# TOSTOCK CHRONICLE

# APRIL/MAY 2021

More details and the latest up to date information, including a full colour version of the Chronicle Is available on our village website.

www.tostock.pc.org



**NEW ROAD** 

Photographs by Jim Langlois

364

Daffodils were planted by Lionel Grooms Many years ago



NEW ROAD

#### **Contacts in our Community**

#### **Tostock Parish Councillors**

Parish Council email: <a href="mailto:clerk@tostockpc.org.uk">clerk@tostockpc.org.uk</a> Sharon Burman Chair: Pip Fletcher pip.fletcher2@btinternet.com 01359 270456

ViceChair: Julian Kearsley juliankearsley@btinternet.com David Blundell Tostock.design@btinternet.com Graham MacDowall crispincottage@hotmail.com

Nick Cytacki nickcytacki@gmail.com 01359 271481

Peter Boland Peter.boland@gmail.com

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Marie Johansson oldhallstables@btinternet.com Jane Storey Janestorey@suffolk.gov.uk

**NEXT EDITION:** Is for

JUNE/JULY 2021

Please may I have your contributions on or

**BEFORE 19<sup>th</sup> MAY** 

preferably in word or publisher format, much appreciated.

shirley.nice@btinternet.com

01359 271727

**Footpath Officers** 

Adrian Malcom & John Cytaki

**Tree Officer** VACANT

**Litter Picker** 

Jim Langlois jimlanglois@btinternet.com 01359 270456 **Suffolk County Council** JaneStorey@suffolk.gov.uk 01359 240555 Jane Storey St Andrews Church

kavalentine677@gmail.com 01359 235095 Rector: Katherine Valentine Friends/Warden: Jeanne O'Reilly Bell Ringers: Sue Marriott Poor's Estate: Sharon Markell

Village Hall Chair: Graham MacDowell

Hall Bookings: Doreen Buckle tostocktvh@hotmail.co.uk <u>Pub</u>

The Gardners: Steve & Jill Gardner 01359 270460 Clubs Past & Present: Sarah Scully 01359 270482 Tennis Club: Elizabeth Dunn ejd1@talktalk.net 01359 270270 Susie Walton susiewalton85@gmail.com 07793406076

crispincottage@hotmail.com

Book Club: Julie Harrison Carpet Bowls: Doreen Buckle Toddlers: Julie Harrison

Tostock Chronicle: Shirley Nice

Sarah Reader Jim Langlois- Photography

Website:

Diane Mathews www.tostockpc.org

\*Anyone wishing to add their email, please get in touch.

**Emergency** 

Police/Fire/Ambulance

999

**Services** 

**Health** 

Woolpit Health Centre 01359 240298

Out of Hours 111

West Suffolk Hospital 01284 713000 Samaritans 01284 750000 Drugs Hotline 0800 253 253

**Police** 

Non-emergency 101 **Crime Stoppers** 555

Leisure

0330 333 4444 Cineworld Theatre Royal 01284 769505 01284 758000 Apex Picture House 01284 754477

Travel

Bus: www.travel-galloway.com 01449 766323

Rail:

01440 712048 Dial a Ride

shirley.nice@btinternet.com

reader-family@tiscali.co.uk

jimlanglois@btinternet.com

### **MSDC**

01359 270337

270143

271190

270605

01359 270247

01359 270605

01359 271727

01359 270456

270247

01359

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01359

01359

#### REPORTING

anti-social behaviour / bonfires, Environmental Health reporting tool www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/environment. potholes, overhanging trees and any other road / roadside issues can be raised on the Highways reporting tool www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport.

#### INFORMATION

Suffolk Community Foundation grants@suffolkcf.org.uk



It is thanks to Judy Swallow that this bench sits alongside the footpath looking across the Paddocks.

It is in memory of her husband Adrian who enjoyed the view from this spot.



Adrian's View











I have a selection of Suffolk and Tostock local scenes printed onto A6 Greeting Cards which normally would cost £2.50 each. But whilst we are in **lockdown** conditions, I have **reduced** the cost to £2.00 (until the  $30^{th}$  June 2021). They are all my pictures, taken over the last few years.

Each card is individually wrapped in a sealed cellophane wrapper, with a white envelope and are blank allowing you to add your own personal greeting.

If you are interested please contact me for a full list: Jim Langlois, Pynnor, Norton Road, Tostock Tel No: 01359 270456 jimlanglois@btinternet.com

# 41<sup>st</sup> Tostock Art Show – New 2021 Dates

It is disappointing to hear that the Government's COVID roadmap means that we will not be able to hold the Tostock Art Show at the usual time in June. The good news is that this very popular event has been rescheduled, COVID restrictions willing, for September, alongside Open Gardens.

The artworks will be displayed in the beautiful St Andrew's Church in Tostock.

### **New Diary Dates**

Frid, 17 September	7pm – 9.30pm	Art Show Preview Evening
Sat, 18 September	10am – 6pm	Art Show
Sun, 19 September	10am – 5pm	Art Show
	11am - 5pm	Open Gardens

There are lots of opportunities to get involved over the weekend. Help is needed with setting up and dismantling the marquees and stands, baking and serving refreshments, being on the rota etc.

If you are interested in helping, please get in touch.

Diane Mathews: <u>dianemathews52@gmail.com</u> or phone 07764872900.

Vanessa Malcom: vjmalcom@aol.com or phone 07912 419936

### **Art Show organisers**



# TOSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

First the good news! Following the government's roadmap out of lockdown we can look forward to once again holding regular meetings in the village hall, where residents can join us. This means that by the end of the year we should have a good idea for any projects that the Parish Council can work towards. The first planned meeting will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, and this will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Obviously, this assumes that there are no delays in the roadmap. At that meeting we will decide on further meetings throughout 2021, and will post the dates on the website, the Parish Council noticeboard and in the Chronicle.

Suffolk County Council Highways have at last approved the siting of the posts for our Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), and we are now waiting for them to erect the posts. Once this is done, we should be able to go ahead and we will be seeking volunteers to help move the SIDs on a regular basis and re-charge the batteries from time to time.

Once again, I would like to emphasise that there are various reporting tools available on both Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council websites. These include the highways reporting tool (<a href="www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport">www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport</a>) which is useful for reporting potholes, flooding, fallen trees etc.; the environmental health reporting tool (<a href="www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/">www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/</a>) for reporting anti-social behaviour or environmental issues etc; and the waste reporting tool (<a href="www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/waste-services/dog-bins-litter-and-fly-tipping/">www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/waste-services/dog-bins-litter-and-fly-tipping/</a>) for reporting fly-tipping and other waste issues. Anyone can report issues using these tools but if you have any trouble with this then, of course, please get in touch with a council member.

Many residents contact the litter picker if they come across fly-tipping. Whilst this is one way of dealing with it (the litter picker regularly reports fly-tipping) it means that he has to go out to the site to see the nature of the problem before a report can be made, and this may delay reporting. If you are able to report it yourself please do so.

Finally, please feel that you can contact any councillor if you have a concern or an issue that you wish to bring to our attention. We may not be able to help directly but we can almost certainly point you in the right direction for some assistance.

Pip Fletcher and Julian Kearsley
Chair and Vice-Chair, Tostock Parish Council



#### **Tostock Past & Present Newsletter March 2021**

We now seem to be emerging from lockdown etc with a brighter future on the horizon. Sarah our Speaker's

Secretary has been busy reorganising our speakers for 2021 and 2022. Provisionally we would like to relaunch the Tostock Past & Present Society on September 7th 2021.

I have listed below the speakers we have booked for the rest of 2021 and the early months of 2022.

I know that some of our members paid a full subscription in February 2020 and the committee will be meeting before September to decide how we go forward with particular reference to

subscriptions, AGM's etc. My view is that the committee should set out proposals in September which would be voted on by a simple show of hands.

Please do get in touch with me if you have any comments you wish to make as to how we go forward from here.

Anthony Scully (Chairman)

#### 2021

September 7th - Clive Stevens - The Friendly Invasion of the USAAF during WW II
In East Anglia.

October 5th - Clive Shepherd & Maria Cook - **The Blood Runners (transporting blood**& **life saving commodities round the UK)** 

November 2nd- Ashley Cooper - A Thousand Years of Local Literature, Letters & Diaries from East Anglia

December 7th – David Lilley - The Mitford Sisters

#### 2022

February 1st - Andy Mason - SARS: Suffolk Accident Rescue

March 1st- Roy Tricker - 100 plus-and Not Out! How Suffolk obtained its own

Cathedral. Bishop & Diocese

April 5th - Bryan Thurlow - The Burston School Strike

# **Tostock Village Hall News**

# April & May 2021

# Spring has sprung & The Roadmap lights the way forward...

With the guidance of the Government's Roadmap easing us out of the current lockdown restrictions, the next few months will hopefully see a gradual return to most aspects of village life. All of the Village Hall's outdoor sports facilities, including the outdoor gym equipment, will be able to be used again from 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Please remember to refer to the relevant safety notices and maintain the required social distancing when using the equipment, or any of the other outdoor areas.

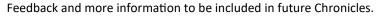


If the roadmap run smoothly, from 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 onwards, the Hall will be able to once again be used for many indoor events, which is great to hear! All of the groups who regularly use the hall are being contacted about their planned return and will need to ensure they meet in accordance with current Covid-19 secure safety measures, which will initially include the hall operating at a reduced capacity and the 'Rule of Six' remaining in place. If you have any questions regarding the re-opening of the hall, please email: tostockvillagehall@outlook.com



# A BIG THANKS to all for such a Great Response to the Village Hall Survey!

Your views and opinions are very much appreciated and will help make a difference to the future shape of the hall.



Well done to Sue & Richard Bishop who won the £50 Voucher



#### Village Hall Outside Play Area Maintenance and Improvement Work

The coming months will see some maintenance and improvement work being carried out on the play area. This will include the climbing frame, which has recently been fenced off, being repaired - our apologies that this has been out of action, we have been awaiting the replacement part from the manufacturers of the equipment. Our play equipment should always be fit for plenty of safe fun, and is regularly inspected – however, if you ever notice any damage please help us by reporting it immediately to <a href="mailto:tostockvillagehall@outlook.com">tostockvillagehall@outlook.com</a>

#### **New Football Posts**

A new set of football posts will also shortly be installed on the playing fields – this smaller five a side pitch will hopefully be enjoyed by many younger players.



# Village Hall Wild Flower Meadow

Thanks to those families who volunteered to help sow this year's seeds. You have hopefully had your seeds and been able to sow them, and we all look forward to seeing the wild flower meadow flourish in the months ahead.



# Many thanks to all for kindly remembering to KEEP YOUR DOGS ON LEADS

when walking through or using the Village Hall's paths and playing fields.



New signs have sadly had to be purchased to replace those which were needlessly vandalised and stolen in February. This matter was reported to the Police who took it very seriously as it constituted two criminal offences. Should anyone have any further information relating to this crime which took place around 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the Police have asked that they contact them directly quoting the crime number: 37/8112/21



#### HOLD THE DATE:

# 41st Tostock Art Show

New 2021 Dates; 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021

The Tostock Art Show has been re-scheduled, and Covid Restrictions allowing, will now take place over the weekend of  $17^{th}$  – 19th September 2021 in its usual venue at

Tostock's St Andrew Church.

Please see the separate notice providing further detail about this great village event.

## HOLD THE DATE: TOSTOCK FIREWORKS, SAT 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

The first planning meeting will take place in the coming months, and we will look forward to seeing all of the event team again. There is always space for more willing helpers, so if you weren't previously involved, and would like to be



- please email hannahgracejones@hotmail.com

# \* OPENING FOR BOOKINGS FROM 17th MAY 2021

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\*\* Booking restrictions in line with the Government's roadmap will apply



#### St Andrew's Church Tostock

#### (Benefice of Pakenham, Norton & Tostock with Great Ashfield, Hunston & Stowlangtoft)

Rector: Revd Katherine Valentine Tel 01359 235095 Email:kavalentine677@gmail.com (new email!)

Website: for more details of all our churches - including Tostock - see the

national Church of England website www.achurchnearyou.com

Our benefice Church magazine is also available online at www.vcnews.org.uk

#### **BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICES & OPENING TIMES APRIL 2021**

Please find below details of the services we plan to hold in April. Norton, Tostock & Pakenham will continue to be open for private prayer Sundays and Wednesdays 10am-4pm, and Great Ashfield Sundays only 10am-4pm.

It is not possible to plan for May at the moment, but our aim will be to continue to provide one service in the benefice each Sunday, as long as places of worship can remain open. Please see local church notice boards for information, or feel free to contact me or your churchwardens.

1ST MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30pm Holy Communion followed by

Stripping of the altar and vigil of prayer Pakenham

2ND GOOD FRIDAY

10am Good Friday Meditations Tostock

2pm Good Friday Meditations Great Ashfield

4TH EASTER DAY

6.30am Holy Communion (BCP) Norton
10am Easter Morning Worship Tostock

10am Easter Morning Worship Great Ashfield
10am Family@Church with Communion Pakenham
11am Holy Communion Hunston

11TH 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

10am Benefice Communion Norton

14th Wednesday

10am Holy Communion Tostock

18TH 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

10am Benefice Communion Great Ashfield

21st Wednesday

10am Holy Communion Pakenham

25TH 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10am Benefice Communion Tostock

28th Wednesday

10am Holy Communion Norton

#### ONLINE SERVICES.

Our **You Tube Channel reflections** will continue for those who wish to worship at home. If you haven't already tried them you can just enter "Pakenham Benefice' into a You Tube search to see the latest offering. You can also look at your own parish's **A Church Near You** website - just google 'A Church Near You' and put in the name of your own village to see the latest video reflection.

**Sunday Services and Daily Prayers** are being streamed live from both the Cathedral and the Bishops, and you can access these via the cathedral website <a href="https://stedscathedral.org">https://stedscathedral.org</a>, or the diocesan website: <a href="https://www.cofesuffolk.org/our-bishops/">https://www.cofesuffolk.org/our-bishops/</a> or you can look at the Church of England website <a href="https://www.churchofengland.org">https://www.churchofengland.org</a> to join in services from churches around the country.

Continued

#### **EASTER PRAYERS for you to use at home.**

#### MAUNDY THURSDAY

Lord Jesus Christ, You taught us

that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters

we do also for you:

give us the will to be the servant of others

as you were the servant of all

and gave up your life and died for us,

but are alive and reign, now and forever. Amen.

from the liturgy for Maundy Thursday, Common Worship.



#### **GOOD FRIDAY**

By your wounded hands:

teach us diligence and generosity.

By your wounded feet:

teach us steadfastness and perseverance.

By your wounded and insulted head:

teach us patience, clarity and self-mastery.

By your wounded heart:

teach us love, teach us love, teach us love,

O Master and Saviour, Amen.

by Daphne Fraser

#### **EASTER DAY**

Reach out In spirit; roll away the stone of doubt and from the depths of faith receive the Risen Christ in the sacrament of this present moment.

by Lorna Nevitt

Everything is subject to change at the moment, but be assured that the people of all our villages are in my prayers, and that will not change. We can all be constant in our prayers for all those we know in any kind of trouble, facing any kind of challenge, and needing any kind of help. With every blessing, Katherine.

\*

### St. Andrews Church news

We are now looking forward to Easter, and to decorating the Church.

Throughout Lent, there have been no flowers in Church, but the porch has been beautiful, with colourful arrangements to show that the church is open as much as possible.



If anyone would like to sponsor stems of lilies for the Easter decoration, we would be most grateful.

Please contact: Julie Harrison or Jeanne O'Reilly.

The monthly Cake Delivery is still carrying on – Last April we thought it might last a few months, but a year later it is still happening! Thanks to the kind ladies who take turns to provide the cakes which are enjoyed by all our "Regular Coffee Morning people"- hopefully one day we shall be able to meet on the Green once more.

The six Church Bells have not been rung altogether for a long time now. For some of the Benefice, Services, three have been rung, but our tower is very narrow and six ringers stand too close to observe the social distancing rules. But on the recent occasion of Captain Sir Tom Moore's funeral, Churches were asked to ring one bell one hundred times in tribute to him at midday. The Tostock Ringers are very proud that our tenor bell was rung one hundred times by **Jim Langlois**. Many thanks, Jim, from us all !

Following a recent PCC Meeting on Zoom (very exciting for our members), the AGM has been arranged for Tuesday May 18<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30pm, but the venue has yet to be decided, hopefully we may be able to meet in Church.

The Prayer Tree in the Porch has many messages on it's branches and we hope that people will continue to add more as Easter approaches.



#### COUNTRY LIFE - D. POOLE NUMBER 38

Because of the state of the Corona virus have left us all in, we all need something extra special to give us a pick me up and lift to boost our morale and raise our spirits. I think I've got the very solution and answer to do just that. There is no better or more striking colourful bird in the whole of the U.K. than the impressive Kingfisher, with its iridescent turquoise blue/green body, bright orange breast and a light blue streak running down its back, long straight black bill reddish at the base and red legs, it just has to be a winner, surely. I have to go back 40 years plus for my very first sighting of a Kingfisher, which was at a stretch of river called the Linnet, a tributary of the river Lark, down at Raingate Street in Bury St Edmunds, which was my place of work at that time, and during my lunch break I use to observe this most impressive bird, towards the end I could almost predict exactly the time it would come and land on this twig, hence my very first photograph of a Kingfisher shown here now.



My friend Sally has informed me more recently that she has seen one down at the bridge on Norton Road where the river runs under the road. The best places where you are almost guaranteed to see one is at the Kingfisher hide Lackford Lakes (SWT), just 20 minutes drive from Tostock, other good places further afield, are RSPB Rye Mead Herts, Fowlmere Cambs, Minsmere Suffolk, Sculthorpe Moor and Strumpshaw Fen Norfolk, also Hickling Broad or Lakenheath Fen Suffolk.

I have over the years photographed Kingfishers at all these places, hence all these lovely photographs you are about to see. Kingfishers not only fly low along the flow of the river they can also fly quite high and will travel from pond to pond, river to river and small streams, also if you have fish ponds here in your own gardens in Tostock, it is almost likely you will get a visit sooner rather than later, Mike Bauly has informed me he has one regularly on his fish pond.

The Kingfisher family, or Alcedinidae, is one of seven families belonging to the Coraciiformes. This family contains 90 species, all are alive today, it's representatives can be found in every part of the world not including the Polar regions. The Kingfisher is divided into two sub families, Alcedinidae and the Daceloninae, these comprise of the large forest Kingfishers which do not prey on fish and not dependent on water as habitat. Hoopoes, Bee-eaters, and Rollers and it is hard to believe that the enormous Hornbills are all part of the Coraciiformes. The Alcedinidae are the birds we think of as true Kingfishers. They are smaller with long, stout, pointed bills, short legs and a habitat of perching upright, it is this group of birds that prey on fish. They are all similar in shape and habits to the European Kingfisher. Alcedo-atthis, which is the most wide spread Kingfisher in the world including the British Isles.







Kingfishers are much smaller than people imagine before they see one, they are 17 to 18 cm from the bill tip to the end of their short tail, with a body size not much bigger than a Sparrows, although the appearance is much more heavy and thick set, most weigh between 35 and 40 gms. The plumage is a beautiful blend of brilliant turquoise on the back and rump, with cobalt coloured wings.

Continued

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A Kingfisher can actually be difficult to spot in its natural environment, even when in full view. Yet there are clues. Listen - Their calls are the easiest way to track one down, usual call is a sharp very high-pitched sound, not unlike a Dunnock but more emphatic, roughly written as (chee) or (kee) and sometimes developed into a (chikee) or a more elaborate trill, it often signifies that it has already seen you and it makes off at full speed so you have to be quick to catch a glimpse. With luck, though, it might be a Kingfisher flying to a new perch, calling as it arrives, ready to sit in full view where you can see it. Then, if you are careful you can be in for a treat, because Kingfishers will sit in one spot for several minutes and are not too flighty if you keep quiet and still. They live near clean water. They fish in streams and rivers, mostly quite slow flowing or at least sluggish back waters and eddies, they like flooded gravel pits, lakes and lagoons, clean ditches and dykes. In the breeding season they need a bank of earth, more or less vertical and over water. Such banks can be artificially provided to help the birds and encourage them into a new area. They tunnel into the earth, make a long narrow burrow with a nest chamber at the end rising slightly at the back. Their distribution is therefore principally influenced by their availability of food, in water in which they can catch it and the presence of a suitable bank for tunnelling. Kingfishers feed on fish. They prefer fresh water fish such as bullheads, Loach, Minnows, Sticklebacks, tiny Roach, Perch and other common species, they also eat insects especially may flies, dragonflies, bugs and beetles, the larvae of caddis flies, prawns and shrimps are also taken under water. Fish are caught after a dive from a low perch or if no perches are available, they hover – see first picture of 3 on first page. The plunge is helped by a few vigorous wing beats and the bird may penetrate two or more rarely three feet below the surface, as it plunges fine membranes protect the eyes, it grasps a fish in its bill then turns and rises to the surface with a few flaps of its wings and shoots back up to its perch. The whole sequence takes little more than a second. An adult Kingfisher stays quite dry after a dive but young birds can become quite water logged and may die through drowning or exposure when they become saturated and heavy. Adult birds catch fish perhaps four times out of five, but a young bird might make ten or a dozen attempts before its first success, although its catch rate soon improves. This learning period, especially if the weather is cold, which increases the risk of chilling, it's a dangerous one for the young birds. About 75% of all young Kingfishers will die within a year, mostly within a few weeks of leaving the nest. Yet the adults suffer similar loss each year. New numbers are maintained by a high production of young - on average 6.5 per pair each year reaching the fledging stage. From 100 adults or 50 pairs, there would be 325 young. After a year of numbers surviving would be 24 adults and 80 youngsters – actually a slight increase overall. After bad Winters, when the ice locks away their food supply many Kingfishers die, they can increase their numbers at a faster rate to make good their losses. Kingfishers have a short life span. The oldest ring bird was under 5 years old. Perhaps unexpectedly, 15% of Kingfishers are killed by road traffic and another 8% kill themselves against windows. Sparrowhawks take some too, and many are still affected by chemical pollution. Being fish eaters at the top of the food chain they are especially vulnerable to chemical contamination. They are noisy in Spring, when searching for a mate. When a pair meet, they show a mixture of courtship and aggression and may chase up and down a section of river at high speed, one or both may speed along the riverside tree tops, whistling in excitement. The male will present a fish to his new mate and this eventually becomes a frequent event, helping to bond the pair together and increasing their mutual trust as well as ensuring the good condition of the female. Soon the pair will seek a likely bank and begin their tunnelling.







They dig into the top metre of the face of the bank and usually this is only a metre or so above the water. Both birds dig, by flying at the bank and pecking until a proper foothold is established when they can work away like a Woodpecker. The finished tunnel is usually 60 to 90 cm long but some are quite short. Towards the inside end, the level tunnel begins to rise slightly, which helps to drain away the mess produced later by the chicks.

#### Page 3

The eggs are laid on bare soil in a rounded chamber. They are round and white, becoming shiny, which probably helps the birds to see them in the dark. Most clutches are laid at the end of March or early April and usually six or seven eggs are laid. They are incubated for 19 or 20 days and all hatch almost together. The chicks are not very pretty babies and soon become noisy, greedy little things, constantly ready to accept another fish. Sometimes they are fed fish so large that the head end has to be partially digested before the tail end can be gulped down. The parents have to work very hard. Each chick has up to 18 fish a day, each parent Kingfisher have to catch over 50 fish each day to feed its family, plus whatever it needs to feed itself perhaps another 15 fish. The chicks soon learn to squirt excreta towards the light so the tunnel entrance becomes soiled and a trickle of white outside shows that a family is in occupation of the tunnel/burrow. After about 25 days the youngsters leave, to see the bright, wide open spaces of the world outside for the first time. They are fed by their parents for just a few days 3 or 4 may be, before they have to fend for themselves. This is a very bad time for them. When they need to be able to settle down, learn how to fish and find their way about the river, they are chased off by their parents and have to fight amongst themselves for a suitable stretch of river. It seems odd that the parent birds are more concerned with starting a second brood, within a week of getting rid of the first, than caring for their offspring a little longer and ensuring that they get a good start in life instead, the young birds have a very tough baptism and many fail to make it.







Finally, to summarise things up. The very first day at my Secondary Modern School, all those many years ago, all us newcomers were divided into 4 teams each with a colour. First team was Foster colour yellow, then Fisher blue, Haddow red and finally Stanley green. I was put into Fisher house, and I am convinced that this influenced me to choose blue as my favourite colour, particularly cobalt and kingfisher blue, I am also positive that this also influenced me to make this magnificent bird the Kingfisher with these exuberant colours, one of my most favourite birds. I am extremely rewarded and grateful to this bird for allowing me into its world observing and photographing such a very private part of the Kingfishers life. In return they have been a massive big part of my life, leaving me with images and memories that will live with me for ever. You cannot enjoy country life without our rivers and without Kingfishers not forgetting all you anglers out there as well, who also get so much pleasure from them too.

Good luck

# Excerpt from Tostock Chronicle No 141 Dec 1983-Jan 1984.

The Late Mrs Blanche Pamment.

With the death of Mrs. B.K. Pamment at No2, The Croft, on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, Tostock lost its oldest inhabitant and one of its few Victorians.

Blanche Kezia Peck was born in Lowestoft on 25th August, 1889.

In her early teens she went to work in London in domestic service and there she met a Tostock young man Ernest Charles Pamment who was working in Paternoster Row for St George Williams,



founder of the Y.M.C.A. The family still possess the bible he presented to all his staff.

They came back to Tostock to marry in St. Andrew's Church on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1909; so she spent 74 years in this village. She is survived by her son and daughter, five grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

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