



The Bull

For those who have not lost all interest until they see action, the Parish Council were informed, just before their meeting on Monday, that a planning application for the Bull Site has at last been submitted. The village will be formally consulted once the Council has received the documentation. An initial glance shows the plan does address the concerns expressed about the children's playground and overhead power-lines. Greene King will, assuming a successful outline planning application and sale to developers, make a payment of £20,000 to purchase new play equipment, and transfer the appropriate land, to the Parish.

Our County Councillor, Becky Hopfensperger, wondered if the village had thought about registering the pub as a "community asset" and preparing a bid to buy the premises? If you have a view please let your Parish Councillors know.

(As an aside, Greene King were pleased to announce another set of record annual profit figures this week. Retail sales were up by 2.3% and operating profit by 12.1%. It added 38 quality sites while closing or selling 108 non-core pubs.)

Heath Road

The large potholes and general poor state of the road continues to be a concern. Months have gone by with no apparent action from Suffolk County Council. Responsibility for who is responsible for what seems to pass to-and-fro from residents, lorry owners, the RAF base and the County. Becky Hopfensperger said she would clarify who is responsible and ensure at least the promised "scalpings" to fill the holes would be delivered.

Church Wall

Repairs have started. The underlying cause of the damage, however, by the spread of the roots and

basal growth of the six old lime trees, still needs to be addressed. Tree and historic wall preservation orders collide and the Church faces never ending costs of repair. The call for funding the upkeep of old churches bumps into the call to aid the more desperate members of society. Borough Councillor Christopher Spicer said the Borough was, alas, not allowed directly to make funding available to churches but he would help where he could with advice on other avenues to proceed.

Village Gates

The use of "white gates" on the Livermere Road to show drivers they were entering the village, and should slow down, were considered to be a worthwhile experiment. The Parish Council decided to buy gates for the Ixworth Road, near the Hall, and Honington Road, near Sunray Cottage.

Safer Neighbourhoods

Our new PCSO Claire Teakle was pleased to say that there had been no crimes in Troston – or at least not reported incidents! The latest prioritising of police effort was on speeding enforcement and pre-emptive patrolling in Stanton and Barrow, where there had been a track-record of antisocial behaviour. Handheld speeding cameras were being issued to mobile patrols to cover more areas on different days.

She would be interested to know if the village would be interested in a regular "police surgery" – say every couple of months – for residents to ask questions and seek advice? The first one would take place at the Troston Heritage Event on the 20th July to gauge opinion.

Making the Village Desirable

Sadness was expressed at the Parish Meeting by some residents about the rather shabby look of the village. People who are attempting to sell their homes say, even with a marked fall in the price

asked for their property, they are not getting any viewers let alone offers – others with rental properties say there are few potential tenants. The closure and boarding up of the pub seem to be a prime cause but the vacant plot and unkempt gardens opposite Custom Bikes were named. Positive ideas how to help an awkward situation would be welcome. The window boxes on the Bull had been replanted by two kind villagers to try and make it look a little more cared for.

The Council agreed to buy a litter-bin and a new notice board to be placed near the bus stop. It was suggested that Troston could follow the example of Honington and have a litter picking competition.

Pop-Up Pub Night?

As a way to get the community spirit back into the village, it has been suggested that a monthly, and more frequently if successful, pop-up pub could be organised in the Village Hall. Beers from local micro breweries could be featured. What do you think?

Broadband

The latest statements from BT claim that Troston will get access to a faster broadband service sometime between 2013 and 2015.

They said "We know broadband is very important for the economic and social sustainability of rural communities. Alas, in 2012, the average broadband speed in rural hamlets was 4.4Mb per second compared with 14.8Mbps in urban areas".

Peter Hay said he couldn't think which rural areas they used to get an average broadband speed of 4.4Mb - Hampstead Garden Suburb perhaps? Using 'www.broadbandspeedchecker.co.uk' for Troston gave the answer - download 1.1 and upload 0.4

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be in the Village Hall at 19.30 2nd September 2013. Please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Clerk (01284 763 098) with any issues you would like raised at the Meeting so they can be put at the front of the Agenda.

From Nigel Pitcher, Parish Clerk

Heritage Event

Residents and visitors can look forward to an outstanding afternoon at the Troston Heritage Event on Saturday, 20th July, in the church. Arrangements are going well but organisers will be grateful for donations of cakes and raffle prizes on the day.

The guest speaker is the well known local historian Clive Paine who promises an entertaining talk on Troston's eccentric humanitarian squire Capel Lofft. He was well known as pro American Independence, anti slavery and as a radical lawyer and benefactor to the country poet Robert Bloomfield of Honington. A strong supporter of Napoleon, he wrote numerous letters to the press opposing the Government's decision to send Napoleon to St Helena and personally attempted to serve a writ of habeas corpus while Napoleon was held on board a ship in Plymouth.

The afternoon starts at 2pm and the talk at 2.15pm.

Clive will also help Troston Heritage Appeal Group describe the church's medieval wall paintings, early graffiti and other features. The event provides the opportunity to see the refurbished pulpit and reading desk.

Come and enjoy as well the refreshments, plants, second-hand books and art by members of the Bury University of the Third Age.

Please contact Sue Sollohub on 01359 269574 for more information.

The Troston History Book

Not many villages can boast a well researched history book that describes the life of local people over a period of some 3,500 years. Through the efforts of Janet Barnard, who sadly died in 1995, we have a splendid record of Troston's colourful history – reflecting the transformation of English society in the day to day world of its inhabitants.

The village has changed a great deal since the early nineties, and it would be great to update the story. An open evening in the Village Hall would be fun to review more recent notes put together by villagers and start to record events that would bring the work into the 21st century.

What do you think?

From Sue Bennett the current "Keeper of the Book"

Honington School

We will be celebrating our 150th Anniversary from the 8th July. If anyone has photographs, reports, newsletters or anything which would help to make this a real event for the children we would be very grateful. Let us know if you can help by ringing 269324.

The children will be taking part in a variety of activities to help them learn about the history of the school. On Thursday 11th all of the children and staff will be going to Lowestoft for a day at the seaside which will include a Punch & Judy Show. On Thursday 18th at 10.00am we will have an assembly to celebrate our 150 years. There will be a display on the history and development of the school in the hall and if you are interested and want to have a look you will be welcome to visit school anytime from 11.00am onwards. Our new classrooms are nearing completion and we are looking forward to using them for our Year 5 pupils.

Term finishes on Tuesday 23rd July for the summer holidays.

From Brenda Burridge

Our Church

Summer seems to have arrived—more or less. Driving around Livermere Heath is a feast for the eyes, with rows and rows of poppies amidst the wheat. It is as if Nature is making up for lost time! Soon the long awaited summer school holidays begin.

The speaker at the monthly men's breakfast, also on Saturday, July 20, is Peter Keast on 'Half a Century in Computing.' It is hard to believe computers have been around that long, but Jeanne recalls a school trip to visit IBM headquarters in New York State in the late '60s. Breakfast begins at 8.15.

The weekly Tuesday lunches continue, 11.30 to 1.30 in the village hall. Many thanks to Jane Harland. Why not join us for some lunch and a chat?

Thank you for your prayers for Frankie Wright on his recent confirmation. Anyone considering confirmation or needing to contact a stipendiary priest for any reason should contact Rev. Liz Jump on 269265. Rev. Phillip Garbett is currently on sabbatical.

Services:

Sunday, 7th July	9.30	Holy Communion
14th	9.30	Matins at Honington
21st	11.00	Morning Worship
28th	11.00	Family Communion

From Rev. Doug Neupert

Sponsored Bike Ride

Unfortunately, Ann and Malcolm Grimwood, who have risen for Troston for many years, are unavailable to ride this year. Could you take their place?

There is no set route, you just go from church to church in whatever order you like, and do as many as you feel comfortable. It takes place on Saturday 14th September and is lovely to do, particularly as a family. The event is organised by the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust with half of the money raised by Troston going to the trust, and the rest going to our local parish church. If you are interested in riding, or manning our church for an hour on the day, please contact me on 01359 268144.

From Jane Harland

Women's Institute

Please note the following WI Meetings:

- Wednesday 10th July - Outing. Walking tour of Bardwell, with Joan Smith, refreshments may be available at the Dun Cow. Depart Troston at 6.15pm.
- Wednesday 14th August - Social Meeting - t.b.a.
- Wednesday 11th September - 7.45 pm Village Hall. 'Myths about Japan' - Mary Grace Browning is coming to discuss modern Japan with us.

New members are always welcome, if you would like further information please contact: Jenny Simmonds (Secretary) on 269219 or Carol Littlewood on 269769

From Carol Littlewood

Local Carers' Group

If you are caring for a member of your family, or a close friend, you are invited to the Carers' Group who meet at the High Street Café in Ixworth. This support group, which originates from Ixworth Surgery, meets monthly, usually on the first Monday in the month at 2.15pm. Should you want to know more please contact Sue Nutt at the Surgery 01359 230252 on a Monday morning (or leave a message). Advisers from the Alzheimer

Society and Suffolk Family Carers attend the meetings.

Giant Lily Making Rare Appearance

For garden lovers - a rare Himalayan lily has just flowered in Bernard Tickner's garden. This tall beautiful plant only flowers once every seven years. Do visit Bernard's garden for a look and have tea – Fullers Mill West Stow – open days Wednesday, Fridays and Saturdays 2 to 5pm.

The Village Hall

For all bookings, please ring me (Sue Bishop) on 269467. You can also check availability on line @ Your Hall. Don't forget, you can hire indoor padded chairs and tables, outdoor table and chairs, and a marquee.

The village hall is ideal for small or medium-sized parties, meetings, wedding receptions etc and continues to attract bookings from local groups and through the website. I'm happy to show people around, just give me a call to arrange a mutually convenient time.

From Sue Bishop

Euston Rural Pastimes

This year's show was the greatest success with record entrants and crowds, despite the cold "summer" weather. An enormous thank-you to all who gave up their time and enthusiasm to keep Euston Rural Pastimes growing from strength to strength. The Devil's Horsemen will be a hard act to follow, but again, there was so much that most of you who were helping never managed to see.

The AGM is at Foxborough House at 7pm on September 12th, with supper for all those who helped to make this a huge community effort.

New Co-Op Store?

The owner of Fordham's Garage in Ixworth is set to redevelop the site for a Co-Operative

Supermarket. The car sales business will remain but from a smaller showroom.

Come to Kilverstone Hall for tea!

By kind permission of Lord and Lady Fisher. The Walled Garden at Kilverstone Hall will be open on July 14th from 2pm-5pm. Cream teas will be available. Kilverstone Church will also be open. Entry to both, £3.50 per person (accompanied children free). All proceeds in aid of St Nicholas Hospice Care.

Buddy Holly Lives!

For those of a certain age, but for whom the music hasn't died, four West End singers pay tribute to Buddy Holly, Richie Valens, Big Bopper, Dion and the Delmonts at the Apex 14th July at 7.30.

May Be Baby. That'll be the Day, Oh Boy!

Please send possible contributions to the Newsletter to graeme@Lmrinternational.co.uk or by post to Church Cottage, Church Lane, Troston or short phone message 01359 268 082.