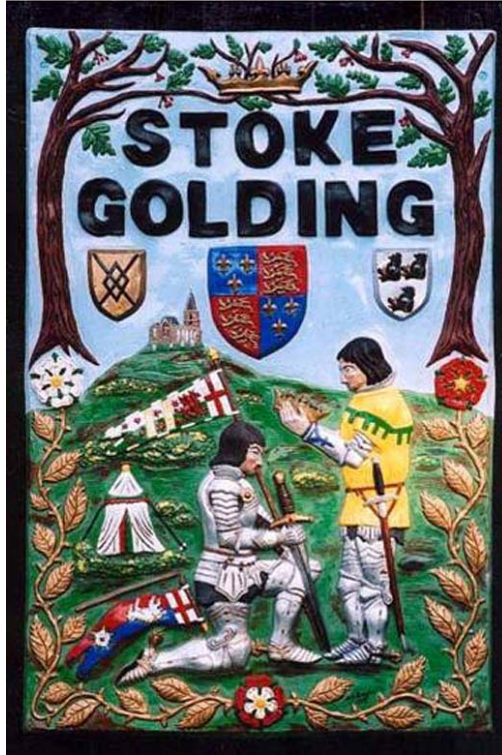


THE STOKES RIFLES



Inside this issue:

- ◇ 8 pages of photographs
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- ◇ Crossword
- ◇ St. Margaret's School News and much more...

**Stoke
Golding
Village
Magazine**
including
**Dadlington
Matters**

April 2011
Issue 100

£1.00
where sold

Ruth



Note from the Editors

The Stoker Team are very excited about this celebratory 100th edition, with eight pages of colour photographs from the past ten years and so many articles, letters and information that we have had to add an extra four pages to make it a real bumper edition!

Jane



We would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the production team, delivery volunteers, advertisers and, of course, our loyal readers. You have all helped us to keep the magazine going over the past ten years and we think this is a fantastic achievement.

Stoke Golding Village Hall is also celebrating a milestone birthday, having reached the grand old age of 50! Don't miss the celebrations during the weekend of 7th and 8th May.

We hope you enjoy this special edition - perhaps you will spot yourself in one of the photos.

Jane & Ruth

If you would like to have a regular copy of **The Stoker** (normally 50p) delivered to your door every month - except August & January, contact Alan Taylor 212605. He will come round and collect your money.

Please send articles for the **May** issue of The Stoker to: The Editors, c/o 21, Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding by **15th April**
If you can submit articles on disk, memory stick (Microsoft Word) or by e-mail it makes our job much easier. (500 words maximum please).
If you send photos by e-mail, please keep the file size small - no larger than 150 Kb.

All correspondence, including e-mails, must include your full name, home address and home telephone number.

e-mails to ***ruthsg21@btinternet.com***

'What's On' inserts and enquiries about advertising should be sent to Jane White - email: ***janewhitesg@googlemail.com***

The Stoker Team

Editors: Ruth Fisher (01455 212489) and Jane White (01455 212416)

Production Team: Ann Edginton, Simon Rees-Jones,
Alan Taylor (01455 212605), Rachel Terheege, Jill Webster.

Village Notice Board

The replacement village notice board has been erected, proudly positioned in front of the Post Office, in the centre of the village and I'm sure all will feel that it has been worth the wait.

The board was made by a small family firm, Harry Stebbings, in Norfolk. They have a policy of arranging for an oak tree to be planted for every order they receive - a novel and eco-friendly initiative.

The oak used in its construction came from Ickworth House, a National Trust property in Harringer, near Bury St Edmunds. The header board is cut on the median, to show the fine wood grain. It features hand carved letters and is surmounted by the Tudor rose, to echo that on our village signs. This connection has been confirmed by the publication of research identifying the site of the battle in 1485, in which Henry VII seized the crown.

The board has been presented to the village by the Charity of Thomas Barton and the trustees hope that it will be both admired and a useful addition to village furniture.

Paul Spokes

Wykin Lane Wildlife Area Interpretation Board

Saturday 12th March marked an historic moment for Stoke Golding. It was the day the interpretation board was erected in the wildlife area of the new cemetery in Wykin Lane. We hope you find it pleasant to look at and informative to read.

The work that went into achieving this board stretches back quite a way and involved Dave Marriott, Pauline Goodsell and me, in conjunction with Martin Bird, a local graphic designer. The board gives an idea of what we've tried to achieve by creating various habitats and hope that in time you will be able to observe some of the wildlife displayed.

The wildlife area may not look very special at times but if dogs are allowed to urinate and defecate there it will spoil the soil quality and vegetation. Therefore we do stress that dog owners keep their dogs on leads in this area and clean up after them, using the bins provided.

Sue Mitchell



Front cover - Facsimile of our first Stoker cover

When Harry Met Sophie

It comes as a surprise to many people to discover that a continuous state of war has existed between North and South Korea for over 50 years, and that a ceasefire has still to be officially agreed. Meanwhile, a tense and hostile enmity persists, albeit while guns stay largely silent. Similarly, in our living room, a feud of 8 years' duration has dominated our daily lives - a tussle for power and supremacy between Harry, the African Grey parrot, and Sophie, our redoubtable little Westie. Twenty five feet of living room space separates these committed foes, with Sophie's favourite sofa at one end and at the other the fortress that is Harry's cage. With mutual intolerance they face one another across the expanse of no - man's land where we, the hapless peacekeepers, attempt to maintain order by creating a buffer zone.

It had all begun so charmingly as we arrived home from the breeder cradling the cutest Westie puppy and held her up to Harry for his inspection. If it were possible for a parrot's beak to curl up into a contemptuous sneer, then Harry's did!

"What's that?" he demanded in a voice of utter disdain, followed by a warning growl. This unpromising start proved to be a harbinger of 8 years' hostility to follow. Each, in general, keeps to his or her marked territory but with occasional sorties being launched into enemy lands. Thus Harry will, without warning, launch an aerial attack, flying from cage to Sophie's favoured sofa, only to be intercepted by us, the UN peacekeepers. Sophie more cunningly, will creep to the area beneath Harry's steel stronghold on a pillaging expedition with a cavalier disregard for the very real danger of

'bombs' dropping from above. Just as Welsh warriors in ancient times rampaged into England seizing crops and cattle so Sophie's aim is to capture any foodstuffs dropped from the cage. Occasional biscuit fragments are harmless as trophies to be enjoyed but bird seed is an unwise choice as such roughage in the digestive tract of a dog has a more dramatic outcome than an overdose of Ducolax! Other tactics involve her hiding bravely behind furniture and barking defiance in the general direction of the cage, like Milton's Satan "vaunting aloud but rack'd with deep despair". You see, although she would never admit it and we would never tell her, she is sensibly rather intimidated by a foe that once bit the backside of our cocker spaniel which had settled too near to his cage. Harry fears no dog. Even cats steer clear of him including a friend's feline brave heart which jumped onto the top of his cage and found out that this 'Tweetie Pie' had a psychopathic taste for 'Sylvester's' furry feet. It departed in great haste rather than in leisure, never to return!

Hostilities broke out again recently when, upon returning home, we found Harry on the floor facing a very apprehensive Sophie who was barking frantically at him while staying safely out of reach. The UN once more intervened.

Despite Sophie's best efforts, Harry continues to have the upper hand as he regularly employs his favourite weapon, one to which Sophie has no answer - language! He quickly discovered that size isn't everything - that the enemy could be thrown into a state of perplexed confusion by suddenly

(Continued on page 5)

When Harry met Sophie, (continued from page 4)

shouting "It's a cat! Dad! Dad! It's a cat. B...er off, cat", which is guaranteed to throw the dog into paroxysms of frenzied barking while running around the room in ever decreasing circles. This is usually followed by orders to "Sit! Stay! Get down! Get to bed!" Should Sophie continue with her tirade, this usually provokes the exasperated and inelegant command, "Shut your beak!" Then, as silence once more prevails, the parrot can often be heard to mutter "Silly dog!"

Parrots assert their mastery over others by claiming the highest perch and he certainly rules the room. But Sophie, bless her, continues to believe that one day she will win this battle against the odds. What she doesn't realise, fortunately, is that Harry could live for another forty years - that ultimate victory can be assured by simply employing a waiting game.

Mike Emmett

NHS Leicestershire Pharmacy Consultation

Did they get it right?

Hundreds of village residents have already signed a petition to save the pharmacy at Stoke Golding surgery following concerns that it may have to close due to Leicestershire County Council's definition of the village as 'town fringe' rather than rural.

An event, organised by Leicestershire Primary Care Trust (PCT) to consult with village residents on their definition of the village, took place on Friday 11th March at the village hall (or was it the 'urban fringe' hall). It is a pity that the first the Parish Council and the Doctor's Surgery, let alone any residents, knew about it was Tuesday 8th March. On the same day information was forthcoming from the PCT that Stoke Golding was, in fact, defined as rural as far as the NHS were concerned so there was nothing for us to worry about anyway.

This (non) event was apparently the first stage of a 60 day consultation period during which residents are asked to complete a questionnaire asking 3 questions to determine whether they agree with this definition. *This can be done via the website www.lcr.nhs.uk or by filling in forms available at the Post Office.*

Having spent a great deal of tax payers money putting on these events and having used a lot of trees printing out hundreds of 4 page questionnaires, let us hope this was worth it and they did get it right.

Jane White

COPY DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE: 15th APRIL

The Localism Bill, the Parish Council, and You.

You may have read in the press that the Government is bringing in legislation to give greater powers to local communities. Called the Localism Bill, it is currently going through Parliament and is expected to become law this autumn. In the past Parish Councils have been consulted but have had little influence on developers and/or local authority planners. This new bill radically changes this, and puts decision making directly with the Parish Council, particularly in three key areas.

Area 1: Neighbourhood Plans: The Borough Council will deal with strategy e.g. how many houses are required in each community. The Parish Council, through a Neighbourhood Plan, will determine the detail of what is planned for the future of a community. This includes where housing should be located, what local infrastructure (play areas, doctors' surgeries, etc) is needed and what development is generally not permissible.

Area 2: Neighbourhood Development Orders: Any parish council which produces a Neighbourhood Plan will be able to make a Neighbourhood Development Order (NDO). This automatically grants planning permission for specific development or classes of development. The classes of development, which can be granted an NDO, will be controlled and must be in accordance with the Local Plan, but they will be decided by the parish council and voted on in a referendum of the local community.

Area 3: Duty to consult local communities on major planning applications. The Localism Bill now requires prospective developers to

consult local communities before submitting planning applications for certain developments. The new powers mean that they will have to consult on all large proposals before the plans have been produced and then show that they have taken the local community's views into account. Failure to reflect what local people want from development could result in refusal of planning permission.

In May the Parish Council elections will take place. There will only be an election if sufficient nominations are received from residents who are prepared to stand. Four of the existing councilors are offering themselves for re-election. It is an opportunity for any resident in the village who is prepared to serve the community to come forward.

Full details can be obtained from Jill Jones, Parish Clerk on 212805 email: jillellen.jones@btopenworld.com

There is a well-known joke that the meeting to protest against apathy had to be cancelled due to lack of support. In a similar way, without 'volunteers' who are prepared to serve, our Parish Council will cease to exist and decision making will revert back to the Borough Council. However, you can make a difference. When the moment comes; ask not what the Parish Council can do for you but what you can do for the Parish Council. The ball will be in your court. Don't complain later if nothing is done or you don't like the decisions. Get involved and be a mover and shaker.

Roy Mitchell

Closing date for Parish Council nominations - noon 4th April.

Dadlington Matters

	<p>Probably the Final Heir of the Dog! Wine Tasting and Pub Night Friday April 8th - Dadlington Village Hall. Bar opens at 7.30 pm</p> <p>Wine Tasting starts at 8.00 pm, presented by Keith Morton of Wines2You Taste a variety of quality wines guided by an expert - Competition and Prizes - £4.00/head to include cheese and biscuits</p> <p>Not a wine drinker? Then just come for the beer and meet old and new friends – including Bill and the team from The Dog & Hedgehog.</p> <p>Ring Simon on 212538 for more details.</p>	
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The Dog & Hedgehog – A Progress Report

Business partners Bill Reinking and Robert Marko have just begun work on restoring the Dog & Hedgehog to its former position as one of the most popular pubs in the area. As the pub has been vacant for over two years a fair amount of refitting and redecoration is required, which will take a few weeks, and so Bill and Robert have enlisted local tradesmen to provide advice and assist in the work. They have also begun preparing the menu, which will feature steaks, burgers and fresh fish dishes using quality produce and the bar will carry a wide range of local beers and international wines. They want 'The Dog' to be known once again as a welcoming hostelry where local people can relax with friends and family, and where diners and drinkers will be catered for equally. Bill and Robert are intending to be open for business in May.

Dadlington v Stoke Golding Cricket Match

A reminder that the Pete Robertshaw Memorial Trophy will be played for on Sunday 5th June on Dadlington Green, followed by a Live Concert featuring Route 66.

Sport, music, food and a bar in lovely surroundings in beautiful weather – what better way to spend a summer Sunday?

Potential players please contact Bernie Lamb (Stoke Golding) - 212523 or Phil Kiteley (Dadlington) - 212189

Diary date: Monday 29th August - Dadlington Village Fete

Dadlington Matters

	<p>St James' Church, Dadlington Flower Festival "Going Places" Saturday 30th April Sunday 1st May Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May</p> <p>Come and see our lovely church filled with floral arrangements created by Earl Shilton Flower Club.</p> <p>Light lunches, soup and a roll, from 12 – 2pm; tea coffee and cakes available 12 – 5pm</p> <p>Church open each day 12 noon – 5pm Stalls – Cakes, produce, plants, tombola. Songs of Praise Sunday 6:30pm</p>	
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Dadlington Book Club

Our recent book choice was "Extra Virgin: amongst the olive groves of Liguria" by Annie Hawes.

Next meeting: Thursday 19th May to discuss "Galileo's Daughter: a Drama of Science Faith and Love" by Dava Sobel.

As part of World Book Night, we have distributed 48 copies of "The Reluctant Fundamentalist" by Mohsin Hamid. This Booker shortlisted novel was issued free of charge, with the only proviso that recipients read it and pass it on.

Pancake Supper

John & Jill Whitehead would like to thank everyone in Stoke Golding and Dadlington for the strong local support for this event. It raised £705, with over 200 pancakes being consumed! Donations will contribute towards the £2452 costs of urgent woodworm treatment for St James' Church, Dadlington. We have recently had our quinquennial inspection and have drawn up a programme of preservation works to be achieved over the next five years. Your support is much appreciated to ensure that this lovely little church, built before 1283 and part of the Battle of Bosworth story, continues to be available for services, flower festivals, concerts and quiet reflection.

What's On



The Village Hall
Celebrates 50 Years



Gala Dance

Saturday 7th May

8.00 - 11.30pm

Stoke Golding Village Hall

Dancing to 'Route 66'

Tickets £7.00 from Alan White 01455 212416

email: alanwhitesg@gmail.com

Bring your own drinks and a dish of food to share.

**Open Afternoon
Celebrating
50years of
Stoke Golding
Village Hall**

8th May 2011

**Free
Admission**



Music and dance performances by local groups

Photographic displays depicting the past
50 years in the village

Refreshments, including Annette's wonderful
home-made cakes.

Drop in anytime between 2pm - 6pm

There will be a charge
for refreshments

What's On

Church of England Services

St. Margaret's Church

3 rd April	10.30am	Family Service
10 th April	10.30am	Benefice Service
17 th April	10.30am	<i>Palm Sunday</i> Holy Communion
19 th April	7.30am	<i>Tuesday</i> Benefice Holy Communion
24 th April	10.30am	<i>Easter Sunday</i> Holy Communion

*Holy Communion at St. Margaret's every Tuesday at 6.30pm,
except Tuesday 19th April - 7.30pm*

St. James's Church

3 rd April	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
10 th April	10.30am	Benefice Service Stoke Golding
17 th April	9.00am	<i>Palm Sunday</i> BCP Morning Prayer
22 nd April	2.00pm	<i>Good Friday</i> Benefice Meditation: On The Cross
24 th April	9.00am	<i>Easter Sunday</i> Holy Communion

Zion Chapel Services

3rd April	M Menzfeld
10th April	W Richards
17th April	R Cotton
24th April	(Easter M Welch Sunday)

Services begin at 6pm
Sunday School at 11am

The Methodist Church - April Services

3rd	10.30am	Mr John Marfleet
10th	10.30am	Mrs Helen Osborne
17th	10.30am	Mr Colin Haddon
24th	10.30am	Deacon Philip Osborne
Easter Day - bring flowers to decorate the Lenten Cross		
24th	6.00 pm	Mrs Joan Ledson

Methodist Church Spring Fair

Books, bric-a-brac, cakes
and preserves.
Light lunches served
Saturday 9th April
10.00am - 2.00pm

Singing for Fun



Stoke Golding Village Hall
Thursdays 5th, 12th & 19th May
2.00 - 3.30pm
£10 for 3 sessions £4.00 for one
You've seen *The Choir* – now find out for
yourself what choral singing is really like.
We'll learn a range of 'classic' hits in
many different styles, with the emphasis
always on having fun!
Anne Hughes 07742 576031
www.SingingforFun.co.uk

What's On

Geoff Cooksey Charity Golf Day

Geoff Cooksey is arranging his 10th Charity Golf Day at The Warwickshire Golf and Country Club, Leek Wooton, on 13th September.

It will commemorate the 19th anniversary of his major heart surgery. In appreciation of this, the Charity Golf Day was conceived to raise funds for research in the Cardiothoracic Dept, at The University Hospital, Glenfield. Thanks to the generosity of all who have taken part and the sponsors, more than £16,000 has been raised.

The day will be open to any team of golfers wishing to support the event. Geoff is endeavouring to have a maximum of 30 teams, at a cost of £160 for each team of four. The competition will be a four ball, better ball Stableford, with variations. There will be a trophy for the winners plus prizes for longest drive and nearest the pin.

Geoff is looking for individuals or companies to sponsor each hole at £50. There will be a raffle on the day to which all the teams donate a £20 prize.

For further information and an entry form please contact Geoff on 01455 212687

Summer fun comes back to Stoke Golding

Exciting News – St Margaret's Primary School's **SUMMER FAIR** will take place on **SATURDAY 25th JUNE**.

The carnival themed event will begin at 1.45pm with a school parade around the village. The fair will be open from 2 - 4pm.

If any local community groups would like to get involved please contact the school office.

We are very pleased to host the fair this year (after last year's disappointment) and would appreciate the help of as many volunteers as possible on the day. Half an hour of your time is all we need to set up or run the stalls and clear up afterwards. Please contact Kate Hughes 01455 212405 or the school office: 01455 212393 if you can help. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there.

St. Margaret's PTA

STOKE GOLDING CLUB

March 25th **Charity Night** - Live Bands - Tickets £5.

March 26th Singer **Sarah Hussey** (lounge)

April 23rd Singer **Marky T** (lounge)

April 29th **Royal Wedding Day** - Family Day

April 30th Live Band - **THE GRITTERS**

May 15th **Table Top Sale** 12pm- 4pm Tickets £5.

June 11th **SUMMER BALL**

Quiz Nights - 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Auction every Thursday.

All enquiries: Tel 01455 212221

SGFC Presents



'Just Jake'

Friday 13th May at

Stoke Golding Club

8.30 ~ 12.00

Doors open at 7.30pm

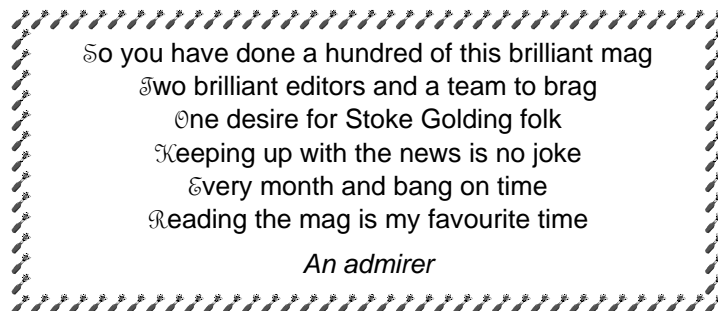
Tickets £5.00 per person

Ann Dale 0789 1088331 or

Karl Barlow 0780 5068842

Some Notable Events in Stoke Golding & Dadlington 2001 - 2011

May 2001	First issue of The Stoker published. Foot & Mouth disease hit the village. Youth Club started.
Feb 2002	A J Cox's factory closed after 27 years.
April 2002	First meeting of The Heritage Group - 'To promote and preserve the heritage of Stoke Golding'.
June 2002	Policeman seen walking around Stoke Golding.
July 2003	Croxall's Hosiery Factory closed after 37 years.
April 2004	Skate ramp installed on rec.
June 2004	Part of Stoke Golding designated as a Conservation Area. First Picnic in the Park.
August 2004	Dadlington held its first Bank Holiday Fun Day.
Dec 2004	First Snowman Festival at St Margaret's Church.
Feb 2005	Tomlinson's Farm Shop opened.
March 2005	Work began on New Cemetery in Wykin Lane.
April 2005	Nellie Hunter (Stoke Golding's oldest resident) died aged 100 Years.
Dec 2006	St Martin's Convent closed.
Sept 2007	Skate ramp removed.
Spring 2007	Mar City submitted its plans for the Convent site.
May 2008	First teddy bear jump.
July 2008	First Music Festival held on the rec.
Sept 2008	Wykin Lane Cemetery opened.
March 2010	Development of the rec began.
April 2011	100th issue of The Stoker produced.



As The Stoker celebrates its 10th anniversary...

Birthdays are nature's way of telling us to eat more cake.
Birthdays are good for you. Research shows that people who have the most birthdays live the longest.



Robin Hood Playschool, Dec 07

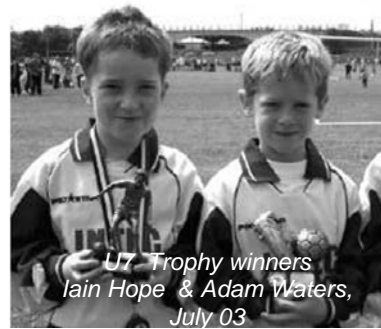
10 years of The Stoker



*Nellie Hunter's 100th
birthday, July 04*



3 Horseshoes Wheelbarrow Race, Oct 03



*U7 Trophy winners
Iain Hope & Adam Waters,
July 03*



Gosling's Farm Tour, Sept 06



Golden Jubilee Clock, March 02



The Pied Piper, Feb 03



St Margaret's School Summer Fete, June 08

Barbara at the Surgery, Nov 04



St Margaret's Church, Dec 04



Raising money for Water Aid, Feb 06



New Skateboard Ramp, April 04



Jubilee Variety Show, June 02



Karlie, Nov 07



Good Companions, Sept 04



Wykin Lane Cemetery Committee, Oct 08

Teddy Bear Parachute Jump, June 08



Pavlo at the Village Hall, Nov 05



The Stoker Team and Partners, Feb 08



Sew & Sews, June 08



Youth Club, April 03



*Sister Louis appears on TV,
April 06*



Dadlington Fete, Aug 09



*St Margaret's School raises money for
Comic Relief, April 03*



*Under 7s
Football Team,
July 05*



Scout Group Duck Race, Sept 02



A very tall sunflower, Nov 09



Dadlington Fete, Aug 03

Richard Paddon on University Challenge, Oct 03



Tennis Club, Sept 06



Save the Skateboard Ramp, Sept 07



MacMillan Coffee Morning, Nov 06



County Cllr Ivan Ould and Ray Gosling, June 08



Picnic in the Park, June 04



Ice Gymnastics, Feb 09



Tree Planters in the New Cemetery, Nov 05

Stoke Golding Music Festival 2011

This year's music festival will take place on **Saturday 9th July**. It will be a single open-air charity concert taking place on the rec with live music on stage from around 1.00pm through to the late evening. There will be a licensed bar, barbecue, teas, coffee and cakes, an ice-cream van, raffle, games and stalls, bouncy castle, penalty shoot-out, rides, tractor pull and much, much more! As you may be aware, an event of this type takes a considerable amount of organisation and the festival committee is looking for volunteers to help with all aspects.

Can you help?

We need volunteers to help with organisation before the event and on the day. Amongst a myriad of different tasks, the following has to be organised:

Before the event:

Organising insurance, public entertainment's licence, health and safety and first aid, organising the bands, arranging the PA & lighting, baking cakes, organising the bar and food, promotion of the event, sorting tickets, flyers and posters, attracting sponsors and raffle prizes.

On the day:

Erecting marquees, building the stage, helping the sound technician, helping with set changes, manning the entrances, fundraising, manning the bar and food stand, selling tea and coffee, running stalls and stands.

There are some bands already signed up for the event and we hope to have a well known headlining act (watch this space), but we still have some vacancies and would love to hear from any parties interested in performing (bands or single acts).

Do you know any bands that would be interested?

If you would like to help in any way, or would like to take part please come along to our next committee meeting at Stoke Golding Club on Wednesday 13th April at 7.30pm. Alternatively contact Pete Dawson, 9 Hinckley Road, tel: 07770 238352.

Diamond Wedding Congratulations



Bob and Pat White, from Crown Hill Close, celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on 31st March. They met in September 1946 at Ealing Dance Academy while Bob was on 'Demob' leave from the Royal Navy and married in 1951 at Holy Cross Church in Greenford. They have two sons, six grandsons and one great grandson! Their secret to a happy married life is caring for each other and their family.

Correspondence



Before entering Hinckley Road Cemetery recently I looked over the wall and it came into my mind that it looked like a battleground. Why did I have this impression? Because of the number of gravestones that have been laid flat due to Health and Safety regulations.

What was once a well-kept cemetery and, if I may say, a beautiful last resting place, now brings tears to ones eyes. Was it necessary that certain gravestones had to be laid flat; were they really a danger to the living?

Now for a real danger that no one is doing anything about. Along Wykin Lane there are a considerable number of dangerous potholes. More traffic is using Wykin Lane due to the road bumps near Dorothy Goodman School on Stoke Road. With Wykin Lane being narrow, passing vehicles have to pull over to the so-called hard shoulder and because of the potholes, many car suspensions are going to be damaged and perhaps drivers and passengers as well. In all the years I have travelled along Stoke Road near the school I have never seen vehicles being driven fast or above the speed limit.

Perhaps it was easy to desecrate gravestones, but much more effort is needed to repair Wykin Lane; but I would say that is more of a health and safety issue than the grave stones. Can the powers that be get their priorities right?

Michael Roberts



A big thank you ...

to Ralph Coleman who can regularly be seen with his litter picker and black sack collecting litter from our verges. I bumped into him yesterday and he said that while he was out walking he thought he'd collect the litter as he went along - mainly take-away wrappers and cans. He said that if everyone did that then the village would be a litter free area - he has a point!

Mel

Thanks must go to everyone who picks up other people's rubbish from our local 'highways and byways'.

Local Writer Embraces New Technology

Local writer Kristen Stone has launched into the world of e-books. Kristen, who has lived in Stoke Golding for 11 years, has her first book available for Kindle and other e-readers at Smashwords.com.

To find out more about Kristen's work and her novel Kianda Mala – The Monkey Man, visit her website: www.kristen-stone-the-writer.com.

Kristen says: "I know lots of people like to hold a book when they are reading, but I think e-books are the coming thing. It is possible to carry a whole library around in your pocket, to try new stories and catch up on some old classics that look too bulky to carry about. And no paper is wasted which is even better!"

News from St Margaret's Primary School

We have recently 'enjoyed' a successful visit from Ofsted when we were judged to have been "Good" with "Outstanding features". Years 1 and 2 delivered a really successful class assembly about famous inventors which was enjoyed by all. The next class assembly will be led by Year 5 and will be about World War 2; the children's history topic which we are looking forward to.

Not only have we been working hard in school, but the children have enjoyed learning outside of the classroom too – Years 5 and 6 got the World War 2 spirit when they were evacuated to Beaumanor Hall to take part in a "WWII day". Staff and pupils dressed up in 1940s clothing and everyone prepared a typical war time lunch. It was a super day enjoyed by all.

Children in the Foundation Stage have been learning about the weather including flying kites and using the big parachute to get first hand experience of the power of the wind. Miss Steele has also arranged for a delivery of 'living' eggs to be brought to school giving children an opportunity to observe chicks hatching from eggs. We loved the experience so much last time that Miss Farmer kept two chicks, Lavendar and Matilda, who are very happy and great layers too.

Year 6 will be visiting the Holocaust Centre near Newarke and I am sure this will really bring home to them some of the harsh realities of war on a particular religious group. Perhaps some of them may feel moved to write about the visit for a future edition of The Stoker. Year 6s have also been busy showing their considerable 'Talents' through some RE work they completed based upon the Parable of the Talents. Each child was given a £1 coin and they had to either keep it safe or 'grow it' using their own Talents. I am delighted (and almost astounded) to report that they raised a total of £389.56 – WOW! The money will be given to the Fundo School Project in Uganda which is a charity we have been supporting since September 2009.

If you want to find out more about the work of our school, visit our website at www.st-margarets.leics.sch.uk or pop by to say hello in person.

We shall be holding an **open morning** on Tuesday 7 June from 9.30am so do visit us then, especially if you are interested in choosing us as a school for your child; we currently have vacancies in Years 1 and 3.

God Bless Julie Wright

Calling all Local Traders

The Stoker, in conjunction with the Charity of Thomas Barton, will be producing an updated 'Stoke Golding and Dadlington Directory' this summer.

If you are a trader living in either of the villages and would like your business details included (free of charge), please contact Ruth Fisher before the end of April. Tel: 01455 212489
email: ruthsq21@btinternet.com

The directory will be delivered to every household in Stoke Golding and Dadlington.



Stoke Golding W I - March Meeting Security Search in Prison



At its March meeting WI members were amazed to hear the experiences of Derick Gartree telling of his 41 years working life at Gartree Top Security Prison. He revealed many of the risks the officers on duty run and how vigilant they have to be; by always being aware of the weapons that can be fashioned out of the most inoffensive objects such as pencil erasers, plastic razors and cutlery.

Our next meeting is on April 13th at the Methodist Church Hall – ‘Comedy Magic’ by Joy Henderson. Visitors are very welcome.

Sue Mitchell

Stoke Golding Good Companions Day Trip For You



Feeling tired and jaded after a long, cold winter? Need a change of scenery? Then come and join us on a day trip to Buxton and a tour around Derbyshire on Tuesday April 12th.

If you are interested phone Mr R Lockley: 01455 212815.

The cost will be £10.00.

Pick up points: Stoke Club - 9.00am, Higham - 9.15am, Sheepy Magna - 9.35am

Stoke Golding Good Companions was established many years ago and welcomes new members. Meetings are held in Stoke Golding Club twice monthly, on Thursdays at 1.30pm. If you are interested come along and enjoy a cup of tea and a good chat about topical village interests. A warm welcome awaits you.

Mary Cartwright

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I can also come and revive your patio pots & hanging baskets or you can buy ready made ones. Special rates for OAPs. **The Potting Shed - 01455 213683**





Message from the Rector at St Margaret's Church

The week leading up to Easter, called Holy Week, begins on Palm Sunday, when the church remembers Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem riding on a donkey. The bible tells us that crowds of people came out of the city to greet him, throwing down palm branches on the road and shouting "Hosanna!" You can read the story in Mark's Gospel, chapter 11, verses 1-11. Our churches give out small crosses made from palm leaves, as a reminder of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, and his death on the cross.

Later the same week, on Maundy Thursday, we remember when Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples, now known as the Last Supper. Also, how Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them the commandment to 'love one another'.

The Bible tells us that, later that night, Jesus was betrayed by Judas Iscariot.

On Good Friday, after his arrest, Jesus was brought to trial in front of the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. The crowd gathered and cries of "crucify him" filled the air. Jesus, though innocent, was condemned to death by crucifixion. He was flogged, mocked, nailed to a cross and left to die.

Then on the first Easter morning, Mary Magdalene and the other women came to the tomb. They arrived to find the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. Jesus' body had gone and the women were petrified. An angel said to them, "Do not be afraid – Jesus is not here – he has been raised". Slowly, they grasped this astounding truth. God had raised Jesus from death to new life. And for his followers, the pain of Good Friday gave way to the joy of Easter and the promise of new beginnings.

For us too, the resurrection opens up new possibilities. The resurrection that we celebrate on Easter Day means that Jesus is alive today for us to know. The utterly selfless, extravagant, healing, forgiving love that took Jesus to the cross – and raised him from the dead – has triumphed. Such love can transform despair into hope, as we come to understand that, whatever our circumstances, we are loved with a love that is totally indestructible.

May the God of love fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him – this Easter, and in the days ahead.

Linda

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library will visit Stoke Golding & Dadlington on Thursdays 14th and 28th April

Dadlington 27 Hinckley Rd - 10.05 - 10.25am
Stoke Golding Greenwood Road 10.30 - 10.45am
Sherwood Road 10.50 - 11.10am
The White Swan 11.15am - 11.40pm
Hinckley Road/Main Street 11.45- 12.05pm





Stoke Golding Heritage Group

“Cherish the past, protect the future”



Open Meeting

The History of the Package Holiday

This interesting talk traced the factors that gave rise to the today's package holiday industry. The key element which gave birth to the holiday patterns we currently enjoy was the development of the railway companies in the C19th which in turn gave the masses the opportunity to travel to coastal beaches. Resorts quickly developed to accommodate the workers of the industrial north and midlands who found that they had some spare money to allow an annual jaunt. The growth of leisure time in the shape of annual holiday weeks gave an impetus to the trend. Thus the building of the Manchester to Liverpool railway saw the establishment of resorts such as Blackpool.

Social, technological and financial factors continued to prompt the birth of travel companies such as Lunn Poly and of course, Thomas Cooke. By the 1950s the jet engined aircraft brought wider horizons to the holiday makers where Spanish beaches and better climates replaced the more traditional escape to a boarding house in a usually wet and chilly British resort. The 1960s saw an explosion in foreign travel prompted by cheaper air fares and the removal of controls on the amount of money one could take abroad. After the straitened era of the post war years the call of these exotic venues was irresistible.

However, the talk ended with a warning that the day of affordable packages may well be coming to an end, and again the same factors are in play, this time one of swingeing cuts to our living standards, the rising cost of fossil fuels and finite resources. Perhaps we will all end up like Philip Larkin's Mr Bleaney whose yearly hols were "the Frinton folk/ who put him up for the summer holidays/And Christmas at his sister's house in Stoke!"

Mike Emmett

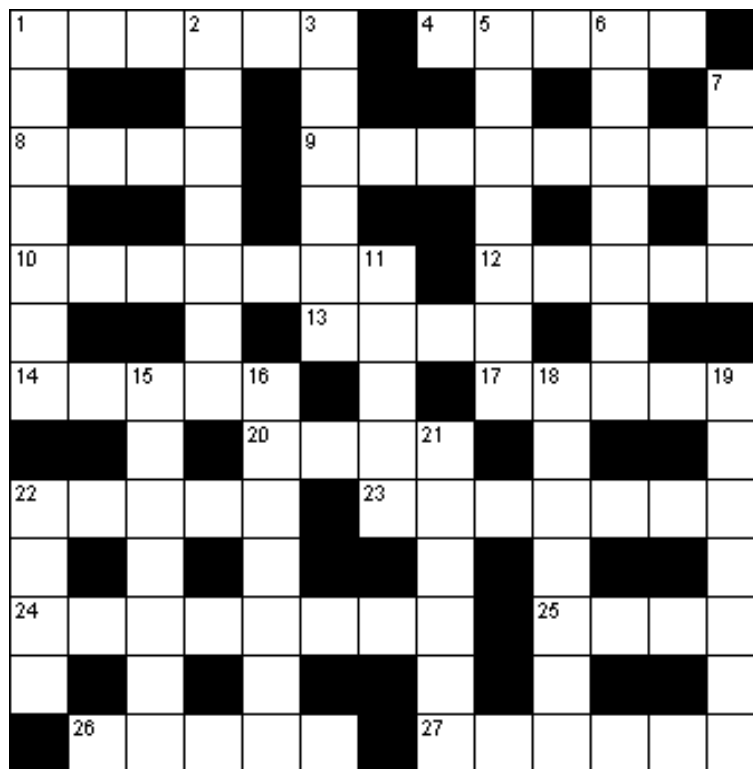
Stoke Golding Heritage Group Meeting

Thursday April 21st, Baxter Hall 7.30pm

The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) is a body that is widely recognised but do you know what it does and how it is run? On all planning issues relating to the village it has written to the planning committee supporting our objections. Ann Jenkins will give us an insight into all aspects of an organisation whose chairman is Bill Bryson.

Stoke Golding village website
www.stokegolding.co.uk

Crossword



Across

1. see 5 down
4. see 8 across
- 8 & 4 across. Magazine production team member (4 , 5)
9. Frank honesty (8)
10. Held in high esteem (7)
12. Fee paid to the council (5)
13. Reign over (4)
14. Break into pieces (5)
17. Songs for two people (5)
20. Wild lily (lords and ladies) (4)
22. Shouts madly with anger (5)
23. Method of making items by knitting coarse thread or string (7)
24. Side roads off main roads (8)
25. Ivan **** County Council's village rep. (4)
26. People who take drugs (5)
27. See 22 down

Down

1. Inflicts hurt on someone (7)
2. Of no worth (7)
3. Short name for this magazine (6)
- 5 & 1 across. Number of times 3d has been published (7 & 6)
6. Playhouse (7)
7. Requests (4)
11. Type of wheat (5)
15. What finances this magazine (7)
16. In more of a rush (7)
18. Digs up (7)
19. Person who exceeds 30mph (7)
21. Outcrop of high mountains (6)
22. & 27 Magazine production team member (4 , 6)

Solution on page 29

Stoke Golding Parish Council - February Meeting

Stoke Golding Surgery: Dr Tull, representing Stoke Golding Surgery reported on plans for Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) to carry out a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for the county to determine requirements for provision of pharmacy outlets. The Surgery is proposing to start a petition to protect the dispensary at Stoke Golding. It is asking the Parish Council to provide a letter of support and a statement that Stoke Golding *is* a rural community. The Surgery will write to David Tredinnick for his support. A letter will be put together from the Parish Council and forwarded to the Doctors' Surgery to make sure everything is covered before sending to the PCT.

Recreation Ground: Parish Clerk was asked to obtain a quote for emptying litter bins located at the bottom of rec. New pathway maintenance work was discussed.

Children's Play Area – a grant application to HBBC Parish Community Initiative Fund had been submitted.

Monthly Crime Report – it was noted that local information correctly provided from Market Bosworth did not tie up with the National Crime website figures and this was to be reported to Market Bosworth.

Football Club - it was hoped that the club would soon settle the remaining outstanding fees for 2009/10 and pay the fees for 2010/11.

Accident Claim - the matter of an accident claim was explained to the meeting. The claim has been passed to the Parish Council Insurers for action.

Village Hall: the performance by Opera Dudes on 5 Feb had gone well. **Village Hall 50th Anniversary** - an open afternoon will be held on May 8th. St Margaret's School pupils will perform the Stoke Golding country dance for this event. (There will be performances by other local groups also.)

New Planning Applications: Stoke Lodge – extension and erection of double garage, St Margaret's School - extension and alterations to existing classrooms and formation of new access ramp.

Permission granted: 10 Arnold Road – Extension to dwelling. St Martin's High School - extension and alterations to school, 12 Whitemoors Road – extension and alterations, 11 Main Street – erection of double garage.

MarCity Convent Site Update: A meeting with MarCity was held on 26 Jan to obtain clarification on future land and house ownership, design elements, sustainability and highways issues. Three councillors agreed to be part of a sub-committee which would have an input into plans for the non-residential part of the development. It is hoped to include a representative from allotment owners and a neighbouring landowner.

May 5 Parish Council Election: Four councillors will put themselves forward for re-election. The Parish Clerk is to attend an election briefing on 8th March at which nomination packs will be given out.

Electricity Power Cut Pack: A pack has been received from EON containing items that residents are recommended to keep available in case of power cuts. It will be displayed in the Post Office for residents to view.

Speed Traffic Sign: The Speedwatch Committee is proposing an installation of a

(Continued on page 29)

(Parish Council Notes continued from page 28)

traffic sign on Hinckley Road to address the issue of speeding, to remind drivers that there is a speed limit of 30mph through the village. The sign has no cameras attached to it and does not retain information regarding speed or details of passing vehicles. Maintenance costs were unknown and the Parish Council felt more information would be beneficial. On receipt of this information a vote would be made next month.

Morris Homes Appeal Petition: A petition was being prepared by residents of Stoke Golding and the Parish Council was asked if it would support the petition which will oppose the proposed Sherwood Road development. The wording of this petition is to be forwarded to the Parish Council before circulation.

Planning Appeal 22nd March: An archaeological survey of the site had been done and the ridge and furrow put back in place. .

Dog Bins – It was recommended that dog bins be numbered and those with broken locks be fitted with clips

Next meeting – Village Hall: Wednesday 6th April 2011 at 7pm

Notes by Pauline Goodsell

A full copy of the minutes of meetings can be read/obtained at the Post Office or on the village website www.stokegolding.co.uk

Hinckley Road Cemetery

Work has been done on laying down the headstones found to be unstable, which through Government regulations the Parish Council has been required to do. We regret that this has been necessary in the cases where the owners have not come forward to have them repaired. Those residents who saw how many headstones were initially affected will see that the majority of those with problems have been rectified. We ask anyone that has knowledge of the friends or families of the remaining headstones that have had to be laid down to get in touch with them and let them know the situation. Please contact Reg Ward, Chair of the Parish Council - 01455 212369 or Mrs Jill Jones, Parish Clerk on 01455 212805 or by email jillellen.jones@btopenworld.com if you have any questions or information.


Crossword solution
Across 1. see 5D, 4. see 8A, 8. Jane White, 9. openness, 10. revered, 12. rates,
13. rule, 14. smash, 17. duets, 20. arum, 22. raves, 23. macramé, 24. turnings,
25. Ould, 26. users. 27 see 22D.
Down
1. injures, 2. useless, 3. Stoker, 5. and 1A hundred issues, 6. theatre, 7. asks,
11. durum, 15. adverts, 16. hastier, 18. uproots, 19. speeder, 21. massif,
22. & 27A. Ruth Fisher.


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Simple Instructions for All Dog Owners

If your dog fouls the pavement, a public footpath, the recreation ground or the ground alongside the new cemetery,

DO:
 Collect the waste in a plastic or paper bag and put it in dog waste bin – there are plenty around the village.

DO NOT:
 Throw the bag in a hedge or ditch
 Hang the bag on a hedge or bush
 Leave the bag on the ground

Follow these simple instructions and the village pavements, footpaths and canal towpath will become much more pleasant for everyone to walk along.

Failure to clean up after your dog makes you liable to a fixed penalty fine.

Always clean up after your dog.





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