

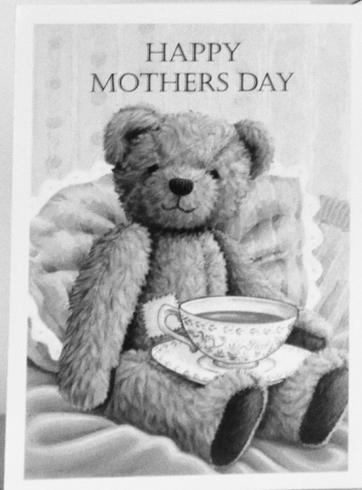
# Telstar

## Stowupland News

No 340  
March 2021

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# EDITOR'S NOTES

MARCH 2021



Hopefully, by the time we welcome March the weather will be better, and the first signs of Spring will be on the way!

The forecast is looking good for the vaccination programme and we can soon look forward to some sort of 'normal' life. In the meantime, please do all stay safe and remember 'Hands, Face, Space' for all our benefit.

Please take the time to read about SARS who provide an exceptional service to our community.

This month brings Mother's Day – don't forget to get a card for your Mum. The front cover depicts our usual Mother's Day – thanks to Keith Hyland for the photo.

Brian has some good tips to see some wonderful wildlife in the coming month – see Countryside Rambler.

Kate is back in the garden and letting us know what we should be doing this month – see Down to Earth.

You have probably all received a recycling leaflet by now. Please try to be careful with what you put in your bins. There are some useful articles with some tips further along in the magazine. Our District Council is having a recycling campaign at the moment, please do try to do your bit.

Also, speaking of rubbish and waste, please let's try to keep our village tidy and free from dog poo. There really is no excuse to throw litter on the floor or not to pick up after your dog and to use the abundance of bins in the village. We are truly lucky to have a Parish Council that provides plenty of facilities, but if you aren't near a bin, take it home with you!

If you want to let the rest of the village know what you have been up to in lockdown, do get in touch [kay.telstar@gmail.com](mailto:kay.telstar@gmail.com).

Kay



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# ANOTHER DAY IN THE LIFE OF A TELSTAR DELIVERER

It was interesting to read about the life and times of a Telstar Deliverer last month so I thought I would pick up the baton and explain how I came to be involved with our monthly magazine.

Keith and I moved to Stowupland from Oxfordshire in 2000. It seemed the right time – Ipswich Town had been promoted to the Premier League. We had been travelling over from Oxfordshire on a regular basis to see as many games as possible and to stay with Keith's Mum in Broomspath Road. Also, local government restructuring gave Keith an opportunity to make a move to Essex County Council and I was able to swap my road safety role with Oxfordshire County Council for a similar role within Suffolk County Council. I was fortunate to have my office in a flint cottage in the shadows of the Abbey in Bury St Edmunds and see day to day growth in the Millennium Tower. What used to take centuries I witnessed over a few years. I loved Bury St Edmunds being my base and the opportunity to work with schools all over Suffolk.

Not long after we arrived in Stowupland I remember going for a walk with Keith's Auntie Violet (Calthorpe), who at the time was delivering Telstar. I think Auntie Violet must have covered most of the village with her deliveries over the years. On this particular day she was delivering to Reeds Way. To say her route seemed complicated would be an understatement. We crossed Reeds Way a dozen times, we double-backed on ourselves and I was thoroughly confused at the end of it. I offered to help her by taking on Reeds Way and I was kindly granted an audition a month later. I do not think Auntie Violet was impressed with my simple anti-clockwise approach to the round, but she did at least agree that all the houses had received a Telstar.

As a teenager I had had two paper rounds. One was mine and the other was my twin brother's. He was not very good at getting up early so I would stand in for him and do his as well as mine on a regular basis. He always seemed to be around at the end of the week when it was time to get paid. I loved the walking/delivering and the fresh air. So, being given a round of my own was pure delight. Of course, Auntie Violet lived near to my new round and in the early days I would often bump into her if she just happened to be in Reeds Way at the same time as I was delivering.

I can honestly say it is a pleasure to deliver Telstar. I get to look at lots of beautiful gardens, I talk to some lovely cats and hear a few dogs barking, I smell some very appetising food being prepared but with the current pandemic I do miss not being able to chat to people. Quite rightly people do not come to their doors as they did pre-Covid. So, if you see me delivering your Telstar with my ear pods in, it's not because I don't want to talk to you – the music or podcast is my alternative to actual chatting.

*Cathy Welham*

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# COUNTRYSIDE RAMBLER

BRIAN WARD

I hope it stops raining soon, I don't know about your garden but mine resembles a lowland bog and I hope it hasn't drowned some of my plants that require free drainage.

The birds will soon be pairing up and I have noticed, on the milder days, blackbirds and song thrushes have been singing. I know the song thrush has a repetitive song but on a still morning they will sing from the very top of a tree and give it their all; what a clear melody of simple notes but a joy to hear. The blue and great tits are starting to check out the nest boxes so make sure you have cleaned them out ready for a new brood this season.

I know it's early but try to visit Bradfield woods in the spring to see the vast array of wildflowers, it is run by Suffolk Wildlife Trust and has many trails of varying lengths. Best time to appreciate the flowers are between March-May. This is a managed ancient wood, and you are likely to encounter many woodland bird species. You may see some early butterflies such as brimstone and speckled wood, also later in the year, fritillary, white admiral and hairstreaks may make an appearance. The staff are most helpful and will point you in the right direction for the best locations to see the butterflies and carpets of wildflowers. If it has been raining take your wellies as it can get muddy in places.

If you want to see bluebells in April then Orwell Country Park is a good place, plenty of parking available and a nice stroll down to the river Orwell will only take minutes. This is a popular destination for dog walkers and families. Try to go at low tide to get wonderful views of the Orwell Bridge and plenty of space for everyone given the times we are in. Look out for the wading birds along the shoreline, curlew, godwit, redshank and wildfowl abundant in certain areas.



It is amazing what you see even from your garden, buzzards are flying over daily and a red kite drifted over a few weeks ago. A nice surprise was a grey wagtail feeding in the muddy puddles just outside my front door. The same puddles are frequented by a pair of pied wagtails, a joy to watch as I sit and enjoy a hearty breakfast before I venture out.

I suppose I better put a footnote in to say only visit these places if within government guidelines.

PLEASE all keep safe and well and I hope to meet you on my local country rambles.

## FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Freeman Community Primary School have 2 vacancies in our committed and hardworking local governing body, either as a parent governor or a member of the wider community.

No experience of schools is required as we will guide you through the role.

We meet (by zoom at the moment) 6 times a year in the evening, and would also require you to have termly visits to the school.

While we are not overly formal, it is an ideal opportunity to understand how boards work, especially if you are on that career path.

For further information;

please look on the school's website  
[www.freeman.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.freeman.suffolk.sch.uk)

Contact me (Sue Hayter) as the chair of governors  
01449 613710

Daniel Pettitt the head teacher 01449 612067

John Thompson - 01449 676471 -  
[swtstowmarket@gmail.com](mailto:swtstowmarket@gmail.com)



# BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU THROW 'AWAY'...

## ...there is no such place as 'away'

Stowmarket Eco Future Group is going from strength to strength and members are getting involved in all kinds of projects. In the last month particularly, we have started litter picking on a Friday (which of course has to be done as individuals or family groups at the moment).

We have a sister Facebook group "Stowmarket 5 R Group" the 5 R's are Remember! Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair. The Facebook page is for people to share ideas or to ask for help and a lot of it is just about getting into a way of thinking that previous generations would not have thought twice about. My granny taught me to darn socks, I managed to turn a collar on my husband's shirt recently. I'm sure many of you save pots (especially takeaway containers) for re-use, but I've realised that frozen vegetable bags, and the bags inside cereal boxes also have plenty of life in them for reusing. They can be re-used in the freezer or for lunch bags. You don't have to be on Facebook – it's great to share ideas with friends and family. There used to be a saying about "keeping up with the Jones's" but now I think it is about competing to see how eco you can be – thankfully people's values are really starting to change! If you haven't watched David Attenborough Perfect Planet yet, please try and see it, especially the final episode which talks about the influence human beings have had on our planet. We have caused problems for ourselves so it's down to each and every one of us to stop doing the damage.

***This bag is 100% recyclable.  
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# EVERY LITTLE HELPS

The way shopping has changed over the last 50 years means that we now generate far more rubbish through excessive packaging. Consumerism means that products are rarely made to last with the expectation that we will throw out old items and replace them with new. Invariably, a trip to the shops will see us buy something that is already wrapped in cellophane or plastic and then put in another plastic bag and perhaps then into a plastic carrier bag. A Women's Environmental Group bought a trolley load of shopping to feed a family for two weeks, there were 102 items. Overall, there were 543 pieces of packaging! The UK government estimates we generate 177 million tonnes of waste in England alone.

Plastic is a massive problem. If it ends up in incinerators it produces poisonous gas emissions. If it goes to landfill, it remains there for hundreds of years. We know that some plastics get into rivers and the oceans affecting marine life and then back into our food chain. Recycling helps the environment by reducing carbon emissions. It also reduces the need for new products to be made from raw materials.

Of course, the amount of waste we produce is a small part of a much bigger problem and as individuals we can't change some of the bigger problems like deforestation and industrial waste. However, if everyone does just one small thing then a lot can change. So, what can be done?

- Don't mix up your rubbish. Separate glass, paper, metal and organic waste.
- Buy and use recycled paper products wherever possible. A list of stockists is available from Friends of the Earth.
- Use your own shopping bag. Do not accept plastic carrier bags every time you shop.
- Refuse to buy over-packaged goods. Buy fresh, unpackaged food wherever possible.
- Look out for goods in recyclable containers.
- Contact Oxfam and other charities to find out what they are collecting – it might include aluminium foil, cans, clothing, newspapers.

It's important to put the right items into your recycling bin. Mid Suffolk District Council has this advice:

Putting the wrong items into your recycling bin means that good items will become 'spoiled' and won't get recycled.

*Continued on page 12...*

## Why is this a problem?

1. **Quality is key** - Companies that use your recyclables to make new products will not accept spoiled items.
2. **It's wasteful** - Currently around 10,000 tonnes (about 20%) of the items we collect from Suffolk households are too spoiled to be recycled.
3. **It's expensive** - Cleaning up spoiled items costs Suffolk's taxpayers over £1,000,000 a year.
4. **It could be dangerous** - Spoiled items are unpleasant and dangerous for staff at Suffolk's Recycling Facility to remove. This often has to be done by hand.

Remember that all items need to be **empty, clean and dry** when you put them in your recycling bin. **Please do not include any bagged items.**

Mid Suffolk District Council is currently running a campaign to encourage better recycling, you have probably already received a leaflet from them.

## MEMORY LANE

Pictured is Poole's Farm 1905, demolished 1969. Can anyone remember the farms in Stowupland? In the 1950's Ena Carter listed 33 farms!



# FROM NATIONAL TRADING STANDARDS

## COVID-19 texts and emails

Some consumers started receiving text messages and emails claiming to be from official (and some non-official) agencies, all with an aim of causing more worry and anxiety in an already worrying and anxious time. These messages included:

- *Being fined for breach of lockdown legislation*
- *Selling fake testing kits or cleaning products claiming to eliminate coronavirus*
- *Asking for charitable donations to help those in need*
- *Offering shopping or medication collection services*
- *Being offered 'coronavirus tax rebates'*
- *Some even offering vaccines or cures despite there being no vaccine or cure at the time*

Consumers' telephones were also starting to ring off the hook with a variety of coronavirus and non-coronavirus related scams, all designed to get people to reveal important personal and financial information for several false reasons, such as:

- *Payment requests from TV subscription services like Amazon Prime or Netflix*
- *Being sold poor quality Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at inflated prices, most of which never turned up*
- *Courier fraud – where criminals would make contact claiming to be from the police or a bank, telling the consumer that their bank account had been compromised and asking to move their money into a 'safe' account. A 'courier' would then pick up their bank card and tell them they just needed to provide the PIN number*
- *All sorts of fraudulent insurance, service plans or warranty extensions for white and electrical goods or plumbing and drainage insurance*

If you receive any suspicious contact you can report them to Action Fraud online, or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Suspicious text messages can be forwarded to 7726 (spells SPAM in the old-style telephone keypad), while scam emails can be forwarded to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)



Having finally got my Local Recorder's report about 2020 sent **011 10 1116 Suffolk Local History Council**, I can now turn my thoughts away from the present and return to the past.

Jerry and I have been in contact with some ladies who were evacuees in Stowupland in 1939. They shared some fascinating memories of their time in Stowupland and in due course we will share these. They also told us that in 2002 Telstar printed some letters from Brian Hart about his time as an evacuee. I first thought that seems like just the other year, but of course it was nearly 20 years ago. In normal times we could pop down to Ipswich and read them at the Hold, but unless someone has kept copies of Telstar from its early days, we will just have to be patient till The Hold's Archives are accessible again.



This year is the 10th anniversary of the birth of SLHG. So, if anyone has any Tourmaline artifacts they would like to donate to our archives, I will be happy to look after them!

The impetus for forming a Local History Group seems to have been the Stowupland 2005 Parish Plan. In 2004 local residents had been asked, *'what can be done, both now and in the future, to improve community spirit and involvement in making Stowupland an even better place to live?'*

It took a few years but in 2011a group of enthusiastic individuals took up the baton and ran with the idea of organising a group dedicated to researching, sharing and recording history relevant to Stowupland and its people.

Over the coming year I intend to look at the steps the original trustees took to set up our group. Not being one of the founder members I have pieced together some details from our archives but if you can add to the story, I would love to learn more.

Throughout last year your SLHG Committee met when we could and kept in contact by email when we couldn't. We are now trying Zoom meetings to keep each other up-to-date. I have learnt that listening to Zoom talks is one thing but Charing a zoom meeting is 'interesting' in a whole different sense. I am just glad there are only 5 of us in the meeting.

Sandra Walker (Chair)- 01449 673296: sawalker2000@hotmail.com

Jerry Voden (Secretary) - 01449703717: voden@btinternet.com

Christine Williams (Membership and treasurer)- 01449 771430:  
christine.stowupland@gmail.com

Neil Langridge (Research and publicity)- 01449 616275 neil@stowman.plus.com

Dave Walker (IT support)- 07986 638029: dave@dwdriving.com

## STOWUPLAND LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

# STOWUPLAND VICARS PART 2

---

The Reverend Frederick Charles Long who arrived in 1874 was able to take advantage of the new vicarage house centrally situated in the village and convenient for the church. He was born in Tetbury Gloucestershire; the 1871 census finds him in Stowmarket running a private school in Ipswich Street with his wife Caroline and four children. This was probably a short-lived venture as advertisements for the school do not appear beyond 1872. In 1881, after he moved on from Stowupland, he is found in 1881 and 1891 as vicar of Tibshelf in Derbyshire.

The 1880s continued to see a high turnover of vicars and the next incumbent who remained just two years was a Richard Peek. The son of a Norwood solicitor Peek studied at St. John's College Cambridge, his first post being as a curate in Cornwall before coming here in 1880. He moved on to other parishes in Suffolk, being Rector of Sweffing from 1882 to 1890 and Vicar of Bruisyard from 1884 to 1890. He then spent 5 years on the continent as a chaplain at Dinard in France. During his time there he was awarded the bronze medal of the Royal Humane Society, and the first-class medal of the Société Nationale de Sauvetage of France, for saving the life of a young girl who jumped overboard from a boat. On his return to England, he became Rector of Drewsteignton, Devon until 1904 ending his career as Rector of St. Magnus the Martyr in London. Sadly, suffering from financial and other worries he jumped from a window of his house in Sutton, Surrey and was killed in 1920.

Andrew Ramsey Wilmot Seton served the parish from 1883 to 1887. He was born in Sussex and attended Pembroke College Oxford. Upon graduating he took the post of vicar at Chumleigh, Devon. It was during the Reverend Seton's incumbency at Stowupland that the first Flower Show, then known as the Cottagers Show, was held in 1886, an event that was to become a highpoint in the social calendar of the village for some 90 years. Seton was its first president and gave much assistance in organizing the show.

While he was here the vicar was married in 1884 and the newspaper reported that "Wednesday was quite a red-letter day in the history of



Stowupland, as it was the day on which the Rev. A. R. W. Seton and his bride returned to the parish after their honeymoon. In order that the return should be appropriately commemorated, a small Committee was formed. Early in the morning two triumphal arches were erected — one at the Crown Farm, the other at the Vicarage gates. The parishioners also hung out flags and banners from their houses, so that the village had quite a festive appearance. Nearly the whole village turned out to meet them, the Board school children sang “ Home, Sweet Home,” and willing hands drew the rev. gentleman and his bride to the Vicarage, where an address of welcome was read by Mr. Stearn.

Although his time in Stowupland was short Seton seems to have been well thought of as on his departure for a living in Sussex the newspaper reported that “The inhabitants of this parish were determined that he should carry with him a lasting tribute of their esteem and affection, he having....., greatly endeared himself”. A large number of parishioners assembled on the lawn at the The Vicarage and a testimonial consisted of a library clock was presented along with an inscribed silver hot-water jug.

The Reverend Seton died in 1911.

The group was saddened to hear of the death of Leslie Geddes-Brown of Columbine Hall late last year. Leslie and Hew welcomed our group on memorable tours of the Hall and Gardens on two occasions. They bought the house in 1993 when it had been a working farmhouse and set about restoring something of the character of the 14th century manor house it had been.



**Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS)** is a voluntary emergency medical charity, operating in Suffolk and its border areas. Our volunteer clinicians offer specialist assistance at serious or life threatening medical incidents. Since we started in 1972 we have helped treat thousands of patients and saved countless lives. SARS volunteers are specialists in prehospital care and include anaesthetists, consultants in emergency medicine and critical care paramedics. They carry equipment and drugs not normally found on frontline ambulances and can undertake advanced procedures at the scene of an incident, which are not normally possible outside the hospital environment.

Our charity receives no central government funding and relies on voluntary fundraising to maintain its activity. The clinicians give up their time and provide their skills without charge. This 'donation' of time equates to many hundreds-of-thousands of pounds each year, and the benefit that SARS clinicians can bring to a patient in terms of life-saving interventions, relief from pain and quicker recovery times is immeasurable.

The last year has been a really challenging time but the amazing SARS volunteer clinicians gave over 6,000 hours of advanced prehospital medical care throughout Suffolk in 2020. They were called out to over 100 locations across the county including callouts in your local area - all of this during a pandemic. And 2021 looks set to be another busy year, with SARS responders being mobilised to 72 incidents in January alone!

SARS is also helping combat the pandemic with charity volunteer and retired responder, Dr Andy Mason currently vaccinating staff at the West Suffolk Hospital. Andy is very keen to continue his work after the initial programme at the West Suffolk Hospital has been completed. "I would really love to continue to be part of the vaccination programme in the local community. I am convinced that this is the way forward to ensure that the country can escape from the grip of this pandemic. The vaccination programme will save lives and protect our precious NHS and I am honoured to be able to be part of that."



There are many ways you can also get involved and help support SARS this year. Please take a look on the SARS website [www.sars999.org.uk/get-involved/](http://www.sars999.org.uk/get-involved/)



Or why not sign up to the SARS 999 Lottery. For as little as £1 a week you could win up to £25,000 while helping save local lives. To sign up please visit [www.sars999.org.uk/lottery/](http://www.sars999.org.uk/lottery/)

We are always keen to hear from you so please get in touch via email [admin@sars999.org.uk](mailto:admin@sars999.org.uk) or phone 01359 244186. Thank you!

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# **DOWN TO EARTH**

**Kate Elliott**

I love March more and more. No other month brings such promise and although the month can bite back with some of the coldest weather of the year, there is a real chance of warm sunshine and a few precious hours outside working in short sleeves.

There is temptation to rush out into the garden on the first sunny day and sow outside masses of seeds. Stop.

Feel the soil. If it is cold to the touch, then few seeds will germinate. While there is no point in delaying things if the conditions are right, there is little to gain by trying to cheat the seasons or the weather.

A good rule of thumb is that if the weeds are not growing then it is too cold for your seeds. Prepare the soil and leave it. When a flush of weeds starts to grow, hoe them off and sow your seeds - this way your seeds will avoid competition in their first vital weeks of growth.

As soon as your soil is dry enough to rake without the soil sticking to the tines and does not feel cold to touch, you can sow carrots, broad beans, spinach, parsnips and rocket. Always sow as thinly as possible. March is the perfect time to sow seeds under cover for planting outside about a month or so later, when the soil has warmed up a little and there is more daylight.

A greenhouse is best, but a porch or spare windowsill works well too. There is a range of salad plants that grow well in cool spring weather which do not thrive in the heat of summer. This is what I concentrate on in early spring:

Rocket

Mizuna

Corn salad

Lettuces - 'All the Year Round' and 'Little Gem'.

I am often asked what my favourite flower is, and the answer depends on the season - I have lots of favourites. But at this time of year the treasures that stand out for me are native primroses and cowslips. No other plant celebrates the coming of spring with such charm and beauty.

Primroses are woodland flowers, loving cool, damp banks and thriving at the base of hedgerows. They are perennials and will last for a number of years and will spread quite fast by seed.

Cowslips are plants of grassland, verges and meadows. We have hundreds growing in the meadow beside our drive here at Columbine. However, they can easily be grown in a garden if you have a sunny patch of well-drained grass that can be left uncut long enough for the flowers to set seed - which means the beginning of July. I have been busy bringing all our tender fuchsias back into growth. They usually lose their leaves during the winter while they are resting under the greenhouse staging and end up a mass of dead twiggy stems. But they'll soon be back into life with a little TLC.



*Primula vulgaris*

I plunge the pots in water for a few minutes and then stand the plants in full light on the staging. At the same time, I prune them back quite hard, shortening all shoots and side-shoots to about 1-2 inches long. Once new growth appears I knock the plants from their pots, tease out as much of the old compost as possible and replant with some fresh compost.

Other jobs you can be doing this month are:

Remove weeds and moss from paths and drives.

Plant or divide snowdrops 'in the green' (see last month's article)

Plant rhubarb.

Feed fish in your pond if the weather is warm and fish are active.

Protect new spring shoots from slugs and snails.

Pick off any developing seed heads on daffodils but leave the foliage to die back naturally.

Plant onion and shallot sets.

Scatter general-purpose fertiliser over flowerbeds, roses, shrubs and hedges.

The clocks change at the end of this month - enjoy that extra hour in the garden.

# IT'S A CAT'S LIFE

My name is Patrick and at the time of writing I am 11.75 months old. My mum was abandoned when discovered to be pregnant. Luckily kind people took her in and gave her food, shelter and somewhere safe to have her kittens. The lovely people who adopted my mum later paid for her to have an operation to stop her having any more kittens and have provided a loving forever home for her. Through the kindness of friends, I came to live in Stowupland in April when I was old enough to leave my mum and brothers and sisters.

I couldn't believe how lucky I was – a room all to myself with garden views to three sides, toys, a choice of two beds and my very own litter tray. I think my new parents were a little wary of me because they wore gloves for a day or so whenever they stroked me or picked me up. Then I would hear running water and they would be washing their hands. They explained about the pandemic and how they had taken advice from a Vet about being careful with a new kitten. A trip to the Vets confirmed that I was a boy kitten so being called Patrick was ok. I am named after the Leeds United No. 9, Patrick Bamford. My parents are very keen football supporters though not for the same team. My Dad is a lifelong ITFC fan.

Well, life has been pretty good so far. I had to stay indoors until I had had some jabs from the Vet and until my new humans felt confident enough to let me actually go out on my own. Where did they think I would run off to? I have a front and back garden. The garden behind is huge and there is a farm beyond that. If I explore at the front there is a huge green area – the only problem is that sometimes drivers pretend not to see the signs asking them not to drive their vehicles fast on the track.

All in all, I am pretty happy. I share my residence with another cat – much older than me. She is called Tinkerbelle and is 15. She pretends to be grumpy when I want to chase her. There are plenty of outside opportunities for me to supplement my diet. My humans are not too happy about this and are hoping I will grow out of this phase. I have recently discovered the tv and prefer programmes that have lots of birds and animals in them. Anything with David Attenborough is good for me. I think my humans are a bit needy – they are always picking me up, encouraging me to sit on their laps (which I dutifully do), and cleaning my white paws which often become a little muddy owing to living so near to the countryside – their fault not mine!

I see a lot of my humans owing to the current covid restrictions. They are either on their devices, doing jigsaws, reading books or drinking wine – it must be a tough life being a human!

*Patrick Gaetano Welham*

# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

## **Citizens Advice**

[www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk](http://www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk) – 01449 676060  
or 01449 676280 – 5 Milton Road South,  
Stowmarket, IP14 1EZ

## **Doctor**

Emergency – 999  
NHS Direct – 111  
Combs Ford – 01449 678333  
Stowhealth – 01449 776000

## **Emergency Numbers**

Power Cut – 0800 31 63 105  
Gas Leak – 0800 111 999  
Water Leak – 0800 771 881

## **Good Neighbour Scheme**

HELPLINE: 07591 539621

## **Member of Parliament**

Jo Churchill – [jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk) -  
Constituency Office, 10 Hatter Street,  
Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LZ – 01284 752311  
House of Commons – 02072 198487  
<https://www.jochurchill.org.uk/>

## **Mid Suffolk District Council**

[www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk)  
Keith Welham – [keith.welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:keith.welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk) -  
01449 673185

## **Police**

<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us>  
<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice>

## **Police Safer Neighbourhood Team**

PC 14443 Stefan Henriksen – Police Station,  
Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1NJ  
[stefan.henriksen@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:stefan.henriksen@suffolk.pnn.police.uk) - Phone. 101

## **Samaritans – 116 123**

## **Stowupland Village Website**

[www.stowupland.com](http://www.stowupland.com)

## **Parish Council Website**

[www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud](http://www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud)

## **Suffolk County Council**

[www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk)

Gary Green – [garygreen@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:garygreen@suffolk.gov.uk)  
- 07545 423824

SCC – General Contact No. 0345 606 6067

## **Schools**

Stowupland High School -

[www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk](http://www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk) - 01449 674827

Freeman Community Primary School -

[www.freeman.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.freeman.suffolk.sch.uk) - 01449 612067

# PUZZLE PAGE

## CROSSWORD CLUES

### ACROSS

1. Capital city of the vegetable growing flatlands of the UK (7)
5. Initially what musical albums used to be called (2)
7. One of the three ?'s added to this stinger gives a popular beverage (4)
9. In London you might find a Barrister or a clergyman in one of these (6)
13. Christian name of a famous Russian author (3)
14. 25th added to this gives the place where all the currency lays (8)
16. A leaning ship has this as do many shoppers (4)
17. Adversary (5)
19. Initially he wanted to go to his home in the universe (2)
20. If you want to stay this way abstain from 7 across (5)
21. This kitchen tool produces good omelettes (5)
23. The " - - - Nurse" used to comb schools for her prey (3)
25. To stay 20 across stay out of this (3)
28. Initially the universal system of measurements (2)
29. Circuits that are in this state lead to powerless conditions (10)
31. This could be the mum of a mammal (3)
32. The last of these is often the most desired (3)

### DOWN

1. Company famous for the chance to win £75,000 with x's (10)
2. Old fashioned saying " - - - - - and - - - - - may - - - - - your - - - - - but these will never hurt you (5)
3. Barn, Long Eared and Little (4)
4. Initially something on a cricket score sheet for a dodgy delivery (2)
5. The calm side of a ship (3)
6. A word describing the mission of a wolf (5)
8. A good time for tea or coffee (6)
10. A Kentish Town (5)
11. - - - Cash, famous tennis player (3)
12. Foreign monetary system (4)
15. Part of the human and ships frame (3)
18. The Queen will tell you to, when she lifts the sword...if you are so honoured (5)
20. Initially opposite N added to slaughter gives a quality (5)
22. One of the things on 16 across perhaps (4)
24. One of the things that don't wait for us (4)
26. Take the first of reap and add to this for the biblical shipwright (3)
27. The raised hairs or threads on a fabric (3)
30. The initials of a famous museum in London (2)

# CROSSWORD

1		2		3		4		5	6
						7	8		
9	10		11		12		13		
14						15			
16					17			18	
19				20					
21		22					23		24
				25	26	27		28	
29	30								
31				32					

# SUDOKU

1						2		
	7	3			9			
		5		1	7			6
			1	5		4		2
	5		6					
			9	4		7		8
		7		2	4			5
	9	6			1			
3						1		

Find completed puzzles on page 41

Rachel Eburne – rachel.eburne@midsuffolk.gov.uk -  
01449 673311

MSDC General Contact No. 0300 1234000

**Mobile Library** - 07721 879855

### **Parish Council**

Sally Reeves – Chairman - 01449 745739

– sallyreeves@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Keith Welham – Vice Chairman - 01449 673185

– keithwelham@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Philipp Deal - 07957 623326

– philippdeal@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Johnson - 07826 851030

– laurajohnson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Paula Murton - 07906 677817

– paulamurton@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Ray Studd - 01449 676606

– raystudd@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Jerry Voden - 01449 703717

– jerryvoden@stowuplandpc.co.uk

John Hayward - 01449 674717

– johnhayward@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Beeson - 07918 808387

– laurabeeson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council – Claire Pizey

parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk - 01449 677005 2

Broomspath Road, IP14 4DB

Parish Council Minutes of meetings and agendas are

available on the Parish Council Website

[www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud](http://www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud)

### **Vets**

Cedarwood – 01449 676966

Stowe Vets – 01449 613130

### **Village Hall Bookings**

Hugh Blanch – stowuplandvhbookings@gmail.com

- 01449 612156

### **Village Clubs**

Baby and Toddler Group – Kelly Woolnough –

07776 206430

Book Group – Patricia Hodgkins – 01449 672127

Bowls Club – Graham Newman – 01359 240846

Community Events – Keith Welham – 01449 673185

Country and Western – Pat Murphy – 01449 677405

Dance Club – Mary Durham – 01449 672601

Local History Group – Jerry Voden – 07951 086383

Short Mat Bowls – Pam Fayers – 01449 770080

Sports and Social Club – Andy Parkin – 07796 274905

- [www.stowupland-sports-and-social-club.co.uk](http://www.stowupland-sports-and-social-club.co.uk)

Stowupland Cricket Club -

[www.stowuplandcricketclub.co.uk/](http://www.stowuplandcricketclub.co.uk/) Stowupland

Falcons Football Club -

[stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk](http://stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk)

Stowupland Sports Centre –

[info@stowuplandsportscentre.co.uk](mailto:info@stowuplandsportscentre.co.uk) - 01449 672531

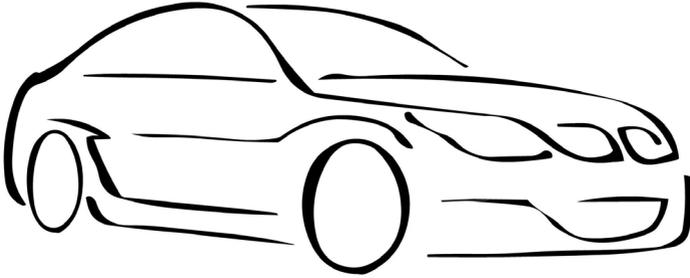
Stowmarket Wildlife Group – John Thompson -

[swtstowmarket@gmail.com](mailto:swtstowmarket@gmail.com) - 01449 676471

W.I. – Mary Coltart – 01449 678403

[coltart2001@yahoo.com](mailto:coltart2001@yahoo.com)

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**01449 678213**

# A1

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[www.a1carpentryandlocksmith.co.uk](http://www.a1carpentryandlocksmith.co.uk)

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# SAM'S CHAT

Hi everybody,

Home-schooling: I am learning at home again because of another Covid lockdown. I am starting to get used to it, but teamwork online is the hard part. The reason for this is because when the snow came, loads of people that work at school had to stay at home too and because of the load of people the teachers decided to put us in groups and all the people from school weren't used to online learning. They all talked too much and didn't get on with the work.

Running Challenge: throughout February I am running 50 miles in 28 days. I have to do roughly 2 miles every day. It gets very tiring, but I still try my best. We sometimes make a picture route with the nearby roads and streets or just run around the block as part of my daily exercise. My sister is doing a marathon in a month (26.2 miles), daddy is doing 100 miles in a month and mummy is doing 250 miles in a month.

Snowing: the past few days it has snowed for the first time in ages! When it started snowing, I got SO excited and I immediately wanted to go outside. I even made an igloo. Sadly, the snow and ice meant that we couldn't do our normal running for a while, so we had to make a spot in the garden to run up and down in. We did walk to the village hall to the pop-up post office so mummy could post a parcel. My sister and I drew dogs and cats in the snow. We did lots of experiments in the snow too for science like a volcano and coloured icicles.

Karate: Our garage in our back yard has been cleared as my dad made a new floor in the roof so we can now use it to do karate. It has way more room than in our house. The only bad thing is that it can get quite cold. Daddy is very happy that he can join in with lessons.

Baking: I have recently started to bake. I have made a birthday cake for mummy, some shortbread, chocolate brownies and a crumble. I am making 100 mini cookies for a school challenge in memory of Captain Sir Tom Moore. No-one else in our family bakes and I am really enjoying it.

We have karate now. Keep safe everybody.

Sam



# STOWUPLAND BOWLS CLUB

Winter may still be upon us, but our thoughts are about the bowling season which is fast approaching. There is no indication yet of course as to if and when we may be able to bowl our woods in league matches and tournaments or, as we did last year just play bowling amongst ourselves. Speculation is pointless but there are preparations afoot at all levels of bowling so that we are ready to play as soon as possible.

More importantly though at this point, can we all shed our thoughts to those families and friends of the local "bowling community" including our Club, who have lost someone to the dreaded Virus or for another reason. We also are thinking of those who may be affected in some way and wish them a speedy recovery.

No doubt some more residents have moved into Stowupland since last October and they may not be aware of the bowling opportunity within the area. We would be very happy to receive enquiries from anyone whether they have played bowls in the past or would like to try their hand and this includes anybody in the village. There is no limit on age, and we will offer tuition as necessary. It would be nice to think a few youngsters may be interested. We run a very friendly club and all enquiries would be most welcome, so pick up that 'phone and call our Chairman, Frank Boxall on 01359 249511.

If we are able to hold matches as we did last year, and training sessions, the cost would be £1 per afternoon for everyone, including newcomers for whom we do have a stock of shoes and woods that can be loaned until a person reaches a decision to purchase their own kit.

We end this article on a positive note and will hopefully have more constructive information next time around.

STAY SAFE.  
*David Begg*

## W.I.

Well, who would have thought that a year ago we would be in this position? The committee have met a couple of times over the year and I have been drafted in to be secretary and take over from the very experienced Judy who has done an amazing job over the last few years. I cannot expect to know all the things that she knew but I will do my very best! There have been some lighter moments over the last year, one being me looking at my garden flowers each month and wondering if they would have won a prize! It is not looking likely that we can meet in April as planned but we look forward to sharing our lighter moments as soon as we can. Until then please stay safe.

*Best wishes, Mary Coltart. W. I. Secretary.*

# VEGETARIAN SHEPHERD'S PIE

*(with thanks to Jamie Oliver)*

Serves 2-3 (I think it actually serves 4)

1 red onion  
1 carrot  
1 stick of celery  
1 x 400g tin of lentils  
Olive oil  
1 x 400g tin of tomatoes  
100 ml of vegetable stock  
750 g of potatoes  
75g of light cheddar cheese or vegan cheese grated  
50 ml of milk (I use skimmed)  
Fresh nutmeg for grating



## **Oven 190 C/375 F/Gas mark 5**

1. Peel and roughly chop the onions, carrots, celery and garlic.
2. Drain the lentils
3. Heat a large pan on medium heat. Add a good lug of olive oil, the onion, carrot, celery and garlic. Cook gently with the lid on for 8 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, or until softened.
4. Add the \*tinned tomatoes and stock and stir well. Bring to the boil then add the drained lentils, reduce to a low heat and simmer gently for 30 minutes or until thick and delicious.
5. While this is happening peel the potatoes, cut into quarters and add to a pan of boiling water. Boil for about 10 minutes until tender. Check they are soft all the way through.
6. Grate the cheese.
7. You can either mash the potatoes, adding a knob of butter, the cheese and some nutmeg to taste or use a potato ricer which provides a lighter topping and means you do not need the naughty butter.
8. Transfer the lentil mixture to an ovenproof dish. Spoon the mash or riced potatoes on top. If ricing I add the cheese randomly. Leave a small handful of cheese for sprinkling on the top together with the nutmeg if using.
9. Into the hot oven for 30 minutes or until golden and bubbling.

\*Jamie adds half a small bunch of rosemary leaves with the tinned tomatoes and stock

# HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

## NEWS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
STOW VILLAGE



Vicar : Revd Brin Singleton Tel. 770921  
Churchwardens : Mrs Ann Doubtfire Tel. 770363  
: Mrs Sue Hayter Tel. 613710

Email: [brinsingleton@btinternet.com](mailto:brinsingleton@btinternet.com)

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2082/benefice/>

Dear Friends;

*'Now the Green blade rises from the buried grain,... love lives again'...* so chants the plaintiff Easter Carol calling us to open our eyes from the Winter of our hearts to see, come again, the new life of Spring. And amidst our lengthening days in Lenten reflection, we see signs of hope and refreshment punctuating our calendar as the rising melody of that Easter Carol, *'love is come again as wheat that's springing green'*. Mid Lent we have Refreshment Sunday calling our return to our Mother Church, which has become Mothering Sunday, when we return to mark the years of our nurture in thanksgiving for our Mother's love.

Refreshed in the thankfulness of such remembrance our month closes in readiness to celebrate our Easter joy in Jesus' resurrection *'Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain, quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen, Love is come again like wheat that's springing green'*.

Well I hope we will be able once again to gather secure in our worship and to the song of this great Easter Carol. As I write this our Sunday Gospel [John 1.1-14] is heard for the third time since its first reading at Christmas, calling us again to ponder the hope of our Good News as from John's Gospel, *'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it'*.

Pandemic has bought darkness to many lives, and bought many, of faith and of none, to ponder how the light might shine, and indeed the light of good works has broken out to shine amidst all peoples. And asked why volunteer, why risk transmission as key worker, health worker, administrator, amidst such confession will be to shine some light in all this dark, just as those of faith might reply. Three times our Good News has given us this mandate for life, *'the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it'*.

As the darkness retreats in these lengthening days, do we not see this enlightenment rising as dawning light over all of us. From small acts of kindness to big acts of sacrifice we have looked for light as we have longed for light, and when we look, we see, the light of all people. To see light then we only need to look, to open our eyes, to raise our sight to this dawning horizon. Just as John the Baptist looked at the beginning of John's Gospel and saw Jesus coming toward him, so we are to look to see Jesus, light of the world coming toward us.

*'When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain'...*

*'Love is come again, like wheat that's springing green'.*

Yours in Christ, Brin.

Your Parish Priest for Haughley with Wetherden & Stowupland.

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2082/benefice/>

### CHURCH SERVICES:

In line with government requirements, we are still unable to hold public services in church, however, the church is open on Sunday's from 9.30am to 10.30am for private prayer.

We continue to offer an online **Morning Prayer Service at 10.00am each Sunday**, go to <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2082/benefice/> scroll down to the bottom of the page and follow the instructions.

At the top of the page there is also a link to the Zoom Online Chat from 10.30am if you'd like to join us.

## IN LOCKDOWN 2020-2021

Somewhere first in China,  
A dreadful germ was spread,  
Maybe! It was a culture,  
From a laboratory bred,

Just to stop them catching it,  
As around the World it spreads,  
Around the World, it goes so fast,  
Killing thousands as it passed,

It may have spread from isolation?  
When out of control it sped,  
Many people in lockdown,  
Wear masks upon their face,

The National Health Service,  
Run almost off its feet,  
But now they have found an antidote,  
To counteract the spread.

*Grace Sochacz*



# U.R.C CHAPEL

## NEWS

**Minister: Revd Robert Sheard**  
**Telephone 01449 678173**

Currently, services at the Chapel are still suspended as we decided it was the safest thing to do. However, our Minister is streaming a Sunday Service on Zoom each week at 10.30am. Also Pause for Prayer is on a Thursday morning each week at 9.30am for half an hour of devotion, which is also on Zoom. The code for both is 878 9703 9806 password 269834 if you would like to join with us, you are most welcome.

I can't believe that another month has passed, and I am now writing this for the March issue during a very heavy snow fall. It doesn't seem possible that this time last year we were just starting lockdown and all Mothering Sunday celebrations were put on hold, never suspecting that we would be in a similar situation a year later.

As the vaccinations are rolled out, with a little bit of patience, we can look forward to better things to come and to meet up with family and friends again. We would like to thank all the volunteers who are helping with the huge job of vaccinating us, but caution is still needed. Stay at home and protect the NHS. They do such an amazing job.

*Joyce Gardiner*

## MINISTERS MESSAGE

### Jeremiah 29: 11

**I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for.**

Dear friends,

Isn't it good news that we know we are getting the vaccines for the COVID 19 virus, so that hopefully, sooner, rather than later, we can be getting back to some sort of normal life. We all hope that we soon will be called so we can have the vaccine (or have you had it?)

It has not been the best of years with not being able to see family and friends, do the things we would usually do, go the places we would usually go to. At this point it may seem that there is little hope that things will get better.

As a Christian I always hang on to the hope that with God, things will get better and they do. We may feel at times that God is not there, but I know that God does walk alongside us feeling the same as we do. I know that God works through Doctors and Nurses, Scientists and Chemists. In less than a year they have been able to develop the vaccine that gives us hope for a better future.

Throughout the bible we see that there is always hope, that what Christ is offering is hope for a better way of life. St Paul writes about it in 1 Corinthians 13, Paul talks about 3 great truths "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love." reminding us that when all else fails we still have hope!

I pray that you will have the hope that things are getting better and we will get through this together.

Yours  
Robert

*Reverend Robert Sheard Minister of the Stowmarket group of Churches.  
The group consists of Stowmarket, Debenham, Mendlesham, Haughley & Stowupland)*



# MOTHERING SUNDAY

Mothering Sunday is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent (which we covered in last month's issue) and has become a traditional day where we treat our Mums for all their hard work throughout the year.

Mothering Sunday originally had little connections to mothers and was more to do with returning to your Mother Church. Many people had to leave their home villages in order to find work, often in service in larger towns or in distinguished country homes. Employers would give their staff a Sunday off so that they could travel to their Mother Church. On the journey back, they would often stop and pick flowers as a gift to take to their mothers on this rare visit.



These days, we do often visit our Mums and take a gift, perhaps flowers or chocolates, by way of saying thank you.

This year, Mother's Day falls on March 14th so I hope you are reading this at the beginning of the month to give you time to get a card and gift!

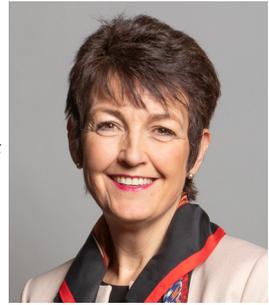
As a Mum myself, I have always been pleased to receive anything on Mother's Day even if it's just a phone call. It's just nice to be remembered. I can remember getting handmade cards or gifts that had been made at playschool. When my son got older it was pretty much hit and miss if something turned up on the day. Often it would be a message added in my birthday card at the end of March! In later years I acquired stepchildren and I have to say getting a card from my stepdaughter really tugged at my heart strings. After all, I'm not her Mum and she has a Mum of her own, so that remains really special to me. These days, flowers often turn up as well, which is lovely.

As you can tell, I really appreciate Mother's Day cards and gifts and I'm sure most Mums do. When I was a child, my sister and I used to take Mum breakfast and make Sunday lunch. I'm sure my big sister did far more than me and I think we had burned out by teatime! But Mum seemed to like it and that was what it was all about.

So, this year is a bit different and we might not be able to visit our Mums, but we can still make sure she has a card and a gift. For those who are still at home with Mum why not take the time to give her a day off and cook lunch? If you're new at this there is an easy recipe in this issue for a veggie Shepherd's Pie, why not give it a go?

It doesn't matter how you choose to celebrate Mother's Day, just let your Mum know you are thinking of her.

# FROM JO CHURCHILL MP



I hope this finds you and your family well. I know how challenging the last few months have been, but I believe there is now light at the end of the tunnel. The roll out of the vaccine is continuing at pace, indeed as I write this article, we have now vaccinated over 13 million people across the country, which is on target for our mid-February objective. Locally we have now vaccinated all care homes and most of those in the top four categories including thousands of health and social care workers who have done so much for us over this past year.

I know that many of us have not been able to see those we love over recent months and that this has been one of the most challenging aspects of the current restrictions. However, as we approach Mother's Day, we can be hopeful about enjoying each other's company once again. While time scales are difficult, the current rate of vaccination, alongside community testing and social distancing measures has helped bring the R rate down.

This means we should be able to begin lifting restrictions and catch up with parents, grandparents and friends once again. Indeed, if like me your parents and loved ones are over 80, they are likely to have received their first and possibly second dose of a Covid vaccine, which has been a very welcome early Mother's Day gift.

Whilst volunteering at a local vaccination centre, I was overwhelmed not only by the professionalism of the staff and vaccinators, but by the sheer selflessness of volunteers standing out in the bitter cold helping direct people for their vaccinations. The heroes and heroines amongst our community have done so much to make this last year bearable. Those delivering medicines to the vulnerable or helping assist services that we so often take for granted are amazing and so to any of you who have been involved in volunteering I would like to say a special thank you on behalf of everybody in the constituency. Your selfless efforts will get us all closer to a more usual way of life and to seeing the people we love the most and giving them a big hug. I am looking forward to this day as I'm sure are many of you!

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# PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

FEBRUARY 2021



Another Zoom meeting opened with 10 Parish Councillors present along with MSDC Cllr Eburne and myself as the token member of the public.

## **Councillors' Report:**

Once again there was no report from the County Councillor; the report from the District Councillors can be found elsewhere in Telstar.

## **Matters of Report:**

It was agreed to delay the use of the SID device until after the lockdown. The work on Hunters Moon track has been completed and a new bench has been ordered for opposite Willow Wood along with the signage for the basketball area. A quote for a 1.5 metre path from opposite Willow Wood to Willowcroft is to be sought by March. Work has been completed to clear the basketball area. A locality grant has been received and Cllr Welham and the Clerk will work on a draft leaflet for Parish Council approval. All other items are on hold or awaiting action.

## **General Maintenance:**

A new quote and advice to be provided to a contractor for general maintenance requirements around the village were discussed and agreed. It was noted that it is difficult to find a contractor who is willing to take on diverse tasks. It was agreed to accept quotes to fit dog bins, fit the new bench opposite Willow Wood and to prepare the base for a replacement for the Jubilee bench which is beyond repair. One of the climbing structures in the play park needs to be removed as it is no longer safe and spare parts are no longer available.

## **Post Trial:**

Discussion took place about how the post trial had gone and it was agreed that it might be necessary to extend this along Thorney Green and Thorney Green Road as far as the butchers in order to protect The Green. It was agreed that first the PC need to find out what Highways intend proposing to replace the sandbags. After listening to comments from residents it was agreed that any further posts should be smaller and placed further apart. The Green needs to be protected by the butchers on Thorney Green Road and costs are to be investigated.

## **SCC Complaints Team:**

The PC are not happy with the response from SCC relating to the times of the use of the car park at the High School and will be taking this to the Ombudsman.

## **Taylor Wimpey: Land between B1115 and A14**

A representative from Taylor Wimpey has requested a meeting with the PC in relation to their intention to apply for planning permission for the land behind the allotments. The PC will agree to the meeting on the understanding that the company understands that the PC has objected to this parcel of land being included in the housing allocation in the Joint Local Plan and will be making their case to the Inspectorate.

### **Trinity Meadows:**

The land on Celandine Close which is maintained by the residents is in fact designated open space and therefore anyone is free to walk on it.

### **Sub-Committee Reports:**

**Planning** – An application for outline planning permission for buildings and all the infrastructure relating to Gateway 14 at Mill Lane, Stowmarket. It was agreed to object to this on the grounds of risk of A1120 being used as a rat run. All vehicles using Gateway14 must access and exit it via the A14 only. No construction traffic should be allowed to use the A1120 and advance planting is required to give a buffer zone.

A proposal for a side extension in Gipping Road and a rear extension in Hawthorn Close were both supported.

**Trim Trail** – It was agreed that the working group should apply to the Matthew Good Foundation for funding from the 'Grant for Good Fund'. Further ideas will be submitted to the next PC meeting.

### **Councillors' Reports:**

Cllr Studd made a number of comments relating to the Linden Homes development including lorries exiting the site turning left towards The Green instead of leaving via the B1115, road sweeper turning in a resident's driveway, muddy water being pumped into the ditch behind the bus shelter when the site was flooded risking silting up the ditch. Tarmac lorries waiting to gain access to the site are blocking the footpath and breaking up the surface, work starting before 8am and the change of position of the compound on the site. The Enforcement Officer has been made aware of these problems which are currently being investigated.

Cllr Murton wished to thank Mr Hawkins for clearing footpath 32 when it was really treacherous from the snow and ice.

Cllr Reeves noted that the footpath marker sign at the end of Trinity Walk was broken and needs replacing and that a hydrant marker was laying in the hedge.

### **Correspondence:**

MSDC had submitted information on a recycling campaign and an update on the Joint Local Plan. A resident asked about stiles being replaced by gates on footpaths to make them more accessible. It was noted that this is dependent on whether they were on fields that contained stock or not. A thank you was received from Telstar for their grant from the Council. A resident has complained about the overflowing bin opposite the chip shop and the WI have asked about being able to plant a tree.

The meeting closed to the public at 9.19pm.

*Sandy Smith*

# **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

**FEBRUARY 2021**

## **Covid 19**

Support payments are available for those on low incomes who need to self-isolate.

There are further support grants for businesses for this national lockdown. Businesses which received grants during the first lockdown will be contacted automatically. If you are aware of any businesses which didn't meet the previous criteria and may be eligible now, please contact one of us.

Mid Suffolk's leisure centre and outdoor sports facilities remain closed.

## **2021/2022 Budget**

Cabinet have agreed a draft budget for 2021/22 which proposes that Council Tax be increased by 1.66%; this is equivalent to 23p per month for a Band D property. The next stage is for the budget to be debated by Council on 23 February after which council tax bills can be sent out.

## **Council Tax Support**

The impacts of the Covid pandemic have meant that many more households have applied for a Council Tax Reduction. This means that the Council Tax Base has fallen across the district and therefore, to maintain the same precept as 2021/22 for example, most parishes will need to increase Council Tax. Individuals in receipt of working age local council tax support are eligible for a £150 hardship payment.

## **Independent Living Service**

Each year the Council is allocated approximately £300,000 as a Disabled Facilities Grant for adaptations in people's homes to help them live independently. The management of this grant has been brought in-house due to performance issues with the external contractor. Every year we raise the underspend of this grant as an issue so hope the new approach will mean this money gets used where it is needed.

## **Draft Joint Local Plan (JLP)**

The Regulation 19 consultation period has ended, and no further points can be made. The representations are being processed and stored ready for the Public Examination. The full representations, together with statutory supporting information such as notices and statements will be published at the Submission stage. This is currently scheduled for late March 2021.

## **No Mow May**

In line with MSDC's Biodiversity Action Plan, a number of parishes are looking at how they can reduce the mowing of public areas to encourage biodiversity.

For instance, some are reducing the number of cuts, including setting aside areas which will have no cuts in May, or leaving areas uncut for a season.

### **Refuse Collections**

A few people have been caught out by not putting their bins out early enough. It is essential that bins are at the kerbside by 06.30 on collection day.

### **Brown bins**

Due to staff needing to self-isolate, the brown bin collections were suspended from 11 January until further notice. Other waste services will continue as normal.

### **Emergency Services Hub**

£431,740 of CIL funding has been provided by Mid Suffolk to the planned Emergency Services Hub in Stowmarket.

### **John Peel Centre**

The Council has agreed to provide a 40 year lease, at a peppercorn rent, of 11 Market Place Stowmarket (the former NatWest Bank building) to the John Peel Centre. This will provide increased opportunities for the Centre as well as frontage onto the town centre.

### **New recycling campaign**

Every year, more than 10,000 tonnes (1 in 5 lorries' worth) of recycling from Suffolk homes is rejected. This is due to residents placing the wrong items in their recycling bins. A new campaign, 'Together we can get our recycling right' has been launched by the Suffolk Waste Partnership to tackle the problem. Leaflets have been delivered to every home in Mid Suffolk.

### **Locality Awards**

We have finalised the list of grants for organisations in Stowupland, as follows:

Falcons Football Club	1000
Telstar magazine	400
Village Hall – shed for baby and toddlers' equipment	500
Cricket Club	1000
Pre School Flooring	850
Leaflets and information boards for parish walks	300

Councillor Keith Welham  
keith.welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk  
Telephone: 01449 673185

Councillor Rachel Eburne  
rachel.eburne@midsuffolk.gov.uk  
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# PUZZLE PAGE ANSWERS

## Solutions for page 23

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

L	I	N	C	O	L	N		L	P
I		A		W		B	E	E	R
T	E	M	P	L	E		L	E	O
T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E		W
L	I	S	T		R	I	V	A	L
E	T			S	O	B	E	R	
W	H	I	S	K			N	I	T
O		T		I	N	N		S	I
O	V	E	R	L	O	A	D	E	D
D	A	M		L	A	P			E

### SUDOKU ANSWERS

1	6	8	4	3	5	2	7	9
2	7	3	8	6	9	5	4	1
9	4	5	2	1	7	8	3	6
7	8	9	1	5	3	4	6	2
4	5	2	6	7	8	9	1	3
6	3	1	9	4	2	7	5	8
8	1	7	3	2	4	6	9	5
5	9	6	7	8	1	3	2	4
3	2	4	5	9	6	1	8	7



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**Distribution Co-Ordinators** – Keith and Cathy Welham – 01449 673185  
Colin Vickridge and Keith Welham are our proofreaders and Jerry Voden chairs meetings of our team. The entire team are unpaid volunteers.

Telstar is distributed by a team of volunteers who deliver the magazine to over 1,100 homes in Stowupland. The magazine is produced every month, with the exception of December and January, which is a combined copy that gives our trusty team of volunteers a well-earned Christmas break!

Telstar is funded by grants from Stowupland Parish Council and Mid Suffolk District Council as well as income from business advertisers.

**Telstar – for the community, by the community.**

## **From the Telstar Committee**

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