



TROSTON PARISH NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2021

The Bull

The Bull recently held its first annual beer & gin festival on the August bank holiday weekend, suffice to say it was a huge success... Well apart from the weather!

We would like to thank everyone for their show of support, we were truly humbled by the turnout! Hopefully the event will be held again next year with perhaps one in May & one in August again. Special thanks to Simon Burgess for allowing The Bull to use an area for car parking.

On another note the second quiz, held this Tuesday gone was very well attended with 9 teams competing for the coveted quiz cup! Well done to the winners! The next quiz will be on Tuesday October 5th, tables will be snapped up quickly for this so best to call ahead and book your table. We'll see you there!

From Ben, Sam & The Bull team

Pear Tree Close not Closed

There seems to be some confusion over access through Pear Tree Close.

In the spirit of trying to clarify matters, first a definition: according to the Highways Act 1980, a private road (or 'unadopted' road) is any highway that's not maintained at public expense.

The Land Registry documents that the Parish hold show Pear Tree Close as a privately-maintained road where the public has a right of way. This means that walkers, including dog walkers, are allowed to use Pear Tree Close to access any adjacent public areas. If it needs repairing, the local authority has the right to make it safe under the Highways Act and charge residents for the work. The residents of Pear Tree Close, however, have formed a management committee in order to maintain the area at their expense.

Villagers are naturally expected to respect the privacy of the residents of the Close and behave sensibly - no shouting or singing late at night - and tip toeing through the gravel!

From Vicki Gay, Parish Clerk

Seeing Yellow?

Could the Parish Council pursue the idea of double yellow lines on Forge Corner? Perhaps the other corners near by? What do other residents think?

Since the Bull has (thankfully reopened) parking is becoming a problem in the village - in particular, with some people leaving their vehicles on Forge Corner. This is a sharp bend where I recall Suffolk County Council Highways insisted 12 years ago that visibility was to be improved with a low fence and a wide verge - not a verge for parking! Indeed, this verge covers the internet router and cables for the

village. Alas, a very shallow cover, as villagers discovered a while back when a heavy vehicle swerved and damaged the cables. Repairs took weeks...

From Doug Walker

Free Meals

In partnership with Honington & Sapiston Parish Council, there are Community Meals (lunch & evenings) available for residents in Troston. These are FREE and have received funding by me to support all residents and families. Please share this invitation with as many people as you can.

The next date is Friday, September 24th Community Supper – doors open 7p.m.

Mini Lamb Shank or Chicken Mushroom Pie, selection of puddings, cheese board.

Fun Quiz, Raffle, Play your cards right.

Please chose and order meals in advance to help with catering - call 01359 268880

Any person(s) wishing to know future dates, please also contact 01359 268880 to receive regular updates.

Wheelchair Access Vehicles in Taxis – Council Survey

West Suffolk Council are seeking the views of taxi users with accessibility needs. This includes people who are wheelchair users, people who have other disabilities as well as people who have mobility issues but would not identify themselves as being disabled.

For your information, there are three different ways you can take part as outlined below:

- Online at <http://www.ctstraffic.co.uk/westsuffolkwavuser>
- By letter to West Suffolk Council WAV Review 2021, CTS Traffic and Transportation, Unit 14 Aqueduct Mill, Aqueduct Street PRESTON PR1 7JN
- By telephone 01772 251400

The surveys will be live until Monday 4th October at 5pm.

From Simon Brown, Troston & Pakenham Ward Councillor

Village Hall

Our well equipped Village Hall is available for bookings and it's great to see it being used again. Covid measures are still in place but they are no longer mandatory - just there for hirers to use, if they wish.

The Committee is urgently seeking a new Secretary - not an onerous task but important. Please contact me on 01359269653 email brendaburridge@hotmail.com

From Brenda Burridge

Pilates

Sabina Sandy is teaching a 6 weeks beginners course, starting on Wednesday 15th September in our Village Hall. There are two sessions to choose from: one from 4.45pm to 5.45pm and the second 6pm to 7pm. The cost is £48 for the complete 6 weeks. Equipment will be provided or bring your own mat. To express an interest in joining one of the classes, please contact me 01359 269467.

From Sue Bishop

Youth Club at RAF Honington

Please join us. We run a range of clubs, trips and holiday activities for ages 5-18 throughout the year. During Covid our sessions took place via ZOOM, and we are very glad to be back together in the club building again!

Our youth services are funded by the RAF Benevolent Fund to support our service children with the challenges that military life can bring. We are able to accept applications from our civilian friends when spaces are not filled. Currently we are accepting applications for our seniors group- ages 11+ and we have waiting lists for our Junior clubs ages 5 to 7 and 8 to 10.

For more info please email Susan.Allington@actionforchildren.org.uk

Removing the risk!

There haven't been many years in my farming career when I have cereals to harvest in September, I viewed a statistic that quoted August 2021 as the third cloudiest on record, I can believe it! Although I wouldn't classify this as extreme weather as the recent events across the world, New York the most recent but we are certainly seeing a change in weather patterns with the extremes becoming more regular, hail, high rainfall, no rainfall and high temperatures to name a few.

As a farming business how we react to this is very challenging and managing and removing the risk to the business even more so. What we grow and how we grow it is a constant balance with the weather playing a significant part in the crops profitability, some crops sugar beet & maize especially, are very dependent on rain during their life and yields can be depleted by 40% without sufficient moisture.

Other crops, Rye & Sunflowers are less dependant on rainfall and can withstand long dry periods without a significant yield penalty. The sunflowers are the most recent change and I hope everyone enjoys their beauty as they flower and provide an amazing habitat for pollinators on a scale never seen on the farm before, the bee keeper certainly approves! Their all too brief flowering is followed by a long maturity until late October / early November when harvesting occurs, once harvested they are dried and stored ready for dispatch to a local merchant who sells them for wild bird seed mixes. I hope the crop continues to perform on the farm and that they bring a ray of sunshine to the village!

From Edward Vipond – Troston Farms

Church News

The Historic Sponsored Ride and Stride is taking place on Saturday 11th September. Most churches in Suffolk will be open to welcome cyclists and walkers who set their own route to visit as many churches as they are able. The proceeds are split equally between The Historic Churches Trust, who award grants, and the church which you are free to nominate. If you would like to give it a go, ask for a sponsor form from me, Jane Harland, on 07957611576 or collect one from the church on Saturday. If you cannot raise sponsorship a small donation to the Trust would be appreciated. I will be riding with my grandson for Troston church,

Harvest Festival this Sunday, 12th September, will be a traditional celebration of this beautiful time of year, with many of your favourite hymns; the donation of a jar/tin will be appreciated by Thetford Foodbank. Following the service there will be an opportunity to get together with a glass of Pimms or a non-alcoholic alternative.

The Blackbourne Ministry Team continues to hold a communion service in Ixworth at 10am each Sunday, which is also livestreamed on the Blackbourne Team Ministry Facebook page. Services are also being held in other local churches; please check the Blackbourne website for details.

We are also continuing to hold other services on Facebook, see; <http://www.facebook.com/BlackbourneTeam>

Look at the Troston Village Facebook site to access the weekly bulletin from the Blackbourne Ministry Team giving details of everything that is going on in the local area which you can be part of.

Morning Prayer	Monday to Saturday	9am
Evening Prayer	Monday to Friday	8pm
Communion	Sunday	8am and 10am
Friday Prayers	Fourth Friday of the month	9am Troston Church
Revd Karen Burton	07546 491388	revkarenburton@outlook.co.uk
Revd Tony Redman	01359 269335 / 07860 868828	tony@theredmans.co.uk

From Jane Harland

Covid cases shoot up

The last week of August saw the number of Covid cases in Suffolk rise by 22% and this increase is set to continue. Suffolk's weekly case hit 231.1 cases per 100,000 population. This is in comparison to 189.9 per 100,000 the previous week and is a steep rise compared to case growth in the East of England. The highest number of cases has been recorded in Newmarket.

The successful take-up of the vaccine programme, however, has reduced the severity of the illness - but the number of hospital beds occupied by positive

patients has risen in Suffolk's four hospitals with 76 patients. There have only been two covid related deaths in the most recent week of data.

Sadly, this disease is still very much in our communities – and while it is hugely important that we live our lives to the fullest and enjoy all that Suffolk has to offer, we must do this with caution.

This means wearing a mask or keeping your distance when you feel it is appropriate or to protect vulnerable people around us. Every act of kindness and consideration to those around you, helps us keep one another safe and stop the spread of the virus.

From Stuart Keeble, Director of Public Health for Suffolk

Ixworth Surgery

The NHS is currently experiencing a shortage of blood test tubes due to a supply chain issues at the manufacturer Becton Dickinson (BD). We have been instructed to postpone non-urgent blood tests until at least the 17th September. It is not clear yet whether the situation will be rectified by this date though. We are continuing to do the most clinically urgent blood tests at the surgery.

We have been notified by Sequiris, our flu vaccine supplier, that our first scheduled delivery of flu jabs has been delayed by more than two weeks. We were expecting this delivery on the week commencing 20th September so we are now anticipating that we will receive them at the start of October.

Hopefully by then we will also have received instruction on the COVID boosters. We are waiting to find out if the COVID vaccine and flu jab can be given at the same time which would help us get through the vaccinations quicker. At present, the guideline states that there should be 7 days between the two. This has been the recommendation since January but it is being reviewed at the moment so could change.

As of 8th September, 90% of all adult patients registered at Ixworth Surgery have now received their first covid vaccination, either at the surgery or at a local centre. 84% of adult patients registered at Ixworth Surgery have received both doses. We have a few more second vaccination clinics scheduled over the next few weeks. We will also be calling in our 16-17 year olds over the next couple of weeks.

We have been trialling and are now implementing a new appointment rota which offers more face to face appointments for all clinicians. This is in an effort to return to operating in a way that is similar to before the pandemic but is still safe for patients and staff.

From Josh Williams, Senior Administrator, Ixworth Surgery

Make one simple change today

I keep hearing about climate change but what can I do? Obviously global industry, national corporations and governments must lead the way to enable us all to make

greener choices. But slowing climate change is everyone's responsibility, we each have a duty to tackle this situation and play our part.

I'd suggest that there is at least one simple change or choice we can make immediately, which will help. This could be to replace one meat-based meal each week with a plant-based one. Or start to swap over your traditional lightbulbs for LED ones. Or switching your gas or electricity tariff to one which uses 100% renewable energy. Or plan your food shopping so that you throw away less food. Or just boil the water you need for that morning coffee or cup of tea. Perhaps plant some trees?

The biggest change we've made is turning our back on fast fashion and spending a little more on clothes produced in this country and to a higher standard. It's too easy to order multiple cheap items online, only to return most of them! Shopping local isn't just good for the local economy but it's better for environment too.

I am not claiming that by doing these simple things, we are going to reverse climate change overnight. The point is to challenge the status quo in our lives and start to change our behaviours.

From Richard Rout

Plant a Tree

Please come and join me - I am planning to plant young trees on Troston's playing field on Sunday 12th December.

The thought is to place an oak tree in the far corner near the BMX circuit, and say five trees along the front of the car park - perhaps birch, rowan, alder? Then perhaps three fruit trees in the corner by the gate at the end of the car park?

A cluster of trees could be planted at the back of the Custom Bikes site near the young children's play area - perhaps a willow, a cherry and a rowan? And a stand of silver birch between the football goal and the house?

The trees are being provided by the Sicon Foundation - a local Charity eager to educate and participate in all forms of carbon reduction in particular tree planting.

From Natasha

Next Meeting?

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday 1st November at 19.30 in the Village Hall.

Please tell me about items you would like to add to the Agenda: 01379 898 733 or email trostonpc@outlook.com

From Vicki Gay, Clerk to the Council
