

# NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022



## BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION 2022

Very few gardeners would deny that the summer of '22 was glorious, yet record breaking temperatures and near-drought conditions certainly made caring for our gardens challenging. Regardless, Stisted residents came through as always, with some lovely front gardens presented to the judges.

Gardens are assessed twice in the growing season, first around July/August time where twelve are selected, these are revisited for the final judgement in September. Judges are from outside the village but have a strong horticultural background; gardens are scored on plant variety, use of planting schemes, colour combinations and overall garden condition.

Congratulations to all Stisted gardeners for producing beautiful gardens in excellent condition - regardless of what the weather has thrown at us!

First prize this year goes to Mr Prentice with a lovely and varied displayed with clever use of potted plants; pictured receiving the trophy presented by Councillor Phil Fisher.

Second prize went to Mr & Mrs Parker, with third prize awarded to Mrs Harrington



Written by Helen Hughes with photos by Derek Pryke

### BDC Online Report It Tool

Residents are able to report a wide range of items via the online BDC Report It tool such as fly tipping, abandoned vehicles and missed bin collections using the following address:

[https://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200345/do\\_it\\_online/999/do\\_it\\_online/3](https://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200345/do_it_online/999/do_it_online/3)

Don't forget to bookmark our website: [www.stisted-pc.co.uk](http://www.stisted-pc.co.uk)  
 And follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/stistedparishcouncil](https://facebook.com/stistedparishcouncil)  
 Contact us via email at [stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)

## CANS - Climate and Nature, Stisted

Are you interested in protecting the environment? Do you want to reduce your carbon footprint but don't know where to start? Do you feel that your concerns are not being listened to?

We have all experienced the effects of climate change; be this the lack of butterflies, to the rise in food and fuel prices, through to major weather events such as droughts and flooding. We must all be responsible for protecting our environment and reducing our carbon footprint; starting now.

Avoiding the worst effects of climate change will be the biggest challenge in human history. Local authorities and partnerships will play a key role both in getting the UK to net zero and ensuring local areas are ready for changing conditions. To do this in a way that is effective and fair, the public will need to be involved.

We have exciting news! Stisted has been chosen to work with Involve, a charity that engages with the public in decision-making. Public engagement enables local authorities to build a deeper understanding of local preferences, aspirations and needs; this locally gained information then helps with the development of the policy. Public engagement also allows local authorities to reach beyond those they most often hear from, builds trust and is a key step in achieving a fair transition to Net Zero.

Involve states: "It's important that local communities are involved in helping to address these challenges - offering their ideas and experiences; helping to make difficult trade-offs; and taking action. Hearing the voices of those who are rarely listened to can radically change accepted opinions about what needs to be done."

This is a brilliant opportunity to have a say in our future and how to protect our environment. We would love to see the whole village working towards reducing our carbon footprint, improving biodiversity and building a healthy, sustainable community.

If you are interested or would like further information as soon as it is available, please contact Kathryn Hughes, email [kathryn@thebigbearcider.co.uk](mailto:kathryn@thebigbearcider.co.uk).

Watch this space!

## Six Safety tips for Dark Winter Nights

As the nights get darker earlier, keep in mind 6 safety tips when walking or cycling.

1. Avoid walking alone
2. Plan you route and stick to well-lit, well-used paths
3. Let someone know where you are and what time you will arrive at your destination
4. Avoid talking on your mobile phone or having earphones in so you stay alert
5. Switch on your location settings on your phone
6. If you think you are being followed, go to the nearest place where there are people and call police



## Assets of Community Value

Are there any buildings or land within the parish that you feel are important to the community? The Parish Council are asking parishioners to nominate places and spaces that further the social wellbeing or the social interests of our community. It could be the local pub, your favourite dog walking field, anywhere that is enjoyed by the community at large.

The Parish Council will then review the suggestions and apply to register them as Assets of Community Value (ACV). But what does this mean? When land or buildings are registered as an ACV, should they come up for sale, the community will be informed and will have six months to decide if they can raise the funds to purchase the asset for the community. The registration runs for 5 years but it is possible to re-register assets once the 5 years has passed. In modern times, with so much development pressure on the countryside, it only seems sensible to safeguard the parts of the Parish which are most important to you, the community, so please send your suggestions along with why you think your suggestion is an asset to the community to [stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk) before January.

## Energy Bills Scam Warning

Trading Standards is warning consumers about scam texts offering to help with discounted bills under the Energy Bills Support Scheme. Rather than helping, the link contained in the text sends the person to a fake website which could download viruses onto computers, steal passwords or request bank account details which are harvested to dupe the consumer.



What should you do if you receive one of these texts?

Most phone providers are part of a scheme that allows customers to report suspicious text messages for free by forwarding it to 7726. If you forward a text to 7726, your provider can investigate the origin of the text and arrange to block or ban the sender, if it's found to be malicious.

For iPad and iPhone products you can do this by;

1. Take a note of the number that sent you the message.
2. Press and hold on the message bubble and tap More.
3. Select the message or messages you want to forward.
4. Tap the arrow on the bottom right of your screen, input 7726 and send.

For Android products;

1. Take a note of the number that sent you the message.
2. Enter the conversation then press and hold on the message bubble.
3. Tap on the three vertical dots on the top right of your screen.
4. Tap Forward, input 7726 and send.

## Stisted Historical Archive: delving deep and building high!

It's all go in the Fairhead Room of the Village Hall with our hard-working team which has now grown to 7!

Our exhibition 'Stisted Artists: then and now' has been quite a success with visitors showing their appreciation in the Visitors Book. But what else has been happening....?

### Helen Remfry asks: Have you heard about the Stisted Oral History project?

The aims of this ongoing project are to develop a greater understanding of the social history of Stisted and to serve as a memory bank of places and people for researchers of the future. By recording the voices of people who live in; or have connections with Stisted.

Ten interviews over eight sessions so far using professional sound recording equipment kindly loaned by Councillor Dave Willingham. They have been very relaxed and enjoyable, giving a fascinating insight into Stisted and life's journeys.

Discussions are prompted with a series of questions, but generally the conversation evolves organically. It has been wonderful to see people's eyes light up recalling stories and a privilege to be involved.

We have developed a topic list for people after meeting with a 95 year old lady who had prepared her own topics to help with the recording. She wanted her voice recalling childhood memories to be recorded in Stisted as a legacy, for her family and for us all in the Stisted community. Here is an extract:

#### *Weather*

*Heavy snow was followed by floods and this would leave the village cut off for days and sometimes weeks. We had no post or deliveries as roads were impassable. I remember as a child the snow was higher than the hedges. We had many of these types of winters.*

*One year, one of my brothers (Victor) who was on night work in Braintree at the time ended up getting home by walking on the frozen hedges from the entrance of Kings Lane Stisted.*

*In 1947 it was very bad weather. I married on March 1st and when I ordered my flowers Mr Cloughton, who had a shop for 30 years in Braintree, could not get any flowers for the first time ever. He managed to get four bouquets of tulips; each tulip cost nine pence each. They cost more than my four dresses cost.*

We know these stories will be lost as people pass on, or succumb to memory loss. Many people have stories, and often remember the past better than recent events, we'd like to join with the community to have themed coffee mornings or tea afternoons in 2023.

Councillor Helen Remfry is the oral history lead, with the support of Howard Hollands, Derek Pryke, Lynn McCulloch and Helen Hughes, along with help and advice from Braintree Museum.

### Sue Buffey shares her enthusiasm for the Brendatoys story

I joined the archive group as a volunteer about five months ago to help with any filing! The atmosphere within the group is so infectious that I quickly found myself volunteering to research Trades and Businesses - past and present, Richard and I moved here in 1977 and remember many of them.

There were chocolate makers, a greyhound breeder, dial-a-meal for housebound people, silkscreen printers, a grapho-analyst and, indeed, later ourselves as graphic designers as well as many others.

I was intrigued by Brendatoys but although the archive had revealed some of the story, the trail had suddenly stopped when Brenda Cheese, with her well-known artist husband Bernard, moved from 57 The Street to Gardener's Cottage. We knew Bernard quite well and were familiar with his work at The Fry Art Gallery so I started there, as we knew their daughter Chloe, an artist in her own right, and still very involved with the gallery.



I eventually contacted her and, although helpful, she suggested I contacted her step-sister Joanna. We can now complete the trail which involved Brenda and Bernard sharing The Old School Rooms as a studio and subsequently building a studio for them both at Gardeners Cottage. By now the toys were being sold by Hamleys and Dickins & Jones and exported to the USA, Canada and Switzerland. The material for the toys was sourced from various places including Braintree market, but Brenda had other ideas. She bought the Quaker Meeting House in Halstead with the intent of designing and silk-screening her own fabrics. The result is in the evidence of these images.



The whole story is an amazing achievement by Brendatoys.

In the New Year we will be doing several exhibitions on 'Trades and Businesses - past and present' including Brendatoys, where you can follow some of these stories in detail.



Thanks to everyone who has been supporting the work of the Archive.

### The Archive Team

Howard Hollands, Derek Pryke, Sue Buffey, Helen Remfry, Helen Hughes, Jane Barnard, Lynn McCullagh

### Stisted Village Book Club - Meets Monthly in the Village Hall

Do you like reading?

Do you like socializing and meeting new people?

Do you like discussing things important to you?

If the answer is yes to any of the above questions then pop along to the village hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each Month to discuss books both old and new over some food, tea, coffee or wine. The book club covers fiction, non-fiction, poetry and from a wide range of genres.



This is an informal book club and the book club aims to bring likeminded people from the village together, get to know our village neighbors in a social setting and discuss the books chosen. The books to be read each month will be based on the recommendations of members. The desire is to bring together villagers from diverse backgrounds, ideas and life experiences to read books that not only challenge but also make you think about things differently and to have a lively, fun and thought-provoking discussion about the books over a glass of wine or two!! The village book club readily welcomes new members. Come and join us, bring a friend, some food a bottle or two (Alcoholic or nonalcoholic) tea and coffee will also be available.

Next meeting - 21 December - 1945-2100

### Reporting Road or Highways Issues to ECC

ECC carry out regular inspections of roads and pavements on our network, but know that issues may come up between these inspections. These could be potholes or other road surface issues, damaged street lights, overgrown trees or missing lit bollards. You can tell ECC about maintenance issues online by using their highways reporting tool <https://www.essexhighways.org/transport-and-roads.aspx>



**The Montefiore Institute - An Update by Dennis Jameson**

Two new trustees have kindly joined myself, Carol Shaw and Karl Bunting. Thanks must go to Dennis Buston and Paul Carter for their dedication and long service as trustees. Unfortunately Margaret Buston has also now stood down as treasurer after many years.

The montifiore institute is a Post Office and shop which is currently open Mondays 2.00pm to 4.00pm and we have a few local groups/clubs meeting for different activities and would encourage anybody who is interested in hiring the meeting room to contact Sally Jameson 07436012069 or email [sallyjameson@hotmail.com](mailto:sallyjameson@hotmail.com)

**The History of the 123 Club - by Peter Bash**

It was called 123 as originally it was going to run from 1:00pm to 3:00pm but I discovered no one turned up until the Post Office opened at 2:00pm for their pensions. So it runs from 1-4 but I kept the name as it's like the song - it's simple, pops up then it's gone!

I created it in December 2011 so have been running it for 11 years offering a warm welcome and a cup of tea. I noticed at one of my exhibitions that the older people liked to sit and have a natter, cup of tea and biscuits and thought that as I wasn't busy with my gardening business in winter I could easily run 123 initially in the winter months but then every Monday afternoon.

People made donations which I gave back as a Christmas party, Christmas Dinner at Toby Carvery and trips out for Cream Teas to Wyevalles Garden Centre.

I can't believe where 11years have gone, but we were first with Warm Banks I think!

**Golf Course** - The Club have asked us to remind residents to please keep to the footpaths and supervise your children following reports of children walking across the golf course in front of golfers. Thank you.

**Parking** - A reminder to not park over dropped curbs as this causes problems and distress to wheelchair and pushchair/buggy users.

**YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Chairman:	Dave Burge	Councillors:	Phil Fisher
Vice Chairman:	Neil Denley		Mark Hughes
Clerk:	Melanie Whiteside		Helen Remfry
Email:	stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk		Hayley Waine
			Dave Willingham

**Parish Council Meeting Dates 2022-23**

7 Dec / 4 Jan 2023 / 1 Feb / 1 Mar - Please note all meetings are now held in the Village Hall. The agenda will be posted on the website approximately a week before the meeting.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### The Essex County Council (Byway 41, Stisted) (Temporary Prohibition of Use) Order 2022

Notice is hereby given that the Essex County Council has made the above Order under section S14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended).

**Effect of the order:** To temporarily close Byway 41, Stisted, from a point approximately 40 metres south of its junction with Lordsland Lane to its junction with Moat Road, for its entire length, a distance of approximately 600 metres.

The first alternative route is via Footpath 5, from its junction with Lordsland Lane southeast to its junction with Moat Road, and vice versa. The second alternative route is from a point approximately 40 metres south of its junction with Lordsland Lane south/southeast on Lordsland Lane to its junction with Priors Green, east on Priors Green to its junction with Kerami Lane, northeast on Kerami Lane to its junction with Moat Road, north on Moat Road to its junction with Byway 41, and vice versa. The closure is scheduled to commence on 01 December 2022 or where appropriate signs are showing and weather permitting.

The closure is required for the safety of the public whilst repair works are carried out on the Byway. The Order will come into effect on 01 December 2022 and may continue in force for six months, or until the works have been completed, whichever is the earlier. This Order may be extended by the Secretary of State if an extension is required.



## STISTED ACADEMY – CLASS 4 SURVEY

Hello to all the residents of Stisted who are reading this. This is from Class 4 at Stisted Academy (aged 9-11).

Please could you help us with a Geography topic we are doing at school, by answering the following questions and adding any comments to the boxes. We will then try to find some solutions for you.

We are doing some work and research into the local issues that Stisted faces. Here are the questions:

1. How important is the issue of parking in the village, especially around the school? (please tick)

1= not very	2	3	4	5= very important
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Comments

2. How important is the issue of speeding in the village?

1= not very	2	3	4	5= very important
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Comments

3. How important is the issue of litter in the village?

1= not very	2	3	4	5= very important
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Comments

4. Are there any other important issues that you think we should discuss in our class that have not been mentioned above?