

The Stoker

June '15



No. 142

Stoke Golding Village Magazine
including
Dadlington Matters

50p



Note from the Editors



It was lovely to hear about Stoke Golding Scout Group leading the St George's Day Parade this year (p8)- what an honour for them. The last time Stoke Golding led the parade was in 1992. Another honour was bestowed upon Bob Quinney when he was invited to attend the centenary

commemoration of the battle of Frezenberg Ridge with four generations of his family (facing page).

We were amazed at the quality of writing from St. Margaret's School pupils each describing their new allotment at the school (p5) - they are obviously budding reporters and will hopefully consider joining the Stoker team when they are a little older.

Don't forget to check out the timetable for our very own Festival of Learning in June - see the centre of the magazine - there really is something for everyone this year with 26 different activities to try. Hmm.. now let's see will it be willow weaving, wine tasting or holiday French?

Just as we were going to print we heard the brilliant news about Tom Hare winning a gold medal at the Chelsea Flower Show and managed to squeeze in a few words (p7)

Steve and Jane

The Stoker Team

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

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

Please send articles for the **July/August 2015** issue of The Stoker to:
The Editor, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding by 15th June.

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

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

janewhitesg@gmail.com.

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

Publication of any articles or letters submitted does not imply approval of, or agreement with, any views and comments contained, and are published without prejudice.

Cover picture: Stoke Golding Scout Group lead the Saint George's Day Parade

Centenary Commemoration of the Battle of Frezenberg Ridge

On the 13th May, the 100th anniversary of the battle of Frezenberg Ridge, which ended the 2nd Battle of Ypres, the Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry Squadron of the Royal Yeomanry commemorated the event on the battlefield east of Ypres.

A drumhead service was held and a memorial of Bardon granite dedicated at the site of the battle where the Leicestershire Yeomanry lost two thirds of its men, dead, wounded and missing, in one murderous day of ceaseless rain, shelling and what one soldier described graphically as “bayonet work”. Three men from Stoke Golding survived the battle; Ambrose Beeby, Albert Hopkins and Elliott Quinney, all of whom returned at the end of the war and settled in Wykin Lane.

Four generations of the Quinney family took part in the commemoration. Bob Quinney, son of Elliott, Sheila Lockett, granddaughter, whose father Ralph fought with the Leicestershire Yeomanry in the second world war, great granddaughter Andrea and fourteen year old great- great granddaughter Katie.



After the service there was a guided tour of the battlefield and explanation of the role played in the battle by the Leicestershire Yeomanry . The afternoon was spent visiting the graves of those who fell.

At 7pm those involved in the commemoration gathered in the ancient Grote Market outside the Cloth Hall. They lined up, the Yeomanry band in all its regalia at the front, behind them a squadron of serving yeoman in uniform led by Colonel R.E.J. Boyle DL, followed by the Lord Lieutenant of Rutland, Vice Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, retired officers of the regiment and the ancestors of those who

fought at Frezenberg Ridge. Medals were worn and Bob wore those of his father while Sheila, Anthea and Katie wore those of Elliot's two sons, Jack, and Sheila's father Ralph, who both served with distinction in the second world war. Jack was killed in action in 1942, on Ralph's 21st birthday.

Traffic was stopped, the parade called to attention and the order given to march to the stirring sound of the band, from the cobbled market square, down the street lined with spectators, to the crowded Menin Gate where the column halted beneath its majestic arches. A service was held, complete with hymns, prayers, music and readings. The names of those of the Leicestershire Yeomanry who fell were read by Major Luke Smith, TD; Colonel R.C.J. Martin OBE LD read the Act of Remembrance and the buglers sounded the Last Post and Reveille, as they do every evening of every day of the year.

As the band played Sir Edward Elgar's Nimrod, wreaths were laid for the Leicestershire Yeomanry by the Lord Lieutenant of Rutland, Dr Laurence Howard OBE, Colonel Murray Colville DL, Vice Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, the Colonel of the regiment, Robert Boyle and by the descendents of those who fought at Frezenberg Ridge. Bob Quinney laid a wreath for the 10th Royal Hussars, the regiment in which he served and which, together with the Royal Horse Guards, the remnants of the Leicestershire Yeomanry and the Essex Yeomanry in support, led the final charge which routed and drove back the Germans who had mistakenly expected the battle to carry them to victory at the gates of Ypres.

After dinner that night Colonel Boyle read out a message sent by the Duke of Edinburgh. It ended with the words, "**Many of the men who took part made the ultimate sacrifice, but none of them died in vain.**" It was a fitting end to a truly impressive, highly emotional and unforgettable event.

Bob Quinney

Hanging Baskets Stolen and Found

Mrs Hebden, from Wykin Lane, was saddened to discover that both she and her neighbour had had their hanging baskets stolen from outside their houses. She was very pleased to find them both by the Methodist Chapel along with another very pretty one. She described it as cone-shaped with paper flowers. She has put it on the fence by the flagpole near the bungalows on Wykin Lane and hopes someone will recognise it. She even tried to water it to keep it in good condition until she realised the flowers were artificial!

Budding Reporters at St Margaret's School

We were delighted to receive beautifully written reports from St Margaret's School pupils about their recent new allotment. We have published two on the following page and will be publishing others in future editions.

National Grid to the Rescue



On Tuesday 28th of April 2015, a team from National Grid came to St. Margaret's Primary school, in hope of building a sustainable allotment garden as part of a community project day.

Earlier in the year, St. Margaret's Primary school won a competition held by National Grid. However their prize was quite out of the ordinary! ST.Margarets won £1000 for a group of people from National Grid to visit their school and construct an eco-friendly

allotment. When National Grid arrived they started work almost immediately.

The first thing National Grid did was patch up grassless areas around the edge of the field. Then they added steps on the banks of the field to make a safer entrance onto the grass. National Grid is attempting to make a safer environment for the children in and around school at break times. John from National Grid said it was "A rewarding challenge."

National Grid have done something like this previously at a school in Earl Shilton, Weavers Close Primary school, and all of the volunteers love doing it. The volunteer's hard and sweaty work eventually paid off. Now we have beautiful allotment garden.

Lucas Year 6

Amazing Allotment Adventure

On Tuesday 28th April 2015, National Grid employees entered St. Margaret's school gates to work hard to build a sustainable garden allotment! However, that wasn't all they did...

Considering the allotment wouldn't take all day, the volunteers (including some ex-employees) decided to tidy everything!

For instance, they helpfully patched up the quiet area with mesmerising flowers and sweet-smelling plants that would later be used for our own hot meals in the dining hall!

Surprisingly, everyone working extremely hard looked like they were thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Pete-a National Grid employee explained that the exciting process was "Mucky and fun!"

Furthermore, John (also an employee) described the day as "A rewarding challenge."

Me, and my colleagues/classmates, really got involved, asking several questions. It was an excellent experience that increases our schools sociable society!

Written By Harry Taylor (Yr6)



Stoke Golding Football Club

Stoke Golding u6's took part in a tournament in Kirby Muxloe on the 3rd May. After a tough start they came 2nd in their group, scoring 8 goals in 3 games, including Harvey Allsopp scoring 2 hat tricks. They also played Green Towers the week before, and over 4 games, scored lots of goals without conceding, so a fantastic couple of weekends for our development squad.

The u10 winner of the man of the match trophy was Thomas Gamble for the 9-a-side tournament at Market Harborough. A very happy chap indeed.

U11's rounded off a season following promotion with a great win.

Well done to those that trained and played through the tough winter months and showed great commitment.

Everyone is really looking forward to the new season.

Our presentation nights are on 5th and 12th June at the Stoke Club and our signing on fun day will be on Sunday 28th June from 12 on the rec .



Harvey Allsopp scoring at the tournament



Stoke Golding Football Club

UNDER 9'S SEASON 15/16

Why don't you come and join us?

If you are currently in year 3 at school and would like to give football a try then why don't you come and join us at training to see if you like it?

We train on Saturday mornings from 9.30 - 11.30am at St Martin's school.

We are a family friendly club focussed on making sure every child enjoys training and playing in matches.

For more information contact Pete Hill via mobile 07824 836747, email peterhill1710@gmail.com or take a look at the website: www.pitchero.com/clubs/stokegoldingfc



U10 Thomas Gamble celebrating man of the match.

RHS Chelsea Flower Show – Success for Tom Hare

GOLD



The Breast Cancer Haven Garden was designed around a willow woven 'nest'. Inspired by The Haven, a national charity providing unique one-to-one support to anyone affected by breast cancer, the garden was designed by RHS multi-award-winner Sarah Eberle in collaboration with Tom Hare from

Stoke Golding and his team including Pete Zelenczuk and Joe Martin. The garden featured a willow woven nest surrounded by foxgloves, aquilegia and other soft planting. Tom specialises in creating sculptures made from wood and willow. The 'nest concept was developed to highlight the embracing, peaceful and reassuring environment provided by The Haven.

Well done Tom and team!



Stoke Fest this year will be held on SATURDAY 29th AUGUST with The Beatles and Kamikazes confirmed with lots more acts to be announced. Like previous years we are running 2 stages and we have been inundated with requests from bands and acts to appear.

This year we need lots of help to be able to pull the event together. If you would like to be involved in the planning, setting up or taking down, or if you can spare some time to help us run the event on the day, then please let us know as we desperately need help!

This year the emphasis is to make this a fun family event, with something for everyone. We will be having a the usual penalty shoot out, novelty dog show and childrens funfair and hope to have other stalls and attractions on the field. If there's something that you would like on there, tell us about it, or even better, help us to organise it. We can only improve the event with new ideas.

We have our own website www.stoke-fest.co.uk where we will be posting regular updates. You can email us at contact@stoke-fest.co.uk or phone Pete or Karen on (01455) 212132

Stoke Golding Scout Group Leads the Parade

On Saturday 25th April 1st Stoke Golding (St Margaret's) Scout Group led the Hinckley District of approximately 800 members through the streets of Hinckley and led the promise and readings at St Peter's Church.

The group led with the St George's and Union Jack flag as well as our own flags for each section. We had a good turn out of approximately 50 young people who looked incredibly smart with their own unique neckers. These were designed with the help of Di Sinclair and the production cost was partly funded by the White Swan Committee. The Scout Group co-ordinated the design and production. Thanks to all those mentioned for their help and generosity of time.

We marched well as we had been practising at our meetings, we read and did the promises beautifully and carried the flags with honour. Caroline Patullo helped the minister with the proceedings. We sang in full voice the joyful hymns chosen by the group. Alan Baker, Scout leader and one of the longest serving leaders, stood on the podium and took the salute as we marched past. He had the proud honour of dismissing the whole of Hinckley District at the end of the service. We tidied up with remarkable enthusiasm, not perhaps exhibited elsewhere.

We then had an unhealthy picnic and ran around in the park area and played games as our chosen treat. A good time was had by all and we, as leaders, along with parents were very proud of them ALL. Well done.

Ruth Fisher joined us in the parade as in 1992 she had the honour of leading the parade around the streets of Stoke Golding. She recounts the story on the opposite page.

The Beavers continued the St George's day with a themed evening with the Beavers coming in fancy dress. We played Pin the tail on the Dragon and other dragon themed games. A good time was had by all.



The Cubs have been busy completing their pioneering badge with lots of knot tying and rope themed games including skipping. The old games are still appreciated.

The Scouts were out hiking around the area of Shenton and Sutton Cheney and navigated themselves successfully back to the village hall with all bodies accounted for and intact.

Jennifer Michie

St George's Day Parade, 1993



In April 1993 it was 1st Stoke Golding Scout Group's turn to host the annual St George's Day Parade. This usually takes place in Hinckley, but that year there wasn't a church large enough to accommodate all the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers the District, so we, in Stoke Golding decided that we could host the

event in our village. After much deliberation the idea was accepted and we went ahead. A marquee was erected on the rec, where a barn dance was held on the Saturday evening and the parade took place on Sunday 22nd April.

We marched around the village with our Scout Group at the head of the parade, and the salute was taken on Whitemoors Road. Although it caused many headaches for Hinckley District Scouters, it was a memorable and very enjoyable occasion.



Ruth Fisher (ex Beaver and Group Scout Leader)



3 hour Narrowboat Taster Trips

Try your hand at steering a narrowboat under instruction, or just relax and let the countryside pass by. Trips run on Wednesdays and Saturdays 10am - 1pm. Cosy wood burner stove. £20 per person.

Contact 212671 or sales@ashbyboats.com

Gig news with a classical theme

When arranging to visit Claire Wood to do this article she said " Well I do a bit of singing". It's more than a bit. Claire comes from a very musical background, her mum and sister are both professional singers and Claire got involved with her mum's church choir from an early age. She also has brother, father and brother in law who all sing as well.

The family have a long history of singing together or with other choirs and they all sang in the opera 'Cosi fan Tutte' by Mozart for her mother's 70th birthday but had to draft in some others as the female members are all sopranos. Claire herself also plays the flute and piano.

She did not follow a traditional musical course at university instead she studied English literature. She has taught English as a foreign language and had lived in Oman and Italy (she speaks Italian) before settling in Stoke Golding.

Her " bit of singing" includes the Leicestershire Chorale which consists of 40 members and they undertake about 5/6 concerts a year. The chorale has a challenging and varied classical programme including a 40 piece they are rehearsing at the moment, Tallis 'Spem in Alium'. Their next concert is in Holy Cross Priory, Leicester on the 27th June - see page 12 for more details.

She has joined a small group which has just formed called " Horologe" which recently sang in Finedon, the parish of Rev Richard Coles, and also sings on an 'ad hoc' basis in Leicester Cathedral's chamber choir. She sang with this group at Richard III interment as a special service for the Richard III society.

She helps out with St Margaret's school choir with the technical voice training aspect of singing.



She has obviously passed on her passion for singing and skill to her two daughters. Both sing with the Leicester Cathedral choir at different stages. Imogen sang at the live Radio 4 broadcast on the Sunday before the interment, including a piece from The Messiah. She also sang on the Friday morning at the Reveal of the tomb.

The choir is run by Christopher Ouvry-Johns and they have to audition for a place. Claire told me that of the 50 children who auditioned last year only 12 got in and this year only 7 got in. Obviously there is a high standard to achieve. Imogen has to have commitment and dedication to the choir as she sings Evensong on Mondays and every other Thursday, at services on Sundays and she rehearses twice a week.

It is a big commitment for all the family with choir rehearsals and concerts and travelling around the region. They obviously have a passion for singing and a talent as well.

We wish them all the best on their classical singing journey and await to see what the family achieves in the future.

Jennifer Michie

Dadlington Matters

St James' Dadlington – Flower Festival

The theme for this year's Festival of Flowers in Dadlington was 'Sources of Inspiration', and what an eclectic variety of displays this produced. From My Garden to Google, Stone Age Man to The Sewing Bee, the already delightful Church of St James became a backdrop for a riot of colour, scent and creativity. Richard III and Alan Tichmarsh turn out to be equally inspiring, and visitors were also captivated by designs based on Music and Darkness into Light among many others.

Black and white photos cannot, I'm afraid, convey the colour or fragrance – you had to be there, as hundreds of people were, raising nearly £3,000 for church funds and enjoying wonderful hospitality in the Village Hall. Thanks to all for your hard work, and I know the PCC want to thank everyone for their wonderful support.

Simon Rees-Jones



Thank You Simon

Simon Rees-Jones has decided to step down from the Stoker production team after being the Dadlington representative for several years. We will miss him and would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you for all his support.

From everyone at the Stoker

What's On

SUMMER EVENTS IN DADLINGTON

SATURDAY 20 JUNE - HISTORICAL LECTURE

'R Almost Marked the Spot - Filming the Search for Richard III'

Brilliant & lively talk with unique video by Carl Vivian of Leicester Uni.

Village Hall doors & licensed bar open 7pm. Lecture begins 8pm.

Admission by ticket only - £6pp including tasty hotdog.

Tickets: Rachel on 212538 or rachelrj1@gmail.com. Book early!

SUNDAY 26 JULY - CRICKET MATCHES

Trophy Match: Dadlington/Stoke Golding Combo vs Shenton

Other fun matches and games for all ages. Spectators & supporters welcome.


Cream teas & licensed bar. Collection for Pancreatic Cancer UK. Start 2pm.

Info: Keith on 213214 or keith@morton5275.co.uk


AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY - SUMMER FETE

Games, bouncy slide, assault course, pitch'n'putt, tombola, archery, trampoline, plate smashing, tug'o'war, vintage military & farm vehicles, donkey derby, table top sales (rent-a-pitch), family races, BBQ, cream teas, bar, ice creams.

Info & table top rental: John on 212292 or jawalliker@gmail.com



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joined by former choral scholars and friends



Director: Tom Williams
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Spem in Alium

Choral Music in Many Parts

Holy Cross Priory, Leicester
Saturday 27 June, 7.30pm

Tickets (£10/£12 on the door, £5 NUS, £1 U19) available from:
www.leicesterchorale.ticketsource.co.uk, tickets@leicestershirechorale.org.uk, 07792 123630

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Help to Raise the Roof by joining in a programme of well-loved classics with Singing For Fun.

De Montfort Hall 14th June

2.30pm and 7.30pm

Tickets £12/£10 (Adults) & £8 (U16s)

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Or www.demontforthall.co.uk



**Stoke Golding Garden Show
85th Annual Show – 5th September 2015**

It's that time of year again!

Stoke Golding Garden Show committee are already buzzing around like veritable busy bees preparing for this year's annual show. It will be held on Saturday 5th September 2015, at Stoke Golding Club in the function room, so please put a date in your diary to pop along and join in with the fun and competitive classes. We are presently looking for generous and kind-hearted folk to make a donation towards the classes in the show, so that ultimately we can donate more of our funds to charity later in the summer. (Please contact Tina on the number below if you can help us with this).

Each year the Show chooses a main charity to donate to and this year we have chosen the **East Midlands Air Ambulance** based at Donington, as this organisation has been more than a little busy in our area during the last year or two. The charity is funded entirely from donations so 'every penny counts.'

Thanks to the generosity of the supporters of the show last year, we were able to donate £1000 to the very worthwhile cause of Wishes4Kids.

We are especially indebted to 'The Charity of Thomas Barton' who provided the main funding for the running of the 2014 Show, enabling us to donate far more of our profit to our charity and to **Stoke Golding Club** for allowing us to hold the show in their function room.

The Show is open to everyone (we cater for all ages and abilities). We have included sections to test local ability in floral art, wine making, vegetable growing, flower growing, children's creativity, cake baking and decorating plus a chutney class, to mention but a few. We also have new classes - an apple pie, vanilla cupcake decoration and a specimen vegetable. We are continuing our successful new feature whereby a novice (someone who has not won a prize in the class before at the Garden Show) can enter in a separate category and be judged purely against other novices. This year we are inviting any novices to enter a 'Three Beetroot' class, so get those seeds in ASAP!

Please bring your spare produce for 'The Market Stall,' All profit from this enterprise will go to the chosen charity so if you have any spare jam, cakes, vegetables, fruit, flowers (or indeed ANY produce) please bear us in mind as we would be happy to take it off your hands.

Following the judging, from 6pm, you are free to admire the class entries, congratulate the prize winners, enter the Grand Raffle and then you are invited to bid on some of the produce in our wonderful Grand Auction later in the evening.

Schedules will be available from the **1st August 2015** from the Stoke Golding village pubs, Stoke Golding Club, Stoke Golding Surgery and local shops. These are **free of charge** so why not pick up a copy and have a go at entering one of the varied classes on offer? Schedules can also be posted to you or sent by email by contacting Tina on 07809629690.

Remember - Entry to view the Show is free to the public from 6pm

Adult Learners' Week Timetable

Date	Activity Details	Cost
Thursday 4th June	" Story Time Fun " with Catherine Overton from Hinckley Library Stoke Golding Village Hall 10.15am To book: ring Heather Adlam 07917066486	FREE
Tuesday 9th June	Sing4Fun! Stoke Golding Methodist Hall 7.45 - 9.15pm To book: tel. 212416 email janewhitesg@gmail.com	FREE
Thursday 11th June	Try Your Hand at Bridge George & Dragon 1 - 3pm To book: ring Vic Rollins 213709	FREE
Saturday 13th June	Botanical Painting - Water Colour - Kate Nuttall Baxter Hall 2 - 4pm To book: tel. 213382 email kate.nuttall915@btinternet.com	£2
Saturday 13th June	Wine Tasting - Keith Morton Dadlington Village Hall 7.30 - 9.30pm To book: tel. 213214 email keith@morton5275ltd.co.uk	£5
Monday 15th June	Skin and Nail Care Demonstration by Sophie Johnson Baxter Hall 10 - 11am To book: tel. 212416 email janewhitesg@gmail.com	FREE
Monday 15th June	Update Your Computer Skills - iPads, Apps and Tablets with Neil Sherry St Martin's School 2 - 4pm To book: tel. 01827 713848 email neilsherry@talktalk.net	FREE
Monday 15th June	"Churchill"- A One Man Play - John Whitehead Dadlington Village Hall 11am - 12.30pm To book: just turn up on the day	FREE
Monday 15th June	Improve your Photographs - Martyn Fisher Stoke Golding Village Hall (Committee Room) 7 - 8.30pm To book: tel. 212416 email janewhitesg@gmail.com	FREE
Monday 15th June	Bread Making With a Difference - Brenda Payne St Martin's School 6.45 - 8.45pm To book: tel. 213798 email: steve.smithers@btinternet.com	£2
Monday 15th June	Sewing - Lampshades Sally Halstead St Martin's School 6.45 - 8.45pm To book: tel. 07954086337 email: sally@sallysews.co.uk	£2

Remember to Book Your Session

Date	Activity Details	Cost
Tuesday 16th June	Chair Exercises and Modified Circuit Jennifer Michie, chartered physiotherapist Methodist Hall 10.30 - 11.30am To book: ring Jennifer 07721028048	FREE
Tuesday 16th June	NeedleFelting Sally Halstead Dadlington Village Hall 10 - 12am To book: tel. 07954086337 email: sally@sallysews.co.uk	£2
Tuesday 16th June	Introduction to Pilates Katie Quinn Baxter Hall 1.15 - 2.15pm To book: tel. 07887 895022 email backtobackpilates@gmail.com	FREE
Tuesday 16th June	Floral Arrangements Pat Wilcox St Martin's School 6.45 - 8.45pm To book: ring 213798 email: steve.smithers@btinternet.com	£2
Tuesday 16th June	Clay Art with Vivien Steiner St Martin's School 6.45 - 8.45pm To book: ring 213798 email: steve.smithers@btinternet.com	£2
Tuesday 16th June	Beyond Snapshots - what you can do after you have taken them - John Shilladay St Martin's School 6.45 - 8.45pm To book: email steve.smithers@btinternet.com	FREE
Wed 17th June	Coffee Morning and Photos of Stoke Golding St Margaret's Church 10 - 12 noon Just turn up on the day	FREE
Wed 17th June	Become an Artist in 2 Hours using Acrylics - Sarah Robinson Baxter Hall 1 - 3pm To book: email s.croxall@btinternet.com	£2
Wed 17th June	Improve Your Holiday French - Cathy McKay Baxter Hall 6.30 - 9pm To book: email cathy.mckay@coventry.gov.uk	FREE
Thursday 18th June	Weave a Willow Flower - Tom Hare Baxter Hall 6 - 8pm To book: email tom@tomhare.net	£5
Friday 19th June	Landscape in Pastels - Di Sinclair Baxter Hall 10am - 12 noon To book: ring Di - 212683	£2

Adult Learners' Week - What Will You Try?

Date	Activity Details	Cost
Friday 19th June	Create a Hanging Basket - Doreen Rose St Martin's School 10 - 12noon To book: tel. 213798 email steve.smithers@btinternet.com	£5
Friday 19th June	Embroidery - Sally Halstead Baxter Hall 1 - 3pm To book: tel. 07954086337 email: sally@sallysews.co.uk	£2
Friday 19th June	All About Beer including Brewery Tour Ridge Lane Brewery (Transport provided) To book: email steve.smithers@btinternet.com	£5
Friday 19th June	Try your Hand at Handbells - John Patullo Dadlington Village Hall 7.30 - 9.30pm To book: ring John 212167	FREE

REDISCOVER HINCKLEY WITH FREE SKY RIDE LOCAL GUIDED BIKE RIDES

If you're keen to get out on your bike a bit more and explore more of the local area this Summer, but don't know where to start, a series of free guided bike rides in and around Hinckley & Bosworth could be the answer!

Part of a National campaign to get more people cycling for fun and fitness, Sky Ride Local offers a fantastic range of themed guided bike rides taking place throughout the summer months.

British Cycling and Sky, in partnership with Leicestershire County Council and Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, have scheduled a series of themed Sky Ride Local rides in the Borough over the summer. Guided by friendly British Cycling Ride Leaders along scenic local routes and pitched at three different levels, the rides will explore different themes from *Wildlife and Wilderness* to *City Streets and Parklife*.

Whether you're looking for a family day out, a social ride with friends or colleagues, to increase your confidence on a bike or after a bit more of a challenge, there are rides that cater for everyone.



Stoker Treasurer Swims 5K for Charity



Congratulations to Richard Orr, Treasurer of the Stoker, who swam 5K (100 lengths of a 50m pool) in the Swimathon for Marie Curie Cancer Care at the Aquatic Centre Olympic Pool in London. He completed a fantastic swim in 1 hour 46 minutes and raised £190 for this very deserving cause.

LIFE IN GOMERA

Jan and Tony from Stoke Golding have just returned from six months in a warmer climate and sent the following article.

For those of you that have never heard of it, La Gomera is a tiny speck of an island in the Canaries. To say that it is laid back and rather old fashioned, doesn't do it justice. The islanders are well conversant with 21st. century technology, but many of them still boil water in a saucepan on a bottled gas stove. Kettles are a bit modern!! but microwaves are okay.

It's an extremely friendly place, where everyone goes out of their way to help you and to practice their English. However, it definitely helps if you can speak some Spanish.

The island is dominated by the central volcanic mountains – so the only way to get anywhere is up!! Not great if you don't like heights, but you get used to it. The scenery is simply stunning, high mountains, deep ravines, a rain forest and crops growing on terraces cut into the mountainsides. The weather is warm, but can change within minutes to become cold and windy – sometimes down to only 18 degrees in winter.

Life is a fairly laid back existence, nobody hurries. A cup of coffee can last an hour, if you are sitting in the square, people watching. That's not to say that they are short on entertainment. Any excuse for a fiesta or carnival. February is carnival month (yes, month not day), with virtually non-stop parades and music most nights until late into the night – or even early morning (one went on from 6p.m. one evening until 6a.m. the next morning, non-stop). They certainly know how to party. Carnival month culminates in a ceremony entitled 'The burial of the Sardine'. We haven't quite got our heads around that one yet!

The local Government is very keen on promoting cultural events. We went to a brilliant performance of Sleeping Beauty, by the Moscow Ballet Touring Company. The theatre was packed for both performances and the dancers received a standing ovation.

So, would we want to be anywhere else whilst there is snow and ice in England?
Definitely not !!!

Church Matters



From St Margaret's Church

My London Marathon Experience.

The day had arrived: the day I had been looking forward to with fear, trepidation and excitement. The training was done – months of

pounding the streets in all weathers. I had run 540 miles and now I was going to give the next 26.2 miles my best shot. This was my first marathon and after five years of applying I felt privileged to have a place.

My starting point was in Zone 9 (the back!) where I was among the giant telephone, the rhinoceroses and groups of people who just wanted to get to the finish for their causes. I felt at home here!

Although the start was 10.10am, it took about 20 minutes for our group to get to the line – but then we were off, with people cheering and shouting and an unbelievable feeling of everyone in it together. The crowds were amazing, everyone really getting behind you and shouting your name as if you were their best friend (my Alzheimer's Society vest had my name printed across it!) There were bands playing, people having barbecues, children holding their hands out for high fives and people offering jelly babies.

Some parts were tough going for me, especially miles 18-23, when I thought it would never come to an end, but there were moments of joy as I spotted family and friends who had come to support me... I stopped to give them a hug – they gave me such a lift and spurred me on.

The day was a real mix of emotions. Other runners would pass me or be running with me with pictures of their lost children, parents or spouses. The further you get into the marathon the more your guard is brought down and the emotions really kick in.

As we ran round Big Ben, everyone was just willing us in to the finish. Some of the people who had finished earlier in the day were then lining the final mile to shout support and show the medals to us to spur us on.

Then, a joyful moment as I saw the 800 metre marker - almost there, run past the marker and the 600 metre marker is in sight. A final push and as the 400 metre marker is passed, round into The Mall towards the finish line. Amazing!!

To everyone who supported me with messages, sponsorship and encouragement; to the fantastic volunteers who gave out drinks every mile, stood in the roads directing us and produced our medals at the end; and to the spectators around the course who kept the 37,000 runners going – thank you so much. And as I reflect, it strikes me how much of God's love I experienced that day – God's love through other people – and for that I am thankful.

Linda

Church Matters

Church of England June 2015 Services

St. Margaret's Church

7 th	10.30am	All Age Service
14 th	10.30am	Benefice Service Dadlington
21 st	10.30am	Holy Communion
28 th	10.30am	Morning Worship

St. James's Church

7 th	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
14 th	10.30am	Benefice Service
21 st	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
28 th	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion

Big & Small Church

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

The Methodist Church June 2015 Services

7th	10.30am	Revd Wes Hampton
14th	10.30am	Mr Colin Haddon
21st	10.30am	Mrs Hilary Fenby
28th	10.30am	Mrs Sheila Grice

Zion Baptist Chapel May 2015 Services

7th	6pm	Richard Cotton
14th	6pm	Malcolm Welch
21st	6pm	Martyn Owens
28th	6pm	Steven Connor

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.



SAVE THE DATE

**Fourth Annual Tea & Cake Afternoon
in aid of
Friends of Kenya's Children**

Wednesday 11th August



**More details in next
month's Stoker**

Methodist Church
Coffee Morning
Saturday June 13th
10.00-11.30
For Methodist Homes
for the Aged

La Traviata - A review of the community choirs outing



When Jane White, who together with Rachel Rees-Jones leads our community choir, asked if anyone fancied a trip to see the excellent Stanley Opera perform La Traviata at the Concordia Theatre, I immediately said yes as it was an opera I hadn't seen before. Jane is also a member of the Stanley Opera, so was able to make a group booking for us. Twenty choir members plus two husbands made their way to the fabulous Concordia Theatre last week, to see how

the 'professional' amateur singers perform. I bought a programme, then comfortably ensconced in the bar with hubby and a G&T, I read the synopsis of La Traviata, written in the 1850's by Giuseppe Verdi.

Briefly the story is that Violetta, a courtesan famed for her beauty, finally finds true love in Alfredo, played by Alexander Anderson-Hall. Alfredo's father, played by Chris Marlow, does not want his son to marry Violetta as it would besmirch the family name. He persuades Violetta to give him up. She meets Alfredo again, who is angry with her for having rejected him. Alfredo soon realises that she did it for love and runs to her side when he discovers she has tuberculosis and lies near death on her bed.

The orchestra strikes up, the curtains open and the story starts to unfold with a party scene. I spot Jane in the chorus and have to resist giving a little wave. The music takes hold and we start to hear the fabulous voices of the chorus singing. I am enraptured by Violetta's soprano voice; Alfredo matches her with his beautiful voice full of passion. We are treated to the famous drinking song performed by the members of the chorus who practically raised the roof - magnificent! Alfredo's father sings a long duet with Violetta that is strong and passionate, and I love Chris Marlow's voice having seen him in many previous productions.

The simple but superb stage sets provided a fitting backdrop to a beautifully performed classic opera, and the acting abilities of the cast members were second to none. The orchestra too performed really well, with the talented Janet Bacon as musical director. I had to suppress a giggle when one of our choir members sitting commented that she thought the musical director was performing naked! We were relieved to see when she turned around to take a bow at the end that she was in fact wearing a backless dress.

I feel so lucky that we have such a great facility as the Concordia Theatre on our doorstep, and so many talented people devoting their time to putting on the wide variety of shows. Maybe one day our very own community choir here in Stoke Golding and Dadlington will appear on the Concordia stage, after all, we sang at a King's funeral!

Rita Aston

Beth's Corner

CHARLES FRISBY

Some folk are easier than others, but when I have the delight of meeting a character who has lived his life constantly 'outside the box'- how do I start? Charlie was born 87 years ago at Hill Farm, Stretton-en-le-Fields, and the family moved to one of the cottages on Station Road, Stoke Golding when he was only two. His Dad was then employed at Ivy Farm in Higham. He started his rather nomadic schooling, first at Higham Primary, followed by St.Margaret's in Stoke, where he got the cane every day for refusing to take any interest in any of the lessons. His only saviour at the time was a Miss Rickard, later Mrs.Gilliver, who attempted to understand her renegade pupil. Charlie just wanted to get out into the farm with his Dad. *"It was real farming then. Farming today is nothing like it used to be. We only used horsepower in them days. There was no electricity, so no farm machinery, no tractors. We milked by hand. It was proper farming."* After those deeply remembered cruel days at St. Margaret's, his final years were at Westfield, but only until he was thirteen. Apparently, if your father signed a note to say that he needed his son to work on the farm, you could be released. But then, instead of a farmer's life, he went into construction, specialising in carpentry. This brought him work in many of the churches, including our own St.Margaret's, where he helped to dismantle the spire during the war. Arbury Hall was one of the big houses which benefited from his skilled carpentry. This was when the current owner, Humphrey Fitzroy Newdegate, later Lord Daventry, befriended him, thoroughly enjoying the company of this engaging fellow countryman. The invitation to Mr. and Mrs Frisby to the wedding in London, with a reception at the Hyde Park Hotel, is a treasured memory. *"I sat next to Royalty, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, and met so many famous people."* The invitation is in his archives, along with all the photos including the famous conductor of the Proms, Sir Malcolm Sargent. For someone who refused to be educated, Charlie's life is alive with such events. It was after my first article on The King's Lodge that he rang my doorbell. He wanted to tell me about his connections when it was Lindley Lodge. He would go down with his father, who helped in maintaining the grounds, and looking after the pack of Beagle Hounds they ran. *"We skinned the 'dead stock' for them."* *"What's that?"* I ask. *"Small dead beasts, lambs, calves. To feed the hounds."* I'm learning a lot today. How to make those original 'stooks' we used to see, the art of scything, so many things. In his copious archives, his sketches of the churches, windmills, the thatched museum in Hinckley amaze me, as well as his verse, especially 'MY CHILDHOOD, HIGHAM' *"In memory I wander, to the Higham of my childhood. To bring back to memory of happy days long gone..."* etc. .I wish I had more space. He intends to publish these archives in full one day, helped and encouraged by Denis Cash. I think you will love them. He and his wife Doreen, have three sons, five grandchildren and eight great grandchildren, so in spite of being a very naughty schoolboy, I'm reminded of a line from a song: *"somewhere in my youth or childhood, I must have done something good."*!

PS. If you would like to join Jacqui Morton & Rachel Rees-Jones on the visit to THE KING'S LODGE one afternoon this month (date & time to be confirmed), give me a ring on 213097. We will be well looked after I know.
Yours Beth.

The Fool on the Hill

Got to keep movin'.....

You know how it is. A pleasant evening with friends, enjoying a home cooked meal and generally catching up on how your life has been since the last time we all met up. The sausage casserole has been lavishly praised and the third bottle of Aldi Chateau Collapso is well on its way to a tryst with the blue recycling bin.

The conversation turns to holiday plans and suddenly Arthur and Beryl become very animated about the two weeks on a bankrupt Greek rock in the Aegean which they found on the interweb for only £29 each. Being over effusive due to the presence of several kilos of fermented Bulgarian grapes in your bloodstream, you dismiss their idea of a taxi to the airport. No, no, won't hear of it, we can sort that out, no problem. Well OK, only if you are absolutely sure. Like the mouse fixated on the cheese, you are unaware of the trap. Arthur then elaborates that, the only thing is, they can only do it at that price because the return flight comes into Gatwick. On Friday. At 4.30pm. Struggling to mask your true feelings, you smile thinly and confirm that this makes not a jot of difference. But of course, it does. So on a sweltering July afternoon you find yourself stationary on the M 25 surrounded by the entire homeward bound population of London and the Home Counties. Beryl and Arthur, having enjoyed the in-flight hospitality of Armageddon Airlines, fell asleep at the top of the M 23 and are now happily oblivious to your glacial rate of progress. In a nutshell, you are going nowhere.

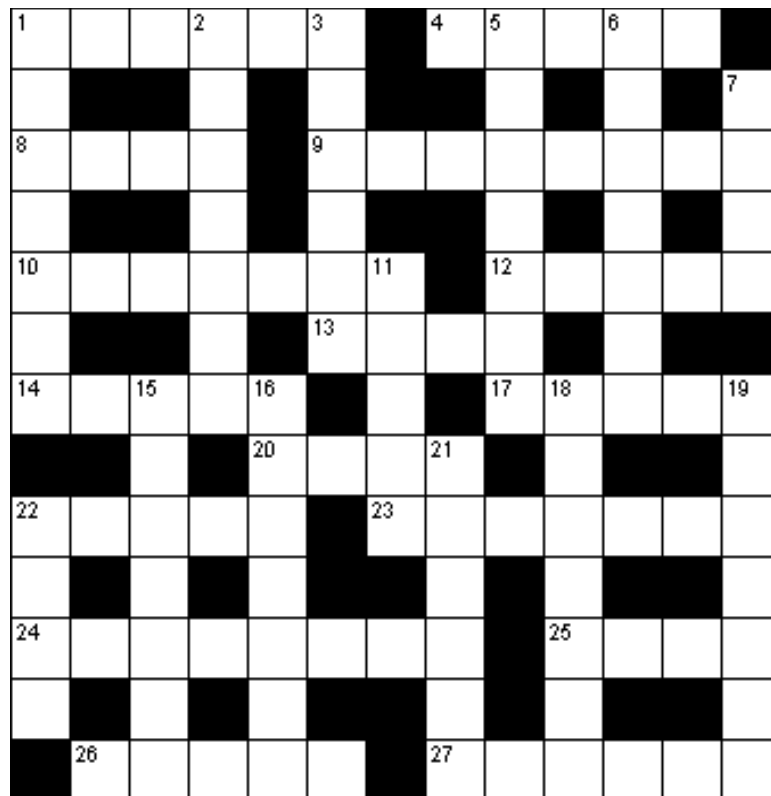
However, when you stop to consider it, this is not actually true. As we journey through space on this astral boulder that is our home, we are rotating at over 1,000 mph. Even more incredible is that our annual journey around the Sun requires us to maintain a speed in the order of 66,000 mph. So in the hour that you have had your handbrake in the "on" position, you have completed a space journey of some 67,000 miles. You might wish to ponder further, and lets' face it you have little else to do, that our Galaxy is only one of billions in the Universe that are also in a spiral orbit, so that adds a few extra miles to our trip. The Universe is also expanding outwards at rate calculated in Kilometres per Megasparc which means absolutely nothing to me. I am assured however that, even by Galactic standards, it is knocking on a bit. The last bit gets rather lost on me but suffice it to say, you have been anything but stationary for the last hour. These musings will no doubt be of great comfort as you sit in the great car park of the south listening to the rasping snores of the people who are responsible for putting you through this misery.

Or maybe not.

FOTH



Crossword



Across

- 1&27 AC . TV Game show of 23 Box's (4-2-2-4)
- 4. See 1 D
- 8. You have to climb this on Ninja Warrior UK (4)
- 9. Bradley Walsh Game show (3-5)
- 10&22 AC. Show based on penny slot machine (7-5)
- 12. Makes programs shorter (5)
- 13. Local "7 Down" ---- Midlands Today (4)
- 14. Requires (5)
- 17. ----- Of Praise (5)
- 20. Una Stubbs played ---- Sally (4)
- 22. See 10 AC
- 23. Play games in glass box (3-4)
- 24. Vernon Kay hosts Family -----(8)
- 25 Against (4)
- 26. Detection device (5)
- 27. See 1 AC

Down

- 1&4AC. Stately Home Drama (7-5)
- 2. Plant that floats on a pond (4-3)
- 3. Need to do this to TV sometimes (6)
- 5. These would be full of water in Tiswas (7)
- 6. Really Happy (7)
- 7. 10'oclock ---- (4)
- 11. Looking thin faced and ill (5)
- 15. Province of North Ethiopia (7)
- 16. Type of small orange (7)
- 18. Land with fruit trees (7)
- 19. A Christmas "one off " program (7)
- 21. Home abroad a place in ----- (3-3)
- 22. Type of pastry (4)

Answers on page 26

Stoke Golding Parish Council Summary of the Minutes – April 2015

The following items were discussed:

Crime Report – due to limited resources the police will no longer provide crime figures or regularly attend parish meetings. Police.uk link currently only gives data for January 2015.

Heritage Street Name Plates-have been installed.

Parking on verges- LCC Traffic and Safety Group report that unless there are double or single yellow lines present on the adjacent carriageway the council is unable to enforce inconsiderate parking by the issuing of a Penalty Charge Notice. If it is causing a safety concern the police may be able to provide some assistance.

The litter bin near Thornfield Avenue is split. Cllr Beale reported the wooden edge behind the swing does present a trip hazard. Posts are close to the surface in front of the swings and the ground is soggy around the pod swing. Mike Smith has been asked to swap the flag for St George's Day. The Union Jack flag needs replacing.

New planning applications – Convent Lodge, Covent Drive, Stoke Golding – extensions and alterations to dwelling and erection of garage and boundary wall. Land adj 6 Whitemoors Road – erection of single storey dwelling/associated access/parking.

Permissions were granted – 20 Andrew Close – removal of scots pine and works to acer. Hinckley Road – erection of fencing and gates (retrospective)

Jason Graham of J G Scapes was appointed as the new ground maintenance contractor as from 1st April 2015. Mike Smith will continue to carry out the monthly playground safety inspection.

A draft of year end accounts and grant report was circulated to all councillors. It was also agreed that the £10,000 from the solar panel farm developer will be allocated to the pavilion project to cover the initial costs which are necessary to enable the parish council to apply for additional funding.

Clerk's petty expenditure statement for half-year October 2014 - March 2015 was received.

Cemeteries and football pitch fees were agreed in- line with Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

Arrangements for additional markings of football pitches were discussed.

Steve Avent was reappointed for a further term.

It was noted that the land at the end of Sherwood Road has been fenced off pending a decision on ownership of the plot. A meeting will take place between Simon Atha, Morris Homes and Stoke Golding Parish Council.

An initial meeting with HBBC to discuss an application to designate an area for a neighbourhood plan will take place on Tuesday 19th May 2015. The chairman of Market Bosworth Parish Council has offered to share their experience of the process.

A meeting has been arranged with the other parishes affected by this development to formulate another letter to planning regarding the highway issues. A bench on Sherwood Road provided by The Thomas Barton Charity, is in need of repair and presents a health and safety hazard.

Email from Ray Tunks – at the discretion of the Parish Council the burial of Carole Stringer, who has a proven long term association with the village of Stoke Golding, will be charged at the discounted rate for residents. Ray Tunks will check with the relevant authority to ascertain the Parish Council's legal obligation with regard to memorial safety inspection.

Leicestershire & Rutland Playing Fields Association membership renewal Rural Community Council membership invitation were accepted.

David Allen reported that there was no sign on Station Road to warn of traffic in the centre of the road due to the chicane – It was agreed mandatory signage was present.

Electoral review of Leicestershire

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England is carrying out an electoral review of Leicestershire County Council. The review will draw new county division boundaries across Leicestershire. The Commission has also announced that 55 county councillors should be elected to the council in future: the same as the current arrangements.

Now we are asking for evidence about your local area to help us decide a new pattern of electoral divisions for Leicestershire County Council.

Your views will make a difference

Local people know their area best.

- Do you have suggestions about where your division boundaries should be?
- Which areas do you identify as your local community?
- Where do people in your area go to access local facilities such as shops and leisure activities?

For more details and interactive maps, visit:
www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk or www.lgbce.org.uk

Have your say

Send your views to: The Review Officer (Leicestershire), Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 14th floor, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QP Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

The consultation closes on 21 July 2015

Thanks

Many thanks to everyone who has given me old towels and used stamps for Canine Partners Charity. A friend of mine who looks after the charity's dogs at weekends, whilst they are being trained, is very pleased to accept them, so please keep dropping them off at my house.

Ruth Fisher, 21, Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding.



Obituaries



ALBERT BRIAN 'JACK' JOLLY

Jack of Stoke Golding sadly passed away on Thursday 16th of April 2015 at the grand age of 93 years, finally at peace with his beloved wife the late Florence (Peggy) Jolly. He was the dearly loved dad of Brian and Peter and their partners Anne and Diane. He was the much loved grandpop to Ian, Emma and Karen and is greatly missed by all his family and friends. The funeral service was at the Heart of England crematorium. Donations if so desired in memory of Jack may be made to Loros, care of G. Seller & Company, Funeral Directors of 75 Upper Bond Street, Hinckley.

We send our sincere condolences to Jack's family and friends

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CROSSWORD ANSWERS (from page 23)

Across: 1. Deal or; 4. Abbey; 8. Wall; 9. The Chase; 10. Tipping; 12. Edits; 13. East; 14. Needs; 17. Songs; 20. Aunt; 22. Point; 23. The Cube; 24. Fortunes; 25. Anti 26. Radar; 27. No Deal;

Down: 1. Downton; 2. Lily pad; 3. Retune; 5. Buckets; 6. Elation; 7. News; 11. Gaunt; 15. Eritrea; 16. Satsuma; 18. Orchard; 19. Special; 21. The Sun; 22. Puff;

Stoke Golding website: www.stokegolding.co.uk

COPY DEADLINE for July/August 2015 ISSUE: 15th June

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