



**Still Here?**

There is some good news - after nearly 1500 years the Parish still exists.

“NOTICE is hereby given that St Edmundsbury Borough Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement Act of 2007, has undertaken a Community Governance Review of certain parishes in its area. Namely: Honington, Sapiston and Troston.

The decision is that:

- The parishes listed above should not be abolished.
- The parishes should continue to have a Parish Council.”

*From Fiona Osman, Elections Manager*

**Awful Stink**

The bad news... Following several letters, a number of villagers also attended the Parish Meeting to complain about the particularly foul smell from the piggery on the Street and nearby lagoons. Some farmyard smells are expected in a rural community, of course, but recently the odour has been quite vile and persistent.

It was agreed the Council (and the Commander at the Airbase) should pursue a formal complaint to Troston Farms and the Environment Agency. Our Borough Councillor, Simon Brown, will raise the matter with the Environmental Health Officer at St.Edmundsbury. Also, Jo Churchill, our local MP, has agreed to follow up our complaint.

**Piggy Green Smells**

It smells, it stinks, its a very unpleasant pong.

A pig pen where concrete goes too long,

Without a daily hose, by those, whose nose

Is in denial, at the offending reek

While householders try to seek

A solution to the sickening stench.

Am I the only complaining wench?

Do not open windows or doors,

While you carry out your chores,

Washing can't go out, again a bout

Of fetid, obnoxious miasma

Engulfs, no escape, unless by car.

The help line is so very far,

Can they really help in Sheffield?

*From Jan O'Leary*

**A new breed of Farmer?**

The implications of the Brexit decision are immense to farmers. Agriculture is a major recipient of financial support from the EU - yet it is also one of our most heavily regulated industries. We will still need to meet these rules but fear tariff barriers and the lack of labourers prepared to tackle the work.

The Government has promised to maintain existing support for farming - at least until 2020. After that time it is unlikely that the UK would abolish farm payments completely. But the market-led approach advocated by politicians of all parties would see direct payments reduced and support based on contributions to the environment and the delivery of “public services” - like tackling bad smells, accepting rights of way, allowing permissive paths and use of woodlands.

*From John Tasker, Editor Anglia Farmer*

## **Police Alert**

It may be quite innocent. Police, however, need to trace a man who took a little girl by the arm while she was out on a walk with her mother in Sapiston on Sunday.

The three-year-old was walking a short distance ahead of her mum and other siblings in a wooded area, next to the hump back bridge by the community centre, off Bardwell Road, around 4.20pm on Sunday, 4 September, when the man jumped out from behind a tree.

He took hold of the little girl's forearm and spoke to her before her mum shouted at him and the man released the child and ran away.

The man involved is described as white, aged in his 50s to 60s, with grey hair and wearing glasses. He wore a white T-shirt with blue sleeves and black jeans and black boots, with a brown bag over his shoulder.

Police need to speak to the man involved and are asking him or anyone who knows who he is to come forward. Officers are asking anyone who may have seen the man in the area or anyone who may recognise his description to call police at Bury St Edmunds by dialling Suffolk Constabulary on 101 and quoting crime reference number 53674/16.

## **Animal Sanctuary**

Villagers may find it useful to know about an animal sanctuary PACT in Woodrising near Hingham.

They will take in any injured or abandoned animal, including hedgehogs and ducks. They will also hand-rear any abandoned babies. They have a "no kill" policy so their success rate is good.

Their contact number should anyone need it is 01362 820 775

*From Marie & Oliver Poole*

## **Parent/Carer & Toddler Group**

Mrs. Kasey Austin will be starting a Parent/Carer and Toddler group in the Village Hall commencing Thursday 8th September. The group will meet every Thursday from 1 - 3 pm.

There will be a charge of £1.50 per session to help to cover costs. If you are able to come along with your pre-school age children you will be made very welcome.

## **Thank You**

Marion and Gill would like to thank everyone in Troston who contributed so generously to the tom-bola stall at Euston Rural Pastimes. We had a very successful stall - and had sold out by early afternoon! A big THANKS.

*From Gill Farrow*

## **Tornado Hits Troston**

Summer seemed to be here with temperatures in the high twenties - then, about 7 in the evening on Wednesday the 20th July, a tornado hit Troston.

Lightening flashed then thunder rolled - high winds whipping the rain into horizontal sheets. Conservatories were battered, greenhouses were smashed and poly-tunnels wrecked by large hail stones. Crops that were not shredded suffered frost damage.

The road into Troston was blocked by a fallen tree, some lanes were obstructed by debris and cottages along Church Lane were without electricity as cables were cut.

## **Parish Lottery**

After the summer layoff the winter programme is starting. New residents are welcome to join.

Draws on 8th September at the Quiz Night and every last Friday in the month until Christmas.

*From Richard Walker, Parish Councillor*

## **Social Club**

The tea party in the afternoon of 2nd September was a great success many people came and a big thank you to those who provided cakes.

The quiz night on the 9th of September will be over when you read this so if you were not there why not think about coming to the next one (March 3rd). We always have a good time with excellent refreshments.

Programme for the next 3 months. All 7-30  
Village Hall

Friday October 7th – Social get together.  
Village lottery draw.

Friday November 4th – Winter picnic. Bring a plate to share and your own drink. Raffle.  
Village lottery draw.

Friday December 2nd – Pre Christmas get together. Mulled wine, cheese and mince pies .  
Village lottery draw.

For more info, see notice boards outside the pub or contact David on 268 667  
[davidfarnaby2@sky.com](mailto:davidfarnaby2@sky.com).

## **Lofft Day**

The disappointing saga of the Bull and Greene King's shilly-shallying over the children's play area is a little depressing. But there is a lot to like about being here in a quiet rural backwater. Wouldn't it be fun to have a village event - something to bring us together - start to rebuild a sense of community.

What about a Lofft Day? It would celebrate a famous local family who made a significant contribution to the village in the late 18th and 19th centuries. Capel, Henry and Robert Lofft made their mark not just locally but also nationally.

Capel Lofft was an eminent scholar, social reformer and early anti-slave-trade campaigner. He wrote many books on subjects ranging from botany, astronomy and the merits of Virgil. As a

barrister he tried to save the life of a local servant girl unjustly condemned to death and controversially rode with her on the cart carrying her to the scaffold. He successfully changed the law on gleaning to the advantage of local people. He was an admirer of Thomas Paine (who was born a few miles to the North) and held trenchant views on the need for a fairer society. He was the patron of the local poet Robert Bloomfield, who wrote *The Farmer's Boy*, and helped him put on popular entertainments at Drury Lane.

Robert Emlyn Lofft wanted, like his brother Henry before him, to turn Troston into a garden village - where every tenant was given their own patch of land to grow vegetables. Robert believed healthy nutrition and shared resources would help build a model community.

There are many lasting legacies to their efforts. The village contains several idiosyncratic houses which are still standing today, as is the old school which he funded for the village. The pews in our church were carved by Robert - each row is marked by a different animal - squirrel, rabbit deer, chicken.

The day could begin with a guided walk round the village to point out the buildings that are relevant to the Loffts, and an "eye-spy" quiz for younger children. In the village hall we could display poems, photographs and copies of historic documents (these are all readily available but seldom seen by villagers).

In the evening, a barbeque - with no agenda other than to make new friends and acquaintances and to rekindle the community spirit that the Loffts sought to achieve. It might be a great opportunity to have a "Burn's Night" and read out some of Capel Lofft's poems together with a couple by Robert Bloomfield such as his *Ode to a Turnip on a Frosty Morning* - got to be a crowd pleaser!

## **Tuesday Lunches**

Lunch club starts again 20th September. If you haven't yet been to one, you would be very

welcome to just come along. £3 will buy you a baked potato with filling and side salad, followed by a tea/coffee and biscuits. In winter months, homemade soup and bread is served instead of potatoes. Venture down to the village hall, alone or with friends, between 12:30pm and 1pm.

*From Jane Harland*

### **Looking for an Angel**

Angel required, to join my team

Wings not required but a heart, not mean,

Common sense, gentle hands, needs meet,

Now I am truly off my feet.

A sense of humour an essential skill

Will be sufficient to fit the bill.

I pay an exceptional hourly rate,

While I await my predestined fate.

If you're interested use your phone,

Or email me at my Troston home.

Tel: 01359 268858

[janoleary@btinternet.com](mailto:janoleary@btinternet.com)

### **Church News**

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to an end; the harvest is complete and the fields are being ploughed. There will be no service in Troston this month but in October we will be holding our harvest festival in church. This will be a morning service (not communion) with a "café church" feel. Any gifts on food (only tins or packets please, no fresh produce) will be given to the Food Bank, and any financial donations will be sent to help struggling farmers and their families via the charity Farming Community Network.

September – no service in Troston.

October 23rd 11am – Harvest Festival, St Mary's Church, Troston.

November 13th 10:50pm – Remembrance Sunday, St Mary's Church, Troston.

### **War Memorial**

The church has a plaque, but little information, on the young men of the Parish who gave their lives in the First and Second World Wars. With the help of Carol Littlewood, who was on a cycling holiday in Belgium, I have been able to find out more about the men in the Great War.

Benjamin (Ben) Balaam. Aged 21, youngest son of Harry and Sarah Balaam who lived along Common lane. He worked as a farm labourer before joining the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex) Regiment.

Killed 28th October 1916 during the assault on the strong points in front of Le Transloy, known as Rainy Trench, and Dewdrop Trench.

According to the Regimental Diary: "after an intense artillery barrage, at 6am the Regiment went over the top and were met by much machine gun and rifle fire from the flanks - but the attack was pushed forward, and the first objective Rainy Trench gained. After fierce hand to hand fighting for Dew Drop Trench, by 9.30 am the whole objective was in our hands. The enemy did not attempt to counter attack but enemy snipers were active against our wounded stranded in No Mans Land."

George Balaam. Aged 24, eldest son of Harry and Sarah Balaam. Worked as a farm labourer before joining up with his brother.

Killed in action, Flanders 9th August 1917.

Edward Barker. Aged 18, youngest son of George and Sarah Barker who lived near the end of Common Lane. He worked as a farm labourer and also joined the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex) Regiment.

Killed 22nd August 1918 while reconnoitring a forward post in Wippenhoek, near Ypres in Belgium.

Cyril Arthur Blizzard. Aged 26, the middle son of Arthur and Edith Blizzard who lived in a cottage on Common Lane. He was apprenticed to his father who was a shoemaker.

Joined the Army in February 1916 and caught Tuberculosis in the right lung while in training in Yorkshire that year. (Tuberculosis is a bacterial infection spread through inhaling tiny droplets from the coughs or sneezes of an infected person. Today, with modern antibiotics, a serious condition, that can usually be cured.) Alas, in 1916 these drugs were not available and the disease spread to affect his glands, bones and nervous system.

After three desperate years in an isolation hospital he was discharged from the Army as unfit in January 1919 - and died 9 months later.

Frank Alfred Reeve. Aged 24, one of 11 children of Robert and Rebecca Reeve who ran the Post Office and Grocery Shop in what is now Glebe Cottage. Frank was the village postman.

Mown down by machine gun fire during the opening of the battle of the Somme 9 Aug 1916 - but family only knew he was missing in action, perhaps a prisoner, until the fateful telegram the following year.

Sidney Thomas Rogers. Aged 19, youngest son of John and Jane Rogers who lived in Old Farm, Little Livermere. He was a farm labourer.

Believed killed during the final battle of the Somme - 4th April or 29th September 1918.

Frederick Charles Shaw. Aged 22, youngest son of Alexander and Harriet Shaw who lived in The Street, near the school house.

Died of his wounds in the trenches around La Boiselle and Fricourt during the battle of the Somme, 22nd August 1916.

The first Battle of the Somme took place between 1 July and 18 November 1916 on the upper reaches of the River Somme in France. The battle was intended to hasten a victory for

the Allies and was the largest battle of the First World War on the Western Front. More than one million men were wounded or killed, making it one of the bloodiest battles in human history - to gain 6 miles on a 16 mile front.

If you have more information, please contact Peter Scopes, Chapel House, Church Lane  
pete.scopes@gmail.com

### **Woman's Institute Events**

We meet at Troston Village Hall at 19.45 except for our outings and social events. If you would like to find out more about Troston WI please come along and be assured of a warm welcome.

14th September: Patricia Fojut and Sue Lord will be teaching members to crochet.

12th October: Sylvia Anderson of SA First Aid Training will talk and demonstrate how to do CPR.

9th November: Grace McAlonan from "Food Innovation Solutions" will talk about "The weird and wonderful world of the Food Industry" and possibly give us a taste test...

14th December: Christmas celebration, to be arranged.

For further information please contact: Jenny Simmonds (President) on 01359 269219 or Sonia Farnaby (Secretary) on 01359 268667

### **Warm Homes**

We have managed to secure more funding to help households with an income of less than £17,000 to install central heating.

To find out more, contact me 03456 037 686

*From Sue Hall, Suffolk County Council*

### **Suffolk Sport**

Sorry to have stretched your patience, but I'm pleased that we have found a pilates instructor. Rachel is available from October on Tuesday evenings 6pm – 7pm

We normally run a free taster session followed by an 8 week course, Fit Villages will cover the cost of the hall hire and Rachel's fees for those initial 9 weeks then if the classes prove popular Rachel will take the class on as her own and take over the hall payment. Fit Villages can continue to support the marketing with printing of fliers and poster etc.

*From Hollie Wood, Fit Villages Coordinator*

### **Fishy Salesmen**

Residents are being warned by Suffolk Trading Standards to be wary of door-to-door fish sellers.

Some door-to-door sellers often target elderly or more vulnerable residents, convincing them to part with large sums of money for fish that is unlabelled or mislabelled, out of date or very close to being out of date or that has been previously frozen.

Householders are also led to believe they are only buying a few pieces of fish but are then presented with much larger quantities and pressured into taking them.

Consumers need to be aware of the following:

Species of fish – can you be sure its genuine cod? Is it genuine salmon?

Don't feel pressured into paying for products you aren't sure you want.

Are the seller's scales calibrated – are you really getting the amount of fish you are paying for?

There have also been reports of pressure washing and tree surgery doorstep traders, and reports of a man in a white van selling "cheap new" mattresses.

For further help or advice telephone Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 03454 040506.

### **WiFi**

I have been making some enquiries into having wifi installed in our Village Hall. The procedure if we wish to go ahead is to place an order. An engineer will then visit the site only if there is going to be an excess charge. They will then advise us of the cost and ask if we wish to proceed.

We cannot ask for an engineer to visit to assess the site to see if there will be an excess charge without placing an order. Catch 22?

If you have any ideas for the use of the Village Hall or would like to join the Management Committee, please contact us.

### **Keep Reporting Potholes**

The link to report a pot hole directly to SCC is now on the homepage of the website. The direct link is : <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/report-a-highways-issue/>

### **Next Parish Council Meeting**

Thanks to all who came to the last meeting to raise concerns and contribute to the discussions. Their ideas and knowledge were most appreciated.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be in the Village Hall at 19.30, Monday 7th November. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any issues you would like put on the agenda - 01284 787 777.

*From Linda Harley, Parish Clerk*