

May '14

No. 131



The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine

including

Dadlington Matters

50p

Note from the Editor

It seems very strange not to be sharing this page with Ruth after thirteen years, but I know she will help out whenever she is needed. She deserves some freedom to enjoy her retirement after the commitment she has given to the Stoker.



What do you think about our new page for celebrations (page 16)? We would love to receive your photographs and a couple of lines about any special events such as birthdays, anniversaries, births, marriages, academic success and other achievements. I am proudly showing off our beautiful twin grandsons on the page this month and will give a copy of the magazine to them as a keepsake. Please send us your good news stories - it is lovely to share them and makes for happy reading.

It is the time of year when gardens start taking over, so we have persuaded Val Plant (a brilliant name!) to write an article every month that will give you lots to think about whether you are green fingered or inexperienced like me. (See page 7)

Jane

The Stoker Team

Editor: Jane White (01455 212416)

Production Team: Rosemary Collier, Beth Ellis, Richard & Ella Orr, Jan Pettyfer, Simon Rees-Jones, Rachel Terheege, Jill Webster.

Please send articles for the **June 2014** issue of The Stoker to:

The Editor, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding by 15th May.

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).

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.

janewhitesg@gmail.com.

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

Cover picture: Visit by Dani King to St Margaret's School

Developments in Stoke Golding

Solar Panel Farm - The Stables, Pine Close

The appeal, following the refusal of planning permission for a 17 acre solar panel on land adjacent to the recreation ground, has been allowed and planning permission has therefore been granted for this development.

Housing Development - Hinckley Road

Morris Homes has resubmitted plans to build 75 houses behind Hinckley Road following their failed appeal in 2011. A Hinckley Road resident said he was very disappointed considering a petition with 824 signatures was originally presented against this development and because of the impact it would have. He said “ The access road is very near St Martin’s School, already a dangerous junction, and we hoped because Stoke Golding has fulfilled its obligation for new houses until 2026 that there would be no chance of this application being successful.”

It seems the lack of a local development plan and changes in the National Planning Policy Framework since their original application have prompted this re-submission. You can find details of the plans on HBBC website planning reference 14/00262/OUT

Comments to HBBC regarding this planning application need to be lodged by 6th May.



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.

Joy Starts with a Bang

Stoke Golding clay shooting skeet champion Joy Hirons of Church Walks has started the new season with a huge “bang”.

Since the end of March when the competition season begins she has become the Ladies champion at the OSC (One Hundred Straight Club) shoot.

She has retained the East Midlands regional Ladies title, finishing third in the overall championship.

On Saturday and Sunday, 12th and 13th April, she competed in the first of 2 selection shoots for a place in the England shooting team, finishing with a huge score of 195 out of 200 and placing her a clear 13

targets ahead of her nearest rival. This puts her in a commanding position to win her first cap for England with the second 200 target selection shoot taking place in June so I am sure the village will want to wish her all the very best of luck. Joy is in tremendous form at the moment.



Rob Hirons

Are you a community minded qualified electrician?

The funding needed to purchase and run a defibrillator, accessible 24 hours a day for the whole of the Stoke Golding community, has been raised and the equipment purchased - more details on how this has come about and the generosity of the village in the next edition of The Stoker!

In the meantime the committee behind the installation of the Stoke Golding Community Defibrillator urgently need the help of a friendly electrician to wire the equipment in for us.

Would you be able to help us?

Could you recommend a qualified electrician who may like to help?

Great free publicity for a local business as a full report and photograph will go to all of the local area papers.

If you think you could help this potentially lifesaving cause, please contact Tina Waters on 07809629690 ASAP – thank you ☺

Cyclist Injured on Hinckley Road

We are sad to report that a cyclist was knocked off by a car on the bend near St Martin's School on Friday 5th April and was taken by ambulance to hospital. We do not have any further information about the accident.

Why Shop at Sehmbi Stores?

We are really lucky to have our smart new village stores. It is not just convenient for buying newspapers but offers a whole lot more besides.

The shop is stocked full of everything you could imagine from tinned and packaged goods to bread, milk, cheese, soft drinks and alcohol. Paul has kept prices as low as he can so he can compete with the major supermarkets to try to tempt people to buy at his shop. He said:

“ Really it needs people to change their shopping habits which I realise is hard to do. Instead of jumping in the car to buy your shopping why not bring your list along to Sembhi stores and see how much you can buy here first - you might be pleasantly surprised!”

Paul is also keen to know your thoughts about the items the shop sells and what else you want to be able to buy there. You can either talk to him at the shop or telephone him on 01455 213013

Sehmbi Stores opening times:

Monday to Friday	7.00 - 13.15	14.45 - 20.00
Saturday	8.00 - 13.15	14.45 - 20.00
Sunday	8.00 - 12.00	18.00 - 20.00

Farewell to Ruth and Alan



Stoker secretary,
Rachel Terheege, presented Ruth
with flowers

The Stoker production team presented Alan and Ruth with special pens to mark their long service to the village magazine at a special meeting to mark their retirement.

Ruth called the very first meeting to start the Stoker in March 2001 and has been chief editor ever since. Alan joined the team in 2002 and coordinated the delivery of the magazine. Ruth said she had really enjoyed editing the magazine over the past thirteen

years and was still willing to help out if needed.

Alan said it had been a privilege to work with such great group of people including all the deliverers and he would really miss being involved.



Ruth presented Alan with his
gift

Stoke Golding W I



Two guys named Matt, from Palmer's Garden Centres in Enderby and Ullesthorpe, came to make up some baskets and to answer our gardening questions. The mild winter had meant good sales of spring bedding plants, so summer bedding was now on display. Warning us that, in April, it was too early for these plants to go outside without some protection against frost, they potted up three hanging baskets. One contained tumbling yellow tomatoes, another had geraniums and begonias which would tolerate shade and the final one, for full sun, was awash with Littletonias. This plant is a cross between a Surfinia and a Million bells but doesn't grow as long and is specially produced for Palmers.

Advice was given on compost, plant food, and bottle cones for watering containers, getting camellias to flower and what causes blind daffodils. Both Matts were extremely knowledgeable and we could have asked many more questions had time allowed. Needless to say some of us staggered home laden with plants.

Our darts team beat Sheepy WI in their first match of the new tournament..

New member, Kathy Allen was successful in the Group show at Congerstone. Her decorated Victoria sandwich cake won first prize and it definitely hadn't come from M & S!

The next meeting, on Wednesday 14th May at 7.30pm in the Methodist hall, will be a social evening following a discussion of this year's resolution about sharing our view on organ donation with our families. Visitors are always welcome.

Anne Fullagar

The Month of May

'Ne'er cast a clout till may be out' is an old English proverb. The earliest citation is from Dr Thomas Fuller's collection of old proverbs published in 1732 entitled '*Gnomologia*', although it probably existed in word of mouth form long before that.

'Clout' is thought to refer to clothing, so the rhyme is suggesting we should never discard our winter clothing before May is out.

However there are differences of opinion as to the meaning of the phrase 'till May is out'. This could mean when the month of May has ended, but another interpretation suggests it is when the Hawthorn tree (also known as the May Tree) shows its beautiful blossom in late April/early May



From a Dadlington garden

Gardening – love it or hate it? I love it. Being a farmer's daughter and marrying a 'Plant' there would be something wrong if I didn't.

When we moved to Dadlington the large garden was neglected but had grown copious amounts of fruit and vegetables for many, many years (12 gooseberry bushes and enough strawberries for PYO!). Even the front garden had potatoes in it at one time, we were told. With two young children we needed to quickly do something to the garden so a big lawn was created. 18 years later the big lawn is even bigger, fruit and vegetables are grown in moderation, flower beds give colour all through the year and a patio means we can sit and enjoy it.

Many people find gardening a struggle through lack of energy, time or interest but there are plenty of people offering a gardening service for one-off or regular tasks so you can still enjoy your garden.

If you are fit, able and willing here are a couple of good tasks to do this month.

Improve the lawn by getting the moss out - great physical exercise with a lawn rake or buy/ borrow an electric scarifier.

Fork over beds and borders to prepare for summer bedding. If soil is lacking worms then it needs a boost. Pop to Barwell tip and buy the compost which has been made from the contents of our brown bins. Fork this in with a few handfuls of chicken manure pellets and you're all ready.

Finally, did you know that the craze for tulips in the 17th century sparked a boom in tulip breeding? At one point 12 acres of land were offered for a single bulb - 10 times the annual salary of a skilled craftsman.

Happy gardening!

Val Plant or Val, the Plant lady

**Need help with
your garden?**

Contact Val - locally
based experienced
gardener

01455 212722 07943 562773

valplant@btinternet.com



St. Margaret's CE (A) Primary School

...and it's GOLD for St. Margaret's!

Children from St. Margaret's CE (A) Primary School, Stoke Golding, were delighted to welcome Dani King, Olympic gold medallist, to school for the afternoon. As part of the promotion for the British Women's Cycle Tour, passing through Leicestershire in May, Dani King was enthusiastic to talk about her passion for cycling to youngsters at St. Margaret's.



Dani answered probing questions from the children, exploring her commitment to success. The children were inspired by her visit - she was a fabulous ambassador for British sport and encouraged the children to believe that anything is possible with lots of hard work!

Following Dani's visit, the Year 5 children along with many of their parents and teachers, will be cycling to Hinckley in May to see the start of the Women's Cycle Tour.

You can also go along to watch on 9th May, 11am at the Market Place Hinckley - Ed

1st Stoke Golding Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are out and about !

As part of their Global Challenge badge the Cubs visited Nuneaton Fire Station on March 24th. The cubs were entertained by enthusiastic fire men of Red Watch under the command of John Wilson. The cubs learnt about the protective garments for chemical spills, breathing apparatus, training including a tour of the smoke filled house (without the smoke) , cutting equipment and where the kettle on a fire engine was as well as soaking the Leader's cars with a hose! The following week the cubs wrote a thank you letter, all 15 metres of it, which has been delivered!



The Beavers had games, nature art craft, Easter egg hunt at Foxes Covert on Tuesday 8th April. A fun time was had by all.



At Foxes Covert there was also a special presentation of the Bronze Chief Scout Award to 9 Beavers:

Ellie and Joe Ibbotson, Poppy Green, Imogen Woods, Erin Hickman, Matthew MacArthur, Alex Oliver, Ben Sherry and Harry Thomas.

This award is a special award for which the Beavers had to work hard at their badges and also do a personal challenge.

Some of the Scouts also joined the Beavers at Foxes Covert as Edward Neale was presented with the Gold Chief Scout award. Again a major achievement by Edward. Well done to all those who received this special award.

The scouts have been busy cooking and eating pancakes, general cooking, taking part in the great Egg Challenge and planning their camp at Bromsgrove at the end of May.

As you can see the 1st Stoke Golding Group are flourishing and having fun! There are a dedicated group of leaders who are volunteers and give up their time to organise these events. It can be hard work at times but also immensely rewarding seeing reactions of the pack to new experiences and having fun.

If you could spare an hour a week to help out and join in the fun, please contact John or Fionna Shilladay on 01455 212908.

Jennifer Michie
Assistant Cub Leader

Dadlington Matters

ST JAMES' CHURCH DADLINGTON

FLOWER FESTIVAL

Sat 3rd, Sun 4th & Mon 5th May 2014

PICTURES IN AN EXHIBITION

The theme of the Flower Festival at St James' Church, Dadlington this year is Pictures in an Exhibition and the flower arrangers will be interpreting a favourite painting or artist in flowers. The arrangers are drawn, once again, from the members of Earl Shilton Flower Club and from the church congregation.



Refreshments will be served in the Village Hall, including soup and a roll from 12 noon until 2.00pm., and teas and cakes etc. all day. There will be a variety of stalls selling cakes, books, plants etc. and a raffle and a tombola.

The Festival is being held over the May Bank Holiday weekend on 3rd, 4th and 5th of May and the church will be open from 12 noon to 5pm each day

Local News From the Past

THE QUEEN DOWAGER THINKS OF STOKE GOLDING. FROM THE NEWCASTLE JOURNAL SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER 1843

The Queen Dowager has contributed a donation of £20 towards defraying the expenses to be incurred in the repair and restoration of the ancient Parish Church of Stoke Golding, Leicestershire, which has fallen into extreme dilapidation. It was built in the reign of Edward I and is one of the finest specimens of Early ecclesiastical architecture in the country. This illustrious lady, deeply attached to the protestant faith, is one of the most generous of her sex in aid of church extension, and of the erection of schools for the scriptural education of the children of the poor. Every week seems to add to the splendid roll of her Majesty's contributions.

Denis Cash

I've seen the future and its Eastbourne.....

Mrs Fool and I are what you might describe as trainee pensioners. That is to say that whilst we enjoy some of the benefits that fall due to the senior citizen, bus passes, free prescriptions and the like, we have not yet reached the age where the Government fully adds to our monthly income. To prepare ourselves for the full status we decided to undertake a research field trip to the British epicentre of pensioner activity, Eastbourne, where fully fledged pensioners can be observed in their natural habitat.

The first thing that became apparent is that we were generally moving too fast. In the morning Mrs Fool and I had tried to do some field work at the National Trust Centre at Birling Gap where, we were told, pensioners had been seen the previous day. We committed a schoolboy error as none were evident simply because the tea shop scones are not discounted until the afternoon. We did discover however, that the coast at this point had eroded by some 120 yards in a little over 100 years. On returning to town we realised that sort of speed can only be described as ballistic when compared to the time taken to get a party of pensioners from the excursion coach and into the theatre for the afternoon matinee. We went to the evening performance and moved very slowly in order not to draw attention to ourselves. We were amazed to find that the play had two intervals and were reliably informed that this had nothing to do with dramatic timing. Apparently this is standard practice in Eastbourne where past experience had shown that the audience at large did not have sufficient bladder control to get by with a single intermission.

Another trait of the complete pensioner, particularly when moving in a large group, or shuffle to give its correct term, is the sudden stop. We observed this behaviour on the promenade as a group on the mystery tour from Tunbridge Wells, came to an unheralded halt causing a complete blockage of the thoroughfare. There is no malice in this behaviour. It is simply an age related slowing of reflexes which cause a delay, starting with the halt and concluding with the realisation that an obstruction is being caused. In Eastbourne this could have potentially serious consequences as the promenade is also much favoured by cyclists, joggers and roller-skaters who are not versed in the ways of the senior citizen.

It is my profound belief that the Cooperative Society has a major role to play here which would do much to enhance the safety of pensioners and help their own endangered finances. Instead of the usual hearing aid beige Bomber Jackets that make up most of their clothing range, how about a Hi-Vis version in fluorescent yellow? And those trainers that children love which light up as they run? How about a version of slip-ons that flash when pensioners are stationary?

Can't wait for next year!

The Fool on the Hill



What's On

Methodist Church Flower Festival "The Love of Gardens"



Friday May 23rd 12 noon - 5pm
Saturday May 24th 10am - 6pm
Sunday May 25th 12 noon - 5.30pm
Monday 26th 10am - 6pm

Ploughman's lunches Friday, Saturday, Monday
Cream teas Saturday and Monday
Various stalls, raffle and tombola

Fenny Drayton Community Event

Fun for all the Family - come and meet Roxy the fox, a barn owl, a little owl and more.



At Fenny Drayton Church
Sunday 1st June

**Talk by Geoff from Nuneaton
Wildlife Sanctuary at 2pm**

Afternoon tea, Activities for children and a raffle

Tickets £5 tel Louise Murray 01827 712518 or Julia Collis 01827 713881

Children free

Higham on the Hill Traditional Village Fayre

Saturday May 17th
11am - 3pm

Higham on the Hill Primary School
Main Street, CV13 6AJ

Face-painting,
bouncy castle,
merry go round,
home made cakes,
craft market



All money raised goes to school and pre school



Stoke Fest is being held this year on
SUNDAY 24th AUGUST

We would love to hear from you if you can help us on the day or if you would like to perform on the acoustic stage.

Please email us on contact@stoke-fest.co.uk, or phone 01455 212132.

www.stoke-fest.co.uk

What's On



Stoke Golding Heritage Group

"Cherish the past, protect the future"



May Meeting

Introduction to Herbs

The use of herbs in society goes back centuries initially as the only available medicines for curing sickness. Now of course they are used by the bucketful in state-of-the-art cookery! Lynne Tann-Watson of The Witch's Garden Herbery, will be giving us a talk entitled "Introduction to Herbs" which should be particularly interesting for historians, gardeners, medics and cooks! This will take place in the Baxter Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday May 15th. Non-members are welcome but there will be a nominal charge of £2.50.

Adult Learners' Week in Stoke Golding

An exciting programme of activities is being put together to mark Adult Learners' Week to cater for as many people as possible. Sessions include art, crafts, singing, pilates, Latin and burlesque dancing, French conversation, bell-ringing, cake decoration, history talks, internet workshop, willow weaving, first aid, reading to your children and wine tasting.

Most sessions will be between Saturday 14th - Saturday 21st June except bell-ringing which will be held on Tuesday 24th June in the evening.

A detailed timetable will be delivered to all houses in Stoke Golding and Dadlington by the end of May.

So keep your diary as free as possible and register your interest as soon as you can.

Ring Steve Smithers 213798 for more information

Dates for your Diary

3rd - 5th May: **Flower Festival** St James's Church, Dadlington

10th May: **Coffee Morning** Methodist Church 10 - 11.30am

15th May: **Heritage Group Talk**, Baxter Hall, 7.30pm

17th May: **Traditional Village Fayre**, Higham on the Hill Primary School

23rd May: **Guitar Concert**, Stoke Golding Village Hall, ring 212416 for information

23rd - 26th May: **Flower Festival**, Methodist Church

1st June: **Wildlife Talk and Tea**, Fenny Drayton Church

14th - 21st June **Adult Learners' Week**, various venues and times.

24th August: **Stokefest**, ring 212132 for information



From the Rector at St Margaret's Church

'War tears lives apart. Love can help piece them back together.' Christian Aid Week 11-17 May 2014

For a growing number of people across the world, the horror of war is a part of daily life. Christian Aid Week this year is focussing on working to bring peace to communities decimated by conflict.

Lives are torn apart by war. People are driven in terror from their homes, turning whole families – entire communities – into refugees, wrenched from the familiar and the things they hold most dear. The threat of violence often gives way to the grinding life of poverty, and the feeling that pervades is a relentless and crippling sense of fear: Fear for lives. Fear for loved ones. Fear for the future.

Right now, fuelled by the devastating violence in both Syria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the numbers of people driven from their homes by war is on the rise. It stands at 42 million people – an appalling statistic.

South Sudan has been and remains devastated by war. Many communities are suffering greatly from a lack of access to basic healthcare, education, and, at times, food to eat. Since December 2013 over 700,000 people have been displaced inside South Sudan, forced from their homes amid escalating violence. Food and essential items are needed there.

We can make a real difference to people's lives by donating during Christian Aid Week (11–17 May 2014). With our help, many more people can look forward to a future free from poverty.

£15 could provide blankets for refugee children to protect them from bitter night-time temperatures.

£40 could provide enough good quality and nutritious food for two refugee children for a month.

£150 could help provide specialist emotional support for a child deeply traumatised by the horror of war that they've witnessed or experienced.

Through our faith, our prayers and our generosity this Christian Aid Week, we can stand alongside some of the poorest people, in and around the world. Thank you for being a part of it.

Linda

Church Matters

Church of England Services - May

St. Margaret's Church

4 th May	10.30am	All Age Service
11 th May	11.00am	Benefice Rogation Service Lodge Farm, Atterton
18 th May	10.30am	Holy Communion
25 th May	10.30am	Morning Worship

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

St. James's Church

4 th May	6.30pm	Songs of Praise
11 th May	11.00am	Benefice Rogation Service Lodge Farm, Atterton
18 th May	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
25 th May	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion

The Methodist Church May 2014 Services

4th	10.30am	Rev. Michael Haighton
11th	10.30am	Mrs Joan Ledson
18th	10.30am	Mr John Marfleet
25th	10.30am	Rev. Wes Hampton
	6.00pm	Rev. Andrew Murphy

Zion Baptist Chapel May 2014 Services starting at 6pm Sunday School at 11am

4th May	Harold Pirie
11th May	Mark Menzfeld
18th May	Malcolm Welch
25th May	Wynne Richards

Big & Small Church

St. Margaret's Big & Small Church
for under 7s
3rd & 4th Sunday of the month
from 10.30am at the Baxter Hall.

Methodist Church Coffee Morning for Christian Aid

Saturday May 10th
10am - 11.30am

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.



Celebrations Page

Happy 40th Birthday to Kate



Kate Warner from Andrew Close with her Mum and Dad, Jeanie and John, also from the village.

Kate, aged 10, when she first moved to Stoke Golding



Double Trouble!



Identical twins Joseph and Benjamin were born on December 3rd 2013 to Kevin (formerly from Stoke Golding) and Hannah White. The family now live in Derby.

New Book Release

Stoke Golding's very own writer Kristen Stone has released her latest book *Silent Love* as a paperback. Copies available at the Post Office for the special price of £8.50. (£9.50 from Lulu.com plus postage)

'David was born deaf and has spent his childhood feeling worthless. Then he meets Sara and his life changes.'

'Til next time

Kris

www.kristen-stone-the-writer.com

Update on Public Examination of the Barwell and Earl Shilton Area Action Plan (AAP)

On 3rd April a government-appointed planning inspector assessed the robustness and credibility of the Borough Council's AAP for Barwell and Earl Shilton at a public meeting. This included a Traffic Impact Assessment, which had been done for the Borough Council by County Highways using a computer model called LLITM. A group of Stoke Golding residents, Alan White, Brian Ninness, David Goodsell and myself with help from Angela Porter of Stapleton had submitted a written statement on behalf of the local community, which questioned the validity of the Traffic Impact Assessment. The key areas of objection were:-

- 1) The model forecast **388** vehicles leaving the Barwell SUE in the peak hour 8.00 to 9.00am - our manual statistical analyses predicted between **759 and 1298**
- 2) The model predicted the current traffic levels on the rural roads through Dadlington and Stoke Golding. The manual counts undertaken by residents of both Stoke Golding and Dadlington showed variations of between +476% and -59% to those produced by the model. (Many thanks to those residents who braved the elements to do the counts)
- 3) The model forecast that the proportion of total peak hour traffic was **26%** of the total traffic between 7.00am and 10.00am. Using data from the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on Hinckley Road we showed that the actual number was **50%**. (Thanks to the Parish Council for agreeing to purchase the Data logging equipment for the VAS)

Our objective was to use this evidence to persuade the inspector that the LLITM Computer Model was fundamentally flawed and therefore the Traffic Impact Assessment should be rejected. We also put forward some proposals that would limit the volume of traffic using the rural road network in the peak hour.

The Inspector did not query the validity of our submitted evidence, but asked HBBC and LCC representatives to comment on them or explain why there were differences. In my opinion the arguments they put forward were weak and they had no explanation at all for item 3 above. This is significant because if the model uses 50% peak hour then their predicted forecast of 388 doubles to 776.

I was satisfied that we had presented a sound and logical case which gave the inspector a number of key issues to consider. At the moment, I have no idea when the inspectors report will be published. However LCC and HBBC are clearly rattled as they have submitted further evidence in a 16-page document to demonstrate that the model has been properly validated and is correct. The team mentioned above is currently putting together a response.

Roy Mitchell

Beth's Corner - Bernice

"Hi Beth – have you got a moment?" It was my colleague Les, on our visiting day at 'Sunnyside' Hospital. I was happily sharing 88yr. old Mary's latest news, when he popped his head around the door. "I think you might know this lady next door, she's from Stoke Golding." I excused myself for the moment, and went in to see if I did know the patient from our village. Very soon I was learning a great deal about Bernice, although in fact I hadn't met her before. "So what happened Bernice, that you're here in hospital?" Then the whole story tumbled out from this very elderly lady, who I discovered had lived in our village from the time she was fourteen years old, and now lives in one of the bungalows on the corner of Hinckley Road and Wykin Lane. I was horrified to hear that she had slipped and fallen in her kitchen, and was unable to move for eighteen hours. She had tried shouting for help, but just exhausted herself. It wasn't until her niece came to visit her Aunt having had no reply to her phone calls, that she was finally rescued. The more I heard about her life here, I decided that Bernice's story should be this month's Villager. "Would you like that Bernice? If so I'll bring my note pad next time and make a few notes."

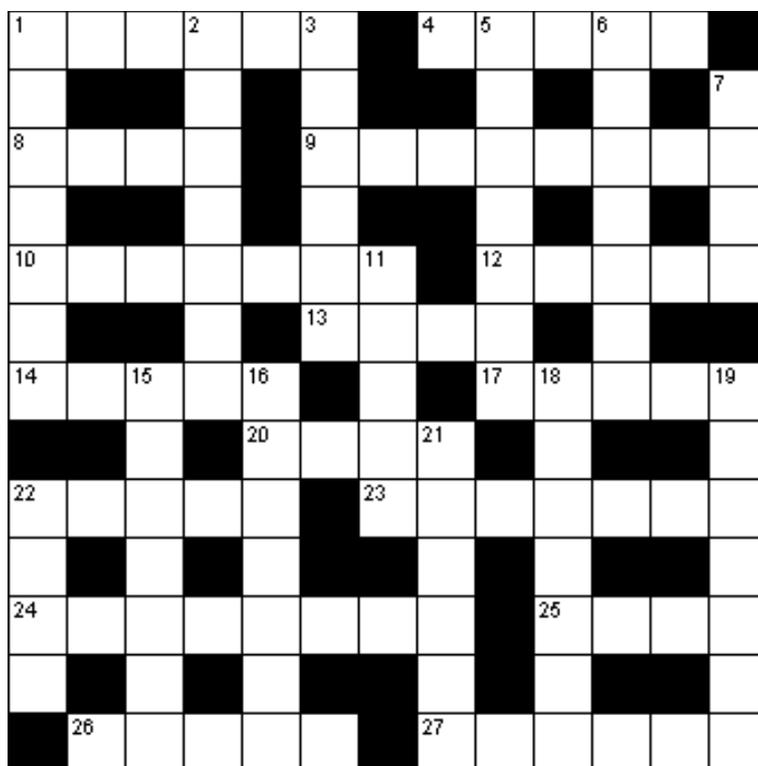
On my next Chaplaincy visit, I discovered Bernice, sitting in the chair already dressed in her coat and shoes, waiting for the ambulance to take her to Glenfield for some scans and X-rays. The nurse was busily packing her clothes into large bags, and stripping her bed. "Oh dear- Nurse, how long do you think the ambulance will be." "No idea me luv – could be hours yet." So now was the time to get started. This was the first time 'Beth's Corner' had taken place by a hospital bed. "So where did you and the family come from, before Stoke?" She was born and brought up in Barton in the Beans. Her father worked on a farm all his life, having come over from Germany during the war. Bernice went to primary school in Barton, before the family moved to the village. Their first home was in High Street by the Baptist Chapel, while Dad was working for Mr. Baker at his farms at Ivy House and Crown Hill farm. Like so many other children in the village she went to school on the school bus to Market Bosworth, but left soon after her fourteenth birthday. Her first job like so many other young folk, was at Hall's Hosiery. It seems to me, having heard so many similar stories, that the young people of that time, must have had a very close community, so many of them working together at Hall's just before the second war, making socks for the army. Wards' Boots and Shoes followed Halls, and then of course, during the war she was transferred to Dunlops' munitions in Hinckley. She started to giggle as she told me how cycling home one evening she was dragged off her bike by a furious Air Raid Warden, "Mr. Towers it was, from Dadlington." "Your dynamo lamp is much too bright for the German planes above – you silly girl."

After the war it was back to boots and shoes, and finally to making pretty jumpers and knitwear at Smallshaws. Having worked all her life, Bernice was sadly made redundant at the age of sixty.

She'll be returning home soon, and obviously loves the chance of a chat and remembering village stories from the past. I for one loved catching up on her reminiscences.

Yours Beth

Crossword



Across

1. A canine bend in the road ? (6)
4. Lost or homeless canine (5)
8. Bathroom powder (4)
9. A black or a 3D retriever (8)
10. see 19D
12. **** setter or wolfhound (5)
13. A wet one means a healthy animal (4)
14. A small long nosed rodent (5)
17. Something old from the past (5)
20. To use hounds & horses (4)
22. Kenyan tribe (5)
23. Dried fruit (7)
24. Farm canine used for herding (8)
25. Film or pop legend (4)
26. Roof covering (5)
27. Soup containers (6)

Down

1. Hates something (7)
2. One is needed for a car or TV (7)
3. Colour of a 9A (6)
5. Border, bull or Bedlington one (7)
6. Nursery rhyme Jack ***** (3&4)
7. Curved doorway (4)
11. Lends money (5)
15. Canine breed Jack ***** (7)
16. Small greyhound type (7)
18. Animals put into Crufts (7)
19. And 10A toy breed named after a King (7 & 7)
21. Pulled sharply (6)
22. Light fog (4)

Answers on page 22

Stoke Golding Parish Council Meeting - March'14

Notes from March Parish Council Meeting

Convent Green Space update: Pauline Goodsell confirmed that the composting toilet, renovated shed and shelter would become assets of the Parish Council. A meeting to be held on 19th March of the Allotment Society to elect new officers and set up funding, and a meeting on 21st March with Raglan Housing Association.

Ironstyles is renovating the old cemetery gates before installing by the allotments. *Defibrillator Project Update:* Funding now in place - Margaret Walsh confirmed the successful bid with British Heart Foundation for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at a cost of £400 and a heated cabinet at a cost of £950 from Heart Beat Trust. The device will be located on the Methodist Church wall. Training in the use of the device to be organised through the Ambulance Service. Access to the AED in an emergency will be by dialling 999 - the caller will be informed where the defibrillator is situated and given a code to activate the security key pad. The Parish Council agreed to be responsible for, and insure the defibrillator.

Police report: PC Polly Cotton reported on two crimes during the last 30 days: a theft from an unsecure barn and damage to a parked motor vehicle.

Councillors expressed concerns about cars parked on the pavement along Hinckley Road, parking on the corner of High Street near the jitty and noise of motor bikes. PC Cotton will look into these matters.

Neighbourhood and SmartWater Signs: Proposed signs were presented and accepted.

2013/14 New Homes Bonus - £714.24 will be allocated by HBBC to the Parish Council, which will be used to replace the slabs with turf around the swings on the children's play area.

War Memorial and 100 year commemoration – HBBC Conservation Department was emailed detailing suggestions for renovating the area around the War Memorial in Hinckley Road Cemetery. Parish Council to request HBBC for quotes in respect of this work, and will investigate new signs for Cemetery.

LCC Highways – poor condition of Wykin Lane road surface has been reported and logged.

Village Hall – footpath surrounding Village Hall in poor condition - to be inspected

Reports by council representatives -

Wykin Lane Cemetery – wire fence has been removed.

Hinckley Road Cemetery - Ivy not fully removed; grounds-man requested to complete work.

Path around rec – Groundsman has made a good maintenance job on one side but the other side has been damaged. He will be asked to replace broken wood. Quotes for topping up the pathway with new gravel to be obtained.

Planning Applications:

(Continued on page 21)

(Parish Council Notes continued from page 20)

Permission granted – [Extension and alterations to dwelling](#) - Meadowside, High Street.

Barwell SUE – Traffic Assessment

Stoke Golding Parish Council's submission for the Area Action Plan Public Examination on 27th March was read to meeting for comments - all agreed upon the Parish Council's submission

SAD (Site Allocation Document) – This has been published by HBBC with the following adjustments for Stoke Golding:

The Parish boundary redrawn around Crown Hill Farm and outbuildings.

The Parish Boundary to include an area of garden belonging to 36, Station Road.

The Parish Boundary to include Mulberry Farm house and buildings.

The Parish boundary to include the development on the Convent land, Lodge Farm, Stoke Lodge and Goose Grange.

Pavilion - A quote was presented for discussion on ideas to improve the pavilion. A meeting to be arranged with members of the cricket and football clubs to discuss its future.

New Planters - These have been ordered and will be delivered to Station Yard for future positioning in the village.

Any other business:

Seat (by Fisher's Farm) – Cllr Mayes to investigate re-positioning of seat.

R A Harbours - removal of poplar trees on rec by the pavilion - two silver birch and a maple were suggested as replacements.

Cllr Mayes to inform Parish Council what replacement trees are required for Sherwood and Greenwood Road.

Next meeting: Wednesday 7th May at 7pm in the Methodist Church Hall.

News From the Past

THE LEICESTERSHIRE MERCURY SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER 1849

STOKE GOLDING – This village is now suffering severely for its neglect of sanitary reform, and for not availing itself of the provisions of the Act of Parliament. Contagious fever broke out a short time ago at the end of the village heading towards Hinckley, and it was ascertained that the black filthy water from an open drain had found its way into the cistern which supplied the poor cottagers with water! The consequence has been fifteen or sixteen deaths and there are now upwards of forty other cases in the village. The want of ventilation, and the proverbial dirty state of some of the cottages, have doubtless contributed to spread the pestilence.

I'm glad sanitation has changed since 1849! - Ed

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Across: ACROSS. 1. Dogleg; 4. Stray; 8. Talc; 9. Labrador; 10. Spaniel; 12 Irish;
13. Nose; 14. Shrew; 17. Relic; 20. Hunt; 22. Masai; 23. Sultana; 24. Sheepdog;
25. Idol; 26. Slate; 27. Dishes.

DOWN. 1. Detests; 2. Licence; 3. Golden; 5. Terrier; 6. And Jill; 7. Arch; 11.
Loans; 15. Russell;
16. Whippet; 18. Entries; 19. & 10A Charles spaniel; 21. Tugged; 22. Mist.

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