

March 2011

No. 99



The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine

including

Dadlington Matters

50p

Ruth



Jane



Note from the Editors

We can honestly say we couldn't have squeezed anything else into this month's Stoker, thanks to all your articles, news and photographs! We love the baby gallery on page 9 and hope this will become a regular feature.

This issue also includes articles inviting you to get involved in petitions against extra houses being built in the village (page 3) and possible closure of the Doctor's Surgery (page 5). If you have some time to spare why not consider volunteering in the community? Governors are needed at St Margaret's School (page 16), new Councillors for Stoke Golding Parish Council (page 21), and the Football Club is looking for a new secretary (page 4).

We are very proud to announce that next month's issue will be our 100th and we are celebrating with a special edition, with lots of photographs from the past 10 years of the magazine.

Jane & Ruth

The Stoker Team

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Correspondence



Readership Record

I was born in 1941 in a cottage on Wykin Lane, long since demolished. It was a quaint little property that left a lot to be desired in the way of a home comforts, but we were happy.

Although not a resident of the village now, I always keep a keen interest in all things Stoke Golding, and so every month I go to the Post Office for a copy of The Stoker.

After I've read it from cover to cover I send it to my brother, John, who lives in Perth, West Australia. Is this the furthest The Stoker travels as regards its readership?

Richard Harris

We know that The Stoker is read on the internet (on the village's website) but this is the first time we've heard of a hard copy being sent across the world.

Your Village Needs You!

Residents in Hinckley Road are organising a petition objecting to the appeal from Morris Homes to build on land off Sherwood Road/Hinckley Road.

We hope to collect as many signatures as possible by going door to door in Stoke Golding.

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's Core Strategy requirement for Stoke Golding has already been met by the granting of building on the Convent site.

If you feel strongly about the possibility of developers being granted permission to build anywhere in Stoke Golding, then please add your signature to the petition.

Don't be alarmed if you see someone with a clipboard knocking on your front door. We aim to start circulating the petition as soon as possible and some of you may have signed it already, for which we are very grateful.

Collecting signatures from over 600 households will be a mammoth task so if you feel could help with door to door signing in your road, please contact

Ella Orr tel. 213340

ella42@sky.com

Brian Ninness tel. 213086

brianninness@supanet.com

The April issue of The Stoker will be our 100th and to celebrate we are delivering a free copy of the magazine to every household in Stoke Golding and Dadlington. If you are a subscriber and are thinking 'hold on, I've already paid for mine', don't worry, you will be getting 11 issues this year and we shan't be collecting subscriptions until August

Stoke Golding Football Club - Secretary Needed Can You Help?



SGFC is Stoke Golding's thriving Youth Football Club which has been in existence since the year 2000. There are currently over 100 players on the books from the village and surrounding communities. We encourage players of all standards to get involved in the game of football without discrimination.

Our dilemma – the current Secretary is to step down at the end of the season and SGFC is looking to employ someone to take his place (terms and wages negotiable).

So,

- Do you have approximately 10 hours a week that you could give to help SGFC build on the solid base already in place – working from home, apart from a monthly meeting?
- Do you have access to the internet, email, telephone; possess good communication and administration skills and a little patience?
- Do you have some knowledge of how the football leagues are administered? This would be beneficial but is not essential as the job mainly involves communication and paperwork.

A full handover and constant support from an experienced committee will always be on offer.

For more information or an informal chat about the finer details, please contact Ade Gascoigne (current Secretary) on 07708263376 or email adegascoigne@hotmail.co.uk.

Furthermore, if we have tweaked your interest and you would like to see a little more of what we are about, why not visit our website at www.stokegoldingdragon.co.uk.

We look forward to hearing from anyone who would like a new challenge and is willing to work alongside our enthusiastic committee, coaches and parents in continuing the high standards set at SGFC.

Tina Waters

Stoke Golding Charity Sleigh

Once again many thanks for all your generous contributions. The following groups or organisations have benefited: Youth Club, Good Companions, Village Hall, Beavers/Cubs/Scouts, Robin Hood Playgroup and Junior Football.

Thanks to Dodge for driving us around and W D Roberts for the vehicle to pull the sleigh. Also thanks to the snowmen of the sleigh for their collecting efforts.

Sleigh Committee



Town Fringe to Hinckley or Rural Village Which is Stoke Golding?

According to the Primary Care Trust for our village, the answer is town fringe.

The PCT, in line with national requirements, has been assessing the pharmaceutical needs within its area and has concluded that no new services are required.

As part of its survey, a 'Map of Rurality' was produced - the criteria for 'Rurality' was not given but amongst other factors took into account public services, number of schools and churches and population density.

As a result the PCT has determined that the Parish of Stoke Golding is no longer rural but is a town fringe to Hinckley.

The outcome of this classification is that the doctors' surgery may be forced to close its dispensing facility. Apparently, once defined as a 'town fringe' all dispensing services must be provided by pharmacies, which means that residents of Stoke Golding will have to travel by bus/car etc or walk to their choice of pharmacy.

The doctors have advised that if their dispensing services are removed, the financial effect on the surgery would be so great that it would probably have to close. This will result in patients registered at Stoke Golding having to relocate to Castle Mead Surgery in Hinckley.

When the doctors are given their notice to stop dispensing in Stoke Golding they will have 60 days in which to appeal. During this time it is hoped that as many people will write to the surgery objecting to the fact that Stoke Golding is not a 'town fringe' and that having to travel to collect prescriptions will be difficult for many and impossible for some. Further help with composing letters and news updates will be posted on the surgery website and hopefully will be distributed throughout the village.

A petition will be circulated, but experience shows that individual letters carry more weight. It is also intended to seek the support of the Parish Council and our MP. If you are in contact with either it will do no harm to raise the matter with them directly - in addition to writing to the surgery.

Castle Mead and Stoke Golding Action Group.



Luisa Quinney MFHT, MHFST
Remedial Therapy & Massage
'Dorn' Body Realignment
Equine Sports Massage
Hinckley Clinic or Local Home Visits
Contact Me - 07813 172377
www.midlandsmassagetherapy.co.uk

1st Stoke Golding Scouts
would like to give the people of
Stoke Golding and Dadlington a
big thank you for using the Scout
Post at Christmas. With your help
we raised £72.00.
Thank you.

Stoke Golding W I



Imagine a group of very young children and toddlers begging for food on the streets of a desert area of Kenya. At the February meeting our speaker, Sandra Noon, spoke at length about the work she and others are involved in with 'Friends of Kenya's Children', raising money to enable Pastor Kenneth provide some of the orphaned refugees of Kenya with food, clothing, a home and an education. Despite political turbulence, personal setbacks and severe lack of funds he has helped to develop an orphanage at Lodwar and schooling and accommodation at Eldoret.. His work is endless and tireless but is wholly dependant on the generosity of funding and resources from this country. Sandra gave a fascinating talk.

www.fkc.org.uk gives an interesting insight into what is being done.

Sue Mitchell

Pubtastic News For Stoke Golding

Church End Brewery, Atherstone, has bought the George and Dragon, Stoke Golding.

The pub is now closed for up-dating and refurbishment; extensive alterations will take some time and plans are to re-open towards the end of April.

The new owners hope to keep many of the original features, but improve and modernise the facilities, to create a 'proper' pub. Plans are to refurbish and keep the original front entrance and serving hatch but alter and improve the interior to extend the bar. A significant improvement is planned for the rear entrance and toilets and incorporate entry into the lounge and bar areas, both of which will feature log burning stoves.

The brewery plans not only to offer their excellent range of beers, but to also source an artisan lager, probably from Freedom Brewery, and is trying to source a draught cider. A full range of wines, spirits and soft drinks will also be available. It is planned to provide a range of bar snacks, probably at lunch times, using locally sourced produce.

The pub will be run by Katie, (daughter of Director Stewart Elliott), who already has considerable experience, gained from running the tap at the brewery with great success and enthusiasm, and I am sure her very friendly approach will be well received by all.

Having met the family, I am sure they will make a great success of the venture, and wish them well. Can't wait for the opening!

Paul Spokes



Waters Woodworking

'Working With You Through Our Passion For Wood'

Malc Waters has enjoyed the good life in Stoke Golding for the last 19 years. During this time, he has developed his interest in woodworking as a relaxing and enjoyable hobby, attending evening classes to further his knowledge and skills. Malc has been lucky enough to be influenced, taught and advised by some extremely capable woodworkers at Hinckley College, Market Bosworth High School, and lately at Coombe Abbey Woodturners.

Addy Waters, the younger teenage son of the Waters family, has shown an aptitude for the craft of woodworking for a number of years, and has recently expressed an interest in a joint woodworking venture with his father.

So what is on offer?

Woodworking, woodturning, dovetails, mortices, cabinets, boxes, picture frames, pens.... you name it, if it is made out of wood, we'll give it a go. We are always up for a challenge!



If we have captured your interest, please visit the website below, and use the 'Gallery' button to see example photos of some of our professional standard work. Double-click on an individual image to enlarge it. If you don't have access to a computer, all is not lost as we have photos of our work that you are welcome to look through. Phone 01455 213291 to book your cup of tea!



We hope you will be impressed with our work, and we would welcome comments, be they positive, constructive or even negative...it all helps.

Waters Woodworking would be more than happy to make individualised and unique pieces incorporating your own design specifications, and utilising your choice of wood. We would do this at the cost of materials plus a reasonable amount of pocket money for Addy. www.waterswoodworking.co.uk

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library will visit Stoke Golding & Dadlington on:-
Thursdays 3rd, 17th & 23rd March

Dadlington 27 Hinckley Rd - 10.05 - 10.25am

Stoke Golding

Greenwood Road 10.30 - 10.45am

Sherwood Road 10.50 - 11.10am

The White Swan 11.15am - 11.40pm

Hinckley Road/Main Street 11.45- 12.05pm



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

Attention all boys under 25 years in Stoke Golding

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

(Boys aged 10 years and over should write their own letters, if possible).

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

The Stoke Golding Boys' Charity

Object of The Trust

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

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

Clerk of the Trustees, 21, Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding, Nuneaton, Warks. CV13 6DU by **31st March 2011**.

By Order of the Trustees,

R. E. Fisher (Mrs) Clerk

Zacharias, R I P

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the passing of our Golden Retriever, Zak, the children's favourite. Each morning and afternoon during the school run, the children he met would greet and pat Zak – he loved them all.

He was put to sleep on February 6th after enduring severe heart and breathing problems. He will be sadly missed by us and those who met him on Station Road, and we thank all children (and adults) who loved him so much.

Daphne & Rodney Brown, Andrew Close



Have you lost a key?

A 'Yale' type key was found on Hinckley Road, Dadlington in January. If you think it might be yours tel 01455 212489.



Stoke Golding Heritage Group



“Cherish the past, protect the future”

The Stoke Golding Heritage Group will be holding its AGM at 7.00pm on Thursday 17th March in the Baxter Hall. Following the AGM at about 7.30, local photographer Martyn Fisher will be giving a number of Audio Video Presentations. This will be accompanied by cheese and wine. Non-members are welcome to join us for the presentations at a cost of £2.50. Members are reminded that annual subscriptions of £5 are now due. Any member considering joining the committee should contact an existing committee member.

Roy Mitchell, Chairman



Congratulations to ...

Julie (Headteacher at St. Margaret's School) and Steve Wright on the birth of Fenella Beatrix - born 19/04/10 at 19.04 (yes really!) weighing 9lb 1oz at birth but significantly more now!

A long awaited sister for Roberta and a gift from God.



... Jo Barber on the birth of Freya Autumn Lily on 10/10/10, weighing 6lbs 9oz,

... and to Robert and Angela on the birth of Gabriel Goodsell on 26th December 2010 in Machynlleth, Wales.

He weighed in at 9lb 10oz.



COPY DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE - OUR 100th : 15th MARCH.

This issue will be delivered free of charge to every household in Stoke Golding and Dadlington.

Stoke Golding Heritage Group Open Meeting

Bats: a talk by Chris Smith of the Leicestershire Bat Group

Bats have had a lousy press at the hands of humankind over the centuries, and still have in our so-called more enlightened and scientific age. For example the Jacobean age, that time of witch finders, saw Shakespeare's witches in "Macbeth" chanting evilly over their cauldron
"Eye of newt and toe of frog
Wool of bat and tongue of dog
For a charm of powerful trouble
Like a hell broth boil and bubble."

The association between certain creatures and hellish evil is all too apparent. Step forward to the C19th and shiver at the bat ridden forests of Transylvania, Dracula's castle and the horrific fate of young heroines at the hands (and teeth!) of the "undead" Count metamorphosed as a bat and all created by the fertile imagination of Mary Shelley. Horror films and ghoulish novels of the last century have ensured that such superstitions still lurk in our murky sub-consciences. Bats still evoke darkness, evil witchcraft and vampires, as well as widespread superstitions such as the fear that bats will tangle in a woman's hair, a conviction which my own mother embraced and which no rational argument could displace. The novelist and poet, DH Lawrence, in his poem "Bats", expressed similar feelings when sitting in Florence beside the river Arno at dusk as the bats begin to fly. His fearful thoughts conjure up the language and imagery of revulsion and evil in describing these fascinating mammals: they arrive "in gloom", appearing as "dark air life", and resembling "black gloves" thrown aloft. They are "black pipers" that cause "an uneasy creeping in one's scalp" and squeaking with "voices wildly vindictive". For this poet their evil is mirrored in their ugliness - a link which is as old as humanity itself! Thus they are "little lumps

that fly in air" with "wings like bits of umbrella" and revolt him as "they hang themselves up like an old rag to sleep/ and disgustingly upside down"...."grinning in their sleep".

The reality of bats' lives is, of course, very different as Chris Smith was at some pains to demonstrate. The local bat group still has to combat superstitious folklore and fears as they try to educate people. Far from sucking our blood, our bats are insectivores whose numbers have collapsed owing to environmental changes to their favoured habitats and the huge reduction in insect numbers- a tragedy for these charming and miraculous mammals with their aerial acrobatics and sonar guided hunting techniques. Their lives include winter hibernation after summer mating when suckling females gather in maternity groups after giving birth. Thankfully they are protected by law now and much of the work of the bat group lies in helping people to learn to live with bats in their houses, barns, churches and other buildings where possible, or relocating them if not. The audience was charmed by a tiny Pipistrelle bat which Chris had removed from a house and was feeding over the winter with a view to a spring/ summer release. Indeed our houses are an important resource for bats as they provide living space under roof tiles, in roof spaces, or even behind soffits. We should learn to welcome them into our lives as readily as we have into our language as phrases like "blind as a bat" show (ironically bats have good eyesight!).

Lawrence ended his poem by writing
"In China bats are a symbol of happiness
Not for me!"

Well, I'm with the Chinese on this!

Mike Emmett

Recipe for a Fantastic Evening

- Take a former brickie with a touch of Pavarotti and mix with a 'posh' former St Paul's Cathedral Chorister.
- Add a good sprinkling of Morecombe & Wise, a heap of talent and season well with humour.
- Introduce a variety of songs and music and leave to simmer on Stoke Golding Village Hall Stage until well done.
- Share with a few friends, laugh a lot, clap often and savour the **Opera Dudes!**



Tim Lole and Neil Allen gave us a real treat, performing a diverse programme of music from classical Rachmaninoff's piano variation on a theme by Paganini and Verdi's Rigoletto through to Mack the Knife and Andrew Lloyd-Webber's Music of the Night. The audience was never sure whether a piece was going to be a send up or serious – often it was a mixture of both causing havoc with the emotions.

Another fantastic sell-out Centre Stage production – let's hope there are many more to come.

Jane White

Mole Movements

Choosing to sit on the raised seats at the back of the local no.86 bus gives one a distinct advantage over those who choose to sit on the lower seats, namely that, and as we all know 'The one above sees all', these elevated passengers can peer over the hedges into the fields and gardens as we travel along the roads.



Over the last three years I have noticed, from my high up seat, an interesting pattern of mole hills in the first field after St Martin's High School playing fields on Stoke Road. Three years ago a very clever mole constructed an almost perfect circle. This was not just a simple thing of small dimensions, but an enormous circle, which must have been in the region of 150 feet in diameter. It must have been something akin to the Hadron Collider in mole terms. A year later this circle was eclipsed by mole hills which appeared in a very long, straight line and came across the field in a north east/south west direction. Last year I eagerly awaited the mole movements to see what patterns would be displayed. Would it be a square or an oval – or maybe parallel lines? Were we too dumb to read the signs? I was to be bitterly disappointed. Nothing spectacular appeared. Just a few itchy-bitsy mole hills gathered in small groups across the field they looked like Braille symbols. Now, if there was a double-decker bus I could travel on, so that I could have a really high up seat, I might just be able to read the dots and solve the mystery.

Maid Marian

What's On

Stoke Golding Football Club

'MINI DRIBBLERS'

FREE 7 WEEK, FUN FOOTBALL COURSE
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS
YEARS 1 AND 2

ALL standards WELCOME

STARTS SATURDAY 19th March 2011

9.30AM

St Martin's School Playing Fields, Stoke Golding

Simply turn up and register on any of the Saturdays
or for more information contact

Adrian Gascoigne on 01455 635434



The Village Hall Celebrates 50 Years

Rather than a variety show, as advertised in last month's Stoker, the event on 8th May is now going to be a **special open afternoon** from 2 - 6pm, showcasing performances from village groups and displays of photographs depicting 50 years of village activities.

If you are interested in taking part, helping with the show, providing some photographs or want to find out more, please get in touch with Jane White by the end of March 2011. Email – janewhitesg@gmail.com or telephone 212416

Please put the date in your diaries now as we would love to share the celebrations with you all.



Don't miss the second Hinckley Opera Festival!



Musical Lunches, Recitals, Participation Events,
Opera Bus and Masterclasses

9th -23rd April 2011

Including the Concordia Theatre Premiere of Verdi's Rigoletto

You can buy tickets for the festival at Hinckley Library
or book to see Rigoletto on line at www.stanley-opera.org.uk

What's On

Dadlington Dairy Dates

Sunday 5th June

Pete Robertshaw Memorial
Cricket Match

Dadlington v Stoke Golding
Adults and Children's matches
Entertainment with the fantastic
"Route 66"

Monday 29th August

Dadlington Village Fete

Stoke Golding Football Club 'FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT'

£50 cash prize
Friday 11th March
£2.50 per Adult – Children Free
(Maximum of 6 adults per team)
Venue: Stoke Golding Club
Time: Bar open from 7pm for a
7.45pm **prompt** start
Everyone Welcome!

Zion Chapel Services

6th March	M Welch
13th March	M Menzfeld
20th March	R Cotton
27th March	G Chapman

Services begin at 6pm
Sunday School at 11am

The Methodist Church

March Services

6th March	10.30am	Rev'd Julie Minns
13th March	10.30am	Deacon Philip Osborne
(Church Anniversary)	6.00 pm	Rev'd Julie Minns
20th March	10.30am	Rev'd Julie Minns
27th March	10.30am	Rev'd Michael Haighton

March Events

Saturday March 12th
Gift Day Coffee Morning 10 – 11.30am

Church of England Services

St. Margaret's Church

6 th March	10.30am	Family Service
13 th March	10.30am	Benefice Service Higham
20 th March	10.30am	Holy Communion
27 th March	10.30am	Morning Service
3 rd April	10.30am	Family Service

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

St. James's Church

6 th March	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
13 th March	10.30am	Benefice Service Higham
20 th March	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
27 th March	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
3 rd April	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer

News from St Margarets Primary School

Hello everyone, I can hardly believe that I have been back at school for a month at the time of writing. My 10 month maternity leave seems to be lost somewhere in another lifetime! However, it is lovely to be back and to be working closely with staff, children governors and parents again ~ everything seems to have clicked back right into place! Any chances of a gradual return were of course scuppered (the best laid plans and all that) by a telephone call on Tuesday 24th January at around 8.15am ~ yes, you've guessed it, the rather nervous sounding young man on the other end of the phone politely informed me that we had been 'selected' for a visit by Ofsted, lucky us! Not the way I had planned to start the day. For the second time in the space of a year I was hurriedly gathering staff together ~ not, this time to tell them that I was expecting a baby but of another 'happy' event that would be coming our way! The next two days and nights were a whirlwind of activity with all staff pulling together like the fabulous team they are, working incredibly long hours to get together the information we thought the inspectors would be waiting to see when they arrived on Thursday morning at 7.45am. By Friday afternoon it was all over ~ we had been visited by three inspectors for two days and they were rigorous, challenging and scrutinized absolutely every aspect of the school's work. I am delighted to be able to report that Ofsted have found us to be a 'good school' with 'outstanding features'. We are delighted that the team recognised many positive aspects of the schools work and made many favourable comments.

You can read the full report on the Ofsted website, or you can request one from school.

I am fortunate to head and work alongside an amazingly talented team of

people ~ staff and governors alike.

A team who always give of their best, whatever their personal circumstance and who always put the learning and pastoral needs of the children at the fore front of what they do everyday ~ I don't think there are many headteachers in the country who could say that!

Elsewhere in school, we continue to be busy, this month alone the children have (amongst other things) made bird boxes, taken part in basketball training and willow weaving (thanks to Mr Hare and of course Izaak for organising this!), they have learnt about Chinese New Year, the Blitz and the Holocaust and about great inventors such as Thomas Edison. In all of this they work and play incredibly hard, getting along (on the whole) beautifully with one another.

Later on in the month we have our Section 48 Church and Religious Character Inspection to look forward to. Again, a report will be published for parents and interested parties ~ I will let you know the details when I have them. We are also planning to take the key stage 2 children to visit Leicester Cathedral as well as a Sikh Gurdwara, the Jain Temple and a Jewish Synagogue to broaden their understanding of other religions represented in our country today. So as you can see, we have a very busy and exciting few months ahead!

If you are interested in finding out more about life at our village school, why not visit our website at www.stmargarets.leics.sch.uk or even visit us in person! We would love to see you.

God Bless,

Julie Wright, Headteacher



St Margaret's School Eco News

In St. Margaret's School we have been trying to save energy, recycle and not waste what we have got to use, such as water and electricity. We want St. Margaret's to be an energy saving school and everyone to help out in our pledge. We are working towards our Silver Award for the Eco-schools programme. Year 5 has been making bird boxes to encourage wildlife. The Eco Warriors have been running a whole school competition for the best Eco-Code. Please can you support us by trying to be eco at home and save water and electricity too?

Jasmin & Bechan on behalf of St. Margaret's Eco-Schools Council



Fitness Yoga
Strong, Supple
Balanced, Relaxed

Baxter Hall, Stoke Golding
Monday 7pm, Tuesday 6.30pm,
Tuesday 7.45pm

Sapcote Pavilion, Thursday 10am
Millennium Hall, Burbage
Friday 1pm, Friday 7pm

Circuit Training
Kettlebells, Body Bars, Gliders
X-tubes and much more!
Monday 10am, Village Hall
Stoke Golding

£6 per class or £50 for 10 classes
www.yogawithadele.co.uk
Tel: 01455 446849

Need help with your Computer?

- Problems connecting to the Internet or email?
- New equipment/software setup and advice?

*IT support can quickly become expensive
- but I can help at reasonable rates!*

Call Neil Sherry on 01827 713848

(Fenny Drayton)

Anytime 9am - 9pm

Caron's Cleaning Company

For all your cleaning needs

Cleaning	Ironing
Shopping	Meals Prepared
Lawns Cut	Pet Sitting

For a friendly visit & quotation

Call Caron

01455 212426 or 07973719379

Stoke Golding Based

STOP PRESS At long last the Dog and Hedgehog has new owners - William Reinking and Sandra MacDonald, and will soon reopen.

Originally from Michigan, Bill has lived in England for over 25 years and has operated restaurants in Oxford and London. He will be the Managing Director and Operator of the pub.

Sandra is originally from Montreal and although semi-retired, spent over 20 years in the hospitality and event planning business. She will be in residence half the year when she is not travelling the globe.

Both Bill and Sandra are excited to be at the Dog and are looking forward to meeting everyone in the community.

Do you have a bit of spare time to give to the community?

Do you have an interest in education and children?

Our primary school, St Margaret's C of E School in Stoke Golding is in need of 3 new governors. These vacancies arise for a range of reasons – ill health, promotion to a new job and retirement after a number of years as a governor. The school has different sorts of governors – for example parents, staff, local authority and foundation governors. It is particularly foundation governors that we are seeking at the moment. These governors ensure that the school upholds the Christian principles on which the school is founded and represent the wider community.

The basic commitment of being a governor is attendance at around 5 evening meetings a year, although not everyone attends all meetings. There are various sub-committees that deal with issues such as finance and the buildings and most governors are part of one of these committees – this is in no way compulsory but most find it interesting to help steer the school in a range of areas.

If you would like more information please contact any of these people through the school 01455 212393:

Julie Wright – Head teacher

Michelle Nelson – Chair of the Governing Body

Carolyn Patullo – Ex-officio Foundation Governor

You may like to look at our website st-margarets.leics.sch.uk to find out more about the school. No previous experience is necessary – only an interest in children's education. The school has just gone through a rigorous Ofsted Inspection and has been graded as good with some significant strengths. This would be an ideal time to join a cohesive and committed team so please consider this and get in touch.

From St Margaret's Governors

Lent Groups around the Fenn Lanes Benefice

Five weekly Lent Study Groups will be taking place, from the week beginning 14th March, to which all are invited. We will be looking at a course entitled '**Rich Inheritance... Jesus' legacy of love.**' No background knowledge is necessary and all are welcome. The groups will take place at: Witherley Parish Room on Mondays at 2.30pm; Higham Methodist Chapel on Tuesdays at 8.30am (to include breakfast); different people's homes in Fenny Drayton on Wednesdays at 2.30pm; and 8 The Courtyard, Stoke Golding on Thursdays at 7.30pm. Each group will be following the same course, so you can choose to go to any of them. Why not give one a try?

Tots Church will meet as usual in March at the Baxter Hall. Sessions will be $\frac{3}{4}$ hour starting at 10.30am on the third and fourth Sunday i.e. 20th and 27th March. The children join adults in the church for the final part of the service.



Message from the Rector at St Margaret's Church

During the course of the last week, I have been privileged to be a part of the Leicester Diocesan 'Held Together Pilgrimage.' This is something that all Church Schools in Leicestershire are taking part in this year because it is the 200th anniversary of The National Society, which was founded to offer education with a Christian purpose to young people from all backgrounds, and the first church schools were opened.

Schools all over the country are taking part in the celebrations, but in Leicester Diocese, they began in the Cathedral on December 8th last year, with a special service led by the Bishop, Tim Stevens. It was attended by representatives from all the schools; the Bishop blessed the church school family and a special oak carving based on the figure of Jesus, which had been commissioned specially for this event.

The 'Held Together' carving then began its journey around every school in the diocese, with a short service of welcome as each school handed it on to the next, either in assembly at school or church. Last week, it was the turn of the three Church Primary Schools in The Fenn Lanes Benefice: St Margaret's Stoke Golding received it from St Mary's Hinckley; two days later it was passed on to Higham School; it was then passed on again to Witherley School. The activities during the two days varied, but each child had the opportunity to handle the carving, as well as discussion and craft work.

It has been a time to foster links between school, church and community, and an opportunity to build on links with other local church schools. A special song was written for all the children to sing at each handover service – it was a joy to hear it sung, along with the actions that accompanied it. These are the words:

Together as One

It's about you and me,
It's about community.
A happy place to be,
Together as one.

This is the way God planned,
Held in his Holy hand.
Side by side we stand,
Together as one.

He holds us, He loves us, wherever we are
At home, church or school or play.
He brings us together, whoever we are
He walks with us everyday.

May you know His presence as He walks with you.

Linda

Is it a bird? Is it Santa? ...

Certainly lots of people have been lifting their heads and looking roofwards as they pass our house. David actually said – ‘Don’t go out in the front garden – everyone keeps stopping and asking questions’. So at the moment we are hopefully a nine day wonder, but here are a few of the most commonly asked questions and some answers:

Are those solar panels? Yes.

Are they making electricity? Yes.

Are they making all your electricity? No – they will only make electricity in daylight. More is generated in stronger sunshine so they will be more productive in the longer summer days than at this time of year.

Are you using all the electricity they are making? We don’t know as we don’t know what our consumption is at a given time.

We hope to track this with some sort of ‘smart meter’ soon.

Do you know how much electricity they are making? Yes – we have a small wireless box that shows how much we have generated overall since they were connected up, how much CO2 we have saved from being made and how much they are generating at the moment.

What happens to the electricity you don’t use? It is fed into the National Grid.

How do they work? The panels create electricity from solar radiation. It is piped to the inverter - about the size of a small suitcase in the garage – which makes into the sort of current we use in houses. Then either we use it or it is sent to the National Grid. I think that you can tell from this that I don’t really understand it.

How much do they cost to install? Typically around £12,000 but ours cost a bit more as we had 2 inverters because we have 2 separate arrays – one on the garage and one on the main roof.

Is there any financial gain? For each KW of electricity we produce (whether we use it or not) the Government will pay us 41.3 pence. This is guaranteed for the future and will be index linked. There should also be a reduction in our electricity bills. We have calculated that the income will give us a return of approximately 7% on our investment but of course the capital is locked up in the value of the house.

How long will it take you to recoup the outlay? Very difficult to say – around 13-14 years but we have regarded it as an investment which pays an income.

Will it affect the resale value of your house?

This is completely unknown. Some people would be glad to buy a house with panels already installed whilst others will be wary. However it seems certain that fuel costs will rise, therefore as time goes by the payback should be advantageous.

Have you changed your routine? Yes.

Previously we tried to use appliances on the Economy 7 tariff but now we are running the washing machine, dishwasher etc during the middle of the day. We think they are probably of most use to people who are at home during the day .

Do you need planning permission to put up solar panels? You need to check with HBBC.

What sort of roof is suitable? South facing, as much sun as possible and certain angles of slope give the best results. The surveyor gives guidance on this.

Do you like them? We recognise that they are not things of beauty and of course they could be removed with very little damage to the roof. At the moment the novelty value is great.

Do they need any maintenance? No. They are guaranteed by a national body in case your installer goes bust.

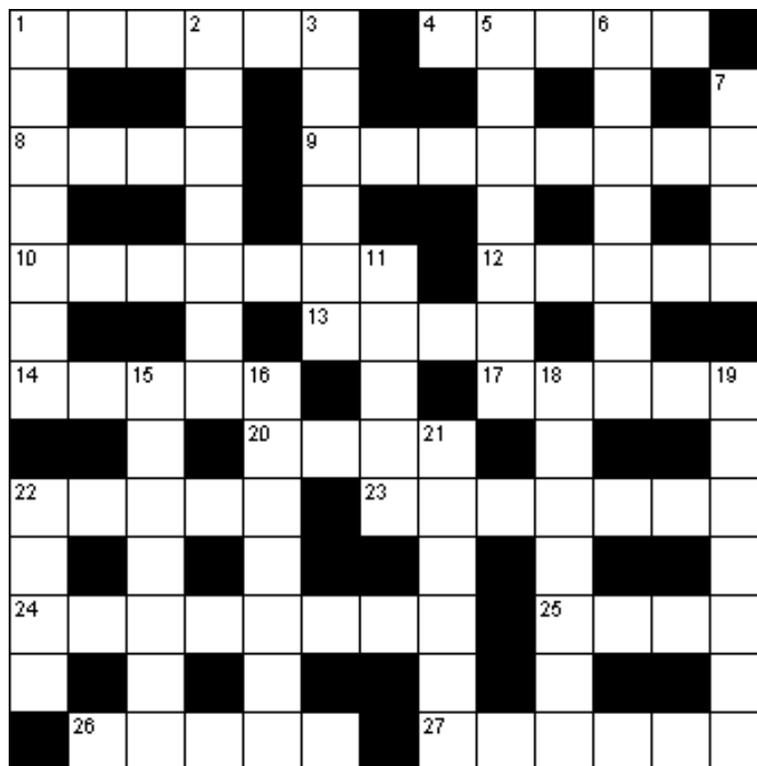
Are they expensive to insure? On our house insurance there has been no extra charge.

Can we all come round to your house for a cup of tea if the electricity goes off? You can come round but we won’t have any electricity either as they can’t feed it into the National Grid if there is a power cut.

We hope this is helpful. David did a lot of research and we had 3 quotes before choosing our installer (who we would recommend as helpful and professional). Contact us in the front garden or on email: millburn5@hotmail.co.uk. We can perhaps give an update on progress later in the year if people are interested. Meanwhile let’s hope for a long hot summer!

Pauline Goodsell

Down



Across

1. See 15D
4. See 15D
8. See 15D
9. A very big snake (8)
10. Under (7)
12. Chivalrous (5)
13. Prosecuted in county court (4)
14. Large flatfish (5)
17. Sir Alan ***** (5)
20. Curved top of a door (4)
22. Large Amazonian pig like mammal (5)
23. Funeral cars (7)
24. The overseer of a meeting (8)
25. Fete (4)
26. Foe (5)
27. People in a play (6)

Down

1. Double-decker for example (7)
2. Consume too much food (7)
3. Sunday joints (6)
5. Another portion of pudding (7)
6. Ladies accessory (7)
7. See 15D
11. Pet rabbit's home (5)
15. And 4A, 8A, 1A, 7D. A saying which states that something is as obvious as a certain facial feature. (2-5-2-3-4-2-4-4)
16. Part of the hearing mechanism (7)
18. Erect (7)
19. Scamp (7)
21. Abdominal bulge (6)
22. Opposite of tick (4)

Solution on page 21

Stoke Golding Parish Council - January Meeting

County Councillor Ivan Ould reported on several issues, including the Annual Performance Assessment – Adult Social Care Leicestershire, Rural Partnership, Budget cuts, Transport cuts and the Sherwood Road Planning Appeal.

Convent Site Development - Mar City: Proposed plans and types of buildings for the Convent site were presented to the meeting. As several queries arose from the discussion a further meeting was arranged for Wednesday 26th January.

Recreation Ground: An update on the money owed to the Parish Council by the **Football Club** was communicated to the meeting. The Parish Clerk confirmed that a Frost Stat was in place in the **Sports Pavilion** and that two new heaters had been installed. The **Maintenance Contract**, with the inclusion of the new pathway was in the process of being finalised. A **bench**, funded by The Charity of Thomas Barton is to be placed in front of the Village Hall. **Younger Children's Area:** The Parish Clerk was asked to check the Shire Grant to see whether work proposed for the Younger Children's Area could be funded using the remaining £340.74 and whether there will be a grant available in the new financial year. In the meantime it was agreed that the bark under the swings should be replaced with a safety surface as soon as possible. It was confirmed the Parish Council would be submitting an application for funding from the HBBC's Parish Community Initiative Fund 2011/12 to go towards the Young Children's Play Area to install two small pieces of play equipment, self-closing gates, work to trees and grassy areas.

Traffic calming sign: As Sutton Cheney Parish Council is soon to install one in Dadlington, the Parish Clerk was asked to check how the maintenance of the sign would be carried out and cost involved.

The **Parish Council's Constitution** was confirmed ready for adoption at the Annual Meeting in April.

Morris Homes Appeal: It was proposed that a petition be organised from the Parish Council but this was not seconded. The Parish Council already felt they were doing the right thing, representing the views of the village, but if anyone chose to start a petition this would help express the residents' opinions. A motion was carried that the Parish Council would not organise a petition. Five Councillors agreed with one abstention.

Village Hall: It was confirmed the Committee Room had now been painted and a new carpet was to be fitted. New curtains for the stage have been ordered.

Planning Application Matters: Planning application for new garage at 11 Main Street – The Parish Clerk was asked to check with HBBC Conservation Officer that the design complements the village street scene.

Precept and Parish Element of Council Tax: Exhaustive enquiries of how many properties there are in the village had been made with respect to the Precept. A motion was put forward that the Parish Precept for 2011/12 should be kept at the same Council Tax level as the 2010/11 precept and parish element of Council Tax.

The date of the **Annual Parish Meeting** was agreed for the **28th April 2011 at 7.30pm for 8.00pm** in the Village Hall.

(Continued on page 21)

(Parish Council Notes continued from page 20)

The location of Meetings of Council and of Committees for 12 months from May – it was agreed to hold these in the Committee Room of the Village Hall unless it was decided to hold them in the Methodist Hall or Baxter Hall.

Dog Waste Collection: The Parish Clerk informed the meeting of the new dog waste contractor's work to date, and confirmed that no negative reports had been received. It had been noted dog waste was being deposited in the litter bins situated on the recreation ground. As bins are provided within the recreation ground specifically for dog waste, notices are to be put on the litter bins stating: "Please do not place dog waste in the litter bins".

Due to bad weather conditions, work in **Hinckley Road Cemetery** has yet to be started.

It was proposed to put the **Village Beacon** in Wykin Lane Cemetery – location to be decided in time for the lighting of the Diamond Jubilee Beacon.

It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should make a contribution of £75, this year, towards managing Stoke Golding website.

Next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Village Hall Committee Room on Wednesday 2nd March at 7pm.

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

Notes by Pauline Goodsell

Parish Elections 2011

Stoke Golding Parish Council elections will be held in May and there are vacancies for three councillors. Forms will be available after 8th March for anyone who wishes to apply, from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council or Jill Jones, Parish Clerk, tel 01455 212805 email: jilllellen.jones@btopenworld.com

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Crossword Solution
ACROSS 1. See 15D; 4. See 15D; 8. See 15D; 9. Anaconda; 10. Beneath;
12. Noble; 13. Sued; 14. Skate; 17. Sugar; 20. Arch; 22. Tapir; 23. Hearses;
24. Chairman; 25. Gala; 26. Enemy; 27. Actors.
DOWN 1. Omnibus; 2. Overeat; 3. Roasts; 5. Seconds; 6. Handbag; 7. See 15D;
11. Hutch; 15. As plain as the nose on your face; 16. Eardrum; 18. Upright;
19. Rascal; 21. Hernia; 22. Tock.

Millinery a 'La Mode'

Up and down the high street and in the arcades
The Millinery shops were thriving a 'la mode'
In pre-war days nearly everyone wore a hat
Regardless of income or abode.



I'd peer in the window, then 'ping' went the bell
Eagerly I'd survey the chic models on display
All styles, shapes and sizes that did nothing for me
The assistant smiled sweetly 'come back another day'

I loved to dive my hand in that deep long drawer
Rummage around and see what they had in stock
Funnily enough I nearly always found what I wanted
Among all that motley lot

My first grown up hat was a 'marina' halo
With a cute little turned up brim
It went nicely with my new fashionable coat
I really did feel so smart and trim

Then came the 'Juliet' cap of green velvet
Perched on my head it showed off my curls
But then fashions in hats were changing so rapidly
My young head was all in a whirl !

I remember the dainty black pillbox
Sporting a tiny veil
Sadly I bought it for grannies funeral
To wear it again I could not prevail

In those carefree times just before the war
Weird and wonderful fashions came and went
Comical looking things like chimney pots
Dipped over one eye - but we cared not a cent

Came the war, and hats were a luxury item
That old word called "austerity" came in
Head squares formed into turbans were high fashion now
Even to wear one in Church was not deemed a sin

On searching I found a wedding hat to suit me
But devoid of any adornment alas!
A kind friend procured pale blue net to trim my creation
And with a bow at the back - it quite gave it class

Now headgear is making a comeback
Simple woolly caps and hats are all the rage
But non can compare with the boaters and cloches
Worn in that far off golden age

Peggy Holmes



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