

STOKE ASH & THWAITE



August & September
Newsletter
2020

GOOD MORNING!

BREAKFAST SERVED
UNTIL 11.30am
7 DAYS A WEEK



Buffet Selection £4.25

Unlimited Tea, Coffee and Toast to your table... then help yourself to any buffet items for no extra charge
(Add this on to any cooked breakfast)

Big Breakfast £6.50

Two Fried Eggs, two rashers of Bacon, Sausage, Mushrooms, Tomato, Baked Beans, Hash Browns, Fried Bread

Full English Breakfast £4.95

Fried Egg, two rashers of Bacon, Sausage, Mushrooms, Tomato, Fried Bread

Vegetarian Breakfast £4.95

Two Fried Eggs, Baked Beans, Hash Browns, Mushrooms, Tomato, Fried Bread



Code: whitehorse

Smoked Mackerel £4.45
With Scrambled Eggs

Bacon and Eggs £3.95
Scrambled, Poached or Fried

Eggs on Toast £3.95
Scrambled, Poached or Fried

Bacon or Sausage Sandwich £3.95
Thick sliced granary or white bread

Four Egg Omelette £4.45
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Butchers Ham & Cheese £4.45
A baked roll, Cleveleys butchers smoked ham, smoked cheddar and creamy brie

Porridge £2.95
Made with Jumbo Oats and served with maple syrup

Toast and Preserves £2.00
Thick sliced bread with Tiptree Marmalade & Jams

Maple and Pecan Danish £2.00

Large Croissant and Preserves £2.00
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Pot of Tea £2.45

Speciality Tea £2.45

Freshly Filtered Coffee £2.45

De-Café Coffee £2.45

Orange Juice (from the buffet) £1.25

Apple Juice (from the buffet) £1.25

Pineapple Juice £1.95

Grapefruit Juice £1.95

Cranberry Juice £1.95

Tomato Juice £1.95

Contact List of Organizations for Stoke Ash & Thwaite

Editor	Ken Smith	stokeash@supanet.com
Advertising	Lionel Coe	01379678463
Domestic Oil Syndicate	Roger Kember	01449768142
Garden Club Thwaite	George Parnell	01449768686
Veggie Plotters	George Parnell	01449768686
Garden Club Stoke Ash	Lionel Coe	01379678463
Knit, Craft & Natter	Jacqui Lawrence	01449768116
Revd Julia Lall	Email: rev.jullialall@gmail.com	
S/Ash Social Club	Ellen Stannard & Lionel Coe	01379678646 01379678463
Womens Institute (Secretary)	Jean Willoughby	01449766621
S/Ash Village Hall Bookings	Sheila Coe	01379678463
Management Committee	Lionel Coe	01379678463
Thwaite 50 Club Lottery	Christine Maisey Email: Maisey686@gmail.com	01449766286

The copy deadline for ALL issues this year will be the 10th of alternative months and for advertisers the 12th

This edition of the newsletter has been produced in good faith but errors and omissions may occur during the process of production. Please let us know if this is the case so that they may be corrected.

Please note that the views expressed in readers letters are not necessarily those of the editors. We cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of material submitted for publication; however we reserve the right to include, edit or omit letters as we think appropriate.



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Editors Ramblings



Well friends I'm still doing well health wise very pleased with the Local Pubs supporting us all with a selection of take away's timed collections hot food ect .

Travel a bit the Chinese takeaways have helped and our local supermarkets extending the home delivery's and plenty of choice.

Our local surgery's Mendlesham & Bacton surgery have made sure our prescriptions get to us via a volunteer service set up to help those of us who are in lockdown, thank you to all.

A personal request from me the editor I am looking for clean newspaper for packaging I will arrange collection if you e-mail me 3 weeks supply at least. Collection in our villages only. **stokeash@supanet.com**

I have included various stories items in this issue hope you approve.

Your Editor



Thwaite news

Do come & join us for a DIY picnic. Please bring your own food, drink, chair & umbrella! Bank Holiday Monday August 31st on The Green in front of St George's Hall Thwaite from 12 noon. All welcome, friends, neighbours, family & canine companions.

Hoping for good weather & a great community get together.

Contact if you wish to help *Chris & Dick Maisey*

Stoke Ash Church News from The Rectory Life in Lockdown

Our buildings may have been closed but we have continued to be church in a different way and our ministry has continued - praying for our communities, pastoral care by phone and email; practical support – shopping, collecting medicines and donating financially to the foodbanks; online services, funerals and bereavement support; virtual Governors meetings and school assemblies, and much more. We would like our churches to be able to continue when lockdown ends! and some of them are coming very close to going into the red, including our lovely little church here in Stoke Ash.

We are asking our communities to get behind us if our churches are to continue to remain open in the future, SO.. we are planning a **Grand Craft Fair and Exhibition: Life in Lockdown**, (hopefully during September) so could you support us by using lockdown to make or produce things that could be sold - **knitted, crocheted or sewn items; jams, chutneys or preserves, plants and garden produce; dried flower arrangements, natural craft items/Christmas table decorations; greetings cards, woodwork items etc.** and on the day **cakes/savouries and refreshments**. We would also love to receive paintings, artwork, poems or reflections and photos on the theme of lockdown. It will be good to have something to focus on and I am so looking forward to being out and about among you again! In the meantime – stay safe, look after yourselves, and be in touch if I can help in any way.

With love and prayers,
Julia

Village Hall

Until the government allow the reopening of community centres we are still in lock down.

Special News, The Hall is Closed however government approval appears to suggest it could be open with the Club / Hirer undertaking total responsibility for sanitizing all areas. Currently at this moment in time the Hall Trustees have yet to meet and approve any opening.

We are carrying on with Village Hall choirs, the cleaner still goes in every week and the grass is being cut.

We have added smoke detectors and fire call panels to the hall to comply with current regulations.

Lottery still going well, Big thank you to the Villagers for all the support you give us, anyone interested in lottery tickets please see Shelia at the post Office.

Anyone in the Village that would like to help with the Village Hall please contact me *M Fleming* on tel 678541.

Our usual other news supporters regret there is nothing to report let's hope our next issue will contain better news for us all.

Thwaite 50 Lottery

Subscription is by membership, which is either £5 a month or £60 per year, join any time. (We now have 30 members)

Prizes every month of £25, £20, and £15. We end the year with a Grand Christmas Draw in November.

For more details: Christine Maisey 01449766286

STOKE ASH VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY WINNERS

Winners since last publication were:-

May 16th		Roll Over:
May 23rd	J.Johnson	£75
May 30th	P.Cook	£25
Jun 6th	D.Poppy	£25
Jun 13th	M.Humphries	£25
Jun 20th	E.Stannard	£25
Jun 27th	D.Roth	£25
Jul 4th	E.Stannard	£25

Notes: The Village Hall Committee have yet to meet to decide on when the Hall should open as it is allowed to now, once restrictions have been put in place.

This means all meetings for Clubs, the Parish Council, the Church and any Private hirers are still cancelled, until further notice. (The Clubs are ,The Garden Club, Social Club and the WI..)

Stoke Ash & Thwaite Parish Council - report on meetings held 21 May and 19 June 2020

Meetings – the Council continues to hold its meetings via video link, these have been successful and enabled the Council to continue its work in the absence of physical meetings. Video meetings will continue until the Government issues advice that it is safe to hold physical meetings. Parishioners are very welcome to observe or make comment as usual during the public session. The link to meetings can be obtained from the Agenda displayed on parish notice boards or via the website at stokeashandthwaiteparishcouncil@onesuffolk.net.

Neighbourhood Watch – a Neighbourhood Watch scheme is in the process of being set up via the Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association. This was instigated by Cllr Mrs Val Lane and Cllr Roger Kember has joined her in running the scheme on behalf of Thwaite village. Publicity with regard to contacts and neighbourhood watch signs for household windows will be available shortly.

Vacancy – there is still a vacancy for a parish councillor in Stoke Ash. Any parishioner, 18 years and over who may be interested in the work of the council and thereby supporting the community should contact the Chairman or Clerk for further information.

Stoke Ash Village Sign – Cllr Tancred reported on progress with the sign. A metal design based on the winning entry from the competition held last year will be mounted on a wooden post and brick base. The sign will be funded from the Cil money granted to the parish council by MSDC and will be sited on the Village Hall green near the wooden rail.

Wash Lane – similarly it is proposed that a Wash Lane sign is installed at the entrance to the lane. This will be a tractor wheel mounted on a triangular metal base. The Chairman, Cllr Morris, has offered to make the sign. Members recorded their thanks to Cllr Morris for his offer, it was believed the wheel would be a fitting sign for the lane.

Grit Bins – looking ahead to the winter months, four new larger 350ltr grit bins will be purchased for the main road junctions. They will cost in the region of £500 and County Cllr Andrew Stringer has offered to contribute to the cost from his Highways Locality Budget. Members recorded thanks to Cllr Stringer for his offer.

Dates of next meetings – due to the length of meetings and the amount of business now being conducted the Council has decided to meet monthly. These will be held on the usual third Thursday evening of the month as follows for the next three months: **Thursday 16 July 2020 at 7.30pm; Thursday 20 August 2020 at 7.30pm; Thursday 17 September 2020 at 7.30pm.**

Stoke Ash Gardening Club

Sorry to say Stoke Ash Village Hall is still closed. We are expecting a meeting to be arranged soon, of the Village Hall Committee. This will decide on the opening date and the restrictions we need to put in place.

Our next Speaker is due on September 28th

Of course he may not wish to come, but we will contact him as soon as we know the Hall is open and the restrictions we need to put in place. We will keep you informed.

OIL SYNDICATE JUNE 2020 ORDER RESULTS

	500 L	1000 L	1500 L
Average prices from 5 suppliers (£s)	153.32	306.63	459.95
Our syndicate bulk order price (£s)	137.82	275.63	413.45
Saving per litre (pence)	3.10	3.10	3.10
TOTAL SAVED PER ORDER (£s)	15.50	31.00	46.50

(All prices include VAT @ 5%)

Prices are drastically down because of reduced demand world-wide. In March 1000L cost us £406.90 . This June, the cost was £131.27 less!

Suppliers now do not give discounts for orders in the range 500-2000 L, but you will see the savings we have made as a syndicate.

The next order for oil will be placed on **Tuesday 1st September 2020.**

Your order should be e-mailed to me at rogerkember@gmail.com or posted through my letter box at Summer Place, Wickham Road, Thwaite, IP23 7EE by Monday 31st August please.

I already have the details of existing members but will new members please include your name, address, post code, day, evening and mobile phone numbers plus oil quantity required (min order 500ltrs).

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New Term starts Thursday 6th June.

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Sent from a friend, I thought it was great

I'm normally a social girl
I love to meet my mates
But lately with the virus here
We can't go out the gates.

You see, we are the 'oldies' now
We need to stay inside
If they haven't seen us for a while
They'll think we've upped and died.

They'll never know the things we did
Before we got this old
There wasn't any Facebook
So not everything was told.

We may seem, sweet old ladies,
Who would never be uncouth
But we grew up in the 60s -
If you only knew the truth!

There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll
The pill and miniskirts
We smoked, we drank, we partied
And were quite outrageous flirts.

Then we settled down, got married
And turned into someone's mum,
Somebody's wife, then nana,
Who on earth did we become?

We didn't mind the change of pace
Because our lives were full
But to bury us before we're dead
Is like a red rag to a bull!

So here you find me stuck inside
For 4 weeks, maybe more
I finally found myself again
Then I had to close the door!

It didn't really bother me
I'd while away the hour
I'd bake for all the family
But I've got no bloody flour!

Now Netflix is just wonderful
I like a gutsy thriller
I'm swooning over Idris
Or some random sexy killer.

At least I've got a stash of booze
For when I'm being idle
There's wine and whiskey, even gin
If I'm feeling suicidal!

So let's all drink to lockdown
To recovery and health
And hope this bloody virus
Doesn't decimate our wealth.

We'll all get through the crisis
And be back to join our mates
Just hoping I'm not far too wide
To fit through the flaming gates!

Your editor wonders do's this
apply to You?

Really Bad Analogies Written by High School Students

1. Her eyes were like two brown circles with big black dots in the center.
2. He was as tall as a 6'3" tree.
3. Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two sides gently compressed by a Thigh Master.
4. From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie, surreal quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and Jeopardy comes on at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30.
5. John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met.
6. She had a deep, throaty, genuine laugh, like that sound a dog makes just before it throws up.
7. The ballerina rose gracefully en pointe and extended one slender leg behind her, like a dog at a fire hydrant.
8. He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was actually lame. Maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.
9. Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.
10. She grew on him like she was a colony of E. coli and he was room-temperature Canadian beef.
11. The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM.
12. The lamp just sat there, like an inanimate object.

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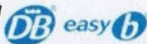
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Come for a free lunch and chat
'We'll meet again' monthly lunch club

Due to advise given by the government agency we will have to cancel the Community meal that we hold once a month until further notice. Our attendees range from 65 to 90 years old and some have respiratory problems so we need to take extra care that we do not add to their problems

Book your meal now in the early April and 2020

Supported by Pargiter Trust Fund,
Stoke Ash & Thwaite PC and Stoke Ash Baptist Church

Dear Tech Support:

Last year I upgraded from Girlfriend 7.0 to Wife 1.0. I soon noticed that the new program began unexpected child processing that took up a lot of space and valuable resources.

In addition, Wife 1.0 installed itself into all other programs and now monitors all other system activity. Applications such as Poker Night 10.3, Football 5.0, Hunting and Fishing 7.5, and Golf 3.6 were also affected.

I can't seem to keep Wife 1.0 in the background while attempting to run my favourite applications. I'm thinking about going back to Girlfriend 7.0, but uninstall doesn't work on Wife 1.0. Please help!

Thanks,
Troubled User.....

REPLY:

Dear Troubled User:

This is a very common problem that men complain about. Many people upgrade from Girlfriend 7.0 to Wife 1.0, thinking that it is just a Utilities and Entertainment program. Wife 1.0 is an OPERATING SYSTEM and is designed by its Creator to run EVERYTHING!!! It is also impossible to delete Wife 1.0 and to return to Girlfriend 7.0. It is impossible to uninstall, or purge the program files from the system once installed.

You cannot go back to Girlfriend 7.0 because Wife 1.0 is designed to not allow this. Look in your Wife 1.0 manual under Warnings-Alimony/Child Support. I recommend that you keep Wife 1.0 and work on improving the situation. I suggest installing the background application 'Yes Dear' to alleviate software augmentation.

The best course of action is to enter the command C:\APOLOGIZE.EXE! Because ultimately you will have to give the APOLOGIZE command before the system will return to normal anyway. Wife 1.0 is a great program, but it tends to be very high maintenance. Wife 1.0 comes with several support programs, such as Clean and Sweep 3.0, Cook It 1.5 and Do Bills 4.2.

However, be very careful how you use these programs. Improper use will cause the system to launch the program Nag Nag 9.5. Once this happens, the only way to improve the performance of Wife 1.0 is to purchase additional software. I recommend Flowers 2.1 and Diamonds 5.0!

WARNING!!! DO NOT, under any circumstances, install Secretary with Short Skirt 3.3. This application is not supported by Wife 1.0 and will cause irreversible damage to the operating system and can delete all bank account information!

Best of luck,
Tech Support

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Man and an ostrich walk into a restaurant

The waitress asks "What will it be?"

The man replied "a burger and a coke."

"And you?"

"I'll have the same," the ostrich replies.

They finish their meal and pay.

"That will be \$4.50,

"The man reached into his pocket and pulled out the exact amount. They do this every day till Friday.

"The usual?" she asked.

"No, today is Friday. I'll have steak and a coke."

"Me too." says the ostrich. They finish and pay.

"That will be \$10.95"

The man reached in and pulls out the exact amount again just like all week.

The waitress was dumb-founded. "How is it that you always have the exact amount?"

"Well," says the man. "I was cleaning my attic and I found a dusty lamp. I rubbed it and a genie appeared.

"Wow!" said the waitress. "What did you wish for?"

"I asked that when I needed to pay for something, the exact amount would appear in my pocket."

"Amazing! Most people would ask for a million dollars. But what's with the ostrich?"

"Well" said the man, "I also asked for a chick with long legs, that agrees with everything I say"

Stoke Ash & Thwaite Newsletter Advertising Rates

The following rates are effective from 1st October 2019

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or email lionelcoe@yahoo.co.uk

Perspective:

WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT ...

I heard that we are all in the same boat, but it's not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship could be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

For some, quarantine is optimal. A moment of reflection, of re-connection, easy in flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee. For others, this is a desperate financial & family crisis.

For some that live alone they're facing endless loneliness. While for others it is peace, rest & time with their mother, father, sons & daughters.

With the weekly increase in unemployment some are bringing in more money to their households than they were working. Others are working more hours for less money due to pay cuts or loss in sales.

For some not getting on with Family domestic abuse is rife...we never know what goes on behind closed doors.

Some were concerned about getting a certain candy for Easter while others were concerned if there would be enough bread, milk and eggs for the weekend.

Some want to go back to work because they don't qualify for unemployment and are running out of money. Others want to kill those who break the quarantine.

Some are home spending 2-3 hours/day helping their child with online schooling while others are spending 2-3 hours/day to educate their children on top of a 10-12 hour workday.

Some have experienced the near death of the virus, some have already lost someone from it and some are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it. Others don't believe this is a big deal.

Some have faith in God and expect miracles during this 2020. Others say the worst is yet to come.

So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We are going through a time when our perceptions and needs are completely different.

Each of us will emerge, in our own way, from this storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, actually seeing.

We are all on different ships during this storm experiencing a very different journey.

Realize that and be kind.

Unknown author

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WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT ...

I heard that we are all in the same boat, but it's not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship could be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

For some, quarantine is optimal. A moment of reflection, of re-connection, easy in flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee. For others, this is a desperate financial & family crisis.

For some that live alone they're facing endless loneliness. While for others it is peace, rest & time with their mother, father, sons & daughters.

With the weekly increase in unemployment some are bringing in more money to their households than they were working. Others are working more hours for less money due to pay cuts or loss in sales.

For some not getting on with Family domestic abuse is rife...we never know what goes on behind closed doors.

Some were concerned about getting a certain candy for Easter while others were concerned if there would be enough bread, milk and eggs for the weekend.

Some want to go back to work because they don't qualify for unemployment and are running out of money. Others want to kill those who break the quarantine.

Some are home spending 2-3 hours/day helping their child with online schooling while others are spending 2-3 hours/day to educate their children on top of a 10-12 hour workday.

Some have experienced the near death of the virus, some have already lost someone from it and some are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it. Others don't believe this is a big deal.

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
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An Australian Army Recruit sends home a letter to the family

Dear Mum & Dad,

I am well, hope youse are too? Tell me big brothers Doug and Phil that the Army is better than workin' on the farm - tell them to get in quick smart before the jobs are all gone! I wuz a bit slow in settling down at first, because ya don't hafta get outta bed until 6am. But I like sleeping in now, cuz all ya gotta do before brekky is make ya bed and shine ya boots and clean ya uniform. No cows to milk, no calves to feed, no feed to stack - nothin'!! Ya haz gotta shower though, but its not so bad, coz there's lotsa hot water and even a light to see what ya doing!

At brekky ya get cereal, fruit and eggs but there's no kangaroo steaks or possum stew like wot Mum makes. You don't get fed again until noon and by that time all the city boys are dead because we've been on a 'route march' - geez its only just like walking to the windmill in the back paddock!!

This one will kill me brothers Doug and Phil with laughter. I keep getting medals for shootin' - dunno why. The bullseye is as big as a possum's bum and it don't move and it's not firing back at ya like the Johnsons did when our big scrubber bull got into their prize cows before the Ekka last year! All ya gotta do is make yourself comfortable and hit the target! You don't even load your own cartridges, they comes in little boxes, and ya don't have to steady yourself against the rollbar of the roo shooting truck when you reload!

Sometimes ya gotta wrestle with the city boys and I gotta be real careful coz they break easy - it's not like fighting with Doug and Phil and Jack and Boori and Steve and Muzza all at once like we do at home after the muster.

Turns out I'm not a bad boxer either and it looks like I'm the best the platoon's got, and I've only been beaten by this one bloke from the Engineers - he's 6 foot 5 and 15 stone and three pick handles across the shoulders and as ya know I'm only 5 foot 7 and eight stone wringin' wet, but I fought him till the other blokes carried me off to the boozer.

I can't complain about the Army - tell the boys to get in quick before word gets around how good it is.

Your loving daughter,
Sheila



STOKE ASH BAPTIST CHURCH

A quick update on the Baptist Church at Stoke Ash

The builders finished their work on the south inside wall of the chapel in the 10 days that they had estimated. Plasterers then came in for a day and plastered the wall both downstairs and the upstairs gallery and we now have Craig Rice from Bacton and his men decorating the inside of the chapel (when they cannot do outside painting and decorating due to the weather). We have made good use of the time that we have not been able to meet in the chapel for Sunday services in doing the repair work that was so needed. We have also made use of the modern technology and have been having virtual meetings on Sunday morning at 10.30am via zoom on our iPads, iPhones and computers. At least we can still sing and have fellowship with the church congregation and our young people have shown us old dinosaurs how to work our computers, team effort all round.

This last week, due to restrictions being relaxed we have started once again to meet on the Tuesday evening for prayer and devotions along side having those from a distance meeting with us on zoom at the same time. Numbers are limited but workable. We hope that we will soon be able to get back to meeting one another face to face but in the meantime, keep well and take care to look after your families and those that are near and dear to you.

For those who used to meet up for our 'We'll Meet Again Wednesday lunch' once a month, we hope that soon the restrictions will be relaxed even more and we will be able to start having our lunches and a good chat together again.

Do you believe in prayer or are you a cynic?

This is a true story, was written by a missionary doctor Dr Helen Roseveare who worked in African Congo.

One night I had worked hard to help a mother in the labour ward; but in spite of all we could do, she died, leaving us with a tiny, premature baby and a crying two-year-old daughter. We would have difficulty keeping the baby alive, as we had no incubator (we had no electricity to run an incubator). We also had no special feeding facilities. Although we lived on the equator, nights were often chilly with treacherous drafts.

One student midwife went for the box we had for such babies and the cotton wool that the baby would be wrapped in. Another went to stoke up the fire and fill a hot water bottle. She came back shortly in distress to tell me that in filling the bottle, it had burst (rubber perishes easily in tropical climates). "And it is our last hot water bottle!" she exclaimed. As in the West, it is no good crying over spilled milk, so in Central Africa it might be considered no good crying over burst water bottles.

They do not grow on trees, and there are no drugstores down forest pathways. "All right," I said, "put the baby as near the fire as you safely can, and sleep between the baby and the door to keep it free from drafts. Your job is to keep the baby warm."

The following noon, as I did most days, I went to have prayers with any of the orphanage children who chose to gather with me. I gave the youngsters various suggestions of things to pray about and told them about the tiny baby. I explained our problem about keeping the baby warm enough, mentioning the hot water bottle, and that the baby could so easily die if it got chills. I also told them of the two-year-old sister, crying because her mother had died. During prayer time, one ten-year-old girl, Ruth, prayed with the usual blunt conciseness of our African children.

“Please, God” she prayed, “Send us a hot water bottle today. It’ll be no good tomorrow, God, as the baby will be dead, so please send it this afternoon.” While I gasped inwardly at the audacity of the prayer, she added, “And while You are about it, would You please send a dolly for the little girl so she’ll know You really love her?” As often with children’s prayers, I was put on the spot. Could I honestly say “Amen”? I just did not believe that God could do this. Oh, yes, I know that He can do everything; the Bible says so. But there are limits, aren’t there? The only way God could answer this particular prayer would be by sending me a parcel from the homeland. I had been in Africa for almost four years at that time, and I had never, ever, received a parcel from home. Anyway, if anyone did send me a parcel, who would put in a hot water bottle? I lived on the equator!

Halfway through the afternoon, while I was teaching in the nurses’ training school, a message was sent that there was a car at my front door. By the time I reached home, the car had gone, but there on the verandah was a large 22-pound parcel. I felt tears pricking my eyes. I could not open the parcel alone, so I sent for the orphanage children. Together we pulled off the string, carefully undoing each knot. We folded the paper, taking care not to tear it unduly. Excitement was mounting. Some thirty or forty pairs of eyes were focused on the large cardboard box.

From the top, I lifted out brightly-colored, knitted jerseys. Eyes sparkled as I gave them out. Then there were the knitted bandages for the leprosy patients, and the children looked a little bored. Then came a box of mixed raisins and sultanas - that would make a batch of buns for the weekend. Then, as I put my hand in again, I felt the.....could it really be? I grasped it and pulled it out. Yes, a brand new, rubber hot water bottle. I cried. I had not asked God to send it; I had not truly believed that He could. Ruth was in the front row of the children. She rushed forward, crying out, “If God has sent the bottle, He must have sent the dolly, too!” Rummaging down to the bottom of the box, she pulled out the small, beautifully-dressed dolly. Her eyes shone! She had never doubted! Looking up at me, she asked: “Can I go over with you and give this dolly to that little girl, so she’ll know that Jesus really loves her?” Of course, I replied!

That parcel had been on the way for five whole months, packed up by my former Sunday school class, whose leader had heard and obeyed God’s prompting to send a hot water bottle, even to the equator. And one of the girls put in a dolly for an African child - five months before, in answer to the believing prayer of a ten-year-old to bring it “that afternoon.”

This story was sent to me from my Dr brother in Doncaster!
Cllr Leggett

ONE

Recently, when I went to McDonald's I saw on the menu that you could have an order of 6, 9 or 12 Chicken McNuggets.

I asked for a half dozen nuggets.

'We don't have half dozen nuggets,' said the teenager at the counter.

'You don't?' I replied.

'We only have six, nine, or twelve,' was the reply.

'So I can't order a half dozen nuggets, but I can order six?'

'That's right.'

So I shook my head and ordered six McNuggets

(Unbelievable but sadly true...)

(Must have been the same one I asked for sweetener, and she said they didn't have any, only Splenda and sugar.)

TWO

I was checking out at the local Asdas with just a few items and the lady behind me put her things on the belt close to mine. I picked up one of those 'dividers' that they keep by the cash register and placed it between our things so they wouldn't get mixed.

After the girl had scanned all of my items, she picked up the

'divider', looking it all over for the bar code so she could scan it.

Not finding the bar code, she said to me, 'Do you know how much this is?'

I said to her 'I've changed my mind; I don't think I'll buy that today.'

She said 'OK,' and I paid her for the things and left.

She had no clue to what had just happened.

(But the lady behind me had a big smirk on her face as I left)

THREE

A woman at work was seen putting a credit card into her floppy drive and pulling it out very quickly.

When I inquired as to what she was doing, she said she was shopping on the Internet and they kept asking for a credit card number, so she was using the ATM 'thingy.'

(Keep shuddering!!)

FOUR

I recently saw a distraught young lady weeping beside her car. 'Do you need some help?' I asked. She replied, 'I knew I should have replaced the battery to this remote door unlocker. Now I can't get into my car. Do you think they (pointing to a distant convenience store) would have a battery to fit this?'

'Hmmm, I don't know. Do you have an alarm, too?' I asked.

'No, just this remote thingy,' she answered,

handing it and the car keys to me. As I took the key and manually unlocked the door, I replied, 'Why don't you drive over there and check about the batteries. It's a long walk....'

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Just to let you know these phone calls are going round.

'Good morning, I'm calling from the NHS track and trace service. According to our system, you are likely to have been in close proximity to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. This means that you now need to self-isolate for 7 days and take a COVID-19 test.'

'OK. Can you tell me who that person was?'

'I'm not able to tell you that. That is confidential information.'

'Right. Um... so'

'But you do need to be tested within the next 72 hours. So can I just get the best mailing address so that we can send a kit to you?'

'Ok (gives address)'

'Thank you - and I just need to take a payment card so that we can finalize this and send the kit to you.'

'Sorry - a payment card? I thought this was all free?'

'No - I'm afraid not. There is a one-off fee of £50 for the kit and test results. Could you read off the long card number for me, please, when you're ready?'

'No - that's not right. This is part of the NHS so there's no charge.'

'I'm afraid there is. Can you give me the card number please - this is very important, and there are penalties for not complying.'

Puts the phone down.

This is how scammers work. And vulnerable people will fall for it."

There once was a happy little fly buzzing around a barn one day, when she happened upon a large pile of fresh cow manure.

Since it had been hours since her last meal and she was feeling hunger pangs, she flew down to the irresistible delicacy and began to munch out. She ate... and ate... and then . she ate some more!!!

Finally, she decided she'd had plenty. She washed her face with her tiny front legs, belched a few times, then attempted to fly away. But alas...she had pigged out far too much and could not get off the ground.

She looked around wondering what to do about this unpleasant situation when she spotted a pitchfork leaning upright against the barn wall.

She'd found a solution!!

She realized if she could just become airborne she'd be able to fly again.

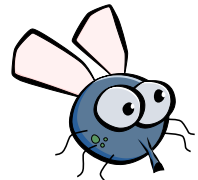
So, she painstakingly, climbed to the top of the handle.

Once there, she took a deep breath, spread her tiny fly wings, and leaped confidently into the air.

She dropped like a rock and splattered all over the floor...

The moral of this sad story?

"Never fly off the handle when you know you're full of c**p!!...."



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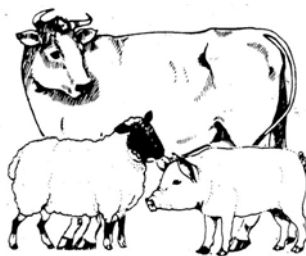
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- Being sure to start touching your bag 15 minutes before your station, so the person in the aisle seat is fully prepared for your exit
- Repeatedly pressing the door button on the train before it's illuminated, to assure your fellow commuters you have the situation in hand
- Having someone sit next to you on the train, meaning you'll have to eat your crisps at home
- The huge sense of relief after your perfectly valid train ticket is accepted by the inspector
- The horror of someone you only half know saying: "Oh I'm getting that train too"
- "Sorry, is anyone sitting here?" – Translation: Unless this is a person who looks remarkably like a bag, I suggest you move it
- Loudly tapping your fingers at the cashpoint, to assure the queue that you've asked for money and the wait is out of your hands
- Looking away so violently as someone nearby enters their PIN that you accidentally dislocate your neck
- Waiting for permission to leave after paying for something with the exact change
- Saying hello to a friend in the supermarket, then creeping around like a burglar to avoid seeing them again
- Watching with quiet sorrow as you receive a different haircut to the one you requested
- Being unable to pay for something with the exact change without saying "I think that's right"
- Overtaking someone on foot and having to keep up the uncomfortably fast pace until safely over the horizon
- Being unable to turn and walk in the opposite direction without first taking out your phone and frowning at it
- Deeming it necessary to do a little jog over zebra crossings, while throwing in an apologetic mini wave
- Punishing people who don't say thank you by saying "you're welcome" as quietly as possible
- The overwhelming sorrow of finding a cup of tea you forgot about
- Turning down a cup of tea for no reason and instantly knowing you've made a terrible, terrible mistake
- Suddenly remembering your tea and necking it like a massive, lukewarm shot
- Realising you've got about fifty grand's worth of plastic bags under your kitchen sink
- "You'll have to excuse the mess" – Translation: I've spent seven hours tidying in preparation for your visit
- Indicating that you want the last roast potato by trying to force everyone else to take it
- "I'm off to bed" – Translation: "I'm off to stare at my phone in another part of the house"
- Mishearing somebody's name on the second time of asking, meaning you must now avoid them forever
- Leaving it too late to correct someone, meaning you must live with your new name forever
- Running out of ways to say thanks when a succession of doors are held for you, having already deployed 'cheers', 'ta' and 'nice one'
- Staring at your phone in silent horror until the unknown number stops ringing
- Hearing a recording of your own voice and deciding it's perhaps best never to speak again

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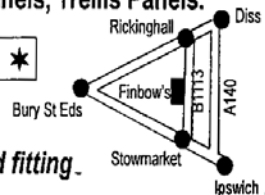
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NHS Information Line			0800 665544
Emergency Dental Services			01473 715623
Drugs Advisory Council			0800 776600
Police			101 & 999
Citizens Advice Bureau	01449 676060	or	01379 651333
Veterinary Surgeon		(Eye)	01379 852146
Electricity Power Failure UK Power Network			0800 7838838
Stoke Ash Post Office			01379 678463
Stoke Ash & Thwaite Parish Clerk Lynne Cockerton			01728 862001

Suffolk County Council – switchboard			01473 583000
Emergency contact outside office hours			0845 6066067
Trading Standards			0845 6032814
County Councillor Andrew Stringer	07774 199061 & 01449 780339		
	Email andrew.stringer@suffolk.gov.uk		

Mid Suffolk District Council			0300 1234000
District Councillor - Cllr David Burn			01379 788712
	Email david.burn@midsuffolk.gov.uk		

Stoke Ash & Thwaite Parish Councillors

Cllr Paul Morris	(Stoke Ash)(Chair):	j.morris792@btinternet.com
Cllr Michael Fleming	(Stoke Ash):	michaelfleming5871@yahoo.co.uk
Cllr Mrs Val Lane	(Stoke Ash):	vallane2002@yahoo.com
Cllr Gordon Leggett	(Stoke Ash):	gordonleggett0312@live.co.uk
Cllr Geoff Tancred	(Stoke Ash):	geoffreytancred@gmail.com
Cllr Tony Pulham	(Thwaite)(Vice Chair):	tony@hpfltd.co.uk
Cllr Roger Kember	(Thwaite)	rogerkember@gmail.com
Cllr Mrs Chris Maisey	(Thwaite):	maisey686@gmail.com
Cllr Dick Maisey	(Thwaite):	maisey686@gmail.com

Magazine

Advertising: Lionel Coe, The Post Office, Stoke Ash. 01379 678463

Editor: Ken Smith, Stoke Ash stokeash@supanet.com

Treasurer: Anne Gamage, Mendlesham 01449 766683

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