



TROSTON PARISH NEWS – JULY 2017

The Bull Opens!

The major refurbishment is virtually completed and the Pub looks really inviting. All going well, an informal opening is planned for **Saturday 15th July**. Hurray! Please drop in.

Play Area

New equipment for the young children's play area to be built behind Custom Bikes has been ordered. Work to prepare the surface by Urban Forestry is due to start soon. Promised completion is end of August. Meanwhile, weed spraying and levelling continues on the large playing field and seeding will take place in September.

Footings for the new houses should start in the near future but depends on the weather. The building programme should take 18 months. My priority at the moment is to ensure the area around the pub is in good order.

From Simon, Burgess Homes

Community Centre

The Community Centre (and Coffee Shop) is opposite the RAF Camp Post Office and Shops - just down the road into the Camp and on the left. It has a fantastically well equipped Soft Play Area for 3-8 year olds open 10 am to 2 pm Monday to Friday.

From Diane Saunders, Community Liaison

The Lottery

The lottery has been going for almost 3 years now. It is run by a management

committee of parish councillors according to our constitution and we submit returns after each draw to the Lottery Commission.

The twin objectives of the Lottery are:

To improve Troston for the benefit of the inhabitants and to encourage community spirit, goodwill, and pride.

To receive contributions to raise funds and to finance local projects.

The cost for a ticket is £15 and you are recruited during the winter by your parish councillors. We then have 6 draws during the rest of the year. First prize is £50 Second prize is £25 and third or consolation prize is £15 so you may get your stake back! Winners will be notified. Total spent on prizes per year is £525.

There will be 6 draws this year. We will, however, be reviewing the frequency of the draws and the prize money for the New Year.

So far we have bought small items such as a card table for the Village Hall, paid for the hire of the Hall for a New Year party, bought the notice black board, and purchased sound equipment. There is money in the kitty for other items - so if you have suggestions please let me (07733133564) or the Parish Clerk know.

From Richard Walker, Lottery Organiser

Troston "Ideas" Tree

The Parish Council discussed the various ideas for enhancing the village proposed

by residents at the Annual Meeting in May. Thoughts on improving various amenities in the village, however, are rather stalled until we can find a regular **“handy maintenance worker”** - if you know who might be interested please contact the Parish Clerk.

It was suggested residents could attempt to **reduce speeding** through the village if every rubbish/recycling bin had a 30mph warning sign stuck to the side. When we put the wheely-bins out every week the sticker would remind drivers to slow down. If your home is close to the main roads through Troston you can pick up stickers from the Telephone Box or Village Hall.

Another idea was to improve the **pull-ins passing-places** on the Ixworth Road. Our County Councillor, Becky, has agreed to pursue the matter with the Highways Department. Seeking a permissive path to the Wood, filling in the **ditch** near Sierra, and the one by the bus stop, are also on her to-do list.

Another idea on the tree was the possibility Troston might be able to develop a scheme within the village for **affordable housing** for people with a strong connection with the Village.

In the meantime, here are the links to the websites where you can register to go onto the housing register for affordable/social rented housing.

<http://www.home-link.org.uk> Click ‘Register’

<https://www.helptobuyese.org.uk> Click ‘apply on line’

Or do not hesitate to contact Julie Salisbury: 01284 757608

Facebook

Troston now has a Facebook Group for residents of Troston and surrounding villages to post comments, photos, events, items for sale etc. Just search for ‘Troston Village, Suffolk’ in Facebook or go to: www.facebook.com/groups/troston. Feel free to add local friends to the group too!

From Clare Robinson

“Lofft Day” Saturday 2nd September

Reminders have gone out and a banner has been made. The aim is to have a community celebration - a “Fun Day” for all the family! Please take part.

The plan is to start 10 am with a celebration of Troston’s gardens with a Flower and Art Display in the Church and a “History Trail I-Spy” around the Village for kids to discover the Lofft Family. Collect a map from the Village Hall.

There will also be a drop-in Children’s Crafts in the Village Hall and refreshments. A “Back in Time” for Lunch in the Bull Garden and “Dancing with Green Dragons”. In the afternoon, there will be Games in the Village Hall Garden like “Splat the Rat” and “Have a Go Juggling” - perhaps “Have a Go Morris Dancing”. Hog Roast early evening in the Bull Garden - and later, open mic poetry, even song, for the award of the Turnip Prize....

Please bring family and friends - a detailed timetable will be published nearer the day. Put the 2nd September in your diary.

If you would like to help with the day (an hour or two would be greatly

appreciated), please contact Roger Anderson at The Lodge 01359 268337 - the more people who help the more we can build a community spirit!

Enter the Flower & Art Display

For Lofft Day we are encouraging all villagers to contribute to our flower and visual arts display in the church. Your contribution could be a bunch of flowers, a flower arrangement, a basket of produce (all taken from your garden), a painting or drawing of your garden or a photograph of your garden or favourite view of the village. This is NOT a competition and you can contribute as many things as you want, as a group or as an individual.

Please take part - the idea is to have fun and celebrate just being in the village - meet your neighbours.

Contributions should be labelled and you should indicate if you wish any of it returned. We have limited resources, and so it would help if you could mount any pictures yourself - just on some card or on the back of a tray.

I will be in church on Friday September 1st from 2.00pm until 4.00pm to receive contributions ; or you can leave them in the church porch if that is more convenient.

From Sonia Farnaby

Enter for the Turnip Prize

The TURNIP PRIZE is to commemorate Robert Bloomfield - a local cobbler's lad whose odes to rural life were published and promoted by Capel Lofft. Arguably, one of his best known poems is The Farmer's Boy which describes the joy of turnip chopping on a winter's morning.

We thought it would be fun on Lofft Day, later in the evening at the Bull, to have an open microphone to hear poems, songs, limericks on the theme of vegetables - especially, of course, about turnips - but perhaps about country life in general. The verses could be written by your favourite poet, composed by you or plagiarised shamelessly... the intention is to be amusing. The "prize" goes to the most entertaining in the judgement of the Lord of the Manor - John Browning Esq.

All villagers and relatives are eligible to enter. To give you an idea of the standard for the Prize the only poem submitted so far is:

*"Now something's sure to turnip
to prove you can't be beet.*

*So, if you carrot at all for me
let's let our tulips meet.*

*Don't squash my hops and dreams now
bee my honey dear.*

*Or tares will fill potatoes eyes
while sweet corn lends an ear".*

Troston Social Club

The Social Club are organising a "Summer Picnic" in the village hall on Friday July 21st, 6.30 until 9.30. Everyone is welcome! Please bring your own liquid refreshment and a plate of food to share.

There will be three more IT Help Sessions. These will be on a Thursday in the village hall from 10.30 - 12.30 on July 6th, August 3rd and September 7th. Everyone is welcome to come along with their IT problems, but please

remember to bring your device and its password!

Finally, we are hoping to arrange a quiz for Friday September 8th. The usual format of a few easy peasy questions and some food. All for £4.00 a head. No need to make up a team, just come along.

From David Farnaby

Internet Safety Guide

1. Install system and application updates on all devices as soon as they become available.
2. Install anti-virus software on all devices and keep it updated.
3. Create regular backups of your important files to an external device such as a hard-drive or memory stick that you plug into the USB socket.
4. Only install apps from official app stores, such as Google or Apple App Store.
5. Don't open attachments or click on the links within any unsolicited emails you receive.
6. Don't disclose your personal or financial details during an unsolicited telephone call, and remember that the police and banks will NEVER ring you and ask you to verify your PIN.

Woman's Institute

We would be delighted to welcome possible new members to the following meetings:

12th July Open Meeting - Talk from East Anglian Air Ambulance.

9th August Social Evening to be arranged, possibly at the Bull.

13th September Husbands Welcome "Tales of a Tapestry" Jane Shepherd will tell us about The Bayeux Tapestry: Stitches, history and other interesting facts.

11th October Patricia Fojut will teach us to make boxes suitable for Christmas.

8th November "Nothing like a Dame" Harry & Susan Parsons will talk about their life in Am-Dram!

13th December Claire O'Riordan will demonstrate making a Christmas Table Decoration and you can make one yourself (a charge will be made for materials).

For further information please contact Carol Littlewood on 01359 269769 or 07833 577291 or email: carolhony@gmail.com. Or Sonia Farnaby on 01359 268667.

From Carol Littlewood

Village Hall

Weddings, birthday parties, christenings, IT help mornings, Pilates and village community events have all contributed to a particularly busy year at the hall.

The traditional fete games: Splat the Rat, Stocks, Human Fruit Machine, Skittles, Mini-Golf, Target Bowls, Ball in Bucket, Limbo, Bottle-Up and Hoopla have been very popular, not only for village fetes and fairs but also for weddings and birthday parties.

Special thanks to the villagers who originally made these high quality games and those who have repaired them since. The hire of the marquee(4mx6m), tables

and chairs has been a valuable source of income for funds.

There are three more wedding celebrations at the hall this year; 8th July, 15th July and 26th August.

Call Sue Bishop on 269467 for all enquiries.

The Wood

The picnic table and chain-saw statues are now in place thanks to the efforts of Duncan Dodds. The Scouts and Youth Club have run a number of events in the Wood and some children have held their birthday party playing around the camp.

Church News

Troston parochial church council (PCC) have had initial discussions with members of Gt Livermere, Ampton and Ingham churches, in order to see how they can support Troston church in the future. Although Café Church successfully takes place in the village hall every month, it is appreciated that this leaves the church without a service and something we would like to address. We are also aware that holding only a Communion service may deter people from attending Café Church. With this in mind, further discussions will be taking place. If you have any opinions on the matter or any suggestions, please let them be known to any church member or email pjharland@btinternet.com

The church is open every day for you to appreciate this fantastic historical building, or for quiet contemplation. There is also a prayer box if you would like to have prayers said for someone or some situation; this can be done anonymously.

We are looking forward to the wedding of Tivvy and Ashley next month, and wish them every happiness for the future.

Services:

21st July 9am Friday Prayers in Church

23rd July 11am Café Church Village Hall

25th Aug. 9am Friday Prayers in Church

27th Aug. 11am Café Church Village Hall

From Jane Harland

Search for Witnesses

Two people have been seriously injured following a collision on the A1088 at Ixworth round 7.35pm on Sunday 2 July. A car collided into a motorcycle not far from the A143 junction.

The two people on the motorcycle were taken to hospital with serious injuries. The woman in her 60s was airlifted from the scene to Addenbrookes hospital in a critical condition. The man, also thought to be in his 60s, was taken to the West Suffolk hospital by ambulance. The car driver - a young woman - was unhurt.

Anyone who saw either of the vehicles prior to the collision or the crash itself is asked to call the Serious Collision Investigation Team at Suffolk Police by dialling 101, quoting CAD number 424 of Sunday 2 July.

From Tim Passmore, Police & Crime Commissioner

Farming Matters

Again at the beginning of the growing season we found ourselves desperate for a rain. The dry spring and summer has unfortunately taken its toll on both

winter wheat and barley crops. The rain in early June was certainly welcome for all crops but a little and often approach is usually better for steady growth.

Harvest is approaching and with that comes long days, late nights, dust and noise. Although some of you may find it hard to believe, I do try extremely hard to minimise disruption to all of our neighbours wherever we find ourselves working. The fortunate thing about modern agriculture is that all operations happen at great pace and disruption, although annoying it doesn't last very long, my apologies in advance if we happen to be harvesting at the weekend.

We have both winter barley and winter wheat to harvest soon followed by sugar beet around December. The harvesting of the barley and wheat are extremely time sensitive. Should we be late harvesting the barley we can find that the heads fall off the main stem of the plant meaning that the combine cannot scrape them off the ground. The barley is all destined to go to a local feed mill to be made into animal feed. The harvesting of the wheat is much more sensitive to poor (wet) weather. If we have a period of rainfall once the crop is ready then the quality can disappear overnight rendering the crop unusable in the production of flour for bread making and in extreme cases of prolonged wet weather the grain can grow in the head before harvest meaning the crop becomes unfit even for animal feed.

As residents of Church Lane will know, Anglian Water have delivered the Nutri Bio product that has been mentioned in a previous newsletter. Once the wheat crop has been harvested the Nutri Bio will be spread by a specialist contractor. I will apologise in advance for the smell that

will be created for a few hours, we shall do everything possible to ensure the fields are cultivated and the product incorporated to reduce the amount of time anyone is exposed to the smell.

Have a good summer!

From Andrew Maddever

Rural Pastimes

Many thanks to those who sent items for the tom-bola stall at Rural Pastimes - as you will know we couldn't have asked for better weather that weekend. Everything went well, and the stall made more than last year - so we are very pleased with that!

Many thanks to Ann Grimwood too, who brought the donated items to me at Euston.

We are proud to hear of the well-deserved award of the British Empire Medal to Tim Fogden in the Queen's Birthday Honours list. He has been such an unassuming strength in local activities, particularly his inception and many years hard work for Euston Rural Pastimes.

From Gill Farrow

Next Parish Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on the **4th September 19.30** in the Village Hall.

Do let me have issues to put on the agenda - contact 01284 787 777

From Linda Harley, Parish Clerk
