

February '14

No. 128



The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine

including

Dadlington Matters

50p

Ruth



Jane



Note from the Editors

It is really encouraging to read about the successful apple tree project at St Martin's School, (page 3). We are looking forward to tasting some of the old varieties that have been planted.

Thank you for your letters and articles this month - the magazine is an ideal way to get your ideas and opinions across and we always try to print as many as possible.

The Stoker is very pleased to welcome husband and wife team, Ella and Richard Orr, to our production team. Richard is our new treasurer and Ella is taking over the advertising in the magazine. We shall have more information about them in next month's Stoker.

Jane & Ruth

The Stoker Team

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

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

Please send articles for the **March 2014** issue of The Stoker to:
The Editors, c/o 21, Hinckley Rd, Stoke Golding by **15th February**.
If you can submit articles on a memory stick (Microsoft Word) or by e-mail it makes our job much easier, (**500 words maximum** please).
If you send photos by e-mail, please keep the file size small - no larger than 150 Kb.

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

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

'What's On' inserts should be sent to Jane White - janewhitesg@googlemail.com.

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

Cover picture - 'A Cause for Celebration' - see page 3

A Cause for Celebration!

On December 5th students of St Martin's Catholic Voluntary Academy, members of the community, and invited guests gathered at the school to celebrate the completion of first part of our Apple Tree Project.

Mrs Brenda Carson, Head of St Martin's Academy, and students completed the planting of young apple trees in a tree nursery which, with a generous grant from Raglan Housing Association Ltd, has been established in the grounds of the school.

The project to grow a stock of young apple trees began 18 months ago with the students collecting and identifying apple trees growing successfully in Stoke Golding and Dadlington. Thank you to those residents who welcomed us into their gardens to pick their apples!

At an exciting 'Apple Day' students enthusiastically learnt about the many varieties of apples which can be grown in Britain.

A Year 7 student wrote *'When the apple experts came in I really enjoyed it! The three activities we did were looking at different types of apple, identifying apples, and preserving them. But last of all we got to taste apple crumble, apple cake, dried apple and apple juice. My best part was tasting things because they were all delicious! The most awesome fact I learnt was that there are 2200 different types of apple growing in Britain.'*



In February 2013 student collected scions (shoots) from trees in the community and learnt how to graft them onto rootstocks - kindly donated by James Coles Nurseries of Leicester. Assisted by around 20 volunteers from the community, the



students bound the scions onto the rootstocks and then planted the new trees into pots. Well cared for over the following months, a fantastic success rate of 29 out of 35 young trees grew - and have outgrown their pots!

The young trees will be grown on in the nursery until they can be planted permanently in a community orchard.

Hopefully from scions and rootstocks will come the flowering of the young trees

and eventually the fruiting. In the future young people at the school and the communities of Stoke Golding and Dadlington will be able to enjoy apple varieties such as Howgate Wonder, Annie Elizabeth and many more.

Truly a cause for celebration!

David Goodsell and Doreen Rose

Correspondence



After reading the letter from Mrs. White in the last issue of *The Stoker*, I cannot let it pass without comment.

Sorry, but I cannot understand anyone's reasoning for moving the Memorial (refer back to my first letter in the November *Stoker*).

I agree with the letter from P. & S. O'Brien. The wall in the centre of the village has been a feature there since before I was born almost 77 years ago. I do find it a remarkable coincidence that both wall and trees should need demolition in 2014 to coincide with someone's ill-conceived scheme to move the Memorial. As the O'Briens say, 'What is wrong with repairing or rebuilding? Trees too can be replanted.'

Just one more line to the arrogant, ill-mannered person that rudely pushed a letter through my door.

In a conversation with a Parish Councillor, I was told that "our biggest problem is the b..... Heritage Society - they are pushing to get the Memorial moved."

The village has been split in two by this unnecessary fiasco. I say, let it rest now and let the good folk of Stoke Golding return to, and keep "the noiseless tenor of their ways". (Yes, it's Thomas Gray again.)

Many thanks to Rita and to countless others to whom I have spoken.

Alan Quinney



Good neighbours in Stoke Golding

Whilst on holiday abroad in November, we received a text from a neighbour saying that our house had been broken into at around 5pm. The second text we received said: "Don't worry, everything is under control; we have called the Police and secured the window."

Evidently, within minutes of the intruder alarm going off, neighbours from four houses were on the scene but the burglars had already fled empty handed – not that we would want any of them to confront a burglar.

How fortunate we are in today's busy world to have such kind and helpful neighbours.

Our thanks go to Wendy, Pete, Andy, Liam, Richard and Mick.

Brian and Jane Ninness

Correction

In December's *Stoker* we wrongly attributed a letter to Rita Reason. It was actually written by Rita Mason.



Disillusioned Villagers

I have lived in the village for over 40 years and thought what a great place to live. I have made many friends in the village but sadly two of them are looking to leave the village. One already has his property on the market the other is looking to put his on. The main reason for this is that they feel the village is not what it used to be with too many controversial issues.

I think it all started with the development at the Convent Site and the proposal to build Retirement homes. Some villagers were not happy with the plan and an Action Group was formed. After a battle the action group won the day and as a result we have ended up with mixed housing estate. Many think retirement homes would have been better.

We then had the issue of a Solar Panel Farm, again an action group got involved and the plan was thrown out. However it is possible that we could now end up with something worse.

Now we come to the issue of moving the War Memorial. This seems to have split the village in half. Some feel it is in a peaceful location with less chance of being vandalised. Others want it in a more prominent position in the centre. What ever your views it does not seem justifiable to spend thousands of pounds to move it.

Finally we come to the 20 mile per hour speed limit through the village. I think most people drive responsibly through the village, but there are some that don't. For these drivers they obviously ignore speed signs whatever they say. The main fact is that whatever the speed sign says it can not be policed or enforced so what is the point, other than to add another issue to split the village which was once a peaceful place.

Trevor Terheege

2013 - A Great Year For Joy

Stoke Golding's English, Scottish and British clay shooting champion, Joy Hirons of Church Walk has finished off the 2013 season in style by retaining the Nottingham Annual Skeet Championship. She won this for the first time last year by scoring the only perfect 100/100 of the day.

Then finally to top off her most successful year so far she was voted Hinckley and Bosworth Sport and Health Alliance Sportswoman of the Year at a recent awards evening which was absolutely wonderful.

Bob Hirons



St Margaret's Snowman Festival

Thank you to everyone who helped and supported our Snowman Festival - we do appreciate what is done for our beautiful church. We raised an amazing £1,400, half of which will go to St Margaret's Church and half to the Disasters Emergency Appeal for the Philippines.

The best snowmen voted for by our many visitors were:-

- 1st Gracie
- 2nd Isabelle and Jessica
- 3rd Ava

Winners of how many snowmen in the church were Joe and Tula who guessed 254 - exactly the right number.

The Christingle Service was very well attended and we all had fun making our own Christingles, which we then took them back home to use.

Margaret Croxall



Big and Small Church

All the children of Big and Small Church had great fun celebrating Christmas this year. They also said a sad farewell to John, Karri, Annabel and Elliot Aston who have now moved to Cambridge. John and Karri received a card and gift as a very big thank you for the tremendous effort they put into setting up Big and Small (Tot's) Church 3 years ago and making it the success it now is. Big and Small Church will be continuing in 2014 for 0-7 year olds at 10.30am in Baxter Hall on the 3rd and 4th Sunday's of every month with stories, songs and crafts – please do come along!

Elaine Ashworth



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.

Richard Durrant – A Candlelit Christmas Concert

Richard Durrant returned to Stoke Golding for another superb evening of virtuoso guitar playing. Not surprisingly, the Village Hall was packed to capacity with those who had enjoyed his previous visit, and others, like me, who had heard such good reports of his last performance.

To say that Richard Durrant plays the guitar is rather like saying that Dame Ellen MacArthur does a bit of sailing. He is completely at one with the instrument and the result is breath-taking. The juxtaposition of his style of delivery serves only to highlight his mastery of the instrument and his obvious passion for the music. His lilting Sussex accent and casual dress brings Nigel Kennedy to mind and the comparison is valid in terms of style and talent. The scenic backdrops and pre-recorded backing delivered via an Apple Mac operated with a bare foot could almost have been comedic were it not so stunningly effective. Add in a Barry Cryer commentary to the haunting tale of the polar bear and you have entertainment of the highest order. This is a man who fills in for John Williams in our humble village hall! Just when you thought that things could get no better, Richard was joined on the stage by Amy Kakoura and their rendition of Rejoice Emmanuel is something that will live with the audience for a long time. The quality and clarity of her voice drew rapturous applause from the Stoke Golding music faithful.

Wonderful, wonderful entertainment and great credit must go to Alan White and his team who so tirelessly bring these quality acts to us.

Graham Grimley



Under 5s' Group

We had a lot of fun at Under 5s at the end of last year. We raised over £123 for Children in Need doing our toddler waddle around the rec and had a wonderful Christmas party.

Father Christmas came to visit with a present for all the children and he stayed and sang Christmas Carols with us.

Come and join in the fun every Thursday morning from 10am in the village hall.

Sarah Beale



For King and Country

Lance Corporal George (Henry) Lovell MM

George Lovell was born in Hinckley in May 1894 to Charles and Priscilla Lovell. Little is known of his early life but in 1911 when he was 17 his parents owned a fishmonger's shop in Market Place, Hinckley.

Shortly after this, he and his family moved to Stoke Golding where his father took over the Horse Shoes Inn on High Street and it was from here at the age of 17 years that he joined the army at Aldershot and was drafted into the 1st Leicestershire Regiment, the 1911 census recording him as being resident at Talavera barracks, Aldershot. He was obviously a career minded soldier for in the ensuing years he was promoted to Lance Corporal.

During this time he was awarded the Military Medal for Gallantry in the field. He was involved in one of the Battles of Guillemont on the Somme where he was killed on 15th September 1916. He was buried in Guillemont Road Cemetery along with 2259 comrades, the victims of the many Somme Battles. He also was awarded the Victory Medal and British War Medal.



Denis Cash

Guillemont Cemetery on the Somme

Power Cuts...

Do you know who your local electricity supplier is? In mid January we had a power cut which affected random houses and street lamps in Hinckley Road, and maybe other areas in the village.

I phoned our supplier (Atlantic) and was kept on hold for over 20 minutes before the call was answered. I was then given the number of the local supplier but by that time it had been reported by someone else and was being dealt with.

We would advise home-owners to find out the number of your local supplier before you need it in an emergency.

Ruth Fisher

Stoke Golding Charity Sleigh

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the sleigh this year and special thanks to Dodge for pulling the sleigh around. The following organisations have benefited with your help: Stoke Golding Village Hall, Good Companions, Youth Football, Dadlington Village Hall, Robin Hood Playschool, Cubs & Scouts and the children's section of the Flower Show.

Thanks again from the Sleigh Committee.

The presents of Christmas past...

Whilst she who must be listened to was pounding the Christmas cakes into shape in the run up to yuletide, I busied myself with some television based research. It would appear that Liberty's department store in London achieves 20% of its annual sales in the 6 weeks prior to Christmas. After stabbing a few buttons on the calculator, I deduced that this represents a 250% increase on a normal weeks trading. One must assume that, eminent in the retailing world as they undoubtedly are, Messrs Liberty can be very far from unique. Across the whole retail spectrum this, by any definition, amounts to a consumption frenzy of Biblical (sic) proportions.

If you want to see how illogical this all is, then may I suggest a visit to somewhere like BHS in the immediate aftermath of the festive period. There you will see displayed in a retail hall of shame and massively discounted to boot, a selection of Christmas gifts that failed to get even close to their projected sales targets. And small wonder. It is oft said when referring to Christmas presents that it is the thought that counts, but some of these offerings were so dire that the thought alone would have been an infinitely preferable offering. A tea towel presented in a tin shaped like a sauce bottle. A pair of matching egg cups bearing the logo of a well-known stock cube. The piece de resistance however, was a carton strongly suggesting that the contents of same would be a full sized bottle of Martini Prosecco, a tippie much favoured by the drinking classes of the area. Closer examination revealed that the carton in fact, held a cheap glass bearing the logo of the Italian drinks giant and a bottle of the product so small, that its contents would not have intoxicated a pygmy shrew. It is a testament to the power of the festive season that such offerings gained any sales at all in the run up to Christmas at the full price and little surprise that in the dawn of post-Christmas reality, BHS were struggling to give the things away.

The appeal of these offerings is due to those types in red braces who inhabit the design world of the packaging industry. By clever use of colour and an awful lot of recycled plastic, they seek to convince us that third division car boot fodder is in some way an acceptable and even desirable Christmas gift. The full extent of their handiwork only becomes apparent as you attempt to slam the lid on your recycling bin sometime after Boxing Day. Shoppers in credit crunch Britain have become much more alive to the guiles of the retail industry and, for most of the year, seek out and demand value for money. In the run up to Christmas something happens to cause them to lose all reason and basically buy the packaging. I'll bet it happens next year as well.



The Fool on the Hill



From the Curate at St Margaret's Church

Many years ago, our Vicar at the time visited us and on entering our living room remarked, 'Oh, it is just like being in church!' Let me assure you, there was nothing as grand as a stained glass window, or any sign of a pulpit in the corner of the room! Oh no, he was referring to the plethora of candles lined up on our mantelpiece. The draft from the door opening caused the flames to dance, as if in a cheery welcome to our guest. Candles are not just for Christmas and birthdays in our house. I love candles. I just do. They simply are beautiful. Neither brash, harsh, or flashy, there is something special about the light of a candle. Candlelight illuminates what surrounds it with a delicate, enhancing and enlivening light, transforming the ordinary.

At the beginning of February, there is a celebration in the church called Candlemass. It seems to come just at the right time in the year, spreading light when it can seem that there is precious little of it about. In days gone by, it was the feast for blessing the candles of the church, as well as commemorating the special meeting of Jesus, Joseph and Mary with two wise people, Simeon and Anna. They had faith that they would meet Jesus and their long wait was rewarded on that day in the Temple. The timing is 40 days after the birth of Jesus and marks the end of the Christmas season. In March Lent will come and beyond that, we look forward to Easter.

All the darkness in the world cannot put out the light of a single candle.

These wise words, sometimes attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi, are a poignant reminder for us when things are getting us down. It is good to meditate on those words for a while. Meditation is a sometimes forgotten part of the Christian tradition but is life-giving. Simply watching a flickering candle flame can seem to calm breathing and reduce anxiety levels. It can bring us to a prayerful place where we can more easily connect with God.

At times candles splutter and flicker and we are reminded of the uncertainty of life. That is where faith comes in. Our plans are not necessarily God's plans and trusting our lives to God is a constant challenge. To help me, the words from Psalm 46:10 sometimes come to mind, 'Be still and know that I am God.'

Uncertainty and transience become held and calmed by the permanence and reassurance of God's eternal love for each one of us. When we rest a while in God's love, we can open ourselves up to receive His healing touch, illuminating and healing those areas of our lives that are shrouded in darkness.

When we look to Jesus and learn about His life, our life takes on new meaning. We can feel as though we are bathed in a transforming light. This light is the love of God. Jesus' resurrection shook off the shackles of death and brought us to a new understanding. We become free to share in His eternal light - a light and a love that can never be put out.

Blessings,

Hilary,

The Rev'd Hilary Surridge – Curate Fenn Lanes Benefice

Church Matters

Church of England Services

St. Margaret's Church

2 nd February	10.30am	All Age Service
9 th February	10.30am	Benefice Service Witherley
16 th February	10.30am	Holy Communion
23 rd February	10.30am	Morning Worship

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

St. James's Church

2 nd February	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
9 th February	10.30am	Benefice Service Witherley
16 th February	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
23 rd February	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion

The Methodist Church February Services

2nd	10.30am	Rev. Wes. Hampton
9th	10.30 am	Circuit Service at Earl Shilton
16th	10.30am	Mrs Auriol Summers
23rd	10.30am	Mr Michael Holt

Zion Baptist Chapel February 2014 Services

starting at 6pm
Sunday School at 11am

2nd February	Reuben Gardener
9th February	Harold Pirie
16th February	Mark Menzfeld
23rd February	Steven Connor

Methodist Church

February Events

Coffee Morning

Saturday February 8th

10am - 11.30am

For Mission Funds

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday March 7th

7.30pm at the Methodist Church

Theme: Egypt

Speaker: Mrs Gill Skelton

Followed by refreshments



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.

What's On

Convent Housing Development

Raglan Housing Association invites you to come along on **Thursday 6th February 2013** to the **Baxter Hall**. From 2.30 to 7.30pm staff from its Housing Management and Development Teams will be there to chat to and answer any questions you may have. Raglan Housing Association is funding this event and the items mentioned below from their Community Involvement Grant.

- Tom Hare will be demonstrating some of the willow weaving techniques he uses and showing his ideas for the willow sculpture piece of art.
- DVD and photos of the growing of fruit trees by students of St Martin's Academy
- 'Community Allotment Day' photos
- FREE drinks and nibbles



Stoke Golding Heritage Group

"Cherish the past, protect the future"



February and March Meetings

We are fortunate that within in the village we have an outstanding example of a medieval church – St Margaret's of Antioch. Tony Collett, a member of the Heritage Group and author of the definitive guide to St. Margaret's, will be giving an illustrated talk on some of the lesser known aspects of the church. This meeting will be held on February 16th.

On March 27th there will be a unique opportunity to hear about Stonywell, an arts and crafts cottage in the Charnwood area of Leicestershire. The cottage and grounds are now owned by the National Trust and will be opening to the public in July. This talk will be of interest to any National Trust members as the only other Trust properties in Leicestershire are Ulverscroft Nature Reserve and Staunton Harold Church. Ernest Miller a National Trust Speaker, who has been associated with the property for many years, will be giving an illustrated talk on the building and the history of the Gimson family who had it built and owned it continuously until it was taken over by the Trust.

Both meetings will be held in the Baxter Hall, starting at 7.30pm. There will be a nominal charge of £2.50 for non-members.

Stoke Golding website: www.stokegolding.co.uk

Designer Travel - Stoke Golding's Own Independent Travel Agent

Hi everyone. My name is Sue Todd and I am a Personal Travel Advisor. I work from my office at home in Stoke Golding where I have lived for over 20 years.

After over 14 years in the travel business, last year I joined an established, independent **ABTA** travel Business called **Designer Travel**. The team at Designer Travel shares my passion for delivering exceptional customer service at value for money prices and thanks to our ABTA status you can book your holiday with confidence.

I love working from home as it gives me the flexibility to look after my lovely clients at a day and time that suits them – this approach means that I can talk to you during the day or in the evening, I'm also available at weekends! As a totally independent agent I will research and recommend the products that are right for your travel needs – we deal with hundreds of suppliers, which means I can help with every possible holiday choice – from round the world itineraries to holidays to European hot spots, from the Caribbean to Australia – UK breaks to cruising. For me it's not about selling the products that are offered by a parent company it's about finding the right product from the right supplier!

My customers come from all walks of life and every customer is guaranteed to receive the same attentive service, whether they are booking a last minute deal, are working on the trip of a lifetime or are planning to take a city break two or three times per year. Most of my clients either call or email me with their requirements. If you prefer, please call me to arrange an appointment to discuss your travel plans at your convenience. I will make planning your trip as care and stress free as possible.

To read more about what my customers think about me please take a look at my website www.designertravel.co.uk/suetodd. To get your holiday off to a flying start I will also include a FREE LOUNGE PASS with every booking made until the end of April 2014.*Terms and conditions apply.

My love of travel goes back many years. I can't think of many things as exciting as arriving at the airport ready to board a plane to visit an exotic destination somewhere in the world. I would love to give you the same opportunity to feel the same way.

Life is a journey and our memories stay with us forever. Where will your imagination take you? Let me help you decide, contact me now to discuss your travel plans.

Contact details: 01455 213590, sue@designertravel.co.uk

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/SueDesignerTravel. Offers are posted daily; please "like" my page if you are on Facebook – thanks in advance.

Quick Note: When Paul opens his shop I shall be putting offers in the window for you to look at on a daily basis. If there is any particular area that you are interested in please let me know. I am building a data base of email addresses so if you would like to be included and receive my newsletter please let me have your email and I will add you to it.

**Terms and conditions*: Applies to all bookings with a value of over £2,000, subject to lounge availability at the time of booking – please check for details.

Sue Todd

Beth's Corner - Edwina Bradbury

I was looking forward to meeting Edwina Bradbury and enjoying her memories of Stoke Golding dating back to the 1930s. She's another of the redoubtable Quinney family. I'd written about her Aunt Eileen and her cousin Brian, and they all had connections with Hall's Hosiery factory, where I now live.

The first thing Edwina told me was about an original Deed mentioning the Quinney family as far back as 1870. Their great grandfather was born in one of the cottages in Blacksmith's Yard and her grandfather lived at Mile Oak just outside Tamworth where he worked for a butcher. Mother worked as a maid at the Vicarage. Dad met Mum when he was delivering the meat from the butcher, on his bicycle no doubt. When they moved to Stoke Golding, they lived in one of the council cottages down Station Road, but were told: "George should have wed a Stoke gel." The village didn't welcome 'incomers', and Mum came all the way from Tamworth! "The house was pure luxury with three bedrooms, a kitchen and pantry with the 'thrall' - a stone shelf to keep food cool. Every Friday night we used the copper to boil the water pouring it into an enamel bath on the kitchen floor. I went in first followed by my little brother and we were scrubbed clean with carbolic and honey soap." "We collected fresh milk daily in a jug from the farm opposite, and Mum would cover it with a cloth soaked in cold water to keep it fresh. We grew all our own food. Grandfather kept pigs and rabbits and chickens. We saved every penny. During the war, sitting on the field opposite, we watched the bombs dropping on Coventry, the flames lighting up the whole sky."

"School started at St. Margaret's and soon I was called 'a shining light'. Every day I had to stand and recite the ABC and a poem called "The Snowdrift" - a proper little 'goody-goody.' Dixey Grammar came next, with one bus a day, but none on Saturdays, for extra games, so we pedalled six miles there and six miles back, in all weathers. Leaving school at eighteen, I travelled all on my own, on the train to London and across to Victoria, to Brighton. I'd never been that far before, and when I got to teacher training college they couldn't understand my accent." There was a chuckle of amusement as Edwina told me this, and again she quoted from those days. "Stupid to send a girl to college 'cos they just get married." But this slight silver haired lady of 80 has been continually successful, from one job to another all through her long career. "My main subject was Art. I was taught to discover and think for myself. History and psychology were my secondary subjects."

Her first job was at Attleborough, helping the Head to defrost the outside toilets, followed by marriage to Herbert Foster, who worked in Hinckley Co-op. For seven years she was at Richmond School in charge of 40 pupils. Her first Headship was at Barwell where she stayed for a further eight years. During this time they fostered Paul and Marilyn from a Leicester children's home. As Head of Battling Brook Edwina developed the school from seven classes with twenty-two teachers and eventually 542 pupils. Dealing with school budgets and the daily administration, as well as caring for her elderly parents, Edwina was diagnosed with heart problems, while still in her forties. She came back to the village, along with her mother Ivy. Sadly, she lost Herbert, but in time met, and in 1982, married Gordon Bradbury. "Oh he were a lovely man but he were no scholar." Another of Edwina's quotes from one of the family. She also showed me a reference written for her in 1964 and I'd like to close with a couple of my pet quotes from it. "Mrs Foster is an excellent class teacher

(Continued on page 15)

(Beth's Corner, continued from page 14)

– with a will of her own! I think she has the character and personality to make an excellent Head Teacher.”

Since retirement Edwina has worked in numerous voluntary capacities. Many will know her tireless work as Governor of St. Margaret's, Trustee for Hester Hodges and The Boys' Charity among others. I so enjoyed this uniquely successful and charming academic lady coming to have tea with me. Bless you Edwina, and thanks.

Beth



SPOTLIGHT on...

Sehmbi Stores

The Middle Stores will be opening soon as **Sehmbi Stores Ltd**, run by Paul and Surinder Sehmbi. They came into this area from Coventry and opened a store in Higham-on-the-Hill in 1997 and have been trading successfully there ever since. As many of you know, Paul has been selling newspapers and milk from the back of his car in the Club car park for months now, and he has enjoyed getting to know some of us and sharing in the village banter. There is a need in a village for a place to meet others and pass the time of day. Paul and Surinder will provide a friendly and approachable atmosphere for us to enjoy, I'm sure.

Paul and Surinder hope to open the store in Stoke on January 26th and are just waiting for the go-ahead from the newspaper people. They will be running the store here while staff cover the business in Higham. They do not intend to live here, however.

Sehmbi Stores will be a general one, selling groceries, newspapers and magazines, confectionary, ice cream, frozen foods and medicines. It will also be an off-licence. This will be a great boon to the people in the village. Paul and Surinder have worked hard to achieve this development and I wish them every success. They will need our support.

Rosemary Collier

Wanted - stamps, towels and soft toys

Do you have any used stamps, old towels or soft toys that you would be willing to donate to 'Canine Partners', a charity which trains dogs to be Assistance Dogs for disabled people.

A friend of mine has just started fostering May, a beautiful yellow Labrador, at weekends while she is being trained at a new training centre at Osgathorpe near Loughborough. Like so many charities, Canine Partners relies entirely on public donations. If you have any of these items I would be happy to collect them from you, or you can drop them off at my house – 21 Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding. To find out more about the charity go to www.caninepartners.org.uk

Ruth Fisher – 01455 212489



OBITUARIES



Nancy Yearby

We are sad to report that Nancy Yearby passed away peacefully on 1st December aged 84 years. Nancy, who for many years had lived in Hall Drive, was the wife of the late Bill Yearby and dearly loved mum of David and Lynne and much loved grandma and great grandma. Her funeral service was held at the Heart of England Crematorium. Donations in her memory may be made for Dementia UK, c/o D.B. Devall & Son, Funeral Directors, The Green, Attleborough, Nuneaton.

Caroline Jane Spokes

Paul and Judy Spokes have informed us of the sad loss of their daughter, Caroline, who herself took the very brave decision to end her suffering and who passed away at their home on 12th December at the age of 35 years. She was their much cherished daughter and a dearly loved sister of Kate and Amy and wonderful auntie to Millie and Jack. The family would like to express their thanks to Caroline's numerous friends for their support at this difficult time. Caroline was an inspiration to, and loved by many and will be sadly missed. Her funeral service was held at the Heart of England Crematorium. There were family flowers only with a request that, if so desired, donations in Caroline's memory can be made for 'The Caroline Spokes Memorial Fund', c/o G. Seller & Co Funeral Services, 75, Upper Bond Street, Hinckley, LE10 1RH. All donations will be divided between Caroline's favourite charities.

John (Jack) Wright

John passed away in the Chesterfield Royal Hospital on 15th December aged 79 years. John lived for many years in Stoke Golding and was a member of the well known Wright family. He still has sisters and a sister-in-law living in the village. One of his brothers was the late Cyril Wright MM. He was the husband of the late Joan and a much loved brother, uncle and friend. His funeral service was held at the Heart of England Crematorium. Donations in his memory can be made through G. Seller, Undertakers, to the British Heart Foundation.

Betty Taylor

Betty passed away peacefully at home on 25th December 2013, very much loved and missed by all the family. The funeral service was held at The Zion Chapel, Stoke Golding. In lieu of flowers, donations were requested to Cancer Research, c/o Murray Funeral Directors, 48 Lower Bond Street, Hinckley, LE10 1QU.



OBITUARIES (Cont)



Chris Taylor

Chris Taylor died after a long illness on 2nd January at her home in Stoke Golding, aged 60. Beloved wife of Steve, dearly loved mother of Yilmaz and Mell and step-mother of Katie and Will. Chris was a lifelong adult educator, loved and respected by friends and colleagues nationally and internationally. Chris, Steve and Mell moved to Stoke Golding from Leicester in August 2011, knowing nothing of the village aside from the beautiful views across gently rolling fields. They had moved with Mell from Leicester after encouraging and assisting their young men to make the move towards their own independence. Chris and Steve immediately made a real effort to get to know the people in the area. With Katie's help the George & Dragon Book Group was born as part of this effort; later Chris facilitated 25 different events for Stoke Golding's 1st Adult Learners Week .



Two short months after moving here, Chris was diagnosed with cancer and the bottom fell out of the family's world. Medical interventions offered hope but unfortunately in Chris's case these were ultimately not successful. Her enthusiasm for life would not allow Chris to dwell too long on the terribleness of the diagnosis and together with Steve she sought successfully to enjoy as many precious moments as they could in the time they had left together. Chris died at home, in Steve's arms, after enjoying a truly wonderful Christmas with her family.

Michael Keith Emmett

Mike of Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding, passed away peacefully in Leicester General Hospital on 4th January aged 70 years. He was the much loved husband of Yvette, loving dad of Paul and Christina and loving granddad to Harry and Charlotte. He was a long standing member of Stoke Golding Heritage Group. As well as his contributions at committee, Mike also provided the Stoker with his unique interpretations of the speakers' presentations at our meetings. What could have been a fairly routine task was turned into an entertaining art form with quotations and comments from different literary sources, not only on the presentation but also on the subject matter.

He also wrote his own occasional contributions to the Stoker. A memorable one was about his African parrots' verbal comments on hearing scenes from Shakespeare's Macbeth, which led to the publication of a letter in the Times. Perhaps the editors would republish the article as a reminder of Mike, who in his own quiet way made such a positive contribution to the village and in particular to the Heritage Group.

His funeral service took place in Wykin Lane Cemetery. There were family flowers only with donations to Prostate Cancer UK and the World Wildlife Fund c/o McCartney's Funeral Service, 47 Coventry Road, Hinckley. LE10 0JR.



OBITUARIES (Cont)



Jim Hemus

Sadly we have heard of the death of Jim Hemus of Sherwood Road, Stoke Golding who passed away at his home on 8th January aged 90 years. He was the beloved husband of Ann and a much loved father, grandfather and great grandfather. His funeral service took place at the Heart of England Crematorium.

We send our sincere condolences to the families and friends of those mentioned.



Stoke Golding WI - January Meeting

Aromatherapy and Reflexology was the subject of Lois Terry's talk to Stoke Golding WI at the first meeting of the New Year. Lois had used essential oils to help her cope with the emotional and physical demands of caring for her terminally ill husband and her subsequent bereavement. She then trained with the Penny Price Academy in Hinckley in both aromatherapy and reflexology.

Lois advised us to always use good quality oils and that most could not go straight on the skin but could be inhaled or diluted. An oil could be diluted in a little milk to go in a bath or in almond oil or a lotion to be rubbed in. We had a chance to smell several oils, whilst we were told about their usefulness and then Lois demonstrated some simple head and shoulder massage techniques on a willing volunteer. Finally, Lois spoke a little about reflexology including the fact that the hands had zones on them associated with other parts of the body and could be massaged if the feet were not accessible.

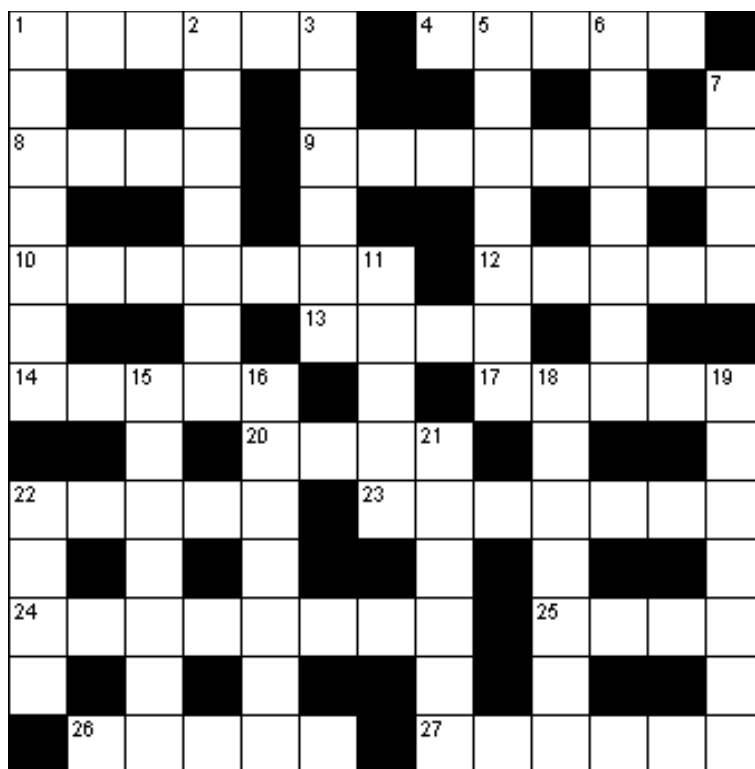
New President, Val Hartwell, had enthusiastically welcomed everyone back after the holiday festivities and congratulated the skittles team on their victory over Kirkby Mallory WI in the WI county tournament. The team now faces Greetham WI in the semi final. There was also some planning for the WI Group show with a request for crafts to exhibit and for volunteers to make a sandwich cakes and Easter biscuits for the individual competition.

At the next meeting on Wednesday 12th February, in the Methodist Church Hall, there will be a chance to do one of several craft activities demonstrated by the WI's own talented ladies. If you are interested come along at 7.30pm.

Anne Fullagar

COPY DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE: 15th FEBRUARY

Crossword



Across

1. 4a always features these (6)
4. Sent on Valentine's Day (5)
8. Average level of achievement (4)
9. This occurs every 4 years (4-4)
10. Reflection of sunlight through rain (7)
12. Valentine Christian martyr was one (5)
13. You never put this on a 4a. (4)
14. Vera Lynne and Shirley Bassey are these. (5)
17. A finger or toe. (5)
20. Another name for exam. (4)
22. Short name for Christmas play. (5)
23. People try to be this by doing 6d. (7)
24. You get these from the sales. (8)
25. A Valentines day flower. (4)
26. How many French hens. (5)
27. Moves along sideways. (6)

Down

1. A centenarian has lived to be this. (7)
2. A love relationship. (7)
3. A pink fleshed fish.(6)
5. Placed side by side. (7)
6. Doing this makes you 23a. (7)
7. Fine coarse stone pieces. (4)
11. You get a smaller one when doing 6d. (5)
15. A King or Queen. (7)
16. Place for putting things away. (7)
18. Took no notice of someone. (7)
19. You try to meet these when doing 6d. (7)
21. A subject of discussion or essay. (6)
22. Ale houses. (4)

Answers on page 22

Stoke Golding Parish Council Meeting - December 2013

County Cllr Ivan Ould's report included:

Raglan Homes at Convent Corner: C. Cllr Ould reported on the background and latest issue on the shared ownership properties, and stated he had sent a letter to the Raglan Homes Chairman. A meeting is to be arranged with Raglan Homes.

Matters arising from November meeting:

Crime – 10 crimes reported for November. Police did not attend this month's meeting so the Council were unable to obtain further details.

Conservation Area:

New road name plates being installed.

War Memorial – leaflet from Heritage Group presented to meeting as a contribution towards collecting information on this issue.

Linda Gosling has informed the Parish Council that she wishes to step down from planting the village tubs. Clerk to write to Linda to thank her for the lovely displays she has done over the years. The Parish Council will be looking for a successor, but will ask Linda if she can still supply the plants.

Reports of Council representatives:

Wykin Lane Cemetery – Grounds-man to remove the wire fence, fix the top gate and make good the edge of the pond.

Hinckley Road Cemetery – ivy on wall to be pruned back.

Planning Application Matters:

New Applications:

Erection of two dwellings - 36 Station Road. Parish Council has submitted comments that this is outside the building line. Heritage Group submitted comments stating this will encroach on an important historical site and has objected to the plans.

12 Whitemoors Road - Part change of use of ground floor from residential dwelling (C3) to child minding (D1) including extensions and alterations to dwelling - Parish Council submitted comments pointing out design could be more sympathetic.

Trinity House 16 Main Street - Extension and alterations to dwelling -

Highway Extinguishment – Proposed Stopping Up of Highway Rights over land adjacent to 60 Hinckley Road.

Permissions granted:

Removal of condition 4 and 5 - Park House, 4 Main Street.

Raglan Homes

Discussed under C Cllr Ould report. Cllr Ward expressed concerns over the way the people have been treated and now awaits the outcome of the meeting with Raglan.

Barwell SUE - VAS (vehicle activated sign)

Mr Roy Mitchell requested the purchase of a 'Managing traffic data module and software bolt-on system' for the VAS signs to gather data on how much traffic comes through the village and at what speed. This will gather facts on the traffic impact from the proposed Barwell SUE, provide this information to the five

(Continued on page 21)

(Parish Council Notes continued from page 20)

surrounding Parish Councils and gather evidence towards the forthcoming Area Action Plan meeting early in 2014.

Councillors agreed to purchase the modules.

SAD (Site Allocation Document) – Mr Mitchell requested for deferment of this document as Councillors have only been given one week to read and study it before consultation.

Precept / Budget Adoption

Councillors were asked for their opinion on next year's Precept and all agreed it should be kept the same. The Council still awaits confirmation of figures from HBBC.

Neighbourhood Watch / SmartWater Village Area Signs

Several design options were presented to the meeting for discussion. Clerk to send measurements and preferred design to sign-maker for costing.

Any other business

BT Kiosk – Councillors agreed to keep this service running.

Village Notice Board – a volunteer has kindly offered to give the board a coat of protective stain.

Christmas Lights – Clerk to write to Thomas Barton thanking the Charity for installing the Christmas lights and will ask if the Charity could liaise with the Council next year with regard to having the Christmas tree and lights put up at the same time.

A **full copy of the minutes** of meetings can be read/obtained at the Post Office or on the village website www.stokegolding.co.uk

Next Parish Council meeting: Wednesday 5th February at 7pm in the **Methodist Church Hall**.

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 14th March 2014**.

By Order of the Trustees,

R. E. Fisher (Mrs) Clerk

Yoga & Fitness Classes at the Baxter Hall, Stoke Golding

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

Sports & Remedial
 massagetherapy



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

Sophie's Beauty Room

Offering all aspects of Beauty Therapy
 in Stoke Golding

Call Sophie on 07583019333



Professional and friendly

10% off your first treatment

New Street Name Plates



The new street name plates which have appeared in Stoke Golding's Conservation Area show a hawthorn bush and King Henry VII's crown. They were designed by Jan Pettyfer, a member of The Stoker



Production Team and Heritage Group.

It is hoped that eventually all the roads in the village will have new name plates .

Across 1. Hearts; 4. Cards; 8. Norm; 9. Leap year; 10. Rainbow; 12. Saint;
 13. Name; 14. Dames; 17. Digit; 20. Test; 22. Pant; 23. Thinner;
 24. Bargains; 25. Rose; 26. Three; 27. Sides.
 Down 1. Hundred; 2. Romance; 3. Salmon; 5. Apposed; 6. Dieting; 7. Grit;
 11. Wait; 15. Monarch; 16. Storage; 18. Ignored; 19. Targets; 21. Thesis;
 22. Pubs.


Tomlinson's Farm Shop


Your local Farm Shop, Station Road

Free range chicken, Dexter beef, locally sourced cheese and milk and more

Open Tues - Fri 10am-6pm
Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-3pm
 Tel: Jo or Garth on 01455 212199

Farm Assured Home Produced
Pork, Beef, Eggs & Potatoes
 at
 Lodge Farm, Dadlington Rd, Stoke Golding

Mon 12- 5.30pm
Thurs & Fri 9.30am-5.30pm
Sat 9.30am- 4.30pm
Sun 9.30am-1pm
 Closed all day Tues and Wed
Tel: Linda Gosling 01455 212598


Designer Travel


Your local truly independent travel agent for all your holiday requirements
 Fully ABTA and ATOL bonded
 01455 213590
 e-mail: sue@designertravel.co.uk
www.designertravel.co.uk/suetodd
www.facebook.com/SueDesignerTravel

SEWING MACHINES

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

Tel: Keith or Barbara
 on 01455 212036
 or 07946 597958


A Cut Above
 Professional Dog Grooming
 by Joanna Barber
 Providing a full grooming service
All breeds catered for
All enquiries Welcome
 Bookings now being taken
 Telephone 07816823557
 The Stables, Pine Close, Stoke Golding

WINE 2 YOU


Battle of Bosworth Wines
Chateau Pech-Latt
 and many more
 Call 01455 213214 for lists
 Or email keith@wine-2-you.com


VISION INTERIORS

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


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

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



Springfield Electrical

Your local electrical and security systems specialist

Tel Tim on: 01455 845113

www.springfieldelectricalservices.co.uk



SQUARE DEAL DOMESTICS

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

All work fully guaranteed

Tel Nick : 07976 718392



FootWorks

Podiatry & Chiropody

HPC Registered - 20 yrs experience

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

Tel: 01455 842941 Mob: 07785 397515
Home visits available

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

Competitive rates

24 hour turn around ironing service

Attention to detail

Fully insured uniformed staff

Any task, just ask!!

Call Caron

for a free quotation

01455 212426

or 07973719379



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

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

TEL: 01455 870290
MOB: 07921 073479



Need help with
your computer?

Neil Sherry

Computer Services



Locally based professional
for home or business

Contact: neilsherry@talktalk.net

Tel: 01827 713848 - 9am-9pm

Paul Howard

*Painting & Decorating
Home Improvements*

Stoke Golding Based

Email: howard_paul@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 07850 246 701

*Big or Small - Inside or Out
Free Quote*

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

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

Call John on

07854 216 308 or 01455213296

Email johnpuddefoot_2@hotmail.com

Website: www.puddspedals.co.uk

