

Jun / Jul
2025

388

Tostock Chronicle

www.tostock-pc.gov.uk

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

The **Tostock Summer Fete** is brewing up to be the biggest event of the year. Do get involved in it's planning, it's a great way to meet your fellow villagers. But at the very least turn up and make it a memorable day.



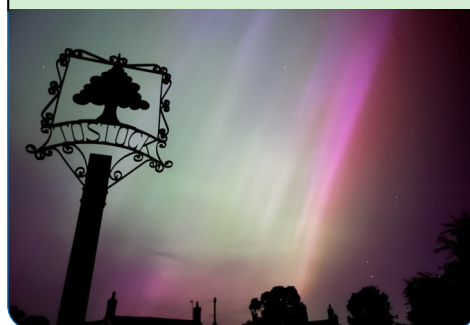
The Village is looking for a new Webmaster, whose main job is to keep the village website up-to-date.

It's a relatively simple job, so not a lot of experience is necessary, and some training can be provided.

If you are interested, email the clerk at clerk@tostock-pc.gov.uk

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Coming Soon

Cars On The Green — Thursday 19th June, on the Green
Tostock Summer Fete — Saturday 21st June, on the Green
Bowls Open Afternoon — Saturday 21st June, Village Hall
Plants & Craft Fayre — Sunday July 13th, 11am to 4pm, at the Village Hall
Treasure & Teas — Saturday July 19th, at the Church from midday to 5:00pm.



Regulars

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

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

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

Dawn Chorus

Anthony Scully

May 4th was International Dawn Chorus day. A small group of Villagers took a stroll through the Nature Reserve at 4.15am and were rewarded with a wonderful chorus starting with the Song Thrush and including Nightingales, a Cuckoo, the Lesser Whitethroat, a Cetti's Warbler, a Sandpiper, and a Woodlark.

In all over 20 birds were identified. We may repeat this activity next year. In the meantime if any hardy souls want to participate, the best time in the reserve is half an hour each side of sunrise.



Mobile Library

The mobile library will be in Tostock on **June 13th** and **July 11th** at the following times

Perkins Way	15:40 - 16:00
The Gardeners Arms	16:05 - 16:25

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

Rates Quarter Page £90 pa
 Half Page £160 pa

Next Edition Aug / Sep 2025

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

kim.mars84@gmail.com
07950 682 499

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The group had a busy 2024 with many projects and we hope you all enjoyed our Christmas addition to the green of the giant Nutcracker. A lot of hours were spent making all the squares and sewing them together plus adding all the finishing touches. A thank you to our engineer Steven for designing and building the frame and Jane Storey for storing the trio in her container for another year!

Our first project of 2025 were the Valentine toppers, with the swans knitted by Viv and crocheted by new member Gaynor (welcome to the village and team) with the rest of the group making the hearts and bases.

Christine then got productive with her knitting needles and made some chickens for the Easter toppers while the group got busy and made over 100 Easter treats which were hidden around the village that weekend. Lisa then took on the task of making the two very intricate VE Day toppers to commemorate the 80th anniversary.



We are working on some Christmas projects too, one for a care home and one for the village, along with an activity stall at the summer fete. We have recently been approached by a cat rehoming centre to make blankets to be sent home with the cats when rehomed, plus watch out for more post box toppers popping up to mark different events of the year!



Tostock Carpet Bowls Club

Doreen Buckle

The Bury League winter season games have now come to an end. We finished 4th this year in the league, a few points lacking for 3rd place. Well done everyone.

We have a few friendly fixtures booked over the summer months which will take us to the start of the winter season in September.

We are planning an open afternoon in the village hall on Saturday 21 June - the same date as the summer fete. We hope that some who are attending the fete will come down and give us a look and try carpet bowls. if not we meet in the village hall on a Thursday evening at 7pm.



Come and discover the treasures in

St Andrews Church

the oldest and most historic building in the village

Saturday July 19th

12 Noon - 5 pm

Refreshments / Quiz / Treasure Hunt

Funds raised for the restoration of the Church windows





WHAT'S BREWING AT THE GARDENERS ARMS

OUR OPENING TIMES

The Tea Room Opening Times

Wednesday to Saturday - 10am to 4pm
(Pre Bookings only for afternoon tea, minimum 48 hours notice needed in advance)

Pub Opening Times

Wednesday and Thursday - 12.30 - 8pm

Kitchen open

12.30 - 2pm and then 5.30 to 7.30pm

Friday and Saturday 12.30 - 9pm

Kitchen open

12.30 - 2pm and then 5.30 to 7.30pm

Sundays 12.30 - 7pm

Kitchen open

12.30 - 3pm

for Sunday Roast (Pre Bookings only)



VE Day at The Gardeners Arms

We would like to say a massive thank you to everybody who supported our good old fashioned knees up here at The Gardeners Arms. A special thanks goes out to Ryan for parking up his incredible WW2 GMC truck and of course Les for organising our very own fly past. What an absolute pleasure it was hosting this party for the village.



THE GRAY PROJECT
FUNK AND SOUL COLLECTIVE

We're thrilled to announce the return of The Gray Project, the incredible funk and soul collective, to The Gardeners Arms on Saturday 13th September!

Save the date, it's going to be a big one!

Mark your calendars for Thursday, 19th June as Tostock Cars on the Green returns for 2025, and this year is shaping up to be the best one yet! It's an event not to be missed!



Speed Quizzing

Get ready for a night of fast-paced excitement at our Speed Quiz on Thursday 5th of June! Test your knowledge and race against the clock, it's going to be an epic night!

WANTED! TEDDY BEARS that have **more love to give....**



If you have a Teddy that is ready for a new adventure and are happy to donate them to raise money for the village, please bring them to either Jules Taylor at Highmoor House, Norton Road, Tostock or Hannah Jones at Drift Cottage, The Drift, Tostock.

We will be running the pre-loved **Teddy Stall** as part of the **Tostock Summer Fete**, so will need to have your Teddy by Saturday, 14th June 2025.

PLEASE NOTE, we are hoping to meet medium sized Teddies, maximum size around 30cm. We are also happy to pick up your Teddy (presuming you are local) please **email** hannahgracejones@hotmail.com



TOSTOCK SUMMER FETE **on The Green**

Saturday, 21st June, 12 – 4pm

FUN DOG SHOW starting at 1.15pm

Enter your Dog in one or more of the following classes:

- 1) Handsome Boy
- 2) Beautiful Girl
- 3) Vibrant Veteran (dog to be aged 7 years and over)
- 4) Junior Handler, (Handler to be aged 13 and under)
- 5) Dog the Judge would most like to take home
- 6) Dog with the waggiest tail
- 7) Radiant Rescue

£2.00 Entry per dog, per class. Enter on the day.

Rosettes awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd in each class, plus Best in Show Rosette

Tostock Village Cribbage Team

Jim Debenham

Hello everybody. You may recall that I did an introduction to the Tostock Crib team in the summer of 2024. My name is Jim Debenham, and I am the Team Captain for the Tostock Cribbage Team. The Vice Team Captain is Andy Creamer.

The good news is that after winning the 2023/2024 season we have been able to retain the League cup in the 2024/2025 season.

After introducing a fortnightly practice/social evening on a Wednesday we had enough people join so that we were able to field two crib teams for the last season. We now have 18 regular players so a big increase on the ten.

The Crib team was formed in about 1980 and it has been won the league nine times since then. The Cup is proudly displayed behind the bar at The Gardeners Arms. The club plays crib on a Monday night (normally starting at 8.30pm) in the IDP Village Cribbage League and our home venue is The Gardeners Arms. The league starts in September and finishes in the March of the following year. Our away games cover The Red House at Stanningfield, Bardwell Duncow, Ixworth Greyhound, Horringer Club, Beyton White Horse and Felsham Six Bells.

The league games require 6 people from each team to play in a match, so players are selected to give an even spread of games and of course based on availability. The cost is £1 a head when selected to play. We also hold regular practice nights fortnightly on a Wednesday evening starting at 7.30pm at the Gardeners Arms throughout the year.

If you are interested in becoming a team member or just want to come along for an evening of crib on our practice nights, I can be contacted on 07932 619106 and Andy can be contacted on 07719546160.

Finally, the whole team would like to say "Thank you" to Martin and Claire at The Gardeners Arms who not only welcomed us back when they took over the pub but open during the season on their night off so we can play.

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or email
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to reserve it for your event

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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



At the AGM held on Monday May 12th, the PCC of St. Andrew's Church agreed to go ahead with fundraising to replace the old windows in the Church. The Fete on the Green on June 21st will be held jointly with the Village Hall Committee who are also fund-raising, as our first event, and we shall also be seeking grants from charitable organizations. This will be a long-term project, but one that will improve the light in our ancient Church. Please support our efforts on June 21st and the "Treasure Hunt " on July 19th !

The PCC is also looking for a new **Secretary**, there are only four meetings a year, so if anyone is interested in helping, please contact Barney Harrison or Jeanne O'Reilly - we would be very glad to hear from you !

Jeanne O'Reilly

Village Fete Saturday 21st June on the Village Green

As many of you already know The Village Hall Committee and St. Andrew's Church are organising a fete to be held on the Village Green. "The Church" are in charge of refreshments and a plant stall so we're asking for donations of cakes scones etc for the "Tea Tent" and plants for our plant stand, You can bring your donations to the village green on the morning of the 21st, Many thanks for any donations.

Treasures and Teas, Saturday 19th July at the Church

We're holding an afternoon of fun at The Church with a treasure hunt/quiz for all the family to complete, while discovering some hidden treasures inside and outside your village church and give you an insight into the oldest building in Tostock, there will be small prizes for completing the quiz. Along side the quiz we'll be serving refreshments, the usual home made cakes and much more. The afternoon will be on July 19th and run from midday until 5.00pm. Come along and join us and maybe you'll discover some hidden surprises around the Church.

Contact Numbers - Jeanne O'Reilly 01359 270337 or Sue Marriott 01359 270143 or 07988172164.

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 18th June & 14th July at 10am

St Andrew's Church Tostock

JUNE 1ST 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT		
8 am 10 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Family@Church WAITING	Norton Pakenham
JUNE 8TH PENTECOST		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion United Pentecost Service and Picnic with Salvation Army band (ALL WELCOME)	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham Norton Village Playing Field
JUNE 15TH TRINITY SUNDAY		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	Holy Communion Morning Worship Family Communion Evening Prayer & Praise	Pakenham Norton Great Ashfield Tostock
JUNE 22TH 1ST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11:00 am 11:00 am	TOAST Holy Communion Morning Worship Family Communion	Great Ashfield Hunston Tostock Norton
JUNE 29TH ST PETER & ST PAUL		
10:00 am	Benefice Communion	Stowlangtoft
JULY 6TH 3RD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
8.00 am 10:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Family@Church SAINTS	Norton Pakenham
JULY 13TH 4TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship (Sea Sunday) Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
JULY 20TH 5TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Family Communion Evensong	Pakenham Norton Great Ashfield Tostock
JULY 27TH 6TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY		
9.30 am 9.30 am 11:00 am 11:00 am	TOAST Holy Communion Morning Worship Family Communion	Great Ashfield Hunston Tostock Norton

Tostock Village Hall News



The Village Hall AGM took place on Tuesday, 29th April in the Village Hall and was well attended. The Committee structure for the year ahead is outlined below. A BIG thanks to all who are involved with the Village Hall Committee for the volunteer time they so readily give to help, this is very much appreciated. Our next Committee meeting takes place on Tuesday, 24th June 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Contact us via tostockvillagehall@outlook.com if you have any questions about the village hall and its outside space. For all booking enquiries, please email tostocktvh@hotmail.co.uk



TOSTOCK SUMMER FETE on The Green, Saturday, 21st June

Join us from 12 – 4pm for all the fun of a traditional village fete, including stalls and games for all ages, as well Maypole Dancing from our Brownies, dancing for us at 12.30pm and a Fun Dog Show starting at 1.15pm (see separate notice for further details on how your dog can take part). Refreshments on The Green and Burgers & Hot Dogs available from the Gardeners Arms.

FETE DONATIONS... any spare **Bottles of Drink for the Tombola** would be very gratefully received, as would any **Raffle Prizes**. For the keen Bakers out there, **cakes, scones or sausage rolls** would also be much appreciated. Finally, please see the separate notice about any **Teddies** you may have that are keen for further adventure.... All funds raised from the fete will be shared between Tostock Church and Tostock Village Hall towards ongoing maintenance and future improvement works. Please email tostockvillagehall@outlook.com if you can help.



The next draw of the Tostock Village Hall Lottery – 100 Club will take place in early June. **Sign up by 1st June 2025 to be in the draw.**

See <https://tostock-pc.gov.uk/100-club/> for all details **further details.**

Village Hall Improvement Project – Update

Having now met with three building companies at the hall, we are working to get all their costings in to enable us to have a clearer breakdown of the costs associated with each element of the project. Alongside this, we are continuing to work with a range of organisations and bodies who may be able to provide funding for the project. Our community fundraising efforts will focus on the Tostock Summer Fete and the Tostock Art Show, and we hope that both events will be enjoyed by all.



HOLD THE DATE for this year's Tostock Art Show !

Weekend, 30th – 31st August 2025

with the **Preview Evening on Friday, 29th August 2025**

See back page

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Sean: 07983 403 289



meadowgraceph@gmail.com



[instagram.com/meadowgraceph](https://www.instagram.com/meadowgraceph)



Tostock Parish Council

Jane Storey

Parish Council update – meeting 13th May 2025.

The Parish Council welcomed Sue Smith to her first council meeting. As it was the Annual Parish Council meeting there were several 'statutory items'. The first was to elect the Chairman for the following year and Jane Storey was unanimously elected. No Vice-Chairman was elected.

The following were elected to various positions -

Appointment to External Bodies –

Village Hall Committee: It was resolved that Cllr Cross represent the Council on this Committee for the coming year.

Poor's Estate: It was resolved that Cllr Bauly and Cllr Smith should represent the Council on the Committee of this charity.

The following appointments were agreed unanimously: - Tree Officers - Mr Ben Smith and Mrs Becky Smith, Footpaths Officer - Cllr Sharkey, Finance Councillor - Cllr Kearsley and Internal Controls Councillor - Cllr Storey.

One planning application was discussed but not resolved so the Clerk was asked to go back to Mid Suffolk for clarification of items that caused concern.

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be held on Tuesday 10 June at 7.30pm in Tostock Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Tostock Past & Present

John Parnum



As part of **Tostock Past and Present Society** VE 80 commemorations we are joined by **Jim Langlois** who will talk about the **German occupation of the Channel Isles**. Jim, who is from Guernsey, will focus on that island. As you probably know Winston Churchill sensibly decided not to try and re-take the Islands as Hitler had banked on.

Tuesday June 3rd Tostock Village Hall.
7:30pm. **All Welcome.**

Our meetings resume on September 2nd when Rick Lewis will talk about **Wooden Oak Buildings**.

Sept 2nd



Wooden Oak Buildings
a talk by Rick Lewis

Nov 4th



The real Basil Brown
a talk by Sarah Doig

Dec 2nd



It's a dog's life

Something in the Sky





CRAFT AND PLANTS

TOSTOCK VILLAGE HALL
NORTON ROAD

SUNDAY 13TH JULY
11am to 4pm

ALL WELCOME - PET FRIENDLY

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TOSTOCK SUMMER FETE

on The Green

Saturday, 21st June,

12 - 4pm

Traditional Village Fete

Fete Stalls and Games for all ages

Maypole Dancing & Fun Dog Show

Tea & Cakes on The Green

Outside BBQ & Bar at the Gardeners Arms





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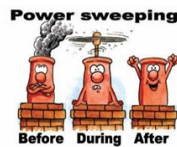
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TOSTOCK TENNIS CLUB

WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

COMMITTEE 2024-25

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TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP - ELIZABETH DUNN

SECRETARY - SUSIE WALTON

COMMITTEE MEMBERS -

JOHN AND LIZ ADAMS AND NIGEL KAINES

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2024-25

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP £40

COUPLES MEMBERSHIP £25

ADULT (SINGLE) MEMBERSHIP £15

CHILDRENS MEMBERSHIP (U16S) £5

GUEST COURT FEES — ADULTS £2, CHILDREN £1

WE WOULD LIKE FEES TO BE PAID BY BANK TRANSFER PLEASE

BANK DETAILS - ACCOUNT: 01082391 AND SORT CODE: 30-91-49

PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AS REFERENCE

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

ELIZABETH DUNN (07778 216 753) - EJD1@TALKTALK.NET

OR

SUSIE WALTON (07793 406 076) - SUSIEWALTON85@GMAIL.COM

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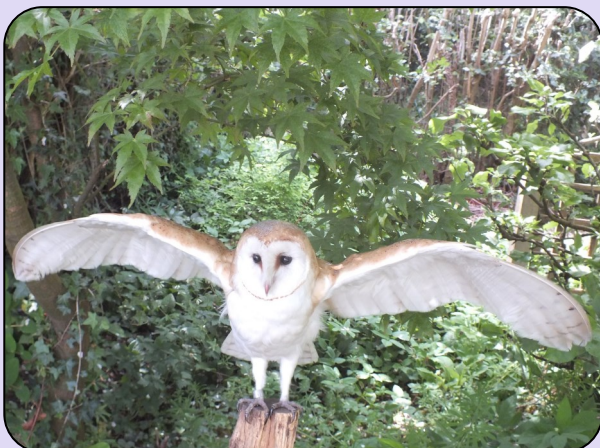
Covering Suffolk and surrounding areas.

On Sunday 16th March approximately 5pm I received a slightly disturbing phone call from Caroline, at Tostock House. Declaring she had just picked up a dead Owl lying on the ground around her park, obviously not quite sure what to do with it, so she phoned me for advice. I arranged to meet her at the park, on arrival I was confronted with a Barn Owl, it had obviously been got at because there was a wound in the neck above the left upper wing. I couldn't believe how light the Owl was, once I got it home and weighed it, it was no more than 4 oz, no more than a stack of handkerchiefs. I guess it must have died of starvation and was got at on the ground after it had died. The Owl did have a ring on its right leg – number GY17094, so for now on in this is where the story begins. I am calling the Owl Fred. This is a sharp reminder of 3 years ago when the one-eyed Jack had an eye pecked at, almost in the same location. The very next day I rang the well-known farmer conservationist Patrick Barker of Westhorpe who is a bird ringer for the Trust and B.O.T. and who does the ringing for the Tostock Community Project. The next day early Tuesday morning Patrick confirmed the Owl found at Tostock was a male and one that he had rung was in a box owned by D. Baker and Sons, Red House Farm, Bacton on the 11th July 2022. The box is at the old pig unit which is between Wyverstone and Long Thurlow. The Owl must have hatched the last week of May or the first week of June which makes the Owl 2 and three quarters years old, it was one of two birds in the box. Here is a picture of Fred in the box after he had his ring put on by Patrick.



All credit go to Patrick and the Owl Organisation, Suffolk Wildlife Trust and B.T.O. monitoring, recording and ringing birds, to effectively evaluate the state of our local Barn Owl populations over our two counties. Most sad stories usually end up with a happy ending and certainly this one is no exception. Fred now has pride of place on my mantelpiece at home. Option 1 (a) was to bury him up on my allotment. However I chose option (b) to have him preserved for ever and give him a new lease of life. I took him to the taxidermist, Barn Owls give me a great deal of pleasure, I spend hours watching them around this region, so now Fred will give me a little bit of extra added pleasure and it's all thanks to Caroline. Owls make country life all the more worthwhile.

Good old Fred.



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
Susan Smith	s.suesmiths@outlook.com

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://tostock-pc.gov.uk/our-village/tostock-village-map/>

TostockPC Website

Vacant

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

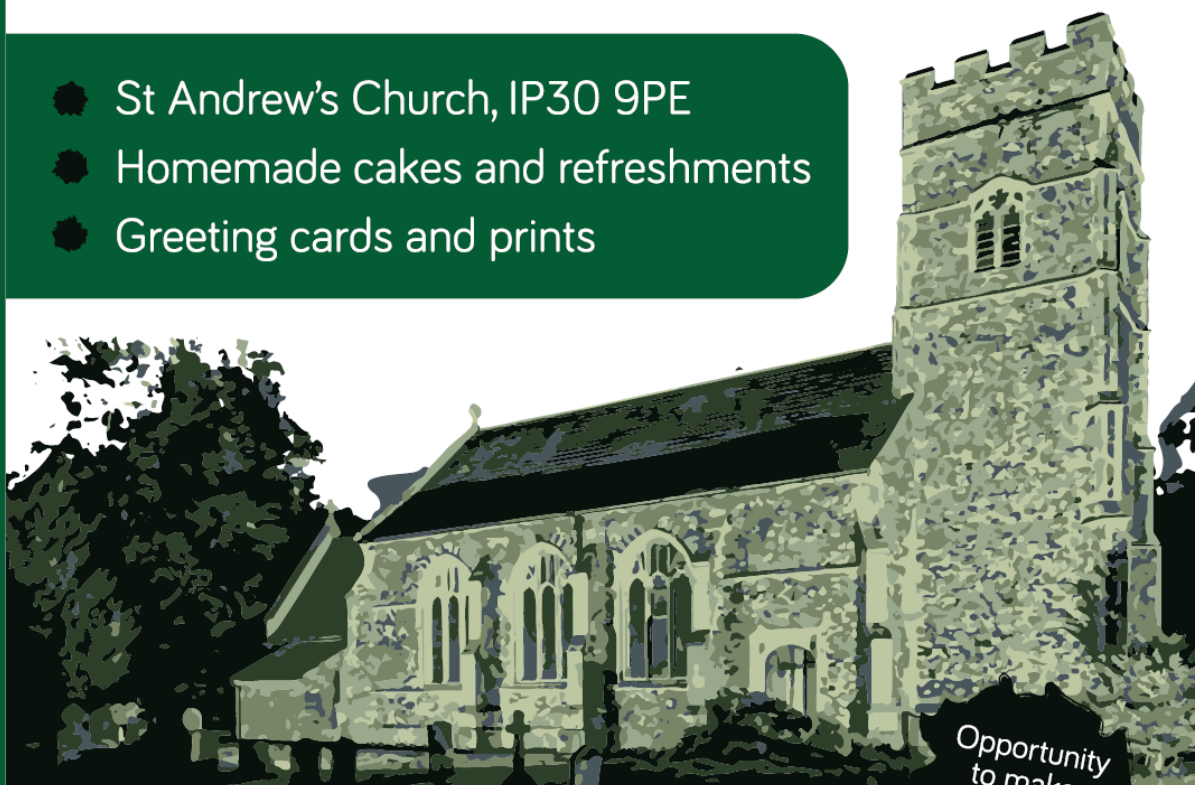
TOSTOCK 45TH ART SHOW



30th & 31st August 2025

Saturday: 10am to 6pm • **Sunday:** 10am to 5pm

- St Andrew's Church, IP30 9PE
- Homemade cakes and refreshments
- Greeting cards and prints



PREVIEW EVENING

Friday 29th August • 7pm to 9pm • Wine & Canapés

Opportunity
to make
an early
purchase

Contact: 07768 568668 or showarttostock@gmail.com