

May '15

No. 141



The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine

including

Dadlington Matters

50p



Note from the Editors



Spring has arrived, delighting us with its cacophony of birdsong, bleating sheep, budding greenery and gorgeous scents. This month's edition of the Stoker starts with a tribute to David Riddington and continues with more stories from the

recent successful Richard 3rd celebrations including some special contributions from St Martin's Academy.

We are all probably aware of the pending General Elections, the Fool on the Hill has his own special take on this. We hope you enjoy reading his prose. Please note, the Fool's views are not necessarily the view of editors . At a local level , changes are happening too, see page 5 for news on our own Parish Council.

The Adult Learner planning team have been busy liaising with local talents to ensure this years Festival of Learning is an enjoyable experience for all who wish to take part. Overview on page 13 .

As always please keep sending us your news and articles of interest.

Steve and Jane

The Stoker Team

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Please send articles for the **June 2015** 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).

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

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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: Long tailed tit taken by Martyn Fisher

Honour for Stoke Golding Veteran

On 24th March David Riddington of Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding was one of the eight Honour Guards from the Leicestershire and Warwickshire Suez Veterans' Association who had the privilege of guarding the coffin of King Richard III in Leicester Cathedral for an hour. He said it was a proud moment to experience the event.

The Suez Veterans, who were on active service in Egypt, meet in the Ex-Service Men's Club, Hinckley, every two months.



Village Residents Join the Cathedral Service of Reinterment

As a representative from St Margaret's Church, Stoke Golding, I was invited to attend the *Service of Reinterment of the Remains of King Richard III by the grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland* on 26 March 2015 at Leicester Cathedral. It was interesting to witness all the dignitaries arriving and processing into the Cathedral building for this important religious service. The ceremony was unprecedented. There was the right blend of solemnity and celebration, uplifting music and meaningful silence, pomp and humility, I felt. Everything was conducted with dignity and honour.

Among the celebrities, including actor Benedict Cumberbatch, who delivered very movingly a poem entitled *Richard* by the current Poet Laureate (Carol Ann Duffy), and HRH The Countess of Wessex and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester representing the Queen, were a number of residents of Stoke Golding and Dadlington. These were church wardens of both parishes, clergy, scholars of our local schools and their head teachers, a parish councillor and one of our villagers was a member of the Cathedral choir, who had the most beautiful voices. We were truly honoured to be present on such a historic and meaningful occasion.

Carolyn Patullo

Pupils from St Martin's School Commemorate Richard III Reinternment

St Martin's School students undertook the role of Junior Poet Laureate to celebrate the life of King Richard. The imagery of the delicate white rose and the resilient boar both abound in their truly evocative poems.

A White Rose Snowflake *by Carina Barber*

A white rose snowflake spirals down from the sky
Twirling, failing, falling, settling, preparing to die.
Through the hushed mist a whimper can be heard'
It grows to a cry, a shout, a scream, then not a word.
The gasp of a man; the twitch of a horse,
A sense of anticipation and a twinge of remorse.
Then, all at once, there's a change in the air,
The sudden stampede starts - each man breathes a silent prayer:
Crimson blood is spilt and precious lives are lost,
Yet Richard battles for his country, whatever the cost.
Then falls down the honourable king.
Anthems of admiration, they do sing.
The birds do not chirp; the leaves do not drop,
As, for just a moment, the world draws to a stop.
Brave and courageous until his last breath,
He will be remembered in life and in death.
Although the flower dies, its roots still remain
His wisdom and glory means he did not die in vain.
And up from the heavens, where the souls do fly,
A white rose snowflake, spirals down from the sky.

A Rose From Home *by Eleanor Hodgson*

A misty morning on Bosworth Field, shrouded in mist a ghostly white.
The bloom of the white rose intertwined with fading red.
The roses are over. Nay one stays strong, o'er the hedgerow gazing up at the heavens.
The wandering eyes of a lonesome boar linger on this virtuous white; akin to the gaze of a friend.
The soft clatter of steel and the shudder of cannon fire settle on the wind's breath.
Yet the rose still stands, twice as unflinching and tall. Not once yielding to the whisperings of the wind.
A man adorned in black spies the gallant rose and snips it from its place on high to lie on the silky smooth pine of a coffin.
A coffin cradling the remains of a prodigious warrior, on his long journey back to his resting place.
Except this time he is seen!
The rose lies snug like it belongs. There is no cold, despite the cutting winds, as the coffin is lowered into the warm open arms of Leicester Cathedral.
Richard III is where he belongs, among friends, honoured and Remembered.

The Fashion and Textiles Department, combined with the Art Department created banners and a striking Battle of Bosworth Dress. Each section of the paper dress was made from the students' original paintings and drawings, depicting their interpretation of the battlefield events in a present day design worthy of a Lady Gaga creation.



St Margaret's CE(A) Primary School ~ Stoke Golding

March has been a very exciting time for the children of St Margaret's. We were invited to be a part of the 'Guard of Honour' in Dadlington as the bones of Richard III were brought through the village. The children's behaviour was outstanding and it was a real privilege to be a part of history.

On Thursday 26th March, Miss Steele along with Lucas and Chloe from year 6 were invited to the reinterment of Richard III at Leicester Cathedral. We were one of four schools who were invited. To begin we had to meet up at the Guildhall and form part of the procession going into the Cathedral. Lucas said "That was when I realised how important this was, with all those people taking pictures of us." The children were in awe of the Cathedral and the service was beautiful. We were very lucky to have a prime seat behind the Royal Family and appeared live on Channel 4 several times! There were no photos allowed to be taken during the service, but once people left the Cathedral we were able to go and have a moment by the tomb and reflect. A fabulous memory for the three of us to have.

Aly Steele



Stoke Golding Scout Group Easter Celebrations The Great Egg Challenge

The Cubs have taken part in the Great Egg Challenge which involved creating a suitable device to allow a fresh egg (not hard boiled) to survive a 3 metre drop in return for a cream egg!!

Over the years the instructions have been fine tuned and a list of banned substances, including use of bubble wrap and polystyrene balls, has been constructed to cover all situations (or so we thought). The measurements have been made smaller and this year the container with the egg in had to fit into a "capsule" made from 2 washing up bowls.

However we hadn't anticipated that a cub would turn up with a box of hay which did not contain Freda (the Blue Peter tortoise) and ended up distributed around the hall. About 1/3 of eggs did not make it when the Cubs did the challenge!!!!

More cream eggs for the Leaders to eat- NOT really.

The Beavers, all 28 of them, ran around Foxes Covert and went on an egg hunt round the site as well as playing on the adventure playground and had a tour of the camp site, which for some Beavers was their first visit. They particularly liked the freedom to run around with torches in the dark and clear skies. It was a bit chilly for the leaders but the Beavers, being more active, were in some cases down to their T- shirts ! All the replica eggs were found so the Beavers didn't go home empty handed and the leaders went hungry.

The Great egg challenge was repeated by the scouts.

The pack is now having a break for the Easter hols and back the week beginning 13th April and getting ready for their big role in the St George's day procession on the 25th April, 2015.

Jennifer Michie



Thoughtless Dog Owners Threaten Livestock

Cattle on Ivy House Farm, High Street, Stoke Golding are in danger of losing their lives due to plastic bags filled with dog mess being left on the style by the canal bridge that leads to the fields where the cows graze. Jane Fisher, the farm owner, said that she removed ten bags one day and then a week later there were more. She is worried that the cows will eat the bags and contents which could kill them. Most dog owners clear up after their dogs responsibly, but there are obviously still some who do not.

All change for our local Parish Councils

Even though the formal elections are not until 7th May the election of Stoke Golding and Sutton Cheney Parish Councils are both uncontested.

Stoke Golding will have three new parish councillors: Roy Mitchell, Brian Ninness and Alan White and Dadlington has one new councillor: Keith Morton. These appointments will take place from Monday 11th May.

Reg Ward, Doug Mayes & Ruth Fisher will be standing down from Stoke Golding Parish Council with Sarah Beale, Rodney Brown, Christopher Pegg and Rachel Terhege all standing for another term.

Linda Mayne & Simon Rees-Jones will continue to represent Dadlington on Sutton Cheney Parish Council.



Stoke Golding WI

There was food aplenty when Stoke Golding WI met in the Baxter Hall in April. Brenda Featherstone from Markfield, along with her two daughters, cooked a range of dishes that included Pineapple and Mandarin Cheesecake, Shredded Wheat cake, Shepherd's Pudding, Leek and Tomato Soup and Almond and Lemon Meatballs. Many delicious aromas floated around the room as the ingredients were mixed together and put into pans to cook in the oven or on a hot plate. We were given recipes and then invited to taste the food.

Brenda told us about her farm, which straddles the M1 motorway. When the motorway was built moving livestock around the farm was much more difficult. In later years they managed to acquire more land which gave them a passage under and a bridge over the motorway. At that time they had a dairy herd but now they rear livestock, such as the Gloucester Old Spot Pigs, and sell their products in the shop at Little Markfield Farm. They also have sheep and two alpacas called Chestnut and Caspian who protect the two flocks of sheep from attack by stray dogs. Brenda had been spending a lot of time helping with the new born lambs and piglets that it's a wonder she found time to get all the ingredients together for the demonstration.

Coming to the Baxter Hall was a change of venue for us because the Methodist Hall was being redecorated. We were made to feel very welcome by Doreen Foster who checked that we had everything we needed.

At the end of March we had an excellent, fun skittles evening with supper at Newbold Verdon Social Club. A coffee morning will take place at 26 Wykin Lane on 8th May between 10am and 12pm cost £3 for coffee and cake with proceeds going to the WI and the next monthly meeting, a social evening, is on Wednesday 13th May at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Hall.

Anne Fullagar

The Fool on the Hill

Cometh the hour....

It may not have escaped your attention that there is a General Election in the offing. Unless of course your copy of the Stoker is late in which case it will already be over. Either way, as I write, the whole thing is building up to a crescendo.

Historically, this has really only been relevant to the three main parties, but this time around we have, depending on your point of view, six or seven. All are making increasingly extravagant claims and policy proposals which are then promptly rubbished by the others and declared to be unsustainable, unfundable or just downright mad. This is designed to trap the floating voters, who determine the outcome, into voting for some titbit which, in all probability, will never be delivered because of "unforeseen circumstances". It is enough to drive you to distraction. Unless of course, you happen to be a grumpy old cynic who has been around long enough to see all this for what it is, in which case it is Manna from heaven and all your Christmases come at once. A chance to indulge in a feeding frenzy of moaning, and a time to speculate, perchance, on the promises that the parties are making, about which the general public will know nothing. I refer to those post electoral Faustian pacts, written in blood, which these groups will have to deliver to their paymasters.

Have the Tories agreed a special fund to give succour to those bankers who only have one offshore secret account? Will Labour have committed to nationalising launderettes? The SNP may have agreed that all future leaders of their party must be named after a fish and that all hip replacements will come with a free deep fried Mars bar. Plaid Cmryu may be irrevocably tied to the creation of a new department for the promotion of consonants and the elimination of vowels. The Liberal Democrats may be enshrining in law, the right for all long term prisoners to buy their own cells. UKIP have probably got a firm commitment to set mines in the English Channel. The Green party will no doubt have punitive tax plans for any car that does not run on cabbage.

The point is, all of these parties are gambling on sound bite policies to get them over the electoral line and into power. The really good thing this time is, there are so many of them at it that we will probably see a completely split vote, from a confused electorate, with no party able to form a controlling government. It will be really interesting to then watch the backtracking and excuses as some sort of coalition gets cobbled together.

It might just happen that politicians then realise that what we really need is a sensible long term plan based on all shades of opinion.

Or we could just leave it to the Monster Raving Loonies. Might work just as well.



Gig News of a new band - "The Crowned Rogues"



It isn't often that you get the opportunity to interview the members of a band who are relatively new on the scene. However this was the case when I interviewed Richard Green of "The Crowned Rogues" named after Crown Hill at one end of Stoke Golding and Rogues Lane at the other.

The band consists of Richard, lead guitarist and vocalist, husband and wife Jason and Lisa Hickman who play bass and rhythm guitar and backing vocals respectively and Dion Short, drummer.

The band practises locally and played its first gig in November at the Club to launch the Stoke Golding Football Club Comedy Night and played the next one on the 27th March, again for the same football club.

Richard explained how they cover songs from a mixture of eras including the 1950s Fats Domino, 1960's Chuck Berry, 1970's Jam, 1990's Oasis to the present day with a possible Taylor Swift cover in the pipeline. Richard said their first gig went down well and they hope to progress to pubs/clubs in the future. You heard about them first in The Stoker!!!

Richard himself said music has played an important role in his life and got his first guitar at the age of 16 years old and is self-taught. He played for a few bands in Birmingham including "7th Son" who are still on the go. He actually went with the band to Italy and played at a Mod Rally there in 1997.

His musical influences are varied from the Beatles, Kinks, Blur, Oasis and Metallica to the Chemical Brothers and Beastie Boys plus a lot of other influences. As explained he enjoys music at any level.

He had a break from playing in bands when his children came along but is obviously enjoying playing in bands again.

Richard has also recently joined Zaney J which Pete Dawson leads and he describes the band 's music as more Rocky, playing covers by bands such as Led Zeppelin, AC/DC and ZZ Top. Zaney J are due to play at The Swan pub on Sunday the 24th of May of the bank holiday weekend.

It is refreshing to talk to a busy person, with full time job, college course and young family who has had a break from bands but is enjoying reliving the musical experience again. The Stoker wish Richard all the success on his musical journey.

For more details you can visit their website at www.Thecrownedrogues.wix.com/the-crowned-rogues

What's On

ST JAMES' CHURCH DADLINGTON FLOWER FESTIVAL

Sat 2nd, Sun 3rd & Mon 4th May 2015
12 noon - 5pm

"A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION"

The flower arrangers, drawn once again from the members of Earl Shilton Flower Club and the church congregation will be interpreting this theme in their own individual way.

Refreshments will be served in the Village Hall, including light lunches from 12 noon until 2.00pm and teas and cakes etc. all day.

Stalls selling cakes, books, plants etc. Raffle and a Tombola.

"STOKE GOLDING" BRIDGE CLUB

The Stoke Golding Bridge Club is once again taking part in the annual "Adult Learners Week" programme, in June. The Club meets every Thursday from 1.00pm-3.00pm at "The George and Dragon", and players, learners and anyone interested in seeing how Bridge is played will be welcome to visit us on Thursday 11th June.

For those that might be interested in joining, expert training is provided for all new members, there are no fees, and the Pub is open for drinks. Most of our present members were learners when they joined us and now their game has improved very significantly.

Many Bridge Clubs take the game too seriously but we prefer to talk, laugh and enjoy our afternoons. The informal atmosphere and good fellowship of the members helps us to learn faster.

Bridge keeps your mind active.

We look forward to seeing you.

Vic Rollins

Methodist Church

Christian Aid
Coffee Morning

Saturday May 9th
10.30 - 11.30am

Viking Invasion at Hinckley RFC

Rumours of an imminent invasion of the Leicester Road area by Viking forces seemed well founded following the second sighting of Viking scouts in the area in as many weeks. The group were spotted at Hinckley RFC's Leicester Road ground during the Club's National 3 Midlands game against local rivals Nuneaton RFC.

The warriors and camp followers, part of the Viking re-enactment group, 'Vikings of Middle England', were in attendance to publicise their forthcoming event that will be hosted by Hinckley RFC at their ground over the weekend of June 20/21. All proceeds from the event will be shared between Hinckley RFC's 'Buy a Brick' fund, set up to fund the costs of extending the Club's clubhouse facility, and local charity Lucy's Bluebird Trust. The trust was set up in 2013 to support Leicestershire schoolgirl Lucy Rawlings in her fight against a rare form of cancer known as metastatic rhabdomyosarcoma and was named after a picture of a bluebird that Lucy coloured in one of her early hospital visits.

'We are really looking forward to having the Vikings down for the weekend. It will be a great family event, and, being Fathers Day, we're hoping that the kids will bring their Dads (and Mums) down for a real taste of history', said Club Secretary Nick Robinson. 'We are always interested in welcoming new people to Leicester Road and we'd like to think the Vikings will attract people who perhaps haven't visited us before to see what we have to offer the local community.'

Vilia Kane from the Vikings group added, 'This is the first time we have appeared in the Hinckley area and we are really pleased to be able to link up with the Rugby Club for the event. We're looking to make this an annual event and anyone attending can be assured that everything that we raise will go towards a really good cause.'

Admission will be £3 each with accompanied U16's being admitted free of charge. Demonstrations and activities will be scheduled throughout the weekend.

On the day, Vikings and Club members alike were able to celebrate another victory for 'the Black and Ambers' who are now hot favourites to secure second place in the division and a play off for promotion.

Nick Robinson



What's On

Methodist Church Flower Festival

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



Friday 22nd May	12.00noon - 5.00pm
Saturday 23rd May	10.00am - 5.30pm
Sunday 24th May	12.00noon - 5.30pm
Monday 25th May	10.00am - 5.30pm

Ploughman's Lunches Friday, Saturday & Monday

Cream Teas Saturday & Monday

Various Stalls, Raffle & Tombola



STOKE GOLDING CLUB

After another successful year the Club continues to offer very competitive prices: Carling £2.50, Guinness £2.95, Strongbow £2.50, Draught Bass £2.70 along with a range of other beers, ciders and bottled lager.

New members are always welcome to join our family friendly club with membership starting at £16 for OAPs and £20 for over 18s. C.I.U. extra We also have full Sky Sports & BT sports programmes. Our function room is available to hire for private parties, children's' parties, birthdays, weddings, funerals etc.

We offer the following activities in the evening

Mon	Sequence and ballroom dancing
Tue	Line Dancing
Wed	Indoor Bowls
Thu	General Auction

This year's must have date in your diary our popular

SUMMER BALL Saturday 20th June

Tickets on sale soon.

What's On



13-19 June 2015

Festival of Learning Stoke Golding

For the 3rd year running, the Festival of Learning is coming to Stoke Golding from 13-19 June.

The Festival is part of a national initiative, which brings together organisations across the country to offer thousands of opportunities for anyone and everyone to learn something new and inspire people of all ages and backgrounds to 'have a go' and discover how learning can change.

The local team are planning interesting events to be facilitated by talented and experienced local people. Keep an eye out and join in the fun.

ART
Conversational French
Photography
Pilates
Willow weave
iPad / PC
Bridge
Sewing
Wine Tasting



Stoke Golding Heritage Group

"Cherish the past, protect the future"



SGHG Meeting May 21st 7.30pm Baxter Hall

In 1936 Frank Whittle received backing to start work in Lutterworth on the development of a Turbojet Engine. Work proceeded throughout the war both in Britain and the USA and in 1944 Britain had a jet fighter the Gloster Meteor. Geoff Smith from the Sir Frank Whittle Commemorative Trust will give an illustrated talk on the work of this pioneering British Engineer

Church Matters



From St Margaret's Church Pastoral Letter – May

As the weather gets warmer, I am inspired to spend more time outside. I love to explore new places and appreciate the beauty of the world around us. If like me, spending time outside seems to free your mind from the stresses of life, you may find yourself wondering about some of life's big questions. If that is the case, then we have some good news for you. Alpha is starting in the Fenn Lanes very soon.

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions to discuss the Christian faith in an informal, fun and friendly environment. Alpha looks at topics including 'Is there more to life than this?', 'Who is Jesus?' and 'How can I make the most of the rest of my life?'

Alpha Fenn Lanes will run on Wednesday Evenings 7-9.15pm at Higham on the Hill Methodist church. We begin with soup and a pudding, then the talk which is followed by discussion in small groups. Plus, there is also an Alpha Day on Saturday 4th July as part of the course.

Who is Alpha for?

Alpha is for everyone; no question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you wish. We don't assume any background knowledge of or belief in Christianity and everyone is welcome. *Alpha Fenn Lanes* is being jointly run by the Methodist and Anglican Churches in the Fenn Lanes.

So, when does it start?

You are welcome to come along for the **Taster Session at 6.45pm on Wednesday 20th May at Higham Methodist Church** and see what you think. No pressure, no follow up and no charge.

How can I find out more?

There is limited availability, so please ring Hilary Tel:01455 233064 or e-mail hilarysurrudge@gmail.com to let me know if you are interested ASAP, or simply to find out more. For more information about Alpha, check out www.alpha.org

I hope that you are able to get out and about this May and perhaps help others who are less mobile to explore too. And, if you are interested in finding out more about Alpha, just give me a ring.

Blessings,
Hilary

The Rev'd Hilary Surrudge – Curate Fenn Lanes Benefice

Big & Small Church

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

Church Matters

Church of England May 2015 Services St. Margaret's Church

3 rd	10.30am	All Age Service
10 th	11.00am	Benefice Rogation Service Lodge Farm Atterton
17 th	10.30am	Holy Communion
24 th	10.30am	Pentecost – Morning Worship
31 st	10.30am	Trinity Sunday. Benefice Service

Church of England May 2015 Services St. James's Church

3 rd	6.30pm	Songs of Praise
10 th	11.00am	Benefice Rogation Service Lodge Farm Atterton
17 th	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
24 th	9.00am	Pentecost - BCP Morning Prayer
31 st	10.30am	Trinity Sunday. Benefice Service Stoke Golding

The Methodist Church May 2015 Services

3 rd	10.30am	Mr Charles Davies
10 th	10.30am	Revd. Wes Hampton
17 th	10.30am	Mrs Hilary Fenby
24 th	10.30am	Deacon Philip Osborne (Flower Festival)
	6.00 pm	Revd. Wes Hampton
31 st	10.30am	Mr John Cooke

Zion Baptist Chapel May 2015 Services

3 rd	6pm	Malcolm Welch
10 th	6pm	Mark Menzfeld
17 th	6pm	John Needham
24 th	6pm	Richard Cotton
31 st	6pm	Bill McIntyre

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.



OUR THIRD VILLAGE HERO IS JOHN SHILTON

It was on Monday 27th December 1887 that a number of boys went to the canal near their home at about 12.30pm. The canal was frozen, with ice covering the water and some of them ventured onto the ice to slide across the canal and John Shilton aged 14 years warned them not to go out onto the ice as it was dangerous. He went further along the canal when he saw a boy by the name of Shirley endeavour to slide from one side to the other, but as he was crossing the ice gave way and he was immersed. Two of Shirley's companions named Clark and Charles Quinney aged eleven years tried to rescue their companion Shirley but before the lad Shilton could run the fifty yards back to them both Clark and Quinney had fallen into the icy water.

Shilton pulled off his coat and threw it towards the struggling boys. Clark at once clutched it and was pulled onto the bank and Shirley was got out in a similar manner. However the lad Charles Quinney could not be found and it was more than an hour before his body was recovered

At the inquest into Charles Quinney's death, the Coroner Mt G.F. Harrison and his jury expressed their warm admiration of the conduct of the boy Shilton to whom they considered the lads Clark and Shirley owed their lives. The Coroner said that he would lay the facts before the Royal Humane Society in the hope that Shilton would receive some suitable recognition of his conduct.

On Tuesday 22nd February at a meeting in the village hall Stoke Golding a presentation was made to Master John Shilton from the Royal Humane Society by the Vicar in recognition of his bravery in rescuing the two other boys from drowning in the canal.

Denis Cash

From the Leicester Chronicle Saturday 26th February 1887

Stoke Golding Football Club

It's been another busy month for the Village youth football teams.

The Under 6 development squad have played their first friendly . Lots of fun and goals had by all, well done guys.

The Under 9's have continued there great form recently with a fine result against Cosby including a Hatrick from Edwin Gosling.

The Under 12's earned a hard fought 1-1 draw against the top team in their league and the Under 8's have a tournament this weekend , good luck lads.

And finally, our Under 14's. After a horrible season last year, without winning a game, have just completed there season finishing 5th in the league. Well done to all for the hard work and effort that was involved in rebuilding the team . Looking forward to even bigger and better next season in the Under 15's.

Stoke Golding Youth FC

Beth's Corner KAREN'S STORY from 'THE KING'S LODGE.'

Karen came to The King's Lodge to train for Missions in 2004. She was a nurse, having trained at Chichester and worked in various hospitals in London and the South East. However, she'd always had the desire to use her skills in the developing world, with a mission's organisation. I remember seeing her on outreach that year in the Philippines helping to bandage the sores on the arms and legs of a frail baby in her mother's arms, so quietly and efficiently, to the delight of the mother. The following year she came back to train in the school of Introduction to Primary Healthcare. Their focus is to take basic healthcare, which we take for granted, like washing hands and cleaning teeth, out to the isolated village schools and clinics all over (in this case) Africa. Karen has just returned from Zimbabwe, co-leading a school with Jennifer, who is a native of Zimbabwe, and whose long-term vision is to train the local African villagers so they can teach these skills themselves. While they were out there, a large plot of land was generously donated to Jennifer by one of the local village leaders for eventually building a Health Clinic, which means the training for local paramedics needs to be ongoing. Karen had taken numerous photos of the work they had been doing in schools, church halls and often outdoors. One showed them cleaning and applying anti-septic to minor burns and cuts. Ringworm is also very prevalent, due to the shortage of water for hair washing, so this was another daily problem.

Before the team was allowed to start these village ministries however, they needed to have the full permission from the Ministry of Health. So the first four weeks were spent in the capital Harare, under the hospitality of a church. They were working with Youth Groups, handing out toothbrushes, doing little skits about the dangers of not washing hands after the toilet, teaching about HIV and, of course, joining in with all the various church activities. By the end of the four weeks, not only were they given permission for this trip, but also permission to return with these health ministries for the next five years.

In Harare, they lived in an attractive European style house, with electricity and water, but once they were in the village, living conditions were naturally a great deal more basic. *"We were living in typical village huts of thatch, and mud walls, no electricity and the water had to be carried from the nearest water bore-hole, which was a good 10mins walk away. The nearest clinic is 20 kilometres away, with very scarce public transport, mainly horse and cart. Hardly anyone owns even a bicycle"*. This is why Jennifer's vision is urgent, so that in the future, locally trained people can handle illnesses such as diarrhoea, re-hydration, fever and basic maternity care themselves.

Everything that YWAM (Youth With A Mission) undertakes is covered with a great deal of prayer. They know that God has to be involved in all of their ministries. Now they are praying that they will be connected with all the right people to help, as well as for the necessary finances to get Jennifer's vision of the new clinic ready for this urgent work.

PS. As I was asked to organise a visit to The Lodge, I've spoken to Vicky the member of Staff responsible. *"Beth we'd be delighted to offer our hospitality to all your Stoke Golding visitors."* Now we need to find a date to suit everyone.

As ever: Beth.

Designer Travel Advertorial

A very warm welcome to Designer Travel. My name is Sue Todd and with over 15 years' experience in the travel industry I am here to help you to plan and book your perfect UK or overseas holiday, travel arrangements, cruise or honeymoon. I have travelled extensively to places far and wide for example: - Rwanda/Indochina/Caribbean/East Africa/Far East/India/Sri Lanka/Maldives/plus many more. Cruises are a passion and a speciality of mine.

As an Independent agent I will use my contacts and extensive knowledge of the travel industry to offer my clients a competitive and professional service. We provide financial protection so your precious money is safe. We only use ATOL protected companies and are an ABTA bonded travel business.

Usually book your holidays on the internet? Beware, a new police report that has just been published has found that fraudsters stole £2.2 million from unsuspecting travellers last year. Shocking statistics indeed!

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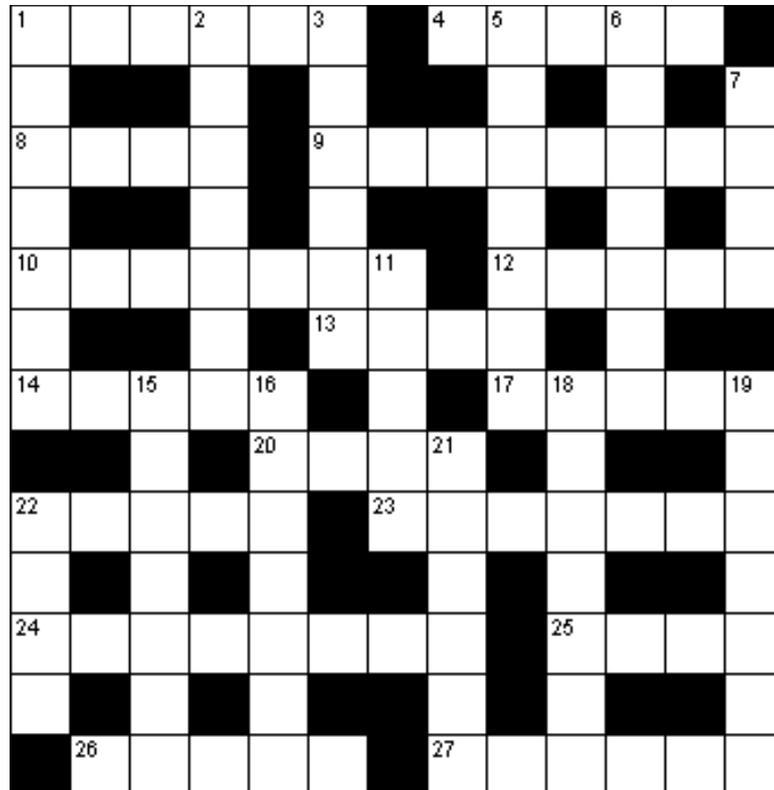


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Crossword



Across

1. A winged child (6)
4. Surveys to show who may win election (5)
8. Nigel Farage party (4)
9. People who vote for (25 AC) (8)
10. Prime Minister surname (7)
12. In the lead (5)
13. A xxx Bus to go place to place (4)
14. Opposite of Tight (5)
17. Fine fogs (5)
20. Labours Emblem (4)
22. Person who makes a cross (3D) (5)
23. Bottom of the ear (7)
24. Method of selecting government (8)
25. Leader of (9 AC) First name (4)
26. Tories past burning emblem (5)
27. Slice of bacon (6)

Down

1. Runs local Government (7)
2. To apply pressure on people to obey (7)
3. The paper you make a cross on (6)
5. A throw in Cricket (4-3)
6. Cameron, Miliband, Clegg, are these (7)
7. Second hand (4)
11. A loud sound (5)
15. Never stops all day (2-3-2)
16. Irregular in behaviour (7)
18. Lands surrounded by sea (7)
19. Leader of the House of Commons (7)
21. Someone who works for cash (6)
22. A range of vision (4)

Answers on page 22

Parish Council Notes – March

Matters arising from February's meeting

Crime Report for February - PC Polly Cotton has received a report of speeding cars on Hinckley Road between 9pm and midnight and is looking into this. The police will be in and around the village over the next couple of weeks looking at parking issues, particularly around the primary school.

Household recycling - the Parish Council's concern has been noted, however, residents should not view changes as a backward step, rather a move to remove low grade waste from the disposal waste stream at an earlier stage allowing processing plants to be more efficient and preventing contamination.

Heritage Street Name Plates – these are currently been manufactured.

Exercise bike - a technical advisor from Wicksteed will liaise with Mike Smith (Groundsman) directly to ensure the bike is safely adjusted.

Roseway verges - currently been assessed by a Senior Highways' Engineer.

Highway Records Team will do a land registry search to establish ownership of the verge at St Martin's Academy.

Hinckley Road Cemetery - the gate post has been lifted back into place and now needs re-pointing. Clerk to thank Malcolm Watson.

Christmas Contribution – the sum of £50 has been received from HBBC towards Christmas tree and lights. This is the last year it will be paid.

Planning Applications:

New applications -

Morris Homes - reserved matters application for 80 dwellings.

48 Roseway – proposed dwelling and associated access.

20 Andrew Close - removal of scots pine and works to Acer Field north-west of Comfort Farm, Rogues Lane – change of use for 2 gypsy/traveller pitches with associated infrastructure.

Permission granted –

22 Convent Drive – erection of a summer house.

Convent Lodge – removal of oak tree.

St Martin's Catholic Academy – extension to existing car parking facilities.

Lodge Farm – erection of an agricultural building.

Amended –

24 Pine Close – extension and alterations to existing garage.

Tenders for maintenance contract

It was resolved that tenders should be contacted and asked to provide more competitive prices, prior to making a decision.

To appoint one trustee to the Stoke Golding Boy's Charity to commence 1st April 2015

Cllr Ruth Fisher was thanked for her commitment over the last four years and reappointed for a further term.

Morris Homes

Residents, Louise and Tracey, are 100% opposed to the proposed building at the top of Sherwood Road, and very passionate about securing the piece of land adjacent to their bungalow, 46 Sherwood. They would appreciate any support that the Parish Council may be able to offer them.

The Parish Council has raised this issue with Morris Homes previously and is sympathetic towards the ladies' application to gain 'Adverse Possession' of the land that they have maintained and cultivated for the last five years. Cllr Ward reported on a meeting with Simon Atha, regarding the increased number of dwellings on the reserved matters application. A letter of objection will be drafted.

Neighbourhood Plan

A public presentation by John Preston of the Rural Communities Council was well attended and positive feedback was received from residents, with offers of help. A discussion took place and it was agreed that the Parish Council should approach HBBC to begin the process of designating the village for a Neighbourhood Plan.

Bus Stop on Higham Lane

The bus stop, outgoing towards Nuneaton, is situated on a narrow verge with an overgrown hedge and offers little protection from passing traffic. Clerk to contact LCC Highways to highlight the problem and seek a resolution.

Parking on pavements

The problem of vehicles parking on pavements and verges around the village was discussed. Cllrs will monitor and collect evidence, and Clerk will contact the Police and LCC Highways to highlight the issue.

Communications received by the Chairman

HBBC - Notice of Listing of Stoke Golding War Memorial.

Any other business

Cllr Mayes reported that residents of Sherwood Road would like to thank Cllr Ward for cutting back the overgrown elder tree near St Margaret's School. Cllr Ward reported on a planning meeting to discuss the 106 agreement for Barwell SUE - all highway concerns are still being ignored.

Next meeting: Village Hall, Wednesday 13th May at 7pm. Note: 2nd Wednesday in month.

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Found on Arnold Road - one soft toy female rabbit, approximately 12 cm tall. Pale grey, floppy ears, yellow and pink floral dress. Please contact 07721028048.



Obituaries



ALAN VILLIERS.

Alan sadly passed away on 11th April 2015 aged 73 years, at Leicester Royal Infirmary after a very short illness, surrounded by his loving family. He leaves behind his devoted wife Margaret, and children Rebecca and Amanda and grandchildren, Lauren, Jessica and Isabelle and family friend of many, many years Mr Ian Whiteley. Alan was so well known to villagers having lived in Whitemoors Close for upwards of 50 years. He ran the Hinckley shop of Cameo Reproductions for a number of years and so was well known in the business community. Alan's funeral will be held at Nuneaton Crematorium at 2.15pm on 29th April and there will be family flowers only please with donations in lieu if desired for Age Concern or Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome either in the Crematorium or with W. Smith and Sons Limited, Funeral Directors, of Avenue Road, Nuneaton.

IRENE ANN MERRY

Irene passed away on the 12th April 2015 at a care home in Louth, Lincolnshire aged 75 years after a long illness bravely borne. She leaves behind her loving husband Keith of Station Road, and her son and daughter in law Darren and Sarah, and grandchildren Ryan, Charlotte and Noah. The funeral service will be held at Nuneaton Crematorium and details of the service may be obtained from the undertakers The Co-op Funeral Services at Riversley Road, Nuneaton, telephone 02476 382535. There will be flowers or donations as desired by contacting the funeral directors.

We send our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Alan and Irene.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS (from page 19)

Across

1. Cherub; 4. Polls; 8. UKIP; 9. Liberals; 10. Cameron; 12. Ahead; 13. Tour;
14. Loose; 17. Mists; 20. Rose; 22. Voter; 23. Earlobe; 24. Election; 25. Nick;
26. Torch 27. Rasher;

Down

1. Council; 2. Repress; 3. Ballot; 5. Over arm; 6. Leaders; 7. Used; 11. Noise;
15. On the go; 16. Erratic; 18. Islands; 19. Speaker; 21. Earner; 22. View;

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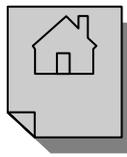
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