woodland for cover if the weather is inclement. Hares will have two to four young and may produce several litters during the year; young hares are called leverets and are quite cute in appearance. Unfortunately, they are preyed upon by foxes, stoats and large birds of prey. I have also witnessed carrion crows attacking the young and the mother attempting to chase them away.

I hope you all enjoy the spring as it unfolds and hopefully some warmer weather: also, look out for the first swallow.

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THANK YOU ALL

For those of you that do not know me!

Since 2004 (except 2020) I have compiled an annual quiz with themed answers for example Birds, Found in the garden, Food & Drink, Found in the home etc.

With a lot of help from people in Stowupland and many friends we have raised £10,541 for Diabetes UK, a terrific amount from £1 a sheet.

I have made many friends through selling these and got a lot of satisfaction. I have had answers back from all over the country and even Australia. Having topped £10,000 and age catching up with me I will not be setting anymore.

I would like to **Thank Everyone** for all their support over the years and wish you all well in the future.

Pam Fayers



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Our Manager Sue, Deputy Managers Julie and Chris and our great team of volunteers would love to welcome you to our charity shop at 1 Broad Street, Eye.

Here at Home-Start we always look forward to seeing the lovely window displays our talented staff and volunteers arrange – with Easter and the Queen’s Jubilee coming up, we’re sure they will take the opportunity to display their wares to great effect. We will also be holding a “Name The Bunny” competition in the shop, with the rather large cuddly bunny soft toy as the prize!



Thanks to generous donations from our supporters, we have a great range of clothing, footwear, accessories, books, homeware, jigsaw puzzles, jewellery, vinyl records, toys, games and much, much more. Why not pop in, have a look and pick up an Easter gift for someone, or something to keep the children occupied over the school holidays? There truly is something for everyone.

The shop can accept donations every morning from 9am to 12pm. If you need to drop off at other times, please do call the shop on 01379 870186 to check first, as we have limited storage/sorting space.

We list bulkier items such as cots, prams, mirrors etc., that we do not have space to display in the shop on our Facebook page – please follow Chris at Home-Start on Facebook and browse online or ask in the shop if there is anything that you need that is not on display.

We also have an online eBay selling hub. Just go to www.ebay.co.uk and search for [homestartsuffolk](http://www.homestartsuffolk.com) to browse a great range of clothing and unusual or collectable items. Click and Collect is available by arrangement, so there is no need to pay for postage unless you want to.

The revenue from our retail outlets funds our services to families with children under the age of 11, which are free of charge. Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk offers support, friendship and practical help from our coordinators and trained volunteers. Our support is informal, friendly and confidential.

Parents ask for Home-Start's help for all sorts of reasons:

- They may feel lonely or isolated in their community, have no family nearby or are struggling to make friends
- They are finding it hard to cope because of their own or a child's physical or mental illness
- They may be finding it hard to talk to anyone
- They may be suffering increased stress due to the challenges of parenthood and are finding things overwhelming

So, whether it's through our home-visiting service, or by attending one of our family play groups, special needs or perinatal mental health groups, we offer vital support to families. Please help us to continue doing this by supporting your local charity.

For Charity Shop queries, please call: 01379 870186

For information on home-visiting support or our groups, call Amanda: 07540 282074

If you would like to volunteer with us, please call Alison: 07936 913929

A1



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FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have had a very busy Spring term celebrating lots of special events such as Chinese New Year, Children's Mental Health Week, Pancake Day and World Book Day. We survived Storm Eunice after having to close the school for the day due to the extreme weather warnings and are now enjoying seeing the first signs of Spring around the grounds, with some daffodils appearing on the school field. Below are some of the highlights of the term so far.



Chinese New Year

For Chinese New Year, our Reception class designed banners featuring Chinese writing, made concertina dragons and even tried Chinese food in their very own 'restaurant'. Everyone tried the food and *nearly* everyone enjoyed eating it!



Children's Mental Health Week

In February the children participated in various activities in support of Mental Health Week.

The Year 4 class coloured in hot air balloons thinking about the network of people who lift them up when they're feeling down.

The Year 5s completed a 'My Changing Shapes' activity where they looked at their past and future growth, encouraging reflection and mindfulness.



And in Forest School they did 'Sit Spot' at the end of the session where the children found a place to stop, sit and pause for a while on their own. They said they found it relaxing and calming, with one child saying it was nice to empty their head and think of nothing.

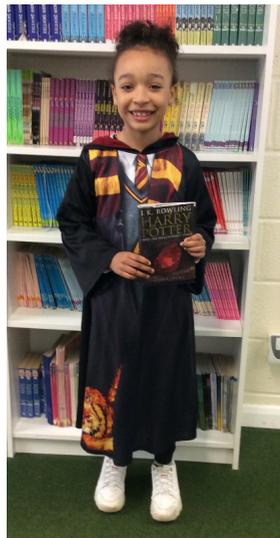


World Book Day

It was World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March and as part of the celebrations, we held an extreme reading competition where children took photos reading in unusual places with the winners receiving a Scholastic Book Voucher. We had lots of fantastic entries with children reading on yachts, in trees, in hot tubs and even sitting on horses! Our Year 3 winner, Amelia, read to her chickens with one of them even trying to get a sneaky peak at the book to read ahead!



In addition to the Extreme Reading Competition, the children were invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on World Book Day. We had some brilliant costumes ranging from Harry Potters and Hermiones to Alice in Wonderland and Where's Wally! The children also engaged in some fun book-related activities during the day.



Year 1 class shared their favourite books with their class mates.

Year 6 spent some time with the Year 2 children talking to them about their favourite books and characters. They then made books for the Year 2s based on what the children had told them they liked.

Year 5 had a Word Scavenger Hunt. They were given a list of words and then had to find the words in the books in the library, making a note of which books they'd found them in.



Year 1 sharing their favourite books

The children throughout the school all enjoyed a fun-packed World Book Day culminating in a Book Fair which was held after school that week where the children's (and parents'!) purchases earned the school over £400 to spend on new books! A big thank to all parents, carers and children for their generosity.



And finally,

One of our families who adopted some of the Year 1 chickens featured in December's issue of Telstar, contacted us with some thrilling news – the chickens had laid their first egg! The children were all very egg-cited...

And on that note, we will finish this month's article and will be back in May with the latest news from our Reception Class.

'From tiny acorns do might oaks grow'

LOST

Apple airpods lost in Stowupland, along Church Road/Village Hall area mid-February. In red case featuring Snoopy character or might be in plain white plastic case if other case has come off. Reward offered if found.

Please contact: 07748 634550

DOG POO ALERT!

Whilst the large majority of dog owners are responsible and pick up after their dogs, some are letting their dogs do their business on the school fields and not picking up after them!

Standing at the field entrance and letting your dog off lead to do whatever it wants is not the way to responsibly exercise your dog. The school fields are in constant use, and nobody wants their children to come home covered in dog poo!

Nobody is employed to pick up dog poo, it is the sole responsibility of the dog owner, who could be subject to a £1,000 fine if found not to be clearing up after their dog.

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SAM'S CHAT

Hello everyone, hope you are having a good day.

I hope you didn't get many things knocked down by the big winds. The fences at the back of our garden got blown down. Also, the lid on our hot tub blew away. One minute it was in the garden then mummy went to get it, but it had disappeared down the road. We don't know where it went.

Recently Church Road had some roadworks, and it was making us really late for getting to school and we would arrive so much later than normal. They have stopped now, and the crossing is ready at the garage. That is much better now to cross the road. It is better to get to school except the roadworks at Saxham Street.

On Saturday we went to the church to pray for Ukraine. We were all really sad about it because we are worried about Ukraine. We had an assembly at school to explain about it. I am having nightmares as I am scared. We have donated some money and we will put a pack of things to send to them. I hope it can stop soon.

This year is my first non-lockdown birthday in 2 years. In 2020 lockdown occurred 3 days before my birthday so I had to cancel everything I planned on doing. The first lockdown birthday all the online game stuff was new so when I had an online party it didn't work, and I was sad because my friends were all arguing and shouting and not listening to me. We are better at it now. This year we can meet up in real life and go out for pizza. I can't wait. The day after is Mother's Day so we can go out with mummy and my nanny and my nanna too.

Also, I joined scouts last week! My sister did Brownies and now she is in Guides, so I wanted to join scouts. We made pancakes in my first one. I burnt mine as I didn't exactly know how to use the machine but there's always next year. We are making beehive hotels soon.

The flowers we planted in our garden are now starting to grow and so is the grass around them because I can't cut the grass there. My sister has a fairy garden there as well so it should look pretty in the summer.

We hope lots of insects will come. Hopefully our cats don't use the area as a toilet!

Our bug houses we made a few years ago got broken in the wind. They were only small. We want to make a bigger bug house and also teapot nesters and bird boxes at the family day later this month. I will take a photo for next time if we do.

Have a good Easter.

Sam

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STOWMARKET ECO FUTURE GROUP

Greetings from Stowmarket Eco Future Group.
Email: stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com
Website: <https://stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk>

Collections: Our market stall collecting hard to recycle items on the 4th Thursday each month is on **28th April 9:30 to 11.30 am.**

♥ **Crisp Packet Collection:** 1st Sunday of the month 2-4 pm at Red Gables, although there is now a permanent drop off bin.

♥ Bury Quakers organise a **Silent Vigil on the first Saturday of each month** 11.30 to 12 noon. Opposite the Abbey Gate. Stand silently for Climate Justice and in solidarity with victims of Climate change.

♥ **Wild Reads:** Check out the joint project between Suffolk Libraries and Suffolk Wildlife Trust Wild Reads (suffolklibraries.co.uk)

But... **Our Big News this month is the launch of our Exhibition**

We were really excited to be asked by the museum to stage this 6-month exhibition. Lots of local groups have been involved in putting it together.



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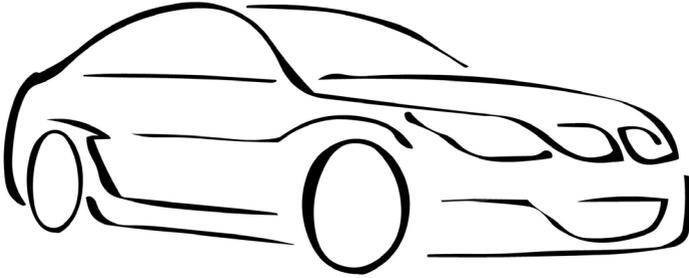
foodmuseum.org.uk
Food Museum, Crowe
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There will be loads to see – what to do and what not to do to help your green space be wildlife friendly. It's easy to get despondent when there is so much bad news, but this exhibition celebrates the ways that people can come together to make a real difference.

Do come and see what has been made, and then go home and do something positive.

We also have various events running alongside the exhibition. An Insect Day on 14th May with information and guided walks, and an eco-groups networking day on June 18th. Other events to be announced.

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STOWUPLAND COLLECTION POINT

If any individual, school, church or business would like to become a collection point for the Eco Future Group in Stowupland please contact Stowmarket Eco Future Group directly. Contact details can be found in their article.

Please don't leave your recycling on the editor's doorstep as I'm unable to help with this.

Ed.

Choose Refills

Mobile Eco Refill Shop

We are coming to Stowupland on the first Thursday of each month from 2-4pm so pop and see us at the village hall

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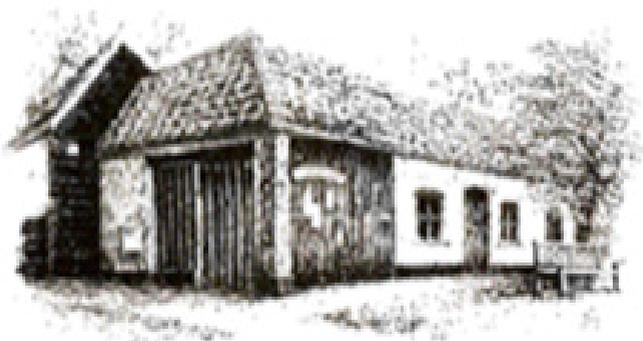
COME AND VISIT STREET FORGE WORKSHOPS

We are a small charity established in 1987 and based in the centre of Thornham Magna. All of our products are made by adults with a range of disabilities and we are an accredited day care service by both Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils. We offer woodworking, wood turning, arts and crafts and horticultural opportunities to our clients some of whom have been attending for many years. The social side of our service is also very important with a Summer BBQ, Christmas meal and some trips out, Covid permitting.

We make high quality bird boxes ranging from blue tits to barn owls, hedgehog houses, bat and bee boxes, wellie boot holders, garden planters, wood turning products and many more items. We also make one off orders such as a seat for Thornham Parva to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

We have a shop on site and we would welcome visitors to buy, browse or generally have a look round. We are open between the hours of 09.00 – 16.00 Monday to Friday. If you would like details of our products or a price list please ring 01379 678543 or email us on info@streetforge.org. We would love to hear from you.

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Charity No. 298301

A SPRING TIME WALK!

Jane and Dan Gurney invite you all to join them on a village walk around the fields on Bank Holiday Monday, May 2nd 2022, followed by refreshments. The walk will leave "Crowstone" (the house two doors from the Co-op garage) at 10.30 and will last about an hour. If you are unable to walk any distance, please just come to the house to partake of the refreshments and socialise from 11.00 onwards. Any donations for Christian Aid will be gratefully received. Please do join us if you are able, to enjoy our beautiful countryside, the company of others and, hopefully, some sunshine.

Jane Gurney



THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Good News!

During this Month (April) we are able once again to start bringing in the Collection Boxes.

As usual, if it is possible, could you bring your boxes either to the Church or to us at Willowcroft, Thorney Green Road. If not, don't worry, my wife and I shall start a collection round and get to you in due course.

It has not been easy with the restrictions the last couple of years but hopefully we are getting back to normal now.

If you have any problems with the collection or questions about it don't hesitate to get in touch with me on 01449 612394

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

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 01449 673185
Keith Welham - Keith.Welham@suffolk.gov.uk
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

Vets

Cedarwood - 01449 676966
Stowe Vets - 01449 613130

DIARY DATES

APRIL

MON 4	evening Village Hall	Dance club
WED 6	9.30 am Village Hall	Baby & Toddler Group
WED 6	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
WED 6	7.30 pm Village Hall	Local History Group - "Suffolk's Lost Heritage" + AGM
THURS 7	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Choose Refills pop-up shop
THURS 7	7.30 pm Village Hall	Short mat bowls
THURS 7	7.30 pm URC Church Hall	Parish Council meeting
FRI 8	Doors open 7 pm Village Hall	Falcons race night
SUN 10	7.30 pm Village Hall	Country & Western Music Club
WED 13	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
THURS 14	7.30 pm Village Hall	Short mat bowls
TUES 19	9.30 Jubilee Court 9.50 Green	Mobile Library
WED 20	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
THURS 21	7.30 pm Village Hall	Short mat bowls
SUN 24	7.30 pm Village Hall	Country & Western Music Club
MON 25	evening Village Hall	Dance Club
WED 27	9.30 am Village Hall	Baby & toddler group
WED 27	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
WED 27	7.30 pm Village Hall	Suffolk Wildlife Trust – "Looking for the Goshawk"
THURS 28	7.30 pm Village Hall	Short mat bowls
FRI 29	10 am – 12 URC Chapel	Coffee morning
SAT 30	Village Hall	Craft Fair
SUN 1 MAY	Village Hall	Craft Fair
SAT 30	10 – 4 Bowls Club	Bowls open weekend
SUN 1 MAY	10 – 1 Bowls Club	Bowls open weekend

MAY

MON 2	evening Village Hall	Dance Club
WED 4	9.30 am Village Hall	Baby & toddler group
WED 4	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
WED 4	7.30 pm Village Hall	Stowupland Local History Group - Thorney Green Rd. Dig
THURS 5	2 - 4 pm Village Hall car park	Choose Refills pop-up shop
THURS 5	7.30 pm Village Hall	Short mat bowls
THURS 5	7.30 pm URC Hall	Annual Parish Council meeting

LOOKING AHEAD

MAY 18	Annual Parish Meeting 7.30 pm Village Hall
JUNE 2 - 5	Platinum Jubilee events
JULY 10	Stowupland Village Open Gardens

SAVE THE DATE

**YARD SALE
IN AID OF EACH**

26TH JUNE 2022

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

Donna Bridges – 07736 348335

donnabridges@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

Kevin Stevens – 07747 605042

kevinstevens@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

Village Hall Bookings

Colin Booker - Phone - 07862740830

stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

Village Clubs

Baby and Toddler Group -

Kelly Woolnough - 07776 206430

Book Group - Patricia Hodgkins - 01449 672127

Stowupland 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 – 07713026696

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@stowuplandsportcentre.co.uk - 01449 672531

Stowupland Wildflower & Biodiversity Group –

kay.telstar@gmail.com

Stowmarket Wildlife Group - John Thompson -

swtstowmarket@gmail.com - 01449 676471



LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

2022 got off to a great start with our first meeting of the New Year when Sarah Doig and our very own Neil Langridge shared their research into 2 Suffolk Historians, see below.

By the time you read this you will have missed our meeting on March 2nd, when Val Dudley shared with us what she unexpectedly unearthed about the rebuilding of Thorney Hall in 1291. Look out for Jerry's write up in May's Telstar, but it seems Val's research caused quite a stir in the world of archaeology. Amongst other things Val was told Thorney Hall couldn't possibly have had 2 solars and a tiled roof!

Our meeting on Wednesday April 6th will begin with a brief AGM but then we welcome back Stephen Poulter. He will talk to us about some of **Suffolk's Lost Heritage**.

Jerry's report on 'Two local Suffolk Characters who researched the history of the county far and wide'.

Our meeting on the 2nd February 2022 was the first in the village hall for this year and there were about 25 members and guests attending. We had two local speakers, Neil Langridge and Sarah Doig, who shared their research of two local historians who had done a lot of research into the history of Suffolk.

Neil spoke first about Charles Partridge. Interestingly Charles had met our second subject Edmund Farrer in 1893 and he had been a great influence on his life. Neil had first become aware of Charles Partridge thirty years previously when he was doing research at the local Suffolk Records office. Charles grew up in Tavern Street, Stowmarket. His father owned the timber merchants near to the site of the current Barnards Car dealership. He had obtained a BA at Christ's college Oxford in 1901. He decided to move out to Africa and was influenced in this thinking by several friends who he met along the way. He took to diplomatic service and become Assistant District Commissioner in Nigeria. During this time, he wrote two books and also became friends with Mary Slessor. He and published photos of his time in Africa and wrote two books "Cross River Natives" and "King Edmunds Ring" which was an adventure story.

In 1914 he joined the army serving as a liaison officer in Italy and Greece. At the end of the war, he returned to Stowmarket and began his research on Suffolk in earnest. He travelled the county researching Parish registers and other records. He continued his friendship with the Reverend Farrer and they teamed up to visit houses around Suffolk for research purposes.

He returned to 20 Tavern St which today is called Charles House, where he died in 1955. Partridge Court was built on the land to the rear.

We then had our intermission and tea and snacks were provided by Liz Adams, thanks Liz.

Members and guests returned to their seats and Sarah continued the evening with her presentation on Reverend Edmund Farrer, who was born in 1848, near Swaffham, Norfolk. He attended Rugby school before going up to Cambridge. It was interesting to note that he was ordained as Deacon of St Albans in 1868, and in 1890 he met Basil Brown who was to become famous for the Sutton Hoo discoveries.

He was an active member of various historical societies around the area, doing research and helping out. He was also a shrewd business man, retiring eventually to Botesdale in 1916. He continued his work for the county, before retiring to Little Stonham. He died in 1935.

There followed a *Question & Answer* session. Sandra thanked everyone for attending and Alan for helping with the chairs. We were very lucky to have a relative of Charles Partridge who joined us for the evening who brought along family photos etc for our members to see.

Neil has subsequently added that Charles Partridge wrote a column in the EADT under the pseudonym **Silly Suffolk**. He described a walk through Stowupland in October 1924 (this was reprinted in Telstar, Sept 2015). Then in February 1925 he included a poem in his column entitled The Crown Inn, it is very tempting to think that Partridge called in at our local pub on his walks and that the subject of the poem was The Crown Inn Stowupland.

THE CROWN INN

*Bread-and-cheese and a pickled onion,
Then just a fag and a chums grin,
Under the post the Crown swings lightly,
Sunshine without and a welcome within.*

*Emperors' gold crowns weigh heavy, tumble,
Conquerors, kings, and such crumble away;
Our Crown sees centuries dawn and dwindle,
Still swings, and gives you the seal o' the day.*

Neil is up to his 7th account of Holy Trinity's vicars

Frederick Maurice Richards 1940 – 1944: Born in Burbage Leicestershire Richards was the son of Smith Richards a retired surgeon and Josephine. He studied as a student at Wells and Caius College Cambridge. His first post was as curate at Wateringbury, Kent, then moving to Chiddingstone in the same county as vicar.

While in Kent he married Ellen Stansell, a son being born in 1922. For a short time in the mid-1930s he was vicar at Tideford in Cornwell. He was working in Suffolk by 1939 when he is listed as Vicar of Great Finborough. The following year he was inducted to the living of Stowupland and Creting St. Peter. In 1944 he returned to Cornwell exchanging livings with Reverend Arnold De Quincey and moving to the parish of Perranuthnoe where he died in 1950.

Arnold De Quincey 1944 – 1965: Researching Reverend De Quincey proved difficult until I found that he was actually born Arnold De Quincey Mears at Hartlepool in 1894, the son of Edward Mears a **clergyman and Mary Florence Quincey**. The fact that all his brothers also bore the middle name **De Quincey** would seem to be an attempt to gain status by linking the family with the De Quincey family Earls of Winchester through their mother's family. Sometime in the early 1930 Arnold dropped the surname Mears and thenceforth called himself Arnold De Quincey.

It is interesting that the writer Thomas De Quincey (1785 – 1859) similarly changed his name being born plain Quincey and changing it to De Quincey.

Arnold studied at Hatfield College Durham and Lichfield Theological College, being ordained in York in 1933. However, before this he served in the East Kent Regiment as a second lieutenant from 1917 to 1919. He lost one brother in WW1, another two going on to also serve in the clergy. He then embarked on a boat to Kobe, Japan where he was to work as a teacher throughout the 1920s. He must have returned at least once during this time as in 1926 he married Ann Read at Tufnell Park.

He returned to England via Canada to stay in 1931. Starting his career in the church he served as a curate in Middlesbrough in 1933 and then Pocklington before moving to Perranuthnoe Cornwall from 1936 to 1944 when as we have seen he exchanged livings with Reverend Richards and came to Stowupland. His father had been vicar of Great Bardfield, Essex so its possible he still had family there so he may have moved to be closer to them. He served in Stowupland until 1965 when aged 70 he took the curacy of Alcester Warwickshire dying the following year in Stratford-on-Avon hospital.

Queries or comments please contact our Secretary **Jerry Voden, 01449 703717; voden@btinternet.com**

Down memory Lane...

As the clear up of Nutshells continues do you recall February 2009 when our Parish's emergency planning was put to the test. Jerry Voden reported in Telstar in 2009 how an emergency evacuation of Stowupland residents was triggered after the fire service was called out to a small fire on the Broomspath estate. Finding acetylene canisters being stored in someone's garage they ordered up to 80 householders to vacate their homes.

Some residents were able to stay with friends and family but 20 residents spent the night in the village hall in borrowed sleeping bags and air beds. Apparently in good spirit and humour with hot drinks being available and sandwiches for supper kindly donated by Tesco. Breakfast was provided by team from WRVS before the fire service declared it was safe for everyone to return home.

Do you have any memories of the night?

And looking back to February 1984 gale force winds damaged the Holy Trinity Spire, ripping off some of the sheeting, whilst further 'inspection showed that some of the wooden framework was rotten and pigeon damaged'.

A previous repair in August 1948 had been hampered by strong winds which caused workmen to struggle to keep their footing.

The spire framework of aluminon alloy tubed tubes was to be recovered with copper sheeting, was this the sheeting that was damaged in 1984?



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STOWUPLAND BOWLS CLUB

The club is getting the green ready for the summer season once again.

Weather permitting it should be open on the 9th of April and league matches will start on the 25th April.

We are also holding a BOWLS WEEKEND which anyone can come onto the green and try a very gentle game. It is a free invitation; all equipment is provided BUT flat soles shoes are requested. No experience needed as club members will be on hand to advise and help so keep these dates on your phone/iPad or paper, 30th April 10.00 to 16.00 and 1st May 10.00 to 13.00.

Also, on the 4th of June, which is the Jubilee weekend, the green is open to residents of Stowupland to play for the clubs Jubilee Cup.

That's about it for now so stay safe and good health.

Frank Boxall (Chairman)



Suffolk County Bowls Association
Bowls Open Weekend
at
Stowupland Bowls Club
next to the Village Hall, Church Road, Stowupland

COME AND TRY BOWLS ALL WELCOME

Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult

The green at the above address will be open on
Saturday 30th April 10am until 4pm
and Sunday 1st May 10am until 1 pm

ALL equipment will be provided.

Wear whatever you want

BUT, please, wear shoes with a flat sole

Club Members will be available to help

THE JUBILEE LADIES CHOIR

We're enjoying our weekly singing and the half-time coffee or tea.... and biscuits or cakes most weeks because with 35 or so of us, it's nearly always someone's birthday!!

We aren't doing our usual Spring concert this year but instead are having a FREE open evening concert on April 12th, 7.30 at our practice venue – the URC in Stowmarket. Light refreshments included and donations to charity welcome. We would love to see you there, to hear our singing and perhaps be tempted to join us. New members always welcome, no age barrier, no auditions.

I have another 'FREEBIE' for you too! The Stowmarket and District Flower Club (of which several of our choristers are members) warmly invites you to learn more about the art of flower arranging and to watch the demonstrator David Wright sharing his skills. Wednesday 27th April, 7.30 p.m. at Woolpit Village Hall is the time and place if you would like to discover more about the Club and what they do.

For further information on both events please call *Di Balaam* on 01449 736374

Debutots

Hi, I'm Chrystal, and I'm so excited to bring "Debutots" to Stowmarket! A real treat for children aged 6 mths-7yrs, jumping into a magical world each week with original and creatively written stories, fun characters that stimulate their imaginations, wonderful music, games and bubbles. As a child, I was always captivated by the arts, and looking back, can now see the tremendous positive impact they had on me, both in my childhood, and throughout my life.

Debutots interactive storytelling and dramatic play classes promote wellbeing; (something we all need in and after these difficult and challenging times?), as well as build children's self-confidence; stretch their imaginations and develop their language and communication skills - all whilst having bundles of fun!

I love working with young children, seeing them grow and develop week by week in a positive way, and helping build their individual confidence and self-esteem.

As one child said: «...Every time I go to Debutots, my imagination gets a little bit BIGGER!" and so will yours? Do come and join us for some fun soon?



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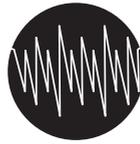
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DESIGN | PRINT | PROMOTION | DISPLAYS | SIGNAGE | MAILING

I love live music and now that restrictions have lifted, I'm keen to start going to events again. I've booked tickets for some gigs over the next few months, but I'm still a little worried. I can't quite believe things are fully back to normal. What will happen if restrictions come back in?

It's understandable to be feeling apprehensive when there's been so much change and knowing your rights will help you deal with anything unexpected.

If you've got tickets to an event which goes ahead, but you change your mind about going or realise you're no longer able to go, you have no legal right to a refund. However, if the event is cancelled, your right to a refund will depend on how you bought the ticket.

If you booked through an official seller and the organiser cancels, moves, reschedules, or makes the event behind closed doors, you should get a refund. This is true even if it's cancelled due to a government ban on large events. If this happens, contact the official seller to find out how you can get a refund.

If you bought your ticket from a ticket-reselling website, your refund would depend on the site's terms and conditions. If you're worried about the event being cancelled, it's a good idea to look at the terms and conditions before booking. If you bought from a private seller, unfortunately it's unlikely you'll be able to recover your money, even if the event is cancelled or rescheduled. We recommend contacting the seller to see what they can do.

Ahead of any events you've booked, keep checking the information from the official seller or organiser to make sure you know straight away about any updates, like changes to the date or cancellations.

Another thing to be aware of is that scammers exploit these situations for their own benefit. If your event is cancelled and anyone - whether it's a person or a company - offers their services to try to recover money on your behalf, be suspicious. Make sure that you're aware of the signs of a potential scam and always be on the lookout.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. For more information and our opening hours go to midsuffolkcab.org.uk.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

NEWS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STOWEYLAND

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:-

As Europe is bought to this time of hard testing, in the wilderness and chaos of Russia's war on Ukraine, the chaos and havoc pandemic has wreaked on health, resources and markets seems as a minor prelude to the turmoil ahead. Even as at this time the faithful of the world recall Jesus' testing in the wilderness. Jesus himself recalling by re-enactment the years of austerity and want suffered in that flight of God's chosen people, as they before fled to escape the persecutions of their enslavement under their ancient taskmasters and overlords. They too as Ukraine's migrant people had no means of provision in their journey across their years of wilderness, yet they too as Ukraine were fed by the promise of a land hoped for, freed from their subjection, toward a land that provides, as Ukraine looks to the markets of the European Union, in which they may know security, as Ukraine looks to Nato's alliances, even as God's people before them found strength and security in the unity of their faith as they had looked to enter a land of promise.

Yet the world is truly but a single people, in God's image even as they created, Adam and Eve, set in Eden's Garden of creation. All too quickly, they, as we today, forget the warnings against taking what was not theirs to take. And we, even at the crises of pandemic, even at the crises of war, have still a greater crisis to face, that we should not forget or test the boundaries of our Eden Earth today. As we subdue beyond the earth's capacity to provide, migrations and disputes over resources and lands, security and markets will test us further in the wilderness of crises and conflicts ahead. What then will be our hope, our promise, our strength?

So is revealed the wisdom of our faith, that the great conflagrations between the families of the nations should search their peace, their reconciliation and resolution even in the call to our own personal conduct amidst our neighbourhoods and families. That new life of freedom, provision and security begins in how we conduct ourselves in our pilgrimage together in our flights of despair and in our journeys of aspiration and hope.

So the faithful, even in the test of this wilderness before us in our daily news, hold to our Good News, as is our calling to follow Jesus' Gospel, to rely on God's Word to live in us, to provide nourishment, hope, and protection.

If we do not practice our discipleship, to follow Jesus in self-giving, prayer, and hunger for God's provision, surely we cannot know who provides for us, or speaks hope to us, or protects us in giving of himself to us.

And if we do not practice our personal pilgrimages of faith how can the nations of this world offer freedom, provision and security to their peoples? May Lent's pilgrimage discover in your inward spirit knowledge and love of God's Holy Spirit in whom is our image, even as a Holy people in whom the hope of new life is manifest in he who is our common life, Jesus Christ, Messiah.

May we be ready to receive His risen life into our hearts this Easter, and greet whatever new day dawns, with hope.

Yours in Christ, *Brin*.

Rector of Haughley with Wetherden & Stowupland.

Services in April 2022

3rd Apr 9.30am Parish Communion

10th Apr 9.30am Worship for All

Holy Week

11th 9.00pm Monday - Compline at Stowupland

12th 9.00pm Tuesday - Compline at Wetherden

13th 9.00pm Wednesday - Compline at Haughley

14th 7.00pm Thursday - AGAPE SUPPER at Stowupland

15th 2.00pm Good Friday - An Hour at The Cross

17th Apr 9.30am Easter Communion

24th Apr 6.30pm Evensong

A PRAYER:

O God our King, by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, you conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the assurance of everlasting life. Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, and make us bold to praise you and to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MAUNDY THURSDAY AGAPE SUPPER:

Join us at 7pm on Thursday, 14th April in Stowupland Church Hall for a simple, informal soup, cheese & fruit supper shared within the context of Maundy Thursday Prayers & Communion.

CRAFT FAIR 2022:

The Holy Trinity Craft Fair will, as usual be held on the May Bank Holiday weekend, Saturday 30th April and Sunday 1st May. Come along and enjoy the stalls and refreshments etc. See back cover.

JUBILEE FLOWER FESTIVAL 2022:

The Community Events Team from Stowupland Parish Council and Holy Trinity Church are currently planning for the celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June.

On Friday the 3rd, Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th, Holy Trinity Church will be the host to a Flower Festival celebrating 70 Glorious Years of Queen Elizabeth's Reign.

To all who would like to take part, creating a colourful memory of '70 Glorious Years, the Invitation is open to Individuals, Clubs, Schools, Sports, Residents, Business - in fact any that have links to Stowupland.

Mrs Ann Doubtfire, Church Warden, Holy Trinity
Telephone: 07747660813 or email: anndoubtfire1@gmail.com

FOOD BANK BOX:

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

CHURCH HALL HIRE:

Please remember that the well-appointed Church Hall is available for hire at reasonable rates and would be ideal for children's parties and small groups/meetings. For more information, please contact Sue Hayter on 01449 613710. Thank you.

LENT LUNCHES AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

You are warmly invited to our Lent Lunches in the Church Hall on Wednesdays 30th March and 6th April.

Served from 12 noon to 1pm, a simple meal of soup, bread and cheese is followed by tea or coffee. You are welcome to stay and chat afterwards.

There is no charge, but donations to Stowmarket Food Bank please.

To help us with the catering, please let us know your "Intention to Dine" if possible.

Ann Doubtfire on 01449 770363 or anndoubtfire1@gmail.com
or Ann Parsell on 01449 672592 or annparsell@keme.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you!



The
United
Reformed
Church

U.R.C CHAPEL

NEWS

Minister: Revd Robert Sheard Telephone 01449 678173

I'm sorry to mention it again but what a lovely time of year as we see God's beauty all around us as the spring flowers are peeping through. The clocks have also been changed giving us longer days.

On Sunday 6 March we joined with the United Reformed Church at Stowmarket for the annual anniversary service to mark the opening of the new building, following the rebuild after the bombing in 1941. We were also marking the Jubilee anniversary of the Congregational Church becoming the United Reformed Church. A bring and share lunch was enjoyed after the service and this was followed by a 'This is the life of the Church' through the last 50years. Various people from the church's organisations gave short summaries of past and present events. This also included pieces from Mendlesham and Stowupland. We now look forward to our Easter celebrations.

Our next Coffee morning is on Friday 29th April 10am to 12noon. Everyone welcome.

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

The Speakers for April are as follows:

03 April	Jane Paterson
10 April	Mary Durrant
17 April	Rev Richard Edwards (Easter Sunday)
24 April	Alison Fenning

Joyce Gardiner

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Romans 8: 18-25: I consider that what we suffer at this present time cannot be compared at all with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. All of creation waits with eager longing for God to reveal his children. For creation was condemned to lose its purpose, not of its own will, but because God willed it to be so. Yet there was the hope that creation itself would one day be set free from its slavery to decay and would share the glorious freedom of the children of God. For we know that up to the present time all of creation groans with pain, like the pain of childbirth. But it is not just creation alone which groans; we who have the Spirit as the first of God's gifts also groan within ourselves, as we wait for God to make us his children and set our whole being free. For it was by hope that we were saved; but if we see what we hope for, then it is not really hope. For which of us hopes for something we see? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

In March Stowmarket United Reformed Church celebrated 67 years of its current building, the previous building, then congregational, was hit by 5 German bombs, out of the 6 which were dropped on Stowmarket. Sadly, one person was killed.

In some ways it could be said that with the Church being hit it saved the people of Stowmarket from more devastation. The Church still has in its archives the tail fin from one of these bombs.

The Church gets less recognition for this event than does Coventry Cathedral, and as I have read somewhere Stowmarket Congregational Church was the only Congregational Church to be bombed in England.

With our thoughts of these past events in mind, we can't help but draw similarities to mind (as I write this) to what is happening to Ukraine at this present time. As people and as a Church our thoughts when dealing with others should always be on peace, and with dealing with people that we should always deal with those people with dignity and respect.

We do not know where this conflict will lead to, but we must pray for common sense to prevail, the war to stop, and peace for all across the world.

I leave you all with this prayer:

A prayer for Ukraine

God of all,
with alarm and concern we bring before you
the military intervention in Ukraine.
In a world you made for peace and flourishing,
we lament the use of armed force.
We mourn every casualty of this conflict,
every precious life extinguished by war.
We pray comfort for those who grieve
and those who are fearful.
Hear our longing that leaders and nations
will honour the worth of all people
by having the courage
to resolve conflict through dialogue.
May all our human failings be transformed
by your wonderful grace and goodness.
We ask this in the name of Christ,
the author of peace and sustainer of Creation.
Amen.

This is a prayer from the Joint Public Issues Team of the United Reformed Church, Methodist Church and Baptist Union.

Yours, Robert

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

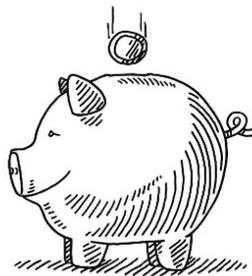


COFFEE MORNING

Friday 29th April 2022
Stowupland URC Chapel
10am – 12noon
Coffee, Tea and Cakes
All welcome

STOWUPLAND VILLAGE HALL – EARN OVER £1,000 A YEAR WORKING FLEXIBLY FROM HOME

Stowupland Village Hall has a vacancy for a part time Booking Secretary. The hours are 2 hours a week paid at £9.18 an hour from April 2022, plus £2 a week to cover expenses as the post holder works from home. The total pay is £1,058.72 a year and there are also 4 weeks paid holiday!! The hours are very flexible so you can fit them round your other commitments.



Duties involve taking and managing all bookings for the Village Hall including dealing with phone calls and emails from potential and actual hirers, issuing invoices for hires, dealing with payments and repayments of hire fees and deposits, advising hirers of booking conditions, liaising with the Village Hall Trustees about bookings as necessary and attending committee meetings once a month on a Monday evening for two hours. You will need access to a computer to undertake the duties but we provide you with a mobile phone for calls.

If you are interested in the role, or would like to know more, please contact Andrew Edwards on 01449 677345 (evenings and weekends) or email him at andrewgedwards@icloud.com

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

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting is not a meeting of the Parish Council. It is a meeting of the electors of the parish and should take place between 1st March and 1st June each year and is chaired by the Chair of the Parish Council if they are present.

The Annual Parish Meeting is an opportunity for local clubs, charities and organisations to report to the parishioners on their activities throughout the year and for the Parish Council Chairman, the County Councillor, the District Councillor and the local Police to offer their reports.

The meeting should also give the electors of the parish an opportunity to raise issues of importance to them. Decisions made by the meeting are not binding on the parish council, but good practice suggests they should be given consideration at the next parish council meeting.

The Stowupland Annual Parish Meeting is being held on Wednesday 18th May 2022 in the Village Hall. Refreshments will be available from 7.00pm with the meeting starting at 7.30pm

Everyone is welcome.

Claire Pizzey

Clerk to the Parish

parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk

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CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

With such horrific events happening in other parts of the world it seems almost trivial to talk about the minutia of things that affect our small corner of the world but trivial as they may be in the wider scheme of things, they are important to our residents.

The post project around The Green is now complete and no parking signs will be placed in strategic spots. This is all to protect The Green from damage from parking. I hear there are some adverse comments on social media regarding the posts, but I have not yet heard any alternative proposals from anyone. I think it is important for those able to access the Parish Council website to read the Policy and Procedures for Thorney Green and then they may realise the various pieces of legislation your Parish Council has to consider in its protection of The Green. As I have said before we do not do things just on a whim.

The crossing at the Co-Op is complete and although I have heard some concerns regarding the narrowing of the road it is a case of wait and see. Your Parish Council has been assured that it passed a safety assessment prior to build. With the narrowing of the road at the crossing I would hope that will slow the traffic along the A1120 especially coming from the A14.

The investigative work on the costing and potential route for a Trim Trail is continuing but will be a long process and no decision has yet been made by the Parish Council. In the meantime, your council has taken the decision to install a footpath along The Green from the Linden Homes site to the footpath opposite the butchers. It has become increasingly obvious that with more residents and more traffic in the village this link is needed. Residents are walking in the road especially in wet weather and that is not safe. We will be approaching contractors for costing and getting it done as soon as possible.

Your council has authorised the upgrading of the streetlights that it owns to LED lighting. Suffolk County Council are currently upgrading all their streetlights, but the Parish Council owns 64 streetlights around the village. These are streetlights that your Parish Council took ownership of many years ago and this does not happen now. The cost is almost £22,000 and will be paid for out of our Parish CIL Fund.

The poor state of the footbridge by The Retreat Pond has been reported and Suffolk County Council have agreed to repair/replace. The recent storms caused some tree damage around the village and work to rectify this is currently being undertaken.

Planning for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations continues, and you will see more in the Telstar about it over the next couple of months. I would urge all of you to have some fun and decorate your house or business for the Jubilee weekend and register with the Parish Clerk to be in with a chance of a prize.

Save the date for a picnic on The Green, Lighting the Beacon, Flower Festival and an exhibition on 70 years in Stowupland.

I try very hard not to grumble but I cannot avoid it this month. Vandalism in the Playpark again. To date we have had graffiti, a damaged basket swing and now the large revolving see saw. The sad thing for me is that whoever did it actually did it deliberately and with planning as the items were unscrewed not just broken and the revolving see saw is very heavy to move. This costs money to repair and means that someone out there wants to deprive our children of fun. Please if you notice any anti- social activity in the Playpark report it to me or the Parish Clerk with photos if possible.

Finally, I go back to the start of my report and ask that you take a moment to appreciate where you live and think of those people of Ukraine who have lost their homes and livelihood. I know finances are tight for many of us but if you can possibly afford a few pounds please donate to the Disaster Emergency Committee Ukraine to help those who have lost everything.

Sally Reeves

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

MARCH 22



The meeting opened with 4 members of the public, 9 Parish Councillors and MSDC Cllr Eburne present.

Council Report:

Both the SCC and MSDC Cllrs reports can be found elsewhere in Telstar. Cllr Eburne did mention that Thurston PC had taken MSDC Planning to the High Court for a judicial review where planners had not taken their Neighbourhood Plan into consideration when making the planning decision and the planning application in question has been overturned. She also advised that she would keep the Parish Council posted as to how the funding for some electric buses for rural areas will affect Stowupland.

Matters of Report:

The post project around The Green has been completed. The Bowls Club have accepted the offer by the PC of 4 whips to repair their hedge. Stowmarket Town Council have advised that they are unable to assist in the changing of the SID devices. Photos have been sent to Heritage Officer regarding a property in Mill Street. The Chairman is going to liaise with the Church PCC regarding the purchase of 2 silhouette soldiers. MSDC have agreed to an extra 2 years for the completion of the new village walk leaflets.

Public Forum:

One resident thanked the Parish Council for their support in her dispute with the High School regarding them dumping rubbish into a ditch. She also advised that a lot of vehicles going to properties in Chapel Lane are turning in her gateway causing ruts and mud to her driveway.

They have also caused a lot of damage to the track leading to her property and she does not feel that she should bear the cost of repairing the track. There are also a lot of cigarette ends which have been dumped in Chapel Lane. Another resident complained that since the alteration to the kerb where the crossing is to be sited on the A1120, this has narrowed the road making it impossible for 2 large vehicles to pass. She has already witnessed lorries having to mount the kerb at this point. Also, she does not understand why the footpath has been widened here. She feels that the whole layout is an accident waiting to happen.

Annual Parish Meeting:

The Village Hall has been provisionally booked for Wednesday 18th May for the annual parish meeting. This will be the first one for 2 years due to the Covid outbreak.

Queen's Jubilee:

Following the report from the working group it was agreed to celebrate Her Majesty's Jubilee with the purchase and installation of a new bench and funding from Parish CIL or other available funding sources, a commemorative plaque for the bench and the siting of the bench to be adjacent to the A1120 on The Green beside the track leading to The Paddocks before you get to the garages of the cottages in Chapel Lane. It was also agreed to investigate the purchase of a small flowering tree with a commemorative plaque to be placed beside the bench on The Green. There will be a picnic on The Green on the Thursday and the Local History Group are going to mount an exhibition of the village during the last 70 years in the URC Church Hall on the same day. There will also be a flower festival and a civic service over the course of the weekend.

LED Lighting:

It was agreed to accept the quote from SCC of £21,710.04 to upgrade the 64 streetlights belonging to the village to LED and for this to be funded from the Parish CIL.

Statutory Business:

The internal control statement for the year ending March 2022 has been completed by the Chairman and Clerk.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Biodiversity & Wildlife - There is to be a family event on 19th March and all are welcome to come along and they are going to plant the hedge at rear of cemetery. An expert in wilding will give advice on some wilding that is to take place on The Green. They are looking at an area between the Retreat pond and the bench.

Environment – The wording of a letter to be sent to all properties around The Green including those in Chapel Lane as their garages border The Green was agreed and that a copy of the Green Policy be sent to all.

Finance and Policy – It was agreed that a proposed £200 voucher should be purchased for the internal auditor as this is his last year supporting the PC before moving on. It was also agreed that the PC accepts the quote to fix and install an additional sign on The Green so that it matches all the others.

Planning – There was only 1 new planning application for a rear single storey extension in Columbyne Close to which there were no objections. MSDC have approved planning applications in Church Road, and Mill Street.

Play Park – Vandals have removed a piece of play equipment from its housing in the play park. This was a senseless act against the children who use it.

Transport, Travel and Safety – Stowmarket Town Council have advised that due to limited resources and the upcoming growing season means that the Operations Team are unable to take on the role of moving the Stowupland SID devices. It was decided to abandon the idea of a heavy mobile SID device and instead to make enquiries with SCC about simpler vehicle activated speed signs that could be positioned at a permanent site.

Trim Trail – It was agreed to seek quotes for an all-weather footpath along the edge of The Green to link the current footpaths in Thorney Green Road and Gipping Road and also one between footpath 32 and the Fish Shop and that the works be funded from the Parish CIL funds which will be completed separate to the Trim Trail.

Councillors' Reports:

Cllr Hayward reported that a dead tree had fallen into the ditch opposite 12 Birch Close. Cllr Johnson advised that the footpath finger post was down near the butchers. Cllr Reeves commented on the amount of rubbish left on The Green following the football match and she will be complaining direct to the Football Club. She also reported how difficult it is to see past the hedge when coming out of Devon Road onto Thorney Green Road.

Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported that she has been contacted by the Festival of Suffolk regarding the Lord Lieutenant's Torch Relay. This is to be a symbolic torch which will be carried through Suffolk by selected torch bearers and transported by rickshaw between Friday 13th May and Wednesday 1st June to start the Festival of Suffolk and to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. A nomination has been put forward for the Parish Chairman to represent Stowupland in recognition of her hard work for the village over the last 2 years and this part of the relay will take place on Sunday 22nd May.

Correspondence:

An invitation has been received from The John Milton Academy for the sixth form open day. Highways England have sent a letter regarding signage. 8 letters have been received from residents regarding behaviour on The Green, Open Reach and Chapel Lane, new footpath along Thorney Green, an additional litter bin, chestnut tree, ash tree at Maple Road bridge, rubbish and Stowupland development.

The meeting closed to the public at 8.50pm.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

APRIL 2022

Mid Suffolk District Council Budget - The 2022/23 budget has been agreed. Council tax is to remain at the same rate as 2021/22, so annual Mid Suffolk proportion of the council tax bill for a Band D property be £171.59. (For your Council Tax Bill, approximately 77% goes to Suffolk County Council, 13% to the Police, 10% to Mid Suffolk District Council plus a small amount for the Parish.) The Administration agreed the Opposition proposal to fund two electric bus services to meet the requirements of residents in rural areas. The funding for this project will be from a reserve to which the budget surplus of £3.4 million has been allocated.

Mid Suffolk District Council Housing Budget - It was agreed that sheltered housing charges and garage rents remain frozen at 2021/22 levels. An increase of 4.1% in rents was agreed which we voted against due to concerns over current cost of living increases. It was approved on the casting vote of the Chairman.

Energy bills rebate - Government has promised a one-off £150 energy rebate for those in Council Tax bands A to D (who are not exempt from paying Council Tax) which will not need to be repaid. Mid Suffolk are administering this but are currently waiting on the detail. Note this is separate to the £200 discount also recently announced.

Home energy efficiency grants - These are managed for Mid Suffolk by the Climate Change Partnership: www.greensuffolk.org/at-home/energy/ Phone 03456 037 686. Grants are available for a variety of home improvements from insulation to renewable energies.

Thurston By-election - Following a district councillor moving away from the area, there was a by-election for the Thurston Ward. Green Party candidate Austin Davies was elected and MSDC remains politically balanced with 17 members in each of the two groups.

Ipswich office accommodation - Babergh and Mid Suffolk are reducing their office space in Endeavour House, Ipswich. Following COVID there is now more hybrid working and less space is needed so the space will be reconfigured at a cost of about £250,000 but should provide longer term net savings in the region of £675,000 over the next 5 years.

Thurston Judicial Review – Neighbourhood Plan - Thurston Parish Council lodged a judicial review into the granting of planning permission for 210 new homes off Beyton Road, Thurston. The allegation that MSDC planning committee members had been wrongly advised on the weight to be given to the Thurston Neighbourhood Plan was upheld by the High Court.

Councillor Keith Welham
keith.welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk
Telephone: 01449 673185

Councillor Rachel Eburne
rachel.eburne@midsuffolk.gov.uk
Telephone: 01449 673311

COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

APRIL 2022

Warmer Homes Suffolk - Suffolk residents who are struggling to keep their homes warm can contact a new project, named 'Warm Homes Suffolk', which offers funding and free advice. The project can offer expert advice on reducing energy bills, energy usage and identify benefits that residents may be entitled to, to help keep their homes warm. Visit: www.warmhomessuffolk.org.

Full Council Budget Meeting - The County Council budget for 2022-23 has been agreed. Council Tax will rise by 2.99% - an increase of £41.76 for a band D property from £1397.16 in the current year to £1438.92 in 2022/23. Our Group highlighted the need to invest more in adult social care, as well as in innovative projects to reduce the energy bills of those most vulnerable, considering the current energy and cost of living crisis. Both ideas were rejected by the Conservatives, but our Group will continue to champion more investment into social care and green technology. For more information on our Budget amendment, visit:

Changes to Highway Code - Several changes to the Highway Code are now in force as of 29 January. According to The Department for Transport (DfT) the new regulations are about recognising and protecting the most vulnerable road users and making the highway safer for everyone. Suffolk Roadsafes's Quiz helps illustrate the changes that are necessary to know about and includes a link to further information - <https://www.quiz-maker.com/QG20TF8NL>

Biodiversity Enhancements - Suffolk County Council will be doing more for the county's natural environment, as it confirms plans to enhance the biodiversity of at least 30% of its own land by 2030. Our Group had a major influence in providing recommendations which are now a part of the Council's ambitions moving forward to enhance biodiversity. Examples include planting more hedgerows, improving highway trees, and developing natural flood management solutions. For more information, visit: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/show/councils-commitment-to-further-enhancing-suffolks-natural-environment>

Road Closures - Saxham Street was closed again on 25 February for emergency works, without adequate diversion signing. The closure will be in place until 10 April with traffic diverted via Blacksmiths Lane (one way) and via A1120/A140 in the other direction. There have been more complaints about use of Gipping Back Lane.

SCC Highways works to Thorney Green - Advance warning signs are in place showing a start date of 28 March for the gravel surfacing to the safer route, changes to the bus stop markings, kerbing and footway works at the bus shelter and removal of sandbags. Officers have confirmed that works are on schedule for a start on 28 March. The road will be closed until 6 April.

Keith Welham, County Councillor of Stowmarket North and Stowupland
Keith.Welham@suffolk.gov.uk 01449 673185 or 07831 705 714

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Kay welcomes contributors to the magazine, either one-off articles or regular columns.

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Businesses with a Stowupland connection can advertise at very reasonable rates.

Diary Dates – Neil Langridge – neil@stowman.plus.com - 01449 616275
To let the village know the date and venue of your event contact Neil to be included in the diary dates.

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

Telstar is distributed by a team of volunteers who deliver the magazine to over 1,100 homes in Stowupland. The magazine is produced every month, with the exception of December and January, which is a combined copy that gives our trusty team of volunteers a well-earned Christmas break!

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

Telstar – for the community, by the community.

From the Telstar Committee

Please note that the opinions expressed in letters and articles are not necessarily those of the Telstar Committee. We cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of material submitted for publication. We reserve the right to include, edit or amend as we think appropriate. Telstar is produced in good faith but errors or omissions may occur during the process of production. If this is the case, please let us know so that errors may be corrected.

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