

**February 2012**

**No. 108**



# The Stoker

**Stoke Golding Village Magazine**

*including*

**Dadlington Matters**

**50p**

Ruth



## Note from the Editors

Jane-



*We would like to wish a belated Happy New Year to all our readers. We're at the end of January already - where does the time go?*

*We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Ann Edginton who has been a valued member of the Stoker Production Team*

*for the past six years. We shall soon be welcoming three new members to our team and we'll introduce you to them in our next issue.*

*As always there's a lot going on in our two villages and if you feel the need to improve your health then turn to page 13 for some ideas.*

*Neil Sherry provides us with some useful hints about computer safety and security (p.7), and advice 'From the Police Box' tells us how we can keep our 'gadgets' safe (p.16).*

*Do keep sending us your photos, letters and articles and we'll print as many as we can.*

*Jane and Ruth*

## The Stoker Team

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

*Production Team: Rachel Terheege, Simon Rees-Jones,  
Alan Taylor (01455 212605), Jill Webster.*

Please send articles for the **March 2012** issue of The Stoker to: The Editors, c/o 21, Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding by **15th February**.

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

If you send photos by e-mail, please keep the file size small - no larger than 150 Kb.

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

e-mails to ***ruthsg21@btinternet.com***

'What's On' inserts and all advertising enquiries should be sent to Jane White - email: ***janewhitesg@googlemail.com***

*Front cover - One of the winning entrants at St Margaret's Church Snowman Festival*

## Shoo Shoo Baby's Christmas Party

The Village Hall audience at this December event didn't realise they would be treated as guests at Shoo Shoo Baby's Christmas Party. From the moment Anna Braithwaite and Tanya Holt arrived, greeting everyone as their long lost friends and offering cheese and pineapple on sticks, we were treated to a fun show that included sparkly renditions of Christmas and other well known songs. Unsuspecting members of the audience were picked on, including two gentlemen who were made to dance in front of everyone else just because they happened to be challenged in the hair department! Shoo Shoo Baby provided polished, light hearted musical entertainment that was just right to get everyone in a festive mood and provided yet another high quality evening's entertainment courtesy of Centre Stage.



It's a shame the evening was slightly marred by a couple, obviously not getting enough Christmas spirit, who ran off with the main raffle prize before the interval – a bottle of vodka!

*Jane White*

## Tots Church - One Year On

November 2011 marked the first birthday of St Margaret's Tots Church. The group for under 7s runs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month from 10.30 -11.15am at the Baxter Hall. Parents are also welcome to attend with their children. The children come to enjoy stories, songs, prayers, games and craft activities. Over the past few months, our artistic tots have made beautiful tree decorations, cards, puppets, snowmen, play-dough animals and flowers to name but a few creations.



Karri, John, Elaine and Sam would like to thank all the children and their families who have attended over the past 12 months and supported Tots Church.

Tots Church will be opening its doors again next month on 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February 2012; for more information please contact Sam Crowfoot: 01455 212802.

***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.***

# Correspondence



Many thanks to all who bought something or helped out with our Harvest Produce Sale way back in September. We raised a fantastic £264, which was donated to the Get Thomas To America Fund. We are glad to see Thomas home safely.

*Guy Dowell, Alfie and Evie Ruff*



Following a letter to The Stoker regarding problems with some building work, we are pleased to print the following advice for anyone undertaking work on their property.

- Get three quotations and ask each person for a recommendation from at least two people they had done work for.

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## A Big Thank You to The George and Dragon

This is a long overdue vote of thanks to Kate and her staff at the George and Dragon for their generous hospitality making the very successful village Book Group feel so at home in the pub. We've had three sessions of lively discussions on the books we've been reading and each time Kate has come round tempting us with plates bulging with home-made cookies or our local Upton cheeses. The group numbers around a couple of dozen eager readers, not only from the village, but also as far afield as Bedworth and the surrounding villages.

Another big thank you here to Chris Taylor for being the instigator of the scheme. There's something great meeting with like-minded enthusiasts, and seeing the same faces each time, and in such a warm and friendly environment - right in the centre of our village.

The second time we met was hilarious, as it coincided with the 'switching on' of the Christmas lights in the centre of the village. The invitation to come back to the pub for mulled wine meant that the main bar was overflowing with half the village. The Book Group squeezed into the smaller 'snug' and enjoyed an unusual intimacy with each other as the conversation flowed around each table. The bar staff were really kept on their toes that evening.

I then had a phone message from one of the Book Group to say that they'd had one of the best pub lunches, with traditional home cooking, and I really should try it. I mentioned this to friends in Hinckley, who duly came over and then phoned me with glowing reports. I can thoroughly recommend the traditional pasty, and I understand the steak and ale pie is also a must. (Oh dear I'm starting to sound like Michael Winner!)

Finally - all I can suggest is - try it for yourself.

*Beth*

## Stoke Golding Convent Closure

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December a Mass was celebrated at St Peter's Catholic Church, Hinckley to mark the closure of the Convent at Stoke Golding. This brought to an end the formal presence of the Dominican Sisters in our area that had endured, uninterrupted, for 78 years.

The Sisters first came to the area in 1933 establishing a house and school in Hinckley, which older members of the community will remember as St. Albert's. The school initially educated children up to the age of 11 and this continued until as recently as 1983. A secondary school was established in 1944 but it soon became clear that the number of pupils involved could not be accommodated on the same site. The search began for an alternative property and a site on Leicester Road, Hinckley was identified. Negotiations were at an advanced stage when Stoke Lodge in Stoke Golding came onto the market. That property was purchased and St. Martin's convent began life there as an 11 to 18 years girls' school. The beautiful chapel, now sadly destroyed by fire, was opened in 1964. The school continued in that form until 1962/3, when it became the only Catholic High school in Leicestershire, under the leadership of Sister Louis Bertrand for the first 26 years. The excellent reputation of the school, gained under her leadership, continues today with its last two inspections being rated as "outstanding".

The work of the Sisters was not just in the school. St Martin's Convent was a



spiritual centre, hosting many Women's Days of Prayer and welcoming retreat groups as well as providing general spiritual direction and guidance. The larger convent was vacated in 2008 when Bishop Malcolm celebrated Mass to mark the move to the smaller convent in the Lodge, which continued to provide the traditional warm Dominican welcome for those attending mass.

The closure of the smaller convent and chapel brings to an end one chapter in the story of the Dominican Sisters in our area, but a new chapter opens. The legacy they leave will continue to impact on our community into the future as the school, parishioners

and villagers build on their unstinting work. It is this work, the presence and the influence of the Sisters that will still be with us but in a slightly different form. It is a little known fact that Sister Louis is the only Sister who has lived out her entire religious life here and not been sent to one of the Dominican missions in other parts of the world, as is the norm within the Congregation. She is now living in Nuneaton and Sister Cornelia lives in Barwell. Whilst the two Sisters remain close by they will always be remembered with great respect and affection and will continue to play an important part in the wider community, moving forward in their ministry.

*Graham Grimley*

### **Attention all boys under 25 years in Stoke Golding**

Do you want some extra cash for your studies or recreational activities? If you do then read the notice below and if you fit the criteria, write a letter to the clerk giving the reason you would like a grant.

(Boys aged 10 years and over should apply in person, if possible).

**N. B.** If you are applying on behalf of a group (e.g. Youth Football, Cricket Club), please include the **names and dates of birth** of all boys living in the village and attending your organisation, in order to be considered for a grant.

#### **The Stoke Golding Boys' Charity**

##### **Object of The Trust**

“Subject to payment of expenses, The Trustees shall apply income of the Charity in promoting the education (including social and physical training) of boys under the age of twenty-five years by the date of return of application as shown below, who are resident in Stoke Golding”.

The Trustees are considering the annual application of grants in accordance with the Terms of the Trust, as quoted above and applications are invited stating **the purpose of the application, date of birth, address and telephone number** to the:

Clerk of the Trustees, 21, Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding, Nuneaton, Warks.  
CV13 6DU by **Friday 16th March 2012.**

By Order of the Trustees,

*R. E. Fisher (Mrs) Clerk*

#### **New Rope String Band**

Friday 10th February 2012 at  
Stoke Golding Village Hall

**Sorry - tickets have sold  
out for this event.**

## **Computer Safety and Security – Helpful Hints (Part 1)**

There are many risks associated with using a computer – such as viruses and other risks posed by our online world. This is the first of two articles, outlining some of the main issues, and providing some suggestions to avoid becoming a victim.

### **Malware**

This term covers all sorts of 'nasties' that range from things that are a mild nuisance, through those that will mess up your computer to ways to defraud you of all your savings.

The short answer is to protect your computer with good anti-virus software (sometimes referred to as 'Internet Security'). The chances are that when you bought your PC it included anti-virus software – although normally only a 60 day trial, and often not from the best value supplier. Prices tend to range from £15-£60 – normally on an annual basis – but there are other options that may not cost you anything.

One option is to use one of the free products. In some cases these are basic versions of paid software (AVG Free 2012 has recently been recommended by Computer Shopper magazine), and I have also successfully used Microsoft's Security Essentials.

Some banks provide comprehensive anti-virus software to their customers for free (MBNA & Barclays for example) whilst others provide security add-in software (HSBC, Co-Op & Nationwide provide Trusteer Rapport).

You may also find that your Internet Service Provider will bundle security software in with your phone/broadband package.

You should also be aware of the way that malware is often spread – unfortunately some websites will entice you in and then get you to download something nasty.

Up to date versions of Internet Explorer (& other web browsers) can block or warn you of these risks. Another common way that malware gets spread is by email – you are generally OK just reading an email, but be careful of opening the attachments or links in emails – even if it (seems to) come from a friend. Are you expecting them to send you something? Is the message written how they would write or speak? If it's from your 80-year old mother, would you expect her to write 'Yo Dude, how ya doin'? If in doubt, do not click on or open anything in the email. So the best advice is: make sure you are protected, and be aware & careful.

### **Children**

All of us should be careful about disclosing personal details – this is especially so with children. Many 'Social Networking' sites have minimum age limits (for Facebook this is 13 years) but whatever your age, think carefully about the information and photos you put there and who you allow to see it. Check that it is only accessible to your friends – and perhaps be selective of who you choose to be your friends too.

I would suggest looking at [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) – especially if you have children/grandchildren.

If you require any help or advice regarding the above, please call me on 01827 713848 – 9am to 9pm, or email me: [neiljsherry@talktalk.net](mailto:neiljsherry@talktalk.net)

*Neil Sherry*



## Birth Congratulations

The families of Dion and Louise Short (nee Farmer) are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their twin boys Jacob (6lbs 3oz) and Zane (5lbs 6oz) on 12th December 2011. The best Christmas present ever.



## Stoke Golding Village Hall

Following the recent resignation of Rachel Terheege as Secretary and Treasurer of the Village Hall Management Committee (after 16 years), we now have the difficult task to try and find someone to replace her. We are a friendly and hard working team, meeting monthly, and have made many improvements to the hall over the past few years.

If you are interested in either or both roles and would like further information, please contact Ruth Fisher on 01455 212489 or [ruthsg21@btinternet.com](mailto:ruthsg21@btinternet.com).

## Friday Evening session available at the Village Hall

Due to closure of Youth Club, Stoke Golding Village Hall is now available on a Friday evening from 7pm onwards. We are looking to let this slot on a regular basis and would particularly welcome organisations that provide activities for Stoke Golding residents.

The hall is in great shape nowadays and rates are very competitive, especially for regular community groups. If you are interested please contact Alan White (Village Hall Booking Clerk) on 021455 212416 or [alanwhitesg@gmail.com](mailto:alanwhitesg@gmail.com).



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



# Dadlington Matters

## Christmas off to a Cracking Start!

The villagers of Dadlington gathered on a Friday night in December for a Christmas party in aid of nothing in particular. However the legendary generosity of the villagers turned what was intended as a non-profit making venture into an opportunity to donate £200 to the Hinckley Homeless Group. The evening consisted of traditional fun and games with a spectacular array of stunning prizes for the winning participants. Traditional parties are fuelled by Jelly and Ice Cream but the fact that this one was powered by Pedigree and red wine may in some small way explain why adults were parading in the centre of the hall wearing tights stuffed with balloons on their heads. The idea, I should explain, was to replicate the appearance of Santa's chief powerhouse Rudolph, but quite why the parade degenerated into a full blown rut may never be fully understood.



The party participants departed merrily vowing to repeat the exercise when Yuletide came around once more. Many thanks to Jean, Bee and John for providing and serving the Christmas repast and to all the kind and generous souls who donated the excellent raffle prizes. Those concerned for the welfare of an intellectually challenged Golden Bear may wish to make further enquiries at the Dog and Hedgehog where, it is reported, he has taken permanent residence.

*Graham Grimley*

## Dadlington Book Club

Recent books discussed have included "The Memory Keeper's Daughter" by Kim Edwards, "Mrs Dalloway" by Virginia Woolf and "The Hare with Amber Eyes" by Edmund de Waal.

We meet 7:30pm on a Thursday evening every 6/7 weeks for a glass of wine, discussion, coffee and cake. If you would like to join us please contact John Whitehead 01455 213244

## Church Matters

### Zion Chapel Starting at 6pm

5th February Richard Cotton  
12th February Stephen Foxwell  
19th February Mark Menzfeld  
26th February John Needham

### Sunday School at 11am

### St Margaret's Church Coffee, Chat & Book Swap

Free coffee, tea and a chat on  
Wednesdays

**10.30am - 12 noon in Church**

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

### The Methodist Church

5th February 10.30am Mr John Cooke  
12th February 10.30am Mr Neville Spark  
19th February 10.30am Revd. Julie Minns  
26th February 10.30am Mrs Joan Ledson

### Methodist Church February Events

Saturday  
February 11th  
**Coffee Morning**  
10am - 11.30am  
For Mission Funds

### Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March  
7.30pm at the Methodist Church  
Speaker – Mrs Julie Minns of Hinckley  
Refreshments after the Service  
All are welcome

### **Tots Church** meets

every third and fourth  
Sunday of the month at  
10.30 until 11.15am in the  
Baxter Hall. Children aged  
up to 7 can be catered for.

## Church of England

### St. Margaret's Church

5<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am All Age Service  
12<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am Benefice Service Fenny Drayton  
19<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am Holy Communion  
26<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am Morning Worship

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

### St. James's Church

5<sup>th</sup> February 9.00am BCP Morning Prayer  
12<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am Benefice Service Fenny Drayton  
19<sup>th</sup> February 9.00am BCP Holy Communion  
26<sup>th</sup> February 9.00am BCP Holy Communion



## Message from The Rector

*Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November;  
all the rest have thirty-one, excepting February alone,  
and that has twenty-eight days clear and twenty-nine in each leap  
year.*

You may well, like me, have learnt this rhyme to help remember the number of days in each month – I often find myself repeating it if I am trying to work out a particular date. It also reminds us that there is an extra day in February each leap year, which this year, 2012, happens to be.

Traditionally, the 29<sup>th</sup> February is the day when women were allowed to make a proposal of marriage to men, and if they declined, they had to pay a fine of some sort!

A person born on February 29<sup>th</sup> may be called a "leapling" or a "leap day baby". Their official birthday is only every four years, but of course they can still celebrate every year on either 28<sup>th</sup> February or 1<sup>st</sup> March.

'Leap day babies' (and I have known a few) are considered to be very special; there are groups to belong to, and several internet sites dedicated to celebrating the specialness of 'leap day babies'.

Whatever time of year our birthday falls, we are all special - to our families and friends, and to God. There has never been anyone like us before and there'll never be anyone like us again. Each of us is unique, and whatever happens in our lives, in God's eyes we are infinitely precious and full of potential.

The Bible tells us how God created human beings in his image. And "when he had seen everything he had made he saw that it was very good." God looks at every new life and sees that it is good. We are part of God's family.

So as we say 'Happy Birthday' this month, to all the special 'leap day babies', we thank God that each and every one of us is special, loved and valued in his sight.

*Wishing you all God's blessing*

*Linda*

## Lent Groups around the Fenn Lanes Benefice

Five weekly Lent Study Groups will be taking place, from the week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> February, to which all are invited. We will be looking at a course entitled '**Handing on the Torch.**' No background knowledge is necessary and all are welcome. The groups will take place at: Witherley Parish Room on Mondays at 2.30pm; Higham Methodist Chapel on Tuesdays at 8.30am (to include breakfast); different people's homes in Fenny Drayton on Wednesdays at 2.30pm; and 8 The Courtyard, Stoke Golding on Thursdays at 7.30pm. Each group will be following the same course, so you can choose to go to any of them. Why not give one a try?

# What's On

## Pancake Supper – Dadlington Your Invitation

From 7pm, Saturday 25th February

John & Jill Whitehead invite everyone to a pancake supper from 7pm on Saturday 25th February. This is to raise funds to restore our 12/13th Century village church of St James. In particular there are many roof tiles missing and the weather cock needs repair. You are invited to our house (Lost & Found, in the courtyard behind 15 Main Street) to enjoy both sweet and savoury pancakes.

Please assist catering by advising if you are able to come, either by e-mail to [jf\\_whitehead@hotmail.com](mailto:jf_whitehead@hotmail.com) or telephone 01455 213244.



### Want to learn to Rock & Roll?

New 6 week class for  
Complete Beginners

Starts Friday 10th February  
**Dadlington Village Hall**

7.45 - 8.45pm

£8 per couple per week

For more info tel 01455 212189

### Stanley Opera Performs

#### The Merry Wives of Windsor

at Concordia Theatre  
Hinckley

25th, 26th, 27th & 28th April



Based on Shakespeare's comic  
masterpiece, the opera follows  
the exploits of the fat knight  
Sir John Falstaff.

Including some terrific music and lots of  
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the sexes

Tickets £9 - £10  
Tel: Chris Sturgess 01455 848194

## The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in Stoke Golding June 2012

**Saturday 2nd June** Music for a Summer's Evening.  
Concert by The Stanley Opera at Stoke Golding Village Hall.

**Sunday 3rd June** 'The Big Lunch' - a chance for the whole  
village to get together - hopefully at a street party on Hinckley  
Road.

**Monday 4th June** - Lighting of the Jubilee Beacon.


Keep the dates free. More details about these events will be  
published in March issue of The Stoker.




## Keep Fit and Well Being

Have you made any resolutions to keep fit, lose weight or improve your health this year?

Local classes and treatments might just be able to help!



### Fitness & Yoga Classes 2012





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

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**ALL Classes = Pay as you go : £6 per class**  
**\*10 class pass : £50 [ to be used within 12 weeks , on any class]**  
**\*Monthly pass : £40 [ unlimited classes for that month]**  
[ \* non - refundable ]

For more info visit the website: [www.yogawithadele.co.uk](http://www.yogawithadele.co.uk)  
 Or, e-mail: [yogawithadele@live.co.uk](mailto:yogawithadele@live.co.uk)  
 Men & Women welcome, min. age 16 years old.

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**[www.midlandsmassagetherapy.co.uk](http://www.midlandsmassagetherapy.co.uk)**

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 Methodist Church Room  
**HINCKLEY:** Monday 6.45pm, The Dorothy Goodman School, Lower School, Stoke Road

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**½ Price 1st Class**

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WIGGLE AND JIGGLE

THOSE EXTRA

CHRISTMAS  
POUNDS AWAY.



**IF YOU ARE MOVING YOU  
ARE DOING IT RIGHT!**

**Tues 9.45-10.30** Baxter Hall  
**Thurs 9.45-10.30** St Francis, Tudor Rd  
**Thurs 7.15- 8.00** Methodist Church  
**£3.50 per class - First class only £2.00!**

**Contact Claire Ashley: 213346**  
**Mobile: 07891662803**

## PAST TIMES

This is a copy of the original deed of 1400 for the Charity of Thomas Barton as translated from the original Latin. It still existed as a parchment document in the Parish Chest in the Church in the late 1600s, and in 1790 Nichols copied it into his 'History and Antiquities of Leicestershire' which was then published.

*To all Christ's faithful to whom this present writing comes, Thomas Barton of Stoke Golding sends hearty greetings. That which is called the Pavement on the way out of Stoke and many other ways around the aforesaid Stoke, ruined on account of default of payment, as a great document sent now to all the tenants of the same area, or of other passers by, those who walk over the land there, or those working the aforesaid paths. Know, that I, the aforesaid Thomas Barton, moved by kindness, and Holy Charity, have given, confirmed, and, by this my present writing, have granted to Robert Peckleton, Richard Mould and T. Ward of the aforementioned Stoke Golding, two smallholdings and fields with their pertaining rights, in Stoke as aforementioned, and one dwelling in Hinckley, with all their pertaining rights, to have and to hold the aforesaid land and dwellings, with all their pertaining rights, to the aforesaid, Robert Richard and Thomas Ward to their heirs and assigns in perpetuity, from their feudal overlords, through the obligations and dues customarily owed them in law. And indeed, I, the aforesaid Thomas Barton and my heirs, will warrant and depend in perpetuity, the aforesaid land and dwellings, all its pertaining rights, by the necessary cause aforesaid, its repair now and as is necessary in the future as was said above, for, to, the aforesaid Richard, Robert and Thomas ward, their heirs assigns, against all peoples. In testimony of this I append my signature.*

*Given at Stoke Golding aforementioned on the tenth of the month of July in this first year of the reign of King Henry IV.*

Denis Cash



Main Street, Stoke Golding, early 1900s

## Stoke Golding W I - January Meeting

My Life on the Streets (but don't tell my mother) - Ellen Beatty

Ellen kept us guessing at the start of the evening as to the real meaning of the title of her talk, leading to a certain amount of speculation. Once she started her talk though, she revealed that she was a Police Officer.



Ellen initially went to sign on as a dare from her girlfriends, after having been a secretary at various companies. Her friends took her into Kenilworth Police station so that she could start the process and to her surprise she got through all the tests and decided to give the job a try for a few years - she has now been doing it for over 20 years. She told us about an incident where a thief was stealing potatoes. Ellen put out a warning that the stolen potatoes had been covered with Chitting powder which would cause unpleasant side effects for anyone handling them; she then notified all local hospitals to let her know if anyone came in asking for help and she soon picked up the thieves. She told us of many other incidents that have caused amusement during her time on the beat.

Ellen stressed that the police are there to help the people they deal with and would rather be called out to a genuine query which turns out to be nothing to worry about, than for the public to not contact them and find themselves in trouble.

She told us about the new 101 contact number for the police for non-urgent matters, it will put you through to a police station in your locality, without you having to look up the local number. 999 is still the number to call in case of an emergency.

At the end of the talk Ellen showed us the body armour and belt which she wears to work. The body armour was very heavy and members were amazed at the weight she carries around each day.

W I meetings are held in the Methodist Church Hall on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome.

*Lesley Gent*

### Mobile Library

The Mobile Library will visit Stoke Golding & Dadlington on:-  
Thursdays 2nd & 16th February

**Dadlington** 27 Hinckley Rd - 10.05 - 10.25am

#### **Stoke Golding**

Greenwood Road 10.30 - 10.45am

Sherwood Road 10.50 - 11.10am

The White Swan 11.15am - 11.40am

Hinckley Road/Main Street 11.45- 12.05pm



*For further details contact: Coalville Library, 0116 305 3565  
email:coalvillelibrary@leics.gov.uk*

## Friends of Kenya's Children

In March 2011 Sandra Noon spoke to Stoke Golding W I about the work of 'Friends of Kenya's Children' and this is the report she submitted to the Charity's newsletter.

"First how did I come to be in Stoke Golding, (which isn't only the best country dance ever, but also a pretty village near Coventry)? It was one of those lovely links of chain which hold FKC together. John, an ex-work colleague, was one of the original people I asked for help when FKC began and his friend, Gill, is a member of Stoke Golding W I. After my talk the W I members had a whip round for us and sent me home with a very welcome and generous £100.

But the story continues. In October they held a coffee morning especially for FKC and sent us a wonderful £261 in proceeds and donations. Isn't that amazing? Imagine remembering FKC after several months of speakers at meetings, and doing something so practical and generous to support us? Thank you Stoke Golding W I members and supporters."

## From the Police Box

Software could help protect your new gadgets

Laptops, mobile phones and PCs were at the top of many people's Christmas lists this year. But expensive gadgets are also a major attraction for thieves and Neighbourhood Watch are urging people to consider making use of free software to protect their property against theft.

One option available that can be used is **Prey**, an application that helps track and find lost or stolen computers and phones. The free software can be downloaded directly onto a device and allows owners to trace the whereabouts of the item if it is stolen. It also provides a screenshot of a computer's running desktop and takes a picture from computers with built-in webcams.

The software also allows users to trigger a range of actions, such as sound an alarm, send a message to appear on screen, or even lock the device from being used. The Prey software requires an internet connection to work and will attempt to log on to the nearest WiFi access point available.

It can be downloaded free from [www.preyproject.com](http://www.preyproject.com)

Anyone receiving valuable gifts like bikes, phones or computers this Christmas are also being urged to register their goods on a secure web based national database. The Immobilise register allows police to reunite rightful owners with their property and is a powerful tool in the fight against theft.

To register your valuables free of charge, visit [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com).

By just taking a few moments to register valuables on the free Immobilise database and to download the free Prey application, people could increase the likelihood of having their goods returned to them, and assist in providing evidence for potential prosecutions.

We don't want anyone to be a victim of theft this year, so please take advantage of these free registrations to help keep your valuables safe.





## St Margaret's Snowman Festival Thank You



Thank you to everyone who supported the Snowman Festival by visiting us, making snowmen, decorating the church, baking all the delicious food, manning the stalls, working in the kitchen and welcoming our many visitors in church. We had a wonderful day meeting old friends and making new ones.

Thank you to those who took part in the concert - you were all great. We raised an amazing £1,008, which will go into the repair fund.

Lucy, from Hinckley, guessed how many snowmen were in the church - she said 223 and there were in fact 221.

The winners of the best snowman, voted for by our visitors, were:

Grace, Isabelle, Ava, Jessica, Olivia

The winner of the group prize went to the 1st Stoke Golding Cubs. Robin Hood Playgroup, Mums and Tots and Tot's Church all came a close second.



*Skiing snowmen, almost ready for the slopes.*



## Infant School Memories

I longed for school and well remember my first day  
Tho' its nigh on eighty six years  
My brothers sloped off leaving me at the teacher's desk  
But I did not shed any tears.

A tall grey haired lady then asked my name  
My 'bossy' best friend piped up "It's Ida,  
But she's always been called Peggy,  
By everyone just the same"

Miss Jones had a happy nature, and often smiled,  
Early on she sat me on her knee  
"Let's see if you can read from this fairy tale book"  
"Why indeed you can" said she, her eyes all twinkling with glee.

I loved Miss Jones - always so patient and kind  
She taught me now to knit a coat for my dolly,  
Merrily my needles went clickety click till I dropped a stitch  
I soon "picked up" the intricacies of knitting and lessons ended jolly.

A large glass cabinet hung on the wall,  
Containing wispy soft snowy like balls  
Teacher explained they were cotton plant shreds,  
Which went through many processes to become strong, useful cotton threads

Boxes of lovely creamy seashells we used as counters  
When older, we were handed arithmetic cards  
Small sums of addition and subtraction  
Some surprisingly simple, others "tricky", to make young brains work hard.

Our headmaster had a lovely Labrador called Henry  
So friendly, he roamed around quite free  
One day on going to the porch for my lunch bag  
Henry had beaten me to it – what a calamity !

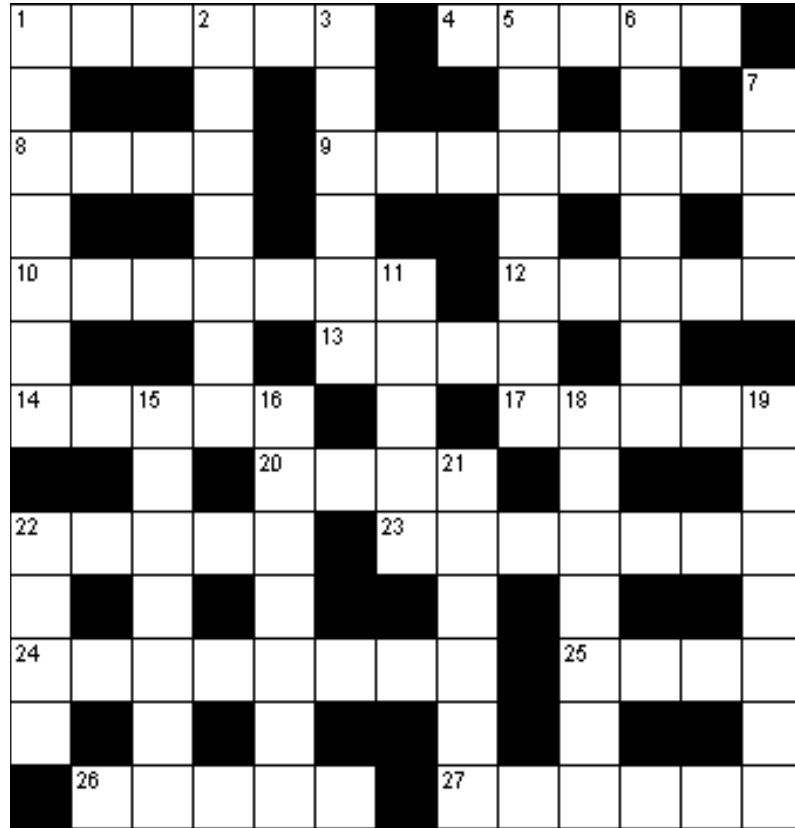
We danced and sang around the maypole  
On the first of Merry May  
The sun was shining, rainbow streamers and hair all a flying  
It was such a perfect day

The poem was called "The Elf and the Toadstool"  
Which I stood on the stage to recite  
It was rather a lengthy poem but little prompting was needed  
And the clapping they gave me was pure delight

When I look back down memory lane  
It does not seem so far away  
Since at just five years old I trolled off to school  
And enjoyed my very first day.

*Peggy Holmes*

# crossword



## Across

- 1 Flavoursome additions when cooking food (6)
- 4 Old fashioned name for '20' (5)
- 8 Type of steak (5)
- 9 see 24A
- 10 Of this world (7)
- 12 Biggest antelope in Africa (5)
- 13 One who looks into the future (4)
- 14 see 24A
- 17 Japanese food (5)
- 20 Examination (4)
- 22 Small wood (5)
- 23 Highest point of an oak or elm for example (4-3)
- 24 & 3D, 9A, 25A, 14A Nursery rhyme about what boys are made of (4-3-6-3-5-4-5)
- 25 see 24A
- 26 The Dandy's sister comic (5)
- 27 Make smaller (6)

## Down

- 1 Snake (7)
- 2 Chief city of a country (7)
- 3 see 24A
- 5 Policemen (slang) (7)
- 6 TV programmes shown again and again (7)
- 7 Looked at leeringly (4)
- 11 Fermenting agent (5)
- 15 Get better (7)
- 16 Cowboy hat (7)
- 18 Turned over violently (7)
- 19 Fail to reach agreement (7)
- 21 Seller of goods (6)
- 22 A little restaurant (4)

Solution on page 22

## **Stoke Golding Parish Council - November and December Meetings**

### **November Meeting**

#### **Written Reports**

**Tree Surgeons report** – their recommendations and quotes for work to trees in Hinckley Road Cemetery and the rec were presented to the Council and approval was sought.

**CPRE's response to NPPF** – it was proposed a meeting be arranged between David Tredinnick MP and Parish Councillor Representatives re the series of issues and concerns of the draft NPPF in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan. A site meeting has been organised by Transport on 8 November to discuss a possible **bus stop** siting near to the Andrew Close junction.

#### **Councillors' Reports**

Children's Play Area project – grants being pursued.

Water supply for Wykin Lane Cemetery – quotes now received. It was agreed to go ahead with the most competitive price.

Maintenance contract detailing breakdown of costs and frequency of work circulated to Councillors. Some amendments still to be made and will be presented at the December meeting.

Signs for Wykin Lane Cemetery – proposals put forward and quotes to be obtained.

A proposal for reduced parking on village streets and a 20mph speed limit - Alan White to be invited to future meeting to present a report.

#### **Playground inspection**

SGPC maintenance and ROSPA reports presented to meeting. Cradle seat on young children's swing to be replaced and sign has been damaged.

#### **Planning Applications:**

##### **New Applications**

53 Roseway – extensions and alterations to dwelling.

#### **To resolve precept and Parish element of Council Tax**

A motion was put forward for no increase in the precept. This was proposed and agreed by all Councillors.

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Parish Council invited Andy Killip from HBBC Planning to advise on producing a neighbourhood plan and its role in the proposed localism bill and its relation to the draft NPPF - concerns and issues were discussed. He advised there was no immediate hurry to revise the village plan and no need to pursue it at the moment.

#### **SmartWater and Neighbourhood Watch**

The Parish Council invited Leics Constabulary and a Neighbourhood Watch Development Officer to advise on SmartWater and its preventative measures, and the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch - raising awareness of home security.

Parish Councillors agreed to discuss, at the December meeting, whether to pursue SmartWater and initiate a Neighbourhood Watch scheme within Stoke Golding.

*(Continued on page 21)*

*(Parish Council Notes continued from page 20)*

### **Convent Site Sub-Committee Report**

A report had been circulated to the Parish Councillors by the Convent Green Site Area sub-committee detailing future plans to develop the area and how the land can be used. In presenting this report, the Sub-Committee identified a need to have discussions with MarCity about the site. It put forward the following motion.

Proposal: If and when Stoke Golding Parish Council is offered the piece of land adjacent to the Convent Site would the Parish Council agree in principle and subject to favourable conditions, to take ownership.

Resolved: The motion was proposed and seconded.

Actions:

- 1) Clerk to write to MarCity to obtain confirmation of the verbal statement that ownership of this land would be offered to the Parish Council.
- 2) Parish Council starts dialogue with Mar City, HBBC and the Sub-Committee.
- 3) Formalise the Sub-Committee - Cllrs Mayes and Brown agreed to join the Sub-Committee.
- 4) Proposed to have a set of Terms of Reference of Sub-committee by December meeting.

### **December Meeting**

#### **County Cllr Ivan Ould's Report**

Mar City development: Planners are causing delays because of the issue over affordable housing has not been settled.

Stoke Rd, Higham – traveller site: Ivan has sent a letter to planning against this application to extend the existing permission for one traveller, family and horses to 6 more caravans. It does not seem likely that officers will recommend accepting.

Proposed 30 mph limit on Wykin Lane. Following a proposal from SGPC, Ivan has supported this and it has been agreed to extend the 30mph from the village to just passed the cemetery.

#### **Matters Arising**

Convent site green area – letter from Severn Trent. To date they have not commented on specific drainage details at the site.

#### **Councillors' Reports**

Football Club: The work on football pitch has been completed and is acceptable, but the Club is now obliged to play at the temporary ground for the rest of the season. It will be using Stoke Golding pitch next year.

Bus Stop: Cllr Brown suggested that a bus stop should be placed next to the bench, outside 20 Station Road. If there are no objections this could be in place within a fortnight.

Water supply at Cemetery: The contractor has completed his work. Cllr Brown will contact Severn Trent to connect the water supply.

*(Continued on page 22)*

## **Planning Application Matters**

### **New Applications**

Installation of photovoltaic panels to the roof of existing building, Lodge Farm, Extensions and alterations to dwelling: 74 Sherwood Road, 83 Sherwood Road. Use of land as a residential caravan site for four gypsy families with 8 caravans including laying and additional hard standing: Pinehollow Barn, Stoke Lane, Higham on the Hill.

### **Review Clerk's Salary**

The clerk's salary is reviewed annually, but she has indicated that she is not asking for extra this year. The Cllrs agreed that as there had been no increase in the precept this year they would not increase the clerk's salary.

### **To appoint two Trustees to Charity of Thomas Barton**

Morris Bolton and Peter Tustain are both willing to stand again.

### **Smart Water and Neighbourhood Watch**

Cllrs would like to discuss this further with Judith Montgomery. They would like to invite her to give further information at the February meeting.

### **Communications**

R A Harbour's (tree surgeon) quote for horse chestnut tree on rec - it may not be safe to have a bench around this tree. This will be on the agenda for February to discuss removing the tree and replacing it. A further letter will be sent to Thomas Barton Charity to see if the trustees will sponsor a large tree and inquire if they would like the bench moving elsewhere.

R A Harbour has carried out work to the hedge behind the pavilion as instructed. It has left one property more open than others. A letter to be sent to householder to try to solve any problems.

Spinney Bank Farm – Farm Shop: Other local farmers are not happy about this as they do not appear to have applied for planning permission. Officers to investigate.

Village Notice Board – Advertisers are filling the board and not removing out of date items. Cllrs will check it periodically and remove obsolete items.

**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](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk)

Next Meeting - Wednesday 1st February 2012 at 7pm.

ACROSS 1. Spices, 4. Score, 8. Rump, 9. See 24A, 10. Earthly,  
12. Eland, 13. Seer, 14. See 24A, 17. Sushi, 20. Test, 22. Cope, 23. Tree-top,  
24. Frogs and snails and puppy dogs tails. 25. See 24A, 26. Beano, 27. Reduce  
DOWN 1. Serpent, 2. Capital, 3. See 24A, 5. Coppers, 6. Repeats, 7. Eyed,  
11. Yeast, 15. Improve, 16. Stetson, 18. Upended, 19. Impasse, 21. Trader,  
22. Cafe



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