

Season's Greetings

Dec '10 / Jan '11

No. 97



The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine



including

Dadlington Matters

50p

Ruth



Jane



Note from the Editors

We have just had Halloween, followed by bonfire night (The White Swan, once again, providing a superb display) and now

Christmas is nearly upon us. Where do the months go? We hope you get chance to join in with some of the Christmas events and activities mentioned in the 'What's On' pages. Have you made your snowman yet?

Thanks to the variety of articles and information you have sent in, we have had to add four pages to this issue, making it a bumper edition, which we hope you enjoy.

We would like to say a big thank you to all the Stoker Team, particularly the deliverers, who go out in all weathers, every month to make sure you get your village magazine.

Whatever you are doing we wish you a happy, peaceful Christmas and New Year and we'll be back with the February 2011 edition.

Jane & Ruth

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.*

Please send articles for the **February** issue of The Stoker to: The Editors, c/o 21, Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding by **15th January**

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***

Cover picture - St Margaret's Church Snowman Festival - Dec 2009

First Responders

The Charity of Thomas Barton has made a presentation of £5,000 to its local branch of The Community First Responders.

The Charity, formed in 1400, was originally for “the provision and maintenance of footpaths and causeys”, which enabled villagers to reach local markets. After changes authorised by The Charity Commission it is now able to assist in any project “for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Stoke Golding” and has provided funding for many village projects, including substantial financial aid in the preparation of a new cemetery, cycle training at the village school, floodlighting of St Margaret’s Church and payments to the Parish Council to provide items including play equipment, grit bins, seats and dog waste bins.

Mr Paul Spokes, Chairman of the Charity, said “We are happy to give financial assistance to Market Bosworth Community First Responders. They do a fantastic job as they respond if ambulance services are delayed and can be the first to reach a patient in an emergency, such as suffering breathing difficulties or a suspected heart attack. We are pleased to give them our support, which has enabled them to purchase a vehicle and additional equipment for the area covering Stoke Golding.

We would also welcome any suggestions for projects which meet the terms of our scheme, and give them due consideration”.

Members of the First Responders Group are willing to conduct first aid instruction of approximately two hours duration in Stoke Golding. This will cover basic first aid and CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation) - a basic technique, quite easily mastered, but which can be absolutely life saving in an emergency. Would you know what to do if someone collapsed in front of you? Interested parties should contact Paul Spokes, tel: 01455 212880, Oaklands, Wykin Lane, Stoke Golding or The Stoker to enable assessment of numbers and to arrange a convenient time - details of which will be published.



Trustees of the Charity of Thomas Barton



Stoke Golding Heritage Group

“Cherish the past, protect the future”



The Mary Rose

On Trafalgar Day, with some audience participation, Bill Davies hoisted the famous signal “England expects every man to do his duty” before launching into his talk about the “Mary Rose”, the flagship of Henry VIII’s navy. He vividly set the scene on that day over four hundred years ago, with the French Fleet blockading Portsmouth and the English Fleet preparing to set sail to do battle. The King and his courtiers had assembled at a nearby vantage point to watch the encounter, when to everyone’s horror the flagship and pride of the fleet capsized and sank.



The watchers, who could hear the cries of the drowning sailors, were powerless to help.

Centuries later, disaster turned into triumph when a spectacular recovery, under the watchful eyes of a worldwide TV audience, brought the Mary Rose back to the surface and returned her to the Naval Dockyard at Portsmouth. Since then, conservation work has been undertaken on the remains of the hull and the thousands of artefacts that were recovered from the wreck site.

Apart from the ship itself, the artefacts have given us a snapshot of life in the Tudor period for all levels of society. For example, there were no left and right shoes, just a single shape for either foot. Lice were a common problem for rich and poor with combs being the answer, but the higher the status the more elaborate and expensive the comb.



Surgery was still a branch of butchery and the earliest anaesthetic was a blow to the head with a mallet. The Doctor’s chest had a full set of instruments that would have been used to operate on wounded sailors during and after the battle.

Similarly the Carpenter’s chest had all the tools required to patch up and maintain a wooden vessel, not only against battle damage, but also against the normal wear and tear of sailing.

Finally as the ship was going into battle, the weapons recovered have provided a significant window into our understanding of archery and early ordinance that was used at the time.

With a comprehensive range of slides and an in-depth knowledge of his subject, Bill was able to bring into the Baxter Hall the smell of the sea, the force of the waves and the roar of the wind. A great evening enjoyed by all who were present.

Roy Mitchell

Nursing Lives by Vamos Theatre

This sell-out production provided an unusual, but fantastic evening of entertainment at Stoke Golding Village Hall. Nursing Lives told the story of nursing during the Second World War through masked mime - very cleverly put together to portray the times, with just the right amount of humour, poignancy and suggestion. Incredibly only three actresses were involved in the show, playing several characters each, from the formidable matron to the cheeky demolition men. We were treated to dance, music, puppetry and inventive scenery adaption which kept us all enthralled throughout the performance. Bob White, one of the older residents of the village, summed the evening up brilliantly when he went to congratulate the three actresses back stage and told them it was "the best seven quid I have ever spent!"

Jane White



She should have worn a mask!

One member of the audience was very taken with the ugly baby. We're sure his mother loves him!

Broadband in Stoke Golding

BT is in the process of accepting votes from local communities to assess the next stage of its superfast broadband roll out plan. This new product offers speeds of up to 40meg compared to the current speeds of up to 8meg received from the Stoke Golding exchange for broadband. Residents can register their interest at the following site <http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/> regardless of whether their current phone and internet supplier is BT or not. This may help Stoke Golding to be at the front of the next phase of the broadband roll out.

Best Kept Front Garden

Due to an administrative oversight, the results for the 'Best Kept Front Garden in Stoke Golding' competition have not been announced. We are happy to put that right.

The results were:-

1st Mrs Davies, St Lucia, 7 Arnold Road.

2nd Mrs Connelly, 3 Bennett Close.

3rd Mrs Rowley, 8 Andrew Close.

Congratulations to all these green-fingered gardeners.

Robinson's Buses

Leicester Transport Trust, in conjunction with Paul Shearn is writing a book about the history of Robinson's Bus Company, based in Burbage. For many years the company transported children of Stoke Golding and Dadlington to Hinckley Schools.



To complete the book Robinson's is looking for memories of people who took bus or coach journeys with them, be it serious or humorous, or just a recollection of a nice day out. There's a possibility that your memories could be included in the book.

If you can help please contact linda.katz@talktalk.net or tel: 01455 843378

Mr Wragg, Earl Shilton

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Free £10 membership

Commit yourself to slim in 2011

*Club vouchers normally £24.50/ sale price £20.00 in January - gives you 6 weeks consecutive slimming at £3.33 per week

STOKE GOLDING Thursday 7pm
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Tel Aimee: 0783 505 9074

Sharon lost 8 stones with us!

Weekly fee £4.90, Free Membership in January.

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Stoke Golding WI - November Meeting

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Members of the WI were entertained by a visit from a pearl button maker from Birmingham. George Hook spoke with interest and humour about the skill that was needed to make pearl buttons and showed us examples of the different shells used. He talked about the business that has survived five generations of his family amongst the scene of back-to-backs in Smethwick. Now the scene is quite different with George the only surviving member. He works with abalone, trochus and oyster shells from far-off countries such as New Zealand; cutting, fashioning and



polishing the shells to make delicate spoons, earrings and buttons.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th January at 7.30 at the Methodist Church Hall and we will have a new programme of speakers and events to look forward to. Visitors are always welcome. We are particularly hoping that younger ladies will come and join us.

Sue Mitchell

Stoke Golding Surgery News

Missed appointments: June - 14 July - 9 August - 18 September - 8.
Remember to call and cancel your appointment if you cannot make it - the surgery can then offer it to someone else who needs it.

Julie Tomlinson is now a permanent member of the team at Stoke Golding surgery - having worked for the surgery for some time she has made the transition to Stoke Golding to train as a dispensing assistant. welcome Julie to Stoke Golding.

Keep Taking the Medicine

Patient: It's been one month since my last visit and I still feel miserable.
Doctor: Did you follow the instructions on the medicine I gave you?
Patient: I sure did - the bottle said 'Keep tightly closed'.

More about Steph's greenfinches



It broke my heart to watch the greenfinch desperately trying to eat seeds which had dropped from the bird-feeder in my garden. It was fluffed up like a baby bird and cheeping pitifully. It was early September and I was working in the garden and the greenfinch didn't act normally at all; instead of flying away when I approached, it just stood there looking at me. Clearly something was wrong. After an hour or two, it keeled over and died.

Over the next two weeks, more greenfinch bodies were added to my wheelie bin. I searched the RSPB website for information and what I found was horrendous. It seems that the trichomonad parasite has afflicted our finch population for several years now and it's estimated that greenfinch numbers have been cut by a third.

RSPB advice was to remove all feeding stations and bird baths for about six weeks to prevent birds from congregating and hence passing the parasite to others. The parasite itself can only survive on the host, so hopefully it would die out along with the infected birds and not spread to others. For the first few days, the birds visited the garden as usual, but were surprised to find nothing put out for them. I put notices in local magazines and on the village notice board, because there's no point one person taking these steps if everyone else continues to feed the birds; the birds will simply gather elsewhere and the parasite will continue its destruction.

After five weeks I disinfected all the feeders, the bird table and the bird bath and put out fresh seeds and peanuts. My resident robin found them within an hour, and on the second day the tits came; first the bold great tits, with their habit of making short and quick visits to grab a seed to take away and later the bluetits. After a few more days, the chaffinches arrived, then the bigger birds re-discovered the bird table – collared doves, and woodpigeons recommenced their swooping flight onto the roof of the bird table, and then as usual fidgeted about, trying to slide down the roof and into the

feeding area to scoff the seeds. Before long a male bullfinch appeared, along with sparrows, hordes of starlings, and the obligatory magpie - the garden started to feel almost normal again. Eventually, my favourite birds realised there was food for them. Goldfinches flew in, a dozen at a time, flitting from one station to another in search of their first choice – sunflower hearts. These pretty birds always lift my heart, with their little red faces and yellow wing flashes. They stay on the feeders for several minutes and then suddenly all fly off, perhaps aware of one of our many village cats or the male sparrowhawk who lies in wait half-hidden on the fence, before suddenly making a raid on the feeders and taking a surprised little bird. So far I haven't seen the lesser spotted woodpecker who likes to peck at peanuts in the feeder furthest from the house; nor the green woodpecker who favours a particular patch of my lawn (maybe there are crane fly grubs there in the summer). I haven't seen any greenfinches yet, so maybe they were badly hit by the parasite and numbers need to build up again. We are so lucky in the village to have such a wide variety of birds visit our gardens.

More importantly, none of the birds I have been studying so carefully since starting to feed them again have shown the trichomonosis symptoms, and I am hoping it has been eradicated from the village. Just in case it is still around, I am following the RSPB's advice and putting out small amounts of food at any one time, changing the feeders every day or so, changing the water in the bird bath every day and cleaning and disinfecting everything every time. The RSPB has a terrific new Ring-Pull feeder which is very easy to dismantle so that every part can be properly cleaned; not cheap, at over £20 each, but worth it, I think, to try to stop the dreadful parasite which has decimated our bird population so drastically. Meanwhile, I'm still looking out for the greenfinches...

Steph Sandiford, Wykin Lane

Thanks...

To everyone who donated money and bought produce
at our garden produce stall

We raised an amazing £150.00 for the Air Ambulance!

Here are a few facts about the Air Ambulance:

- It receives no government or lottery funding, but relies entirely on donations
- It saves over 100 patients a month
- It has just flown its 900th mission
- The new helicopter has a rapid start and shut-down sequence and can be airborne in just 45 seconds
- With a top speed of 200mph it is the fastest civilian helicopter available, and can be anywhere in Warwickshire in 9 minutes.
- Average response time is just 6 minutes



Thanks as ever to Reg, Liz, Val and Grandad for helping to provide the produce.
See you again next year.

Alfie and Guy

Stoke Golding Remembers

Approximately 150 people attended the Service of Remembrance held in Hinckley Road Cemetery on Sunday 14th November. It would appear that numbers attending are increasing year by year.



COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE : 15th JANUARY

We may be able to include articles received after this date if you let us know by the 15th that you will be sending something in.

From Stoke Golding Parish Council

As many of the residents will already know, the developers, 'Morris Homes East', has appealed against the refusal of planning permission to build houses on the Sherwood Road site. It is not yet known when the hearing will take place but it is unlikely to be before the New Year. There are some details on the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council website and we understand that anyone who commented on the original Planning Application will be contacted to see if they wish to contribute when the Planning Inspector holds the hearing. The Parish Council has asked for a meeting with Simon Wood of the HBBC Planning Department to discuss the implications of the Morris Homes appeal. The Parish Council will make all efforts to keep residents informed as matters progress with the arrangements for the appeal hearing. Hopefully it will also contribute to the process on behalf of the village. In previous meetings, regarding the proposed developments for Stoke Golding, the majority of residents have expressed their support for the use of the Brownfield Convent site ahead of the Sherwood Road site. As elected representatives of the village it is important that the Parish Council have regard to the views of all residents and welcome any comments you may have on the matter.

Parish Council Contacts:

Chairman – Cllr Reg Ward, Mill House, Higham Lane, Stoke Golding
Tel 01455 212369

Vice-Chairman – Cllr Rachel Terhegge, 10 Shenton Close, Stoke Golding
Tel 01455 212953

Parish Clerk – Mrs Jill Jones, 29 Station Road, Stoke Golding
email: jillellen.jones@btopenworld.com Tel 01455 212805

White Swan Bonfire

Remember, remember the 5th of November . . . well actually it was the 6th but near enough. The day had been bright and sunny, and as night fell, it turned crisp and cold with not a cloud in the sky, and best of all... 'NO RAIN'.

We joined a steady stream of people into the White Swan – different layout this year. Tried our luck on the tombola – the barbeque was doing a brisk trade and so was the bar.

Suitably fortified, we made our way onto the field. Within a few minutes, the bonfire had been lit and was burning brightly. With no wind, the sparks flew high into the sky. More people arrived and soon there was a good crowd patiently waiting whilst the 'firemen', sorry 'firepersons', positioned the fireworks.

Then it was all systems go. Rockets to start us off, and then a whole range of different 'sparkly', 'spangly', 'crackly' and a few 'bangy' delights. There were lots of "oohs" and "aahs", especially from the children – and by the time the last rocket burst into life, we all had stars in our eyes.

A brilliant display. Many thanks to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make it a success, and to the White Swan for allowing the pyromaniacs in again.

Jan & Tony

Glass Blower's Beautiful Baubles!



Richard Golding, a master glass blower based at Shenton Station, has recently perfected the art of making Christmas tree baubles amongst his other amazing creations – just in time for the festive season!

Richard has been glass blowing for 30 years after leaving his job as an electronics engineer with the Navy. He had a choice of going into weapon guidance systems, making games machines or doing something completely different – so he chose the latter.



Following a course at the Glass Centre at Brierley Hill, he founded and gradually built up his first company, Okra Glass, which continues to be very successful today, with collectable giftware designed and made by Richard's former partners Dean Hopkins and Karinna Sellars.



In June 2010 Richard moved to the studio at Shenton Station and started his new company Station Glass. The station building proved too small for a conventional furnace so he called in the help of engineer and inventor extraordinaire, Merlyn . He worked his magic to create the smallest and most energy efficient glass blowing equipment in the world, heating the glass to 1,175 °C (enough to roast your turkey in seconds if you have cooker problems over Christmas!)

Ruth and I visited Shenton Glass and watched magic performed before our eyes as a blob of molten glass rolled in a few broken pieces of coloured glass was transformed into a beautiful, unique Christmas bauble – with Richard making it look very easy.

The studio has a wide range of items on display including glass birds, pendants, paperweights and vases and they range in price from £10 upwards. Richard can even make bottle stoppers to order.

It was a fascinating experience watching the glass blowing and we recommend you go and take a look for yourselves. You can find details of opening times on the website www.stationglass.com or you can ring Richard on 01455 213924 or 07838 704207

Jane White



Dadlington Matters

Dadlington Pub Night

Dadlington Village Hall witnessed another highly successful social event when the 'Heir of the Dog' opened its doors on Friday 12th November. Many villagers and their friends packed the room to capacity and, as the beer and wine flowed, the usual generosity of the clientele was much in evidence as the raffle and Dadlington's own Wheel of Fortune soon parted them from their hard earned cash.

Special thanks go to Keith Morton for his highly informative wine tasting quiz, which provided adequate proof that Oz Clarke's job looks safe for a little while longer. Luke Bishop (an interloper from London) proved to be the least worst contestant.

Thanks also to all those generous souls who donated an impressive array of raffle prizes and all the helpers who manned the bar, served the food and ran the fundraisers on the night - £800 was raised. This will be split equally between the Hinckley Homeless Group, St James' Church, Research into Prostate Cancer and Help for Heroes.

We trust that all those who can remember what happened thoroughly enjoyed themselves and they will, hopefully, be able to continue their drinking locally as it now seems that the chances of the Dog and Hedgehog reopening have gone from possible to highly probable. More news as we get it.

Congratulations to Liz and Richard Mackinder who came out as top dogs in the Pub Quiz.

Just a brief reminder that there are less than 300 days to Dadlington's Village Fete!!

Graham Grimley





*More images from
Dadlington Pub Night*



Sutton Cheney Parish Council Meeting, November (Dadlington Ward)

- Crime report – there has been only one reported crime in the last two months, theft of a horsebox. The NFU request that any suspicious movement of farm vehicles or equipment at night is reported to the police.
 - Fenny Drayton composting site planning application appeal has been rejected.
 - Morris Homes have lodged an appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the Sherwood Road extension development. SCPC will request a meeting with Simon Wood of HBBC Planning Department to emphasise the concerns of residents over this proposal.
 - The Speed Activated signs have arrived – we now await installation of the mounting posts by LCC.
 - The Parish Precept for 2011/12 will remain the same as for the previous year.
 - The PC is applying for permission to fell two flowering cherry trees on the Green that are damaging a resident's drive.
- SCPC receives a Christmas festive donation of £50 to be used within the Parish. This year it is Dadlington's turn to benefit. Ideas for spending it to any Parish Councilor please.

The next meeting of the PC will be held on Wednesday 12th January 7.30 at Sutton Cheney Village Hall. An officer of HBBC will be present to discuss using the Section 106 money we have available. Please attend and contribute to the discussion.

Simon Rees-Jones

Christmas 2010

Stoke Golding Charity Sleigh

Once again the Sleigh will be out and about on its travels on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd December, starting at 5pm.
Can we please ask for your support again?

Thanks - Sleigh Committee

Wednesday 22nd December

High Street – bottom
Dadlington
Hinckley Road
Sherwood Road
Hinckley Road
Main Street
Station Road
Crown Hill
Andrew Close
High Street – top

Thursday 23rd December

Roseway
Whitemoors Road
The Goldings
Wykin Lane
Little Wykin



St Margaret's Church Snowman Festival 2010

Saturday 11th December from 10am – 5pm

Please bring your snowmen into Church on Friday 10th December between 10am - 5pm. Prizes for the best snowmen.



On Saturday the Baxter Hall will be open for hot turkey rolls, sausage rolls, mince pies, mulled wine, tea, coffee etc. There will be stalls selling cakes, jams, pickles, cards and jewellery. There will also be a raffle and tombola .



Concert and Carols on Sunday 12th December 3-4pm

We do hope you will come and join us



What's On



St Margaret's Primary School

Annual Christmas Fayre

Friday 3rd December from 6.00-8.00pm.

There will be singing from the choir, a raffle, refreshments and many festive activities to take part in. We hope you can come and join us, or perhaps you would like to donate a prize, cakes, purchase raffle tickets or help on a stall, if so please let the school office know. Tel: 01455 212393



Methodist Church December Events

Saturday December 18th
at 7.00pm

Salvation Army Carol Concert

Admission £3 to include refreshments



Wednesday December 22nd

Come and join us - we shall be singing carols around the village Christmas tree at 7.00pm, followed by refreshments at the Methodist Church Hall.



1st Stoke Golding Scouts

Christmas Post



The Scouts will be delivering Christmas cards (within Stoke Golding and Dadlington only) posted at the Middle Stores. Collections will start Wednesday 1st Dec and finish Tuesday 21st Dec. The price per card will be 10p, stamps available at the post box.



What's On



Zion Chapel Services

All services start at 6pm. Sunday School at 11am

5th December	M Menzfeld
12th December	G Chapman
19th December	G Malpass
Christmas Carol Service	
Followed by seasonal refreshments	
All are welcome	
26th December	TBA
2nd January	J Needham
9th January	R Cotton
16th January	W Richards
23rd January	M Menzfeld
30th January	M Menzfeld



Santa Fun Run at Bosworth Battlefield Centre

Saturday 4th December 2010 10:30am
In support of Barnardo's and other Rotary charities

Market Bosworth Rotary Club is organising a festive fun run for you to get fit for Christmas! Starting and finishing at Bosworth Battlefield Centre you can choose to run 4 kilometres or 2 kilometres with Santa suits provided for every entrant. A traffic free off road route has been planned so that all ages can participate.

Entrance fee including Santa suit: £10 adults, £5 under 12s.

How to enter

To join in the fun run please apply for an entry form,

e-mail: mbrcfunrun@hotmail.co.uk

tel: 01455 293287.

John Whitehead



What's On



Methodist Church - December

5th December	10.30am	Rev. Julie Minns
12th December	10.30am	Deacon Philip Osborne
19th December (No morning service)	6.00pm	Candle Light Carol Service Rev. Julie Minns
25th December	9.15am	Rev. Julie Minns
26th December		NO SERVICE
2nd January 2011	10.30am	Rev. Julie Minns

Stoke Golding Heritage Group Forthcoming Events

The remaining two events in the 2010/11 programme will be held at the Baxter Hall starting at 7.30 pm. The charge for non-members is £2.50

On **January 15th** Bob Gibson will be talking on the 'History of the Package Holiday'. You may find some of his advice pertinent to planning next year's summer holiday.

On **February 19th** John Harris will be talking on 'Bats in the Belfry'. John, a member of the Leicestershire Bat Group will be letting us into the secrets of these shy nocturnal creatures.

Methodist Church January Events

Saturday January 15th
Coffee Morning 10.00-11.20am
For Church Funds

Monthly Quiz

Stoke Golding Club on Tuesday
14th December at 8.30pm with
questions having a festive flavour.
Quizzes will continue in the New
Year on the second Tuesday of
each month.

Stoke Golding Village Hall - Dates for your Diary

Saturday 5th February 2011 - Centre Stage event 'Opera Dudes'

Saturday 7th May - Gala Dance to celebrate the village hall's 50th anniversary

Sunday 8th May - 'Stoke Golding's Got Talent'

More details about all these events in future issues of The Stoker.



What's On



Church of England Services

St Margaret's Church

5 th December	10.30am	Family Service
12 th December	10.30am	Benefice Service
12 th December	3.00pm	Carol Service
19 th December	10.30am	Holy Communion
24 th December	4.00pm	Crib Service
24 th December	11.30pm	Christmas Midnight Holy Communion
26 th December	10,30am	Morning Worship
2 nd January	10.30am	Family Service
16 th January	10.30am	Holy Communion
23 rd January	10.30am	Morning Worship
30 th January	10.30am	Benefice Service Fenny Drayton

Holy Communion at St. Margaret's every Tuesday at 6.30pm

St James's Church

5 th December	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
12 th December	10.30am	Benefice Service Stoke Golding
17 th December	7.30pm	Carol Service
19 th December	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
24 th December	10.00pm	BCP Holy Communion
2 nd January	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
9 th January	10.30am	Benefice Service
16 th January	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
23 rd January	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
30 th January	10.30am	Benefice Service Fenny Drayton



What's On



Dadlington Village Hall Quiz Night Saturday 29th January 2011 - 7.30pm

Teams of up to 6 are welcome - £6.00 per head entry fee to include a 'gourmet' two course supper & many splendid prizes.
Our question master will again be Michael Dix – renowned throughout the village for his challenging yet fun quizzes.
Another sell-out evening is anticipated, so please apply for tickets early – don't worry if you don't have a team, places can be allocated.
Tickets from: John Patullo 212167 or simon.reesjones@gmail.com

Dadlington Book Club

Members met recently to discuss "The Lacuna" by Barbara Kingsolver, a historical novel covering Trotsky, Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera in 1930's Mexico then McCarthyism anti -communism in 1940's USA.

Next meeting: Thursday 6th Jan - "**Somewhere Towards the End**" by Diana Athill.

The March choice will be - "**The Endurance - Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition**" by Caroline Alexander, photos by Frank Hurley.

New members welcome. Call John Whitehead 01455 213244 for details.

Mobile Library - Timetable

The Mobile Library will visit Stoke Golding & Dadlington on:-
Thursdays 9th & 23rd December

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

For further details contact: Coalville Library, 0116 305 3565

email: coalvillelibrary@leics.gov.uk





Message from Archdeacon Alan Davis

St. Nicholas – Santa Claus – Father Christmas

St. Nicholas was bishop of the coastal town, Myra, in Turkey, in the 4th century therefore he naturally became the patron saint of sailors. He is also associated with saving the lives of three girls and added being the saint of children to his holy portfolio!

His Americanised name is Santa Claus. Personally, I prefer Father Christmas (FC). But Turkish St. Nicholas, American Santa Claus or old-fashioned British Father Christmas – the venerable gentleman provides an excellent Christian lesson at Christmas-time.

We are taught that it is better to give than to receive and FC epitomises that teaching. Despite a multitude of mince pies and a brewery-worth of beer – left by hospitable, hopeful children – on the whole, FC stands for universal giving. He is the gift donor par excellence – the master of the present presentation.

And so, in the midst of the festival of the coming of the Prince of Peace, we have this secular, non-religious, example of selflessness. Despite Christian criticisms of some of the excesses of our present day Christmases – we retain the picture of this jovial, generous, delight-in-giving person derived from a Turkish bishop.

The central gift that God gives the world at Christmas is his son – Jesus – born, not surrounded by tinsel and baubles, but in a poor house for farm animals. At the heart of this coming season – secular or religious – is giving.

The word was made flesh – the religious and secular concepts of giving are merged.

Happy Christmas!

Archdeacon Alan Davis

Thank you...

Through The Stoker I would like to thank the parents/grandparents/carers of children from St Margaret's C of E Primary School for their generosity in donating £76.13 to the Burundi Appeal at the school's Harvest Thanksgiving services in St Margaret's Church in October.

Carolyn Patullo



OBITUARIES



We send our sincere condolences to the families and friends of the following village residents who have passed away recently.

Kenneth Frisby

Kenneth passed away peacefully on Wednesday 3rd November aged 90 years at Hinckley Community Hospital with his family by his side. He was the beloved husband of Joan Frisby and loving father of Susan and John, and a much loved grandad to Tom and Teri. The funeral took place at Stoke Golding Cemetery. The family requested donations, if desired, could be sent to Macmillan Nurses c/o A.J. Murray, Funeral Directors, 48 Lower Bond Street, Hinckley.

Kevin Cowley

Kevin passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday 3rd November aged 54 years. He was the beloved husband of Yvonne, much loved dad of Clare, dearly loved son of Pat and the late Alec, and brother to Ken. There were family flowers only with donations if desired in memory of Kevin to 'The Kev Cowley Memorial Fund', with monies being divided between Unicef's Pakistan Floods Children's Appeal and the Rainbow Africa Trust c/o G. Seller & Co Ltd, Funeral Directors, 75 Upper Bond Street, Hinckley, Leics LE10 1RH.


Marjorie "Molly" Jackson

We are sad to report the death of one of Stoke Golding's oldest village residents, who passed away on 19th November at Orchard House, Market Bosworth, aged 95 years. Molly was the widow of the late 'Jack' Ronald Jackson and much loved mother of Brigid and son-in-law John Dawson, and grandmother of Isabelle. Molly was a resident of Stoke Golding for many years before moving to Orchard House following a stroke two years ago. She was well known in the village and was a very keen member of many village organisations including the WI and the Heritage Group. The funeral is to be held on 1st December at 11am at Dadlington Church. There will be family flowers only, with donations, if desired, to 'Meningitis', c/o G. Seller and Co, Upper Bond Street, Hinckley.


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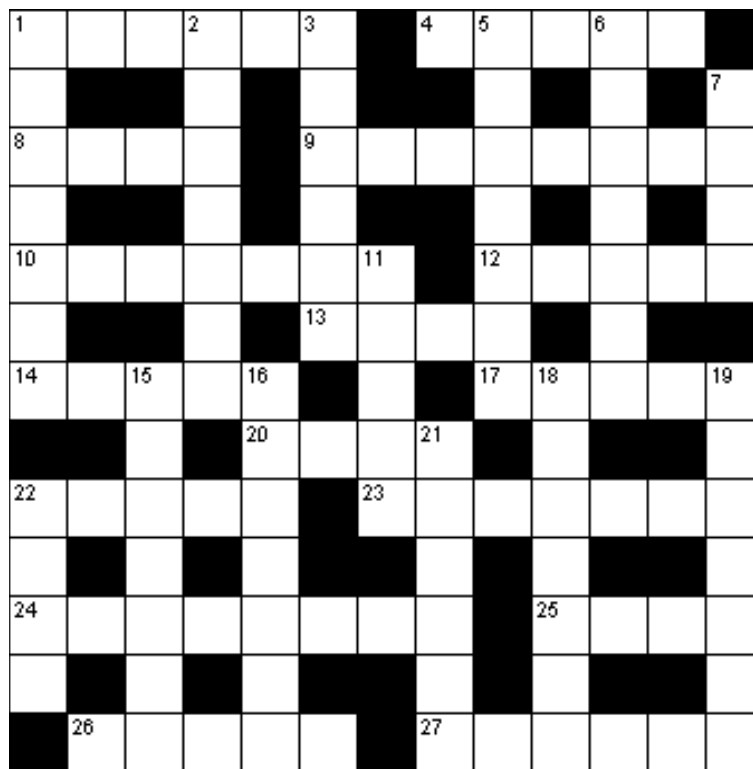
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Crossword



Across

1. Spanish Costa containing Benidorm (6)
4. Christmas song (5)
8. Ashes containers (4)
9. Christmas explosive novelty (8)
10. Old fashioned measurement before miles (7)
12. Single numbers (5)
13. Front of leg (4)
14. Half man half goat in Greek myths (5)
17. Seizes (5)
20. Slippery fishes (4)
22. Christmas paper greetings (5)
23. Christmas greenery (7)
24. Christmas gifts (8)
25. Exploding star (4)
26. Young man (5)
27. Ancient counting machine (6)

Down

1. Christmas decorations for 23A (7)
2. Small bunch of flowers (7)
3. Series of curved bridge supports (6)
5. Bill for goods or services (7)
6. Large stone pillar (7)
7. Requests (4)
11. Ledge for ornaments (5)
15. Underwater weapon (7)
16. Admiration, esteem, regard (7)
18. Insect's feelers (7)
19. Playground amusements (7)
21. Spanish sleep (6)
22. Drinking vessels (4)

Answers on page 25

Stoke Golding Parish Council - October

County Cllr Ivan Ould reported on County Council issues that he is involved with, including the Leicestershire Rural Partnership Management, a 'Sustainable Community Strategy' pursued together with a 'Local Enterprise Partnership' involving both the City and County and 'Affordable Rural Housing' issues.

MIRA meeting on 11th October – a Parish Councillor agreed to attend this on behalf of the Parish Council.

Arson incident at the Recreation Ground - a letter from the Police was read out to the meeting giving an update regarding this matter. The letter stated that the Police had concluded their enquiries and had identified and dealt with the three offenders. Final warnings and reprimands have been issued. The Clerk was asked to write to the Police thanking them for their prompt action and for keeping the Parish Council informed.

The Parish Council was informed that the **HBBC Licensing Department** had spoken with the licensees of the George and Dragon regarding loud music on August 22nd. It had been explained that they were not actually covered to hold live music outside and this would be reiterated to them at the time of the next inspection.

External Audit of Accounts – the Clerk confirmed that these accounts had now been approved.

Dog Waste collection –the Clerk was asked to enquire further with regard to costs and to obtain a map of all bin locations for when the new contractor is appointed.

Memorial Headstones – a further inspection to be arranged of the headstone repairs remaining uncompleted.

Grounds Maintenance Contract –the planned supplementary maintenance work required to the Wykin Lane Cemetery and new pathway at the Recreation Ground to be included in the existing Maintenance Contract was being finalised. Concerns were expressed by the Parish Council of the undue care and attention to the maintenance at present being carried out around the new recreation pathway and the importance of an acceptable standard of work - this needed to be passed on to the contractor.

Moles – it was reported that moles had reappeared at the Recreation Ground alongside the new pathway and the Parish Clerk was asked to deal with the matter.

The Football Club is now happy with the condition of the pitch. **Ground Fees** – a meeting had been arranged with HBBC to look at other facilities in the Borough and discuss the criteria for charging the correct fees

Sports Pavilion - Proposals have been discussed between the Football and Cricket Clubs to build/rebuild the pavilion to include storage facilities. The sports clubs are looking to the Parish Council for assistance in this project. Further information is required from the clubs before any decisions can be made.

Planning Application Matters: New Applications: Park House – work to maple trees.

(Continued on page 25)

(Parish Council Notes continued from page 24)

Closure of the Parks Committee: It was proposed the Parks Committee should be closed and the financial affairs wound up. Any remaining funds to be put towards the recreation improvements. The Clerk was asked to send letters of thanks to past members.

Salt bins and gritting: – Several new salt bins have been provided by the **Charity of Thomas Barton** and the Parish Council agreed that plaques recognising this should be attached to the new bins and perhaps to other items generously provided by the Charity. An offer had been made to the Parish Council to store extra salt supplies and a member of the community had kindly volunteered to spread grit on untreated roads in the village – the Parish Council was grateful for the offer and would consider it.

The Village Christmas tree was discussed and arrangements made for its installation.

The 2011 Census will be held on 27th March 2011- further details will be publicised in The Stoker.

A letter sent by David Tredinnick MP demanding greater powers to prevent illegal **Traveller Encampments** had been copied to the Parish Council.

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Tourism Website – Ideas for Stoke Golding's entry were presented to meeting and agreed by all.

The next meeting of the Stoke Golding Parish Council will be its 300th! It will be held in the Baxter Hall on Wednesday 1st December 2010 at 7pm. Villagers are cordially invited to attend when it is hoped to serve some seasonal refreshments following the business part of the meeting!

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

Pauline Goodsell

Across. 1. Blanca; 4. Carol; 8. Urns; 9. Crackers; 10. Leagues; 12. Units; 13. Shin; 14. Satyr; 17. Takes; 20. Eels; 22. Cards; 23. Firtree; 24. Presents; 25. Nova; 26. Youth; 27. Abacus.
Down. 1. Baubles; 2. Nosegay; 3. Arches; 5. Account; 6. Obelisk; 7. Asks; 11. Shelf; 15. Torpedo; 16. Request; 18. Antenna; 19. Seesaws; 21. Siesta; 22. Cups.

Do You Remember ?

When grocery parcels were delivered wrapped in strong brown paper
And tied up with yards of good string

When sugar was packed in thick deep blue bags
And sturdy paper carriers were a commonplace thing.

When penny oranges were wrapped in pink tissue squares

While sweet juicy blood oranges were always to spare

When eggs were priced at thirteen a shilling

(a preserving crock of waterglass Mother would be filling)

Four pence ha'penny a large loaf of bread

So nice when with homemade jam it was spread

Three ha'pence a pint, creamy milk from the farm

No pasteurized then and it did us no harm

"Nice cheese, have a taste just while you wait"

Butter cut off a block, and patted in ridges to shape

Sixpenny, cow decorated cartons of thick rich dairy cream

While a penny ice cream cornet was every child's dream

When biscuits were sold loose by the pound

And penny Oxos packed six in a neat little tin

Bournville cocoa – a special commodity

With two red gift tokens lying under the rim

The fresh coffee aroma from canisters lining the shelves

In quaint old grocery stores

And tall glass jars with a sweet colourful array

Two ounces a penny- could one ask for more?

When postage stamps were three ha'pence a letter

And glossy birthday postcards just one penny

Writing to friends was a pleasant pastime

With a nice fountain pen, now one rarely sees any

One could buy a wick or glass chimney for the old oil lamp

At the hardware store smelling of paraffin and carbolic soap

Loose nails, screws and candles and cut panes of glass

Funny discs to mend a bowl, wire netting and rope

When Reckitts dolly blue and Colman's starch

Gave the perfect final finish to the wash

And those dainty glass tubes of 'fairy dyes'

To renovate clothes and linen and make them look posh

When giant shire horses worked the plough

And children pitched in and helped with the hay

Gathered mushrooms, nuts and wild fruit from the hedgerows

And country lanes were safe to roam and play

All this - when I was a girl yesterday

Peggy Holmes


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