

April 2012

No. 110



The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine

including

Dadlington Matters

50p

Ruth



Jane



Note from the Editors

This April edition of the Stoker is so full of articles, news and events that we have struggled to squeeze them all in. We're not complaining - it is fantastic!

There are lots of varied events and activities to enjoy in April as well as advance notice of exciting plans for celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June, and information about 'StokeFest' in July.

Our new recruits to the Stoker Production Team have been busy writing articles, welcoming newcomers to the village and finding out information from various groups and societies.

We wish you all a very Happy Easter - let's hope the sun shines!

Ruth & Jane

The Stoker Team

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

*Production Team: Rachel Terhegge, Simon Rees-Jones,
Alan Taylor (01455 212605), Jill Webster,
Rosemary Collier, Beth Ellis, Jan Pettyfer.*

Please send articles for the **May 2012** 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 all advertising enquiries should be sent to Jane White - email: ***janewhitesg@googlemail.com***

Front cover - St James' Church, Dadlington

We got Thomas to America - Update March 2012

Following his two operations in the USA, Thomas is really working hard at his physio and slowly but surely the strength is returning to his legs. He is now able to kick a ball quite hard and during therapy he now wears weights to make the exercises harder. He has had quite a lot of pain, particularly in his left ankle where the most extensive surgery took place and he is currently suffering from shin splints but that should only be temporary. He can now walk correctly for a few steps with no leg braces at all on carpet, something he has never done before.

Thomas receives daily physio and he has been for an intensive muscle and fitness course in Perth with a personal trainer who specialises in treating children with cerebral palsy. This produced instant improvements and we hope to go back for a further 3 weeks this year.

Thank you to everyone for your kind thoughts and best wishes.



The Hughes Family and the 'Get Thomas to America Team'.

Dog Fouling

A message from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Dog fouling has been highlighted as a problem in our area. HBBC needs your help to catch the few irresponsible dog owners who leave their dog mess on the pavement.

If you would like to take a stand against dog fouling in our community then report offenders to the Neighbourhood Warden Team. Please provide as much of the following information as you can:

- The date and time
- Where
- A description of the dog
- A description of the owner

If the dog owner is using a car, the number on the registration plate.

The Team can use these details to target their patrols more effectively. You may also choose to be a witness to the offence - if so we can issue the offender with an on the spot fine for £50.00.

To report offenders to the Neighbourhood Warden Team either telephone the Council Offices: 01455 212489 or email streetscene@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk giving the above information.

Over the next few months HBBC will install cameras around Stoke Golding in order to try and catch the culprits who allow their dogs to foul on pavements, especially along Hinckley Road and near St Margaret's School.

Celebrity Corner

Every newspaper or magazine you pick up these days seems to have a headline about some '*celebrity*'. There are so many unsung '*celebrities*' right here in our village and I thought it was about time The Stoker should sing some of their praises. One month perhaps someone very new to us, another month we might turn the spotlight onto those who have been serving us faithfully for so many years without a mention. So....



Tammy and her Salon in Church Walk. It's such a delight to be a 'regular' at Tammy's Salon. Not only is she an expert at hairstyling, but the warmth and friendliness of her personality overflows to every client, making each visit a pleasure. She's been running the salon for sixteen years now, and during this time looking after the needs of so many of the villagers, often for two and three generations of the same families. I know this is true in my case, as my daughter goes to her, and when my grandson, Josh, was still at St Margaret's, he went as well. Sometimes boys and girls that Tammy knew from toddlers, she still sees when they are well into their teens and twenties, and wanting the

latest style. I've seen them there myself, along with all us 'golden oldies'. Everyone is treated as special. She's always busy, somehow keeping the salon buzzing with the help of her two stylists Jade and Charlotte, as well as being Mum to nine year old Ben and three year old Hayden. Thank you, Tammy.

Liz at The Post Office. I discovered that Liz and I both have the County of Hertfordshire in common. However she and her family have been part of Stoke from the age of thirteen when she started school at St. Martin's. She eventually took charge of the Post Office back in 2006. I told her it was Tammy who insisted I must include her, because they loved having a laugh together over a cup of coffee. "*She's so lovely, Beth*". It's obvious what good friends they are, and no wonder when they are both working so close to each other in Church Walk. She also has the advantage of being very much in the centre of village life, getting to know the needs of all her local customers (especially over the Christmas rush). Sister Jo is close by at Tomlinson's Farm Shop, Mum and Dad are living here too. And, quoting Liz, "*We love the village.*" We also love having you at the Post Office, Liz.



Beth Ellis

Publication of any articles or letters submitted does not imply approval of, or agreement with, any views and comments contained, and are published without prejudice.

The Olympics 2012

On a grey Monday in February we enjoyed an excellent day out visiting most of the Olympic Games' venues in and around Stratford, London. (The trip had been organised by Leicestershire Federation of Women's Institutes.)

We were accompanied by Jeannie, an enthusiastic and knowledgeable Blue Badge Tourist Guide, who was passionate about all things Olympian and very vocal in her admiration of Lord Coe and Sir Steve Redgrave, 5 times Olympic gold medal winner.



From a viewing platform we had good views of the Olympic Stadium, the Velodrome, Aquatics Centre, Basketball Arena and the Orbit – Anish Kapoor's amazing, contemporary sculpture.

The guide gave us an insight into the history of the Games, the 'Big Build' up to 2009 and the infrastructure of public transport into the area. Security was tight with sniffer dogs much in evidence and Ghurkhas acting as marshals along our walking route.

Many trees, shrubs and flowers are being planted to make the whole area as natural looking as possible. An oak tree will be planted and hung with gold acorns inscribed with the names of all the British Olympians – it will be very well guarded.

Leaving Stratford we were taken to see the temporary shooting venue at The Royal Artillery Barracks, before rounding off our trip with afternoon tea in the Woolwich Arsenal.

We were impressed by the thought and attention to detail that has gone into the development of the Olympic Site, giving new life to a rundown part of London. Although much of the area still looks like a building site, Jeannie assured us that the main venues have all been completed, ahead of schedule and under budget, and the remaining projects will be ready for the opening ceremony on 27th July.

After the Games are over the permanent sporting venues and housing will be used by the local community and the temporary venues will be sold to Brazil for the 2016 Olympics.

We can fully recommend a visit to see where the Games will be held. Blue Badge Guides lead daily walking tours from Bromley by Bow Underground Station.

Visit: www.tourguides2012.co.uk

Kathy Barber, Kathy Edwards, Ruth Fisher and Hilary Smith



Towpath along the Ashby Canal – the current position

You may be aware that Stoke Golding Parish Council has been trying to persuade British Waterways to improve the towpath between bridge 25 (by Ashby Boat Co. on Station Road) and bridge 26 (near the entrance to Willow Park Marina). This has met with a small amount of success with a short section repaired.

Later this year British Waterways, the government organisation which looks after our canals, will cease to exist and will be replaced by the Canals and Rivers Trust - a charitable organisation run by a Board of Trustees. If our canals are to thrive as a leisure facility for all - walkers, bikers, fishermen, boaters - then a greater use of volunteer labour is going to be required.

The Ashby Canal Association, which was formed in 1966 to fight the closure of the canal, sees the issue of this section of towpath as an ideal project to demonstrate the way ahead. Through a three way action, with the ACA work party, volunteers and members of the local community providing the labour, and the staff of the Trust providing the expertise and materials, a huge improvement will be made to a local amenity. This will generate a lot of publicity to encourage other groups, as well as freeing up Trust staff for more core maintenance tasks.

The Ashby Canal Association is actively seeking a meeting with BW/CRT to discuss this issue and seek a way forward.

We shall keep you updated in future issues of The Stoker.

An exciting new voice for young people

Children and young people are being given a new opportunity to get their voices heard in Hinckley & Bosworth. Those aged between 11 and 19 years who want to have their say about things that are important to them in the borough are being invited to join a 'Voice of the Young People Group'.

Members will be encouraged to get involved in a number of different projects. The first of these will provide young people with an opportunity to get a play training qualification. This will enable them to be part of the team that is planning the National Play Day on 1 August 2012. Other projects will include the formation of a research team to look at policies and strategies for the group and a marketing team to help with publicity. All members of the group will receive a newsletter outlining what has been achieved and other ways to get involved.

Any young people interested in joining the group should e-mail voice@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk to sign up.

"This is a great opportunity and a really exciting time for young people of the borough to get involved in all kinds of exciting projects," said Cllr Mathew Hulbert, the Council's Children and Young People's Champion. "They will have a voice, and this new way of working should mean they make a real difference to young people of the borough and the communities in which they live".

For more information contact Rebecca Ball on 01455 255937

Local Footpaths and Hedgerows

Many local walkers will be aware of the changes taking place in the fields alongside Wykin Lane going toward the Canal. The old hedgerows, which had been allowed to grow naturally and had not been managed, were not suitable for containing livestock. These hedgerows are now being replaced with new whips or cut back to encourage growth from the base and infilled with whips. This process leaves the hedgerows looking the worse for wear. However, in about five years they will have fully recovered to once again provide a stock-proof barrier and a habitat for wildlife.

At the same time some of the fields belonging to Millfield Farm (Hardy's Farm) are being used for sheep. Because the hedgerows are not stock-proof, electric fencing has been used to create two separate fields. One of the electric fences cuts across what is an unofficial path that is a shortcut from the footpath at the end of the cemetery to the canal. This is NOT a public right of way and the fact that it has been used for many years does not create the right to use it.

The Parish Council is considering a long-term solution but this cannot be implemented at the moment. It is important that for now walkers keep to the authorised public footpaths, observe the country code and keep dogs under close control.

The electric fence has been damaged on a number of occasions giving problems in managing the sheep. This damage has been reported to the Police. It is in everybody's interest to understand that the farming community has to manage land as part of their business and what they are doing is totally legal. The past practices were as a result of Steve Hardy's generosity but that era has finished. We must all adapt and accept the new circumstances. If you require further information please contact Roy Mitchell 212110.

The Parish Council will continue to represent local views and initiatives, whilst recognising that the County Council, through the Footways Officer, will do the delivery of change.

Reg Ward, Chairman, Stoke Golding Parish Council

Sister Louis Bertrand

Earlier this month Maureen and I spent a very pleasant afternoon with Sister Louis at her home in Nuneaton. She told us she is very comfortable in her new surroundings and is well looked after. We took along our latest issues of the Stoker which she was pleased to receive and particularly enjoyed Graham's article on the history of the Convent.

Reminiscences of her time at the Convent, her many pupils and the people of the two villages were shared with us, and she sent her good wishes to everyone. She also spoke of her family in Ireland, and told us she speaks with her sister by telephone most days. Sister Louis is keen to receive our magazine and looks forward to reading all the news in future issues.

Alan Taylor



Birth Congratulations

Congratulations to Anna and Richard on the birth of Joseph David Paddon on February 27th, weighing 9lbs 13oz. A brother for Lauren and a second gorgeous grandson for Martyn and Ruth Fisher.



Thank You!

Just before Christmas you may have caught Jeremy Vine's Radio 2 programme with messages for personnel serving in Afghanistan. One of the conversations was between an RAF nurse and her little boy Freddy whom she had left behind. This nurse, Sonia is the sister of a friend of ours, and is on a tour of duty nursing soldiers in Kandahar. She had appealed to family and friends for knitted or crocheted blankets for two purposes. Firstly they use them for returning wounded soldiers to the UK - and secondly they are needed for Afghan children that are being cared for in the hospital.

I spoke about this at a recent WI meeting in the village and there has been a super response from WI members and from the Sew and Sew group. Over the last few weeks little packets of squares have been coming through my letter box and also bags with completed blankets have arrived from all directions. The complete blankets I was able to send off straight away by (free) forces post. All of the others have been sewn up and dispatched to Sonia.

Last week came the dreadful news of the six soldiers being killed in Afghanistan and now we are hearing of the shocking attack on the civilians by an American soldier. When anything like this happens, communications between the forces and families are curtailed so I have not yet heard directly from Sonia. Her sister who has been coordinating the blanket project is most grateful for the response and is particularly touched that people in a village who do not know them have responded so positively.

The thought and care that went into the knitting and crochet work was wonderful - thank you very much for all your efforts.

Pauline Goodsell





Message from The Rector

April begins with Palm Sunday, and leads up to the most important festival in the church's calendar. Having had several weeks of preparation through Lent, we now look in expectation to Easter and to the joy of celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

From Palm Sunday, when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey with the crowds shouting 'Hosanna' and waving palm branches, we move on to a mixture of emotions that come from walking the way of the cross with Jesus as he is arrested, tried and crucified.

During Holy Week there are several services in our benefice churches:

- Holy Communion at St Margaret's Stoke Golding at 6.30pm on Tuesday 3rd April.
- Holy Communion at St Peter's Witherley at 9.45am on Wednesday 4th April.
- A service of Compline at St Michael and All Angels Fenny Drayton at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4th April.
- A Christian adaptation of the Passover Meal (Jesus' Last Supper) at The Baxter Hall Stoke Golding at 7.30pm on Thursday 5th April.
- A meditation followed by a frugal lunch at the Methodist Church in Higham at 12.00 midday on Good Friday;
- A service with meditation at St James' Dadlington at 2.00pm on Good Friday.

I hope that you may want to join us at one or more of these services as we follow the journey that takes Jesus to the cross, then on Easter Sunday when there is a service of Holy Communion at all our churches, we remember the promise that is the joy of Easter: the assurance of God's abundant love for each one of us that we rejoice in and celebrate on Easter Day.

I wish everyone a happy and blessed Easter, full of God's love for us.

Linda

Event offers new plants that don't cost the earth

Gardeners are being offered the opportunity to get their hands on some garden plants that don't cost the earth, as part of a plant swap event at Hinckley's Hollycroft Park.

The plant swap, which is run by volunteers from Friends of Hollycroft Park as part of RHS National Gardening Week, will take place on Saturday 21st April from 10.30am to 12.30pm near the bandstand in Hollycroft Park, Hinckley.

Anyone who wishes to take part is invited to come along with any plants, cuttings or seedlings from their own garden which they wish to swap with other people.

There is no charge to take part in the swap, but people will be asked to make a donation to the park. Even people without plants to swap are welcome to take part by simply making a donation to the park in return for their plants.

Friends of Hollycroft Park volunteer, Sue Neal said: "It's a great opportunity to get hold of new plants for your garden without it costing the earth".

Pre booking is not required and everyone is welcome. For more information contact Sue Neal 01455 234371 or Margaret McFadden 07828 145169 or email: gardening@hollycroftpark.co.uk

Church Matters

Church of England - April Services

St. Margaret's Church

1 st April	10.30am	Palm Sunday Benefice Service Witherley
5 th April	7.30pm	Passover Supper Baxter Hall
8 th April	10.30am	Easter Sunday Holy Communion
15 th April	10.30am	Holy Communion
22 nd April	10.30am	Morning Worship
29 th April	10.30am	Benefice Service

Come and join us each Tuesday at 6.30pm for Holy Communion

St. James's Church

1 st April	10.30am	Palm Sunday Benefice Service Witherley
6 th April	2.00pm	Good Friday Benefice Meditation on the Cross.
8 th April	9.00am	Easter Sunday Holy Communion
15 th April	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
22 nd April	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
29 th April	10.30am	Benefice Service Stoke Golding

The Methodist Church April Services

1st April	10.30am	Mr Michael Holt
6th April	7.00pm	Revd. Julie Minns
(Good Friday)		
8th April	10.30am	Revd. Julie Minns
15th April	10.30am	Mrs Joan Ledson
22nd April	10.30am	Mrs Helen Osborne
29th April	10.30am	Mr David Overton

Methodist Church April Events

Saturday April 21st

Spring Fair

10am - 2pm

Cakes & Preserves
Books, Bric-a-Brac,
Raffle and Tombola
Coffee and Light Lunches

Zion Chapel Services - April starting at 6pm

1st April	Mark Menzfeld
8th April EASTER	Malcolm Welch
15th April	Richard Cotton
22nd April	John Todd
29th April	TBA

Sunday School at 11am

St Margaret's Church Coffee, Chat & Book Swap

Free coffee, tea and a chat on
Wednesdays

10.30am - 12 noon in Church

Everyone is welcome, we do hope
you will join us.

What's On



Stanley Opera Performs
The Merry Wives of Windsor
Hinckley Concordia Theatre 25th - 28th April



With one of the funniest stories imaginable, courtesy of William Shakespeare, irresistible tunes courtesy of Otto Nicolai, a great team of principal singers and the full Stanley Opera Chorus, a truly memorable evening awaits you.

Please tel: Chris Sturgess 01455 848194 for Tickets (£9 - £10)
Or buy securely online at www.stanley-opera.org.uk

Stoke Golding Heritage Group - April Meeting

Stoke Golding is still a rural farming community with a number of working farms within the parish. Around the village are a number of ridge and furrow fields that are evidence of the original open field system that was used by our community back to medieval times. Remarkably, there is one village that still uses this ancient system of farming. Stuart Rose, a farmer from the village of Laxton in Nottinghamshire, will be giving an illustrated talk (including a film shot before the second world war) on how this system operates today. This is a unique opportunity to find out how agriculture in England functioned before the enclosure movement of the 18th century.

As usual we meet in the Baxter Hall at 7.30pm and this meeting is on **19th April**. Non-members are welcome - admission: £2.50.

Stoke Golding Football Club

'Mini Dribblers'

Free 6 week, fun football course
For boys and girls in Years 1 and 2

ALL standards WELCOME



Starts Saturday 21st April 2012

10.00 – 11.30AM

St Martin's School playing fields Stoke Golding

Simply turn up and register on any of the Saturdays, or for more information contact:

John Cornick on 07984575152

Wanted...

People to join fellow
passengers from Stoke Golding
on a VIP coach

holiday to Slovenia

8th – 16th September 2012

One local pick up, overnight stops, Eurotunnel, 4* hotel at Lake Bled. All rooms aircon, ensuite, TV. Heated indoor pool and hot-tub. All excursions included in the price - £710.00.

Call Sandra Richardson:
01455 635904.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – June



Stoke Golding will be celebrating!

Events and activities confirmed so far:

- Saturday 2nd June - Daytime - **Heritage Exhibition** at the Baxter Hall (hopefully)
- Saturday 2nd June - Daytime - Jubilee event at The George and Dragon
- Saturday 2nd June - Evening - **Concert** at the Village Hall with the Stanley Opera
- Sunday 3rd June - **The Big Lunch - Village Celebration** on Hinckley Road
- Monday 4th June - 1.00pm - 7.00pm - **Jubilee Party** at the Three Horseshoes
- Monday 4th June - Evening - Lighting the Beacon at The White Swan

Stanley Opera Performs 'Songs for a Summer Evening'



Including songs from the shows
and popular classics
Stoke Golding Village Hall
Saturday 2nd June
7.30 -11pm

Tickets £8 each including a glass of
wine and strawberries & cream

Please ring Alan 01455 212416
for tickets



The Three Horseshoes Jubilee Party

Monday 4th June
1.00 - 7.00pm



Live music
Refreshments
Stalls

If you would like to have a stall at
this event please get in touch with
Terry 01455 212263

The Big Jubilee Lunch Hinckley Road

An opportunity for the whole
village to get together
Sunday 3rd June

12.30-3.30pm

Live music
Children's activities



Look out for more information about
these and other events planned for this
special occasion in the May Stoker.

Contact Ruth Fisher 01455 212489
for more information.

What's On



Saturday 7th July

This year's Stoke Fest is promising to be bigger and better than before, with a wide range of bands and artists, as well as stalls and activities on the field., and once again the event will be free to enter.

Thanks to everyone who turned up to the meeting on 8th March to help to discuss this years Stoke Fest, however to organise an event of this size, we still need more people to volunteer to help on the day.

If you can tear yourself away from the music for half an hour, please can you contact us to put your name forward. We need people to help man the gates, sell raffle tickets etc, you name it ... we need it, and any offer of help however big or small will be gratefully received.

We now have our own website www.stoke-fest.co.uk or you can email us at contact@stoke-fest.co.uk

Please contact Pete or Karen on (01455) 212132 for further details.



The George and Dragon Book Group

Come and have a fabulous time – a glass of wine, a good book and a lively discussion. We meet from 8pm on the first Tuesday of every month. The group meets next on:

Tuesday 3rd April 8pm to discuss *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens

Katie 01455 213268 078174 11 517 Katie@churchendbrewery.co.uk

Chris 01455 213 798 07899 953 526 ms.chris.taylor@btinternet.com

Dadlington Matters

Dadlington Flower Festival - May 5/6/7

Come and enjoy the spectacular flower arrangements at our beautiful little battlefield church of St James at Dadlington. The theme is "By Design" – an apt choice for our creative and innovative arrangers.

The arrangements are by members of the Earl Shilton Flower Club, many of whom have exhibited at the highest level in Chatsworth, cathedrals and national competitions.

Church Open 12noon-5pm on Sat 5th/Sun 6th/ Bank Holiday Mon 7th May
Refreshments in Village Hall – tea, coffee, cakes
Soup served between 12noon and 2pm each day
Stalls include: plants, cakes, jams, books, tombola
Festival Songs of Praise - Sunday 2nd May 6:30pm

For further information telephone 01455 213244

A Dadlington Mystery

While searching the National Archives on www.a2a.org.uk I came across a reference to 'Staley's Charity' at Dadlington. Despite searching the Charity Commission Archives I can find no current reference to it.

This is a copy of the Archive reference:

Corporate Details: Staley's Charity, Dadlington

GB/NNAF/C79287 (Former ISAAR ref: GB/NNAF/O71002)

Scope 1987-96: Correspondence and bank statements

Repository: Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, Record Office

Record Reference: DE5031

Other reference: See Annual Return 1996

Do any Stoker readers recollect the charity; what it was for and if it still exists? The last annual return for it was made in 1996. Did it then cease to exist?

Denis Cash

COPY DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE : 15th APRIL

Stoke Golding WI - March Meeting

Fabric Boxes by Carol Goodrich



Carol started making fabric boxes about 20 years ago; the materials required are quite simple - cardboard, cotton fabric, glue stick, pegs (to hold the glued pieces till they stick), wadding. Fabric with a small pattern is better as you do not have to match the pattern as you assemble the box. The lining could be a plain toning fabric. It is possible to buy kits for different styles of box and a pattern can be taken from the pieces before you make it up, for future use.

Carol showed us a wide selection of fabrics and the basics of starting to make a box. The talk gave us a very good idea of how effective these boxes are and many were inspired to have a go.

The next meeting is at the Methodist Church Hall on April 11th and is entitled "Wildlife on the Farm". Visitors are very welcome.

Lesley Gent

Getting Married in the Fenn Lanes' Churches

There are many reasons couples choose to marry in church; God's blessing on their marriage being one of the main ones. The five churches in our benefice are beautiful buildings as well as being special places.

Thanks to a change in the law in 2008, it is now easier to marry in the church of your choice. Lots of people marry in their own local church, but we know that you might like to marry in a church away from where you live because it has special significance for you through family or other connections.

You can marry in a church other than where you live if either of you can show just one of these seven connections with the parish:

That one of you:

Has at any time lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months or

Was baptised in the parish concerned or

Was prepared for confirmation in the parish or

Has at any time regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months or

That one of your parents, at any time after you were born:

Has lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months or

Has regularly gone to normal church services in the parish for a period of at least 6 months or

That one of your parents or grandparents:

Was married in the parish.

Even if you don't think any of the above applies to you, you can qualify by 'regularly attending normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months' (point 4 on the list).

Please contact us if you would like to know more.

Linda Blay 01455 213988

National Archives Web Site Stoke Golding Youths Have Death Sentence Commuted

Whilst researching Stoke Golding on the fascinating National Archives web site I came across an item which must have made headlines for weeks in the local papers. Two Stoke Golding youths were sentenced to death for arson. The date was 1836 and after a year held on the prison hulk 'Fortitude', which must have seemed like a lifetime's sentence in itself, it seems their sentence was commuted to transportation for life, presumably to Australia. It would seem the village vicar the Rev. Thomas Duff Schomberg, who was master of the Old Grammar School too, pleaded for their lives. The full entry in the archives reads as follows:-

Prisoners' names: Samuel Kirkland and Thomas Sheen.

Prisoners' ages: Kirkland aged 17, Sheen aged 19.

Court and date of trial: Leicester Lent Assizes, March 1837.

Crime: Arson - setting fire to a stubble stack, property of Thomas Hall.

Initial sentence: Death commuted to transportation for life.

Gaoler's report: Received a good character on their trial.

Petitioners: 38 and 28 people of Stoke Golding, Leicester.

Grounds for clemency:

The youth of the prisoners; previous good character;
their entire ignorance of the enormity of their crime;
motive not hate; malice or politics.

Other papers:

Two letters from Thomas Duff Schomberg, Master of Stoke Golding Grammar School.

A letter from E. Jarvis in opposition to mitigation.

A letter from Lord Abinger.

Additional Information:

The prisoners were held on the Fortitude hulk.

Covering dates 1836 Mar 30; 1837 Mar 25



News from St. Margaret's C. E. (A) Primary School



Celebration Assemblies - 2nd and 9th March

Silver Award: Thomas Tweddle, Rubie Richards, Megan Taylor, Lucas Payton, Chloe Towers, Jack Croxall, Haydn James, Emma Bradley, Kyle Sutherland, Abi Stringer, Amelia Craddock, Kyle Draper, Daisy Sargent, Millie Towers, Joe Wakefield, Chloe Ward Hughes, Henry Setchell, Katie Lockett, Niall Del Gesso,

Gold Award: Joseph Quinn, Maddox Robinson, Anya Ibbitson, Shania Briggs, Harry Taylor, Gracie Tomkins, Kieran Hopkins, Molly Carey, Alex Harlock, Alice Taylor, Luca Moore.

Lunchtime Award: Teigan Perry, Ben Yeomans, Teigan Kettle.

Swimming: Sophie Ruck, Molly Carey.

Tag Rugby: Bryony Urquhart, Izzie Mackinder, Jasmin Sprake, Aaliyah Stokes, Jordan Tebbatt, Nathan Hedgecock, Luca Moore, Sam Wigley, Niall Del Gesso, Harvey Webb, Owen Elsworth, Tom Walker.

Musical Items: Chloe Ward-Hughes – Irish dancing, Darcey Kelly – piano, Isabella Fielding, Danielle Watkins, Eden Richards, Molly Carey, Eve Pearson, Charlie Woodroffe, Elle Draper, Megan Garton – recorder, Libby Parish, Olivia Bailey, Anya Ibbitson.

Dance: Melody Cunningham.

Pony Riding: Gracie Tomkins.

Rugby: Adam Preedy.

Cross Country: Izaak Hare, Georgia Smith, Lucas Payton, Finley Hill, Olivia Bailey, Danielle Watkins, Isabella Fielding, Tegan Kettle, William Oliver, Aidan Elsworth, Isabel Mackinder, Megan Smith, James Schaefer, Bryony Urquhart, Owen Elsworth, Zach Fielding.

WELL DONE !

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers' News

We have been very busy over the past few weeks taking our members snorkelling, climbing and caving! On 24th March we visited RAF Hendon.

There is a waiting list for Scouts and Beavers but there are a few places available for Cubs.

Fionna and John Shilladay 01455 212908



Stoke Golding website
www.stokegolding.co.uk

The Queen's Visit to Leicester

On Thursday 8 March 2012 I had the great honour and privilege of representing St Margaret's Church, and therefore the whole community of Stoke Golding, at Leicester Cathedral. Every incumbent was invited, and each Church of England congregation in Leicestershire chose a member to attend. The service was a celebration of the visit of Her Majesty the Queen to Leicester in her Diamond Jubilee Year. The Queen was accompanied by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh and HRH the Duchess of Cambridge.

It was heartening to see the crowds waiting to cheer the Queen along the road leading up to the cathedral, and fortunately the sun shone on us. There was a real feeling of excitement and expectation even though the royal party was not due to arrive for another two hours. While waiting I met a charming lady from Oadby who had been invited to the service because of her work with the St Philip's Multi-Faith Centre in Leicester. After security checks and clearance, those holding invitations were warmly greeted by the Dean of Leicester, then directed inside the cathedral and to our seats. There was organ music prior to the start of the service, and strains of drumming floating in from outside. Quite a mix!

The Royal Party entered the cathedral to the overture from 'Music from the Royal Fireworks', and I had a good view from where I was seated (although I saw nothing more of them until they left). The Queen looked amazing for her 85 years, dressed in a striking fuchsia pink. The Duke of Edinburgh was taking in the splendour of the cathedral architecture, and the Duchess of Cambridge smiled and appeared relaxed and elegant in a dark green suit.

The service was not long. It was perfectly planned, and was an opportunity to thank Her Majesty for her witness and service to Nation and Commonwealth, and for her devotion as Defender of the Faith. Partnership with other Christian denominations and shared work with other communities of faith in the city and the county were celebrated. There were extracts from the Bible and other texts of faith read by young people from various faith traditions. As prayers were offered, dancers from Indian and Pakistani Christian communities in Leicester held votive lights as symbols of our prayers. Extraordinarily moving. Children from Churchill Church of England Junior School, Thurmaston, sang *Jubilate, everybody* and received warm applause. The music, hymn singing, and the Bishop's address all contributed to the grandeur of this wonderful event.

Her Majesty the Queen left the cathedral to eat lunch with invited guests at St Martin's House, the recently converted Leicester Grammar School in the cathedral precinct. Meanwhile, the congregation and clergy were ushered across the road behind the building to the Nagarjuna Kadampa Buddhist Centre on Guildhall Lane. Sandwiches and drinks were provided, and we had the opportunity to meet old friends and make new acquaintances. A parishioner from our benefice was chatting to the lady from Leicester who had created the posies of flowers for the Queen and the Duchess of Cambridge!

All in all it was a splendid day. I feel very proud and honoured to have worshipped at a service in our cathedral with the reigning monarch.

Carolyn Patullo

Early Spring Migrants

Last winter was clearly defined by the presence of many waxwings, both nationally and indeed locally. This year's relatively mild winter has proved less productive though I have noted several hundred fieldfares, both in and around Stoke Golding, with some redwings in evidence. Both species would readily probe into the ground for food until fields froze, then resort to berries and apples.



Although small flocks of goldfinch, greenfinch and chaffinch are regular visitors in the woodland next to Wykin Lane Cemetery, both siskin and redpoll are conspicuous by their absence, though I have noted one of the latter. At least one jay, an extremely colourful bird, flouting a conspicuous large white rump, can be seen frequenting the hedges close to the road.

During the autumn I was both hearing the characteristic yaffle, and seeing a few green woodpeckers, though more recently they appear to have become quite elusive. Greater spotted woodpeckers always seem to be around - the loud 'chip, chip, chip' sound readily revealing their presence.

The occasional raven passes over - the deep 'crop, crop, crop' call distinguishing it from other corvids (crow family), let alone the size. And of course these days it is hardly possible to go out birding without seeing at least one buzzard, some at quite close quarters. Both jackdaw and house sparrow are in abundance. Bullfinches, besides being generally very colourful and discernable by their obvious white rump, are to be encountered, albeit somewhat periodically.

More specifically, early spring is usually characterised by the arrival of early migrants such as chiffchaff, easily detected by the call suggested in the name, and sand martins over larger expanses of water. Both wheatear and yellow wagtail also arrive early, more evident around rough areas of land around gravel pits or similar locations but also, at times, in fields of very short grass.

David Abbott

Save a Bit More

The Fool on the Hill is to be congratulated for his choice of the M40 route to Twickers described in the last issue, but does he realise that he could save quite a few pennies at the same time? Instead of buying gold-plated motorway coffee, he could patronise Asda and fill up with fuel as well as coffee. This valuable liquid is even cheaper than that sold by Morrison's in Hinckley (Now there's a surprise...) Just turn off the motorway at the High Wycombe junction and keep to the left – Asda is just round the corner and will have been visible above the greenery as the junction was approached. It's open 24 hours except Sundays. Alas, no charging facilities are available for electric vehicles but if you run on gas you are in luck as, according to the Asda web site, LPG is on sale. A word of caution: if visiting Asda on the way home, it is all too easy to get in the wrong lane for the M40 when navigating the giant roundabout above the motorway.

Ian Reid

Stoke Golding Parish Council - February 2012 Meeting

County Cllr Ivan Ould reported on:

Ashby Canal Towpath – an email sent to Director of Environment and Transport regarding this problem.

Green Wedge review.

MIRA Liaison meeting held 31 January.

Condition of the road between Fenn Lanes and Shenton.

Neighbourhood Plan – Leicestershire Rural Partnership being re-vamped.

Reports by Councillors

Wykin Lane Cemetery

a) Water supply – water connection still awaited by Severn Trent as they say initial pipe work carried out was not to spec and extra work needed.

b) Lock and chain required for service gate and mesh fencing around trees to be removed now they are established.

Planning Application Matters

Green Wedge

The meeting was informed that letters would be written to the Planning Policy Officer Development Services at HBBC from Councillors and MPs proposing Green Wedges between Stoke Golding and Dadlington and also between Stoke Golding and Hinckley.

Neighbourhood Watch

The Parish Council invited Judith Montgomery, local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and Development Officer to advise the Council on putting in place a Neighbourhood Watch and Smartwater Scheme in the village.

Clerk to contact the co-ordinator of the Stoke Golding and Dadlington Co-operative Website to ascertain whether the site could be used to open a communication channel for the scheme.

Stoke Golding Boys' Charity Trustee appointment - Clerk to write to Roger Clifford to ask if he is willing to stand.

The Charity of Thomas Barton appointment - Morris Bolton nominated as a Trustee. Council proposed writing to the Charity suggesting an amendment to its constitution that future Trustees should be residents of Stoke Golding.

Horse Chestnut tree – removal

A recommendation to fell the diseased horse chestnut tree at the rec due to a safety issue was discussed.

It was proposed to remove the bench and continue monitoring the condition of the tree. The bench will be relocated elsewhere in the village and a tree may be planted to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Children's Play Area

A sub-committee reported that four new pieces of play equipment will be installed in the play area, and to accommodate the equipment and give more light to the area it was proposed to remove three trees.

Applications have been submitted for a Shire Grant and Community Initiative

(Continued on page 21)

(Parish Council Notes continued from page 20)

Funding for new gates and fencing. The Parish Council had been awarded £1613 from Bosworth Community Fund and received a donation from a resident of £197 towards the play equipment. The Charity of Thomas Barton was also considering funding an additional piece of equipment.

Communications received by the Council

Verbal

Buddleia in Bennett Close needs removal.

Cricket pavilion – it was reported that the roof leaks.

Miscellaneous

HBBC – ‘Big Tidy Up’ campaign - Sunday 4 March.

Queen’s Jubilee – applications to be submitted for closure of Hinckley Road to hold a street party and Beacon to be lit at The White Swan.

Recycling and Refuse Service – dustcarts are reversing down Sherwood Road at 8.30am on school mornings, presenting a safety issue for children walking to school. Clerk to write to Mike Brymer to ask if the time and route could be changed until after the children are in school.

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

Next meeting: Wednesday 4th April, 7.00pm in the Committee Room of the village hall.

Is your internet stuck in the slow-lane? What could you do with super-fast speeds?

Broadband connectivity is emerging as a critical issue in Leicestershire. It is estimated that over 190,000 residents mainly in rural areas, will not receive improved broadband as part of BT’s national rollout programme. This includes 89,000 residential households and at least 3,800 businesses.

Leicestershire County Council is working in partnership with public, private and voluntary sector organisations to identify and deliver the connectivity needs of communities, businesses, and public sector organisations. The County’s vision is to deliver super-fast broadband to all premises in Leicestershire by 2017, subject to securing necessary funding. Deployment of super-fast broadband will commence during 2013.

As part of the programme it is critical we understand current issues and future broadband aspirations. **We need your support.** Please visit www.leics.gov.uk/broadband to complete the questionnaire and help the County Council to transform your internet experience. The survey will be open until the 30th April 2012 and a report will be published on the website in May. When you complete our survey please register to receive our quarterly newsletter.

For more information please contact Matthew Kempson (broadband@leics.gov.uk, 0116 305 6179)

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Mon. 6.30pm YOGA [Mixed level] Baxter's Hall, Stoke Golding. 1 hour class
Mon. 7.45pm YOGA [Easy level] Baxter's Hall, Stoke Golding 1 hour class
Tues. 6.30pm YOGA [Mixed level] Baxter's Hall, Stoke Golding 1 hour class
Tues. 7.45pm YOGA [Mixed level] Baxter's Hall, Stoke Golding 1 hour class
Thurs. 10am YOGA [Mixed level] Sapcote Pavilion. 1 hour class
Fri. 1pm YOGA [Mixed level] Millennium Hall, Burbage. 1 hour class
Fri. 6.15pm BODY BLITZ Millennium Hall, Burbage. 30 min class
Fri. 7pm YOGA POWER MIX [Advanced level] Millennium Hall, Burbage. 45 min class.

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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 - 11.40am
	Hinckley Road/Main Street 11.45- 12.05pm



For further details contact: Coalville Library, 0116 305 3565
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