



Don't Forget the Village Plan Meeting – 12 November 2007: There's a lot going on in Troston at the moment – including possible housing developments at both Lower Farm and on the playing field. Local authority planners are now placing increasing weight on so-called “Village Plans”, drawn up by the local community and embracing all aspects of village life, such as local services and of course planning. With this in mind, the Parish Council is calling a village meeting to discuss the desirability of drawing up such a “local plan”, and what sort of things it should include. We will also have a couple of expert speakers.

The meeting will be at 7.30 p.m., in the Village Hall, on Monday 12 November. We are hoping for a good attendance, so please put it into your diary now. Roger Anderson, Parish Council Chairman

Church News – Although Jeanne and I were out of town and unable to attend the Harvest service and tea, I understand that it was, as usual, a lovely occasion. Thank you to all who decorated the church and to those who brought food to share. Troston may not be as strongly tied to the land as it once was, but it is still important to remember those who farm the land, as well as our agricultural heritage.

As we change our clocks back to Greenwich Mean Time, we also start to look ahead to Christmas—something the retail sector has well in hand, if a bit prematurely. Special Advent services/meetings will be listed in the next newsletter. Also, please watch the notice board.

Our annual gift day and coffee morning will also take place in early December. This is always a wonderful opportunity to relax, have a chat, and maybe do a little Christmas shopping.

We will have our special Remembrance Service on Sunday, November 11. Please note the slightly earlier time of 10.50. There is a special poignancy this year with the losses at RAF Honington and from the Anglian Regiment. Rev. Doug Neupert, OLM (269614)

Services for November

Sunday, November 4th 11.00 Holy Communion

11th 10.50 **Service for Remembrance Sunday**

18th 11.00 Morning Worship

25th 11.00 Family Communion

Troston Women's Institute--Our annual meeting on Tuesday, November 13th, will feature reports and elections, and by way of entertainment, a repeat of the branch's portrayal of poems by Pam Ayres which went down a storm at the recent group meeting at Sapiston.

There will also be a silent auction. Please bring items you want to sell and members will have the chance to bid for them by writing down preferred amounts. You can, of course, then be out bid by a higher sum and so on. It is good fun and a way of going home with something you want!

We are planning for a social highlight, the branch Christmas dinner at The Bull public house in the village. This takes place on Tuesday, December 11th, at 7.45 p.m. approx. Members join partners and friends for a good evening out. The menu choices are being circulated. If you have not already signed on and are interested in attending, please contact Susan Sollohub, programme secretary, on 01359 269574.

Poppy Appeal—Poppies are available from Jane Harland in Garden Fields.

Saving Troston's Heritage--The group is delighted conservator Andrea Kirkham has started preliminary repairs to the plasterwork in the nave of St. Mary's Church. This has to be carried out before the main conservation of medieval wall paintings of St. George and the Dragon, St. Christopher and St. Edmund, as well as the Doom painting over the chancel arch. This is due to begin in August, subject to successful fundraising and grant approval.

It was hoped that she would undertake an inspection of the head of Christ (in the Doom) at this time. However, on further investigation, some additional damage and damp affecting the plaster and the image was revealed at that point, and she has recommended that additional work to the roof should be undertaken as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, fundraising plans are being made to help pay for it. These events, recently discussed by the group and interested people, will combine pleasure with making a profit for the appeal.

The popular Hen Party will again take place at Church Cottage at Easter when volunteers organise refreshments at the church opposite. Money from the latter goes to the wall paintings appeal. Children enjoy Easter egg hunts in the churchyard.

A new event will be a Troston flower festival on Sunday, May 25th, and Monday, May 26th (Bank Holiday). This is early notification but please note it in your diaries. The church will look beautiful; there will be displays of local

history, and refreshments will be available in a large gazebo outside. Offers of flowers and arrangements will be warmly welcomed.

The event will coincide with Francine Raymond's Church Cottage opening on both days for the National Gardens Scheme, which will attract many visitors. The takings from the open garden go to NGS charities, but those from the flower festival and refreshments boost the Heritage Appeal.

Full details of Heritage fundraising to date, complete with all income and expenditure, will be provided for general information at year's end.

Please contact Susan Sollohub on 01359 269574 about the flower festival and David Corrie on 01359 268134 for other queries.

Ixworth Patients' Association—The Patients' Association will be holding a **BAZAAR** on Saturday 1 December, 12 noon – 3.30 p.m., at Ixworth Village Hall. There will be various stalls, including tombola and cakes, plus tabletop stalls for hire at a cost of £6 each. They may be reserved by calling 01359 231191.

Church and Churchyard Maintenance—Maintaining cleanliness to the church interior remains a problem, and the PCC is always looking for help. We are particularly grateful to Vera Gaught and Ann and Malcolm Grimwood for giving up their time and carrying out the recent overdue blitz.

I am delighted that we have received support from certain individuals over future planting and the maintenance and re-establishment of the Remembrance Garden and wildflower areas. We are particularly keen for the youngsters in the village to help identify the many wildflowers that have recovered over the past few years. Colin Bachelor has maintained the churchyard over the summer, and I expect us to concentrate on clearing the elder over the winter months.

The tall Wellingtonia tree to the rear of the church poses a problem and is showing signs of age. It also appears to be leaning more significantly, especially at the top, and we have been given permission for an arborist to climb, carry out essential work and finally provide a detailed report on its condition. It is hoped this inspection will be carried out shortly.

David Corrie, PCC Treasurer

Deadline for Next Newsletter—The deadline for the next newsletter is November 17th. Copy for the newsletter may be sent via e-mail (jeanne-neupert@supanet.com) via the Newsletter page on the Troston Website or dropped in at Hall Farm House, Ixworth Road.

Jeanne Neupert, Editor