

Dec / Jan
2025

385

Tostock Chronicle

www.tostockpc.org.uk

Get the latest on news and events, a digital copy of the Chronicle, and a village map, online

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As another year draws to a close I would like to thank all the villagers who give up their time, and sometimes money, to help others in the village, and to have made some memorable events for all our entertainment in 2024. I would encourage more locals to help out in 2025 and to frequent some of the great events that will be on offer.



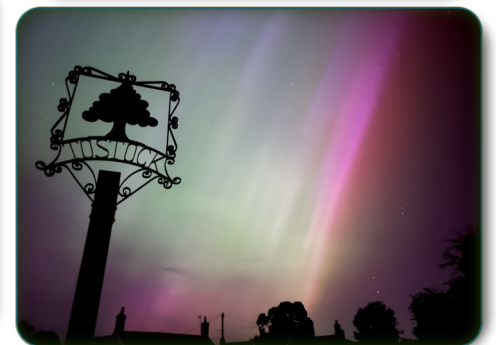
Some of the flower arrangements created locally for events in the village



Coming Soon

Past & Present — Music and Meal evening on December 7th at the Village Hall from 7pm.

Cinderella— A Fairytale Pantomime - 15th December at the Village Hall at 1:00pm



Regulars

Past & Present — Every 1st Tuesday of the month from 7.30 pm in the village hall

Coffee Mornings — Every 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10.30 am. In the village hall.

Bingo — Every last Tuesday of the month from 2.00 pm in the village hall

Return of a Bus Service to Tostock!

Daniel Trent
Dan's Coach Travel

Dan's Coach Travel have been keen to restore the Stowmarket to Bury St Edmunds corridor to its former glory. We currently run the service on a basic timetable but now extending our routes. We are pleased to announce Tostock (after being requested) will be reintroduced when the changes come into force on 2nd December 2024. There will be two connections towards Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket throughout the day. But as usual these service can only survive with use, which we desperately need, as we plan to provide these services 52 weeks a year Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

The Tostock service is called DB1 and starts on December 2, at 9:34 and 17:05 from Bury, and 7:59 and 13:16 to Bury.

Timetables are available online at www.danscoachtravel.co.uk or on our Facebook page. We will update the bus shelter too. Any enquiries on the phone please call 07429 312227 between 10.00 and 14.00 M-F. We look forward to seeing you soon!

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Dianne Brewer

A very big thankyou for all who came to the McMillan coffee morning, and everyone who donated. So generous, we raised a staggering £1,010 for this very worthy charity.

Church Bazaar

Thanks to all our helpers for the Bazaar, and thanks too to everyone who attended ! The total raised for Church Funds so far is a wonderful £915.

Jeanne O'Reilly

Parish Clerk clerk@tostockpc.org.uk

Rates

Quarter Page £90 pa
Half Page £160 pa

Advertising

Next Edition Feb 2025 / Mar 2025

Please may I have your contributions on or before **15th JANUARY**, preferably in Word format

kim.mars84@gmail.com

07950 682 499

TOSTOCK PAST & PRESENT SOCIETY

Invite you to an evening
of Live Music and Meal

Saturday December 7th @ 7pm
Tostock Village Hall
EVERYONE WELCOME!

Lasagne, bread stick & salad followed by dessert
Vegan, vegetarian and gluten free available
but must be ordered in advance

Soft drinks, tea, coffee all included
for other drinks please bring your own



Tickets £15 per person
Please contact John Parnum

johnparnum@yahoo.com 07855260669

Tostock Pantomime

Andrew Marriott



THE MARRIOTT BROTHERS PRESENT

Cinderella

A fairytale pantomime

TOSTOCK VILLAGE HALL
SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 2024
Doors open at 12:15
Performance at 13:00

All proceeds go to support the Lullaby Trust

SCAN FOR TICKETS!

STANDARD TICKET £8
UNDER 12s £6.50
UNDER 5s GO FREE

OR VISIT
<https://tinyurl.com/tostock-panto>

Refreshments and snacks available (CASH ONLY)
Additional donations gratefully received.

Taking on the 2025 London Marathon in Aid of The Lullaby Trust

In April 2025 I will be running the TCS London Marathon on behalf of a wonderful charity: **The Lullaby Trust**.

The Lullaby Trust raises awareness of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), provides expert advice on safer sleep for babies and offers emotional support for bereaved families. In the UK, 182 babies are lost to SIDS every year, with 89% of those deaths happening in the first 6 months. Having become a father last year, I simply can't comprehend how devastating the loss of a child must be, under any circumstances, which is why I'd like to do any small thing I can to help the parents and families affected by something as tragic as SIDS.

So, this Christmas, along with some exceptionally talented and generous friends and family, we are excited to be bringing **Cinderella, a Fairytale Pantomime** to the stage at Tostock Village Hall, with all proceeds from this festive, family event going to

my marathon fundraising target of £2,000. Tickets can be purchased online (see accompanying ad above), or from Tostock's very own box office at The Wayletts, Church Road, IP30 9PE.

I hope you'll agree this is a worthwhile cause and a great opportunity to do something as a community that could make a huge difference to the lives of affected parents and families.

Separate donations to my fundraiser can also be made via my JustGiving page:
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/andrew-marriott-1717698920611>

With thanks and very best wishes to all. Andrew.

Tostock Village Hall

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Your Local Venue

Contact **Doreen Buckle**
01359 270605

or email
tostocktvh@hotmail.co.uk
to reserve it for your event

Mobile Library

The mobile library will be in Tostock on **December 27th** at the following times

Perkins Way 15.40 - 16.00
The Gardeners Arms 16.05 - 16.25



Andrew Marriott – Taking on the 2025 TCS London Marathon in Support of The Lullaby Trust

In 2025 I will be running the TCS London Marathon, raising funds for and representing a wonderful and very important charity: The Lullaby Trust.

The Lullaby Trust raises awareness of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), provides expert advice on safer sleep for babies and offers emotional support for bereaved families. In the UK, 182 babies are lost to SIDS every year, with 89% of those deaths happening in the first 6 months.

Last year I became a father; an event that has changed and enriched my life beyond words. I adore my son, totally and utterly, and I know I'm not alone on feeling that way as a parent. So, to think even for a moment how devastating the loss of a child, under any circumstances, must be for the parents and families concerned, and particularly in the case of SIDS where so many of these tragic, tragic deaths occur seemingly without explanation is just beyond my comprehension, which is why I'd like to do any small thing I can to help.

I have a £2,000 target to reach by April next year and would of course be extremely grateful for any donations that you, the lovely people of Tostock, can spare. Our special little village is very much playing its part in my preparation for the Marathon. The fields, footpaths and lanes are providing a wonderful backdrop to a lot of my training runs – you may see me and my daft dog Nelson plodding by at some point in the coming months.



Donations can be made via my JustGiving page:
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/andrew-marriott-1717698920611>

A festive fundraiser is taking place on **Sunday 15th December** in the Village Hall for everyone to come and enjoy. See page 3 for details, and be sure to come prepped with bags of Christmas cheer and good old British eccentricity....

“Andrew said he’s running the London Marathon???”

“OH NO HE DIDN’T!”

“OH YES HE DID!”

With thanks and best wishes to all.

Andrew and Nelson Marriott



What's Brewing at The Gardeners' Arms

Christmas Events

- 4th - Tostock Dangerous Men's Gathering
- 6th - 100 Club Village Lottery Draw
- 11th - Crib Practice and Social - 8pm onwards
- 14th - Bingo Night - 7pm onwards
- 21st - Closed from 6pm - Private Christmas Party
- 22nd - The Last Sunday Roast of the Year
- 24th - Xmas Eve Drinks and a Thank You Buffet from us
- 25th - Xmas Day Drinks - 11.30am to 3.30pm
- 26th - Boxing Day Drinks - 12.30 to 3.30pm
- 27th - 4pm to 9pm
- 28th - 12.30 - 9pm
- 29th - 12.30 to 4pm
- 30th - Closed
- 31st - The Big End of Year Quiz followed by Party, starts 7pm
- 1st to 7th January - We will be Closed

Please check our website for further details

Opening Times

December	
Monday -	Closed
Tuesday -	4pm - 8pm
Wednesday -	4pm - 8pm
Thursday -	4pm - 8pm
Friday -	12.30 - 3pm
	4pm - 9pm
Saturday -	12.30 - 9pm
Sunday -	12.30 - 6pm

Ring in the New Year at The Gardeners Arms!

Join us for our Big End of Year Quiz & Party this New Year's Eve! Test your knowledge, enjoy great company, and celebrate the countdown with us in true Gardeners Arms style. There'll be plenty of laughs, and a festive atmosphere to make it a night to remember. Book your spot now and let's say goodbye to 2024 in style!



What a Year at The Gardeners Arms!

It's been a massive year for us here, and we'd like to say a huge thank you to all our amazing customers for your continued support. We truly hope you're enjoying the improvements we've made - it's all for you!

As for 2025, we're excited to bring even more to the table, including themed food nights, special Over 60s Club menus, and a surprise we're keeping under wraps for now.

Here's to the future and making The Gardeners Arms even better! Cheers to you all!



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

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



Carols sing along with the Salvation Army band Tues 17th Dec 7.30pm at St Andrew's Tostock in aid of St Nicholas' Hospice and the Salvation Army.

We look forward to seeing you! Happy Christmas and every blessing for the New Year.
Revd Katherine Valentine.

I just want to say a big thank you to all our wonderful flower ladies who have kept the Church looking so beautiful throughout the whole year, and specially during the various festivals and events in the Church. We will be decorating for the Christmas season soon and I'm sure you'll make it look as amazing as always. We welcomed Sharon Markell to our team this year, she has already made some wonderful displays.

I'd also like to thank our team of cleaners who turn up each week and keep the Church looking so well looked after, It is often commented on by visitors. I must also thank The Bell Ringers who turn up and ring for all our services and special events.

Happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year
from all at St. Andrews.

Sue Marriott

Tuesday Dec.10th is our next Coffee Morning, at 10:30 am in the Village Hall. This will be our annual Charity event, when we shall be raising funds for the St. Nicholas Hospice in Bury St. Edmunds. Please come along!

Sunday Dec.15th , the Carol Service at 3pm.

Tuesday Dec.17th, Norton Salvation Army Band will be playing Carols in Church at 7:30pm.

Tuesday Dec.24th , the Children's Crib Service at 3pm, to hear the Christmas Story - sweets provided afterwards!

The Church Floodlights are sponsored by Mr & Mrs Temple-Nidd, to celebrate the births of Luna, Esme and Rosie Runswick, all born during 2023-24. The babies' fathers are three brothers .Congratulations to all the Families!

Jeanne O'Reilly

Services at Romney Cottage, The Green, Tostock.

All are welcome to this informal worship where we sing and pray together for our village, and enjoy refreshments afterwards. Usually on the third Monday morning of the month at 10:00 am.

Carols 9th December & Songs of Praise 20th January at 10am

St Andrew's Church Tostock

DECEMBER 1ST ADVENT SUNDAY		
8 am 10 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Family@Church CHRISTINGLE <i>Come at 9:30 to make your Christingle</i>	Norton Pakenham
DECEMBER 8TH 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
DECEMBER 15TH 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
9.30 am 11 am 2:30 pm 3 pm 4 pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Family Communion CAROL SERVICE CAROL SERVICE <i>You are invited to bring a gift for a child in Bury Women's Aid Centre</i> VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE	Pakenham Great Ashfield Hunston Tostock Norton Village Hall
DECEMBER 22ND 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
11am 11am 3 pm 5 pm 6:30 pm	Morning Worship Family Communion CAROL SERVICE CAROL SERVICE CAROL SERVICE	Tostock Norton Stowlangtoft Great Ashfield Pakenham
DECEMBER 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE		
3 pm 11:30 pm	CRIB SERVICE <i>Children are invited to come dressed as Angels, Shepherds or Wise Men</i> MIDNIGHT COMMUNION	Tostock Tostock
DECEMBER 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY		
9:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 11 am 11 am	FAMILY FESTIVAL COMMUNION FAMILY FESTIVAL COMMUNION CRIB SERVICE FAMILY FESTIVAL COMMUNION FAMILY FESTIVAL COMMUNION	Hunston Pakenham Great Ashfield Tostock Norton
DECEMBER 29TH 1ST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS		
10 am	Benefice Communion Service	Norton
JANUARY 5TH EPIPHANY SUNDAY		
8 am 10 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Family@Church— EPIPHANY	Norton Pakenham
JANUARY 12TH 2ND SUNDAY of EPIPHANY		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
JANUARY 19TH 3RD SUNDAY of EPIPHANY		
9.30 am 11 am 11 am 4 pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion United service for Week of prayer for Christian Unity	Pakenham Norton Great Ashfield Norton Salvation Army
JANUARY 26TH 4TH SUNDAY of EPIPHANY		
9.30 am 9:30 am 11 am 11 am	TOAST Family Communion Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship	Great Ashfield Norton Hunston Tostock

Tostock Village Hall News

The Village Hall Committee held their last meeting on Tuesday, 24th September 2024. The next meeting is due to be held in January 2025. If you have any questions regarding the village hall and its surrounding areas, please contact us via tostockvillagehall@outlook.com

For all booking enquiries, please email tostocktvh@hotmail.co.uk



...at the **Big Annual Village Quiz** which was held in the Village Hall on Friday, 4th October! A fun and sociable night, which raised over £600 – this will go towards maintaining and improving the village hall.

Tostock Village Hall Lottery – 100 Club



Many thanks if you have already joined The Club. If not, it's never too late to set up your quarterly standing order to be in with a chance of winning in our next draw.

The QR code outlined below will take you straight to the village website outlining all the information that you need!

- Remember **QUARTERLY DRAWS** will be held every March, June, September and December. To be in the draw, your standing order needs to be set up to be paid quarterly on/or before 1st of each of the above months.
- All confirmed entries will be allocated a 100 Club number and entered into the quarterly draws which will be held at The Gardeners Arms, Tostock using their lottery balls. The **CALENDAR DATES** for the year ahead are 6pm on Friday, 6th Dec 2024, Friday, 7th March 2025, Friday, 6th JUNE 2025 & Friday, 5th September 2025.




Good luck to everyone who enters.... may your number be one of the six lottery balls drawn!

If you have any questions, please email tostockvillagehall@outlook.com

Village Hall Improvement Project

The building regulation application process remains frustratingly slow, but we are hoping that it will soon be progressed further. In the meantime, the final structural engineering report has been received and this will help us move forward once we have the building regulations signed off. If you have any questions regarding the improvements that we hope to make to the hall, please do not hesitate to email us via tostockvillagehall@outlook.com

Whats on in 2025?

Plans for village events for the new year are currently being discussed and finalised. Watch out for more information on the Tostock Village Hall and Tostock Village pages on 

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† RIBA Suffolk

Craftmanship Award Winner

It's a dog's life

The Typist

If only I could type



Tostock Parish Council

Jane Storey

Summary of the Parish Council meeting 12th November 2024

The reports from the District Councillors and the County Councillor had been uploaded to the parish council website and there were no questions for the councillors. The tree wardens had sent in a report and this was included at the meeting.

Further to discussions at a previous meeting the Parish Council agreed to arrange a Basic Life Support (including CPR and defibrillator awareness) training session in the Village Hall on Saturday, 15th March for up to 12 interested residents. This will be delivered by the Woolpit, Elmswell, Norton, Tostock Community First Responder Group. Any interested residents should contact the clerk (clerk@tostockpc.org.uk) or Jane Storey.

Footpaths around the village were discussed and it was agreed that Andy Sharky, the footpaths officer for the council, would review the document prepared in June 2022 and report back to the council at the January meeting. Anyone with a comment to make about footpaths around the village is encouraged to contact Andy or the clerk.

The council confirmed the meeting dates for 2025 as follows: January 14, March 11, May 13 (Annual Parish Council Meeting), June 10, August 12 and November 11; and April 8 (Annual Parish Meeting).

The meeting closed at 8.02pm.



TOSTOCK PAST & PRESENT SOCIETY

2024 Tuesday Dec 3rd 7:30pm



Does my bum look big in this

Fashion female gentry 1750-1850

A talk & fashion show

by James & Sarah Deering

This will be our last talk for 2024

Now for 2025!.....

2025 Tuesday Feb 4th 7:30pm

Sailing round the world

Tsunami in Thailand

A talk by Peter Goldsmith



Enjoyable social evenings at Tostock Village Hall

EVERYONE WELCOME

For more information please contact johnparnum@yahoo.com

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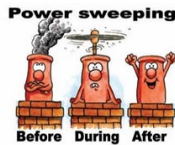
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TOSTOCK TENNIS CLUB

WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

COMMITTEE 2024-25

CHAIRMAN - FREDDIE WALTON
TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP - ELIZABETH DUNN
SECRETARY - SUSIE WALTON

COMMITTEE MEMBERS -
JOHN AND LIZ ADAMS AND NIGEL KAINES

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2024-25

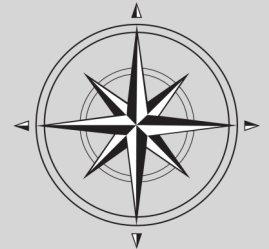
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	£40
COUPLES MEMBERSHIP	£25
ADULT (SINGLE) MEMBERSHIP	£15
CHILDRENS MEMBERSHIP (U16S)	£5
GUEST COURT FEES — ADULTS £2, CHILDREN £1	

WE WOULD LIKE FEES TO BE PAID BY BANK TRANSFER PLEASE
BANK DETAILS - ACCOUNT: 01082391 AND SORT CODE: 30-91-49
PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AS REFERENCE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE
CLUB OR WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT US, CALL OR EMAIL -

ELIZABETH DUNN (07778 216 753) - EJD1@TALKTALK.NET
OR
SUSIE WALTON (07793 406 076) - SUSIEWALTON85@GMAIL.COM

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I'm staying at home here in Tostock for this edition. As far as I'm concerned and I am entitled to my own opinion, so I am sticking my neck out by saying the hub of the village is our lovely little church of St Andrews. I am sure that Martin and Claire from the Gardeners Arms won't be-grudge me of my opinion. I congratulate them on taking over the pub and their magnificent transformation they have made, and wish them every success now and into the future. I'm sure it won't do any harm having more than one hub in the village. As a rule I usually like to go to the church at least 5 times a year - Christmas, Easter, Whitsun, Harvest and Remembrance Sunday plus the Art Show etc. It was at this year's Harvest festival on the 22nd September that swiftly prompted me into thinking this would make an interesting theme for my next feature for the Chronicle. So here we are. On entering the Church I was flabbergasted to see how clean and beautifully decorated the church was. So very well done to everyone involved, the cleaners, the flower arrangers, bell ringers, past and present, including Julie Harrison, not forgetting the Church Wardens. Here are a few of my photos of the occasion hoping you will see where I'm coming from.



The Church of St Andrew - the church was recorded here in the Domesday survey of 1086. The present Church has a chancel, nave, and a battlemented tower, showing evidence of building work from the 12th to 21st century. The chancel walls contain flint work of the 12th century origins, with windows and a chancel arch of the 14th century. The nave appears to have been enlarged and raised in the 1450's. It contains a wonderful double-hammer beam roof which once had carved angels on each side. These were removed on orders of William Dowsing in 1644. The font is believed to date from the 14th century. It is octagonal, with carvings of foliage. On two sides are "Green Men" an ancient pagan symbol. The new font cover was made and carved in 2003 by Mr. J. Pamment. The pew ends consist of wonderfully carved animals and mythical beasts, a unicorn, cockatrice and a camel. These date from the mid 15th century, apart from the front four pews on each side, which are Victorian re-productions. The Tower contains a peal, of 6 bells and a chiming bell. In 1998 an appeal was launched to restore the 4 original bells and augment the peal to 6. 3 of the old bells were pre-Reformation; the tenor of 1671. 3 new bells were cast in 1999 to complete the peal, and a new frame was installed by Mr. A. Baines of Diss. The ringing gallery was built by Mr J. Pamment in 1999. By the side of the gallery hang the clappers of the 4 original bells, found in the Tower during the Restoration and thought worthy of display, they would have sounded for many village and national occasions during their 500 years of service.

Contacts in our Community

Tostock Parish Councillors

Jane Storey (Ch)	jane-storey@btconnect.com
Roger Cross (VH)	roger.cross64@icloud.com
David Blundell	tostock.design@btinternet.com
Sarah Cobbold (Poors)	sascobbold@icloud.com
Michael Bauly (Poors)	mikebauly@btinternet.com
Paul Callow	paul_callow@hotmail.com
Julian Kearsley (Finance)	juliankearsley@btinternet.com
Glenn Lebbon	glenn@oakparkproperties.co.uk
Andy Sharkey	andyshark123@yahoo.co.uk

Village Officers

Parish Clerk	Doug Reed	clerk@tostockpc.org.uk
Tree Officers	Becky Smith	07813 273474
	Ben Smith	07989 330649
Footpath Officer	Andy Sharkey	andyshark123@yahoo.co.uk
Litter Picker	Oliver Holland	

Poor's Estate

Sharon Markell	01359 271190
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St Andrews Church

Rector		
Katherine Valentine	kavalentine677@gmail.com	01359 235095
Church Wardens		
Jeanne O'Reilly		01359 270337
Barney Harrison	barneybees@hotmail.com	
Bell Ringers	Sue Marriott	01359 270143

Village Hall

Chair		
Graham MacDowell	crispincottage@hotmail.com	
Hall Bookings		
Doreen Buckle	tostocktvh@hotmail.co.uk	01359 270605

Clubs

Bingo	Diane Brewer	01359 271127
Book Club	Julie Harrison	01359 270247
Brownies	Krystie	07975 556448
Carpet Bowls	Doreen Buckle	01359 270605
Cribbage	Jim Debenham	07932 619106
Crochet	Sarah Reader	reader-family@tiscali.co.uk
Past & Present	John Parnum	johnparnum@yahoo.com
Rainbows	Krystie	07975 556448
Tennis Club		
Elizabeth Dunn	ejd1@talktalk.net	01359 270270
Susie Walton	susiewalton85@gmail.com	07793 406076

Village Map

<https://tostockpc.org.uk/our-village/tostock-village-map/>

TostockPC Website

Tom Whitman	tostock.website@gmail.com
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More details and the latest up to date information can be found on our village website.

www.tostockpc.org.uk

Community Services

Emergency Police/Fire/Ambulance 999

Utilities

Energy power failures & Emergencies	08007 838866
Anglian water	08457 145145

Health

Woolpit Health Centre	01359 240298
Out of Hours	111
West Suffolk Hospital	01284 713000
BMI Hospital	01284 701371
St Nicholas Hospice	01284 766133

Advice

Relate	01284 767305
Samaritans (free call)	116 123
Drugs Hotline	0800 253 253
Citizens Advice Bureau	01284 753675

Police

Non-emergency	101
Crime Stoppers	555

Councils

Suffolk County Council	03456 066067
Mid Suffolk District Council	0300 1234000

Education

Thurston Community College	01359230885
Norton Pre-school	01359 232736

Pub

The Gardeners Arms	
Martin & Claire Page	01473 354 758

Leisure

Cineworld	0330 3334444
Theatre Royal	01284 769505
Apex	01284 758000
Picture House	01284 754477
Everyman Cinema	01233 555642

Travel

Bus Timetable	www.suffolkonboard.com
Rail	0845 7484950
Dial a Ride	01440 712048

The Tostock Chronicle is a bi-monthly newsletter for the people of Tostock, published by the Tostock Parish Council, and partially funded by advertising

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

TOSTOCK
VILLAGE HALL
10AM TO 4PM

SUNDAY 8TH
DECEMBER

LOVELY CRAFT STALLS OF
UNIQUE ITEMS THAT YOU'LL
NOT FIND ON THE HIGH
STREET!

DELICIOUS HOMEMADE CAKES
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WARMING MULLED WINE AND
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EVERYONE WELCOME
PET FRIENDLY

