

Feb / Mar
2025

386

Tostock Chronicle

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DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS FOR THE TOSTOCK VILLAGE FETE THIS SUMMER?

The Tostock Village Fete on The Green is to return this year! It is looking most likely that the event will take place mid to late June (Tostock Open Gardens is taking a year off this Summer).

A planning meeting will shortly be held and all village groups will be invited to be a part of the Fete.

If you have any ideas for the Fete, or would like to be involved, please email tostockvillagehall@outlook.com



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Coming Soon

Tostock Wild Women — Inaugural meeting Tuesday, 25th February at 7pm at the Gardeners Arms

Past & Present — Talks on February 4th and March 4th at the Village Hall from 7:30pm.

Village Get Together — March 16th at the Village Hall at 1pm.



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

Hedgehogs in Tostock

Sharon Burman

Tostock now has a couple of sites approved for previously rescued hedgehogs to be released back into the wild. It would be really helpful if human residents could check their property boundaries to ensure hedgehogs can pass through their gardens easily in a few places – under gates or fences etc – to ensure these increasingly rare nocturnal creatures can achieve their average of two miles travelling per night.

Hedgehogs are suffering particularly (like the Dormouse) from changing winter weather patterns – it is often no longer cold enough, for long enough periods, for full hibernation to take place, therefore hedgehogs wake up when it is mild enough to wake but not warm enough for their food supply to be plentiful.

If you would like to feed hedgehogs – canned dog food is best. A simple Ring Camera can reveal these nocturnal visitors to your garden. When it is mild they show up for food as soon as it is dark – so can be quite early this time of year.

One hog called Conker, released on Christmas Eve, managed to find himself a lovely dry garage that had been left open at night (within 2 nights of freedom!) The garage door was shut the next morning – so here he remained until found the next time the garage was opened – sleeping amongst the Christmas empties! So please make sure any doors that have been unexpectedly left open at night do not contain any visitors that need to leave again the following night when it is dark! The released hogs are temporarily less afraid of humans than the natives they are joining – but so keen are they to get out, in their first few nights of freedom can be spotted in surprising places and may need our help to keep moving along!

Thank you.

Allotment Plots

There are some vacant allotment plots available to let. Please contact Mrs Sharon Markell Tel 07891 467273 for more information.

Sharon Markell

Advertising

Parish Clerk clerk@tostockpc.org.uk

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Next Edition **Apr / May 2025**

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

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Art Show 2025

Calling volunteers, past helpers and new supporters.

By way of introduction, after many years of visiting friends in this lovely village, I recently left the west of the country to relocate to Tostock.

Knowing how news travels in a village, I suspect that people may know that Diane Matthews, after several successful years of arranging the Art Show, is handing the baton onto me for the 2025 show. I will be ably assisted by Mike Lord, who many will know, has lived in Tostock for 14 years.

The show will take place on 30th / 31st August; therefore, volunteers and others are needed to prepare the church, put up marquees, hang pictures, be a steward etc etc. Those who have ably assisted before will know this is either by specific tasks and activities or by rotation over the weekend.

I have previously attended the show, I know how successful and special it is, so my hope is that those who have previously been involved or would like to become a volunteer for the first time will make contact via email, by phone or text to:

Lindastock6@gmail.com
07768 568668

Once I have contact details Mike and I plan to host an initial get together, probably towards the end of February or in mid-March so that I can get to know people and we can generally prepare an outline plan for the event.

I look forward to hearing from you!

P & P Social Event

A very enjoyable social event organised by the Tostock Past and Present Society was held at Tostock Village Hall in early December 2024.

The Larks played a great variety of music while an evening meal of lasagne was enjoyed by all.

I am pleased to report that the event generated a small excess of funds helping put the Society on a firm financial footing.

John Parnum



Mobile Library

The mobile library will be in Tostock on **February 21st** and **March 21st** at the following times

Perkins Way	15.40 - 16.00
The Gardeners Arms	16.05 - 16.25

Christmas Pantomime

Andrew Marriott



I just wanted to take this opportunity to pass on my sincere thanks to everyone that came and supported the village pantomime in December. The event raised a total of £1207, all of which will go towards my fundraising target for the 2025 London Marathon, in support of The Lullaby Trust. Special thanks go to Doreen Buckle and the Village Hall committee, Tracey and Hattie Welham for organising a raffle and doing stage makeup, Sue Marriott and Sharon Markell for catering and concessions, Alan Jones for his help with the sound equipment, and of course the cast members who so generously gave up their time to make the day possible,

especially my brother Edward! It was great to see so many people from the village get together during the busy festive period, and fond memories from the day will certainly be a huge morale boost when things get tough during the marathon.

Best wishes to all for the year ahead. **Andrew**

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

NOTICE OF VACANCY IN OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR

PARISH OF TOSTOCK
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that ONE casual vacancy has arisen in the Office of Councillor for the Tostock Parish Council. If by 4th February 2025 a request for an election to fill said vacancy is made in writing to the Returning Officer at the address below by TEN electors for the said Parish, an election will be held to fill the said vacancy, otherwise the vacancy will be filled by co-option.

If an election is called, it will take place not later than 9th April 2025.

Dated 15th January 2025.

Proper Officer: Arthur Charvonia,
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to reserve it for your event

SISTERS ARE DOING IT FOR THEMSELVES!

(Aka: Tostock Wild Women)

Inaugural Meeting – Tuesday 25th February at 7.00pm
@ The Gardeners Arms



A group of us feel that it would be exciting to form a supportive, authentic and inclusive group open to all Tostock women – providing a social network where women can get together without formal structure or hierarchy, to talk, relate, improve wellbeing, get out and about and have a great deal of fun!

Planning jaunts and visiting places of mutual interest, ideas could include:
Wild Swimming, Foraging, Throwing pots, Wine Tasting, learning how to make Sushi, the possibilities are endless...

On Tuesday 25th February at 7.00pm
we are holding an informal inaugural get together to discuss ideas.

Do come along, you'll be most welcome, and you don't even have to be all that wild!

For further information, contact: lizziepetrie20@gmail.com or katiemars@yahoo.com

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



Save the date! Lent Bible Study course

5 Wednesdays in Lent - 12th March - 9th April

7.30pm in The Martin Room St Mary's Pakenham. All welcome

Our Christmas Services and events were well attended, the Church was beautifully decorated as usual, and Tostock responded with generosity to our appeal for gifts for the Womens' Aid Refuge. Donations were also sent to the St. Nicholas Hospice, and to the Salvation Army.

The monthly Coffee Mornings have begun again, do come along if you are new to the village, or even if you have lived here for years ! Always on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30 am (the next one is on February 11th). The cakes are lovely !

Our Treasurer has installed a "Card Machine" in Church, so people can make donations easily whether they are visitors or are attending a Service.

In September, the 5-yearly inspection of the Church building was carried out by our architect, and the PCC has been advised that the Nave windows need to be replaced. The present windows are probably more than 100 years old, and so we need to plan for the future.

The Flood-lights are sponsored in February by Sue Cattermole, in loving memory of Terry, on the first anniversary of his death .

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.

Songs of Praise 24th February & 10th March at 10am

St Andrew's Church Tostock

FEBRUARY 2ND PRESENTATION OF CHRIST/CANDLEMAS		
8 am 10 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Family@Church CANDLEMAS	Norton Pakenham
FEBRUARY 9TH 4TH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
FEBRUARY 16TH 3RD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT		
9.30 am 9:30 am 11 am 6 pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion Evening Prayer and Praise	Pakenham Norton Great Ashfield Tostock
FEBRUARY 23RD 2ND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11am 11am	TOAST Holy Communion Morning Worship Family Communion	Great Ashfield Hunston Tostock Norton
MARCH 2ND SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT		
8 am 10 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Family@Church LENT	Norton Pakenham
MARCH 5TH ASH WEDNESDAY		
7:30 pm	Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes	Pakenham
MARCH 9TH 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
MARCH 16TH 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT		
9.30 am 11 am 11 am 6 pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion Evensong	Pakenham Norton Great Ashfield Tostock
MARCH 23TH 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT		
9.30 am 9:30 am 11 am 11 am	TOAST Holy Communion Family Communion Morning Worship	Great Ashfield Hunston Norton Tostock
MARCH 30TH MOTHERING SUNDAY		
10 am	BENEFICE FAMILY COMMUNION FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY Families of all shapes and sizes are welcome to this big benefice spring celebration of Mothering Sunday where we give thanks for all our mums, grandmas and all those who nurtured us with love. Posies will be distributed in keeping with tradition.	Stowlangtoft

Our last Village Hall Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, 21st January. **If you have any questions regarding the village hall and its surrounding areas**, please do not hesitate to contact us via tostockvillagehall@outlook.com

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

Tostock Village Hall has turned 50 years old!

Join us for a **Village Get Together** at 1pm, **Sunday, 16th March 2025** in Tostock Village Hall.

For more details see the back page of the Chronicle



The First Draw of the Tostock Village Lottery 100 Club was held at the Gardeners Arms on Friday, 6th December 2024. A massive thanks to everyone for their support. With 48 members in the draw, **this quarter's prize pot totalled £312.00**, with 6 prizes being paid out. *Details of our lucky winners were posted on the Tostock Village Hall Facebook page.*



Tostock Village Lottery – 100 Club: **ALWAYS OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS. JOIN by the start of March 2025** to take part in the second draw on the 7th of March. Use this QR code to find out all the details you need.



Village Hall Improvement Project **BUILDING REGULATIONS APPROVED**

We are very pleased to outline that the project has just received building regulation approval. Putting the lengthy and frustrating delay in obtaining this behind us, we can now start to fully cost out the wish-list of improvements that we would like to make to the hall, as well as constructively focus on grant applications. 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

TOSTOCK VILLAGE HALL GROUND MAINTENANCE WORKING PARTY 9.30am, Saturday, 8th February 2025

Can you spare a few hours to help with some additional outdoor ground maintenance jobs which need to be done in the outside areas around village hall?



IF SO... please bring a rake, your gardening tools & gloves, plus any power tools that may be useful for hedge-trimming/strimming etc. Cuppa & cake for 11'sie's too. **IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER, we will postpone, so PLEASE CHECK The Tostock Village Hall's Facebook page if the weather is not kind to us.**

The Tostock Village Fete on The Green is to return this Summer. It is hoped the Fete will take place mid to late June as the Tostock Open Gardens is not on this year. A planning meeting will shortly be held and all village groups will be invited to be a part of the Fete. In the meantime, if you have any ideas for the event or would like to be involved, please email tostockvillagehall@outlook.com



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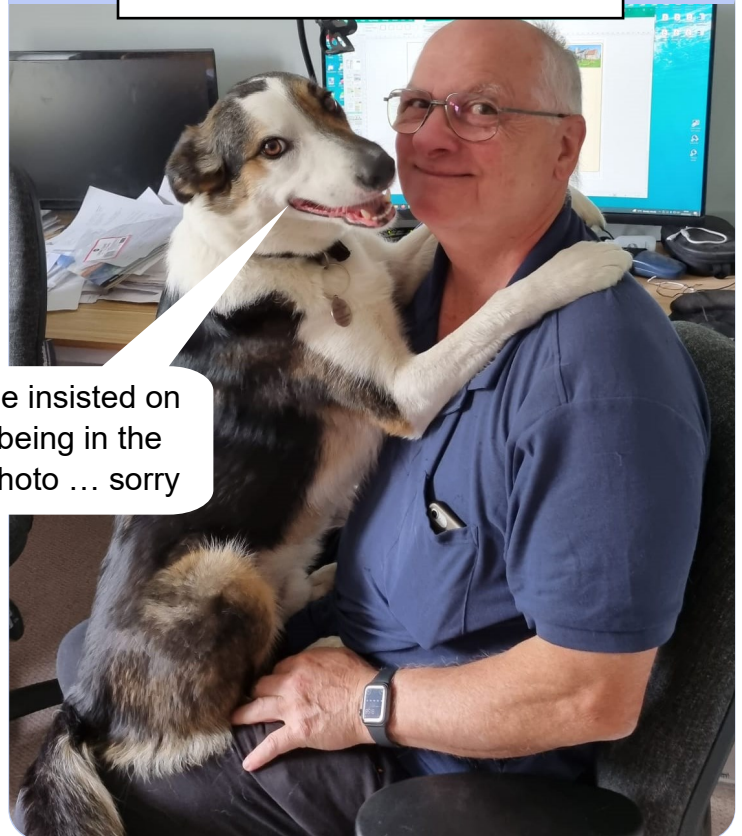
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The Editorial Team



Tostock Parish Council

Jane Storey

Summary of the Parish Council meeting 14th January 025.

It was with regret that we noted the resignation of Parish Councillor Sarah Cobbold. Sarah had been elected in May 2023 and had been an important contributor to the meetings. The vacancy is advertised on the notice boards. Anyone interested in the position can talk to any parish councillor for more information or read the article in the Feb/March 2023 edition of the Chronicle.

The County and District Councillor, Andy Mellen and Harry Richardson, were present at the meeting and reported on various matters, including the Devolution proposal from central government. Cllr Mellen was congratulated on the work that Highways had done in the village and he advised that this was in preparation for surface dressing sometime in the summer.

Chris Howell reported on the Speed Indicator Device use. Currently there is only one device and it is moved between the various locations. It is proposed to use CIL money to buy another device, together with a data logger, but more volunteers are needed. Cllrs Cross and Callow volunteered for the Church Road and New Road sites. If anyone else is interested in volunteering with this group please contact the clerk and he will pass your details on to Chris.

The Finance Working party report was discussed and it was agreed to keep the Tostock Parish Council element of the Council Tax bill for 2025/26 the same. The expenditure budget was increased but as there were more houses the amount generated would also be increased.

The Budget reports are on the website.

We were reminded of the forthcoming Basic Life Support (including CPR and defibrillator awareness) training session which is to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 15th March for up to 12 interested residents.

There are still places available and any interested residents should contact the clerk (clerk@tostockpc.org.uk).

The council meeting dates for 2025 as follows: 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 8.45pm

TOSTOCK PAST & PRESENT SOCIETY 2025

1st Tuesday in the month 7:30pm

Feb 4th



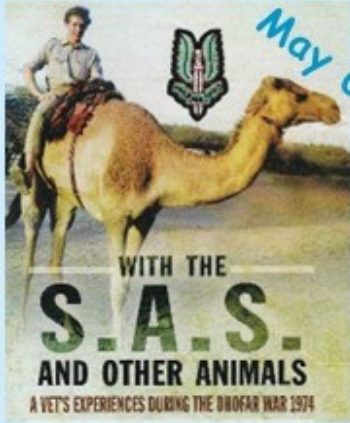
Sailing round the world
a talk by Peter Goldsmith

March 4th



Glastonbury
a talk by Jem Harrison

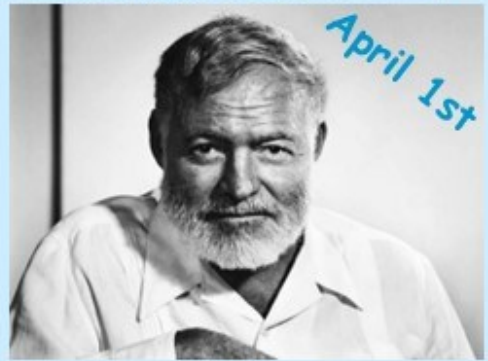
a talk by Andrew Higgins



May 6th

Oct 7th Financial advice
from Churchgates

April 1st



Ernest Hemingway
a talk by Barbara McElroy

June 3rd



The Guernsey Occupation
a talk by Jim Langlois

Sept 2nd



Wooden Oak Buildings
a talk by Rick Lewis

Nov 4th



The real Basil Brown
a talk by Sarah Doig

Dec 2nd



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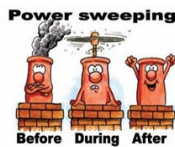
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TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP - ELIZABETH DUNN
SECRETARY - SUSIE WALTON

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

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I'm just a small boy at heart. On Sunday afternoon 17th November 2024 I was at a low ebb, resulting in me staying in to watch television so I managed to tune into Mowgli and the Jungle Book, we all know the story and the author Rudyard Kipling, and what a brilliant film Walt Disney made of it. However, earlier that year Penny and myself visited Hertford Zoo therefore this enables me an opportunity to show some of my photos I took of some of the Jungle Book characters such as the king of the jungle the tiger Shere Khan, Baloo the bear and the father Wolf Akela. Here are the photos of the characters -



Watching the film took me way back in time to when I was 19 years old 1963 living in the village of Gt Whelnetham, we had just got a new rector the Rev. Robin Hambrook. A few years previous 1957 I got confirmed into the Christian faith and at the same time joined the church choir. It was my very first commitment to society, so when, in 1963 the new rector invited me and three other choristers to start up a Wolf cub pack within the village. Wolf cubs is a section of the Boy Scouts Association. We all agreed to give it a go. I felt a little bit inferior compared to the other three. We all decided to have a vote as to who should be the leader. I had to think hard as to whom I vote for to avoid being chosen myself. The vote was unanimous 3-1 in my favour, so I was chosen to be the first Akela of the 1st Gt Whelnetham Wolf Cub Pack. It was a role I stuck at without boasting I feel proud, humble and honoured to have served for well over 25 years. The biggest embarrassment I felt was the fact of the uniform, it meant me going back to wearing short trousers again, a short -sleeved shirt, long socks with the green garters and the Baden Powell wide-awake hat (I really did look the part of our founder) however buying uniform was short lived. In 1966 the advanced party report transformed and modernised Scouting completely to a new era. We ran the pack successfully for the next 3 or 4 years, when the other three leaders decided to leave mainly in order to advance with their careers leaving me in the lurch to run it on my own. So I finally made a decision to amalgamate the 1st Gt Whelnetham with the 6th Bury St. Mary's group who I remained with for 30 years. By now you all must be pulling your hair out and asking the question what has Scouting got to do with the Jungle story, so please let me explain. In 1907 Robert Baden Powell founded the Boy Scouts Association and in 1916 added a new section which he called the Wolf Cub Section so used Rudyard Kipling's Jungle story as the theme to this new section which was for 8 year olds to 11 year olds to make Scouting more interesting for the boys, this is where Mowgli was introduced into the pack led by Akela the father Wolf. To conclude Baden Powell wrote a book about training in the army called Aids to Scouting. He found out that boys like to read these stories and try out the skills for themselves. Boys enjoyed the games, sports and other activities at the camp so much so decided to write another book called Scouting for Boys. This book was written in six parts like a magazine and very soon boys all over the United Kingdom had formed themselves into groups of Boy Scouts and had asked adults to run Scouting activities for them. How to light fires and cook meals. Scouting grew and grew and in 1920 Baden Powell became the world Chief Scout.

After his death in 1941 Scouting continued to change with the times, in 1967 Wolf Cubs became Cub Scouts. Uniform was changed to long trousers and the boy was dropped from Boy Scouts and just called Scouts and also a Venture Scout was introduced to replace Rover Scouts and Senior Scouts. In 1986 Beaver Scouts were welcomed as full members of the Scout Association and in 1990 girls were allowed to become Cub Scouts. Who knows what other changes will take place as you go through the Scout movement. Every year Scouts and Guides across the world celebrate the birthday of Lord Baden Powell. World Scouting today like all good ideas lots of boys and girls have tried Scouting and today there are Scouts in nearly every part of the world. Whoever wears the uniform they will all be recognizable because they will all be wearing the same badge which is the World Wide Brotherhood of Scouts badge.

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
Michael Baully (Poors)	mikebaully@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 838 866
Anglian water	08457 145 145

Health

Woolpit Health Centre	01359 240 298
Out of Hours	111
West Suffolk Hospital	01284 713 000
BMI Hospital	01284 701 371
St Nicholas Hospice	01284 766 133

Advice

Relate	01284 767 305
Samaritans (free call)	116 123
Drugs Hotline	0800 253 253
Citizens Advice Bureau	01284 753 675

Police

Non-emergency	101
Crime Stoppers	555

Councils

Suffolk County Council	03456 066 067
Mid Suffolk District Council	0300 1234 000

Education

Thurston Community College	01359230 885
Norton Pre-school	01359 232 736
Norton Primary School	01359 230 520

Pub

The Gardeners Arms	
Martin & Claire Page	01473 354 758

Leisure

Cineworld	0330 3334 444
Theatre Royal	01284 769 505
Apex	01284 758 000
Picture House	01284 754 477
Everyman Cinema	01233 555 642

Travel

Bus Timetable	www.suffolkonboard.com
Rail	0845 7484 950
Dial a Ride	01440 712 048

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

Halfway
to 100

Tostock Village Hall
has turned **50 years old**,
let's celebrate together!

Join us for a **Village Get Together**
at 1pm, Sunday, 16th March 2025 in the Tostock
Village Hall.

Tickets are **£10 per adult** (£5 for children
under 12 years) – this includes a **lasagna lunch and pudding**. Vegetarian or
gluten free lasagnas are also available.

Please bring your own drinks and glasses.

Email: tostockvillagehall@outlook.com to book your tickets.



The Coffee Morning

Join us every second Tuesday of the
month for an hour of chat and
friendly conversation with your
neighbours in the Village Hall for an
hour from 10:30 am. Coffee, tea,
cakes, sausage rolls are all available
for free.

You can make a voluntary donation.

All proceeds go to St Andrew's Church.



All welcome

