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April '15

No. 140



Richard III Cortège in Dadlington

Souvenir colour photographs inside

The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine

including

Dadlington Matters

Celebrations

Local artist proves 3 into 26 goes!

Local artist Diane Sinclair has had 3 pieces of work selected for display in Leicester and East Midlands Open Art Exhibition 2015 at Newarke Houses Museum. Diane, a pastel artist from Stoke Golding and tutor at the Ten2 Art Gallery, Hinckley, entered 3 pieces; 'Will ye no come back again?', 'Two of a Kind' and 'Reflecting a moment' for the exhibition, the maximum allowed and had all three accepted.



The Leicester and East Midlands Open Art Exhibition 2015, takes place from 14 March - 3 May 2015 at Newarke Houses Museum & Gardens. This year's Open exhibition is being organised in partnership with De Montfort University. For the first time in its 26 years, the exhibition will be held at Newarke Houses Museum where it will launch the museum's new Garden Galleries.

For more of Diane's work visit her website: <http://www.pastelportraitsbydiane.com> and Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pastelportraitsbydiane>



Congratulations Diane - we love the pictures - Eds



The combined Horseshoes Darts teams united to raise cash for Red Nose Day and raised a pleasing total of £129.71. On the night we had a darts shootout and then some fun games involving both darters and pub regulars.

A big thank you to all who supported and donated.

Andy Beale



Note from the Editors



Dadlington may never be the same again following the events on Sunday 22nd March to mark the reinterment of Richard III. A dedicated team of villagers had been flat out preparing for the arrival of the cortege; the village hall had a make-over, two new notice

boards were erected to mark the special occasion, a mock trial was held in the church and plans were made for activities and refreshments for the day. Thousands of people flocked to the Green to witness the historic occasion, enjoying listening to handbells, the choir, historical talks and poems and watching morris dancers. The exhibition in the village hall was remarkable and homemade cakes, hot dogs and liquid refreshments were all available to enjoy. Somehow the village had even managed to organise a lovely sunny day! We hope you enjoy the four pages of photographs we have included in this month's edition to mark this historic event thanks to Ruth and Martyn Fisher.

Happy Easter to all our readers. We hope the sun keeps shining over the Bank Holiday.

Jane and Steve

The Stoker Team

Editors: Jane White (01455 212416), Steve Smithers (01455 213798)

Production Team: Rosemary Collier, Beth Ellis, Richard & Ella Orr, Jan Pettyfer, Simon Rees-Jones, Jill Webster, Jennifer Mitchie.

Please send articles for the **May 2015** issue of The Stoker to:

The Editor, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding by 15th April

If you can submit articles by e-mail or on a memory stick (Microsoft Word) it makes our job much easier, (**500 words maximum** please).

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

janewhitesg@gmail.com.

N.B. All advertising enquiries to Ella Orr - ella42@sky.com

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.

Cover picture: Two knights on horseback lead the Richard III cortege through Dadlington

The Church Clock

Tradition has it that Stoke Golding villagers, from the church tower, watched the 'Battle of Bosworth' unfold before them - we can only guess as to their thoughts and anxieties. The church, already close to the form in which we know it today, has stood as a symbol of strength and comfort through so many conflicts. No doubt the chiming of the clock, marked the hours of work for those in the fields with no timepiece.



The clock is believed to have been installed in 1875. It is "a very fine example of the workmanship of John Smith of Derby" - seen here in this photograph. Wikipedia tells us that: - '*John Smith's company flourished during the industrial revolution. When he died in 1886, his two sons, Frank and John took over the running of the family business. Under Frank Smith, the company was responsible for building the huge turret clock for St Paul's Cathedral in 1893.*'

Climbing the spiral steps of the tower and arriving in the bell chamber you cannot fail to be amazed at the way the clock mechanism is housed in a large wooden cupboard with a platform in front of it. This is reached by a vertical ladder. For one hundred and forty years, three times a week, dedicated members of our community have climbed to the bell chamber, have scaled this ladder, have stood on a precarious plank high above the floor, have opened the glass doors and have taken the great metal winder to wind the clock.

But no longer - for on Monday 23rd of March 2015, the winding will become automatic - using the power of electricity. In fact the last ever manual winding of the clock will be done by John Patullo on the previous Saturday evening. Matt Taylor has wound the clock on Thursdays since October 1992 - 23 years! Taking over from fellow bell ringer, Stuart Warren, who was in failing health, John has wound the clock on Tuesdays and Sundays since early 1995.

How many other dedicated winders there have been we will never know, but this seems a good time to thank John and Matt , and remember all those winders who went before.

'Time like an ever-rolling stream Bears all its sons away: They fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the opening day'.



What Price History?

By the time you read this, Richard III will have finally been laid to rest in Leicester Cathedral, but before the events around the reburial were put in place the Cathedral Authorities had to determine the appropriate way to honour a King of England who died in battle at Bosworth Field. At an early stage the Stoke Golding Heritage Group were involved in suggesting the cortege route and two of our committee met with a representative of the diocese on the Fenn Lanes, close to the point where it is believed Richard was killed. It was subsequently agreed that this would be the starting point. We also suggested that the route of the cortege should be through Stoke Golding, Dadlington, Sutton Cheney, and then on to Leicester. Stoke Golding and Dadlington have credible and acceptable links to the Battle, and it is likely, although there is no evidence, that Richard said mass at Sutton Cheney Church before the battle. Given the way medieval battles were finished it is also highly likely that Richard's body was brought to Crown Hill to prove to all present that Richard was dead before Henry was crowned. It was much to our surprise that the chosen route ignored Stoke Golding but went through Market Bosworth, Desford and Newbold Verdon, none of which have any link with the Battle other than the name Bosworth. It is regrettable that the route has ignored historical "facts" for what appears to be commercial considerations. In an article in the Guardian the cost of the reburial is put at £2.5million, but the value to the local economy, based on the increase of £482million for hotel and visitor attractions comparing 2012 with 2013, is significant. This has been dubbed the "Richard Effect". If the village wants a slice of the cake, perhaps we should change our sign to "The end of the Plantagenet Dynasty".

Roy Mitchell

Stoke Golding Under 5s



We have had some fun times at our under 5's group with two visits from Katy Lou's music and movement class. It was so good to see everyone big and small having a good time. If you fancy joining us at the village Hall we are there every Thursday morning from 10am until 11.30am

Heather Adlam

Stoke Golding's VIP

This VIP is not a person but a Very Important Plan – a Neighbourhood Plan (NP)
On a wet Saturday morning in February about 30 of us attended a presentation about Neighbourhood Planning from John Preston of the Rural Communities Council. John explained why more and more communities are producing NPs and the step by step process to forming one.

So what is a NP? Neighbourhood Planning enables local communities to have a voice in shaping the development of a local area e.g. the types of housing, facilities and services which we feel would benefit Stoke Golding. The Plan is a statutory document which will have to be considered in the planning process by the Borough Council.

What disadvantages will there be to Stoke Golding not having a NP?

Without this plan, future development in Stoke Golding will be very much in the hands of HBBC. **A NP IS 'OUR VOICE' IN THE FUTURE PLANNING POLICY FOR STOKE GOLDING.**

Feedback from the February meeting was favourable towards Stoke Golding having a NP which is good news. As The Parish Council is ultimately responsible for creating it, substantive evidence will be needed to prove that the formation of the NP is worth all the effort, time and money. It's likely to take at least 18 months to complete the process and there will be costs involved. John Preston explained that there are grants available for up to £15K – that's good news too.

Cllr. Sarah Beale has taken the helm for coordinating our plan and has the drive and conviction to steer the process. But the process needs the views and comments of as many of us as possible.

There will be a number of stakeholders who will need to be consulted including residents, local service providers, elected representatives, local businesses, schools, surgery, churches, sports clubs, users of the green spaces – anyone who has a connection with or interest in Stoke Golding needs to have their say.

It isn't going to be a straightforward process by any means, which is why it can take so long. But thankfully, not everyone is going to need to be involved over the whole 18 months – 2 years.

For the moment, if you have even the smallest interest in the Neighbourhood Plan, you can find out more from Cllr. Beale ajbeales@mckenna@aol.com or any of the Parish Councillors.

Thoughts are also being given on the most effective ways to get information and updates to everyone and receive feedback. Not everyone has the time or wish to go to a meeting and many people would like to be able to make a contribution using the convenience of social media so the use of Facebook and the like is not being overlooked. Look out in future issues of The Stoker for updates too.

This is a VIP for our village and we are all invited to have our say!

Stoke Golding Football Club



It's been another busy month for the football club. The U14s completed their league fixtures and look like finishing a very respectable 5th, a huge improvement on last year. Well done guys.

U12, U11 and U10's still have a few games to catch up on, with the U11's still in the Cup after a cracking win away .

The younger teams have their end of season tournaments up to the end of April. These are the only true competitive fixtures they play in the current format.

The under 7 team did very well at their tournament at Coalville. Twenty very

good teams from the area were present, and the Stoke Boys won their group of 5 teams, not losing a game and scoring goals for fun! They went through to the knock out stages in the afternoon, where the small squad of seven finally ran out of legs!! Despite hitting the post and crossbar and dominating the game, losing 1-0. Tremendous effort and run of results, well done lads.

Will report on the other tournaments next month , good luck everyone.

Stoke Golding Youth FC

The London Marathon

On April 26th I hope to run the London marathon in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. After five years of applying for the London Marathon and being turned down, I was amazed (and terrified!) when in October, I was accepted for this year's. I hadn't really done much running for over a year so began with some short jogs through October, ran in a 10K race (very slowly!) and tried to build up as time went on. Since January I have been following a training plan, running through rain, hail, wind and freezing temperatures! On March 1st I ran a half marathon.

I am running to raise money for Alzheimer's Society. There are 850,000 people with dementia in the UK, with numbers set to rise to one million by 2025. Alzheimer's Society works to improve the quality of life of people affected by dementia.

I'm not going to be breaking any records, but I really hope to finish and raise as much as I can for this cause close to my heart. Any donation you can make will be much appreciated and a huge support in keeping me going.

My Fundraising page is:uk.virginmoneygiving.com/LindaBlay

There are also sponsor forms in all our benefice churches.

I really appreciate all your support and thank you for any donations.

Linda Blay.

The Fool on the Hill

Fifty shades of emulsion.....

It would appear that the slightly racy tome by E L James, Fifty Shades of Dorian Grey or whatever, has now appeared in cinematographic format. This has aroused, if I may use that word, some considerable interest from a number of females of my acquaintance.

All of this would have happily passed me by had it not been for the fact that the Hinckley Times ran a feature claiming that the content of this film may have a significant effect on the fortunes of B & Q. I felt compelled to read on because, as far as I am aware, the film offers little in the way of advice on domestic maintenance. It seems that the connection revolves around the use of Duct Tape and cable ties in a manner far removed from the original intentions of the inventors of these products. In a leaked e-mail, the staff of B & Q had been advised to increase their stockholding of these items and be prepared to offer advice on the more esoteric uses to which they may be put.

I find that this puts me in an awkward position. My minimal DIY skills dictate that the product needs from B & Q consists of two items. One is a spray can of WD 40 and the other is a roll of the aforementioned tape. Put simply, in any domestic emergency, if the items in question should move but doesn't, use WD 40. If the item should not move but does, revert to the adhesive tape.

My limited sporting activities include golf. I have a reluctance to overspend on golfing equipment which means that I convey my golf bats on an inexpensive trolley from Sports Direct. Because of a basic design fault the golf bag rotates on the trolley when it is moved and, by the time one reaches the third or fourth hole, it is completely inverted. Happily this minor defect can be overcome by the judicious application of two cable ties. I now find myself too embarrassed to go to B & Q to replenish my supplies for fear of appearing deviant in my appreciation of the fairer sex. My last visit to the store involved the purchase of a rotary brush and a sink plunger and I shudder to think what interpretation the young lady on the checkout may have placed on that.

It is perhaps a sad reflection on the times in which we live that we attribute sinister intent to the most innocent of our daily tasks. I had to break off from a messy battle with a hedgerow to go and pick the little one up from school. Hurriedly, I donned my oldest gardening coat and a flat cap that Mrs Fool has been trying to burn for years but which I have thus far kept from her view whenever the chimenea is lit.

I caught my reflection in the window of the local shop. I would have had me arrested.



Gig News - Raphael Moore



In my quest to find the hidden musical talents of the villagers of Stoke Golding and Dadlington, I have found another musical gem. Raphael Moore has just returned from playing shows in Japan of all places playing bass for The Primitives. For those of you who were musically aware in the 1980s the band

formed in 1985 and re-formed themselves in 2010 for a concert at the Herbert Art Gallery, launching an exhibition dedicated to Coventry's ongoing contribution to the UK pop music scene. Raphael was asked to join the band following the death of the original bass guitarist Steve Dullaghan and has played with them ever since.

The band consists of Tig, drummer, Paul, guitarist and writer of the music and singer Tracy Tracy and Raphael on bass.

They undertake about 10 to 15 shows a year with recent international shows in Brooklyn, Madrid and Tokyo and upcoming shows in Dublin, Belfast & London. You can catch them closer to home headlining Birmingham Popfest on 24th May 2015 and in Leicester (6th November at the Sound House). News of upcoming shows, the latest videos and pictures are always available on the bands Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ThePrimitivesOfficial>

In the 1980s those of you with good memories might recall seeing the band on Wogan, Top of the Pops and Saturday morning kids shows! Their biggest hit 'Crash' featured in the trailer to Disney's film 'Cars 2', as well as the 'Dumb & Dumber' soundtrack which Raphael said was really the only bit of his association with the band his children are impressed with!

Musically the band's main influences are The Jesus and Mary Chain, The Velvet Underground, Lou Reed and 60's girl groups like The Ronettes. Raphael describes the band's music as being punk/indie pop. The band have released five albums, including two in the last four years with new material. Paul writes the words & music and Raphael co-wrote the next single 'Petals', which appears on their latest album 'Spinorama'.

The other band members live in Coventry, apart from Tracy Tracy who lives in Barcelona. The members all have other jobs but obviously enjoy getting together to play and the enthusiasm of their fans old and new, makes sure the gigs are always special occasions.

Jennifer Michie

What have the Scouts, Beaver and cubs been up to?

What do you do with 2 bags of flour, 2 packets of marshmallows and 2 packets of spaghetti? Well if you are a Cub you do part of your creative challenge badge and make shapes and structures like a meccano set using marshmallows. And the flour- well you add salt, colouring and water and make play dough which again you make into individual designs from pizzas and animals to the Statue of Liberty. They also made a poster for the web site to advertise the fun we have at cubs and made timely Mother's day cards.



Some of the cubs went on a district Cub trip to RAF Hendon where they had a tour of the museum, saw the planes including the Lancaster Bomber, dressed up in real RAF clothes and had a great time.



The Beavers have been learning about road safety and had a real police car with sirens and real handcuffs and body armour as well. A big thank you to George Sandall's dad for making the Beavers' night so special.

I heard that the Scouts have been busy finishing their Hunger Games programme and are busy rebuilding and modifying the soap box car for the annual Soap Box Derby in Hinckley which they won last year.

Over the next few weeks approaching Easter we will have the annual Egg Challenge for Cubs and Scouts and the Beavers will go hunting for Easter eggs at Foxes Coverts.

A note for your diary is Saturday the 25th April when the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers will be leading the annual St George's day parade around the streets of Hinckley. This is an honour which hasn't happened to 1st Stoke Golding Scout Group for about 20 years. They will not only be leading the parade, but also taking the promise for the pack as well as choosing the hymns. The leaders have decided to provide a special treat for those attending to celebrate this honour after the church service. The pack are still deciding on what treat they would like.

Watch this space!! *Jennifer Michie*

Gillian Poole - Footworks Podiatry and Chiropody - Advertorial

"When your feet hurt, you hurt all over." Throughout my 30-year career, patients have assured me this is definitely the case.

My choice of career as a Podiatrist had definitely brought me job satisfaction, as I am able to alleviate foot ills and pain. I undertook a 3-year full time course in Chiropody, as it was known then, straight from school aged eighteen to become State Registered.

This title was superseded when the Health Care and Professions Council (HCPC) came into existence, legally protecting the title Chiropodist and Podiatrist, in 2002. Since then it has been illegal to use either of those names unless you are registered with the HCPC. Many people ask, "What is the difference between a Chirpodist and a Podiatrist?" In fact there is none and the terms are completely interchangeable.

Since the HCPC became the regulatory body for our profession, a new group of practitioner has come into existence known as Foot Health Practitioners. People completing such courses are able to work privately, treating feet after having undertaken theory models followed by as little as 10 days of practical training. They are not regulated by the HCPC.

I moved to Stoke Golding with my husband Miron in 1993. Having worked full-time in the NHS for 10 years, I set up in private practice after my daughter Alicia was born. This enabled me to work flexibly whilst she was growing up, picking her up from St Margaret's School and being home when she got back from St Martin's.

I have advertised in the Stoker for 5 years and treat many people from the village. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their custom. I always look forward to catching up on the latest news from the village when someone is booked in to my clinic in Earl Shilton or Market Bosworth.

Gillian Poole - D.Pod.M., DMS, M.Ch.S., PG Cert - Sports Podiatry

FootWorks Podiatry & Chiropody - HCPC Registered - CH09386

Tel: 07785 397 515 Email: Footworks.podiatry@gmail.com

Web: <http://footworkscentre.co.uk/>

Diagnosis and treatment of foot disorders for a better quality of life

Footworks Podiatry & Chiropody - a practice you can trust

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.



Dadlington Matters

Pancakes in Dadlington - John & Jill would like to thank everyone for their support. With your help we raised an amazing £800, which means that the Church organ will be overhauled and new crockery provided for the village hall.

ST JAMES' CHURCH DADLINGTON FLOWER FESTIVAL



Sat 2nd, Sun 3rd & Mon 4th May 2015
12 noon - 5pm

“A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION”

The flower arrangers, drawn once again from the members of Earl Shilton Flower Club and the church congregation will be interpreting this theme in their own individual way.

Refreshments will be served in the Village Hall, including light lunches from 12 noon until 2.00pm and teas and cakes etc. all day.

Stalls selling cakes, books, plants etc. Raffle and a Tombola.

Correspondence



I would like to say well done and thank you to all those involved in making Richard 111 return visit to Dadlington a really special and spectacular event. Being a wheelchair user I checked before hand and was advised disabled parking was available and managed to park in Brooklands Farm. Thank you so much to the owners for allowing this to happen. Determined to get a good vantage point we arrived a little after 11.30 and so glad we did because the crowd just got bigger and bigger. The organisers may not have expected so many people but they coped amazingly and all went without a hitch. Then on returning to our car the sight of soldiers in suits of armour with their horses taking refreshment at Brooklands just made a brilliant day perfect. Thank you to all involved. You did us proud.

Jacquelyn Jones, Sherwood Road

Stoke Golding website: www.stokegolding.co.uk



**King Richard III in Dadlington
22nd March 2015**



St James' Church



Artwork by St Martin's Academy



*New boards to commemorate
the Battle and the Big Day*





Simon Rees-Jones, M C



Students from St Martin's Academy



Young knights



Handbell ringers



John Whitehead



Waiting patiently to strew roses



Community Choir



Part of the crowd of thousands



Knights in Shining Armour



The Clergy



Pupils from St Margaret's Primary School



King Richard III's coffin





Jane & Rachel leading the choir



Photos by Martyn Fisher



Dear Editor

Thank you for printing the picture of St Margaret's School of 1921 in your last issue. Thanks to Olive Rogers, Bob Mayne, Rita Mason, Edna Geary and others all but two have been identified.

They are

Back row: Fred Lee, Albert Doane, Reg Mason, Arthur Adcock, Maurice Vallance Willie Mason, Lawrence Hill.

Third row: Arthur Wragg, Maud Saunt, Hilda Timms, Flo Gudger, UNKNOWN, Edith Farmer, Dorothy Shilton, Dorothy Gilbert, Flo Norman, Alice Skelton, Maud Martin, Walter Wragg.

Second row: Ernie Lee, Chris Chamberlain, Flo Ratcliffe, Addy Busby, Nancy Maundrell, Gladys Hextall, UNKNOWN, Henry Lee, ? Tansy, Winnie Wright,

Front row: John Faux, George Eales, Will Collins, Tom Pearson, Bill Bridgewater Dennis Freeman, Bill Bradbury, Jim Hands, Bill Dewis, Frank Flavell.

Thanks to all who helped out.

Denis Cash



Stoke Golding WI

At our March meeting we enjoyed a craft session provided by members with a choice of watercolour painting, cross stitch, card making and modelling and painting plaques to put on cakes. It is always a very sociable and relaxing evening when you sit together doing a practical activity and being a smaller WI it is easier to organise such an event.

Earlier in the month quite a few of us went to the annual meeting of the Leics & Rutland Federation which was held at Great Glen. The main speaker was Angela Rippon, who talked about the many jobs she had done in her long career. We had forgotten that she had once presented Top Gear, the Antiques Road Show and Come Dancing. However, she finished her talk by recalling what she is most remembered for - her appearance on the Morecambe and Wise show, which you can see on YouTube. Also performing at the meeting was the Inspirations, the choir from Sheepy WI that has reached the final round of the WI Centenary Choir competition.

Our next meeting will be in the Baxter Hall on 8th April at 7.30pm when we shall have a cookery demonstration by Brenda Featherston. New members and visitors are welcome.

Anne Fullagar

Church Matters



From St Margaret's Church

The beginning of this month brings us firstly, Good Friday, followed by Easter Sunday. On Good Friday we remember how Jesus was arrested, then handed over to the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, for trial. As was the custom at the time of the Feast of Passover, Pilate gave the crowds the choice as to which of two prisoners should be freed: Jesus, or Barabbas, a notorious criminal. Ironically, the same crowd who had welcomed Jesus with palm branches a few days earlier now chose Barabbas to be released, and Pilate condemned Jesus to death by crucifixion.

On Good Friday, many churches have a time of devotion, meditating on the events leading up to Christ's death: His interrogation, flogging, the mocking by the Roman soldiers, and his journey with the cross to Golgotha, the place of his death. Finally he was stripped and nailed to the cross, where he hung in agony for three hours, jeered at by the crowds, before he died. Our Good Friday meditations take place in Higham Methodist Church at 12.00 midday, and at St James' Dadlington at 2.00pm. This is also the day when people traditionally eat hot cross buns, because the cross on the bun is a reminder of the cross Jesus died on, and a reminder of his suffering for us.

But Good Friday was not the end, as on the wonderful first Easter Sunday, Jesus rose again from the tomb as he had promised. The Bible tells us that Mary Magdalene went to the tomb, followed later by some of Jesus' disciples. They discovered Jesus' body had gone and that the tomb was empty. Jesus appeared to Mary and many of his disciples. They were filled with new hope as Jesus' promise of a new life was theirs again.

Easter is a time for us to be filled with that new hope. As we celebrate his complete victory over sin and death, and all the wonder and joy of the resurrection, may we be encouraged, looking to Jesus who makes all things new, knowing that God's redeeming love can still bring us hope and joy even in the darkest and most difficult times.

We would love you to come and join us at one of our Easter Sunday services – you will find a warm welcome awaits.

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

Alleluia, Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Linda

Big & Small Church

St. Margaret's Big & Small Church
3rd & 4th Sunday of the month
from 10.30am at the Baxter Hall.

Church Matters

Church of England April 2015 Services St Margaret's Church

5th 10.30am **Easter Sunday**
Holy Communion

12th 10.30am Benefice Service
Higham on the Hill

19th 10.30am Holy Communion

26th 10.30am Morning Worship

Church of England April 2015 Services St James's Church

5th 9.00am **Easter Sunday** BCP
Holy Communion

12th 10.30am Benefice Service
Higham on the Hill

19th 9.00am BCP Morning Prayer

26th 9.00am BCP Holy Communion

The Methodist Church April 2015 Services

5th 10.30am Revd. Wes Hampton

12th 10.30am Mrs Gwen Coley

19th 10.30am Mr Neville Spark

26th 10.30am Mr John Cooke

Zion Baptist Chapel April 2015 Services

5th 6pm Malcolm Welch

12th 6pm Steven Connor

19th 6pm John Needham

26th 6pm Richard Cotton

What's On

Come to the Opera! Verdi's La Traviata

17th, 21st, 23rd, 25th April
at the **Concordia Theatre**

Ring Jane White for tickets
01455 212416

Spring Beer festival

May 8th - 9th (around 35 real ales).
Live entertainment on both nights
and a charity rugby match on the
Saturday afternoon.

**at the Rugby Club, Leicester
Road Hinckley**

SPRING FAIR

Methodist Church

SATURDAY APRIL 25th

10.00am- 2.00pm



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



BETH'S CORNER

"THE KING'S LODGE"

In the Christmas Stoker, Jacque Morton and Rachel Rees-Jones turned the tables on me, interviewing me, for my story. Why had a 'City Gal' from London landed up in these wonderful Leicestershire surroundings. "*To join the residential staff of 'The King's Lodge.'*" To my surprise they wanted to know more. So here it is.....

As I'm sure many of you will remember, this large red brick Victorian building on Watling Street was originally called Lindley Lodge, as the Preparatory School for boys from the ages of 8yrs to 14yrs, part of the famous Public School at Rugby, which was founded in 1856. The following is a quotation from the original school Prospectus.



"The School stands on 180 acres of high and dry ground adjoining the Roman Watling Street, and facing the ridge of Hartshill. It is 330 feet above sea level, a short distance from Higham-on-the Hill church and 2 miles from Nuneaton. All the schoolrooms and passages are warmed by Hot Water Circulation. Hot and Cold water is laid on to all parts of the house. Mrs. Robert Lea (the Headmaster's wife) takes a full interest in the welfare of the boys, and the household arrangements are in the hands of Miss A.W.Poore, who has been connected with the school for many years. A well qualified Matron is included in the Staff."

There are too many fascinating details to include regarding meal times and bedtimes, and informing parents that the boys were able to learn to shoot at their Miniature Rifle Shooting Butts, and were encouraged to box etc. The school opened in 1886 continuing through World War One, and closing just before the second war in 1938. I remember being told from some of the older Higham villagers how the boys were marched up the lane to Sunday Services in all weathers wearing their knee length shorts. One of those boys was the son of the Rector of St. Peter's in Higham. Young Geoffrey Fisher eventually became the Archbishop of Canterbury. who crowned our present Queen Elizabeth II.

In 1983 Lindley Lodge, after going through many transformations, was finally put up for sale. At the same time Youth With A Mission (YWAM) were praying for a property in the Midlands to start another Christian Missions training school. Initially they were daunted by the size of the building, but eventually decided they should go ahead. They offered £250,000, with the promise of £1. down as a guarantee. The owners initially refused, but after consideration and mainly because they were delighted the house would be used by these young Christians for World Missions, they generously accepted. In January 1984 YWAM moved in, and a new name became obvious. It could be no other than "THE KING'S LODGE" through the miracle of God's amazing provision.

Currently there are approximately 70 full-time staff – all unpaid volunteers. Around 50 to 100 trainee students are accommodated each year and over thirty-five different nationalities are currently living there. I joined the Pastoral staff of my

first school in September 1999, and lived in that beautiful old house for the next four and a half years. On School Staff, running the Book Shop, and speaking to different groups telling them about our work, with invitations to come and see for themselves. I'm always excited that many of the students I saw through classes and 'Outreach' are still working there as full-time Staff and leading schools themselves. One of the students in my last school has just returned from taking a 'Primary Health Care' team to Zimbabwe, and has agreed to tell us all their stories in next month's Stoker. With more stories about the next Mega-Outreach to the Philippines too. Until then, as always.

Beth



Stoke Golding Heritage Group

"Cherish the past, protect the future"



Stoke Golding Heritage Group Meeting April 16th

This month's meeting is called "Made in Leicester". Brian Johnson's illustrated talk will recall those Leicester based firms that became nationally and internationally renowned.

Sadly many are no longer functioning or have become part of global businesses, leaving behind the memories of customers, staff and products which are in our homes or museums.

Starting at 7.30pm in the Baxter Hall, non-members are welcome at a nominal charge of £2.50.

OUR SECOND VILLAGE HERO IS HARRY LEE.

The War Memorial to most of our village heroes stands testament to their valour in the Hinckley Road Cemetery, but few village residents will recall another local hero. His honoured name is on his gravestone along with other members of his family but nothing indicates the brave manner of his passing.

His name is Harry Lee and the date forever etched on his stone is 10th July 1932 - almost eighty three years ago. Harry, also known as Henry was 20 years of age and an assistant master of the Stoke Golding 2nd Rover Scouts. He was one of a party of scouts who cycled with their well known Scoutmaster 'Skip' Stoneley to Meriden for a weekend's camping. During their first evening Harry and three others decided to have a dip in the nearby River Blythe. Soon after one of the boys entered the water he was in serious problems with cramp and Harry plunged in to save him. Another boy, Gordon Needham of Barwell also jumped in and shortly after managed to get the first to the bank. He looked round for Harry but he had disappeared in his efforts to rescue the first boy.

Gordon made many attempts to find his comrade without success. Another boy ran for help and a search was made by the police until midnight but it was not until the next day that his body was recovered. It was found that Harry had lost his life trying to save his friend at a point where the river bed had been dynamited causing a seven foot deep hole, the river normally being only three feet deep.

Harry a quiet man, was a painter by trade. He was an accomplished musician and first aider, and a Sunday school teacher at the Methodist Church. At his funeral the Reverend Frank Collen paid a tribute to Henry's heroic act in trying to save his comrade by which he sacrificed his life.

The following October Gordon Needham was awarded the Silver Cross by Lord Baden Powell for his deed of gallantry in saving one boy and trying to save Harry, which was presented by Scout District Commissioner Percy Roberts. Harry too would surely have been awarded a similar award had he survived.

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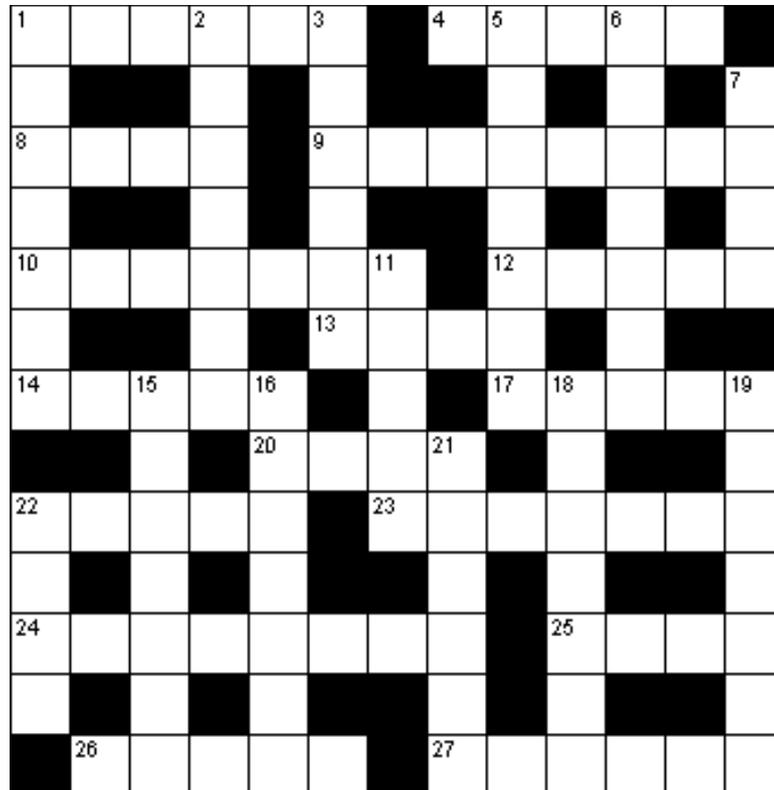
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Crossword



Across

1. Celestial bodies (6)
4. A strong wind and rain (5)
8. Don't **** a clout till May's out (4)
9. Gloomy cloud covering (8)
10. Circled the sun (7)
12. Nimble (5)
13. Found on a beach (4)
14. Borders or margins (5)
17. Relating to the eye or vision (5)
- 20 & 3D Small pellets of ice (4&6)
22. Statement of beliefs or principles (5)
23. Time device in garden (7)
24. Thick heavy mist (5&3)
25. Make of denim jeans (4)
26. White ground covering (5)
27. Cumberbunds (6)

Down

1. Violent tropical storm (7)
2. Entangle around (7)
3. See 20 AC (6)
5. Violent wind whirling around (7)
6. A person who accepts events (7)
7. Swelling of the eyelid (4)
11. Snooker player Steve (5)
15. What governments are trying to make the planet (7)
16. Light rains (7)
18. Small pools of water (7)
19. Scale of temperature (7)
21. Sudden forward motions (6)
22. Morse **** (4)

Answers on page 22

Parish Council Notes Notes from February's Meeting

Matters arising from January's Meeting

Crime Report - Crime figures from PC Polly Cotton - 2 burglaries (theft of tools) and 1 theft from a motor vehicle. Clerk to ask where crimes have occurred.

Parking on High Street - still being investigated by the Traffic Management Team.

Household Recycling - HBBC has explained the rationale behind changes in recycling of plastic. Carrier bags are difficult to separate from other plastics; they damage equipment and quality is reduced when mixed with other plastics. The situation with black plastics is been reviewed nationally. Residents are notified of changes via stickers on the bin and have responded well to the changes. Clerk to write to HBBC to advise that people are avoiding recycling due to confusion and this is a backward step in recycling policy.

Manhole at rec - Severn Trent has checked and report it is free flowing and not blocked. It cannot be sealed as it is required for inspection.

Drainage Issues in Relation to New Developments-Severn Trent has given reassurance that the needs of the new developments can be accommodated by the current sewerage system and refurbished pumping station, with no detrimental effects.

Heritage Street Name Plates - the remaining plates are to be installed using this year's budget - a total of 31. The two signs on Convent Drive cannot be replaced, as permanent signs are not yet in place. The 50% contribution by the Parish Council will be £2325.

Rough Ground, Thornfield Avenue – the land belongs to HBBC and the Green Space Officer is liaising with housing to arrange for the land to be cleared.

Exercise Bike - Wicksteed has acknowledged the complaint and will get back to the clerk with a decision shortly.

Roseway verges- currently been assessed by a Senior Highways Engineer.

Pathways at Rec - Roberts are due to start work next week, weather permitting.

Playground Inspection Report – Wooden edge to safety surface behind junior swing raised. Cllr Beale to assess.

Planning Applications:

New applications -

Lodge Farm, Hinckley Road - erection of an agricultural building.

22 Convent Drive - erection of a summer house.

Convent Lodge, Convent Drive - removal of oak tree – balance between safety and protection of tree; replacement tree suggested.

103 Hinckley Road - erection of fencing and gates (retrospective) – not in keeping with neighbouring properties.

Odd House Farm, Rogues Lane - erection of a wind turbine and associated infrastructure.

St Martins Catholic Academy - extension to car parking.

Permission granted –

Stoke Lodge, Hinckley Road - erection of 3 dwellings and associated access.

Withdrawn –

Field NW of Comfort Farm, Rogues Lane - change of use for land for 2 gypsy traveller pitches

Morris Homes

Morris Homes will discuss the feedback from the exhibition on 31st January with the Parish Council, as soon as they have collated the comments. They have provided an email address for residents to comment further:

stokegolding@morrishomes.co.uk. This is on the co-operative website. A concern has been received by Cllr Mayes regarding the close proximity of the two-storey shared block to existing residents in Sherwood Road. A resident has also made a suggestion for elm trees which were once common in the village to be included in the native planting on the development.

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Beale will attend the Leicestershire Neighbourhood Planning Network Event. Information about the presentation by John Preston from the Rural Communities Council will be given prominence in the newsletter. St Margaret's School will also notify parents via their newsletter. Volunteers have offered to distribute the newsletter.

Stoke Golding Traffic Data Report

One in every two cars travelling along Hinckley Road breaks the speed limit. This statistic is derived from analysing data collected from the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS). The VAS are rotated between Hinckley Road, Station Road and Wykin Lane. They display vehicle speed and a warning to slow down (for speeds above 30mph). They also log the speed of each passing vehicle. A year's worth of data has now been gathered and analysed, providing a useful baseline for traffic speeds and volumes around the village:

Traffic speeding

Whilst the speed problem is clearly worst on Hinckley Road, there are significant numbers speeding on Wykin Lane (25%) and Station Road (11%).

Traffic volume

Hinckley Road (both directions) sees a morning peak hour flow of over 400 vehicles per hour, with a total daily flow of over 4,000 (this equates to around 1.2 million vehicle movements a year when weekends are taken into account). Station Road sees a total daily flow of around 3,100 vehicles; Wykin Lane sees around 800.

A lot of this traffic is through (or 'rat run') traffic, but it is difficult to be precise in quantifying how much. Whilst to some people these volumes are already an issue, the main concern is for the future. The Morris Homes development will add to the traffic volume, as will St Martin's Academy when its intake range increases to 11-16 year olds. The Barwell SUE (with its 2,500 houses) will also increase the volume. HBBC says the impacts will be minor on our local roads, but the Parish Council challenged this and continues to do so. The Clerk will contact LCC Highways to discuss traffic calming measures, and PC Polly Cotton to request if a mobile speed camera vehicle could attend.

Coffee Morning Suggestions

Pathway from crossing at St Martin's Academy to front of school. Clerk to investigate ownership of the verge with LCC Highways as the school confirms it does not belong to them.

Bus stop on Hinckley Road to serve residents from new developments. Clerk to check with HBBC how much 106 Money is allocated for this purpose.

Additional traffic calming measures on Hinckley Road. Clerk to contact LCC Highways.

Parking on Hinckley Road causing an obstruction on the pavements. Clerk to speak to PC Polly Cotton.

The footpath/cycle path from St Martin's Academy to Hinckley needs re-surfacing. Clerk to contact Highways.

A request to deliver cycle connectivity from the end of Sherwood Road, through the Morris Homes Development to the Hinckley Road roundabout. Clerk to pass request on to Morris Homes.

Works to the chicane on Station Road and addition of a footpath outside the Old Grammar School forming a second chicane. Clerk to contact LCC Highways.

Proposals for creating an improved village centre. Something to be considered if a Neighbourhood Plan is implemented.

Parish Council notices could be displayed in Stoke Golding Club. Clerk to approach Club committee.

Next meeting: Village Hall, Wednesday 1st April at 7pm

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CROSSWORD ANSWERS (from page 19)

Across

1. Comets. 4. Storm. 8. Cast. 9. Overcast. 10. Orbited. 12. Agile. 13. Sand. 14. Edges. 17. Optic. 20. Hail. 22. Credo. 23. Sundial. 24. Dense Fog. 25. Levi. 26. Frost. 27. Sashes

Down

1. Cyclone. 2. Entwine. 3. Stones. 5. Tornado. 6. Realist. 7. Sty. 11. Davis. 15. Greener. 16. Showers. 18. Puddles. 19. Celsius. 21. Lunges. 22. Code.

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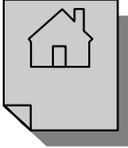
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