

STOKE ASH & THWAITE



February & March
Newsletter
2023

GOOD MORNING!

Breakfast served until 11am every day

Full English Breakfast

Fried egg, rasher of butcher's bacon, sausage, mushroom,
tomato, baked beans, hash brown, fried bread

Includes all items from the buffet

£11.95

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Two fried eggs, baked beans, two hash browns, mushroom,
tomato, fried bread

Includes all items from the buffet

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With Scrambled Eggs

Includes all items from the buffet

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Four Egg Omelette

Plain or with cheese, bacon or mushrooms

Includes all items from the buffet

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Breakfast Brioche Bap served with two hash browns

Choose from Bacon, Sausage, Egg

Includes all items from the buffet

From

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Please help yourself from the breakfast buffet

Under 12's

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Porridge Made with Jumbo Oats

served with maple syrup

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Toast and Preserves

Thick sliced bread with Tiptree Marmalade & Jam

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Contact List of Organizations for Stoke Ash & Thwaite

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Editor | TBA | Interim - Gordon Leggett |
| Advertising | Ken Smith | 01379 678197 |
| Garden Club Thwaite | George Parnell | 01449 768686 |
| Veggie Plotters | George Parnell | 01449 768686 |
| Garden Club Stoke Ash | Lionel Coe | 01379 678463 |
| Knit, Craft & Natter | Jacqui Lawrence | 01449 768116 |
| Revd Julia Lall | Email: rev.julialall@gmail.com | |
| S/Ash Social Club | Ellen Stannard | 01379 678646 |
| | & Lionel Coe | 01379 678463 |
| Women's Institute (Secretary) | Pam Cooke | 01379 678100 |
| S/Ash Village Hall (bookings) | Brenda Lock | 01379 678383 |
| Management Committee | Geoff Tancred | 01379 678568 |
| Thwaite 50 Lottery Club | Christine Maisey | 01449 766286 |
| | Email: maisey686@gmail.com | |

Stoke Ash & Thwaite has 8 Parish Councillors.

If you wish to raise any matters concerning the village you can do so by attending Parish Council meetings posted on the Parish Council notice board and website or by directly contacting one of the councillors or the Stoke Ash & Thwaite Parish clerk Lynne Cockerton on 01728 862001 lynne.cockerton@btopenworld.com

Stoke Ash & Thwaite Parish Councillors

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Cllr Paul Morris (chair) | 01379 678454 | j.morris792@btinternet.com |
| Cllr Val Lane | 01379 678568 | vallane2002@yahoo.com |
| Cllr Gordon Leggett | 01379 678450 | gel-print@outlook.com |
| Cllr Geoff Tancred | 01379 678568 | geoffreytancred@gmail.com |
| Cllr Tony Pulham (vice chair) | 07850 385914 | tony@hpfltd.co.uk |
| Cllr Roger Kember | 01449 768142 | rogerkember@gmail.com |
| Cllr Dick Maisey | 01449 766286 | maisey686@gmail.com |
| Cllr Christine Maisey | 01449 766286 | maisey686@gmail.com |

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Stoke Ash Village Hall Lottery

We currently have several available numbers, so if you would like to be part of this valuable fundraising opportunity for Stoke Ash village hall, please contact Sheila Coe on the number below.

£1 per week with weekly prize money of £25
based on the correct Saturday Bonus Ball.

For more details: Sheila Coe 01379 678463

Thwaite Defibrillator

Thwaite now has a Defibrillator very generously donated & set up by Keith Manester.
Sincere thanks on behalf of the local Community.

The Defibrillator is situated on the Right Hand Side RHS, of the garage entrance to Romany House, Wickham Road, Thwaite, almost opposite The Old School Room, it is well signposted, cabinet unlocked, & relevant services aware.

Anyone interested in training in CPR please contact Lynne Cockerton so that the Parish Council may organise this for later in the year.



Happy New Year to all our readers and trust that you all had a good Christmas.

Hopefully you are all well and for those who succumbed to chesty coughs, flu and Covid we hope that you are better or on the road to recovery.

It does not help us at this time that our journalists and reporters from the media are bombarding us again with bad news of strikes, wars and conflicts around the world and pressure on our hospitals and surgeries of winter illnesses and lack of help when one is sick. Yes we cannot bury our heads in the sand but what we can do is to be a lot more appreciative of those who have the vocation to take care of the sick and elderly.

We have some wonderful people with skills and abilities who want to look after us when we are not well but it seems, just like big business, organisations lose their way and get bogged down with administration and top jobs and not to take care of those who are working on the front line at the point of need. You would have thought with all the technology we have today that jobs would be done a lot swifter.

My mind goes back to the old Monty Python program on television, I think it was with John Cleese, that told the story of the large new hospital that had all the staff and equipment but they were too busy to take in any patients due to the heavy load of administration. I dare say it would not be allowed to be shown nowadays, a bit too near the truth.

How true this seems to be as we have 'bottle necks' everywhere. Lets give praise to the ones who have 'got it together' and encourage those who are struggling to take some examples of successful organisations to improve struggling situations.

Lets hear more of responsibility for each other rather than our rights. We came into this world with nothing and we will not be able to take our gold, silver and possessions when we leave. What we will leave behind is what we have done with our lives in helping one another and the mark we have left on society.

Once again, we say as parish councilors, that we are here to help so please, if there is a need, let us know and we will endeavour to help where we can.

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.

STOKE ASH VILLAGE HALL

We still have some lottery numbers available, so if you would like to be part of this valuable fundraising opportunity for the village hall, please contact Sheila Coe on 01379 678463.

£1 per week with weekly prize money of £25 based on the correct Saturday Bonus Ball.

If you would like to be part of the Village Hall Committee, you would be very welcome. We hold meetings bi-monthly and the next meeting will be held on 6th March @ 7.30pm. The AGM will also be held to which members of the public are invited.

We have plenty of events planned for this year - Put these dates in your diary!

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 4th March | Craft Fair in the village hall |
| 28th April | BINGO! Eyes down at 7.30pm All welcome |
| 24th June | Car boot sale on the village green |
| 29th July | Village Fete on the green |
| 28th October | Children's Halloween party |
| 4th November | Craft Fair in the village hall |

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NEWS FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends,

As I write, it is the start of a new year. The joy of Christmas and the celebrations that we shared – especially the Christmas Tree Festival at Stoke Ash and the Carol singing at Thwaite - are beginning to fade, and our thoughts turn to what the coming year will hold for us.

For some people 2022 was not an easy year, and perhaps some of us will be glad to see the back of it. The start of the new year often prompts resolutions, predictions, prayers and promises, and the hope of better days to come.

In our churches, the story of hope and light that began at Christmas will continue to be told, as we journey with you through another year, seeking to help, support and encourage one another in all that we do.

Blessings, *Julia*

STOP PRESS

Please remember in prayer our vicar Julia as she had a heart attack this w/c Jan 9th , was taken into the Norfolk & Norwich, had an operation of having a stent put in and is recovering well.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH STOKE ASH WITH THWAITE

WORSHIP

Please refer to leaflets in the village and on the church notice board for details of all the services around the benefice and online. Details also on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/southhartismerechurches>

JUMBLE SALE

At All Saints Church, Stoke Ash, on Saturday April 1st, 11.00am to 2.00pm

Refreshments available.

Please come and support your church in aid of church funds.

If anyone has unwanted clothes, bric-a-brac etc, please could you put items in black bags which June will be delivering around the village on Saturday March 18th. June will collect bags on Saturday March 25th between 1pm and 3pm. Please leave them on your doorstep. Many thanks!

BAPTISMS and WEDDINGS

For all enquiries, please contact Rev. Julia on: 01379 678064 or 07850 492212, or email: rev.julialall@gmail.com

Stoke Ash & Thwaite Parish Council - report on meeting held 17 November 2022

The Parish Council sends good wishes to all for a happy and peaceful New Year.

Hill Farm, Huggins Lane – application for change of use: following a more detailed report to be received from the District Councillor, Cllr David Burn confirmed that the change of use had been permitted but was subject to very rigorous conditions and any requirement for material changes to the barn building would require full planning permission. Cllr Burn stated he would have further information available at the next meeting.

Stoke Ash & Thwaite Neighbourhood Plan – parish councillors held a thorough discussion as to whether to go ahead with a neighbourhood plan and the benefits this would have for the village. One of the main objectives would enable local decisions on future development and use of land in both parishes, but it would not stop development. Costs involved to produce the plan would comprise professional consultations, surveys and the services of a consultant. The District Councillor stated grant funding would be available for these costs. A working party comprising councillors and parishioners would need to be set up to produce the plan and carry out the work involved. It was agreed to defer any decision until the next meeting.

Play Equipment, Stoke Ash – Cllr Tancred reported on the new play equipment to be purchased and located on the Stoke Ash village hall green. The equipment would comprise pieces suitable for younger children. A quotation had been received from Wicksteed Play totalling approx £12,500. The Parish Council has agreed to contribute a sum up to £5000 towards the equipment and the Village Hall a sum of approx. £7,000. This is a very exciting project for the village and councillors look forward to its progress.

Eye Post Office closure – following this latest news of the Eye Post Office closure it was agreed enquiries should be made with Royal Mail as to whether a mobile post office could visit Stoke Ash. The Parish Council will keep parishioners informed if there is any news on this request.

CPR course – it is intended to hold a CPR course with instructor on a date to be agreed late March. Some parishioners have already expressed an interest. If there are any further parishioners keen to take part please do let the Clerk know via email.

Parish Council Elections – just an early note to let you know Parish Council Elections will be held this year during early May. Further information will be available over the coming two or three months via the parish Notice Boards and Website. Any Parishioner interested in becoming a councillor please do look out for the information that will be available during March early April.

Date of next meetings: Thursday 19 January 2023 and Thursday 16 March 2023, 7.30pm at Stoke Ash Village Hall – ALL WELCOME



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Parish Councillor Information - Geoff Tancred

Born in Simla India 9 April 1943, Arrived in the UK on D day 4 June 1944 I have a son and daughter, and 5 grand children.

On arrival in the UK I was almost immediately, placed in first children's home in Clevedon Somerset. Separated from my brother who was too old and robust for the Nuns in Clevedon, we were reunited in the Swanley and Farningham Homes for Little Boys in Kent in about 1948.

After primary school in the homes, I was selected after interview to go to the local grammar school in Dartford. In many ways, that was a life changer, and opened up a world of unrealised opportunity. It was, for example, the first time I'd ever met people who went abroad for holidays, even if only to France or Spain. Mick Jagger was a fellow form mate which may demonstrate this.

Once it was recognised that it was extremely difficult to get homework done in the homes playrooms, I was moved from the homes to lodgings in Lewisham, 20 odd miles from school, and a further and rather less happy education in real life. This continued until having completed 'O' Levels, and being sixteen plus years old, it was then necessary to support myself. To me, the obvious answer was to join the armed forces, and I signed on in The Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, after doing fill in jobs for some months whilst waiting until the age of 17 years and 6 months, and starting 'man service'.



After the homes, the army was a doddle. Sure, we had to clean and polish but now I was paid to do it! I was trained as a Vehicle Mechanic for about 7 months, and then was posted to the first of many postings to Germany, where my 'O' level German even got me language pay. After 3 years, and having passed the necessary Trade Tests, I was posted to an infantry regiment in Cyprus. Those five or six years were the best time of my life, with virtually no responsibility, parties galore, and lots of wild fun.

This is perhaps highlighted by the lack of even a hint of promotion. Skiing on snow in Troodos, then within an hour skiing on water, both in perfect conditions, playing football for the regiment and Army (Middle East), flying home to UK to race my motorcycles, occasional



trips across the med to Libya or Aden, it was just so good. I was married at the end of my Cyprus tour, and had then to knuckle down to the task of being a 'good' soldier.

A further tour in Germany, where I arrived as a corporal, was accelerated to Sergeant, and was selected for Artificer training all within 3 years, and 18 months after that was a Staff Sergeant Artificer. Nowadays, Artificers have either a degree or an HNC after their training. I got my HNC at night school.

The next few years were all at the workplace, in Germany, UK or N. Ireland with further promotion limited for at least 6 years. Fortunately, I was selected as the mechanical projects and logistics specialist on a major expedition to the Amazonas region of Colombia.



It was a totally consuming task, with almost a year of preparation, visiting university departments all over the country, designing and building specialist equipment, testing and packing 15 tons of equipment for air freight into the jungle. Well, I once again beat the system, and was accelerated to the rank of WO2, and within six months of my next posting was promoted as Artificer Sergeant Major WO1 to run a Royal Engineers workshop in Hamlin. That wasn't quite the end of my army career. I was commissioned as a lieutenant and promoted after 6 months to Captain. Posted as training objectives officer to the School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, my life became a blur of statistics, and computer printouts for almost 3 years. Additionally, my then wife put her foot down and said 'NO MORE'. So, after almost 25 years, it was time to look for a job.

After a number of starters for 10, I became a technical trainer, then training manager with responsibility for building, equipping, staff training and monitoring new training schools for Ford in various parts of the world. That meant a considerable amount of travel and time away, (and a change in my marital status). The work was fascinating, challenging and very well paid. On average, I would visit at least one country a month, generally more, especially when there was a panic to sort concerns with the products.

My diary was always full, and in the end, after 7 or 8 years, the pressure started to affect my health, so I found another job which was far less pressurised and brought me eventually to retirement in the lovely village of Stoke Ash, with my partner Val.

As a Parish Councillor I do see it as a duty to try and improve the Parish, and help others if it is needed.....that's why I'm a Parish Councillor.

Cllr Tancred

Thwaite Lottery

Thwaite 50 Lottery has monthly prizes of £25,£20 &£15 & an annual Christmas draw of at least £100. & non winners are given a complementary prize.

To join us we collect an annual subscription of £60 during January. We prefer Cash to avoid bank charges. Standing orders of £5 per month or £60 per year are currently still free to set up.

The profits from the lottery have for the last five years been paid to the Thwaite Projects Group for upkeep & prospective development of The Old School Room & St Georges Hall. 2022 we will be paying in £900.

If you would like to join us please contact Chris Maisey for bank details, cash collection & to give you your lucky number.

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01449766286.

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Happy New Year, come for a free lunch and chat

'We'll meet again' monthly lunch club

**The New Youth Hall
Chapel Lane, Stoke Ash IP23 7EU**

Time 12.30 for 1pm

We trust that you have all kept well. For your own wellbeing it would be good if you could organise for yourself a Lateral Flow Test before the event if you can. Masks and hand sanitiser are always available at the Hall.

January 25th - February 22nd - March 22nd

The meal is primarily for those over 65 in the Stoke Ash & Thwaite area who would like to meet up with others who may be living alone and would like to have a meal and chat

RSVP to Gordon or Janis on 01379 678450 Mobile 07745 365583

If you require transport please ask. We meet the 4th Wednesday in the month

Supported by Stoke Ash & Thwaite PC and Stoke Ash Baptist Church

**All are welcome at our
regular activities***


**Stoke Ash
Baptist Church**

(*Adjusted timetable with meetings also on Zoom in lockdown periods)...

Sunday 10.30am

Morning Service

Tuesday 7.30pm

Prayer, Share & Bible Focus

We hope to re-start our JunXion Club for 5-11yrs (Friday evenings) and our monthly community lunch for the over 60s as soon as it is practical and safe to do so. More information will be published here soon.

Regular activities in normal times: Friends & Neighbours, Community Breakfasts & Lunches, Home Groups, Christianity/Discipleship Explored Courses & Holiday Club.

Please join us - you will receive a warm welcome.

**More details on our website at www.stokeashbaptist.co.uk
Stoke Ash Baptist Church (SABC), Chapel Lane, Stoke Ash, Suffolk IP23 7EU
Tel: 01379 678450 • Email: info@stokeashbaptist.co.uk**

STOKE ASH WI

November is the month of our AGM. Time to review the past year and look forward to the one to come. It's also the time that our committee and president have to be elected each year. They always do a splendid job and many of them have been on the committee for some time. As we're quite a small group, it's not too onerous a task to be a committee member, but each person has to be relied upon to play their part in the organisation. We're very lucky to have such a dedicated group that deals with all our activities and the administration that necessarily goes with it.

Our group advisor came to the meeting to oversee the election of our president and to give her support and advice. She spoke to us about the inclusivity of the WI and how all women, whatever their background or circumstance, should be welcomed into all groups and made to feel they belong.

We have been very pleased to welcome several new members this year. Not only from Stoke Ash, but also from surrounding villages. We look forward to their company and hope we will gain some new ideas and fresh insights at our meetings, which will help to keep us interested and interesting.

In December, our Christmas meal was held in place of our normal meeting. The Four Horseshoes was the venue and they did a superb job, as always. The food was well prepared by the kitchen staff and served by helpful and pleasant waiting staff, which helped to make the evening a great success. Our secret Santa gifts were as diverse as ever, ranging from incredible edibles, to a beautiful scarf, a scented candle and Christmas ornaments, to name just a few. As always, there was a great deal of laughter and fun on the night and the time flew by very quickly.

We hope the coming year will be even more 'normal', although it already seems there will be financial challenges ahead. Hopefully we can all look out for one another and do what we can, where we can. In times like these, a little kindness goes a long way.

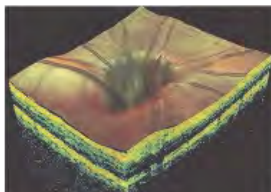
Our programme for meetings is published on the village website and on our dedicated WI page (<http://sefwi.org.uk/institutes/stoke-ash>). Please check it out and do get in touch, or just come along on the night. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the village hall, starting at 7.30pm. You'll get a warm welcome.



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Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2022

A big thank you for your generous support of this year's poppy appeal. A fantastic amount collected for such a worthy charity. Money raised enables The Royal British Legion to support and help so many veterans, young and old, in times of difficulty after leaving the Armed Forces.

I have a wonderful band of collectors, local businesses and schools to thank for their help in raising these funds.

The Total for whole District **£2540.00**

Mendlesham **£1195.57**

Mendlesham Green **£224.20**

Thwaite **£124.02**

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Jacquie Nash Poppy Appeal Organiser

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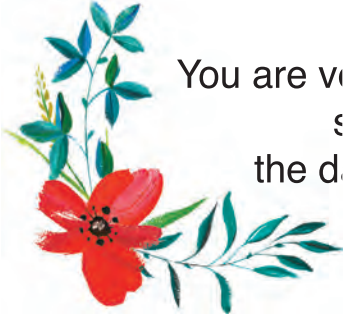


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will be held in St Georges Hall Thwaite,
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**Saturday 22nd April &
Sunday 23rd April.**

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
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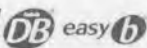
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Diary Section:

- Wed 15 Feb Kate Jewell "Cakes, Ale and Partying: Feasting and Fundraising in Medieval Suffolk" Wickham Skeith Village Hall 7.45 pm
- Wed 15 Mar Alistair Govan "Village Videos"

Wickham Skeith History Group

On 15 February we welcome **Kate Jewell** who will talk on "**Cakes, Ale and Partying: Feasting and Fundraising in Medieval Suffolk**". Medieval people worked hard but also knew how to enjoy themselves. This talk looks at how people marked important festive occasions and the music, food, drinking and dancing that went with it. It will also explore how entertainment was used to raise money when medieval communities found themselves in a time of crisis.

In March, **Alistair Govan** will present a selection of videos from the past, including one on the restoration of the Church bells nearly 20 years ago.

All are welcome so do join us in Wickham Skeith Village Hall at **7.45pm on Wed 15 Feb & Wed 15 Mar.**

Entry Fee £3, including tea/coffee and biscuits.

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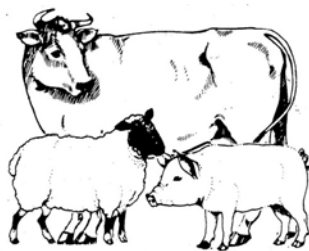
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Christmas at St. George's

On Sunday 11. December, St. George's echoed to carols and more as the Revd Julia Lall led the Thwaite Christmas Carol Service.

The Thwaite Floral Designers

Group had decked the Hall with holly and a magical display of Christmas lights and winter greenery. There was the sparkle of fairy lights throughout and a line of tea lights illuminated the ground from the Old School Room and the bridge to the main door.

A warm welcome was provided by Tony Pulham's mobile heater and inner warmth was assured by lashings of mulled wine, savouries, cakes and traditional stollen donated by local villagers.



There was not just one but two Christmas trees and, probably, the only crib featuring the mice who were also present in the stable at Bethlehem (as imagined by Ron and Gina).



After the service, Revd Julia presented prizes for the best Christmas dressed

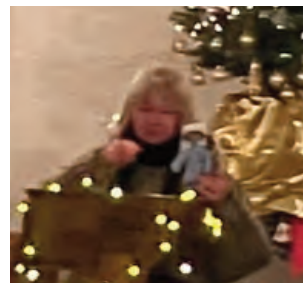
village youngsters and best pictures on a Christmas theme. Well done: Rachel, Amy and Molly. Jacqui and Nicky delighted everyone with their Christmas attire and were well deserving joint winners in the adult category.

Santa sent his two best elves to serve the Yuletide goodies: they looked remarkably like our own Dick and Crissey.

A good turnout was rewarded by a traditional Christmas service and the opportunity to chat and catch up at the festive season.

Planning is already taking place for Christmas 2023.

Cllr Roger Kember



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Parish Council Christmas Tree 'Wish List'

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Tree wish list this year. Below is a list of comments received:

- Bigger village hall and car park please
- Repair speed sign on A140; fete in the summer; Coronation street party 6th May for all the village; try and get village road gritted in winter, bins don't always get filled
- Village fete in the summer so cars can park near hall
- Highway need to repair broken signs on A140
- Children's play area would be a great addition to village, hopefully it won't take too long to construct/organise
- Post Office
- Mobile PO; Mobile library; bigger village hall and car park
- Please can highway sort out signs on the A140. Within 3 days of 1 week there were 2 accidents between Chapel Lane and White Horse
- Could we have a regular Post Office (mobile) visit?
- Mobile library & PO & larger Royal Mail Post box
- Thank you

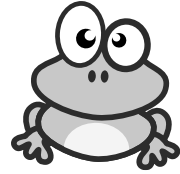
Other comments received:

- Debrillator for Stoke Ash - maybe ask White Horse for one at the pub
- Village newsletter reports from Police, Neighbourhood Watch etc
- A welcome pack for new residents
- Mobile PO & library
- a visit from the rural caravan

These comments will be brought to the attention of the Parish Council at their next meeting on 19th January

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Hoax - please **BEWARE**

Received a phone call from BT, informing me that he was disconnecting me because of an unpaid bill. He demanded payment immediately of £31.00 or it would be £118.00 to re-connect at a later date. The guy wasn't even fazed when I told him I was with Virgin Media, allegedly VM have to pay BT a percentage for line rental!

I asked the guy's name - he gave me the very 'English' John Peacock with a very 'African' accent - & phone number -0800 0800 152. Obviously the fellow realised I didn't believe his story, so offered to demonstrate that he was from BT. I asked how & he told me to hang up & try phoning someone - he would disconnect my phone to prevent this. **AND HE DID!!** My phone was dead - no engaged tone, nothing - until he phoned me again. Very pleased with himself, he asked if that was enough proof that he was with BT.

I asked how the payment was to be made & he said credit card, there & then. I said that I didn't know how he'd done it, but I had absolutely no intention of paying him, I didn't believe his name or that he worked for BT. He hung up.

I dialled 1471 -number withheld, I phoned his fictitious 0800 number - not recognised.

So I phoned the police to let them know. I wasn't the first! It's only just started apparently, but it is escalating. Their advice was to let as many people as possible know of this scam. The fact that the phone does go off would probably convince some people it's real, so please make as many friends & family aware of this.

How is it done? This is good but not that clever. He gave the wrong number - it should have been 0800 800 152 which takes you through to BT Business. The cutting off of the line is very simple, he stays on the line with the mute button on and you can't dial out - but he can hear you trying.

(This is because the person who initiates a call is the one to terminate it).

When you stop trying he cuts off and immediately calls back. You could almost be convinced! The sad thing is that it is so simple that it will certainly fool many. By the way this is not about getting the cash as this would not get past merchant services - it is all about getting the credit card details which include the security number, to be used for larger purchases.

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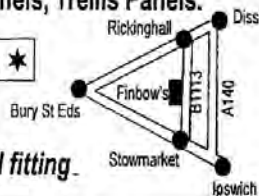
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| Drugs Advisory Council | | | 0800 776600 |
| Police | | | 101 & 999 |
| Citizens Advice Bureau | 01449 676060 | or | 01379 651333 |
| Veterinary Surgeon | | (Eye) | 01379 852146 |
| Electricity Power Failure UK Power Network | | | 0800 7838838 |

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| 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 | |

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| District Councillor - Cllr David Burn | | | 07889 301414 |
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