

**October 2013**

**No. 125**



# ***The Stoker***

**Stoke Golding Village Magazine**

*including*

**Dadlington Matters**

**50p**

Ruth



Jane



### Note from the Editors

*Congratulations Alicia on gaining your Gold DofE - an outstanding achievement . We wish you all the best at university and hope you will let us know how you get on at the end of your four years study.*

*October is looking busy in Stoke Golding and Dadlington with activities and events including, of course, traditional harvest celebrations. We also have details of live music events, coffee mornings, an art exhibition, art sale and a clothes sale to keep us busy in October. Don't forget to email or post details of your November and December events in good time so we can include them in next month's magazine.*

*We still need a willing volunteer to help with organising the advertising in the Stoker. We will give you lots of help and support and you will be joining a really friendly team so please consider helping us out.*

*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 Terhegge, Jill Webster.*

Please send articles for the **November 2013** issue of The Stoker to:  
The Editors, c/o 21, Hinckley Rd, Stoke Golding by **15th October**.  
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](mailto: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 - Stoke Golding Youth Theatre*

## **A Royal date with the golden touch for Alicia Serednycka-Poole**

Hundreds of young achievers from across the UK had a date in the prestigious setting of St. James's Palace on 12<sup>th</sup> September, including Alicia Serednycka-Poole from Stoke Golding

Alicia attended John Cleveland College where she achieved her Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. She travelled to London on 12<sup>th</sup> September to receive her certificate from the Trustee and Gold Award holder HRH The Earl of Wessex.

The Gold Award Presentation (GAP) is a celebration and recognition of Alicia's achievements in completing her Gold DofE programme. The GAP is a unique event and a fitting culmination to mark the hard work, determination and perseverance required.

Alicia worked tirelessly through the five sections of her DofE programme over a number of months to achieve her Gold Award. Her diverse activities included a four day hike in Snowdonia, experiencing torrential weather conditions, learning to play a musical instrument, charity work and coaching youngsters from St Peter's Primary School, Hinckley, to play netball. Throughout her DofE Alicia was able to prove herself to be a great team member and leader.

Alicia said of her experience *"DofE has had a huge impact on my life. I have learnt many new skills and helped young people in the community, as well as having a great time! I would definitely recommend the experience to all young students."*

These experiences show what an impact doing your DofE can have, and can develop the skills needed for life. Alicia's Gold Award helped her to gain a place at The European School of Osteopathy to study for a Masters Degree in Osteopathy.

*Official Release from DofE Office*



### Under 5s' Group (Mums and Tots)

Everyone had great fun at the Under 5's group in the summer holidays with a bubble party one week and the sports day another.

Our next event is a coffee and cake morning for Macmillan Nurses. The children will be decorating cakes and the grown ups will be helping to eat them. Everyone is welcome, old friends and new, with or without little ones. Thursday 26th September from 10am at the Village Hall.

*Sarah Beale*



### Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to Joe and Marilynne Di Marco who got married on 27th July 2013. They asked for donations to Leicester Animal Aid, in lieu of cards and gifts, in loving memory of their friend Jean Chuter, who

passed away in September 2012. Jean raised many hundreds of pounds for L.A.A., so they thought it fitting to have the collection in her memory. £119.58p was collected and Sam Webster, Jean's daughter told her employer who matched the amount.

Marilynne said, *'We had a really happy day, the sun shone for us, so a great big thank you to all for making our wedding day so special, and for your kind donations.'*



**COPY DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE: 15th OCT.**



Well, Stoke Fest is over for another year, and what an event it was with fantastic bands, dancing dogs and great weather. We were overwhelmed by the number of visitors that came this year, and their generosity. We raised a massive £5,600 on the day, and afterwards a successful presentation evening added another £700 to the total. So, on behalf of everyone involved in organising the event, we would like to say a huge "THANK YOU!" to everyone who has generously donated to the festival and in turn the charities that we support.

This year donations have been made to Wishes 4 Kids, the Air Ambulance, Leicester Animal Aid, Christopher's Fund and St John's, and we are also supporting the project to purchase a defibrillator for the village. We have also reinvested some of the money into equipment, to enable us to run the event again next year.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors and helpers, far too many to mention in person, but we really value all of your help, and hope that you enjoyed it and will get involved again next year. As the event keeps growing we are always looking for new people to get involved, to supply ideas for how we can improve, and especially to help on the day, please let us know if you can help, as the bigger and better it gets, the more help we need!

Our final event of the year is a charity auction on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November at Stoke Golding Club, with some fantastic lots, including tickets to see Manchester United, so come along to the ZANEY J gig, it's free to get in and all money raised will go to the village defibrillator fund.

**Check out our website [www.stoke-fest.co.uk](http://www.stoke-fest.co.uk) for updates, email us at [contact@stoke-fest.co.uk](mailto:contact@stoke-fest.co.uk) or phone (01455) 212132 for further details.**

Stoke Golding website  
[www.stokegolding.co.uk](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk)

# Correspondence

Dear Residents

## **Changes to the Centre of Stoke Golding**

You may have heard that as a result of a recent review of our Conservation Area by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council a proposal has been put forward that the War Memorial (at present in the Hinckley Road Cemetery) should be re-located to near its original site where High Street joins with Main Street/Station Road.

I fully support this idea. I believe that such an important memorial, which commemorates the men of this village who died in both world wars, should be at the heart of our community. It should be visible to all as they go about their everyday lives and seen on a regular basis. I understand that Mr and Mrs Walton of Park House may make land in their grounds available for the memorial.

Transfer of the memorial from its present site would need to be undertaken by specialist masons and HBBC has agreed to this and to replacing the lowest step of concrete with dressed stone. The perimeter wall to Park House grounds will need to be demolished and rebuilt anyway as the wall has been assessed by the Borough Council as dangerous and unstable.

The chestnut trees on the edge of Park House grounds have been diagnosed with disease and in the next few years will be felled to avoid injury and damage. What a 'hole' this will leave in the centre of the village! Can I suggest that the relocation of the War Memorial will provide a much need focal point until replacement trees can be grown.

It also seems to me that 2014 is a highly appropriate year in which to return the War Memorial to the prominent position in the village close to the one which villagers originally chose.

Yours sincerely

David Goodsell

*Eds - We would be interested to hear how other readers feel about moving the war memorial, so please write and let us know.*



## **Health Lottery at the Post Office**

**You can now buy your Health Lottery tickets from Stoke Golding Post Office.**

## **I wandered lonely .....**

During the course of my commercial and domestic life, I have had the great good fortune to visit many lands in all parts of the globe. However, for reasons that I find hard to understand, I have completely overlooked Derbyshire. Determined to right this wrong the other half of the marriage certificate and I donned the waterproofs and set off for Dovedale.

Sadly it appears that nature's ability to provide locations of unparalleled loveliness is matched only by mankind's propensity for messing them up. On arrival at the car park we found hoards of folk who obviously believed that the appropriate attire for a country walk was a pink velour shell suit. It hardly needs saying that the bejewelled Primark flip flops, whilst suitably in accord with the shell suit, would hardly have been the footwear of choice for country walking in anyone with an IQ in double figures. It was also obvious that the appearance of the majority of these would be ramblers, suggested only the briefest previous encounter with physical exertion in any form. The common prejudice runs in favour of Kendal Mint Cake as the sustenance of choice for extended peregrinations in the Dales and not the mega jumbo hot dog proffered by a totally incongruous Burger van. However, having taken on board a sufficient amount of monosodium glutamate, they approached the Dale with ourselves trailing some distance behind observing the spectacle.

The first points of note in Dovedale are the famous stepping stones which can only be reached by a trek along a perfectly flat 500 meter Tarmac track. The majority of the hoard made it thus far before deciding that they had absorbed as much of the dale as they wished and promptly set up camp to rest and prepare for the return to the car park. From nowhere they produced supplies that indicated a recent visit to one of Mr McDonalds culinary emporiums the nearest of which, and I checked, was 30 miles distant. A few brave souls soldiered on to the ascent known as Lovers Leap, presumably in the sure and certain hope that there was a Starbucks over the crest. Gradually, one by one, the rump of the hoard fell by the wayside exhausted by the climb until the last one reached the summit, and reported back to the stragglers that the crock of coffee that they sought was a myth. We pressed ourselves against the rocks as, driven by blind panic, the hoard fled back to the safety of the herd to regroup before returning to the safety of the car park.

Thus it was that we found ourselves, barely half a mile into our walk, alone and free to enjoy what is truly one of Britain's loveliest places. I will suggest to the National Trust that they put a large picture of Dovedale at the end of the car park and surround it with fast food outlets. Give the people what they want!



*The Fool on the Hill*



### **SPOTLIGHT on...**

Have you ever had that conversation that begins... "We can't possibly leave all that stuff in the attic for our kids to clear out once we've gone...?"

The time had come for me to do something about this dilemma. Amongst all the spiders' webs and dusty fluff, I found a jumble of boxes, battered cases, ripped tents, moth-eaten carpets, bed ends and mattresses adorned with suspicious 'maps of Africa', work files and schoolbooks and other assorted dross, all of which had to go. There were some gems, however, in one of the battered suitcases...**photographs**.

The photographs were mainly of family holidays and gatherings, but some were of past activities held in the village, involving young people.

Have a look at the one on the cover taken during one of the pantomimes. Can you recognise anyone?

*Rosemary Collier*



## **Stoke Golding Heritage Group**

*"Cherish the past, protect the future"*



### **STOKE GOLDING HERITAGE GROUP MEETING - OCTOBER**

In this, the first of two illustrated talks on the Battle of Bosworth, Eddie Smallwood will guide us through Henry Tudor's march from Milford Haven to Bosworth. Why did this virtually unknown Lancastrian, who had only a distant claim to the throne, head for the northwest before turning to meet Richard III at Bosworth? The prelude to the battle is critical to what happened at the battle itself. If you have been watching "The White Queen" and enjoyed the drama, come and hear some of the historical detail from an expert. The talk is on Thursday October 17<sup>th</sup> in the Baxter Hall at 7.30pm. There is a nominal charge of £2.50 for non-members. At our next talk on November 21<sup>st</sup>, Richard Knox from the Battlefield Centre, will update us on the latest research about Richard and the Battle, including the discovery of his body in Leicester.

*Roy Mitchell*



## For King and Country

Cyril George Wright MM

Cyril's parents were George Wright and Susan Wright who had long lived in the village. They had thirteen children one of whom, John, is still alive and living in Derbyshire. Cyril's sister-in-law, Geraldine Wright lives in the village. Cyril was born in 1914 and, like his two brothers Joseph and Stanley fought for the country in the Second World War. These two brothers were killed during the conflict.

Cyril joined the Border Regiment and found himself stationed in the Far East, fighting in the jungles of Burma. On 3rd February 1945 at Satpangon, Burma, acting Sergeant Wright's company was under heavy attack, and in the attack Cyril was wounded. He went over ground swept by heavy enemy fire to retrieve equipment twice before returning to his lines. Later in the battle he went out twice more, under heavy fire searching for ammunition to keep his company's guns firing and was thus awarded the Military Medal for gallantry in the field. His commanding officer in recommending the medal said, "*Wright's gallant conduct and the unfailing way in which he carried out, under heavy fire, every task assigned to him, was an inspiration to all who saw him, and he played a great part in enabling the company to maintain its foothold in the village, until the supporting company arrived.*"

He returned to the village suffering greatly from the after effects of the war and five years later he needed specialist treatment to aid his recovery. An article in The Hull Daily Mail of Saturday 25th November 1950 records the help he was given by the people of Stoke Golding who stood by their decorated soldier.



### ***Village will pray for its war hero***

*"Women were in tears at Stoke Golding in South Leicestershire today, as the village's war hero Cyril Wright MM was carried from his village home to begin the first stage of his journey to Kassel in Germany, where he is to be treated by Dr Walter Voeler for a nervous complaint, the legacy of war service in the Burma jungle, which doctors had pronounced as incurable. Six hundred villagers, who had crusaded for Cyril Wright's treatment in Germany stood in the streets for one and a half hours, waiting for the fog blanket to lift from Desford Airfield. Then the roar of a plane was heard and they peered into the mists as it took off and headed east. Tomorrow these villagers who raised £500 in ten days will go to church to pray for the cure of Cyril Wright."*

Though by no means completely cured, the public spirited action of his village friends enabled Cyril to live out his life until 18th September 1981. He was buried in Hinckley Road Cemetery, Stoke Golding where his much weathered tombstone reads simply *Cyril George Wright MM*.

*Denis Cash*

## Smart Water

The Parish Council, having concerns over recent burglaries in the village has, in conjunction with the local police support unit, made **Smart Water** available in the village as a deterrent.

**Smart Water** is a liquid that can be applied to any object from small jewellery pieces to large screen TVs, from car keys to lawn mowers.

The water has unique DNA that is registered to you and identifies any stolen object as yours. If found on suspects it identifies them as the criminals who stole your possessions.

The **Smart Water** pack includes warning labels that can be attached to windows and doors warning that you are **Smart Water** home.

**Smart Water is being offered to residents at a very reduced rate of £12 and is available at**

**Stoke Golding Post Office.**

**It is claimed that Smart Water is a better deterrent than house alarms.**

The Parish Council intends to make Stoke Golding a **Smart Water** village and is planning to place notices on the village signs stating that we are a 'Smart Water Village'.

## What's On

**Saturday 2nd November**

**10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.**

**In the BAXTER HALL, STOKE GOLDING**  
(Opposite St Margaret's Church)

**ORIGINAL PAINTINGS**

**AND CERAMICS**

For sale -plus cards and prints  
By local artists: Pauline Goodsell,  
Trish Craddock, Sue Crockett and  
Jennifer Rogers

Free entry, reasonable prices and  
adjacent parking

Light refreshments will be available  
*Please come along and perhaps do a  
bit of early Christmas shopping!*

**Kel Elliot  
in  
Concert**



at  
Stoke Golding Village Hall  
on

Friday 18th October  
Doors open at 7.30pm for 8pm  
start

**Bring your own drinks and nibbles**

Tickets - £8

Please ring Alan White  
01455 212416 for  
tickets and  
information



## What's On



Stanley Opera Proudly Present  
Strauss's Great Comedy Operetta

*Die Fledermaus* at  
**Hinckley Concordia Theatre**  
9th - 12th October

Tickets £11 with concessions £10 on Wed  
& Thurs

Please ring Chris on 01455 848194 for  
tickets or Jane White 212416 for more  
information or visit

[www.stanleyopera.com](http://www.stanleyopera.com)

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with  
Josef Weinburger Ltd.

Music by Johann Strauss Original libretto by H Meilhac & L  
Helevy. English version by Christopher Hassall (lyrics) and  
Edmund Tracey (dialogue).

### Local Artist Exhibits Work

Ros Kite, a Stoke Golding  
resident and member of The  
Association of Leicestershire  
Artists will be exhibiting her  
work in an exhibition at New  
Walk Museum Leicester,

**Tuesday 22nd October -  
Sunday 3rd November**

Open during museum hours:  
Weekdays 10am – 5pm  
Sundays 11am – 5pm.

## St Margaret's CE(A) Primary School

You are all invited to come and see our  
exciting and innovative school in action



## Open Afternoon

**Thursday 3rd October 2013 ~ 1.15 - 2.45pm**  
Tour the school, meet the staff and Governors,  
see the children in action and access useful in-  
formation that will help you prepare your child  
for school!

APPLICATION FORMS FOR  
SEPTEMBER 2014 STARTERS  
NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE

High Street, Stoke Golding  
01455 212393  
[www.st-margarets.leics.sch.uk](http://www.st-margarets.leics.sch.uk)

# Church Matters

## The Methodist Church October Services 10.30am

6th October	Mrs Joan Ledson
13th October	Deacon Philip Osborne
20th October	Mr John Cooke
27th October	Mr Charles Davies

## Zion Chapel October Services Starting at 6pm Sunday School at 11am

6th October	Reuben Gardner
13th October	Mark Menzfeld
<b>(Harvest)</b>	
20th October	Wynn Richards
27th October	tbc

## Methodist Church October Events

**Saturday 12th October**

Coffee Morning

10am -11.30am

For Church Funds

**Saturday 26th October**

Coffee Morning

10am - 11.30am

**For Pump Aid**

## Church of England Services – October

### St. Margaret's Church

6 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am	Benefice Service Witherley
13 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am	Harvest All Age Service
20 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am	Holy Communion
27 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am	Morning Worship

### St. James's Church

6 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am	Benefice Service Witherley.
	6.30pm	Harvest Service Dadlington
13 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
20 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am	Morning Prayer
27 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion



### From the Rector at St Margaret's Church

October in our churches begins on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> with a special Benefice Service at St Peter's Witherley, when we will be welcoming a 60 strong, boys' choir from Lubeck, Germany. They will be singing three anthems as well as joining in the rest of the service. Afterwards, in order not to send them off hungry to Coventry Cathedral, where they are singing in the evening, we are having a 'Bring and Share' lunch. Everyone is very welcome to attend this service (starting at 10.30am), and to contribute to the buffet lunch.

October is also the month for Harvest Festival Services in our churches, when we give thanks to God for the fruits and crops, for the ability to farm, and for the abundance of all good things we have to eat. The words of the hymn remind us: *"All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love."*

God's generosity to us comes, of course, with a reminder that we are stewards of His creation and with a challenge to share what we have been given. Our churches are always beautifully decorated, and gifts of tinned, dried and fresh produce are welcome, to be distributed to local charities and Foodbanks. Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St Margaret's is at 10.30am on October 13<sup>th</sup> – do come and join us.

At the beginning of next month, on Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we are holding another special service - *'In Loving Memory'* at St Michael and All Angels, Fenny Drayton at 4pm. This is a gentle service of hymns, readings and prayers, when we remember anyone dear to us who has died. There will be the opportunity to light a candle in memory of anyone who is special to you.

The names of those who have died will be read out and if you would like a friend or relative to be remembered, then please let a minister or Church Warden know before the day of the service. As well as coming yourself, you might also like to consider inviting to this service any who you know who have been bereaved. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Wishing you God's blessing

Linda



### Obituary



We are sad to report that Ivan John Smith of High Street passed away peacefully at his home on 14th September 2013 aged 67 years. He was the beloved husband of Jean, a dear Brother in Law and Uncle and a friend to many. Ivan who originated from Burbage had been a Technical Sergeant in the RAF in his younger years and he saw service in the Falklands War. He was an engineer of some repute and his large scale model railway engine was admired by many of his friends and colleagues. There were family flowers only with donations in lieu if so desired to Marie Curie, Cancer Care or L.P.T. Charitable Funds c/o G. Seller and Co Ltd, Funeral Directors of 75 Upper Bond Street, Hinckley. Our sincere condolences go to his wife Jean and his wider family and friends.

# Dadlington Matters

## COMING UP IN DADLINGTON!

**SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE LIVE IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
SUPPORTED BY THE SHAMBLES.**

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**NORTHERN THEMED PUB NIGHT IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
PIE AND PEAS SUPPER – BAR – INDOOR WHIPPET RACING  
COME FOR THE NIGHT OR POP IN FOR A PINT.  
NO TICKETS BUT BOOK YOUR SUPPER.**

**FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**THE CHRISTMAS CRACKER!!!  
“UNDOUBTEDLY THE FINEST COMMUNAL CHRISTMAS PARTY  
IN DADLINGTON”.....**

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND TICKETS CONTACT GRAHAM  
(213487) OR JOHN (212292)**

### **Don't Miss It! Clothes Party**

End of line “A-grade” Bargains from M&S, Per Una, Next, Alexon,  
Eastex, Kaliko and others

*Cash only*

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 4pm – 8pm  
Dadlington Village Hall

Refreshments available

Entry £1.50 includes tea/coffee/biscuits  
In support of Friends of St James' Dadlington Restoration

## Cider and Soul



Stoke Golding youngster, Mell Taylor, wowed the audience at the recent Cider Festival at the George & Dragon with her soulful renditions of classics including Amy Winehouse's 'Valerie' and 'Love is a Losing Game'. Mell, accompanied by David O'Connor on guitar and Jamie Robinson on drums, left everyone wanting more even after two encores, but was eventually allowed to leave the stage.

Mell has been singing for as long as she can remember and, although she studied musical theatre at college after GCSEs, singing has always been her passion. She starts at Tech Music School in Fulham in early October to study

a four year course in popular music specialising in vocals. She chose some of her favourite songs to sing at the festival including *Love is a Losing Game* by Amy Winehouse and *All I Could do was Cry* by Etta James. Along with John Legend these are the singers who inspire her the most. All Mell has ever wanted to do is stand up on a stage and perform; she said

"Whether I end up becoming a session musician, backing vocalist, or I'm lucky enough to make a living out of sharing the songs I write with others, as long as I'm singing and performing soul and jazz I'll be happy. "

Other outstanding acoustic performances from local musicians during the festival included Stoke Golding duo Rory & Ryan and 'We Dive at Nine' who hail from Tamworth.

We hope to feature them in future editions of the Stoker.

*Jane White*



### **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.

## **Blue Hour Publishing – New Releases**

Remember me, Kristen Stone, Stoke Golding's very own author and publisher? I'm pleased to announce that Blue Hour Publishing has taken on another author from the village and his first book has just been launched.

Bertram George has lived in the village for many years and has written a series of children's stories based around certain fairy story characters. His first book, **THREE NEW FAIRY STORIES**, has just been launched as an ebook on Kindle, Nook, KOBO and iTunes.

Blue Hour Publishing specialises in publishing ebooks but don't worry if you haven't got a reader. If you have a tablet, iPad or Smartphone apps are available from most of the above platforms which will allow you to read ebooks. Start a new experience today. For doubters who say 'but I like to feel a book' I say, have you tried an ebook reader?

As well as **THREE NEW FAIRY STORIES**, my own latest offering **SILENT LOVE** is now available on all the above devices, as well as most of our catalogue. To find out more visit our blog at <http://bluehourpublishing.blogspot.co.uk/> where you will find new authors and books to try.

Happy reading.

*Kristen Stone*

## **Late Summer Bird News**



The month of July came to a close with much excitement following confirmation of a first summer black-crowned night heron at Thornton Reservoir. Also, during this purple patch for the site, a great white egret put in a brief appearance.

The night heron, an annual though scarce rarity to Britain, occurs usually between April and June, having spent the winter in Africa. Sometimes, however, the species will turn up in March, especially on The Isles of Scilly.

Monthly wildfowl and wader counts at Brascote Pits yielded a common sandpiper. Further, among the 61 lesser black-backed gulls on adjacent fields, I should imagine a significant number had arrived from various parts of Europe.

Though I managed a brief view of a hobby falcon flying across Wykin Lane towards fields at the bottom of the recreation ground, I have had little luck in this respect whilst cycling around villages the likes of Upton, Shenton and Sutton Cheney.

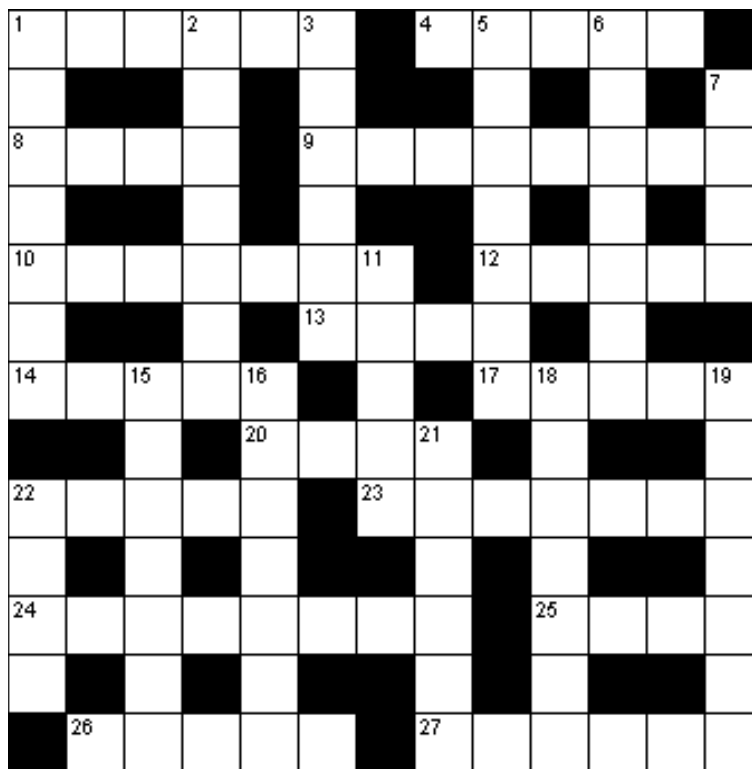
At the invitation of Steven Shepherd, I visited his parent's farm, opposite the railway station in Shenton. He took me around the barns and outbuildings to view some of the many swallow nests, perhaps over forty.

A number of people have drawn attention to the presence of green woodpeckers around the village. Again, they are very vocal around the primary school, particularly in the early morning when they can be seen on the grass verges in Sherwood Road, as well as on my lawn.

*David Abbott*



# Crossword



## Across

1. Type of horse races (6)
4. Damage the upper of a shoe (5)
- 8.&9. Across. Top cycling race (4,2 &6)
9. see 8A.
10. Noisy disturbances(7)
12. Nationality of George Best (5)
13. A top college (4)
- 14 Fashion brought back from the past (5)
17. Surname of Ryan (footballer) (5)
20. Short for a United Kingdom Sportsman (4)
22. Horses are carried in these to races (5)
23. Summer sports needing stumps (7)
24. Top golf tournament (5-3)
25. Person people look up to (4)
26. Sport of 23 across Top prize (5)
27. Gives way or submits (6)

## Down

1. A person who provides food (7)
2. Person who goes for a goal (7)
3. Calm and serene (6)
5. Scottish game on ice (7)
6. Sport using foils and epees (7)
7. First name of Tweddle Gymnast (4)
11. Impassive (5)
15. U.S. name for dinner jackets (7)
16. To watch or see (7)
18. To slope or slant (7)
19. Dust does this on your furniture (7)
21. F.A. Cup is one (6)
22. Surname of Swedish Tennis player of the past (4)

Answers on page 22

## Beth's Corner

One of the joys of hearing stories of the old days and ways, and the lives of folk from village families, is the way that they completely lift my spirits from the doldrums. A month ago I was stuck in the George Eliot hospital with a diagnosed fracture of the pelvis, and here I am still stuck at home in The Courtyard" largely dependent on my walker frame. But at least I know I can scribble out a story, sitting on the sofa while chatting to my chosen storyteller. I first met Brian a couple of years ago when he and his wife Margaret came to tea with mutual friends. He had wanted to have a look at the flats that now took the place of Hall's Hosiery factory where he worked from the age of 14. Brian was born in the village on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1931 – part of the large Quinney family, Aunt Eileen still lives at Laburnum Cottage. Brian's father became one of the Head foremen at Hall's, and the family lived in the High Street opposite Mulberry Farm, then owned by Mr. Gearey, once the village blacksmith. This was a short few steps to school, which in those days took place in two buildings. The primary school was in the Old School House opposite the church gates, while the older children were in the Baxter Hall. *"We all went home for lunch, and came back until four. The Dadlington children all came too. They all had to walk to and from school in all weathers, pouring rain, snow and sleet, up that hill and back again. "Did you have homework Brian?"* I asked *"No not in those days – and I never ever had a school report at end of term. We only had about three teachers in the school then and after the eleven plus, I went on to Westfield Modern for Boys in Hinckley."* Leaving school at 14 Brian came to Hall's Sock factory as an apprentice mechanic under the guidance of the two Head Mechanics. I've seen pictures of the factory as it was in those days and wondered if that big archway was the original main entrance for the workers as well as the horse and cart. *"Yes we came in at 8.00.am and clocked on in there, and clocked out for lunch at 12.30 to 1.30, and then back again until 6.30pm six days a week .I was the 100<sup>th</sup> worker that clocked in. It was a very happy time at Hall's."* At eighteen it was time for National Service. Brian chose to be trained as a professional cook in the Royal Artillery and was sent to cookery school at Lichfield, before being stationed in the "New Territories", along the border between British Hong Kong and Communist China, for 17 months. After de-mob he met Margaret at the local Hinckley Ballroom on 'Happy Palais' Night. They married at St. Mary's and set up home in "Rose Cottage" in Factory Road, both working at Hall's again, this time in Coventry Road, Hinckley. *"Do you still enjoy cooking Brian?"* There was a pause..... *"Well I have to. Now I'm on my own."*

*"Oh Brian, I'm so sorry! – I didn't know. When did you lose Margaret?"* *"Well it was May a year ago. We had the funeral service at the Village Baptist Chapel. There was a god turn out, and after the Crem' she's in the new Wykin Lane cemetery - a great place to be. It would have been 57 years together."*

.I'm glad he's bought himself a new companion, a cross- bred collie Kizzy. *"She's great company – didn't really want to see me come out without her - better get back."*

*"Yes – Thank you Brian – take care."*

Beth...

## **Miss Pugh**

Miss Pugh was quite a character in our village  
Our good neighbour, who lived a stones throw away  
My friend and I used to visit her often  
“Hello girls”, she’d smilingly say, “What shall we do today?”

Miss Pugh was our headmaster’s younger sister  
But now she seemed a lonely soul  
She had once known a true romance in her life  
But the cruel great war had taken its toll

Miss Pugh had gone grey early, but now sported a few tints  
And her pale cheeks had a rosy rouge glow  
She dressed a trifle flamboyantly, but cared not a fig  
Respected by all, and we girls loved her so

She eked out her savings by selling pharmaceuticals  
In her little back sitting room  
The villagers were always glad of this service  
To save bus fares to town was such a boon

Miss Pugh often gave us nice patchwork pieces  
For she liked sewing too  
Once she gave me a pretty remnant roll  
But of rather a vivid hue

“Perhaps you can make a dress for mother, yourself or whatever”  
At home I studded it with my wise twelve year old head  
Hardly my colour I thought, and certainly not mothers  
So I made pretty cushion covers for the kitchen instead

Sometimes she would watch for us coming home from school  
To run an errand or two but not before tea  
Then she hoped we would stay a while and play cards or tiddlywinks  
For we all enjoyed each other’s company

A lovely clematis festooned her brick porch  
Much admired (and envied) by all and sundry  
She swore that the only attention it had  
Was rainwater, and weekly dollops of old tea leaves every Monday

We admired Miss Pugh’s beautiful harmonium  
Which we looked forward to her teaching us to play  
But fate intervened, Miss Pugh suddenly died  
And our happy little world just crumbled that day

Friendly new owners moved in but that warm special presence was missing  
We had lost our dear soul mate, it could not be denied  
Then the lovely old purple clematis became rather neglected  
And sadly, slowly wilted and died

***Peggy Holmes***

## Stoke Golding Parish Council Meeting - August 2013

### *Matters arising from July's meeting:*

Email received introducing the new village police representative, Pauline Cotton, Market Bosworth.

Thank you letter from SG Garden Show for this year's Parish Council donation.

Email updating Convent Site proposed zebra crossing – no further comments made by Parish Council.

Confirmation of street lighting part-night lighting to go ahead.

### *Update on some actions from July's meeting, plus actions for this month:*

(i) Village Shop: Cllr Ward made enquiries with HBBC whether it could be prevented from being sold for non-retail purposes. This comes under relevant legislation of the Localism Act 2011: the procedure for registering a property as an asset of community value, which will apply once the property comes up for sale. This puts a moratorium of six weeks on the sale of the property to give the community the time to decide if it wants to bid for the property. If the community expresses an interest the moratorium is extended to six months to allow the bid to be actioned. An application for a property to become an asset of community value can only be put forward by a community group such as the parish council, not by an individual.

(ii) Church Walks – Clerk has requested Groundsman to cut back.

(iii) Litter Bin – not secure and unusable, Clerk has requested Groundsman to rectify.

(iv) Three ditch quotes received – Councillors to inspect area.

(v) Conservation Area Exhibition to be held on 10 September at Methodist Hall.

(vi) SmartWater Kits – now on sale in Post Office. SmartWater village entrance sign details and costs to be obtained.

### *Planning Application Matters:*

#### *New Applications:*

Convent Drive - Variation of condition 2 of planning permission to amend the approved elevations.

19, Roseway - extension and alterations to dwelling.

16 Station Road - conversion of garage to living accommodation.

Spinney Bank Farm, Higham Lane – application for variation of conditions to be removed. Parish Council to submit comments to HBBC Planning as follows: that the conditions stay on and state the point that the village shop has closed is not valid as this is on-going. There are parties interested in re-opening it.

#### *To make arrangements for Remembrance Sunday:*

Parish Council to donate a RBL Poppy Appeal Wreath and confirm Bugler for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

#### *Cemeteries (Wykin Lane protocol / Hinckley Road maintenance)*

##### *Wykin Lane Cemetery Regulations:*

Grave regulations at Wykin Lane Cemetery are not being adhered to. Councillors to visit the cemetery to look at the issue. Clerk to write to the Cemetery Administrator to ensure that all undertakers pass the correct message to the bereaved.

##### *Hinckley Road Cemetery Maintenance:*

(Continued on page 21)

*(Parish Council notes continued from page 20)*

Groundsman to be advised to avoid letting grass clippings blow onto to gravestones.

#### *20mph Limit*

Councillors discussed at length the Streets 4 All Group's proposal of a 20mph speed limit within the village. The majority felt it would be unrealistic to implement this limit through the village. A motion was put forward by the Chairman.

*Motion:* 'The Parish Council notes the concerns of the residents in relation to traffic speed in the village and acknowledges that there is strong support for 20 mph village wide speed limits. Accordingly the Parish Council pledges its support for implementation of 20 mph limits, subject to a full consultation showing majority public support for any proposed implementation.'

*Proposed:* The motion was proposed by Cllr Fisher.

*Resolved:* It was resolved by the Parish Council as not acceptable and would write to the Street 4 All Group with its reasons as follows:

*This was brought to Stoke Golding Parish Council meeting and it confirms that your request has been noted, but unfortunately there was no support for it at Parish Council. The reasons for the decision are that the Council felt the money would not be available for the scheme and believed, because of the lack of finance and the lack of police enforcement, the scheme therefore would be difficult to implement.*

#### *Defibrillator proposal*

A letter has been received from Margaret Collier requesting support of the Parish Council for funds towards a defibrillator for the village. Councillors supported this initiative with the proviso that the Parish Council would welcome match funding from others and that people be trained to use this equipment.

*Communications as received by the Chairman*

#### *Written*

Mr and Mrs Spence re poplar trees on rec shedding pollen - clerk to obtain a quote for removal and replacement.

Vehicle Activated Sign request from Speed Watch Committee for Wykin Lane. It was agreed to purchase a second VAS 30mph sign, to be shared with Station Road.

Recycling banks – plastic and mixed cans banks to be removed from village hall car park due to success of collection services.

#### *Any other business:*

Telephone kiosk in need of repair – BT to follow up.

Proposed gym equipment for recreation - meeting arranged for October.

Parish Council meetings – future dates:

Oct 9<sup>th</sup> Village Hall

Nov 6<sup>th</sup> Methodist Church Hall

Dec 11<sup>th</sup> Village Hall

Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Village Hall

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](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk)

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<b>Stoke Golding</b>	Greenwood Road 10.30 - 10.45am
	Sherwood Road 10.50 - 11.10am
	The White Swan 11.15 - 11.40am
	Hinckley Road/Main Street 11.45 - 12.05pm

*For further details contact: Coalville Library, 0116 305 3565  
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Across

1. Chases 4. Scuff 8. Tour 9. De france 10. Rackets 12. Irish 13. Eton  
 14. Retro 17. Giggs 20. Brit 22. Boxes 23. Cricket 24. Ryder cup 25. Idol  
 26. Ashes 27. Yields

Down

1. Caterer 2. Striker 3. Sedate 5. Curling 6. Fencing 7. Beth 11. Stoic  
 15. Tuxedos 16. Observe 18. Incline 19. Settles 21. Trophy 22. Borg

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