

Season's Greetings

Dec '13 / Jan '14

No. 127



The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine

including

50p



Dadlington Matters

Ruth



Jane



Note from the Editors

We are really pleased to hear that Sehmbi Stores will be opening soon; eight months after Middle Stores closed its doors, and we hope it is a great success.

We are so lucky to have this facility for residents of Stoke Golding and Dadlington, as well as the Post Office and our farm shops, and shouldn't take any of them for granted. The update on the community land behind the Convent makes interesting reading (page 7) - make sure you have your say about the willow structures at the event on 6th February if you can.

As usual there are plenty of festive events and activities to join in with, just take a look at the 'What's On' pages.

The Stoker Team has a break now until the February edition so we would like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to the volunteers who deliver the magazine to you in all weathers - we couldn't manage without them.

Happy Christmas and New Year to you all.

Jane & Ruth

The Stoker Team

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

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

Please send articles for the **February 2014** issue of The Stoker to:
The Editors, c/o 21, Hinckley Rd, Stoke Golding by **15th January**.
If you can submit articles on a 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.

Awesome Music at Stoke Golding Village Hall



'Kel Elliott and her band were awesome', according to members of the audience lucky enough to have snapped up tickets for the latest Centre Stage event at the village hall. Their laid back bluesy jazz, combining great musicianship and superb song writing, provided a wonderful evening, leaving everyone wanting more, and a rush at the end to buy their CDs.

Songs written by Kel and the band's guitarist Kelvin Leitch, accompanied by Kel on double bass, Kelvin Leitch on guitar, Leo Steeds on piano and Tom Voce on drums and percussion were interspersed by fascinating stories of how they came about. Even the title for their latest CD had a story - it was supposed to be called 'Highs and Lows' until Kel accidentally came out with 'Lies and Hoes' and decided she preferred it that way! Hailing from South Warwickshire, we are so glad they crossed the borders to entertain us and we hope they will be back in the near future.



Jane White

Under 5s' Group

We had a great party for Halloween at Under 5s. The children and babies dressed up and we had Halloween games, including find the witches' cat, and lots of ghoulish food and sweets.

We have our Children in Need sponsored toddler waddle to look forward to next.

Come and join us every Thursday morning from 10am in the Village Hall.

Sarah Beale



Correspondence



Re The Fool on the Hill – I wandered lonely...

My husband, our children, grandchildren and I are all members of the National Trust. We joined over 40 years ago and our family has always been involved. We have visited many properties over the years, some many times. We have just returned from a visit to Ireland and once again to the Giant's Causeway. The new centre is amazing and like so many others, a place of *natural beauty* for us all to enjoy. We often say to each other when visiting these places, 'The most unlikely people visit, (including ourselves).' If we saw anyone defacing or leaving litter we would report it to a warden. We would like to think that *everyone* there has made an effort to visit, for reasons of their own.

Changes to the centre of Stoke Golding

After reading the article with interest, we have taken your advice and responded. We do not agree to the removal of the war memorial; it is safer where it is. People can gather there in safety on Remembrance Sunday. We thought that was what it was for, to visit any time, in safety, to remember. We feel very sad in this day and age that a beautiful old wall, which adds character to the village, should be partly demolished and not repaired. If HBBC has assessed this wall to be dangerous we haven't seen any warning signs on it. Who is responsible for the wall anyway?

P. and S O'Brien



Re possible re-siting of the War Memorial in Stoke Golding

It has been interesting to read and hear the differing opinions from village residents about this issue. I wrote an article a number of years ago in the Stoker about the possibility of moving the War Memorial into the centre of the village, mainly because a number of people I spoke to felt it was hidden away from the majority of residents. I have come across many villages where their memorial has pride of place in the centre, so that residents and visitors are reminded of the sacrifices soldiers and their families made all year round and not just once a year on Remembrance Sunday. This is obviously a sensitive issue and I believe we should respect the views of the families of those named on the memorial, but I hope they will also understand the reasoning behind the suggestion to move it to a more central location.

Jane White

(This is my personal view and not one written on behalf of the Stoker Team)

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.



I am totally in agreement with Alan Quinney and thank him for sounding a note of reason, unlike the letter from Mr Goodsell, the tone of which left me furious. What right has he to try to dictate to 'The Residents' as how he wants them to think?

During the 80 odd years I have lived in Stoke Golding I have found that 'The Residents' are quite capable of making up their own minds, without being bullied. Apart from the Walton family, have any of the residents in the Park House complex lived here long enough to form an opinion of what is right for the village? Have you, Mr Goodsell, any relationship to any names on the memorial? I have, and in their names as well as my own and family, I ask that the memorial stays in the peaceful setting of the cemetery instead of becoming the possible target for vandalism in the centre of the village.

Rita Reason



Letter to two so-called horse lovers...

I often approach Stoke Golding along the lane from Fenny Drayton at around 7:30am and I see two horse riders, both in dark clothes riding dark coloured horses, almost invisible at this time of the year. When they get hit by a vehicle I assume they will blame the driver – well, show some common sense 'gentlemen', wear something reflective.

I don't care about you but I would hate to see a horse get injured through your stupidity.

Mick Edwards



20mph limits in Stoke Golding

Further to the article in the November issue of The Stoker, I would comment as follows. Early in 2009 residents concerned about levels of speeding in the village met with representatives of the Parish Council (PC) to discuss the issue. At that meeting it was clear that the PC was not interested in supporting a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) for the village. Comments such as, "speeding was not a PC responsibility but the PC would send a letter to the police telling them the village had a problem." and "everybody ignores them" were hardly helpful. The residents group however persisted in trying to get something positive done and took part in the Community Speed Watch initiative. To cut a long story short, after protracted discussions at a number of meetings, the PC finally bought a VAS in May 2011, which was installed on Hinckley Road. It has recently bought a second VAS for Wykin Lane/ Station Road.

The recent activities of the Streets4All Group are reminiscent of the actions undertaken by the community group in 2009 in that the PC initially will not give support. My understanding is that by an accepted random sampling method the village supported the principle of 20mph in the village to improve safety. All the Parish Council had to do was to support that principle. The fact that money is currently not available is irrelevant. I would suggest that the group persevere with lobbying the PC in particular at their next AGM. As detailed above, the PC can be persuaded to change its mind but it takes time.

Roy Mitchell

Bird notes for late autumn



Some very interesting news came to me by way of the farming community with regard to the successful breeding locally of a pair of hobby. I reached the site following a 25 minute brisk walk from Stoke Golding.



Whilst listening to Tweet of the Day on Radio 4 I learnt that the table football game, known as Subbuteo, was intentionally chosen from part of the Latin name for the hobby, *Falco subbuteo*, since the originator was so captivated by the antics of the species.

Dave Keightly, a very experienced birding friend, was delighted to have observed a couple of adult peregrine falcon involved in fascinating aerial manoeuvres. At the time he was looking from

Barr Lane, Higham; the birds being over woods in the distance.

John Terry noted a couple of grey wagtail on passage at his farm between Stoke Golding and Higham. These are very attractive birds, readily identified on call, which breed near fast-flowing watercourses, accompanied by exposed rocks and woodland.

I came across a very mobile flock of about 30 siskin, not appearing to stop and feed, in the plantation at the bottom left hand corner of the rec. It is a species that is frequently encountered in autumn and winter, feeding primarily in alder and birch.

By Googling 'Leicestershire and Rutland Ornithological Society', (L.R.O.S), you will find an excellent website which includes, amongst other items, up to date information regarding scarcer species that have been located in the two counties.

David Abbott



Have you noticed the new gates at the entrance to Hinckley Road Cemetery? They are certainly an improvement on the old ones.

Community Land at the Convent Site - an update

The Balancing Pond is not yet dug but the heap of soil and tree roots seem to be getting bigger! This is an issue that we continue to be concerned about although Mar City has promised to leave the site in a good state. On the plus side Mar City has identified where they will pipe the mains water to - close to the southwest corner of the informal play area. This will enable water to be connected to the land should this be required in the future- and we are grateful to Mar City for doing this.

Orders have been placed by Raglan Housing, using their grant funding, installing entrance gates to the land, bases for the storage container and composting toilet, and the composting toilet itself. Raglan Housing is also funding the tree nursery constructed at St Martin's for the young trees which were grafted in the spring - and eventually the establishment of a Community Orchard. An apple tree planting event is to be held at St Martin's Academy on Thursday 5th December at 2.00pm and it is hoped that many of the people involved will be able to attend this celebration.

As part of its on-going commitment to community involvement Raglan Housing is commissioning a willow sculpture from our local and highly regarded willow artist, Tom Hare.

Tom is putting ideas together to present to residents at an open event to be held at the Baxter Hall on Thursday 6th February between 3.00p.m. - 8.00 p.m. St Martin's and St Margaret's Schools have been asked if they would like to take part and have expressed their interest. We are also hoping to mount a small display regarding progress on other areas such as the composting toilet, community allotment, and orchard. Please make a note of the date in your new diaries, although further information will be circulated nearer the time.

Meanwhile look out for a new page on the village website with progress and information regarding the development of the Convent Community Land - www.stokegolding.co.uk

*Pauline Goodsell, millburn5@hotmail.co.uk 01455 212955
On behalf of the Parish Council Convent Land Committee*

Village Shop Opening Soon

Sehmbi Stores Ltd will be opening very soon after a complete revamp of what used to be Middle Stores. Paul Sehmbi has been working hard to get the shop ready and says, 'I can't give a specific date when the shop will open as the new floor has caused a bit of a delay, but it should be within a few weeks. The shop will have an off licence as well as groceries and newspapers and I am really looking forward to opening at last.'

Jane White

For King and Country



James Leslie Robertson was the youngest son of Robert Hopkins Robertson JP and his wife Mary Louisa of Stoke Lodge, Stoke Golding. He was born in the Lodge on September 7th 1894 and educated at Magdalen College School in Oxford. In the spring of 1913 he travelled to South Africa to study farming, but shortly afterwards decided that farming was not for him and returned to England in 1914, and enrolled at London University as a medical student where he was also a member of the Officer Training Corps.

He was then commissioned into the Yorkshire Regiment on 12th August 1915 and for a time was a machine gun instructor with the 4th battalion before transferring to the Royal Flying Corps in April of 1916 and gaining his pilot's certificate on August 11th 1916.

The aeroplane he flew was a Royal Aircraft Factory FE2b an open cockpit, open bodied biplane. The pilot looked over the head of the gunner who, when he was ready to shoot stood up, and he was then, from the knees up, exposed to the elements and only his grip on the gun stood between him and eternity. A second gun between him and the pilot fired backwards to protect the plane from rearward attack, but the gunner could be blown out of the aircraft if the pilot made a sudden and wrong move. There were no parachutes and no belts.

Patrolling the lines between Hulloch and Lens on September 6th 1916 just 26 days after qualifying as a pilot he was attacked by a German Fokker, crashing to the ground where his petrol tank exploded. He and his gunner were both killed, James was just 21 years of age. He was awarded the Victory Medal and the British War Medal and is remembered on the Arras Flying Services Memorial at the Fauberg D' Amiens Cemetery in Arras, on the village War Memorial and also on a special plaque in St Margaret's Church.

Denis Cash



For King and Country - Booklet

A 44 page booklet 'FOR KING & COUNTRY' detailing the military service, families and deaths of all the men mentioned on Stoke Golding War Memorial and Dadlington Church War Memorial Plaque has been written by Stoke Golding resident, Denis Cash. Through a very generous donation by The Charity of Thomas Barton it has been printed for public sale, with the whole of the proceeds being donated by the Charity to the British Legion Poppy Appeal and Help the Heroes Charity. Copies of this book can be purchased for a minimum donation of £2.50 from Stoke Golding Post Office and public houses, the Club and the Doctor's Surgery.

Should old and quaint aunts be forgot?...

Around Christmastime one becomes melancholy about the passing of yet another year whilst maintaining a sense of gratitude that one is at least here to see it happen. A time of mellow reflection about times and people that we will not see again and I recall, with particular fondness, my Auntie M.

It is my heartfelt belief that a childhood spent without a favourite aunt is a childhood lost. When I use the term "aunt", I refer not to an old school chum of your mums who turns up once a year and proceeds to get over effusive on a surfeit of Co-op wise choice Amontillado before vanishing from your life for another twelve months. No, I refer to the flesh and blood model, the sibling of one parent or another, who thus has a comprehensive knowledge of their shortcomings and, when suitably prompted, is quite happy to spill the beans. Such a creature was my Aunt M. Living close by, as she did, meant that she was an integral part of my life and often aware of my small misdemeanours that young boys are wont to perpetrate. Her revelations that my father had trodden much the same errant path in his youth gave useful ammunition in blunting the full broadside usually associated with the uncovering of my failures. I like to think that I was somewhere above silver medal position in my aunt's affections, a point substantiated by the fact that I was, and I say this with no hint of shame, spoilt rotten. No chocolate treat was deemed too extreme and I was often given, for no apparent reason, that good conduct medal of all small boys, a shiny half crown (value today 12.5p – value then immeasurable).

Aunt M never married. Whether anyone ever popped the question is information to which I was never privy but for the time that I remember, she was happily single and devoted to the care of my widowed Grandfather. She was a model built more for comfort than speed and on one memorable occasion when asked to retrieve some object, probably chocolate, from her wardrobe, I was suddenly exposed to her impressive and expansive collection of whalebone reinforced corsetry. It left an indelible mark on a young boy. It helped to explain my aunt's impressive bosom which, on reflection, must have consisted largely of flesh seeking escape from the pressure being exerted on other parts of her body. No matter, she was my aunt and I loved her, corsets and all.

On one memorable occasion when I was being conveyed in her Humber Hawk estate, she tried to change down to first gear on a steep incline and, without the hint of mechanical complaint from the car, found reverse and shot backwards to the consternation of the driver behind. As the somewhat shaken motorist made his way round us Aunt M gave him a smile as if to convey that this was perfectly normal behaviour.

In so many ways, it was.



The Fool on the Hill



From the Rector at St Margaret's Church

The chances are, by the time you read these words your Christmas preparations will be well under way. The shops have been enticing us in with their glittering decorations and gifts for weeks now; it's hard to avoid the pressures from advertising and store presentation.

The season of Advent is the period throughout December leading up to Christmas. On recently asking a young teenager her thoughts on Advent, the reply was based around opening doors on an Advent calendar and eating the chocolate inside! "Then as each door is opened," she added, "we can look forward to Christmas." For others of us, I guess we might think of making puddings and pies, or putting up the tree, the lights and decorations.

Advent is a time of preparation and waiting, but not just for the presents, the food and the trimmings. Sometimes the festivities can be so absorbing and time-consuming that they can easily detract from the real reason for the season: How on that first Christmas Day, God's Son came from heaven to earth as a baby, born in Bethlehem.

The world had been waiting for thousands of years before the promised birth of the Messiah, but God had his preparations for the event before the beginning of time. His plans were laid along with the foundations of the earth. Because of God's love for us, he would send us the person of his Son, Jesus Christ.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son" (John 3:16)

And during Advent, we are reminded, not only of that amazing event, but also of the promise that Jesus will one day return – but this time he will not come as a vulnerable baby, but glorified as a resurrected Lord and King.

So as we prepare for the celebrations, spend a moment or two in quiet, if you can, to reflect on the birth of the Christ Child; and how his coming means that when we call upon him in prayer he can be there with us today, for he is the God who chooses to be with us in our experiences of life, however easy or hard they may be.

*O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel*

Wishing you all a blessed Advent and a very happy Christmas.

Linda



Church Matters



Church of England Services

St. Margaret's Church

1 st December	10.30am	All Age Service
8 th December	10.30am	Holy Communion – Benefice Service
8 th December	3.00pm	Christingle
15 th December	10.30am	Holy Communion
22 nd Decembe	10.30am	Morning Worship
24 th December	4.00pm	Crib Service
24 th December	11.30pm	Christmas Midnight Holy Communion
29 th December	10.30am	Benefice Service, Dadlington
5 th January	10.30am	All Age Service
12 th January	10.30am	Benefice Service, Fenny Drayton
19 th January	10.30am	Holy Communion
26 th January	10.30am	Morning Worship

Holy Communion 6.30pm Tuesday Evenings at St Margaret's Church (No Service, Tuesday 31st December)

St James's Church

1 st December	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
8 th December	10.30am	Benefice Service, Stoke Golding
13 th December	7.30pm	Carol Service
15 th December	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
22 nd December	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
24 th December	10.00pm	BCP Holy Communion
29 th December	10.30am	Benefice Service
5 th January	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
12 th January	10.30am	Benefice Service, Fenny Drayton
19 th January	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
26 th January	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion

Zion Chapel Services starting at 6pm Sunday School at 11am

1st Dec	Richard Cotton
8th Dec	Mark Menzfeld
15th Dec	Martin Owens
22nd Dec	John Needham
29th Dec	Richard Cotton
5th Jan	Harold Pirie
12th Jan	Richard Cotton
19th Jan	Mark Menzfeld
26th Jan	Stephen Connor

The Methodist Church December Services

1st	10.30am	Mr Malcolm Lapper
8th	10.30 am	Revd. Wes. Hampton
15th	10.30am	Revd. Michael Haighton
22nd	6pm	Revd. Wes. Hampton Carol Service
25th	9.30am	Revd. Wes. Hampton Christmas Day
29th	10.30am	At Higham Methodist Church



Christmas What's On



**Methodist Church
December Events**

Saturday December 14th 7pm
Salvation Army Carol Concert
 Admission £3.50
 (includes refreshments)

Thursday December 19th
Carol Singing 7pm
 around the village
Christmas tree



Followed by
 refreshments in the
 Methodist Church Hall

Stoke Golding Charity Sleigh

Can we please ask for your support again
as the Charity Sleigh will be out on:

**Sunday 22nd
December**

Lower High Street
 Dadlington
 Hinckley Road
 Sherwood Road
 Station Road
 Crown Hill
 Andrew Close
 Top High Street

**Monday 23rd
December**

Roseway
 Whitemoors
 Goldings
 Wykin Lane
 Little Wykin



Thank you from the
Sleigh Committee

Christmas Fayre

at St Margaret's Primary School
Friday 13th December, 5.30 - 7.30pm

Visit Santa in his grotto, lots of games and stalls, win
 great prizes in our raffle, refreshments and loads of
 festive fun.

Everyone welcome, please come along, we would
 love to see you all there!



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.



Christmas What's On



St Margaret's Snowman Festival

Saturday 7^h December 10am - 5pm



Please bring your snowmen to church between 10am and 6pm on Friday 6th December or on Saturday 7th December at 10am. There will be 3 prizes for the best snowmen voted for by our many visitors.

After visiting the church to see the snowmen come and enjoy turkey rolls, sausage rolls, mince pies, mulled wine and other festive refreshments in the Baxter Hall, where there will also be a tombola, raffle, cakes, jams and festive food to buy.

We hope you will join us for a
Christingle Service on Sunday 8th December at 3pm
 If there is anyone who would like to take part in the concert please ring Margaret on 212387 after 6pm.
 This is open to all - we do hope you will come and join in the fun.



Baptist Chapel Carol Service

22nd December at 6pm



Seasonal Refreshments

Everyone Welcome



Stoke Golding Festive Lights Switch On by Father Christmas

Thursday 5th
December 7pm

Christmas Music
Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
Sweets for children
In the grounds of Park House

Carols and Christmas Songs at the George & Dragon

Tuesday 17th December at 8pm

We shall be singing carols in the bar and hosting a home made mince-pie competition



Bring 4 mince pies on a plate or just come along and join in with the singing.

What's On - 2014



Top Class Entertainment at Stoke Golding Village Hall

Come and enjoy multi talented group
Bowjangles performing their variety show
"On the Box" on **Sunday 2nd February**

Bowjangles are a vaudeville string quartet, with an emphasis on **FUN**. They sing, they dance, they act with their own zany brand of humour. This could even make a great Christmas present.

*Tickets are just
£8 available from
Alan White
01455 212416,*

**Bring drinks and nibbles
to make a party of it.
Groups welcome.**

Come Dancing at Stoke Golding Village Hall with the Strictly Team

New Ballroom & Latin classes
start on Sunday 5th Jan.
Absolute Beginners 6:15 to
7pm

Improvers 7:15 to 8pm
Or if you can already dance
and would like to join us to
learn some new variations
come along at 8:15pm.

For further information call
Jean on 01455 213087

Methodist Church

January Events

Coffee Morning

Saturday January 11th

10 - 11.30

For Church Funds



Stoke Golding Heritage Group

"Cherish the past, protect the future"



As Stoke Golding is the birthplace of the Tudor Dynasty, the Heritage Group felt it appropriate that we should have a talk on Henry VII, the victor at Bosworth. The character of Richard III and the way he became King has overshadowed the contribution that Henry VII made in establishing the Tudor's as the uncontested Monarchs' of England and ending the Wars of the Roses. David Paterson, a local historian, will give a talk on the life of Henry VII at the Baxter Hall, 7.30pm Thursday 16th January. A nominal fee of £2.50 will be charged for non-members.

Roy Mitchell

Stoke Golding website: www.stokegolding.co.uk

Dadlington Matters

Sutton Cheney Parish Council - November Meeting

Notes from the meeting of 13th November

It is with great regret that we announce the death of the Clerk of the Parish Council, Alan Robinson. Alan was a diligent and courteous gentleman, an enormous asset to the Council who will be sorely missed by us all.

Obviously we shall need a new Clerk, and details of the job will be placed on Dadlington village notice board.

At the meeting various matters were discussed including:

- SmartWater – kits are available from Stoke Golding Post Office for £12.50.
- It was decided not to implement street light switch off.
- The willow trees at the Shenton Lane end of the Green need attention – some felling and trimming will be carried out shortly.
- Saplings on the Green that have been damaged by strimmers will be replaced by HBBC. Wood chip mulch will be put around tree bases to ensure further damage is avoided.

**New Art Classes at
Dadlington Village Hall
Creative Textile Techniques
(6 week course)**

Starts Mon 13th Jan 1 - 3pm

£54 paid in advance

*Chance to gain new skills and try out
a variety of techniques.*

**Creative Fine Art
(6 week course)**

Starts Mon 13th Jan 7 - 9pm

First two weeks £16 paid in advance
then £8 per week

*Try your hand at a range of painting
and drawing techniques.*

For more information or to book your
place please contact Jan Baker:

07725 895550, bakerjams@yahoo.co.uk

**Friday 6th December
The Christmas Cracker!**



‘Undoubtedly the finest communal
Christmas party in Dadlington...’

Admission by ticket only.

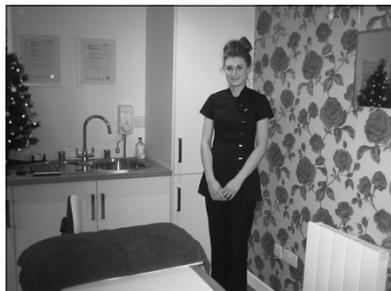
Please book early.

For further details and tickets contact
Graham - 213487 or John - 212292

Sophie's Beauty Room

Are you in need of a bit of TLC? Why not indulge yourself with a massage, facial or manicure at Sophie's Beauty Room – you don't even need to catch a bus as it is situated in a quiet corner of Tithe Close.

Sophie, who has lived in the village for 15 years, attended St Martin's School and JCC before studying for a BTEC National Diploma in Beauty Therapy Science. She finished her diploma in July 2011 and worked at a salon in Burbage to gain experience so she could set up



on her own. Luckily Sophie's grandma just happened to have a garage she didn't use, so it has now been transformed into a warm and friendly salon.

Since Sophie's Beauty Room opened there has been a positive response from the local area and her business is starting to grow. Sophie believes this is due to the quality of the products she uses as well as the friendly welcome on offer.

Most peoples' beauty needs can be catered for including parties for children, who Sophie says love the chance to get their nails painted. Sophie's Mum, Ann, has enjoyed a number of treatments and particularly recommends the shellac manicure as this lasts for up to two weeks.

Gift vouchers are available to give friends and family for birthdays and special occasions. Please telephone Sophie 07583019333 for more information or to book a treatment.

Come for any treatment in December and receive a complementary mini mince pie and drink.

Jane White



Sophie's Beauty Room

Offering all aspects of Beauty Therapy
in Stoke Golding

Call Sophie on 07583019333



Professional and friendly

10% off your first treatment

Beth's Corner - 'To Play As Cast'

When I went into the world of theatre in the forties this phrase was mandatory on our Equity Contract. It probably doesn't exist now as it mainly concerned the Rep' system, which was either weekly – a different show every week – or later on, thankfully, fortnightly. Sometimes at the ripe young age of twenty, you found yourself struggling with the character of someone ancient. Usually you experimented with funny walks – hobbling about with stooping shoulders and back. I remember once doing just this, wearing my character's old ladies' coat and hat, when suddenly, I was stopped by the voice of the director in the stalls, 'Beth my dear, what on earth are you doing?' Stopping midway across the stage I peered out into the darkened theatre. "I'm walking as an old lady in her seventies.' 'Beth, have a look at the television news tonight and watch the Queen Mother inspecting the changing of the Guard, you won't see her tottering about like that.' This all came back to me the other day as I was manoeuvring my latest NHS' gift from the physiotherapy department – a walking stick. I'd been through all the others given to me at hospital – wheelchair, elegantly designed 'Zimmer' frame, three-wheeled stroller and now my walking stick. So with stick in one hand, and shopping bag in the other, I set off for my first trip for weeks into the big wide world of Morrison's, completely on my own.

Looking back to theatre days I happily played the pretty young juvenile parts, graduating into 'Leading Lady', but even in my sixties, I was very rarely cast as a vulnerable ageing, slightly tottery old lady. Now here I am, having to accept this new character part that I've shied away from for so long.

I'd never been auditioned for this part, never even had any rehearsals – I wasn't prepared to be old. It seems so unfair – and all because I tripped and fell on that pavement. However, I've come to realise that "*To Play as Cast*" doesn't just come with an Equity Contract – instead, as Shakespeare wrote, "All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players."

By the way, the next time you watch the Queen at St. Paul's Cathedral, notice how she skips up those front stairs, without the sign of a totter, followed by the even more inspiring Philip in his nineties.

Beth

PS This 'Corner' was written when my subject for this month had to cancel at the last minute.

Stoke Golding W I - November Meeting

Business and Pleasure

November's meeting of the Stoke Golding W.I began with business as usual when members were told of the retirement of two long standing members of the committee, Sue Payne and Sue Fraser, who between them have clocked up many years of dedicated service to this W.I. We shall all be sorry to lose their expertise but are happy that they are remaining with the club. The AGM followed, with a financial statement and a report by the Secretary and President detailing all the interesting 'hands on' events, talks and visits that have taken place throughout the year. The President thanked all the committee members for their work and help throughout the year and new members of the committee were named. A vote was taken for a new President and the business concluded.



Julia Wills was then introduced, who had come to show members the art of wrapping attractive presents. Julia, who has a full time job, enjoys her hobby and her enthusiasm was very apparent as she demonstrated how to make difficult presents, such as a wine bottle so very attractive, with different paper, cellophane and bows. She collects the items she uses, from the after Christmas sales, charity shops and of course craft shops and then uses them in very imaginative ways. Advice was given on how to make simple gift tokens exciting to receive as well as to use, and boxes of biscuits or chocolate extra special. Members expressed their pleasure at her talk and were soon asking her suggestions for their own gift wrapping.

Future events look very exciting with a Christmas lunch, Christmas party, carol service, a trip to the Mikado at the Concordia and crafts for the Group show to be organised. Along with this will be our usual interesting monthly meetings, which if the past year is anything to go by, will be something to look forward to. Please join us; we would be delighted to meet you on the second Wednesday of the month at the Methodist Church Hall, 7.30pm.

Val Hartwell

Winter in Stoke Golding





SPOTLIGHT on...

An unusual take on the fables of our childhood

Bob Knight of Whitemoors Close has had wonderful times over the years with his grandchildren, telling them the well-known fables of childhood. As his grandchildren became older, these self-proclaimed 'fairy stories' became a way for them to tackle some of the issues that arise in our lives together, and questions such as "What if..." and "What happened next?" were quick to develop. Who doesn't have some sympathy for Jack (the one with the beanstalk) and a sneaking admiration for the Wolf which terrorised the Three Little Pigs?! How would Jack have coped in our modern world? Such were the questions from children engaged in an exciting, imaginative process with their granddad.

The grandchildren are grown-up now, but they have been encouraging their granddad to record the extended and augmented stories that they loved in those magical moments where time was forgotten and curiosity prevailed.

Bob has produced the illustrations for his stories. Some of you will know of him from his artwork – lovely paintings of Stoke Golding, boats and steam engines, flowers and landscapes. There is no doubt that Bob has a creative, artistic flair and he is now exploring his imaginative side further by issuing his stories in eBook form with Blue Hour Publishing – Books for Children, under the pseudonym Bertram George.

The first of the series was published in October. Under the title 'Three New Fairy Stories', this book introduces the characters who will become the Stalk Holding Super Heroes. It expands on the stories of Goldilox and the Three Bears, Jack and the Beanstalk and the Three Little Pigs.

The second is *The Goldilox Effect* and sees our heroes working together for the first time to solve a devious plan to disrupt the fairy stories we all know and love, subtly touching on how power can corrupt.

Both books are available at Amazon for Kindle and also on the following ereader stores, Kobo, Nook and iBooks.

And on reflection, one or two characters seem familiar... Stalk Holding Super Heroes anyone?

Rosemary Collier



OBITUARY



William (Bill) Riley

We are sad to report that Bill Riley of Sherwood Road passed away peacefully at his home, aged 82 years, after a long illness. Bill was the beloved husband of Dorothy and father of Lucinda and William.

We send our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Stoke Golding Parish Council Meeting - October 2013

County Cllr Ivan Ould's report included: A5 Strategy Group - There is an issue over the start of the mitigation works on the A5 surrounding planning conditions imposed on MIRA but which they wish to see lifted.

Stoke Golding Football Club - Claire Parton introduced herself to the Parish Council as the new Secretary and contact for Stoke Golding Football Club.

War Memorial - Roy Mitchell representing the Heritage Group asked the Parish Council to clarify the position it was adopting in relation to the War Memorial. He also asked what the 'identified projects within the community' were. . Councillors were unanimous that relatives should be asked their opinions on re-siting the War Memorial before any further discussions and decisions.

Matters arising from September's meeting:

Conservation Area – a proposed proof of the new Conservation Area road name plates was presented to the meeting. Councillors were delighted with the design and agreed this project should go ahead.

Barwell SUE / AAP (Area Action Plan) – the Parish Council agreed to submit the letter recently sent to MPs and Councillors regarding the Barwell SUE / AAP, with provision to be made for a speaker on behalf of Stoke Golding Parish Council, to be present at the examination.

Reports of Council representatives:

Wykin Lane Cemetery Rules and Regulations letters – two responses received and are being looked into.

Recreation Ground – (a) Ditch project on-going (b) Poplar Trees – clarification needed on which trees need cutting back before action to be taken.

Playground inspection:

Contractor to be contacted re replacing slabs with turf. Parish Council to contact Wicksteed re the safety surface under the swings and possible trip hazard.

Village Christmas tree: Cllr Ward to make necessary arrangements.

Communications received by the Chairman of the Council:

Written - Thank you letter from Stoke Golding Garden Show Committee.

Any other business:

Hinckley Road Cemetery – overgrown ivy on wall looking unkempt – discussed.

Wykin Lane Cemetery – fence has been cut through.

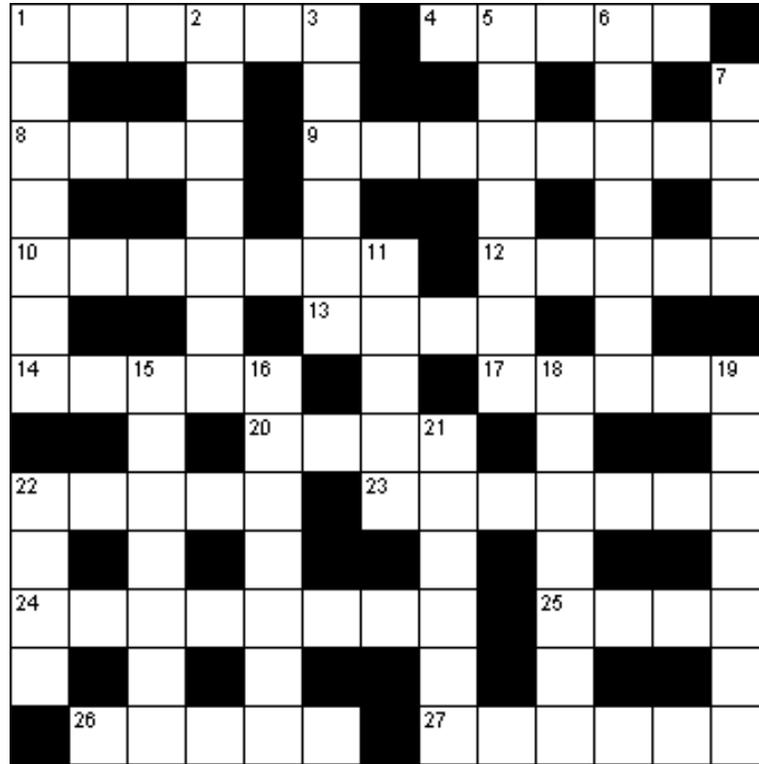
Parish Council to write to LCC Highways/Mar City re new pathway that ends at Convent Corner, asking why it does not join the pathway outside the school by the bus stop.

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 Parish Council meeting Wednesday 11th December in the Village hall at 7pm.

COPY DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY '14 ISSUE: 15th JANUARY '14

crossword



Across

1. Murder mystery board game.(6)
4. This board game includes Bishops and Knights (5)
8. Close to (4)
9. Property board game (8)
10. Adding up points in board game (7)
12. Short for Brit; person living abroad (5)
13. Hinged opening in wall (4)
14. A smell, scent (5)
17. Angry expression (5)
20. Game with dice and counters (4)
22. To remove defects in computer (5)
23. Wandered from correct path (7)
24. A board game of words with tiles (8)
25. A cube for a board game (4)
26. Given as an award (5)
- 27 & 19D Board game with downs and ups (6 & 7)

Down

1. A card game (7)
2. Hearing membrane (7)
3. Donny and Marie - surname (6)
5. Electric cleaners (7)
6. Arachnid sign of the zodiac (7)
7. Growth on body containing fluid (4)
11. Shops stock (5)
15. Ozzy and Sharon's surname (7)
16. Maths with numbers and letters (7)
18. First name of model 'Schiffer' (7)
19. See 27 across
21. Fresh water mammals (6)
22. Another name for C.D. or record (4)

Answers on page 22

Yoga & Fitness Classes at the Baxter Hall, Stoke Golding

Monday 6.15pm **YOGA**, Mixed Level
 Monday 7.30pm **YOGA**, Easy/Beginner's Level
 Tuesday 6.15pm **YOGA**, Mixed Level
 Tuesday 7.30pm - 8pm **Kettlebells** (Booking required)
 Wednesday 6pm **YOGAFIT** including Mobility Matrix, Easy/Mixed Level
 All Yoga classes £6.50 'pay as you go' or £55 for 10 classes
 For more info visit or phone
www.yogawithadele.co.uk or Telephone **07837927227**

Sports & Remedial
 massagetherapy 

Luisa Quinney MFHT, MHFST
Remedial Therapy & Massage
'Dorn' Body Realignment
Now offering facials
Equine Sports Massage
Hinckley Clinic or Local Home Visits
Contact Me - 07813 172377



**VISION
 INTERIORS**

Traditional Upholsterers and French
 Polishers, Loose Covers, Replacement
 Cushions
 Custom - made, renovation and repairs
 Cane and rush work, Choice of exquisite
 fabrics
Tel: Workshop 01827 899866
Simon 07980 064289 Jane 07712 895694



More wintry images



Across
 1. Cluedo, 4. Chess, 8. Near, 9. Monopoly, 10. Scoring, 12. Expat, 13. Door,
 14. Aroma, 17. Scowl, 20. Ludo, 22. Debug, 23. Strayed, 24. Scrabble, 25. Dice,
 26. Medal, 27. & 19D Snakes and ladders.
 Down
 1. Canasta, 2. Eardrum, 3. Osmond, 5. Hoovers, 6. Scorpio, 7. Cyst, 11. Goods,
 15. Osborne, 16. Algebra, 18. Claudia, 19. See 27A, 21 Otters, 22. Disc

Tomlinson's Farm Shop

Station Road, Stoke Golding

**Come to Tomlinson's Farm Shop
this Christmas for quality you can
rely on. Try our dry plucked, no
additives fed:**

Bronze turkeys, geese, cockerels, ducks
Dexter beef, Gloucester Old Spot pork,
home made sausages, sausage meat, dry
cured gammon

**Locally made Christmas cakes &
puddings by 'Lovely Cakes'**

**Local stockists for Connor's Bakery,
Gales Pies, Long Clawson Stilton**



Suppliers of locally grown
Christmas Trees



Jo & Garth 01455 212199
major debit/credit cards accepted
OPENING HOURS: TUES-FRI 9am-6pm,
SAT 9am-5pm, SUN 10am-3pm

Farm Assured Home Produced Pork, Beef, Eggs & Potatoes

at

Lodge Farm, Dadlington Rd, Stoke Golding

**Mon 12- 5.30pm
Thurs & Fri 9.30am-5.30pm
Sat 9.30am- 4.30pm
Sun 9.30am-1pm**

Closed all day Tues and Wed

Tel: Linda Gosling 01455 212598

SEWING MACHINES

All leading makes serviced and
repaired - part exchanges and
reconditioned machines available.
All work guaranteed

Tel: Keith or Barbara
on 01455 212036
or 07946 597958



A Cut Above

Professional Dog Grooming
by Joanna Barber

Providing a full grooming service

**All breeds catered for
All enquiries Welcome**

Bookings now being taken
Telephone 07816823557

The Stables, Pine Close, Stoke Golding

WINE 2 YOU



**Battle of Bosworth Wines
Chateau Pech-Latt**

and many more

Call 01455 213214 for lists
Or email keith@wine-2-you.com



INSPIRED TRAVEL
Dream Holidays Inspired Travel

Your local truly independent travel
agent for all your travel
requirements.



Tel. 01455 213590

e-mail Sue@inspiredtraveluk.com

Sue Todd



Explore the East Coast or Coast
of France and Channel Islands
on board the yacht "Kingfisher
of Maldon". We provide the
full range of RYA sailing
courses from Competent Crew
to Yachtmaster.

Call Colin and Jan: 01621 928084
or 07810484210
www.firstclasssailing.com/
eastcoastsailing



Springfield Electrical

Your local electrical and security systems specialist

Tel Tim on: 01455 845113

www.springfielelectricalservices.co.uk



SQUARE DEAL DOMESTICS

Repairs to electric cookers and washing machines
Also sales of new and reconditioned washers

All work fully guaranteed

Tel Nick : 07976 718392



FootWorks

Podiatry & Chiropody

HPC Registered - 20 yrs experience

Gillian Poole D.Pod.M., M.Ch.S., DMS
128, Wood Street, Earl Shilton

Tel:01455 842941 Mob: 07785 397515
Home visits available

Caron's Cleaning Company
Domestic and Commercial Cleaning
Reliable family company you can trust!

Competitive rates

24 hour turn around ironing service

Attention to detail

Fully insured uniformed staff

Any task, just ask!!

Call Caron

for a free quotation

01455 212426

or 07973719379



J.E.SUTTON PLUMBING & HEATING A LOCAL FRIENDLY SERVICE

- LEAKS & DRIPPING TAPS
- FITTED BATHROOMS & KITCHENS
- OIL BOILER SERVICING
- REPAIRS & INSTALLATIONS
- 24 HOUR CALLOUT

TEL: 01455 870290
MOB: 07921 073479



Need help with
your computer?

Neil Sherry

Computer Services



Locally based professional
for home or business

Contact: neilsherry@talktalk.net

Tel: 01827 713848 - 9am-9pm

Paul Howard

*Painting & Decorating
Home Improvements*

Stoke Golding Based

Email: howard_paul@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 07850 246 701

*Big or Small - Inside or Out
Free Quote*



Pudd's Pedals Stoke Golding's Motoring Academy the Road to Freedom

- Professional friendly driving tuition
- Pass Plus & refresher courses
- Help with theory

Call John on

07854 216 308 or 01455213296

Email johnpuddefoot_2@hotmail.com

Website: www.puddspedals.co.uk

