



March '14

Village Social Club

Troston now has a walking group led by Pat and Martyn Smith from Capel Close – who are trained walk leaders. The first event will be Wednesday 19th March at 10.30 am meeting in the Village Hall car park. It is proposed to walk up the heath, then along the side of the church at Honington Camp, and marvel at the Euston Estate solar farm. About 90 minutes duration. All are welcome.

It's along level roads and footpaths but it maybe rough, muddy and slippery in places. Return route to include the path through Heath Wood which has moderate slopes. Please wear appropriate footwear. We will then return to our Village Hall for hot drinks.

We had a very successful quiz night at the end of January, all the tables were taken and our little gray cells were exercised by Quiz Master Eve Percy. Many thanks to David Farnaby for organising the event, to Jane Harland for the superb Chinese snacks at half time and to Lynne Fugle for her striking poster.

We also had an enjoyable get together at the end of February when the 'pop up pub' opened in the Hall again.

The next social event is a quiz on the 25th April 2014 - put a note in your diaries, and get a team of four together.

We intend to have a 'do' on the last Friday in every month from now on, so keep an eye open for our notice board which will be put outside the pub.

From Anne Walker 01359269360 and
amwglide@gmail.com

The Bull - Borough Councillor's Meeting

As requested by the Parish Council, I have been to see the Planning Department to discuss progress on the development of the Bull Site. I must ask you all to put aside all your former concerns about our Council Officers. They do what they do and we need to have them on our side now.

They were extremely co-operative and gave me a copy of their email to the architects involved. I highlight:

1. *"The scheme will need to demonstrate that replacement space of an equivalent extent and standard is being provided"*. I was led to believe this supports grassing and fencing.
2. *"Confirmation will be needed that the existing pole and cabling will be removed"*. Again, I was led to think this means re-routing.
3. *"Future housing needs to be clarified"* over the area of the field being retained by Greene King.
4. *"Adequate space is provided to protect the privacy of Siesta and King William House"*.

The planners recommended the Village register the pub as a Community Asset with the Borough. This might discourage change of use, but only gives the Village six-months to find the money to buy the pub. Overall, I am hopeful that Greene King will wish to co-operate with Troston Village, but we must wait the details of their application.

From Christopher Spicer, Borough Councillor

Interview with Greene King

This week, Tony Hodgson, Greene King's Estates Director, confirmed an offer had been accepted subject to contract for the Bull and a covenant had

been placed that it should continue as a Public House. Completion was waiting for the tree conservation report and agreement on the exact boundary of the garden and car park when the application for the whole development was approved.

The issue, however, of who should pay for the relocation of the power cable remained...

Village Sign

At the Parish Council Meeting, Councillors discussed this at length and it was unanimously agreed that having a new sign would be a brilliant idea. From a look at various brochures from local craftsman, in all probability, it would cost a considerable sum of money, (about £3,000), but a worthwhile undertaking.

Perhaps the design could make some reference to the name? There is a view it derives from the Norse personal name for a Thrush. Although a Will from the middle of the ninth century gives the name of the Anglo Saxon headman of the settlement as **Trosta**.

As, hopefully, the sign would stand for many years, and be a valued legacy to future villagers, it was resolved to put careful thought into the design, materials and construction. Parishioners are invited to bring their design ideas to the next meeting. Please no more variations of a figure in a green dressing gown doing something unspeakable to a bull!

Borough News

The Borough provide a monthly newsletter, which this month, interestingly had articles on:

The call to 'rescue' green spaces: The Open Spaces Society has urged Parish Councils to be active in rescuing green spaces in their communities. Nicola Hodgson, the society's case officer, made the plea when she addressed the Society of Local Council Clerks' national conference on last

Saturday.

Suffolk's first co-op pub opens doors: The first community-owned pub in Suffolk has opened its doors to the public. The Case is Altered in Bentley held a special open day time last month for the first time since the local community campaigned to buy the hostelry.

Princess calls for more rural homes: "More village homes must be built to ease Britain's housing crisis", the Princess Royal has warned. Princess Anne delivered the keynote speech at the national affordable rural housing conference – presumably she has a few acres spare?

From Becky Hopfensperger, County Councillor

Village Lottery

Money is obviously at the heart of any plans the Village might have – so at the Parish Council it was agreed we should seek an operating license from the gambling Commission to run a lottery. In the past, the Village raised money for useful amenities and this may help raise the cash needed for a new village sign etc. The conditions are:

- The proceeds of the lottery do not exceed £2,000,000.
- The purchaser of a ticket must not win more than £25,000.
- At least 20% of the proceeds are spent on a purpose for which the Council has power to spend money – which, presumably, leaves quite a bit to spend on what it doesn't have the power?

Police Report

The mobile speeding camera has been in use around the Village in recent weeks – but unfortunately, accidents continue on the sharp bends on the Honington and Great Livermere Roads.

Alas, there was also a robbery to report – a trailer was stolen from a lean-to shed. Not an easy item to slip into a pocket unnoticed and memories of any suspicious behaviour might help pursue the culprits. Please phone us in confidence.

You are invited to a crime prevention seminar, being organised for the 26th March at the Rowley Mile Race Course, Newmarket (6-00pm – 9-00pm) with talks on “Horse Watch” and stable security.

From PCSO Cogman, Ixworth Police Station

Mobile Phone Ariel

To improve mobile phone reception, the RAF Honington have raised the idea of putting a “signal-booster” on the roof of our Church tower. Apparently the RAF has funded the installation of similar equipment on Woodbridge Church after gaining the endorsement of the Diocese of Norwich. The WiSpire technology and equipment looks fairly discrete and involves a small ariel.

At the moment, however, it is only a suggestion which will be raised with the Parochial Council. It was thought a similar request some 15 years ago was turned down, but current technology is now much smaller – **and** the RAF might consider paying an annual rent for the privilege.

From Nicholas Turk, Community Development Officer, RAF Honington

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Annual Parish and Council Meeting will be in the Village Hall at **19.00 12th May 2014**. 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 on the Agenda.

From Nigel Pitcher, Parish Clerk

Church News

As I write this, Doug Neupert, our Assistant Priest, is in hospital, and so our thoughts and prayers are with him and his wife, Jeanne.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Olive Preston, who, at the age of 91, still played the organ for us each week. Mrs Preston was a much respected, loved member of the community, always resourceful and ready to help others. She will be greatly missed.

Now, two 'thank you' items which we omitted from the last newsletter. Very grateful thanks to everyone who supported the church coffee morning and gift day; a massive £650 was raised from the stalls and the envelope donations. As a result of your generosity, St Mary's was able to meet its financial commitments for 2013. The second thank you is to the village and also to the church congregation. The Remembrance Day service collection of £45 along with the house to house collection of £128 was gratefully received by The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

It seems such a long time ago now, but it was lovely to see so many of you at the Carols and Christingle service; we were able to send £88 to The Children's Society to help them in their work, caring for disadvantaged children.

We are in the process of having the church path resurfaced; this should make life much easier for those who have struggled with the very uneven surface in recent years. Now that the wall has been repaired, the church is looking much smarter.

Mothering Sunday is going to be rather different this year; instead of the service being held in Church, it is going to be held in the Village Hall. We are going to hold a 'café church'. Do come along at 11am March 30th and be one of the first in the area to experience this more informal worship, and Mums collect your posies, - it should make a very pleasant change.

The services for March are

9th (at Honington) 9:30am Matins

16th 11am Morning Worship

23rd 11am Family Communion

30th(Village Hall) 11am Mothering Sunday

You would be very welcome to join us at any of these services.

From Jane Harland

Women's Institute News

Troston WI (Women Inspired!) would like to invite you to our meeting on Wednesday 12th March, 19.45 at the Village Hall, where we are holding a 'WI ROAD SHOW' to explain what the WI is about. There will be an opportunity to make "Greetings Cards" and refreshments will be served.

We shall be welcoming David Richards to give us a laptop presentation (could be intriguing!) of his photos and talk about the visit he made to the Galapagos. Guest, husbands and partners are very much encouraged to join us at this meeting.

For further information please contact: Jenny Simmonds on 269 219 or email me carolhony@gmail.com

From Carol Littlewood

The Village Hall

Many hirers find our village hall on the *yourhall* web site. "Wonderful" was how it was described by one young couple who were looking for a small wedding reception venue. On viewing they fell in love with it!

Of course, villagers benefit from a reduced rate. So, why not book it for that event you've had in mind? We have a fully fitted kitchen and a selection of games equipment.

Check it out on-line or give me a ring (269 467) if you'd like to look round anytime and/or book.

From Sue Bishop

Rural Pastimes Event

A date for your diary: the 2014 Rural Pastimes Event is on Sunday 8th June. Would you like to help on the day AND get a free entrance ticket?

Troston has organised car parking in recent years. We need a group of active, able-bodied folk who enjoy being in the open air and meeting people. We are looking for volunteers to work for three and a half hours, either morning or afternoon, with the rest of the day free.

We also hope to run a tombola. This needs a dozen people in two-hour shifts through the day and someone to collect and label prizes. Please ring if you could help, and we can plan ahead.

From Jane Harland 01359 268 144

Troston Heritage

Maureen and Chris Goddard have kindly taken on custody of "The Troston Book - Glimpses of the Past".

Researched and written by Janet Barnard, and typed by Vera Gaught, the book covers life in our Village from the early Bronze Age to the late 20th Century. The book is available on loan to any resident who wants to read it. Please contact us on 01359 269766 or 1 Garden Fields.

The idea is to try and update the book with the notes, leaflets, pictures and newspaper cuttings collected since the late '90s and move the Troston story into the 21st Century. Your help with photographs that capture village life, celebrations, changes in buildings and field views would be appreciated.

More History?

If you're really keen on local history, there will be a seminar day on "*the Suffolk Church in the Middle Ages*". The event is from 9.30 to 16.45 on

Saturday 6th September in the Athenaeum, Angel Hill, Bury St.Edmunds.

Distinguished academics have been invited to speak on the early Anglo-Saxon Church, the rise of the Norman Church, Monastic life in Suffolk, and the impact of the Reformation and iconoclasm. For more details and tickets, please contact Mrs J Carr, 116 Hardwick Lane, Bury St.Edmunds, IP33 2LE

Thanks to all contributors. Hopefully their articles have been edited in correctly enough. Please send possible material for the next Newsletter to graeme@Lmrinternational.co.uk or by post to Church Cottage, Church Lane, Troston, IP31 1EX or short phone message 01359 268 082.