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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

JULY 24



Happy July – here’s hoping for lots of sunshine. On the subject of sun, remember the sunflower seeds you all had a couple of months back, well I hope you’ve all planted them, and they are

coming on well. Local children Toby and Eliza have kindly sent me a lovely picture of their splendid looking plants which they are now going to plant in the ground. I have to say they look so much better than mine, which have been decimated by slugs. It would be lovely to see more pictures of your growing sunflowers, and if I get enough, I’ll put them together in an article. Don’t forget the Wildflower and Biodiversity Group have promised a prize for the tallest, and details are in their enclosed article, so there is everything to grow for.



Thank you to those that turned out for the second litter pick last month, sadly there weren’t as many as hoped for, but it was another good day, the weather stayed rain free for the morning and as ever it’s great to see the village litter free. The next one will be in on Saturday 14th September, so if you can, please do come along, it’s actually really good fun, you get to meet people in the village that you may not ordinarily meet, and it feels good to do something for the local community.

There was a good turnout for the June Community Quiz, and the winning team was Forest Grump, so well done to them. The next quiz will be on Friday 13th September, and community bingo as ever is the last Friday of the month.

I hope you were able to visit the Flower Festival at Holy Trinity, which this year had an ‘occupation’ theme. There were some lovely displays on show, I even managed one myself. For those who didn’t manage to see the beautiful displays, I have included a selection inside and forgive me if I missed yours out. If you’d like to see colour images, they will be available on the website: <http://www.stowupland.com/telstar>.

I would like to thank the church for putting on this lovely event, and the refreshments afterwards, I had a fabulous millionaires shortbread.

The sharp eyed amongst you will notice there is no article from ‘Citizens Advice’ this month. This is due to a change in their dates for submission of articles. There will be an article in next month’s edition, and those following.

Now lastly, I am going to mention ‘The Walkers Cup’ again! It’ll soon be here, and we need to muster as many people as possible to take part. Old Newton have beaten us the last 2 years, so I’ve said it once, and I’ll say it again, village pride is at stake, so please put the date in your calendars – full details are on the back page.

STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Due to the announcement of the General Election the July Parish Council meeting has been moved to Thursday 11th July 2024 at Holy Trinity Church Hall. Dates of all meetings can be found in Telstar or if you have any questions then please contact the Parish Clerk at parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk or 01449 677005

D-DAY COMMEMORATION

Stowupland Residents gather round the Beacon to commemorate the D Day landings in France on the 6th June 1944.

King Charles had sent a letter out to cities, towns and villages with beacons, inviting them to take part in a national lighting-up event on the 6th June 2024 to remember what was the biggest seaborne invasion the world had ever seen, which took place 80 years ago. The idea was that all beacons across the country would light up at 9.15pm to commemorate the French invasion of France, which ultimately led to the defeat of Germany on the 8th of May 1945. Stowupland Parish Council organised a gathering on The Green, commencing at 8:30pm, with readings and prayers at 9.00pm and a lighting of our own beacon at 9:15pm to join in with the national event. As we gathered for the start of this event four Army Air Corps helicopters flew over The Green from Wattisham Airfield. These were unannounced and added a special touch to our gathering. Donna Bridges, our Parish Council Chair, welcomed all at 9.00pm and gave an overview of what had taken place 80 years ago, making references to those who had not returned from the events of "D Day" or operation "Overlord" as it is known today. These servicemen had made the ultimate sacrifice in the defence of our freedom. Donna then handed over to Alison Roberts, our Lay Reader from Holy Trinity Church, who led all present through prayers and readings and a period of quiet reflection. The beacon was then lit at 9.15pm by a team of volunteers.

The front page shows the lighting of the beacon with our Armistice Day soldiers taking centre stage. The gathering round the beacon involved many residents who were able to chat and join in the events at 9:00 pm. The village was also able to join with many others around the country to take part fully to commemorate this historic event 80 years ago.

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DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

JUNE 2024

General Election 4th July

The parliamentary general election will take place on Thursday 4th July. Due to the pre-election period, Cabinet and Council meetings at Mid Suffolk have been postponed until after the election.

A reminder that valid identification is required to vote. For further details see www.electoralcommission.org.uk

Skills and Innovation Centre at Gateway 14

The final funding proposal for developing the Skills and Innovation Centre site on Gateway 14 was agreed at May's Council meeting. This is an £18 million plus investment that will help to address green skills and innovation across the district working with local companies and educational facilities. Of the total amount, £6 million is Government funding and just under £11 million is from Freeport-related business rates with the remainder an investment from the Council.

Climate and Ecology Bill motion

Council also agreed in May to support the Climate and Ecology Bill, which is currently supported by a range of cross-party MPs, and to write to local MPs to urge them to support it. If progressed, the Bill would require the UK Government to develop a new environmental strategy which would include delivering a joined-up environmental plan that considers the deeply intertwined crises of climate and nature.

Norwich to Tilbury pylons consultation

The deadline for this consultation has been extended until 26th July due to the General Election. In the meantime, Mid Suffolk has sent their draft consultation response to all Parish Clerks. The response will be discussed by Cabinet on 15th July before agreeing and submitting.

Call for Sites – Gypsies & Travellers

As part of the ongoing work with the Joint Local Plan, Mid Suffolk has launched a Call for Sites exercise for sites intended for use by Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show people. Submissions can be made until 28th June.

Energy efficient housing

The Council was successful in gaining an £800k grant for decarbonising council housing stock. This has to be match-funded so Mid Suffolk will add to this for a comprehensive programme.

Capital grants available

Community groups can apply to Mid Suffolk for a capital grant up to a maximum of £10,000. The next round of grants is now open and £240,000 was paid out last year. See www.midsuffolk.gov.uk and search *Grants and funding*.

Locality Awards 2024/25

Applications for this year's Locality Awards grants are now open, but due to the General Election we cannot consider any applications until after 4th July <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/web/mid-suffolk/w/locality-awards>

Cllr Rachel Eburne
Rachel.Eburne@midsuffolk.gov.uk
01449 673311

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

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.

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

JUNE 2024



The meeting opened with 8 Parish Councillors, Cllrs Eburne, Welham and 5 members of the public.

Council Report: Full Council reports can be found elsewhere in Telstar. SCC Cllr Welham was asked if he could request another meeting to try and get some movement on the safer route to school and to speak to the Transport Officer about requesting First Buses to re-route some services via Reeds Way.

MSDC Cllr Eburne was asked about the Skills Initiative Centre planned for Gateway 14. She was expecting the planning application to go in soon as they had 6 million pounds of funding from Government. She advised that although people can apply for locality awards, they cannot be discussed until after the general election. She was pleased that the Parish Council are going to comment on the latest pylons consultation as have MSDC.

Matters of Report: The dog bin dispensers have now been removed. The new post and rail fencing at the pond by The Retreat has been completed as has the footpath on the Green and the cold calling signs for Trading Standards has also been completed. Everything else is ongoing.

Public Forum: A resident advised that the footpath along Gipping Road between Walnut Tree Farm and Trinity Meadows is impassable. It is difficult to contact the Management team for Bloors as they are continually changing although it is believed that First Port may be the current one. There was praise for the new bus service which has 2 routes, 87 and 87A which appear to stop at different bus stops. He asked if there could be a timetable available as there is not even one in Stowmarket. Another resident is also concerned about the track on her part of the Green as her entrance is used as a turning point for other properties. She advised that a strip of the Green had not been cut for the last 3 cuts and the grass cutting in the cemetery is no better. Another resident advised that he had reported the water leak on the Green and AWA were there within 3 hours although they did have to come back the following day. He also feels that the track past Green Farm needs looking at and some of the grass near Corner Farm has still not been cut properly.

Joint Local Plan: It was agreed not to make any comments on the supplementary consultation on Biodiversity and trees, housing and the intensive livestock and poultry sections. The call for sites was for information only.

Statutory Business: It was agreed to adopt the 2024 financial regulations and due to the forthcoming General Election, that the date of the July Parish Council meeting should take place of July 11th and will be at Holy Trinity Church Hall.

CIL: It was agreed to approve the amended neighbourhood CIL expenditure report for 2023-24.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR): Councillors reviewed the internal audit report and noted the following recommendations that the notice of exercise of public rights notice is left on the website each year until after the internal audit has taken place the following year. The 2018-19 AGAR is published on the website to complete the requirements of a 5 year plan and to determine a general reserve level that the council should maintain. Sections 1 and 2 were approved and signed by both the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Cemetery and Churchyard – It was agreed that additional quarterly maintenance by the caretaker should include the areas in the churchyard behind the church, a triangular section near the entrance to the church and the edge of the footpath adjacent to the school that borders the church fence. This will be an annual cost of £858 for the current year and should be funded from cemetery reserves. It was also agreed that a contractor should assess whether the gates at the entrance to the church could be repaired or if a quote for new gates should be sought. Councillors were asked if cemetery grass cutting for the next 4 years should be a separate contract or remain as part of the main grass cutting contract. It was agreed that they should be treated as 2 different contracts even if they were both carried out by the same contractor. Also, to agree a date for a volunteer session at the cemetery and Saturday 20th July was agreed. Quotes are to be sought for an additional bin and housing for the top of the cemetery and it was agreed to accept the quote for the removal of the spoil in the cemetery compound. The current contractor has retracted his contract for the maintenance of the churchyard and cemetery for this year and it was agreed to accept the quote from another contractor for a one-off cut of hedges etc. this year and for the 2025-2028 period.

Emergency Planning Group – Following a recent extended power outage affecting Trinity Meadows the emergency plan was instigated with the village hall being opened up to residents to access hot drinks and water for babies. It all worked well with volunteers holding the fort until the professionals were able to take over. It was found that there was a need for charging facilities for phones etc and for disposable cups that could be used for drinks to take away. It was agreed to purchase a USB facility to add to the emergency plan equipment and some disposable cups.

PIIP – It was agreed to grant £3,190.80 to Holy Trinity Church for 2 notice boards, £10,459.08 to Stowupland Bowls Club for an aerator and tines and £4,500 to Pre-School and Mighty Oaks towards a replacement for a front door.

Planning – There is one planning application for erection of a single storey extension and detached garage in Sycamore Road and a variation to a planning application in Church Road. Both applications were supported. There were no planning decisions received from MSDC.

Transport, Travel and Safety – It was agreed to install a further Solar SID pole for the top of Church Road and once work is completed the new SID equipment is ordered for this new site. Before the application is put into SCC, the group who maintain the devices would like to check the site for safety reasons when using ladders etc to turn the SID around. It was felt that it would slow traffic down towards the school.

Councillors Reports: Cllr Voden reported that the Village Hall AGM would be held at 7pm on 8th July when the new plans for the hall will be available for discussion. All are welcome to attend. Cllr Studd has reported the overgrown hedges along Gipping Road which effectively makes Gipping Road a single-track carriageway and also on the corner of Gipping Road and Rendall Lane where traffic has to drive into the path of oncoming traffic which has no visibility to get round the corner. He also mentioned the post that has been knocked out on the corner of Thorney Green and Church Road

Cllr Johnson advised that the hedge by Oak Farm on Thorney Green Road was also overgrown.

Cllr Murton commented that the new post and rail fence by the Retreat pond looked good. Cllr Melhuish reported the footpath behind the Church and Birch Close needed cutting.

Clerks Report: The Clerk advised that she had assembled all the criteria for the Trading Standards cold calling initiative and it was up to individual roads to apply for it if they felt that it was necessary. She reported that Maple Road residents seemed very happy with it.

Correspondence: Amongst this month's correspondence was a letter from a resident regarding the future of their garage, 3 from MSDC including information from the Norwich to Tilbury consultation, briefing notes for towns and parishes and a call for sites intended for the use of gypsies and travellers and information from Knight's regarding roadworks linked to the Aspen Grange development which are expected to last 27 weeks.

The meeting closed to the public at 8.39 pm. A reminder that due to the forthcoming General Election, the Parish Council meeting will once again have to be moved to the 2nd Thursday in the month namely July 11th and again will be held at the Holy Trinity Church Hall.

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COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

JUNE 2024

Fair Funding for Local Government My group proposed a motion for council on 23 May to lobby the government for improved funding for local authorities; this was seconded by the Conservative administration and voted through unanimously in the chamber. Politicians of all parties expressed concern about the £4 billion funding 'gap' predicted for councils in the next few years, particularly for social care. To balance the books this year, Suffolk County Council had to withdraw £15.9 million from its reserves but this is not a sustainable approach. Councils that have become bankrupt have to cut services back to the minimum they have to provide by law and seek to raise revenue by increasing council tax and other avenues they have, such as charges for parking or social care.

Five Estuaries Wind Farm and Norwich to Tilbury Pylons At Cabinet on 21 May, two reports were tabled on Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) in the region. The first was SCC's response to the Five Estuaries wind farm proposals; this will have landfall in Essex but will be visible from the Suffolk coast. The developers are paying for a wildlife project on Orford Ness as environmental compensation. The second report detailed the council's response to the proposed Norwich to Tilbury 400kV grid reinforcement, and Cabinet voted that the council should object and call for a pause until alternative options have been explored. The proposals include 183 kilometres of pylons, with four sections of underground cabling running through and near to the Dedham Vale National Landscape Area and the Waveney valley, but the council wants to see alternative options explored for additional undergrounding in the Waveney valley, and expressed concerns about the route which includes pylons placed close to several Suffolk airfields. The council also discussed how to make sure that energy projects in the county are coordinated. It was agreed that the combined effect of all the proposed projects in a similar timeframe would result in a massive impact on the county, its landscape, economy and transport routes.

The statutory consultation period for the Norwich to Tilbury proposals has been extended to 26 July. A webinar to discuss the proposals in Mid Suffolk is being held on 10 July. To join the webinar and/or comment on the proposals, go to www.national.grid.com and search Norwich to Tilbury.

Transport for Post-16 Students Cabinet also considered a paper on recommendations for charges for post-16 school transport. Although students now have to be in education or training up to the age of 18, the council receives no funding from the government to pay for their transport. This means the council asks parents and carers to pay for part of the cost with the rest subsidised by the council. In 2023-24, the average cost for a mainstream seat was £1,701 and the average cost for a SEND student seat was £11,819.

The proposal approved by Cabinet was for the charge for a mainstream seat to rise to £1,050 a year, which is a steep £90 increase from last year. There will be no increase for SEND students so their seats will remain at £780 a year.

The 50% reduction in charge for families on a low income and in receipt of free school meals will continue for another year. The council will continue to signpost families to public transport routes where these may be cheaper and in addition, many schools have bursaries for travel which students can apply for.

SEND Strategy 2024-29 On 21 May, Cabinet approved the new SEND Strategy for the Local Area SEND Partnership, which is made up of the council's inclusion service and relevant NHS services. The new strategy takes on board recommendations from the recent Ofsted/CQC inspection to set the Partnership's direction for SEND services for the next five years. The strategy was co-produced with children, parents, carers and members of staff who work in SEND services and aims to improve services in several areas: communication, outcomes for SEND children and improved timeliness and quality of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and Annual Reviews. The strategy still requires some formatting/design work but will soon be available to view on the council's website.

Children's Services Inspection The council has just received notification that Ofsted will be coming for a two-week inspection of its children's services. This inspection is focused on social care, youth justice, corporate parenting, family services and safeguarding. It will also look at partnership working with other council teams and external partners to support children and keep them safe. Suffolk County Council had its last children's services Ofsted inspection five years ago and was rated as Outstanding.

Dementia Strategy Suffolk County Council, NHS partners and adult social care organisations have launched a dementia strategy. The number of people with dementia in the UK was estimated to be close to one million in 2021, but by 2050 this figure is expected to rise to 1.6 million people. In Suffolk, a predominantly rural county with an ageing population where 23.6% of Suffolk residents are 65 years or over - higher than the England average - the number of people who develop dementia is likely to be higher, so having a robust and effective strategy to manage this is essential. The strategy has been co-produced with people with dementia and their carers, and will look to promote early diagnosis, providing better information about care and treatment options, and focus on improved signposting for people of all ages with dementia, their carers and families, to help them get the support they want and need to enable them to live well with dementia within their own community. You can read the new dementia strategy here: suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/digital-version-suffolk-dementia-strategy-2024-20292.pdf

Nature survey In order to prepare Suffolk's Local Nature Recovery Strategy, the council has launched a public survey so residents can share their favourite nature spots and which habitats they think should be protected. Farmers, landowners and land managers are also encouraged to submit practical, achievable proposals to support nature conservation, as well as sharing how land is currently managed, and any challenges faced applying for government funding schemes. The strategy will form a plan to help reverse the decline in nature across the county, and to connect and expand existing areas that are important for wildlife and the landscape.

New Vehicles and Equipment for Suffolk Fire and Rescue Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has unveiled a £3.5 million investment in new firefighting vehicles and equipment, including a 32m turntable ladder vehicle, a specialist rescue tender, six new fire engines, a driver trainer vehicle plus a fleet of electric pool cars. The new vehicles will be on the road by summer 2024. The new vehicles are part of a planned replacement programme whereby fire engines are replaced every 15 years and include the latest technology to help keep Suffolk residents safe. They also support the council's net zero targets as officer and pool cars will now be electric vehicles. Fire engines are generally diesel vehicles, although there are some electric-hybrid vehicles currently being trialled in London.

No Cold Calling Zones A zone has been approved for Maple Road: signs are being fixed to street lighting columns and door stickers have been provided for each house. If there are other areas within the village which would like to set up a zone, information is available on www.suffolk.gov.uk – search for No Cold Calling Zones.

Local Highways Issues

A1120 junction with high school access – The local highways officer is chasing MSDC for agreement in principle to provide some funding towards the cost of reducing the length of the deceleration lane and constructing a footway from the car park entrance to the school access. In order to move this on more quickly, would the parish council consider and agree in principle to provide funding towards the cost?

Hedge at high school access – I have asked Thomas Jarett to arrange for the hedge to be trimmed back.

Potholes – I have reported a number in the last month; some have been marked with yellow paint. They are not considered top priority but should be dealt with inside 8 weeks from the date of each report.

Devon Road – SCC have suggested that a TRO to prohibit parking on one side of the road be considered. The restriction would cover the verge as well as the road. My personal view is that the request for a TRO may fail at the consultation stage. Also, alternative places to park may well be hazardous – for example parking along Thorney Green Road to collect takeaway food.

A1120 SID site between Creeting Lane and Barn Cottages – further details, requested by SCC, have been provided.

Locality Awards Applications for Locality Awards grants are open but due to the General Election, payments will not be made until after 4 July. But I'm happy to receive and process applications from local community groups before that date.

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BRIAN WARD

June is probably the best month in both my garden and the countryside. The dog roses in the hedgerows have been exceptional and the elderflower is in abundance for those who make elder- flower wine. The ground is still very wet in places which suits some plants; my hostas and ferns are all looking good in the garden, as are the wild ferns and any plant that enjoys the substantial rainfall we have incurred through the spring.

I believe we are now into summer, and I often have thoughts on what may lay ahead for us. Perhaps we will have plenty of sunshine with dry weather dominating; the farmers certainly deserve a spell of decent weather for their crops to succeed and a good harvest in the future.

Regarding the wildlife, I have seen a few butterflies on the wing but fewer than other years. I had a small heath butterfly in my garden which was a nice surprise. Dragonflies and damselflies are emerging with some of the early species already on the wing. Wicken Fen in Cambridgeshire is well known for its dragonflies and other forms of wildlife, and I believe they do boat trips around the reserve in the dykes so you can get the full experience of the various creatures that inhabit the area. Normally there will be a warden on board to inform you of the facts regarding what you will see on the reserve.

This time of year, wildlife is busy rearing their offspring. I have seen baby rabbits; hares and many species of birds and fox cubs have been seen in the locality. Look out for young hedgehogs, roe deer and muntjac as they can be seen in the surrounding countryside. There should be wild orchids out now; Strumpshaw Fen holds a good amount in the water meadows along with other flowers. Lackford Lakes and Grove Farm are also good for orchids; both of these are Suffolk wildlife sites and are quite local.

As a boy I often left my bedroom light on and window open to attract moths at night, much to the annoyance of my parents, I believe. I spent too much time searching for moths the next morning rather than getting ready for school. If you want to catch and study them, a moth trap is the more appropriate route to go. A light bulb, box and egg cartons is basically all you need; if in doubt go on the internet and there will probably be full instructions on how to build one. It can be great fun searching the box in the morning to see what you have captured. A still warm night is best and at this time of year large hawk moths are about, which are quite spectacular. Please handle all moths with care as they are easily damaged.



Enjoy our early summer days and happy rambling.

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EMERGENCY PLANNING IN ACTION IN THE VILLAGE

“Trinity Meadows Power outage May 30/31, 2024”.

Not often that you are just going into a coffee morning at the URC and the phone goes with a request from GTC the local power company to open the hall to accommodate residents with a 24hours power outage.

Many had not had hot water or facilities to provide this for the last 24hrs and could we help.

GTC were sending two representatives to help, and they needed a place to brief residents on what was happening. I alerted Twig King our village hall caretaker who came very quickly to open up and rang Claire our Parish Council Clerk to let her know what was required. I also had some immediate volunteers from the people attending the coffee morning to come and help with the tea and coffee if needed. I went down and got the emergency planning kit out and set the hall up as a rest centre in accordance with the emergency plan with Twigs help.

On arrival Sophie and Ian from GTC briefed us on what was happening and how long they needed the hall for. The planned power outage for the 30 May had overrun due to a number of problems, and although residents had been informed, they were not prepared for the extra time that this had gone on. The company sent out a social media post to all residents via the Trinity Walk web site and there were some residents in church road affected. A steady stream of residents arrived to seek advice on how long this would go on, worries about medical monitors, freezer stocks Baby feeding no hot water and elderly residents who needed constant attention. Others included residents working from home and having to take annual leave as they could not work. I brought my phone charger to the hall as many were running low on mobile charge and many of the children were fascinated by the old fashioned games in the emergency planning pack up. Mums spoke of their delight at the rest centre as it was half term and games, and x boxes were off limits.

Tea and Coffee were made available and talking to Mums who needed hot water for baby feeds and some who had not been able to have a hot drink, the hall facilities were a welcome site. We also filled flasks. One thing I did was to direct all questions on the situation to Sophie and Ian, as I did not want to give any false hopes on the situation as I did get asked a lot of questions on the subject. The second generator arrived on site after the failure of the first, the site was back on line by 17 00hrs, we had to make a plan to allow hall bookings from 1600hrs, we moved Sophie and Ian into the meeting room, which still had all the facilities for their needs they finished at 17 00hrs as the site was by then on generator power. I must say both representatives from the company did well and helped with all aspects of the situation, in what was also a tricky situation for them. We coped with the situation well, but if it had gone on, I would have had to call in volunteers to take over as you do need a break. My thanks to Twig and Claire and the ladies who volunteered at the coffee morning, we may have needed them if it had gone on.

Jerry Voden Stowupland Parish Council emergency planning.

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STOWMARKET ECO FUTURE GROUP

<https://stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk>

Email: stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com



#LoveWhereYouLive

Collection of hard to recycle items *Please take your foil and plastic blister packs to a Superdrug Pharmacy, nearest one is Bury St Edmunds): A little bit of good news – some packs are now foil on both front and back. These packs can be scrunched into a ball (putting them with metal foil containers makes this easier) and put in your recycling bin.*

2nd Sunday each month (14th July) at Red Gables 2-4 pm plus REPAIR CAFÉ stowrepaircafe@gmail.com and **4th Thursday each month (25th July) on Marketplace 9:30 to 11.30 am**. We collect coffee pods, clean pet food pouches, cheese wrappers and nets, pens, flattened crisp packets, (all count as “soft plastic”), make up packaging and pringles tubes, also clean and flattened tetra packs – see our website for details. **The Dental products scheme has changed** – Brushes and floss are fine, but **not toothpaste tubes now**. Terracycle Collections | Stowmarket Eco Future Group

Eco Café The first Stowmarket Eco Cafe was held in May and what a great turn-out! Clearly there is a need for this type of gathering as we struggle with the knowledge that our climate is becoming more unfriendly and our biodiversity disappearing rapidly. **Our next Eco Cafe is on Wednesday 10th July in the Walnut pub from 7.30-9.30 pm**. Come and share your eco enthusiasm, concerns and questions. We can support each other.

A general election is coming soon and it's our best shot at getting strong climate action. In a major new study, 70% of people who had an opinion said that climate and environment policies will influence the way they vote in the next election. Greenpeace are running a campaign called **Project Climate Vote**. Thousands of people are signing up, committing to prioritise climate change when they cast their vote. Don't forget that a vote for climate is also a vote for cheaper bills, warmer homes and a better life. By becoming a Climate Voter, you can force politicians from all parties to take the issue seriously. Find more information, and posters to hang in your window, on the Greenpeace website.

Clothes Swap at Red Gables Saturday 20th July 2-4 pm... these events have been a huge success with adults' and children's pre-loved clothes getting a new lease of life. Bring your donation and take away something you like...all for free! Did you know that the fashion industry is responsible for about 10% of global carbon emissions – more than aviation and shipping combined! Reducing your need for fast fashion has never been more important.

Don't forget to check in on our website:
www.stowmarketecofuturegroup.co.uk

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RAMBLINGS FROM THE POTTING SHED

PAULA WILLMOT

Well happy July! This is the month to enjoy the beautiful, lush hedgerows and deep verdant green that we see in our local lanes and parks. Very soon the earth and plants will be baked and lose that deep green that makes our countryside so very British. I thought if I wrote it down, the sun might do as it's told!

This month we should really see the fruits of our labours with small currants and berries ripening on bushes; tomatoes, peas and radishes all looking promising and taking shape or being eaten already. It's the first year for my small orchard so I have very low expectations, mainly as the trees were brought from a county with lovely soil and have now to deal with the short, sharp shock of heavy clay, but I will remain hopeful.

July will see me tackling the following:

- If the garden needs watering, I will be doing this late in the evening or early morning. I'll also be ensuring my weed buckets are empty ready to catch any rainfall.
- Train tomatoes to grow upwards by pinching out the side-shoots that sprout from the joints between the leaves and the main stem. However, if they are bush tomatoes, leave them be.
- Check apple trees for woolly aphids. These sap-sucking insects hide under the waxy fluff on branches and shoots. Use an old toothbrush to remove them before they increase their numbers.
- Leave a few weeds in the garden to support wildlife. Chickweed provides seed for finches and herb Robert flowers feed the orange-tip butterflies.
- Fill the gaps in garden borders with colourful annual plants. Keep them well watered until they are settled and deadhead regularly.
- Don't be tempted to fill your compost heaps with endless grass cuttings, it will go slimy. Incorporate dry material like old paper and woody prunings.
- Trim back figs as soon as the young shoots have formed 5 to 6 leaves. This will encourage branching and fruitlets which will become next year's crop.

One of the more practical social media follows this month is @dave_the_plantman from Wigan. Full of interesting facts, he talks about mare's tail and how to eradicate this weed from your garden. Although, as the plant has been around since before dinosaurs, I am not sure how effective his tip will be!

He also has a great reel about propagating supermarket basil, well worth following. Another interesting tip is from @creative_gardening1, with a great tip on filling a plant saucer with marbles and adding water. This gives the bees a safe place to land so they can drink without drowning. Also be mindful of bumble bees you may see hanging off large blooms. These are really old bees that have chosen to cling to a flower head as they die. Don't move them, they are enjoying their final hours resting amongst the nectar.

This month I am going to update on my raised beds (built to my spec by local lad Danny who runs LanDsCapes). I really am trying to eke out as much produce as I can from each bed, so they look a bit full.

The first raised bed contains the onion sets planted in December last year. I am waiting for the stalks to go yellow and the sun to bake the bulbs before lifting and storing in a dry place. The broad beans next to them have run riot and are easily a metre tall now. Full of flowers they are looking healthy and are a hive of bees pollenating the flowers. The end of the bed has a few strawberry plants and some red cos lettuce. It was formerly French radish which were delicious, and I managed to eat the lot over 3 weeks!



This second bed I call my runners and riders. Runner beans and squash make a dash for it up the poles while the potatoes await a bit more sun. Sharpes Express and some small heritage potatoes should provide me with some tasty meals. The end of the bed contains a cross between a melon and a cucumber...more on this variety if it takes, they should be lovely in a gin.

Well, that's all this month. My winter veg seeds have arrived from The Real Seed Company, and I have already sown some spinach, kale and chard but these are in small propagators as the greenhouse temperature yesterday was 119 degrees! In a week I will pop them in larger pots and keep a close eye on them. Enjoy the long evenings and happy gardening!

FILLING STATION

www.thefillingstation.org.uk

Filling Station exists to share the Christian faith, and encourage Christians to go deeper in their faith, uniting Christians from all the local churches once a month to worship together, receive bible teaching, and share stories of how God is moving in people's lives. Each Filling Station meeting will offer Spirit led prayer ministry for healing and wholeness.



The Mid-Suffolk Filling Station meets here in Stowupland, at the Village Hall, on the second Wednesday of most months. Come and be restored. Come and find out more.

You will receive a warm welcome, with tea/coffee and cake, from 7pm, and the meeting gets underway at 7:30.

Future 2024 dates for Mid-Suffolk Filling Station:

14th August

9th October

11th September

13th November

JUBILEE LADIES CHOIR

Date: July 13th, 2024

Venue: URC Stowmarket

Entrance: £8.50 (under 16's free) to include:

- a glass of wine
- Nibbles
- Raffle

We're practicing at the moment a really nice programme of songs several of which you will know, show songs etc.

Come and support us and enjoy a summer evening away from the television!

Ladies, you might enjoy it so much that you're tempted to give it a try yourselves. If so, just speak to any of us.

After the concert, we're off for the Summer, returning in September.

Any questions to Di Balaam on 01449 736374 or me Avril on 07815 863514



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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Citizens Advice

www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk - 01449 676060
or 01449 676280 - 5 Milton Road South,
Stowmarket, IP14 1EZ

Doctor

Emergency - 999
NHS Direct - 111
Combs Ford - 01449 678333
Stowhealth - 01449 776000

Emergency Numbers

Power Cut - 0800 31 63 105
Gas Leak - 0800 111 999
Water Leak - 0800 771 881

Good Neighbour Scheme

HELPLINE: 07591 539621

Member of Parliament

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

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

Police

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

Samaritans – 116 123

Stowupland Village Website

www.stowupland.com

Parish Council Website

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Suffolk County Council

www.suffolk.gov.uk 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

If you know of any events happening in the village that I may not have picked up on, please do get in touch by 7th of the month at stowman@stowman.plus.com or 01449 616275.

Please note: Diary Dates lists community events in Stowupland; for advertising all commercial events, please contact adverts.telstar@hotmail.co.uk.

JULY

WED 3	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office
WED 3	14.30 various locations	Book Group (contact 01449 67127 for details)
WED 3	7.30 Village Hall	Local History Group – A Photographic Tour of Stowmarket
THURS 4	Village Hall	Election voting
SUN 7	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music club
MON 8	19:00 Village Hall	Village Hall Trustees AGM – all welcome
TUES 9	09.30 Jubilee Crt. 09.55 Green	Mobile Library
TUES 9	16:00 - 18:00 Village Hall	Young Carers Club
WED 10	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office
THURS 11	19:00 Village Hall	Short mat bowls
THURS 11	19:30 URC Church	Parish Council meeting

SUN 14	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music club
WED 17	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office
THURS 18	19:00 Village Hall	Short mat bowls
SAT 20	10:00 - 12:00 Church Hall	Coffee, Cake and Chat
SAT 20	10.00 – 12.00 Cemetery	Volunteers' Tidy Up – all welcome
SUN 21	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music club
WED 24	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office
THURS 25	19:00 Village Hall	Short mat bowls
FRI 26	10:00 URC chapel	Coffee Morning
SUN 28	19:30 Village Hall	Country & Western music club
WED 31	14:00-16:00 Village Hall Car Pk.	Mobile Post Office

LOOKING AHEAD

AUGUST

Short mat bowls

SEPTEMBER

The Walkers Cup

SUN 8 10:00 – 16:00

Rachel Eburne - rachel.eburne@midsex.suffolk.gov.uk -
01449 673311

MSDC General Contact No. 0300 12340000

Mobile Library - 07721 879855

Parish Council

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

Terry Easter - 079558906176

Terry.easter@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Beeson - 07918 808387

laurabeeson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Johnson - 07826 851030

laurajohnson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Debra Melhuish - 07979125904

debramelhuish@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Paula Murton - 07906 677817

paulamurton@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Ray Studd - 01449 676606

raystudd@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Jerry Voden - 01449 703717

jerryvoden@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council - Claire Pizzev

parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk - 01449 677005

2 Broomspath Road, IP14 4DB

Parish Council Minutes of meetings and agendas

are available on the Parish Council Website

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Village Hall Bookings

Lisa Tunbridge - Phone - 07862740830
stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

Village Clubs

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

Local History Group - Jerry Voden - 07951 086383

Short Mat Bowls - Pam Fayers - 07713026696

Sports and Social Club - Mark Dye - 07799 662491

Stowupland Cricket Club

www.stowuplandcricketclub.co.uk/

Stowupland Falcons Football Club -

stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk

Stowupland Sports Centre -

info@stowuplandssportscentre.co.uk - 01449 672531

Stowupland Wildflower & Biodiversity Group -

Keith Welham - 01449 673185

Stowmarket Wildlife Group - Heather Salmon

-heathersalmon50@gmail.com - 07722 871205

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Or bottles in a crate.

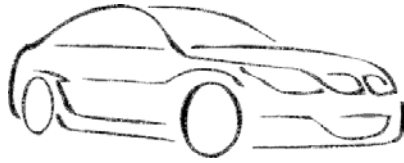
When you go to have a beer,
Be careful and just think.
Be responsible, please be wise,
And do not drive and drink.



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STOWUPLAND WILDFLOWER AND BIODIVERSITY GROUP



Sunflower Competition - We provided in the April edition of Telstar a small packet of sunflower seeds and we know that many people are successfully growing their plants. Some have fallen victim to the weather or various pests. We need to hear from you when you think that your sunflower has reached its maximum height. Please email keithwelham48@aol.com to let us know how tall your plant is. We'd also love some photos to include in Telstar. There will be a prize of a carved wooden coaster, designed and made by a member of the group, for the tallest.

Work with Schools - We are continuing to work with the schools in the village. Unfortunately, the high school will not be taking new sixth formers in September 2024 so there is uncertainty about their gardening project. The raised beds installed at the Mulberry Centre have been planted by students and we are hoping to provide them with a small potting shed in which they can also store their tools etc.

The fruit trees planted in the autumn in the high school grounds are becoming established and were in bloom in May.

Wildflower Meadow - The yellow rattle seeds sown in the autumn have germinated and many have bloomed. Their yellow flowers were evident in May and June; we hope that, now established, they will disperse seeds over the meadow area. Yellow rattle suppresses grass and will allow other wildflowers to be introduced next year.

We have around 100 oxlip plants growing well in pots, and we will plant these out later this year. Meantime, other wildflowers are coming into bloom and attracting insects. Look out for the abundance of insects hovering over the grass and wildflowers, and along the hedges. Spend time watching the insects and birds and compare the biodiversity of this patch with the mown areas of The Green.

Retreat Pond - The pond is due to be de-silted when it has dried out. We will then be able to plan how best to use the pond and surrounding area to benefit biodiversity.

Tree Warden Scheme - The group have taken on the Tree Warden scheme from the Parish Council. This role will include checking up on trees which are in poor condition and reporting trees that appear to be becoming a danger. This role does not include inspecting newly planted trees on new housing developments, but if you see a mature tree in a place where public have access, for instance on The Green of beside a Public Footpath, please let us know.

Dates for our next meetings – These will be on 5 August and 14 October at 7.30 pm in the URC Meeting Room. We especially welcome any resident with an interest in biodiversity issues, and anyone wishing to join us in our projects. Or just get in touch if you would like to join our practical work, for example planting or recording insects.

THE FOOD MUSEUM



Food Museum, Stowmarket celebrates the birth of rare Suffolk Punch foal – 100 years after the last was born on the site.

The Food Museum in Stowmarket is celebrating the birth of a rare Suffolk Punch filly, 100 years after the last Suffolk horse was born on its farming estate.

The female foal was born to Suffolk horse mare Faith at the museum on Saturday 8 June and has been named 'Abbots Juno' by staff and volunteers. The name honours both the last horse 'Combs Vesta 4th' born at the museum 100 years ago (Juno



is the sister of the goddess Vesta in Roman mythology) and that this year is the 80th anniversary of D-Day, with Juno being one of the Allies' five beaches.

Suffolk horses are classified as "critically endangered" by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust and are more endangered than the Giant Panda, making the birth of a foal a real cause for celebration. She is one of only 12 fillies born so far this year, particularly good news as a filly has the potential to produce more of the breed in the future.

Growing Officer, Emma Lodge said "Mother and foal are doing well. We feel incredibly lucky to have such a rare breed animal at the museum and to play a part in the continuing survival of the Suffolk Punch."

Suffolk Punch horses were bred on the 84-acre Abbot's Hall estate where the Food Museum is based from 1909 to 1924 by Captain H.D. Longe. Juno is the first Suffolk horse to be born on the site since 1924, making this a significant and exciting moment in the museum's history. The museum's current Suffolk horses Zippo and Faith came to the site in 2019 and 2022, respectively.

"After searching our archives, we were amazed to discover that the last foal, Combs Vesta 4th, was born on the Abbot's Hall estate in April 1924, making it almost exactly 100 years between Vesta and our foal Juno." Collections Manager Lisa Harris said "We're excited to welcome a new Suffolk horse to the estate and to continue Captain Longe's legacy of supporting this rare breed. The Suffolk horse is hugely significant in the history of food and plays an important part in telling the story of food production."



Before numbers declined in the 1940s due to the mechanisation of farming, Suffolk Punch horses were used to provide the power for working the land particularly in East Anglia, thanks to their size and strength.

Visitors have been able to see Juno and Faith at the Food Museum from Saturday 15 June, with a 'Meet the Horse' session at 11am and animal feeding demonstrations for the rest of our animals at 3pm daily. Entrance is from £10 and gives year-long access to the museum's 84 acres of farmland, animals, 17 historic buildings and hands-on activities.

foodmuseum.org.uk @foodmuseumuk

Community

BINGO

NIGHT

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FRIDAY 26 JULY

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Everyone Welcome

**(over 14's only; under 18's must be
accompanied by an adult)**

Bring your own drink and nibbles

Sports Week

Unfortunately, due to the wet weather, we had to postpone our Sports Day races. However, the children thoroughly enjoyed having a go at the various activities planned across *Sports Week*.

At the start of the week, they took part in a carousel of events in their house groups, including parachute games, hula hoop and bean bag target games, the daily mile, vortex throw and scoring goals past Year 6 volunteers!

Pound Dance with sticks also proved to be particularly popular, as did tennis and boccia!

The week culminated in a *Colour Run*, organised by Stowupland Friends of Freeman, which was a great success. Funds raised will be put towards resurfacing and resourcing the playground. Huge thanks to the Friends of Freeman Committee for organising this event and to everyone who supported it.



Congratulations to the U9 Quadkids team who recently came 2nd in a recent inter-school competition. They ran, jumped and threw brilliantly and were a credit to the school.

Thank you to the Stowupland High Sports Leaders who did a wonderful job supervising the track and field events.

A message from the Junior Road Safety Officers

We recently led road safety training sessions for children in Reception and Year 1, using *Street Feet*, a road safety training kit. We talked about the different types of road crossings and, with the help of several volunteers from each class, modelled how to cross the road safely!

We have arranged to meet with a member of the SCC Road Safety team to discuss ways in which we can help promote active travel to and from school. Mrs Lewis has also submitted evidence of the work we have been doing this year for the annual JRSO Awards. We're keeping our fingers crossed!



Transition to High School

It is hard to believe that our Year 6 pupils will be leaving Freeman at the end of the term to start the next stage of their education at several local high schools. Before half-term they showed great maturity in their approach to SATs. They also received their long-awaited leaving hoodies which they are wearing with pride and have read through the script for their end-of-year production *Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies*. We can't wait to perform in front of the school, parents and carers next month.



Year 6 pupils are currently taking part in *Bikeability*, a cycle training programme to gain practical skills and to understand how to cycle safely on today's roads. Several of the children have said they will be cycling to high school, so the training is perfect preparation!



Class Trip

Children in Year 3 recently visited Thorney Green Farm in Stowupland to learn about farming in our local area. They enjoyed looking at the tractors and cows. The calves were very cute! They learnt about the different crops that are grown in the fields around us. Thank you to the Carter family for allowing the children to look around their brilliant farm!



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Or contact Lisa Tunbridge our booking secretary

Tel: 07515 859337 email: stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

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LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

How well do you know Stowmarket? Join us on **Wednesday July 3rd** (Stowupland Village Hall at 7.30pm) when **Darren Dordoy** will take us on a photographic tour of **Stowmarket, Past and Present**.

Can't make July 3rd, then join us on August 7th for something very different when Robert Halliday will be taking us around Suffolk, sharing with us what he knows about intriguing and quirky wood carvings on some Church Bench Ends.

But now, Jerry reminds us of our May meeting when we welcomed Geoff Robinson from Worlingworth who spoke to us about a **1721 Emergency Services**.



This month Neil had managed to get Geoff Robinson along to talk about "The Worlingworth Fire Engine." Geoff noted as the talk started that in the 18th century many parishes had their own fire equipment and Stowmarket's is in the local Food Museum. As far as he was aware Stowupland did not have its own.

Geoff also highlighted some fires that occurred around the county where residents were not so fortunate to have firefighting equipment. In the Middle Ages thatch and wood buildings were at great fire risk, and the only solution were old fire buckets with a chain of helpers passing buckets along to aim towards the seat of the fire. This also needed a water supply so not a great way of doing things. The Bungay fire in 1688, saw three quarters of the town destroyed in 4 hours. 1666 saw the great fire of London lasting 5 days and was tackled by creating the first fire breaks. This meant creating a cleared area so the fire could not spread further, but to do this effectively some property had to be deliberately destroyed. This method is still in use today especially in forest fires and fires on moorland.

Richard Newsham was credited with inventing the fire engine, which comprised a two-handle pump with a water tank on the back. The tank was filled by manhandled buckets of water or connected to a water supply (nearest pond or stream). The pump was positioned and worked by a four man team but after its first use it was found that the water jet did not reach high roofs, so a long nozzle was invented and fitted.

George II was so impressed by demonstrations that he ordered one to cover firefighting duties at St James Palace, where he lived when in London. Geoff mentioned that amongst others he knew of one that was in North Walsham in 1725 and another in Ipswich in 1732. The Ipswich fire engine can be seen at the Ipswich Transport Museum.

The Worlingworth engine was stored in a barn at Worlingworth Manor, with a team of volunteers kept on hand for call outs. Geoff informed us that there

was no evidence that it had ever been towed by horses or lifted on to a horse and cart in times of emergencies, so depending on where the fire was it could take quite a long time to turn out and get into action. It was bought by John Major for the parish in 1760 and it continued working until 1927, being decommissioned in 1928.

Notable incidents included a fire at the Manor where a barn caught fire in August 1914. The fire crew were called into action, but as it was at night it took about an hour to get everyone together. However, after hard work, the barn was saved. Unfortunately, a house next door to a barn caught fire, and again it took about an hour to get the engine into action. Apparently, in the adjacent house, a lady upstairs was giving birth. In spite of all the drama going on next door, she told the midwife that she would not move and calmly carried on. Mum and daughter were fine, and all was well. In an interview with the daughter many years later, she had asked her mum why she didn't move, and she said that she had faith in the fire crew to bring everything under control which in this case happened.

With the decommissioning of the engine the parish council took over ownership and it was stored in the local church, where it was sadly neglected. Then someone suggested to the current parish council that it might be a good idea to have the engine restored. Geoff approached the producers of the BBC Repair Shop to see if this was the type of work they would do. For those of you who may not have seen this programme, members of the public are encouraged to take their memories along with treasured artifacts, which are now not quite as pristine as they once were, for repair. The BBC agreed and Geoff transported the fire engine down to the Repair Shop workshop which is situated in Sussex.

Between the Repair Shop agreeing to take on the task of restoring the engine and the airing of the finished show, Geoff and Worlingworth were sworn to secrecy about the details. However, Geoff did reveal to his audience that his experience of being involved in the making of the programme was fascinating. The upshot was that the engine is restored to working order, and all involved had great fun shooting water all over the place at the studio.

The week after our meeting Geoff emailed us to let us know that we could watch the restoration of Worlingworth's Fire Engine on BBC's Repair Shop on 15th May 2024.

Despite Geoff's concerns about how he might come across on TV, we can reveal it is a worthwhile look and I expect you can find it on Catch Up TV. The fire engine is now back in its village and Geoff and the team hope to bring it out for community events.

Neil thanked Geoff for his talk and took questions from our audience. Thanks once again to Neil for organising this talk. As always, Annie and Liz were on hand for welcome refreshments."

While we may not have had our own heritage project broadcast on national TV, on behalf of SLHG Neil has put together a leaflet publicising some aspects of our past.

"Our Village – A Brief Look at Stowupland's Heritage"

Neil explains, 'This is the title of the group's recently published leaflet which by now you may already have seen. Our aim is to give an idea of how Stowupland has evolved over time by giving ten brief descriptions of buildings, such as Holy Trinity Church and Freeman School, along with areas of the village such as Thorney Green and Saxham Street. These descriptions are short, but a QR code is included which, when scanned using a smart phone scanner app, will link to the corresponding page of our website, where a more in-depth account and further illustrations will be found. This is aimed especially towards the many newer residents who would like to know more about the village. For those less familiar with the village, a location map is included along with the What Three Words code. 400 copies have been printed by Gipping Press and are available at various places around the village, at local history group meetings or from the secretary'.

Even as the leaflet was still hot off the press, the wisdom of linking the information to our website became apparent. Neil spends many hours deciphering the manorial rolls and has puzzled over where **Dodds Way** might have been. He has now been able to place this as a 'lane to Creting' that runs beside Bramford Farm; it exists today as a footpath.

Please contact Jerry on 01449 703717 or voden@btinternet.com if you want to make a comment or have a query about Stowupland's history or our meetings. And especially if you have any memories or photos of the 1940s.

Continuing the theme of **summer fetes**, this month we go to Sheepcote Hall which seems to have been a regular venue. In July 1965 Mr & Mrs Eric Stearn were prepared for our British summer weather as the **'stalls, sideshow and teas had to be under cover'**.



Three years later in July 1968, the church fete was again being held at Sheepcote Hall but realising that it would clash with the final day of Wimbledon and perhaps mindful that people might be torn between going to a fete or watching Wimbledon, a **Colour TV** had been **'set in the hall switched on so that visitors could watch the finals at Wimbledon'**.

This was only the 2nd year of Wimbledon being broadcast in colour. Though I am a bit puzzled as in 1968 the men's finals were scheduled to be played on the Friday (this was the last year for the men's

tournament to be completed on the Friday) but did bad weather mean the singles finals had to be played on the Saturday; or was the interest in the ladies' doubles finals in which the British player Ann Jones with Francoise Durr were beaten by the American pair, Rosie Casal and Billie Jean King.

According to Google the winners of the singles finals were Rod Laver and Billie Jean King and 1968 was the first year that the tournament offered prize money. The total prize money for the event was £26,150. The winner of the men's title earned £2,000 while the women's singles champion earned £750.

On 19th century maps Sheepcote Hall is called Sheeppgate Hall, and I apologise for the poor-quality image, but it is the only one in our archives.

According to the 1851 census Thos Stearn is aged 56 was a farmer of 230 acres employing 16 men and 3 boys, In the 1950s Eric Stearn's wife, Hilda, was President of the Stowupland and St Peter's WI. Her mother Mrs Forrest had been the first president when in 1939 Stowupland combined with Creeting St Peter to establish a local WI. By the 1970's seven of the farm barns were being used by George McDonald for storing and displaying china and glassware and then in 1981 planning permission was sought to convert one barn into a dwelling.



From MEMORY LANE

Do you remember your first experience of watching TV? Was it in the days of a small screen, with a grainy black & white image or have you only known good quality colour TV? Do you remember the young girl on the test card or watching till the small dot shrank to nothing at the end of the days broadcasting?

Back in 1948, local resident Sid Robinson **'built a television receiving set...it was believed to be the first seen in Stowupland.'** Sid's son remembered that his dad was the go-to-man in the village for getting your TV repaired – back in the day when electrical gadgets were repairable and not disposable items.

Sid had a very varied career, maybe something for a future Telstar. As seen here it culminated in being presented with the Imperial Service Medal in July 1977.



MR. HENRY GILES (left), Regional Director of the Property Services Agency, presenting Mr. Robinson with the Imperial Service Medal.

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VILLAGE WALK --- AND MORE

Jane and Dan invite you to join them for a walk around the fields, followed by afternoon tea at their home, "Crowstone" --- two doors away from the garage on the main road, on

Wednesday, July 17th.

The walk will start from the drive at **2.00 pm.**

Tea will be served from **2.45 pm.**

At 3.15 a Murder Mystery will be performed in the garden --- weather permitting! Please bring a garden chair, if you are able to.

Tea will be served indoors if it is wet.

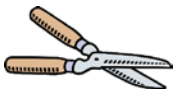
It will be lovely to see you at any time in the afternoon --- the walk is for anyone fit and able, but the tea and the drama is for everyone. Please put the date on your calendar and come and join us.

Donations will be for church funds.



Stowupland Cemetery Grave Gardeners Volunteer Day

Saturday 20th July 2024
Time 10.00am – 12.00pm



MEET AT: Stowupland Cemetery

Can you join us for an hour to help?

Please bring your own gardening equipment

Stowupland Parish Council

Chair: donnabridges@stowuplandpc.co.uk | 07736 34833

Clerk: parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk | 01449 677005



- Help remove self-set weeds growing on graves
- Remove old flowers from graves
- Tidy and clear the back ditch
- Clean the rubbish housing units

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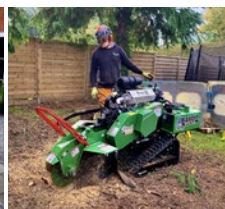
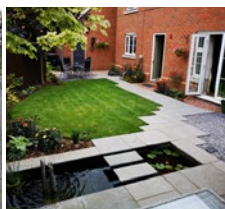
Saturday
9.00am – 12noon



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U.R.C CHAPEL

NEWS

Minister: Revd Robert Sheard
Telephone 01449 678173

As the weather is often the topic of conversation, we are happy to have had some warmer days and hope that the morning frosts are behind us. Bedding plants are being planted in the gardens and in pots. We are so fortunate not to have the extremes of really bad weather as happens in other parts of the world. It was good to see the Beacon lit for the D Day anniversary on 6 June 2024 and many people turning out to commemorate this occasion.

Our next Coffee Morning is on Friday 26 July 10 to 12noon; give us a visit for a cuppa and cake.

Please Note there will not be a coffee morning in August.

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

The Speakers for July are as follows:

- | | |
|---------|--------------------|
| 07 July | William Glasse |
| 14 July | Nigel Crisp |
| 21 July | Revd Robert Sheard |
| 28 July | Rev Norman Tharby |

Joyce Gardiner

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

2 Peter 3: 18 - Continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory, now and for ever! Amen.

Have you ever asked yourself why you go to church? Others may ask themselves why they don't go to church? Let us think for a moment why people may say they go to church!

Some would say it's out of habit, it's something they have always done! Others will say 'my parents took me as a child' or 'It's where my friends are' or 'It's something to do on a Sunday'.

But how many of us would say 'I believe that God sent his only son Jesus to be our Saviour, so I go to church to give God praise and thanks for what He has done for me?' But going to Church is more than that, it's the place where we grow in our faith with like-minded people, where we are safe to worship God. Once we become a Christian that does not mean that we stop growing in faith, but we continue to grow and learn, and this is best done with others around us to help and support us.

Or are we someone who asks ourselves why I don't go to church? There are many reasons possibly more than the ones who say why they go to Church: 'I believe but don't need church', 'I have not got the time', 'The Church is full of hypocrites', 'I just don't believe' or 'How can there be a God with all the awful things that are going on in the world?'

In one way my reply to these excuses is partly the same as above, but also to say that we all need to be with people who can support and help us to grow into who we are and our role in society. So why not give church a go and it may just change your life for the better.

Yours in Christ, Robert

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

COFFEE MORNING

Friday 26th July 2024

Stowupland URC Chapel
10am – 12noon

Coffee, Tea and Cakes

There will also be a raffle draw

All welcome



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

NEWS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STOWUPLAND



As a child, I thought the summer holidays would last forever. We would spend endless days playing with friends, splashing in a paddling pool, and riding our bikes. Going on a bus or a train to visit cousins or grandparents was a highlight of the holiday, and it never rained, did it? Of course, many of us look back on our childhood days through rose-tinted spectacles, but I do think we lived at a slower pace in the past.

These days, I can get really stressed and worried over the summer about whether my children are entertained, off their screens, and enjoying fantastic experiences. I am also keen to meet up with friends and make sure I see all my extended family. Stowupland is a thriving village with many one-off events as well as regular activities. There are so many things to see and do and events to attend, which is great, but my to-do list seems to grow and grow, and it can become really overwhelming.

Conversely, some people are feeling lonely at this time. Maybe they find it difficult to get out of their house. Maybe they are suffering from physical or mental distress. Some are going through a difficult period due to the loss of a loved one or a beloved pet or just a change in circumstances.

I long for days at a slower pace, where the joy comes from the little things. Is there something to be gained in stopping? Jesus famously said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Now, Jesus was no party pooper. He turned water into wine at a wedding, after all, but the passage here seems to show that he was a man who placed a lot of value on rest.

I think sometimes we can get confused about what rest is. If we're sitting on our sofa for an hour scrolling on our phone, it feels like we've been resting because we've been sitting still, but our brains have been active, and whirling around real rest is something different. We can rest our minds by going for a walk. And here in Stowupland, there are lots of amazing local walks to choose from. Rest could be having a chat with your friends and being able to get your feelings off for chest. Rest could be having a cup of tea and staring out of the window!

The ultimate rest, though, is the rest that Jesus can give us. He says rest is for those who are weary and burdened. So, whether it's the stress of finding the right summer holiday or summer activities, the weariness of having no visitors at your house for another day, nor something in between, we can all place all our burdens on Jesus.

So, my challenge for you in this summertime is that if you're feeling weary for whatever reason or have a burden on your heart, write it all down and ask Jesus to take it from you. My prayer is that you will experience divine Rest.

Rachel Clarke, Lay minister

Benefice of Haughley with Wetherden and Stowupland.

Services in July 2024

Date	Stowupland	Haughley	Wetherden
7 th July	9.30 Morning Worship	11am Sunday Praise	11am Morning Worship
9 th July		5pm Pizza	
14 th July	9.30 Worship for All	11am Parish Communion	11am Sunday Praise
21 st July	9.30am Morning Worship	11am URC led service	11am Worship for All
28 th July	6.30pm Parish Communion		11am Parish Communion
4 th August	9.30 Morning Worship	11am Sunday Praise	11am Morning Worship
11 th August	9.30 Worship for All	11am Parish Communion	11am Sunday Praise
13 th August		5pm Pizza	
18 th August	9.30am Morning Worship	11am URC led service	11am Worship for All
25 th August	6.30pm Parish Communion		11am Parish Communion

2024 FLOWER FESTIVAL: Thank you to all that contributed to the displays, they were wonderful and showed great imagination and to all those that came along to see them.

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. The church is open during service times and on the 3rd Saturday morning each month to accept donations. 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.

COME AND JOIN US FOR

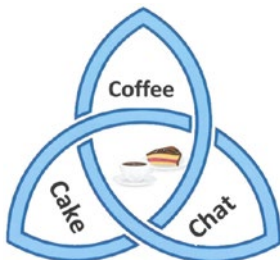
Stowupland Church Hall

Saturday 20th July 2024

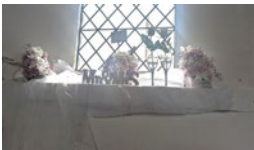
10-12

There will be tea/coffee, cakes, raffle and good company

Everyone is welcome



Holy Trinity Flower Festival—Images

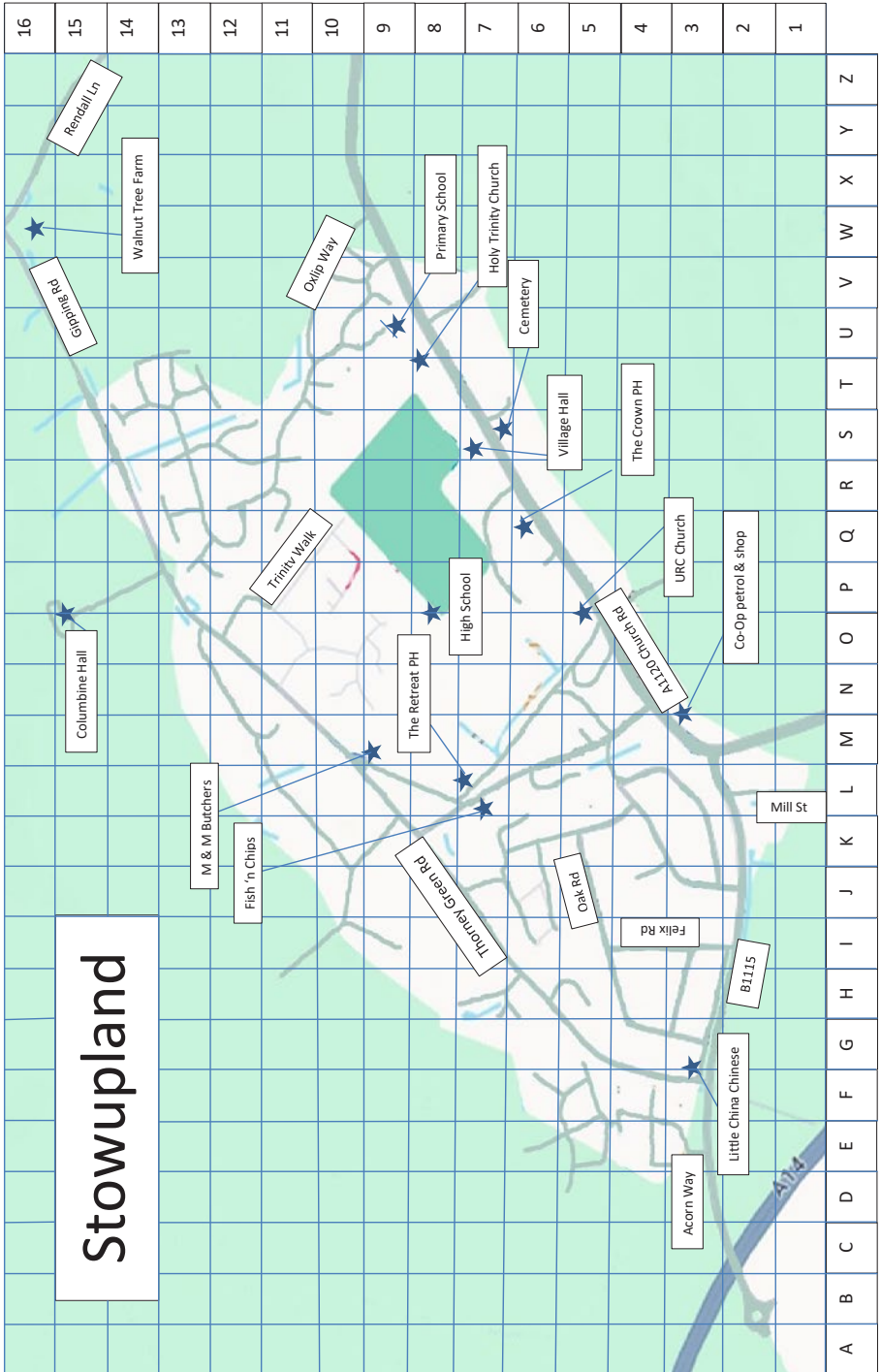


Colour images can be seen on the web-site:

<http://www.stowupland.com/telstar>



Stowupland



THE TELSTAR TEAM

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

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Diary Dates - Neil Langridge – stowman@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 proof-readers and Jerry Voden chairs meetings of our team. The entire team are unpaid volunteers.

Telstar is distributed by a team of volunteers who deliver the magazine to over 1,250 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!

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From the Telstar Committee

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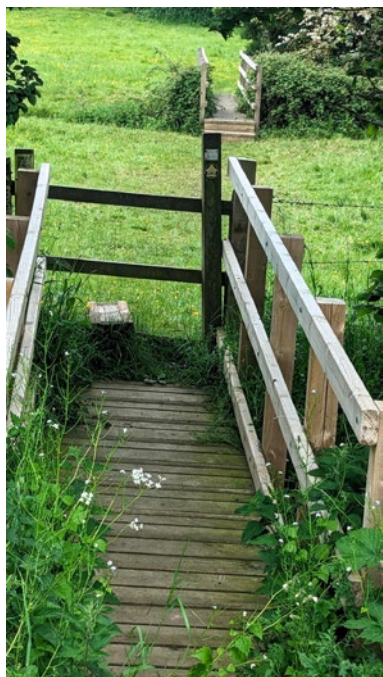
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Sun 8th Sep

The Walkers Cup



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There'll even be a BBQ for you to enjoy when you finish.

Minimum donation of £2 to raise funds for St Elizabeth's Hospice

Register at Stowupland Sports and Social Club from 10.00am onwards and complete the walk by 4.00 pm, at the latest.

Contact: Keith and Cathy Welham 01449 673185