

November 2013

No. 126



The Stoker

Stoke Golding Village Magazine

including

Dadlington Matters

50p

Ruth



Jane



Note from the Editors

We have had to add four extra pages this month and it has still proved a real challenge to fit in all your articles and activities! It makes us realise how lucky we are to live in such a thriving village.

November is the month when we particularly remember soldiers killed in conflict and it is perhaps a fitting time to discuss the idea of moving the War Memorial to a more central village location. We have had a letter from a reader who agrees with the idea and one who opposes it, (page 4), highlighting the difficulty in pleasing everyone.

The next edition will cover December and January, so please send us your Christmas events and activities as soon as you can, to make sure we can squeeze them in.

Jane & Ruth

The Stoker Team

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

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

Please send articles for the **Dec '13/Jan '14** issue of The Stoker to:
The Editors, c/o 21, Hinckley Rd, Stoke Golding by **15th November**.
If you can submit articles on a memory stick (Microsoft Word) or by e-mail it makes our job much easier, (**500 words maximum** please).
If you send photos by e-mail, please keep the file size small - no larger than 150 Kb.

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

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

'What's On' inserts and all advertising enquiries should be sent to Jane White - email: janewhitesg@googlemail.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 - Autumn has arrived in Dadlington.

Under 5s' Group

We had a great little coffee and cake morning for Macmillan Nurses at 'Under 5s' on 26th September. The children loved decorating fairy cakes with icing, sparkles, flowers and stars and the grown ups had a lovely time working through banana bread, lemon drizzle, Victoria sponge and cupcakes, to name just a few of the home-bakes brought in. We raised over £92.00.

Our next special event will be a Halloween party with fancy dress, spooky games and lots of ghoulish treats to eat. Please come along every Thursday morning from 10am in the Village Hall.

Sarah Beale



What a Weekend!

At 6.45am on Saturday 5th October 21 Cubs and Scouts and adult leaders from the 1st Stoke Golding Scout Group left Rugby Station for a sleep-over on HMS Belfast, moored on the Thames near Tower Bridge, London.



Comments from the cubs and scouts: 'We did lots of walking and went on trains', 'we climbed lots of STEPS', including 371 steps up The Monument which had 'spectacular views from the top' of London sights.

We went to 10 Downing Street although the PM wasn't in. The cubs and scouts liked 'the black shiny door', 'lots of security and police with guns', the 'leaders being searched' and 'having our picture taken outside the door'. 'We also went to the Science Museum and there were lots of bangs and rockets and explosives which were noisy'. 'We slept on HMS Belfast and liked the gun turrets the best'.

The adults might have debated the wording of 'slept' from their experiences.

'We had a picnic in the park and hugged Pudsey Bear in the street'.

We got back to Rugby by train on Sunday at 5.20pm, tired and with complaints of sore feet.

We would like to thank Fionna, John, Cassie, Neil, Jennifer and Ken Taylor for taking us to London.

To summarise 'We had a great time and had lots of fun'.

1st Stoke Golding Cubs and Scouts

Correspondence



For many years now the War Memorial has been in its present position within the peace and tranquillity of Stoke Cemetery. It is there that a Service of Remembrance is held each year. It is very well attended bringing both joy and comfort to so many. A more ideal place, I believe, could not be found.

Leave the Memorial and the names close by their own relatives. As Thomas Gray wrote in 1750, of another Stoke, "Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap ... the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep".

No consideration has been given to those that, like myself, have a close relative named there still remembered as a living, breathing person.

The uprooting of Stoke Memorial is an ill-conceived act of wanton vandalism. A total waste of taxpayers money at a time of great hardship to many.

This unnecessary upheaval says so much about a few out of touch Council officials and another group of un-elected people wishing to impose a narrow view of conservation and heritage upon the silent majority of Stoke people. Those, like myself, visiting a recent viewing of plans for the village find that these same people are taking it upon themselves to criticise even the colour we paint our own garage doors, and much more; I say, knowing that I speak for many NOT IN MY NAME.

Alan Quinney



Dear Residents,

Stoke Golding War Memorial - the facts

As a result of the consultation by the Borough Council, 10 - 25th September 2013, the majority of residents who responded **supported the proposal that the memorial be returned to the centre of the village.**

I ask the Parish Council to respect this democratic result and immediately investigate the feasibility of undertaking this work. The land is being donated by the owners, and all of the Park House residents are in agreement for the War Memorial to be relocated to this site.

The Borough Council has stated that the relocation and renovation of the Memorial will cost £8000. The Borough Council is very confident that grants are available to fund this proposal. This money will not be available to fund 'alternative' projects in the community and will not need to come from Parish Council funds.

The Memorial was erected in the centre of the village after World War 1 and only moved to the cemetery in the 1950s because of highway considerations. A prominent position was originally chosen by villagers to show how much they appreciated the sacrifice of the young men of this village. Please will residents who support the proposal to relocate the memorial speak and/or write to all Parish Councillors so that this opportunity is not missed - and the issue is discussed fully at the next Parish

(Continued on page 5)

(Correspondence continued from page 4)

Council meeting on Wednesday 6th November.

Chairperson: Cllr Reg Ward, Mill House, Higham Lane, Stoke Golding, CV13 6JH
Tel 01455 212369

Cllr Rachel Terheege 01455 212953 rachel.terheege@sky.com

Cllr Doug Mayes 01455 212952 d.mayes@inbox.com

Cllr Chris Pegg 01455 213877 chris.pegg@howardroberts.com

Cllr Rodney Brown 01455 212245 rodneybrown414@hotmail.co.uk

Cllr Ruth Fisher 01455 212489 ruthsg21@btinternet.com

Cllr Sarah McKenna 01455 212074 ajbealesmckenna@aol.com

Yours sincerely,

David Goodsell, 01455 212955, millburn5@hotmail.co.uk

War Memorial

Although the suggestion to move the War Memorial did not come from the Parish Council, a decision is required. Parish Councillors would be interested to know what the relatives of those named on the memorial think of the idea. If you have a relative remembered on the stone and have an opinion whether it should remain where it is, or be moved as suggested to the corner of Park House grounds, please let us know by contacting the Clerk, Jill Jones, 01455 212805 clerk.stokegoldingpc@gmail.com

Stoke Golding Parish Council



Stoke Golding's champion lady clay pigeon skeet shooter, Joy Hirons of Church Walk, has now finished her most successful year so far. At the end of only her second season shooting skeet she has finished as England lady champion, Scotland lady champion and, the icing on the cake, British lady champion.

Joy would like to thank 'Captain' Pete Underwood for his valued support, Chris Alstead for his engineering skills repairing some of her equipment and his support, Chris Summers from www.highwaysmaintenance.com for his very welcome cartridge sponsorship, Terry Bailiss from The Three Horseshoes for supplying Joy with a celebratory brandy every time she won a competition, Keith and Caroline Roberts for their loyal support and many thanks to all at The Stoker for printing her shoot reports and pictures, and doing a great job.

Finally Joy would like to thank all the villagers of Stoke Golding who give her their best wishes and support; it means such a lot to her.

Joy will now undertake some light, weather dependant training to prepare for next year when she hopes to make the England shooting team.

Bob Hirons



Another year has gone by and the path around the rec is still going strong, making exercising my dog a pleasure, no matter the weather. However, every time I walk past the top end of the rec I am confronted with what was supposed to be a BMX track for the kids of the village. These humps of earth left after the path was formed are overgrown with weeds, nettles and rough grass. Even my dog can't find a path through it. A BMX track is not simply a random pile of earth that goes up and down; it should be made to specific technical dimensions, of a durable material that is resistant to vegetation growth and penetration from moles and should have a run-up and run-off. As this is not possible, could the current eyesore of brambles, weeds and nettles be flattened and grassed over, that way when the rest of the rec is mown this can be cut too. What can be done to replace what was supposed to be an amenity for the youngsters of the village, I don't know.

Pauline Edwards, Whitemoors Road.

Stoke Golding Garden Show 2013 benefits Marie Curie Cancer Care and Stoke Golding Defibrillator Appeal

The 83rd Annual Stoke Golding Garden Show has been held in aid of both Marie Curie Cancer Care and a new appeal set up to provide a defibrillator in Stoke Golding for the use of the whole community.



Unfortunately the Show this year was hampered a little by being low on entries. This was partly due to other shows changing their dates and clashing with us, the long hot summer meaning that the flower growers had already 'burned out' and a number of other local clashes.

However, not to be downhearted, the support of the show from the fantastic local population, visitors and competitors means that once again a generous amount has been raised via the Grand Auction and Grand Raffle during a lively and memorable evening of laughter and outrageous bidding!

Show organisers would, as always, like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the local community, competitors, sponsors and judges for their superb support, and would especially like to thank The Charity of Thomas Barton for its extremely generous financial contribution towards the running of the show. Stoke Golding Club has once again supported the show by allowing free use of the room to maximise our profit, and putting on entertainment to encourage members to stay at the Club later on into the evening. Without the support of these two organisations the Garden Show would struggle to be staged as an annual event on the village calendar.

The committee is delighted to announce that £1000 will be donated to Marie Curie Cancer Care, clearly recognising the necessary support that this very worthy organisation provides. In addition, the committee is also able to make a donation of £500 to the Stoke Golding Defibrillator Appeal.

New date for your diaries - 84th Show will be held on Saturday 30th August 2014.

Tina Waters

Do you have a few hours a year to spare?

Stoke Golding Garden Show committee urgently needs new members to come forward and to offer a little time to ensure the future of this longstanding annual event.

What is involved? We promise it really is nothing too onerous to be a committee member...

No experience of committees, vegetable growing, flower growing, home baking needed!

Approximately one hour a month from May to July, to attend an evening meeting (at Stoke Golding Club) to ensure none of the essential preparations get overlooked.

Availability from approximately 11am on Show Day (next year is Saturday 30th August 2014) to help with the smooth running of the Show.

A little muscle power the day before the Show (if available) to help set up the tables would be beneficial, but not essential, as we know that people are at work!

High Tea included on Show Day - this is a major bonus...

For more information and answers to any questions you may have, please contact Tina Waters on 07809629690.



The George and Dragon Book Group

On Tuesday 1st October the George and Dragon Book Group welcomed local author Kristen Stone, who had been invited to talk about how she works and what inspires her.

The first thing Kristen told the group was that every author has his or her own way of working, be that first thing in the morning before starting the 'day' job or last thing at night. And no matter when, where or how hard they work, only a very few actually manage to make writing their living, so forget dreams of stardom and small fortunes. Most writers are known to only a few loyal fans.

Kristen then went on to tell the group what had inspired her to write her own books, now numbering five and all available as ebooks on Kindle, Nook, Kobo and iBooks, (ebook reading devices). Each book had a different reason for its creation. Some had been years in development as Kristen took time out from 'real' work to give writing a try. Her latest, Silent Love, was the first to be published without undergoing several necessary updates to bring it in line with 'today', although even that started life a few years ago as a short story.

The evening finished with a discussion of the book of the month, Henry James's 'What Maisie Knew', and a request for suggestions for book titles for the coming year.

You can find out more about Kristen on her website: www.kristen-stone-the-author.com and if you have read any of her books and would like to leave a comment you can send a message from there. If you would like Kristen to talk to your group contact her through her website.

Exploring local history at St. Margaret's Primary School

Year 5 and Year 6 children at St. Margaret's Primary School have immersed themselves in their local history as they have been investigating why Stoke Golding is 'The Birth



Place of the Tudor Dynasty'. The children have enjoyed learning about the events that led up to the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 and thus, the start of the Tudor period. Children have baked Battle of Bosworth buns, learnt about medieval weaponry and battle techniques from a local archer and visited the battlefield as part of their learning.



The children wrote fabulous recounts of the Battle. Here is an example:

On August 22nd 1485, the Lancastrian army and Yorkist army were preparing to battle each other for monarchy. It was in Stoke Golding that they began to battle but first they placed flags on the field, representing who they were battling for.

The Yorkist army included King Richard III, their emblem included a white rose, desperate to win the battle. The Lancastrians were the army I trusted more (they had a red rose). The Lancastrian leader was Henry Tudor (Henry VII). His army had approximately 5,000 men, however the Yorkist army had 12,000 men because of Lord Stanley (Henry's step-dad who had many men under his control). Therefore this is why York had more men to fight.

They signalled to begin, and all of a sudden, all you could hear was marching as loud as a cannon bolting through the air. Shouting, metal clashing, horses galloping; there was so much going on. I could see bows gliding through the air, smoke everywhere and big metal silhouettes.

Meanwhile, there were at least ten bodies on the floor. Then somebody got scraped through to the bone with some of the horse barb protection – it wasn't a pretty sight! I was definitely glad I wasn't a soldier, even if I did have layers of armour. Considering how many people were dead the armies didn't have much respect for them at all.

Some of Henry's knights charged towards and enclosed Richard in a circle; he knew it was the end. Of course, we could tell what was going to happen. I don't think he ruled very well at all so the knights got him off his horse and with some thrusting of the sword, it was the end.

In the bush laid the crown with the body. One of Henry's many knights seized the crown off his helmet and placed it on Henry's head. "I am the new King of England and Wales", he shouted.

Nevertheless, he wouldn't have done it if Lord Stanley hadn't changed his mind about who he was fighting for. Later on, after the battle, he was hung over a bridge to warn this is what will happen if you battle Henry VII, and that was how the Tudor Dynasty began.

Shania Briggs, Year 5

The day we met the Mayor!

On Tuesday 15th October 2013 instead of working hard in our classroom at St. Margaret's Primary School, we went to see the Mayor at the Hinckley Hub.

First we went up lots of stairs to the Mayor's parlour. There were lots of photos around the room of previous Mayors and Mayoresses, a huge desk with a leather inlay and a small golden bell to get people's attention (it certainly got ours). From her office we could see Lidl being refurbished and all the way to Burbage. We felt very excited and important.

Next we went to the council rooms, we couldn't believe our eyes, we thought we were dreaming. In front of us were lots of long council tables and one had been reserved for us! On the tables there were epic microphones; if you pressed a red button you were able to speak to the whole council room. A camera zoomed onto you and your image appeared on the big screens around the room, it was like we were famous politicians. We met a Councillor, the Chief Executive and the Mayor who told us about their jobs. We were allowed to ask them questions through our microphones, it was really, really fun. We also got to vote on some important council issues like; children should only be allowed to watch five hours of TV a week. Did you know that when the Mayor stands up at a council meeting everyone has to be silent? – just like our Headteacher in assemblies!

We had a phenomenal day which we will never forget, we loved it and Camara now wants to be the Mayor of Hinckley and Bosworth.



Camara, Adam and Finley, Year 5

Creepy House Reading Challenge

We love reading! The children at St Margaret's Primary School have been ploughing through the books this summer as has been seen by the huge quantity of Creepy House Reading Challenge awards presented in recent assemblies. It was then an added bonus to have a visit from Catherine Overton from Hinckley Libraries who announced the winning school of the Creepy House Reading Challenge to be St Margarets! The winning shield was presented in assembly much to the delight of the whole school and Catherine explained that we have won the award four years running. That is an amazing achievement and shows our children's unstoppable enthusiasm for reading.

This year we won by 57% which is even more than last year. Who knows what dizzying heights we will achieve if we keep going at this rate! Congratulations to all our keen readers!



Mrs H Heath



Stoke Golding Heritage Group

“Cherish the past, protect the future”



The Heritage Group met on Thursday 19 September and enjoyed an extremely interesting talk by Nigel and Alison Deacon on *'Heritage Apples and how we found the lost Leicestershire Apple'*.

The well illustrated talk covered the origin of the sweet apple, the range of apple varieties, ways of propagating apple trees, how an apple becomes a known variety, apple breeding, and why local varieties are important.

Apples are not very popular because we have been conditioned by the supermarkets to accept a very limited range. This situation is improving and it is possible, with dwarf rootstocks, for people to grow apple trees in a small garden with varieties ready to pick from July to November - and experience more than Granny Smith's and Coxes.

Nigel and Alison shared their experiences of their efforts to recover lost Leicestershire varieties. This has involved lots of research and many false trails but some astonishing finds were made along the way. They are now making some of these varieties available for purchase.

Nigel described how sowing pips from a well loved apple is no way to propagate the tree as the seeds do not breed 'true'. The only sure way is grafting. He himself has sown about 500 pips but has only had one tree resulting which had desirable fruit!

Samples of about thirty varieties of apple were supplied, some of them unusual, to taste after the talk. Burford's Redflesh and Langton's Nonsuch attracted attention, along with the enormous 'Chapman's Colossus' which weighed 16oz (1lb). Apples were also brought along to be identified. As Nigel commented, *'The ubiquitous Paradise Apple surfaced again, along with Spartan, Discovery and a possible Warner's King making a determined attempt to look like a Bramley'*.

Members have commented since on how much they enjoyed the evening and learnt from Nigel and Alison.

Link to their website: www.suttonelms.org.uk

David Goodsell

Largest to smallest: Chapman's Colossus (Leicestershire Unique Seedling or LUS), Discovery, Hall's Pink, Croft Cider, Croft Red Devil (LUS), Sam Bell (LUS), Wyken Pippin, Scarlet Surprise.



More apples...



L to R, top row: Burford's Redflesh, Mott's Pink, Langton Nonesuch, Scarlet Surprise.
Front row: Mott's Pink, 2 x Langton Nonesuch.

Strange Shrub in the Neighbourhood

Visitors to Tomlinson's Farm Shop have been wondering about a plant that has taken root in the middle of a field there. A few people have suggested that it is a thorn apple, native of South America and has hallucinogenic qualities. The whole plant is very poisonous and the leaves should not be touched. Jo Tomlinson said it just appeared and grew over a few weeks, flowering with blooms similar to convolvulus before the spiky fruits appeared that you can see in the photograph. She said that it most probably came with the chicken feed, although she can't be sure. They do not intend to start trading in hallucinogenic drugs, so will be digging the plant up in the near future!



Jane White

Big & Small Church

Children of St. Margaret's Big & Small Church learned about helping others in October by taking part in Operation Christmas Child. They brought in donations to fill five shoeboxes with Christmas gifts that will be sent to children in other parts of the world. They all thoroughly enjoyed choosing lovely things to share with others.



Help Us Celebrate

St. Margaret's Big & Small Church turns 3 in November! We'll be celebrating with special activities on 17 November at 10:30 in Baxter Hall. If you haven't tried it out yet, please do come along and have a go on the 17th. We cater for 0-7 year olds with a Bible story, song, prayer and craft/activity the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. We hope to see you there!

Karri Aston

20 mph limits in Stoke Golding - you know it makes sense



We are very disappointed by the Parish Council's decision not to support the principle of 20mph speed limits in the village, as reported in the September newsletter where it stated. *"The Parish Council discussed again the issue of a 20MPH speed limit and confirms that in their unanimous opinion that whilst safe streets are a priority and desirable, it would be misleading/pointless to give their opinion on a 20MPH zone when the present austerity cuts at County render it undeliverable, coupled with a lack of enforcement by police".*

This comes after protracted discussions following on from a significant random survey of the village in late 2012. With 76% of respondents identifying speed as an issue and 67% supporting a village-wide 20mph speed limit (only 22% opposed), we not unreasonably expected the Parish Council to support the majority view.

We had always anticipated problems with a Local Authority that is short of cash and which has failed to revise its speed limit strategy following on from new government guidance on speed limits issued earlier this year. We have looked at the historic accident data for Stoke Golding and forecast savings from speed reductions should pay the modest amount for a 20mph sign-only scheme within a year. We also recognise that enforcement is a challenge, which is why we are pleased that the Minister for Transport has asked the Association of Chief Police Officers to update its guidance on enforcement of speed limits. This sees the enforcement of 20mph limits taken much more seriously, with tougher penalties for those who wilfully offend.

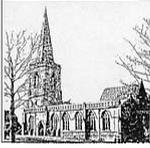
The change to 20mph limits where people live is a movement, and it will take time to normalise this behaviour. It is not anti motorist (it actually has minimal impact on journey times). It is about a more equitable sharing of the public space where people live, socialise and travel. Towns and cities are getting the message in a big way. In fact local authorities covering more than 11 million people have now committed to 20mph limits. Over the last several months there have been significant announcements of widespread implementations in Birmingham, Leicester, London (City and many boroughs), Oxford, Liverpool, Manchester, Brighton, to name but a few. These will join pioneering cities such as Portsmouth, Bristol and Hull which are now reaping the benefits in terms of lower accidents rates and increased walking and cycling. One day people will look back and say *'surely we didn't used to let cars travel at 30 mph where people live'* in the same way that we now say *'surely we didn't used to let people smoke in public places'*.

So nationally the picture is very upbeat and we are quite convinced that the implementations of 20mph limits is no longer 'IF' but 'WHEN'.

We have talked to several other villages around the country and a 3-5 year campaign is not uncommon, but success *has* been achieved. We are therefore planning to join forces with other like-minded groups in Leicestershire to try and influence county policy and consider how best to continue locally.

You can read more background, get in touch or keep up to date here <http://sgstreets.blogspot.co.uk>. We would love to hear from you.

Alan White, Ruth Fisher, Brian Ninness, Colin Edwards
Stoke Golding Streets4All



From the Curate at St Margaret's Church

'Follow the light you have and pray for more light' is a saying used by the Iona Community and seems to particularly strike a chord at this time of year. It counteracts the picture of dark, dank, dreary days of November painted by many writers, journalists and poets. T.S. Eliot wrote, 'Since golden October declined into sombre November.' Yet it is easy to forget that what T.S Eliot captured so well and where the news seems to focus is just one element of a much, much bigger picture.

Of course, there are sombre times in November. On Sunday 10th November, Remembrance Services will take place around the Benefice when we pay tribute to those who have died through war and conflict. Spending time in reflection can highlight aspects of our lives that we are thankful for.

Remembrance is also entwined with other themes of hope and light and woven through our Benefice 'In Loving Memory Service', which this year takes place at St Michael & All Angels Church, Fenny Drayton at 4pm on Sunday 3rd November. Everyone is welcome who wishes to remember a loved one who has died, and there is an opportunity to light a candle during this reflective and beautiful service. Please do come along and contact Linda, a Churchwarden or me in advance if you would like us to read out the name of your loved one.

Making time to spend with God raises us beyond transient things like the weather and season. We see the realisation of our prayer to 'see more light'. Kathy Galloway writes, 'To walk in the light is to walk freely not fearfully, to see and delight in all the beauty around us: in people, in nature, desiring it to be allowed to remain beautiful. It is to walk with a light heart, relaxed not tense, to have choices. The light is in the world.'

Centuries ago, someone who seemed almost overwhelmed by darkness cried out to God and then felt the answer come to them, 'Even darkness is no darkness with you; the night is as clear as the day.' Those words from Psalm 139:12 remind us today of God's transformational power in our lives. God's love for us brings us into the light.

Many, many local people continue to share that light with others. Your generosity shown this Harvest-time and the continued dedication and enthusiasm of so many in our community offering their time to help others, highlights this. All our churches are collecting food for the Hinckley Food Bank which is in great demand. Whether you come along to a church service or simply come and spend some quiet time in church and enjoy the peace and tranquillity, you are welcome to leave your donation to the Food Bank at the back of church and bless others. May we all encourage each other to walk in the light this November.

Blessings,

Hilary

Church Matters

The Methodist Church November Services

3rd	10.30am	Rev'd Wes Hampton
10th	9.45 am	Remembrance Deacon Philip Osborne
17th	10.30am	Mrs Hilary Fenby
24th	10.30am	Deacon Philip Osborne

Zion Chapel - November Services Start at 6pm Sunday School at 11am

3rd	Richard Cotton
10th	Mark Menzfeld
17th	John Needham
24th	Rueben Gardener

Church of England Services – November

St. Margaret's Church

3 rd November	10.30am	All Age Service
10 th November	9.30am	Service at Methodist Church + Cemetery
17 th November	10.30am	Holy Communion, Big & Small Church
24 th November	10.30am	Morning Worship, Big & Small Church

Holy Communion 6.30pm Tuesday evenings.

St. James's Church

3 rd November	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
10 th November	6.30pm	Eve Service of Remembrance
17 th November	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
24 th November	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion

Methodist Church November Events

Saturday 9th November
Coffee Morning

10am - 11.30am for Church Funds

Saturday 30th November

Christmas Fayre

10am - 2pm

**Raffle & Tombola,
Cakes & Preserves,
Books & Bric-a-brac,
Coffee & Light Lunches**



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.





St Margaret's Church

Thank you to everyone who supported the Teddy Bear Jump. The weather was kind to us and 50 teddies flew from the church tower which was very exciting. All the bears were rescued on the day this year and we would like to thank Tim and Tom for helping with this, as well as Annabel and Rosie who came and gave the bears some TLC after their flight from the tower. Our winners were: Imogen, whose bear stayed in the air the longest - 26 seconds, Noah whose bear flew the farthest - 39 metres, Alexander who had the best dressed bear, and Erin, Samuel, Alex and Annabel for the four best decorated parachutes. Jackie guessed how many sweets were in the jar (94), Charlie named the teddy (Jack) and Annabel won the prize for how many bears in church - she got it exactly right - there were 38.

Thank you to everyone who helped as we couldn't do it without you.

We shall be having our snowman festival this year on Saturday 7th December and a Christingle Service on Sunday 8th December at 3pm. Please bring along a snowman, a model or picture and join in the fun. More information in December's Stoker

Margaret Croxall

Stoke Golding, the Movie Set

Whilst Martyn and I were in New York recently, we went on a very interesting walking tour of Downtown Manhattan, led by an enthusiastic guide named Mike. I emailed him when we returned home to thank him and I also sent him a link to our own 'Virtual Village Blue Plaque Walk'.

This was his reply:

I wanted to take some time to enjoy the virtual tour you shared with me. I'm in awe as I read the history, and I'm still coming to terms with the fact that Stoke Golding is a real place! It seems to me like a movie set, so perfect and quaint, and I can't believe you get to experience it every day. You and Martyn are lucky!

We wholeheartedly agree with Mike.

Ruth Fisher

Creative Textile Techniques

Starts: Thurs Nov 7th 2013

Location: Dadlington Church Hall

Time: 1.30 – 3.30pm

Duration: 6 weeks (short course)

£54.00 Paid in advance

All basic materials will be provided

***For more information or to book
please call Jan Baker 07725895550
or email: bakerjams@yahoo.co.uk***

Pilates for All

New Pilates Class

10.45 - 11.45

Stoke Golding Village Hall

**Look after your back and help to
prevent osteoporosis**

Contact Katy Quinn

Tel: 07887 895 022

www.bodycontrol.co.uk

Stoke Golding Bridge Club

The Bridge Club that was started in May this year has survived through the hot summer afternoons at the George and Dragon, and has given pleasure to both players and beginners. The latter have made good progress in learning the basic skills of the game.

Katie, Licensee of the George and Dragon, has asked us if we could start the present Thursday afternoon session at 1pm, instead of 2pm, to fit in with her schedule and, of course, we are only too pleased to comply. The 1pm start will commence on Thursday 7th November and both experienced players and learners will be welcomed.

In addition, Katie is comfortable with an evening session being set up on Thursdays. This would also start on 7th November, and would run from 7pm onwards. This session would be for experienced players coming with a partner, or single players finding partners after arrival.

If you have any questions please give me a ring on 01455 213709. I'll be only too pleased to hear from you.

Vic Rollins



OBITUARIES



Elsie May Mayne

Elsie Mayne died peacefully in Leicester Royal Infirmary on 21st August aged 93 years. She was born in Stoke Golding and was an active member of St Margaret's Church, and the hockey and tennis clubs. Elsie worked in munitions during the war. She will be sadly missed by her husband, Robert and family.

Ailsa Janet Ratcliffe

We are sad to report that Ailsa Ratcliffe passed away on 11th October aged 50 years. Ailsa was buried in Hinckley Road Cemetery Stoke Golding with a service of remembrance following at Mount Road Baptist Church, Hinckley. Donations can be made, if so desired, for The Barnabas Fund or Hope Against Cancer, co McCartney's Funeral Service, 47 Coventry Road, Hinckley, LE10 0JR.

We send our sincere condolences to the family and friends of those mentioned,

Stoke Golding website: www.stokegolding.co.uk

A Bit about Tomlinson's Farm Shop

Our speciality is producing traditional dry plucked poultry began in 1943 when Garth's mother began producing turkeys. The family comes from a long line of farming, having originally farmed at Hall Farm in Dadlington.

We opened our farm shop in 2005 and we produce free range chickens all year round, which we sell at farmers' markets, in our shop and to other farm shops and pubs, (the George & Dragon and the White Swan both use our chicken – the White Swan also use our home made sausages).

Christmas is a really important time for us as we produce bronze turkeys, geese, ducks and cockerels as well as all the other meats such as pork and beef, which are sold through the shop. We take very seriously our responsibility to our customers to ensure that they receive the very best every time. We have turkey customers who have been coming for over 50 years!

Our aim has been to become a one-stop shop for Christmas, supplying not only the main meat centre piece but also all the trimmings, from sausagemeat and gammon to Christmas cakes, puddings and even the tree!

We strive to stick to what we consider to be a true farm shop, producing as much of our stock as possible ourselves and then sourcing from small local companies, helping to promote the local economy. For example, 'Lovely Cakes' are made by a lady in Stoke Golding, who makes Christmas cakes and puddings, and Connors bakery in Hinckley, a real family business.

We are currently applying for planning permission to open a tea room and are doing hog roasts for weddings etc. So come down and see what we do, you will be very welcome.

Jo and Garth





Tomlinson's Farm Shop

Your local Farm Shop, Station Road, Stoke Golding



Order Now for Christmas!

Bronze Turkeys **Geese** Ducks **Cockerels** Dexter Beef
Gloucester Old Spot Pork Home-cured Bacon **Gammon** Sausages
Long Clawson Stilton

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

Dadlington Matters

Coffee Morning

A very successful MacMillan coffee morning was held on 28th September in Dadlington Village Hall. It was organised by Bea and Graham Grimley with much assistance from helpers, inspired by them. A brilliant total of £750 was raised. A big thank you to all who attended.

Jean Hobbs



Coming up in Dadlington

Friday November 15th

Northern themed pub night in the village hall

Pie and peas supper – bar – indoor whippet racing

Dress code- flat cap and clogs optional

Come for the night or pop in for a pint

The only chance all year to have a pub crawl in Dadlington!

No tickets just come along but if you want supper please ring to book.

Supper served 6.45 to 7.45pm

Friday 6th December

The Christmas Cracker!!!

'Undoubtedly the finest communal Christmas party in Dadlington...'

Admission by ticket only. Please book early.

For further details and tickets contact Graham - 213487 or John - 212292

Creative Fine Art Course

Starts: Mon 4th Nov 2013 ***Location:*** Dadlington Church Hall

Time: 7.00pm-9.00pm ***Duration:*** 6 Weeks (short course)

First two weeks £16, paid in advance, thereafter simply pay £8.00 per week,

*All basic materials will be provided. **For more information or to book your***

place please call Jan Baker 07725895550 or email bakerjams@yahoo.co.uk

Just a few changes...

"Right ho, light of my life, I am just popping down to pick up the car while you dig the footings for the new wind turbine. Back in a bit."

"Ah, Mr Fool, your car is ready and we have done the upgrades."

"What upgrades? I was quite happy with it the way it was."

"Yes, yes, but we are sure you will find this will make things much better. You may observe that we have removed the dashboard and put it on the back parcel shelf with the gauges reversed. We think that this is much easier to read when you are looking in the rear view mirror. You may also notice that from now on, when you turn the steering wheel to the right, the car will go left and when you turn to the left the car will go right. This means that you will have to concentrate much more and this will make you a safer driver. We have also removed the glove box from the front passenger side and relocated it in the boot thus consolidating all the storage capacity in one area. Now, in the area previously occupied by the glove box, we have fitted an array of 6,000 LED indicating switches. 99.9% of these you will never ever need but these two are really useful. Depress and hold this one for two seconds and it will display on the monitor, which is situated where the sun visor used to be, a comprehensive list of the opening times of shoe shops in Ulan Bator. This other one, and this is really handy, displays the Albanian third division Lacrosse scores in Welsh. We have also modified the Satellite Navigation system so that instructions are now given in Morse code. Much less distracting than that horrible nasal American drawl that you used to have. Research has also shown that, in the event of a head on crash, bruising can be caused by seat belts so we have replaced them with bungee rope. We felt that airbags were a bit dull and boring and the trauma of a car crash should not be compounded by uninteresting plastic sacks, so, we have replaced them all with accordions. We also felt that the handbrake was rather unimaginative so we have changed that for a stick of rhubarb which is located under the passenger seat. But the piece-de-resistance. and you are going to love this, is that we have come up with a brilliant upgrade that not only reduces the noise levels in the cabin, but it also massively cuts fuel consumption and virtually eliminates maintenance."

"But you have removed the engine"

"Yes!"

Of course this sort of nonsense would not really happen with your car. However, something depressingly similar always does seem to happen when I press the "Upgrade now" button on my computer.



The Fool on the Hill

For King and Country

Petty Officer Jack Quinney

Jack Quinney was born on 18th December 1919, a member of a Stoke Golding family. His father was William Elliott Quinney and his mother Edith. His surviving brothers are Alan, who lives in the village and Robert.

Jack joined the Royal Navy and at the age of 22 was promoted to Petty Officer. On 15th November 1942 he found himself with his other shipmates aboard minesweeper H.M.S. Algerine off Bougie, Algeria. They had been tasked with clearing Axis mines, which they had done successfully, exploding 46 all told. At 3.36am they were attacked by torpedoes from an Italian submarine 'R.M. Ascianghi'. Two torpedoes hit the Algerine forward of the bridge and she sank five miles from the coast.



At dawn that day a flotilla discovered the loss of Jack's ship and returned to search for survivors. Thirty two men, covered in oil, were rescued from the stricken ship. However, sadly, 24 of the men died within hours from internal injuries caused by the ship's depth charges exploding at a pre-determined depth as she sank. The remaining eight survivors had already made it out of the water onto a raft and thankfully were not affected by the explosion. All Allied ships were subsequently ordered not to arm their depth charges when leaving port, only when attacking. Jack is remembered on our war memorial and also on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial. He was awarded the 1939-45 War Medal and the 1939-45 Star.

Eight months later on 23rd July 1943 Ascianghi surfaced close to the destroyers H.M.S. Laforey and H.M.S. Eclipse. They attacked immediately and the submarine took precise gunfire from the two ships that were so close that Ascianghi had no chance to react. Hit by multiple shots and greatly flooded she sank in a few minutes taking along with 23 of the 50 crew. The British picked up the 27 survivors.

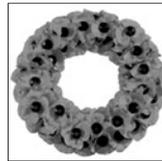
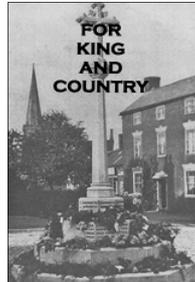
Denis Cash

COPY DEADLINE FOR DEC '13/JAN '14 ISSUE: 15th NOV.

'For King and Country'

The year 2014 commemorates the centenary of the outbreak of World War I and Denis Cash who came to live in the village in the early 1970s has researched all the names on the Stoke Golding War Memorial and Dadlington Church War Memorial Plaque in an effort to ensure that the men who died and some of those who were specially decorated are not forgotten. The 44 page book that he has written contains all their details and will be on sale at Stoke Golding Remembrance Day Service on 10th November and at Stoke Golding Post Office. The printing of this book has been made possible by a generous donation from The Charity of Thomas Barton. The book can be obtained for a minimum donation of £2.50.

All proceeds from the sale of this book will be donated to the 'HELP THE HEROES FUND.'



Stoke Golding W I

The Decoration on the Cake



Once again the venue of the Stoke Golding W.I meeting echoed with laughter and merriment as Trish Clarke attempted to instruct members in the art of cake decoration. The object of the exercise was supposed to be a bear carrying a bouquet of roses made from fondant icing, but from the sound of all the hilarity, some of the bears turned out to be slightly different from the original conception. To give her all respect Trish gave everyone plenty of help and instructions and endeavoured to help make each member's bear as professional as the one that she had constructed. Nevertheless everyone was very happy with the bear that they finally produced and all were very pleased that Trish had been invited to come along to the meeting.

As well as trips to the Concordia, Christmas meals and parties, which were discussed as the business of the night, nominations for the committee were welcomed. There was also a sale of cards in support of 'Archie's Voice' - a fund that everyone was happy to support.

Next month's meeting on the second Wednesday in November is to show members of the audience how to make attractive bows to put onto presents. I'm sure it will be as enjoyable as this month's and anyone who wishes to join us will be made very welcome.

Val Hartwell

Beth's Corner - Arthur Shirley

I was grateful that Arthur, the subject of this month's column, came round to fill me in with various dates that I'd scribbled down when I met him at his home last June. However that was before my tumble and my stay at the George Eliot Hospital, and my notes were now enigmatic to say the least. He has been in his home on Hinckley Road since 1954, but there are quite a few adventures and world travels to fill in before then.

Arthur was born at the end cottage in the 'Woodyard' in 19- -? He is adamant that I'm not allowed to mention his age. I really can't see why as he's not doing badly for someone older than me! Like Brian Quinney in last month's Stoker, Arthur went to school in the village. He loved sports, especially football and was constantly part of the school team, playing on the rec in all weathers. After leaving Westfield School, Hinckley, Arthur worked in hosiery - in ladies' hosiery at Bennett Brothers. This was a 48 hour week including Saturdays. He cycled back and forth eight miles each day for the princely sum of ten shillings (50p). This was one of the facts I thought I must have got wrong. When war broke out he was drafted to Burgess Products, making engineering parts for ammunitions. Then it was off to the Royal Navy - first to Butlins' at Skegness for a two weeks training before a further three month stint in Pwllheli Butlins' in N. Wales.

Instead of being sent off to his first ship, Arthur found himself in London's Earl Court as part of a team re-building the many bombed out buildings. He obviously enjoyed his time in London, remembering visiting The Stage Door Canteen, where the stars came to entertain the troops based in London. Eric Portman, Phyllis Calvert, Elizabeth Welch were among the many film stars he met and he still has their autographs. Eventually he was drafted to Sydney, Australia for a year.

Halfway across the world however, celebrations were called for, as VE Day was declared. During his year in Sydney he was fortunate to have invitations from the family of an Australian he'd been introduced to back home. Bill Coppins was in the RAF, stationed at Lindley Airfield – now MIRA. He fondly remembers an Australian girl friend there. Her name was Shirley, and he laughs at what might have been. I suggest perhaps she might have changed her Christian name.

The next port of call was Hong Kong – chasing smugglers in small motor-boats and spending his weekend leave in Macau. The big adventure was still to come. They were sailing for Singapore in a naval frigate HMS Aire to join the reserve fleet there. Two or three days later in the middle of the night the ship came to a shuddering halt. It was four days before Christmas. A rescue ship eventually came to tell them they had crashed onto the great Bombay reef in the S. China Sea and there were two options: either they waded out through the reef, or they could wait to be picked up from an island about forty miles away. With a smile, Arthur adds '87 men and a dog went through that reef, leaving all their personal belongings behind'. There were further trips in the Navy after Singapore. To Ceylon and India on the aircraft carrier HMS Glory, and in Bombay he was chosen for the Royal Navy Football team playing against The Leicester Regiment. He didn't tell me who won. At the age of 21, after all these adventures he was given the choice of going

(Continued on page 23)

(Beth's Corner, continued from page 22)

back to Australia or heading back home. He chose home - living in Station Road, married with a boy and a girl and playing regularly in the football and cricket teams for the village.

Now retired, Arthur is kept busy with his antiques at Whitemoors and he potters about in his rather large garden. He drives himself everywhere and is still very active. He may want to keep his age to himself but I can assure him that he's had a very full and exciting life, and it shows. Thanks Arthur.

Beth



SPOTLIGHT on...

The Stoker Team

I joined the Stoker team, along with Beth and Jan, in January 2012. I enjoy my time with such a lively, welcoming, informed group – one which has loads of enthusiasm for the production of our magazine.

Ruth and Jane edit and organise the monthly production. Other members are involved in a variety of ways, from distribution and promotion, developing and delivering Welcome Packs to new arrivals in the village, to minute-writing and proof-reading. Some of the team produce articles, creative pieces and other items.

At first I wasn't sure what I could contribute, but there was support and encouragement from the team so that I found things I could do, as has each of us. **And so could YOU!** We are looking for new members to join our team to broaden our appeal.

We meet once a month for an hour or so to produce 10 editions each year. The whole team contributes ideas, debates issues, offers information and helps in development.

If you feel you would like to be involved please contact Ruth:
ruthsg21@btinternet.com. You'd be very made very welcome.

Rosemary Collier

If you would like to subscribe to The Stoker please contact Jane White,
Tel: 212416, email: *janewhitesg@googlemail.com*

Best Front Garden Competition

Front gardens in Stoke Golding have been judged recently by a panel of judges and first prize for the best garden has been awarded to Jacqui Davis of Arnold Rd. Second prize went to Mr and Mrs J Payne of Sherwood Rd and third prize to Kenny Tang of Pine Close. All prize winners were given vouchers donated by the Charity of Thomas Barton.

Stoke Golding Parish Council Meeting - September 2013

Conservation Area Review for Stoke Golding Parish

Barry Whirrity, HBBC Conservation Officer, presented an outline of the Conservation Area Management Plan; a review of the area which is undertaken every 5 years.

Market Bosworth Constabulary

PC Polly Cotton and PC Martin Aston attended the meeting to introduce themselves. PC Cotton will be operating from the Mobile Library van when it visits the village and will be happy to answer questions from parishioners. Councillors stated they would appreciate any news following the recent spate of burglaries in the village.

County Cllr Ivan Ould's report:

Barwell SUE Potential Traffic Impact

Cllr Ould and Alan White attended a meeting with Laurence Fallon regarding the validity of the Barwell SUE road traffic assessment. Cllr Ould subsequently met a Highways Planning Officer who informed that the parameters used in the model to assess traffic impact arising from the Barwell SUE would become invalid if MIRA and the Highways Agency gained acceptance for new proposals on the A5 that would militate against the anticipated traffic flows. The Parish should consider inviting David Tredinnick to attend a meeting of the Travel Group so that he can hear the concerns at first hand.

Matters arising from August's meeting:

Crime report for August – theft from car (wing mirrors).

Ditch on rec – Councillors to consider what work is required, the state that the ground will be left in and maintenance programme. Cllrs also to consider further work to poplar trees.

Cemeteries (Wykin Lane protocol / maintenance) – letter to be sent to all plot owners making them aware of rules and regulations.

Defibrillator proposal – siting, supplier and costs still to be confirmed.

Reports of Council representatives:

Cllr Ward reported on the MIRA meeting and confirmed noise was being dealt with, jobs were being provided and the decision to re-route the A5 heavy duty electrical cable.

Planning Application Matters:

New Applications: 10, Station Road – work to trees.

Permission granted: 16, Station Road – extension and alteration to garage to form living accommodation. 19, Roseway - extension and alteration to dwelling. 66, Hinckley Road – extension and alteration to dwelling.

Spinney Bank Farm, – variation of conditions 2, 6 and 7 for these to be removed.

Appeal: 48, Roseway – Certificate of lawful existing use for land as residential cartilage.

Convent Land Plan: Pauline Goodsell, (Sub-committee for the Convent Green Space Area), presented an update:

1. *Outline Plan* only for consultation with PC, Allotment Soc and community generally. Architect will adjust it as we go along.

(Continued on page 25)

(Parish Council notes continued from page 24)

2. *Allotment Society* has suggested:

- a) Wider track to the bottom of the site to facilitate access for machinery/manure tractor etc.
- b) Track to be extended from parking area to the edge of the allotments.
- c) Retention of the old shed.
- d) Medium sized container to be positioned between old shed and tree - will need to ask Raglan Housing if it is happy with this.
- e) Allotment Society has concerns over general public walking dogs in the area.

3. *Water supply route* from boundary to the composting toilet and use for allotments to be finalised at a later date.

4. *Balancing pond* will be dry/boggy - only to be used for 100yr storms.

5. *Land drains* - position cannot be decided until Mar City work is finished and final landscape established.

6. *Raglan Housing* providing funding of £30,000 for composting toilet, container shed, sedum roof, water collection system, storage tank and many other items.

7. *Gate positioning* to be decided by interested parties.

8. Sub- committee meeting has been held to discuss *willow art structures*.

9. *Informal play area* - Ray Tunks to advise on this.

Clerk to write to Mar City to ask how the development of the above site is progressing and when will it be in a position to discuss the handover with the Parish Council and in what state it will be left to the Parish Council.

20mph Speed Limit

The Parish Council discussed again the issue of a 20mh speed limit and confirmed that in its unanimous opinion, whilst safe streets are a priority and desirable, it would be misleading/pointless to ask the village to give an opinion on a 20mph zone when present austerity cuts at County level render it undeliverable, coupled with lack of police enforcement.

Street Lighting

Following comments from residents, the Parish Council can only apologise if communication from the LCC Highways was not satisfactory. If residents have any concerns please respond by email to: tony.bull@leics.gov.uk or phone 0116 305 6787.

Any other business:

Dog owners are not always using dog waste bins provided. Waste bags are being piled up by litter bins on the rec.

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

Next Parish Council meeting; Wednesday 6th November at 7pm in the Methodist Church Hall .

FACE FACTS!

1. We are not getting any younger.
2. We are all leading busier and more demanding lifestyles.
3. We still want to look and feel great.
4. We spend lots of money on the newest, most innovative, anti-wrinkle, anti-ageing, anti-stress, anti- you name it products. And then...
5. We slap it on in 2 minutes flat as we are dashing out of the door!

As a lot of you will know, I am a Sports and Remedial massage therapist, concentrating on stress busting, get stuck in there, break those knots down, deep muscle massages. But recently I fancied doing something a little gentler – on me, and my clients! I am now offering a range of facial treatments from a steam clean, exfoliating, skin rejuvenating facial to the best alternative to surgery – a Natural Lift Facial Massage.

Steam is used to open pores, stimulate the circulation and make skin more receptive to subsequent treatments and products. Skin is nourished and cleansed of impurities, fat cells are reduced and skin is firmed and toned. Skin is softer, more pliable, plus fine lines and wrinkles are reduced.

If you are looking for the 'wow' factor then try the Natural Lift Facial Massage. It uses a blend of techniques drawn from Japanese face massage (Anma) and Indian face massage (Ayurveda) incorporating facial acupressure and facial reflexology. It is a face massage which helps you look and feel younger by improving the complexion, removing toxins, preventing and reducing wrinkles.

From now until the end of December I will be offering these treatments at around half the normal price and you can try anything from a mini cleansing, toning or moisturising facial to a full facial combined with the Natural Lift. These facials can also be added on to your regular massage, or why not try massage for the first time. Gift vouchers will also be available at the special price for this period, so why not treat your friends and loved ones for Christmas.

Look and feel your best this party season. See my website, Facebook page or call for more details.

Luisa Quinney, Midlands Massage Therapy

YOGA with Adele at the Baxter Hall		
Yoga Mixed Level	Mon	6.15pm
Yoga Easy Level	Mon	7.30pm
Yoga Advanced	Tue	6.15pm
Yogafit Mixed Level	Wed	6pm
All classes £6 'Pay as you go' or £50 for 10		
For more info visit www.yogawithadele.co.uk or		
Tel: 07837927227		
Also now running Kettlebell, Beginners		
Yoga & Body Blitz - 4 week courses.		

 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

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