

# *The Stoker*

**Dec '15/Jan '16**

**No. 147**



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

**50p**



### *Note from the Editors*

It may well be that we are a little biased, but when we browse the contents of the Stoker we feel proud to be part of the Stoke Golding & Dadlington communities.



The Stoker heralds our local news, from Halloween jinks in Roseway, to adventures from the Scouts, Beavers and Cubs all the way through to news of a book launch by our very own reporter and local author, Beth. The What's On pages are full of events planned to entertain us over the holiday season and the Fool On the Hill recounts his foolish behaviour coping with our recent water mains burst.

Additionally, the Stoker also provides an wonderful advertising platform for local businesses – a useful aid for residents to find a local solution that meets their requirement. Could you advertise your business?

Please keep sending in your letters, articles and photographs – you continue to make the Stoker a true community magazine

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Steve and Jane**

### **The Stoker Team**

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

*Production Team:* Rosemary Collier, Beth Ellis, Richard & Ella Orr, Jan Pettyfer, Jill Webster, Jennifer Michie, Michael Dix

Please send articles for the **February 2016** issue of The Stoker to: **The Editor, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding by 15th January 2016.**

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: Snowmen from the 2010 festival at St Margaret's Church*

## Scouts, Cubs and Beavers - a Seasonal Theme

The Beavers have been busy doing their skills badge with making moving models out of junk from robots to chocolate and dinosaur making machines. None



surprisingly tidied rooms, did home work or cooked! They also had a craft evening where they decorated some snowmen and angels and had a great time. They are going to Foxes Covert for a sleep over on the 14th November. See future Stoker for feedback.



The Cubs have been busy as well doing their skills badge, painting snowmen and making angel wings. The snowmen are for St Margaret's church Snowman Festival. They are planning a skills evening of cooking, ironing, changing light bulbs and, making a snack - vital skills for the students of the future.



The scouts have been cooking as well - "arm pit fudge" and making balloon rockets.

All the group took part in the Halloween activities of apple-dunking, chocolate game, jelly and doughnut eating and drinking witches blood (cherryade). The range of costumes gets more adventurous each year and it gets harder to identify the children in their costumes, not only for the leaders but



also their parents!! One relatively new beaver was asked if she had enjoyed herself and she said " Yes, best night ever", which makes all our hard work behind the scenes worth while.

There was a particularly good turn out from the group of 33 members at the Remembrance Day service and parade. All the group were well behaved, especially the younger beavers who found sitting still during the service and standing quietly at the war memorial was challenging.

In recognition of their good behaviour and attendance, they were presented at their respective evening with a certificate and a treat. They did in fact get two treats as an anonymous person left packets of sweets on Mrs Shilladay's door step for the well behaved scout group. This has never happened before, so thank you very much to that kind person.

We are getting ready for the Beavers nativity play and the annual Christmas party and a well earned rest for the leaders.

*Jennifer Michie*

### **Stoke Golding's Neighbourhood Plan – a steep learning curve?**

There was another meeting in October – the third since the process for developing a Neighbourhood Plan started back in July – attracting, once again, an encouraging turnout. Unfortunately this time things did not get off to such a smooth start as the audience was, understandably, rather bewildered by the procedure which opened the meeting. No explanation was given as to why the six people sitting at the front had not introduced themselves. It later came to light that that they had volunteered at the previous meeting to be on the Stoke Golding Neighbourhood Development Plan Advisory Committee (SGNDPAC). Firstly though, the rules of procedure required the election of a chair and vice chair for this committee before any other business could take place.

Once the Advisory Committee had said a little about themselves, the main discussions of the meeting centred on deciding on the Plan boundary and the selection of a consultancy. In a meeting lasting two hours, some residents were noticeably dissatisfied by the constraints of what they were allowed and not allowed to vote on. They may even have wondered about the point of attending such meetings. These meetings provide an ideal forum for all those who have an interest to voice their opinions so that the Plan reflects the community's views, ideas and vision for Stoke Golding.

It is bureaucratic but in order that the Plan complies with legislation, the Advisory Committee's job is to shape the Plan by listening to the community's view, and have it ratified by the Parish Council who then presents it to the Borough Council.

All those involved are negotiating a steep learning curve and the SGNDPAC recognises that it will take a lot of hard work and effective communication to help residents understand the complexities involved in putting a Neighbourhood Plan together.

There are a number of places where you can read more about our Neighbourhood Plan: on the village website <http://www.stokegolding.co.uk>, by signing up to the co-operative website <http://www.virtualbriefcase.org.uk/coop> or on the Facebook page 'Stoke Golding Neighbourhood Plan'.

Please do contribute to the shaping of Stoke Golding for the future.

*Ella Orr*

### **Used Stamps Wanted**



As Christmas approaches can I ask you to save all your used postage stamps, please? The charity, Canine Partners uses these stamps to raise much-needed funds to train dogs for disabled people.

Thank you

*Ruth Fisher, 21 Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding*

## Spooky 'Goings On' in the Neighbourhood



Each year since living in Stoke Golding we've decorated our home to bring enjoyment to the local children as well as handing out lots of sweets. We love their reactions on seeing and hearing a taste of horror.

This year we saw 123 children plus many accompanying adults all dressed for Halloween at our door, they all seemed to love the efforts we'd gone to including the evil eyes in the trees (sadly not in shot) and if you look closely at the bin in front of our garage you'll see the

eyes of the bin monster !! The spooky doorbell was a bit of shocker to some – made quite a few scream including a few brave adults!

Funniest comment of the evening was the young girl who asked "Why have you got a hearse?" – whilst looking at my black van – from which the sounds of Halloween emitted (a CD of spooky sounds played within).

Best actor – the young lad with his two mates who "collapsed" to the ground when we shouted boo at him on opening the door- we honestly thought we'd scared him, clever lad got up laughing knowing we'd been well and truly "had".

And most rewarding moment. The grandparents, who's name I didn't get but everyone knows them as the miniature schnauzer people. They came down to say thank you for our efforts as they house and garden had really made the evening exciting for their little grandson who is (Thankfully) in remission - just makes all the preparation for this one night event worthwhile.

Personally we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who visited our monster house on Roseway. Your costumes were as usual – fantastic, we appreciated all your visits and you all make it such a fun evening to share with. Until next year – Happy Halloween!!

*The Pughs of Roseway*

### **Incorrect Date**

We apologise for printing the incorrect date for St Margaret's Primary School Open Day last month.

## Great, Fun-filled Performance

" those magnificent men and their flying machines". The show was based on the story of John Alcock ( pilot) and Arthur Brown's ( navigator) winning the race for the 1st non stop transatlantic flight and the prize of £10,000.

The pair left St John's Newfoundland and landed in a bog in Galway. They also carried the first air mail letters as well. The plane they flew was a modified 1st World War Vickers Vimy.

The actors Brain Mitchell and David Mountfield cleverly and imaginatively told the story with the help of props and sound effects of the build up to the flight and what happened afterwards.

I was particularly impressed with the dialogue of the details of the flight with tales of having to clear the ice physically off the wings. This involved Brown walking along the precarious fragile wings at 18,000 feet to de ice them.

It was of course an open cock pit. The journey took about 17 hours and the pilot Alcock did not take his hand off the controls for the whole flight.

They were treated as heroes afterwards and were the celebrities of their time.

Alcock was killed in December 1919 at the Paris air show. Brown died on 1948 but never flew again after the transatlantic journey.

A fascinating story very well told which totally engaged the audience at the village hall.

*Jennifer Michie*



## CHANGES TO DOG CONTROL LEGISLATION

From 6 April 2016 it will be a legal requirement for all dogs to be microchipped. After this date, if your dog is not microchipped you may be served with a notice requiring you to microchip your dog within 21 days. Failure to comply with the notice may result in a fine being issued of £500.

Microchipping is the quickest and easiest way for a lost dog to be identified and returned to its rightful owner. Without micro-chipping, it is estimated that less than half of the dogs that go missing each year are reunited with their owners.

A micro-chip is a small electronic device, which is the size of a grain of rice. The Dog Warden will implant the chip under the skin using a special implant gun. No anaesthetic is required and the procedure should cause no more discomfort than a standard vaccination.

Each micro-chip has a unique identification number, which is registered to the dog and the owner's details are placed on a national database. This number can then be read when a scanner is passed over the chip, enabling the Dog Warden to search the national database to find the owner's details. The owner can then be contacted and reunited with their dog.

Residents whose dogs are not microchipped are encouraged to contact their vets or Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Dog Warden Service on 01455 255946.

The Dog Warden can microchip your dog for a fee of £12.

## **CASAG update.**

CASAG members have been busy representing the patients at various locality group meetings. They have also been helping out at the surgeries of Castle Mead and Stoke Golding during the recent flu clinics.

The surgery in Stoke Golding held its first Saturday morning flu clinic which was a huge success with over 230 patients immunised. If you qualify for a jab, and haven't had yours, there is still time - contact the surgery 01455 212526.



The Health Promotion theme this month is 'Movember' with a focus on men's health and targeting the biggest health issues faced by men; prostate cancer, testicular cancer, poor mental health and physical inactivity.

As well as the Health Promotion board there are leaflets available to look at and take away.

In December there will be the very topical theme of drink awareness.

*Jennifer Michie.*

## **War on Waste**

It has been quite horrifying to see the amount of waste our supermarkets produce everyday on the recent television programme "Hugh's War on Waste". It seems immoral that a third of the food in the UK never gets eaten, yet there are 13 million starving people in the world.

We can all do our bit to stop wasting food by writing to supermarkets and asking them to give all their waste food to food banks which are operating across the UK and providing a lifeline to people struggling to make ends meet. Morrisons have already agreed to do this following the attention given to them on Hugh's programme.

We can make the most of all the food and drink we buy rather than throwing some of it away and by composting any peelings, egg shells, tea bags and other uncooked food. If we all try harder it will make a real difference.

When writing to the supermarkets we could also ask them to provide paper bags for fruit and vegetables instead of plastic and tell them we don't mind if fruit and vegetables are not perfect shapes. It does seem that the introduction of charges for carrier bags has worked - looking around at shoppers there are fewer people using them - a great improvement for the environment.

*Jane White*

**Remembering the Fallen** - *completing last month's account investigating the Dadlington men who lost their lives in the First World War.*

The 1911 Dadlington census shows 46 men and boys who would have been eligible to fight between 1914 and 1918 if they were still living in the village three years later. The minimum age to join was 18, although you had to be 19 to serve abroad. Many were allowed to enlist at a younger age as recruiting officers didn't appear to ask too many questions. When conscription was introduced in 1916, men up to the age of 41 were called up, and this was raised to 51 in the last few months of the war. Not all of those living in Dadlington would have been called up - the unfit, doctors, teachers and some industrial workers were exempt - but a good many local lads would have set off for the front. Had about 40 men fought, then the loss of five in Dadlington would amount to a 12.5% casualty rate, almost exactly that suffered overall in Britain during the conflict.

The last man to die, William Welland wasn't from Dadlington, but in March 1915 he'd married Ada Wale, the daughter of Dadlington residents James and Annie Wale. When William and Ada's son Frederick was born, just over a year later, they were living in Nuneaton with William recording his job as a labourer at the Electric Works on his son's birth certificate. His own family lived in Hartshill and that probably explains why he comes to be remembered on two war memorials - Hartshill and Dadlington. He'd enlisted on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1914 into the King's Royal Rifles but a month later he'd been dismissed for being unfit for service. The records do not elaborate on the nature of his health difficulties, but whatever they were, it did not stop him from joining up again later in the year, this time joining the 33<sup>rd</sup> company of the infantry's machine gun corps.

He was killed in action, aged 23, on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1917 and like Harry Lee, the first Dadlington man to die, his body was not found. His name is inscribed on the Menin Gate at Ypres where a daily service still commemorates all those soldiers killed in Flanders who have no grave. He was the last of the Dadlington fallen: five individuals, missed and mourned by families now long gone themselves. But at the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will still remember them.

For King & Country - a record of those named on the war memorials of Stoke Golding and Dadlington by Denis Cash can be found on the Stoke Golding website at [http://www.stokegolding.co.uk/For\\_King\\_and\\_Country\\_Booklet.pdf](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk/For_King_and_Country_Booklet.pdf)

*Michael Dix with kind help from Denis Cash*



If you have any further information about the men on the Dadlington war memorial, then please contact The Stoker. We would love to hear from you.

*The lamp over the church lych gate is the actual memorial to the Dadlington men killed in both wars.*

## EDWARD HARRY MCDONAGH OF DADLINGTON

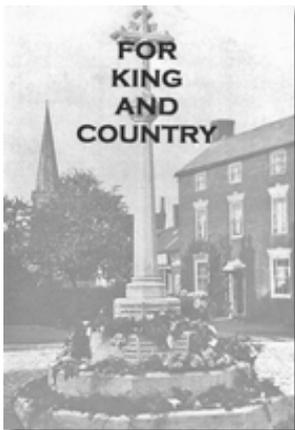
The wife of Edward Harry Mc Donagh was Adelaide Busby, always referred to as 'Addy'. She was born in Stoke Golding and was the daughter of Thomas and Charlotte Amelia Busby and her father was a publican. In 1931 she married Edward H. Mc Donagh of Nuneaton. It would appear that Adelaide and Edward McDonagh had two children, one, Winifred Naomi McDonough (always known as Nonny) in 1932, in Nuneaton and their second child Edward J.T. McDonagh. He died aged 16 years in Nuneaton but he is buried in Dadlington churchyard with a gravestone remembering him. His father's name was also added to this stone with the words, 'Killed at sea September 15th 1941.'

Edward Harry enlisted in the Royal Navy and on 15th September 1941 was an Able seaman RN (DEMS Gunner) on board British Steam Merchantman S.S. Newbury, carrying coal from Cardiff to Buenos Aires when, in the Atlantic south of Iceland his ship was attacked by a German U boat number U-94 commanded by Kapitanleutnant Otto ltes. His vessel was torpedoed and sunk with the loss of 39 crew, Edward Harry and 5 other gunners. U94 was itself sunk on 28th August 1942 in the Caribbean by depth charges from an American Catalina aircraft and then rammed by a Canadian ship, with the loss of 19 dead. Twenty six men survived.

Able Seaman Edward Harry McDonagh is remembered on The Chatham Naval memorial and also on the gravestone erected in Dadlington Churchyard in memory of his sixteen year old son Edward J.T. McDonagh. Sadly he is not remembered on the brass memorial in Dadlington Church to the village men killed by enemy action during WW2.

The S.S. Newbury

*Denis Cash*



In 2013 Denis Cash researched the names on the Stoke Golding and Dadlington War Memorials and wrote the above 44 page booklet about our village heroes. The Charity of Thomas Barton kindly financed the printing of the booklet which went on sale in the village for Armistice Day 2013. To commemorate the 70th Anniversary of The Battle of Britain and the defence of the country by the RAF he has arranged with the managers of the village web site at [www.stokegolding.co.uk](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk) for the booklet to be made available for all computer users. If you did not get a copy of the booklet and are a computer user you will find it on our village web site.

*Editor.*

## The Mango Tree

### Well - deserved award for village restaurant



Stoke Golding has much to be proud of and now it has an award winning restaurant - The Mango Tree - which was recently given the title of best takeaway for the West Midlands region in the English Curry Awards. "It's brilliant!" says Ali, the restaurant's delighted owner and manager, "We've been working for the last few years (the restaurant was established in the village about 4 ½ years ago) to give great quality food, great service and delivery to our customers." Keeping the customers happy is the top priority for Ali and his colleague, head waiter Rahul, and they are very keen to express their gratitude to all the diners and takeaway users in the

village and surrounding area for their loyal support and custom.

Ali speaks very highly of the great team at Mango Tree who work really hard and travel from Perry Barr in Birmingham every evening to tempt us with tasty Indian treats. As well as an extensive menu of curries, baltis, biryanis, there are many delicious speciality dishes to enjoy – Saag (spinach) Tikka Special, Tawa Chicken, Lamb or King Prawn, Chicken Chat Massala, Duck Rosun Mirchi and Jinga (prawn) Saag are some of the most popular. If you like, the friendly waiters can recommend dishes or use their knowledge to come up something which meets the customers' requirements and can be made to order. They can be as mild or spicy as preferred.

Ali points out that the kitchen team will cater for many different dietary needs – vegetarian, gluten free, coeliac, nut allergies and such like. Even those who are dieting can still enjoy a curry as many dishes can be cooked with less oil and fat. The restaurant is also family friendly and Ali tells of the many children who are weaned onto trying their first curry dish in Mango Tree, usually chicken tikka with fries and tomato ketchup of course!

So the question had to be asked - What makes a Mango Tree Chicken Tikka Masala special in comparison to other restaurants? "Our sauce is unique," explains Ali, keen not to give away too many secrets. "The number of ingredients makes it special including over 20 different spices." It sounds worth a try.

The restaurant is full for Christmas Day bookings which is great news for Ali and his boys. There is a chance to enjoy a four course Boxing Day evening banquet for £14.95 per head which is very similar to the Banqueting Night which runs every Wednesday for £10.95. Call 01455 213861 to book a table.

Ali is keen to hear what customers think – whether the dining experience is enjoyable or not – so giving him feedback after the meal or writing a review on Trip Advisor or any other foodie review site is most welcome. "Customer feedback is really important" he says. "That's how we keep Mango Tree at the top."

*Ella Orr*



## Stoke Golding Community Defibrillator

### Awareness Session

Did you know that Stoke Golding has its own defibrillator? It is situated on the wall of the Methodist Church and is available for anyone to use, in the event of a suspected cardiac arrest.

Community First Responders will be running an Awareness Session so that residents can learn how to use it.



WHEN: 7.30 – 9.30pm on  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2106  
WHERE: Methodist Church Hall

Responders will bring Resusci Anne and training defibrillators to practise with.



Please contact Ruth Fisher if you wish to attend, so that we have an idea of numbers.  
Tel: 01455 212489, email: [ruthsg21@btinternet.com](mailto:ruthsg21@btinternet.com)

This is a free session, however a donation to Community First Responders would be appreciated – you never know when you might need them.

## NEW YEAR CONCERT

In The Tollemache Suite, Bosworth Hall Hotel

Featuring the principals, chorus and guests of Stanley Opera.

SATURDAY 9TH JANUARY 7pm

Tickets £5 from Bosworth Hall reception desk or contact us via  
[www.stanleyopera.com](http://www.stanleyopera.com)

### Ten of a Kind (answers on page 24)

As you await the visit of Santa Claus, otherwise known as St Nick, here are ten questions of the theme of Nicholas.

1. What is the well known opening phrase of the poem 'A Visit from St. Nicholas'?
2. What happened to Nicholas Breakspear in 1154 that hasn't happened since to anyone English?
3. In which city is the constituency of ex-deputy prime minister Nick Clegg?
4. When Claude Littner takes over from Nick Hewer in the next series of The Apprentice, he will become only the fourth advisor to Lord Sugar. Can you name the other two?
5. In which sphere of the arts is Nikolaus Harnoncourt an acknowledged master?
6. Whose 2010 book of memoirs was subtitled 'With just a Touch of Hesitation, Repetition and Deviation'?
7. Which Scottish footballer played 184 games for Arsenal between 1987 and 1990, scoring 54 goals?
8. Which Nicholas was assassinated at Yekaterinburg on 17<sup>th</sup> July 1918?
9. Who wrote the novel Nicholas Nickelby?
10. Which 2002 film starring Hugh Grant, introduced the 12 year old Nicholas Hoult?

### Greetings from St Margaret's Church

We at St Margaret's Church would like to thank everyone who helps to produce the Stoker. It helps us to let our village know what is happening in their Parish Church. We would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

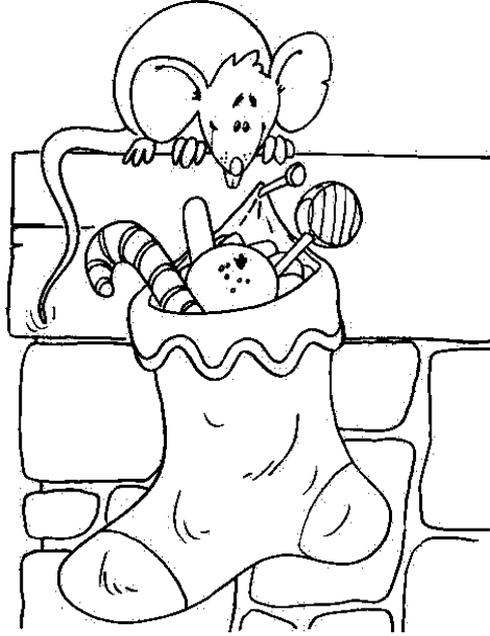
### Christmas on the Other Side of the World



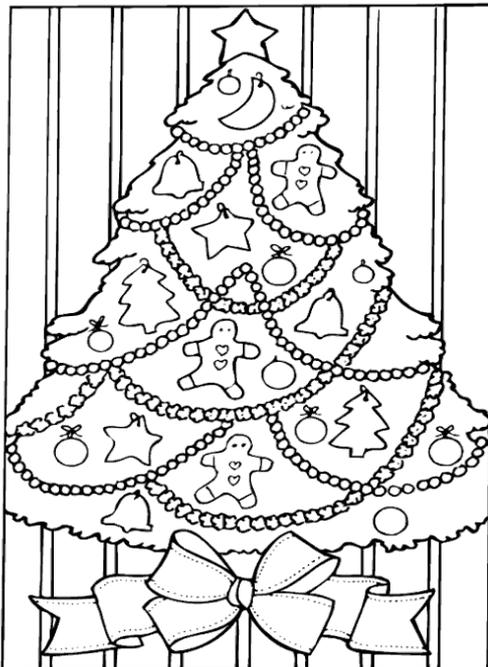
Instead of tucking into turkey with all the trimmings and wrapping up in a coat, hat and gloves to brave the chilly weather, a sea food barbecue and party on the beach are more the order of the day if you live in Australia. Christmas comes at the start of the summer holidays over there and Santa usually changes his reindeer for six kangaroos (known as 'six white boomers ') There are similarities with our Christmas though including singing carols and celebrating with family and friends.

#### Big & Small Church

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



Happy Christmas to our Younger Stoker Readers.  
We hope you enjoy colouring in these pictures.



# ***Dadlington Matters***



**The 2nd Annual  
Big Switch On**

**Friday December 4th  
6.00 p.m.**

Please join us for the **Big Switch On**  
of the Christmas Lights  
**Dadlington Village Hall.**

Carols, burgers, mince pies, mulled wine  
Ambion Voices  
and festive fun.

**A great family event!**

	<p><b>The Dadlington Winter Quiz</b></p> <p>Saturday January 23rd 7.30pm start Excellent Quiz master</p> <p><b>Price £7.50 to include supper. Bar available.</b> Tickets can be booked from Jacqui: 213214</p>	
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## **Notes from Sutton Cheney PC Meeting November 11<sup>th</sup> 2015 (Dadlington Ward)**

Section 106 Money – a total of approx. £6000.00 is still available for use on and around The Green in Dadlington. The PC agreed to apply for the monies for levelling, landscaping and maintaining an area of Green adjacent to the Village Hall to use for marquees, barbeques etc. Karen Pegg from H&BBC stated that H&BBC would support and approve this application on the production of three quotes for the work involved.

H&BBC has decided to withdraw their localised council tax support funding from Parish Councils. This will result in a reduction of approximately 8% in income next year for Sutton Cheney PC. A letter is to be sent to H&BBC objecting to this move. The attitude of Central Government to this is illustrated by an extract from a letter from Kris Hopkins MP, sent to all local authorities when he was Minister for Local Government.

“I am disappointed in councils’ decisions to withhold the Local Council Tax Support grant that is due to parish and town councils, and would urge you to reconsider. Ultimately this is a local decision, so where money is not passed down I would expect the authority to justify this to their taxpayers.”

Borough Councillor Reg Ward reported that Stoke Golding Parish Council had succeeded in agreeing with Morris Homes that there would be no vehicular access to their development from Sherwood Road. This means that all traffic will access from Hinckley Road. Councillors expressed alarm at the likely impact on Dadlington from traffic, and disappointment that Stoke Golding PC had not consulted with Dadlington. Reg Ward will arrange a meeting with the Chief Planning Officer at H&BBC.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday January 13th (7.30pm) Dadlington Village Hall.  
Parishioners welcome.

### **Dadlington Village Hall update**

Plastering is completed, first fix electrics and drains are in place and we have a Velux window in the ceiling of the enlarged kitchen to improve ventilation.

The new storage area, which will double up as a bar, is built, just awaiting sliding doors. Our toilets are now accessed via a lobby for privacy.

The next stage is flooring, after which both the disabled loo/ baby changing and the kitchen can be fitted out.

Our next event will be the Christmas Lights Switch On (Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 6.00 pm), followed by the Winter Quiz evening on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.



**BETH'S CORNER.    ELLEN PALMER    @    'THE WHITE SWAN'**

I heard that this Scottish landlady's meals were so celebrated that folk come from far and near-that a couple from Market Bosworth make a regular booking each week for Ellen's Pie Night. My curiosity was aroused and I was determined to meet up with the 'Landlady and Cook' at The White Swan. I kept missing her on the phone, but eventually tracked her by email. To my delight, she suggested we meet the very next day.

There's something about the lilt in the speech of Scotland that is never lost however long the compatriot has been away from the land of their birth. As soon as Ellen started answering some of my questions, I knew; "*Ah Ellen you're Scottish.*" A wide smile as she agreed. "*Yes I was born in a village called Caol – pronounced Coal just a couple of miles from Fortwilliam.*" Caol is the Gaelic for narrow – the narrow water between Loch Linnhe and Loch Eil at the foot of Ben Nevis. What a breathtakingly beautiful part of the Highlands to grow up in.

But I want to know about these famous pies. "*So tell me Ellen, where did the desire to cook come from, was it from your Mum's cooking?*" Now the smile dissolves into a delightful chuckle. "*No! – It was because of our mother's total inability to turn out a decent meal for us, that I started to take over the kitchen for the sake of my brother and my Dad – and me*". That's where the famous pies began. After her marriage, she moved to Yorkshire and stayed home as a full-time Mum with two sons to feed. They loved her cooking, and were forever bringing friends home to join in with family meals. The family favourite was corn beef, potato and onion pie, which is now one of the favourites at the pub. I ask her for a list of the others on the menu. Here goes: Steak and Ale, Steak and Stilton, Lamb and Black Pudding. She also loves baking and again those family favourites; Lemon Meringue, Apple Pie amongst others. She gives me an insight into her love for cooking. "*It's the silence in the kitchen while I start preparing everything ready for the oven – a sort of therapy – on my own with nothing to interrupt me, not even the phone, because I can't even hear it.*" I understand now why my phone calls were not answered. Her days and nights otherwise are overfull with people. Not only is she in charge of the kitchen, but also in full charge of the pub itself as landlady. Pete, her partner, has a full-time job, but after work takes on the responsibility for the cellar and often stays on to clear up at the end of the evening to let Ellen get off to bed. Their one day off together on Mondays is mostly spent on the paperwork, the banking and the cellar.

After years of persuasion the brewery has agreed to enlarge and modernise her tiny kitchen. As she is starting her Festive Xmas Dinners from 2<sup>nd</sup>.December she is insisting it must be finished before then. There's no cooking on Xmas Eve, but they stay open later than normal. Her days are non-stop from 12.00 noon to 2pm for lunches, and then 6.30pm-midnight- a full day's work from any point of view. Bonfire Night's profit of £450 finances The OAP luncheon on 7<sup>th</sup>.December. 'Burns Night' is her favourite – it gets booked up from year to year with all the trimmings 'Haggis 'Neeps & Mash'. And then? – A week's holiday away together.

Bless you Ellen

*Beth*



**AN EVENING WITH BETH**  
**Book Launch of "The Choice" (from footlights to faith)**  
**7.30 – 9.00pm. THE BAXTER HALL – JANUARY**  
**30th 2016**

Beth will be reading dramatised excerpts from her book

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From Notting Hill to Knightsbridge – from dressing rooms and Wardrobe Mistresses pandering to actress Beth's every need life has a shock in store for her. 'Mid-Life Career Change' comes in a big way after the heartbreaking and violent murder of her Christian son Adam - and an unexpected challenge from Adam's church minister.

\*\*\*

She obeys the challenge and embarks on the adventure of a lifetime, setting off for the Pacific Base of "Youth with a Mission" at the age of sixty-three to train as a Missionary. Join her on her often-hilarious travels. First to South Korea - sleeping on the floor in a dormitory of numerous women. Chasing cockroaches in Mozambique. Ministering to sick babies in their mothers' arms in the Philippine jungles.

\*\*\*

*Ending up living in a sock factory on top of a hill in Stoke Golding!*  
 Even the most cynical reader will find this a life-affirming story.

\*\*\*

Please bring your choice of drinks (*champagne?*) and nibbles.

Suggested donations: £3.50p

Ring Beth for tickets. 01455 213097

**The Reality Youth Bus**  
 IS HEADING YOUR WAY

ALWAYS FREE ENTRY

PS4 // XBOX ONE // DJ DECKS  
 NAIL ART // KARAOKE // LAPTOPS // GAMES

AGES 11-19

**STOKE GOLDING**  
**Village Hall Car Park (Hall Drive)**  
**THURSDAYS 4.30-6pm**  
**Nov 26<sup>th</sup> | Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup>**

Sessions funded & organised by Hinckley Methodist Circuit | Run in partnership with Reality | For more info call or text Chris (local Youth Worker) 07785 574040 | facebook.com/RealityBus

**The George and Dragon**  
**New Winter Menu**

Food served daily between 12.00 - 14.30  
 Tuesday to Saturday  
*All our ingredients are sourced from local suppliers  
 & our food is freshly made on the premises.*

New dishes include:  
 Homemade steak & Church End ale pie.  
 Freshly beer-battered fish & chips.  
 Homemade pasty.  
 Jacket potatoes with various different fillings.  
**AND LOTS MORE ON THE MENU**  
 Bar snacks all made on site and served  
 throughout the day porkys, sausage rolls,  
 scotch eggs & various other cakes & biscuits.

## What's On

### StokeArts@thevillagehall Spring Season

**Sat 20th Feb 2016 8pm. *My Dearest Girls: The Letters Book***

Francesca Millican-Slater creates a brand new show based on the real letters sent between a group of six Shropshire women between 1917-1920.



**Sat 9th April 2016 8pm  
*Namvula Rennie: In Concert***

Creating an intrepid new world where folk and urban traditions of her Zambian homeland blend with her Scottish roots and London's vibrant eclectic music scene.

Tickets £8. To book or find out more contact Alan White 01455 212416  
email alanwhitesg@gmail.com.

### Carols and Christmas Songs at the George & Dragon

Wednesday 16th December  
7.30 - 8.30pm

#### Home-made mince pie competition

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



Please bring your mince pies by 7pm  
*Proceeds from the sale of mince pies during the evening will go to Hinckley Homeless Shelter*

Methodist Church  
Coffee Morning 10.00-11.30  
SATURDAY DECEMBER 12th  
For Church Funds

### Christmas Fayre at St Margaret's Primary School

Friday 4th December 5.30 - 7.30pm  
(With carol singing from 5.15pm)

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

**Everyone welcome.**



Please come along, we would love to see you all there!

### The George & Dragon Steak Night

8th December 6-9pm

Frank Parker's 8oz rump steak, hand cut chips, garlic mushrooms, grilled tomato and onion rings

£12 - booking essential  
Please ring 01455 213268

## Christmas What's On

### St Margaret's Church Christingle Service

Sunday 6th December at 3pm



Everything you need to make a Christingle will be supplied. We hope you can join us.

### St Margaret's Snowman Festival



**Sat 5th December**  
10am - 5pm

See the wonderful displays in church.

Turkey rolls, mince pies, jams, pickles, cakes, mulled wine, Raffle and tombola stalls  
In the Baxter Hall

### Stoke Golding Charity Sleigh

Can we please ask for your support again as the Charity Sleigh will be out on 22nd & 23rd December. Route as follows:

#### **Tuesday 22nd December**

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

#### **Wednesday 23rd December**

Roseway  
Whitemoors  
Goldings  
Wykin Lane  
Little Wykin



Thank you from the Sleigh Committee

### Baptist Chapel Carol Service

20th December at 6pm



Seasonal Refreshments

Everyone Welcome



### Carol Singing around the village Christmas tree

Followed by refreshments in the  
Methodist Church Hall

Tuesday December 22nd at  
7pm



### Stoke Golding Festive Lights Switch On

Thursday 3rd December

Gates open at 6pm,  
Lights on at 7pm

Carol Singing, Brass Band, Mulled  
Wine and Mince Pies

#### Come and Meet Santa

In the grounds of Park House  
*(by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Walton and  
the residents)*

Everyone Welcome

**THOMAS BARTON CHARITY**

## Church Matters

From St Margaret's Church



### Christmas Shepherds

In Leicestershire it is possible to meet people who manage and look after sheep. In fact some of them attend our churches!

One very pleasing thing said to me once, after I had preached, came from a shepherd. In my talk I had been trying to imagine a cold, wet, dark night in the lambing season. And in my rather unworldly way I suggested that despite the unpleasant weather and unsocial time of day the experience of being at the birth of a lamb was something to be wondered at and celebrated - light breaking into darkness. Afterwards, I expected someone to say the equivalent of, "In your dreams!" Instead of which a sheep farmer said to me, "Yes, I have felt that – often."

If through the ages the experience of shepherds present at the birth of lambs has been that of awe and wonder – light shining in darkness – try to imagine the feelings of the Palestinian Christmas shepherds. They came to Bethlehem having been sent by angel choirs. The awe and wonder for them started in the fields and ended in a stable. The new birth they saw there was the Christ child.

In a cold and dark world a light shone warmly from an animal's feeding trough. In poverty, humility and lack of pretentiousness the light of the world glowed from where a newly born baby lay – undemanding and vulnerable.

Today's world exudes the coldness and darkness of violence and lack of charity. The 'night of the nations' urgently needs 'the light of the world'. And against the odds, contrary to common sense, despite the cynics we look forward to the celebration of Christmas where, 'The light shines in the darkness, and darkness has not overcome it.' Join us in our churches to speak out and sing out this hopeful message.

And may you and those you love have a joyful and light-filled Christmas.

*Alan Davis*



### 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.



# Church Matters

## Church of England December 2015/January 2016 Services

### St. Margaret's Church

#### December

6<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm Christingle Service  
 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Benefice Service Higham  
 20<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion  
 24<sup>th</sup> 4.00pm Crib Service  
 24<sup>th</sup> 11.30pm Midnight Communion  
 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion

#### January

3<sup>rd</sup> 10.30am All Age Service  
 10<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Benefice Service Stoke  
 Golding  
 17<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion  
 24<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Worship  
 31<sup>st</sup> 10.30am Benefice Service  
 Dadlington

### St. James's Church

#### December

6<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Morning Prayer  
 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Benefice Service Higham  
 20<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Holy Communion  
 24<sup>th</sup> 10.00pm BCP Holy Communion  
 27<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Holy Communion

#### January

3<sup>rd</sup> 9.00am BCP Morning Prayer  
 10<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Benefice Service Stoke  
 Golding  
 17<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Holy Communion  
 24<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Holy Communion  
 31<sup>st</sup> 10.30am Benefice Service  
 Dadlington

### THE METHODIST CHURCH

#### December Services

2nd	10.30 am	Revd Wes Hampton
13th	10.30 am	Mr John Cooke
20th	6.00pm	Revd Wes Hampton <b>Candle Lit Service</b>
27th	10.30 am	at Higham Methodist Church

Details of January Services are not available but all will be at 10.30am

### Zion Baptist Chapel December 2015 Services

6th	6pm	Martyn Owens
13th	6pm	Richard Cotton
20th	6pm	John Needham <b>Carol Service</b>

### Zion Baptist Chapel January 2016 Services

3rd	6pm	Richard Cotton
10th	6pm	Steven Connor
17th	6pm	Wynne Richards
24th	6pm	Mark Menzfeld
31st	6pm	Malcolm Welch

## Crossing the Country

At ten past seven in the morning, I was standing on the edge of small village a few miles west of Lincoln, about to embark on day's pilgrimage across the country. Being recently retired and having a great, some would say bizarre, interest in history, I had decided, on a whim, to visit the twelve sites where King Edward I had erected crosses in memory of his late wife, Eleanor of Castile. Unusually for a medieval arranged marriage, the couple appear to have been devoted to each other, and the crosses were Henry's way of ensuring the people remembered his queen, and more importantly, prayed for her soul. Harby, where Eleanor breathed her last, had commemorated their place in history with an image of the late queen on their road signs.



This turned out to be far more recognition than that managed by the city and two towns where the first three crosses were erected. Eleanor's body was initially taken to Lincoln and the cross stood in what is now the middle of a very busy inner ring road. They embalmed her body, entombing the viscera in the cathedral and removing her heart for burial in Blackfriars in London (because she had promised it to the friars!) Then the funerary procession moved on to Grantham, as did I, hitting the town at morning rush hour. Fortunately, there was parking right next to the town's museum in the main street. Again, there was no indication that the town had ever had a cross, or a famous prime minster for that matter, and it was the same story on the old Great North Road site, leading into Stamford.



Eventually, three and half hours after I started my journey, I came across an intact cross, at Geddington, just off the main road from Corby to Kettering. It stands, incongruously, in the middle of a quiet and, on the day I visited, seemingly deserted village, forming what is now, effectively, a historic traffic island. It is a tall, elegant structure, supporting the heraldic shields of Edward and Eleanor and a number of weather worn effigies of the queen. After waiting so long to find my first cross, the next stop at Hardingstone on the edge of Northampton, came up with the second. This is a squatter edifice, but contains similar imagery. In order to see it close up, I had to make a dash across the relentless traffic coursing past the site, on its way into the town from j.15 of the M1.

Back in 1290, the cortege would have rested overnight at various religious institutions or royal residences on its journey south rather than taking the most direct route, which is why I now had to make a major detour westwards to Stoney Stratford. Apparently there should have been a plaque here acknowledging the site of the cross, but if there was, it escaped my determined efforts to find it. Following the old Roman Watling Street, I called in at Woburn, a charming location that I will have to visit again to explore in more depth. Unfortunately, again, there was no mention of any cross. The nearby Woburn Golf Club was hosting the British Masters that week and, due to a momentary lack of concentration, I found myself driving confidently through the competitors' entrance, much to the consternation of the bemused stewards.

Back on track again, I endured the slow moving traffic jam that is Dunstable. There was no parking anywhere near the centre, so I contented myself with a quick glance at the Queen Eleanor Shopping Centre and carried on.

I clocked up my second cathedral of the day at St Albans where a plaque in the market square recounts the location of their cross. Then it was off to Waltham Cross, whose name sounded promising. Indeed, there, in the centre of the town, stood the third of the remaining crosses. And very impressive it was too. Some time ago, the stone shields and effigies were removed and sent off to the Victoria and Albert Museum. The replacements, whilst obviously not originals, are good reproductions and they were in a far better condition than those on the other crosses. It gave me a much clearer picture of how the crosses would have appeared when they were first constructed. With two more crosses to go, I abandoned my car at the Eleanor Cross Road car park and took the train into central London.

The penultimate cross stood in Cheapside, just behind St Pauls. Here, another alleged sign evaded me and, in the hustle and bustle that is the city of London, it was hard to envisage what it would have looked like, standing for centuries as a symbolic point on the route from the Tower to Westminster. Eventually it's Catholic origins caused it to become a focus for religious discord. At least one fight occurred here as Protestants tried to pull it down, and a celebrated civil war pamphleteer charged it with high treason. A short tube journey took me to the end of my journey: Charing Cross. Although there is a cross in the forecourt of Charing Cross Station, it is a replica put up by the South Eastern Railway Company in 1865 to front their hotel. It does not seek to be historically accurate and was erected some distance from where the original cross was built, at the end of what is now Whitehall.

I didn't visit Eleanor's final resting place, an elaborate tomb in Westminster Abbey, because I had seen it many times before and it was getting rather late. And so I set off back to Waltham Cross and thence to Dadlington, a round trip of 400 miles. I had visited twelve sites, found three intact crosses and one replica, and followed the route travelled by the royal entourage 825 years previously, covering the distance that took them twelve days in just nine hours.

*Michael Dix*

### From the Archives

STOKE GOLDING.  
CONCERT AND PRESENTATION.—The members of the Church choir, assisted by a few friends, gave a concert in the Village Hall on Tuesday evening, the spacious room being well filled. The programme was an admirable one, and the proceeds of the concert are to be devoted towards defraying the cost of new stoves in the church. During the interval between the first and second parts a presentation was made to Master John Shilton, from the Royal Humane Society, by the vicar, in recognition of his bravery in rescuing two boys from drowning in the canal at Stoke Golding on Dec. 27, 1886.

## **Stoke Golding W.I meeting 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015.**

The meeting started this month with the A.G.M. when the Treasurers and Secretaries reports were given, telling of a viable institute and how we had enjoyed a year full of interesting talks, enjoyable outings and memorable celebrations of the W.I centenary year. The President then thanked the committee for all its hard and dedicated work over the year and praised and thanked the members who show such commitment in helping to make this W.I such a friendly and entertaining place to come to. The President for the following year was then elected, this being Margaret Bliss.

Our speaker for the evening was Elizabeth Robinson who promised to entertain us with 'An Evening of Laughter' and she most certainly did. There were tales of a lady dropping her bath towel after having a shower, Mexicans looking for a bacon tree only to find something they were not expecting, Santa bringing 'special' gifts for older ladies, the silent life of a nun and many more - all that had punch lines that brought peals of laughter from everyone. Irish, Scottish and of course the Mexican accents were attempted with their accompanying poem or story. Christmas tales and even Mother in law jokes that would have had Les Dawson green with envy. From a 1950 Magazine for Women she read an article on The Guide to be Good Wives which certainly made us laugh, if only with derision, and gave a very good rendering of a lady making a cake while sampling a bottle of vodka. One of her final efforts was a spoken version of The Twelve Days of Christmas telling of how the turkey can be made to last as different, if not very palatable, meals for all of that time. All in all Elizabeth kept her promise to keep us laughing all evening.

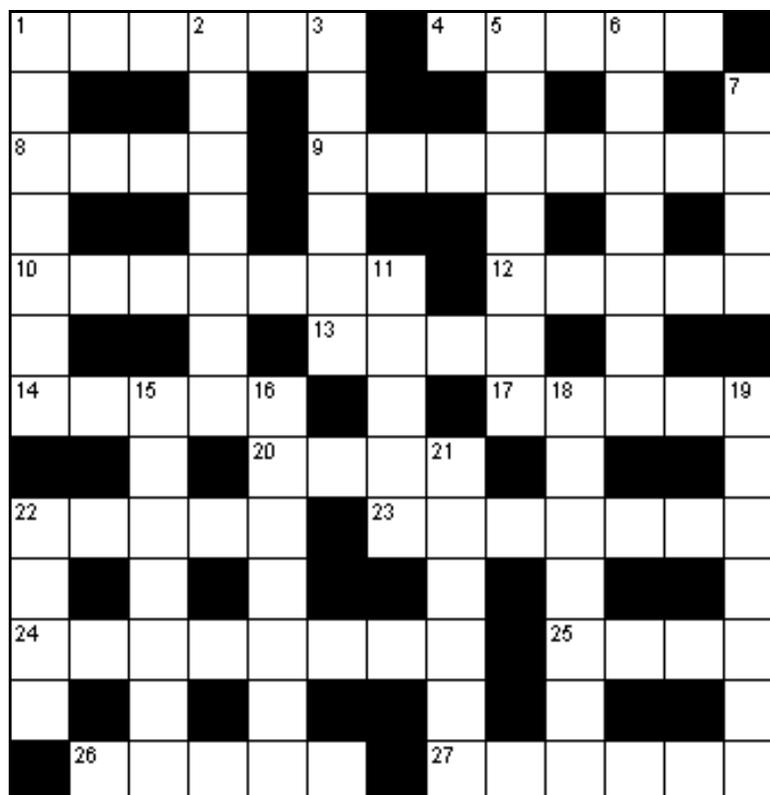
Our January meeting will be on 13<sup>th</sup> at the Methodist Hall and all are welcome from any age group as long as you are looking for an enjoyable night.

*Val Hartwell*

### **Quiz Answers**

Twas the night before Christmas  
He became pope  
Sheffield  
Margaret Mountford & Karren Brady  
Orchestral conductor  
Nicholas Parsons  
Charlie Nicholas  
Tsar Nicholas II of Russia  
Charles Dickens  
About a Boy

# Crossword



## Across

1. Cut veg into pieces. (4-2)
4. White freezing dew (5)
8. Large vases (4)
9. Scottish song for new year \*\*\*\*\*/\*\*\*\* syne. (4-4)
10. Bowie's Christmas song \*\*\*\*\*/boy. (7)
12. Jumps forward (5)
13. To cut with a scythe (4)
14. Very large African antelope (5)
17. How land with many ups and downs may be described. (5)
20. Depend on (4)
22. The colour of Bing Crosby's Christmas (5)
23. \*\*\*\*\* mystery tour - Beatles song (7)
24. The animals went in two by two (5-3)
25. Very small mountain (4)
26. In a state of contentment (5)
27. Consuming food (6)

## Down

- 1 see 18 down
2. He brings your Xmas cards (7)
3. Cliff's millennium \*\*\*\*\* (6)
5. Xmas reindeer (7)
6. Structure protecting land from the waves (3-4)
7. Fried, boiled or poached (4)
11. A Kingdom (5)
15. Leader of forty thieves (3-4)
16. Put clothes on for a party (5-2)
18. And 1 D, Wizard Xmas song which ends Christmas every day (1-4-2-5-2)
19. Xmas cake that looks like wood (4-3)
21. Slang for an American (6)
22. Cliff's Xmas song Mistletoe and \*\*\*\* (4)

## **The Fool on the Hill** Grazie mille Severn Trent.....

We are privileged to live in a civilised country where certain things can be taken for granted. Honest politicians, smiley traffic wardens, virtuous bankers and the absolute conviction that the turning on of a tap will produce a silver stream of drinkable water. However, last month, in our little neck of the woods, the opening of taps produced the sort of gurgling noises normally associated with a stomach that has recently benefitted from the Chef's Special Road Kill Vindaloo with extra hot lime pickle. Of water, however, there was not a trace. An automated multi tonal phone call from a computer at Severn Trent confirmed that a burst water main was the cause of our liquid free plumbing system. This computer had told another computer to allocate some operatives to fix said burst and that all would be well very soon. Taking stock of the situation, an action plan was devised involving bottled water, a packet of baby wipes left behind by a transient infant, and a system of toilet flushing about which, for reasons of sensitivity, I will not elaborate.

For an hour or so this was all mildly amusing and an air of smugness at our ingenuity in the face of adversity started to pervade the Fool household. Another waterless hour or so ticked by and I began to wonder if the sight of Mrs Fool, bucket on head, strolling down to draw our daily water supply from the Ashby Canal, may become commonplace. As the afternoon wore on, the amusement factor dropped quite a few notches and I descended in to a self- righteous rant. What do we pay our water rates for? Why are there not teams of the unemployed being forced, bare chested, to dig holes and restore our supply? Don't they know we are dying of thirst? We could all die of Dysentery here! A force ten tongue lashing from Mrs Fool ensued pointing out that half the world live without running water, further that I was a miserable old curmudgeon and should be banished to the shed until I had mended my ways. In the gloom of the shed I found salvation. A plentiful supply of bottled Italian water conveniently premixed with hops and malt and marked "Peroni". A sign from above if ever there was one. I also found a supply of date expired Carlsberg that would provide an aromatic solution to the toilet flushing problem. (Other cheap lagers are available). Hunting around I found a serviceable bottle opener and on the very point of slaking my raging thirst, there came a shout from Mrs Fool to the effect that the tap had given its last dry cough and once more the mystic crystal stream was flowing. I was instructed to cease all shed based activities with immediate effect and proceed, without delay, to the bathroom for a much needed shower.

So, yeah, thanks a lot Severn Trent. Great timing.

*FOTH*





## Obituaries

### Frank John Gordon



Frank sadly passed away on 6th November after a long battle with Alzheimers. Frank was a popular and well-known village resident. He was born and raised in Walthamstow, Greater London. He married Eileen in 1962 and they moved to Stoke Golding in 1977 with their two daughters, Liz and Jo, living in Woodyard cottage for many years and subsequently Arnold Road.

Frank was everything a father and grandfather should be - strong, dependable and loving and will be sadly missed by his family including his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The family would like to thank everyone for their kind words and support.

### Doreen Frisby



Doreen Frisby of Shenton Lane, Dadlington, passed away on 7<sup>th</sup> October, at the age of 88. Although she was born in Sheffield, she moved with her family to Hinckley, her father originally coming from this area.

It was in Hinckley that she met her future husband, Charlie. The budding romance nearly didn't get off the ground when Charlie chose to go poaching instead of on their first date together. However, the relationship blossomed, with further dates being arranged by Doreen to the local church. Doreen had a strong faith and a great knowledge of the scriptures, being able to quote many verses from memory. She also shared, with Charlie, a great love of the countryside.

Doreen and Charlie were married for over 67 years, having three children, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. They lived in Higham to begin with, where Doreen's funeral was held, but Dadlington is where they stayed the longest. They had a smallholding leading down from their house to the Ashby canal. Doreen had a number of jobs in the area, working in a munitions factory during the war, and also for a time at King's Lodge and Yoxalls. She also worked on the smallholding, doing the accounts, and helped Charlie with his local history writing.

Thank you to the Rev. Linda Blay and Carolyn Patullo, who was with me at the time of my wife's death. Thank you all for your messages of sympathy and support at this sad time. From Charles H Frisby and Family

### KENNETH SPENCER

Kenneth Spencer of Hinckley Road, Dadlington passed away peacefully on 26th October 2015 aged 95 years, the beloved husband of Clarice and father to Ian and Jane, father in law to Lynda and Frank, Grandad to Lisa, Andrew, Christopher and Alice and Great Grandad to Dorian, Benjamin and Theo. His funeral service was held at St Peter's Catholic Church Hinckley followed by cremation. Donations if so desired may be made for Harvey House, Barwell through the undertakers Mc Cartney of Coventry Road, Hinckley.

We send our condolences to the family and friends of Doreen, Frank and Kenneth from the Stoker.

## **Notes from the *draft* minutes of November's Parish Council meeting. (They have not been ratified by Councillors)**

### **Several residents attended to discuss the Laburnum Cottage application**

Borough Cllr Ward had spoken to Richard Wright at HBBC and the development is still under consultation. The preferred layout would be an L-shaped development of 4/5 homes behind the existing building with a green area at the front, which could be donated to the village. The Conservation Area cannot stop development, only make it more sympathetic to the existing area - hence a less intrusive plan is being sought. The Parish Council will meet the developers if invited to do so, and keep residents informed. Residents could write to the Parish Council with their views. Cllr Mitchell stated that the Heritage Group had submitted an objection along the same lines as the PC. The site was of historic significance and should be preserved, but if the design was right the application should be considered on its own merit. Residents needed to wait until amended plans were available from HBBC. The owners will determine what they want for the land and try to mitigate to make the plans more acceptable to the public; however the PC cannot get involved in these discussions. The residents present accepted that some development would eventually take place, so were keen to secure the best outcome for the village. The application would probably go to planning committee in December. Yellow lines (as requested by the school) were discussed and Cllr Terheege confirmed that the PC had asked for these on many occasions without success.

### ***Borough Cllr Reg Ward reported on the following:***

Council Tax is expected to go up by a lump sum for each household, He has viewed maps showing a mass of 4,500 houses being built along the A5 from the Longshoot to the Redgate. There are 850 houses planned near the Triumph Factory. The area is being overwhelmed with development.

A Combined Local Authority has been proposed for Leicester City, County and District Councils. This would take decision making away from local authorities.

Morris Homes Development will go to planning committee in December.

### ***Matters arising from October's meeting:***

Youth Bus – will visit Stoke Golding on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December between 4.30 and 6.00pm in the Village Hall car park.

Dead trees – Anesco is aware of dead trees by the solar panel field and these will be removed in due course. Pete Mayne will undertake some additional planting to the drive in the spring.

### ***Planning Application Matters:***

*New Applications:* 1 Crown Hill Close – works to trees. 27 Wykin Lane – two storey

*Permissions granted:* 50 High Street – works to ash and yew trees.

*Refusals:* Cloneen, Ivy Close – erection of 3 dormer bungalows.

*Review of clerk's salary:* It was agreed that the Clerk's hours of work should be increased to twelve hours per week at the current rate of pay to take effect as from 1st November 2015.

### ***The Precept and Parish Element of Council Tax***

Cllrs agreed in principle that the parish element of the council tax would need to be increased to cover the loss of revenue caused by the loss of the New Homes' Bonus and Council Tax Support Grant previously paid by HBBC. It had been over five years since the precept was increased. The Parish Council awaits confirmation of the figures from HBBC which will be available in December.

### ***Neighbourhood Plan***

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee (AC) meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October were circulated. Cllr Mitchell has been appointed as Chair and Jim Hope, Vice-Chair. (Sarah Beale, Glynn Chapman, Steve Martin, Ella Orr, William Alston and Stewart Anderson were appointed as members of the Advisory Committee at the September Neighbourhood Plan meeting).

Cllr Terheege stated that, as Parish Councillors on the committee, Cllrs Mitchell and Beale must ensure that all procedures are consistent with PC Standing Orders. The Clerk confirmed the procedure for meetings/decisions.

Cllr Mitchell suggested that two types of meeting were required: meetings of the AC to move business forward where no public consultation was necessary, and full public meetings where residents' opinions should be sought. Cllr Beale stated strongly that this was the villagers' Neighbourhood Plan and, therefore, their opinions should be sought at every stage. Should residents subsequently devolve responsibility for a decision to the AC, the committee could then proceed without further consultation and report back on the outcome. Cllr Terheege confirmed that the public must be consulted and engaged throughout the process. Cllr Mitchell hoped a good relationship would develop between the AC and the public and they would then trust the AC to carry out decisions and act on their behalf.

Cllr Beale had attended a Neighbourhood Planning Event which advised the NP process was a rolling programme and work did not end with the completed plan; it would need to be implemented, amended and maintained long-term.

### ***Morris Homes***

Members of the PC have met with Morris Homes to view the amended plans. These have taken on board issues raised by the PC, particularly the need to move flats from the boundary near Sherwood Road and soften that boundary for existing residents.

### ***Data Protection***

Cllr Beale reported on a training course she had attended. A number of issues were highlighted and recommendations made regarding the protection of personal data including the need to register with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

### ***Play Equipment***

Cllrs Beale and Fisher reported that quotes for three preferred types of equipment had been received. They were now looking into sources of funding.

### ***Standing Orders***

A review of the National Assoc of Local Councils template, highlighting how it differs from the current PC Standing Orders, had been circulated to all Councillors. The Clerk explained the detail of the review and highlighted issues that needed to be discussed before a draft document could be produced.

### ***Any other business***

Village Hall Noticeboard – the Village Hall Management Committee had discussed the idea of a noticeboard outside the village hall. Due to its tight budget the Parish Council asked if the village hall committee would fund this.

A discussion took place regarding the poor condition of the football pitches following additional use over three weekends. The clerk would write to the Youth Football Club regarding additional use and ask Jason for a written report on the pitches' condition.

### ***Next meeting: Village Hall, Wednesday 2nd December at 7pm.***

A full copy of the minutes is available at the Post Office and on Stoke Golding website: [www.stokegolding.co.uk](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk)

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*\*Burbage \* Stoke Golding\**  
*\*Sapcote \* Market Bosworth\**

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**Email: yogawithadele@live.co.uk**



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**CARD  
 PAYMENTS  
 ACCEPTED**

**CROSSWORD ANSWERS** (from page 23)

**Across:** 1. Chop up, 4. Frost, 8. Urns, 9. Auld lang, 10. Drummer, 12. Leaps, 13. Reap, 14. Eland, 17. Hilly, 20. Rely, 22. White, 23. Magical, 24. Noahs ark, 25. Hill, 26. Happy, 27. Eating.

**Down:** 1. See 18D, 2. Postman, 3. Prayer, 5. Rudolph, 6. Sea wall, 7. Eggs, 11. Realm, 15. Ali Baba, 16. Dress up, 18. & 1D I wish it could be, 19. Yule log, 21. Yankee, 22. Wine.

**COPY DEADLINE for February 2016 ISSUE: 15th January**  
**Send to Jane White: [janewhitesg@gmail.com](mailto:janewhitesg@gmail.com)**

**Stoke Golding website: [www.stokegolding.co.uk](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk)**

 **Tomlinson's Farm Shop**  
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