

March 2020

No. 189

The Stoker



Stoke Golding Village Magazine

Including

Dadlington Matters

70p



Note from the Editors

We couldn't resist using the cover photograph this month, even though it was taken in Askrigg, Yorkshire rather than fields around our villages. The photo has really captured the innocence of these tiny lambs and makes us realise how amazing our



planet is and why we should be doing as much as we can to look after and protect it. Whilst it will take world governments to really make a difference to slowing down climate change, we can all do our 'bit' to help. Stoke Golding War on Waste (on Facebook) is a great place to post unwanted items for free and broken items can possibly be repaired, rather than thrown away - perhaps take them along to the Hinckley Fixers at Stoke Golding Village Hall on 15th March (page 5). We welcome any other suggestions you may have to help the environment for us to print in the Stoker.

Our cover lambs also remind us that spring is around the corner - what a lovely thought after the battering we have had from February storms. We hope you managed to keep safe and dry.

Don't forget to send your articles, events and photos for next month.

Jane and Steve

The Stoker Team

Editors: Jane White (01455 212416), Steve Smithers (01455 213798)

Production Team: Rosemary Collier, Beth Ellis, Richard & Ella Orr, Jan Pettyfer, Jill Webster, Jennifer Michie, Michael Dix, Jan Zelenczuk.

Please send articles for the **April** issue of The Stoker **by 15th March** to:

The Editors, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding.

Email thestoker@gmx.co.uk

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

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

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

Publication of any articles or letters submitted does not imply approval of, or agreement with, any views and comments contained, and are published without prejudice. Copying of content without our explicit consent is not permitted.

Cover picture: Lambs in Yorkshire thanks to Morris Bolton

Dear Residents

St Margaret's Church, Stoke Golding
The Church Needs Your Help!

A lot of work is needed to make the Church safe and welcoming. The Church is considering applying to the National Lottery for a grant. We need the support of our community to make this application! We are holding a meeting - 11th March at 3 Hinckley Road, 7.30pm, to discuss doing so and gather community views.

Please will you come along and join this discussion. Your support for this application is essential. Without it an application will not succeed!

It will be a big help to know if you're coming to the meeting - we very much hope to see or hear from you.

David Goodsell 212955 or millburn5@hotmail.co.uk



Calling all Happy Crafters



A friendly group of like-minded crafters has recently started meeting at the White Swan between 10 am and 12 noon on a Tuesday morning. The group's timing particularly suits those who have other commitments in the afternoon, anything from collecting children at school to watching Countdown. We bring whatever we are working on at the time and along with a cup of tea or coffee, just do our own thing alongside convivial company, some chatting may go on. We're a new group and could be either a happy addition to your existing knitting/sewing/crafting group or something totally fresh for you to try. You'll be very welcome, we'd love you to join us, please pop in any Tuesday morning apart from 3rd March when there won't be a meeting.

Sue Crunkhorn

Waterworks: a Monopoly Odyssey part 5

As you may recall, I spent a day in London about a year ago, trying to reach every space on the Monopoly board. I had all the colours and stations completed, plus Chance, Community Chest, the Electric Company, Jail and Go to Jail. I did pass Go where, disappointingly, I didn't collect £200 but also I didn't have to pay any tax either when visiting the Inland Revenue's London base. I'd even managed to find free parking but one square eluded me after trekking to an anonymous address which was where mail from the London Water Meter Company was sent rather than a waterworks. A quick Google showed the nearest actual waterworks to be several miles away so I have to think laterally.



So it was that I find myself on the north bank of the Thames walking through parks filled with a succession of statues of British worthies, many of them military men, whose names are about all I can remember from my schooldays history lessons. I could have chosen the Victoria Embankment itself as the 'Waterworks' because it was constructed by Sir Joseph Bazalgette to solve London's horrific sewage problems. After the Great Stink of 1858, where the stench arising from the polluted river caused members of Parliament great discomfort, Bazalgette was tasked with sorting it out. I spot his statue across the road in front of hoardings that protect a new engineering project that will continue his work by laying giant sewage pipes underneath the river. I turn and walk through Embankment gardens to the York House Watergate. This used to stand on the edge of the river and behind it was once a major '**Waterworks**' - the York Buildings Waterworks.

A key feature was a strange octagonal pyramid that rose 70 feet into the air. It features in the works of many artists including a riverscape by Canaletto and a sketch by Turner. The Canaletto painting was the inspiration behind Renzo Piano's modern day tower, the Shard. As I've already included an ex-prison, The Tower of London, for my jail, the site of a Victorian waterworks will do for me as I finally complete my journey round the Monopoly board. I've travelled 13.4 miles by tube, 2.2 miles by bus and completed 16 miles on foot. I've been to places I've not been to before, no mean achievement considering my love for this city, and found out many new pieces of information which, if you're still reading this, you'll have hopefully found as interesting as I did.

Michael Dix

Repair Your Broken Items with Hinckley Fixers at Stoke Golding Village Hall

We are having our first repair shop in conjunction with Hinckley Fixers on **Sunday 15th of March at SG village hall, 10:30am - 13:30pm**

We will try to mend or offer advice on repairing your broken items - might be an egg whisk to a broken dining room chair.

Refreshments will be available.

Bob Wills



The Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee would like to thank everyone who was able to come to the informal open event. It was very well attended .

The committee will continue to move the process forward as quickly as they can ,subject to all the statutory regulations that have to be done .

Our meetings are held at the Methodist Church hall every other Monday from 7pm and more information can be found at www.stokegolding.co.uk/np

Everyone is welcome to attend .

Next meeting dates :
2nd March, 16th March, 30th March

The Arts Society Sparkenhoe

Monday 6th April at 7.30 pm

A Life in Fashion: The Wardrobe of Cecil Beaton

Please join us for what promises to be another fascinating lecture. This time the subject is Cecil Beaton, the English fashion, portrait and war photographer, diarist, painter, interior designer, and Oscar-winning stage and costume designer for films and theatre. The speaker Benjamin Wild specialises in the history of dress and is connected with the V&A, Condé Nast College of Fashion & Design, and Sotheby's Institute of Art.

Non-members are welcome to attend for the fee of £5, payable at the door. Talks are held in the **Dixie Grammar School Hall, Market Bosworth, CV13 0LE**. For more information please contact: Sue Naylor on 07947 038534; Margaret Birch on 01455 291052; Bridget Flavell on 01455 290300; or John Hawkes on 07590 496150.

Saint Martin's Award's Evening

Earlier on this term we had our awards evening, celebrating the success of last year's GCSE students. The results this year were a record high with a Progress 8 figure of 0.5*

To celebrate this success, we invited back a former pupil and Political Correspondent for the Daily Telegraph. As well as giving out the prizes, he spoke about his experiences as a pupil at Saint Martin's and the influence it had had on him and his success in life so far. He has also been at the epicentre of politics in Westminster for the last few years, and shared some of his experiences in the trials and tribulations over the Brexit and the last election. We also welcomed back our former Headteacher Brenda Carson, and one of the original members of staff and former Deputy Head, Viv Abrams.

Clive Wright, Principal



**Progress 8 is the new key measure for schools which show how far pupils have progressed over their time in a school. 0.0 is average and 0.5 put us as one of the top in the county and the highest in the Catholic Diocese of Nottingham.*

St Martin's Out with the old....

Earlier this year we were fortunate enough to replace some of our old and crumbling mobile classrooms with new modular classrooms. When we expanded Saint Martin's from an 11-14 to an 11-16 school we managed to inherit some mobiles from a school that was originally demolishing them. After 5 years however, they were very worse for wear (part of the roof was literally fixed on with gaffer tape!). We managed to get a grant to replace the buildings and our pupils now have a much nicer, dryer and warmer environment in which to learn. They are also far more attractive than the old mobiles.



Stoke Golding Railway Update

Following the Photo and Article about Stoke Golding Railway, Charlie Frisby remembers travelling from Stoke Golding to Higham as late as 1935.

Stoke Golding website: www.stokegolding.co.uk

Ten of a Kind – March '20 (Answers on page 26)

The phrase 'as mad as a March hare' comes from their strange antics at this time of year. As it's their mating season, I suppose we can excuse them a little insane behaviour. Here are ten questions about rabbits and hares.

1. The white rabbit makes a very early appearance in the children's novel Alice in Wonderland. Who was the author?
2. Which rabbit disease wiped out an estimated 99% of British rabbits during an epidemic in 1953/4?
3. Which animation company produced the 2005 feature film 'The Curse of the Were Rabbit'?
4. Rabbits, brown hares and mountain hares are all part of the British countryside but only one of them is native to our island: which one?
5. Who sang the song Bright Eyes which features in Watership Down, the story of rabbits setting off to find a new home?
6. When would a rabbit come after a tiger and before a dragon?
7. Which 1988 film starred Bob Hoskins alongside a cartoon rabbit?
8. What name is given to a group of rabbit burrows that form a network underground?
9. The words in Chas and Dave's Rabbit song come from the Cockney rhyming slang 'rabbit and pork.' Which word does 'rabbit and pork' refer to?
10. The story of The Hare and the Tortoise is a fable in the collection credited to which ancient Greek storyteller?

Steady Steps Comes to Stoke Golding

Spaces are available to join the new Steady Steps Programme at Stoke Golding Village Hall. This will run for 24 weeks from 3rd March.

The Steady Steps programme is an exercise programme funded by the West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group aimed at individuals over the age of 65 who have had a fall in the last year, lack confidence in their balance or are unsteady on their feet. The sessions are led by a specialist qualified instructor who, over six months, takes participants through a series of exercises to improve balance. Participants are also shown how to get up from the floor should they experience a fall. It is **free** for participants to attend. The programme has been through some extensive research and evaluation and has proven that people remain independent for longer, living in their own homes and require less social care support so is a win all round.

Please contact Liz Causon 01455 255870 for more details or to book onto the course.

Liz Causon

Steady Steps

FREE OF
CHARGE



A rejuvenating exercise programme helping to develop strength and balance

Are you
over 65?

Do you feel
unsteady on
your feet?

Have you
previously
fallen or worry
about falling?

Would
you like to
improve your
balance?

SESSION DETAILS

Location: Stoke Golding Village Hall
Day: Tuesday
Time: 10.30am until 12noon
Address: Hall Drive, Stoke Golding, CV13 6DX

Starts Tuesday 3rd March 2020

Don't worry if you miss the start date,
you can still join the course within the
first 6 weeks

SESSION LENGTH: 1.5 hours

DURATION: 24 weeks

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

For more information and to book your place please contact:

NAME Liz Causon

EMAIL liz.causon@hincley-bosworth.gov.uk

TELEPHONE 01455 255870

www.lrsport.org/steadysteps



Hincley & Bosworth
Borough Council

To face the challenges we see in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and to deliver our plans to meet them, health organisations have created Better Care Together - a Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (an STP). The partnership is working closely with local authorities too.

A Battle on the Fenn Lanes – but not that one! Part 1

Many readers will be familiar with the date of 22nd August 1485. The Lancastrian forces of Henry Tudor brought the short reign of Yorkist Richard III to an end on the fields that lie either side of the Fenn Lanes. But what do you know about the other battle that took place there? Perhaps battle is too strong a word for what was really just a minor skirmish during the course of the English Civil War in 1644.

Civil War hostilities began in 1642, the result of disagreements between King Charles I and Parliament over both the limits to his authority and, somewhat inevitably, religion. Our villages were very much in Parliamentary country. Major garrisons in Coventry and Tamworth were supported by smaller ones, such as Astley Castle, just outside Nuneaton, which, in July 1644, was commanded by a Captain Hunt, with about 36 soldiers. Another Parliamentary stronghold, Caldecote Hall, three miles west of our two villages, was the home of Colonel William Purefoy, the MP for Coventry and a key Parliamentarian who was a signatory of Charles I's death warrant. A Royalist force under the command of Prince Rupert, Charles I's nephew, assembled on Tuttle Hill in Nuneaton with the intention of capturing Colonel Purefoy. These experienced soldiers spent some considerable time besieging the hall, only to discover when it finally surrendered that only Mrs Purefoy, her maids and just eight men, had defended it. They burned the hall to the ground, probably out of embarrassment.

Hinckley saw a number of incursions by both Royalist and Parliamentary troops but outlying villages were generally unaffected by the conflict. Records for Dadlington show soldiers under Captain Flowers of Coventry requisitioning a horse from Michael Cox worth £1-2 shillings, whilst the cost of quartering some of Colonel Purefoy's Regiment of Horse was £2-10 shillings for one night and part of the next day.

The skirmish on the Fenn Lanes was described in a report of the time as 'a Defeat given to Colonel Hastings by the Lord Gray's Forces, July 1, 1644, at Bosworth Field, in the very Place where King Richard the Third was slain'. The Hastings and the Greys were major landowners in the county and great rivals. Henry Hastings of Ashby Castle was a Royalist and had seen action at the Battle of Hopton Heath. He lost an eye to a pistol shot after an exchange with Parliamentarians near Bagworth and was known by the enemy as 'Blind Henry Hastings.' Lord Grey of Groby was the commander in chief for the Roundheads in the midland counties. In 1643, he swept through the county through towns such as 'Lutterworth, Hinckley, Barwell, Lichfield and Newark,' according to a letter written by his father. So what took place on the Fenn Lanes all those years ago?

Michael Dix

Stoke Golding Cricket Club

The cricket club article and photographs featured in last month's Stoker have generated quite a lot of interest in the village, with many people asking Alan Quinney for names.

Stoke Golding Cricket Club 1938-1939

Back row left to right:

George Dewis, Charlie Quinney, Jack Quinney, Tom Quinney, Tom Payne, Reg Flavell (Umpire)

Front row left to right:

Ron Mayne, Bob Mayne, Eveline (Nugget) Hands, Ray Mayne, Horace Mayne, Dennis (Den) Quinney.

At Grace Road 1991

Steve Jones, Geoff Foster? John Harvey, Jim Burns? Dave Davison

Front Row

James Fisher, Steve Avent, Alex Foster, Ken Adams, Doug Ward, Alan Melling.

*Alan Quinney
(Sec Treasurer)*

BOOKING IS NOW OPEN FOR MOZART'S

Don Giovanni

featuring
great drama,
great comedy
and Mozart's
great music

including
the famous
catalogue aria
listing Giovanni's
conquests



three
avenging
women each
seeking
justice

*plus a stone
statue that
comes to life
(and then
comes to
dinner)*

Hinckley Concordia Theatre

19th, 21st, 23rd & 25th April

concordiatheatre.co.uk/don-giovanni

Bosworth Battlefield Events

Thursday 19th March 2.30-4.00pm pm

**Battlefield Object
Handling Session**
(Booking recommended)

Friday 20th March 7.00 - 10.30 pm

**Ghost Walk
Cheese & Wine Evening**
(Booking required)

For further information about all our
events visit

[https://
www.bosworthbattlefield.org.uk/
whats-on/](https://www.bosworthbattlefield.org.uk/whats-on/)

Mark Wilkinson, Engagement
Officer Tel: 0116 3055910

Dadlington Matters

DADLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
OPEN MEETING

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH – 10.00am UNTIL 2.00pm

Villagers and other interested parties are invited to attend an open meeting hosted by members of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee. They will be available to answer any questions that you may have about the process of creating a plan and this is also an opportunity for you to raise any issues that you would like to be addressed by the plan. Mr John Preston of the Rural Community Council will be available to offer expert advice about the planning process.

TEA AND BISCUITS WILL BE PROVIDED



All films are on Fridays with doors opening at 7pm and the film starting at 7:30pm. Pay £3 on the door for your first drink.

March 13th: Yesterday

April 3rd: Room

For more details go to dadlingtonvillagehall.co.uk

**Dadlington
Village Hall**

Wine Tasting Evening

in support of Dadlington Village

Saturday 4th April at 7pm.

**7 tastings and a
ploughman's
for £10**

Book your places with John or Jill Whitehead
on 01455 213244 or at
jf_whitehead@hotmail.com



The Case of the Borrowed Gorse Hook Deepens

I am writing in response to the article “The Case of the Borrowed Gorse-hook”, by Bob Quinney in the October 2019 STOKER.

This is a case I have been researching and studying for a number of years, because the perpetrator of the crime, Thomas Argyle, was my great-great-grandfather.

Interesting as the Leicester Chronicle article is, there is a deeper story still. The victim, Joseph Pegg, was in fact the brother-in-law of Argyle, and although the only motive put forward at the trial was Pegg having been to the Overseer to have Argyle’s pay stopped, there was another motive.

During his imprisonment, Argyle sent two petitions to the Home Office asking that his sentence of life to be reduced, on the grounds of his mental state at the time of the offence. Argyle had been married to Mary for 17 years when he “received information” that gave him reason to suspect Mary’s fidelity. On the 15 March Argyle discovered “undeniable proof”, at Pegg’s house he caught Mary and Pegg “in the fact” of an affair, they “both admitted the adulterous intercourse and acknowledged it had been repeated several times”. This disturbed Argyle’s mind to “near distraction”. For two weeks before the attack he went about the village saying that he was going to die. Mr Garrard the surgeon found Argyle “delusional and nervous”. Then on 24 May he attacked Pegg with the gorse-hook.

Having been sentenced to transportation for life, what happened to Argyle after the trial is also of interest. He was held in Leicester Prison until December 1851 when he was transferred to Millbank Prison (London) from there he was transferred to Dartmoor in September 1852. From Dartmoor he was sent to Plymouth and transported to Gibraltar where he was held from March 1853 until July 1862. He was returned to England and held again in Millbank from where he was released on license on Monday 18 August 1862. One condition of his license was that he did not return to Leicestershire. So Argyle went to stay with his sister in Nuneaton. Being unable to obtain employment the Home Office allowed him to return to Leicestershire.

He lived in the Hinckley area until 1867 when he tried, unsuccessfully to kill himself by cutting his own throat. As a result he was certified and held in Leicester Lunatic Asylum. He died in the Asylum and was buried in Leicester Cemetery in 1882.

I have written a full account of this case as a book, but have not found anyone interested in publishing it.

In his article Mr Quinney’s suggests that Mrs. King, who lent Argyle the gorse-hook, may have been a relative, his grandmother being a King. Mary Ann King, married Thomas Quinney in 1867, if Mr Quinney inherited the illustrated gorse-hook from this source it may be the actual weapon used by my great-great-grandfather.

G.H.Allen



CASAG Falls Prevention

Whilst perusing the Borough Bulletin recently I found information relating to a potential falls prevention group in Stoke Golding. They are gathering information on people who are interested in the Steady Steps programme. I know someone who attended the programme and rated it highly.

Useful information on falls and their prevention is available from age UK, NHS, SAGA and CSP.

The stats speak for themselves - people aged 65 and older have the highest risk of falling, with 30% of people older than 65 and 50% of people older than 80 falling at least once a year. People fall for a variety of reason including dizziness, visual & hearing loss, muscle weakness, environmental issues, medication and infection.

So falls prevention is education about how to prevent them and address many of these complex causes. Therefore please ring Liz on 01455 255870 to say you are interested in the Steady Steps course.

Following the last CASAG meeting - there will be a Easter Egg competition for children. In addition could you let the surgery know if you are a Carer and also make sure the surgery has an up to date mobile phone number for you.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 1st April @ 6.15pm at Castle Mead surgery.

Jennifer



Stoke Golding Scout Group - What We Have Been Up To !



The Beavers have been doing their skills challenge where they learnt to tie shoe laces and fold their neckers, amongst other things. They celebrated Chinese New Year by making lanterns, eating Chinese snacks, pretending to go there by plane (just before the coronavirus outbreak) and decorated envelopes with a Chinese design. I have it on good authority that these letters may have contained money for good fortune, however in this case chocolate coins. They have also been doing their Builders badge by designing a build, materials etc and then constructing their design.



The Cubs have been practising their hockey skills and designing a poster to advertise the District hockey night which was held at the village hall. The Cubs who weren't playing in the tournament had a particularly muddy and wet walk across the field and down by the canal and had a good time. The Cubs have been doing their Communication badge using different means of communication, from invisible ink and flags to more modern emails.



The Scouts had their Burns supper complete with haggis, neeps and tatties. The haggis was piped in, addressed and the meal started with the Selkirk grace. Apart from the missing Scottish dancing and whiskey it doesn't get more Scottish than this. They did however manage the toasts with Iron Bru!



The Scouts have also been doing their Navigation badge with compass and map reading skills as well as planning the kit for a walk. Very useful life skills for the future.

The Explorers have been doing their navigation badge, as well as having a board game and hot drink and cake night.

So all in all a busy start to the new term.

Jennifer

What's On



Little Acorns presents an amateur production of
Three Cracking Comedies with Fish and Chips!!



St Mary's Community Hall, St Mary's
Road Hinckley LE10 1EQ on Friday **6th
March**

**Learning to Like
You** By Rob Scott



&
Stoke Golding Village Hall, Hall Drive,
Stoke Golding CV13 6DXS on Saturday
7th March



Carrot
by David Tristram

Curtain up 7.30pm

**Tickets £12.00 incl. Fish, Chips and
Cake.**

Closure
By Rob Scott



Alternative, sausage or vegetarian burger, bring your own drinks!

Tickets available in advance only:

Linda on 07770901912 or Chris on 07958 777191.

Find us on Facebook – Little Acorns

Coffee and Chat

at Dadlington Village Hall

*Come for a friendly chat with other
residents from Dadlington and Stoke
Golding while enjoying delicious
home-made cakes and a cuppa*

Thursday 5th March
10.15 am - 12.15pm



All Welcome

What's On at Stoke Golding Club

Saturday 14th March 80's Themed
night Disco & Fancy Dress £5.00

Weekly Events

Tuesday eve **Jitterbugs** ,
Thursday eve **Salsa**, Friday eve
Bingo

Saturday from 11am –
**Breakfast cobs, coffee and
cake**

Call 01455 212221 for more
details or visit the Facebook
page – Stoke Golding Club

THE METHODIST CHURCH Coffee Morning



SATURDAY March 21st
10.00 - 11.30

For Church Funds

Stoke Arts @ the Village Hall

Next Door Dance – The Beautiful Game Sat 21st March



Football. Some love it, others loathe it, but we can't deny that it is somehow present in all our lives. This inventive playful, words-music-dance-physical theatre show is a witty look at Britain's undying obsession with 'the beautiful game'. Made in collaboration with die-hard football fans and players, set to a backdrop of famous commentaries and

catchy chant-a-long hits, and passionately performed by four highly athletic female dancers, this show dynamically portrays all the artistry and absurdity of British football.

Four members of the village hall committee have seen a trailer for this show and thought it was brilliant – we hope you will too...

Ginny Davis Productions – Updownsizing Sat 25th April

The kids have flown the nest, so it's time to downsize. Contracts are about to be exchanged and packing is underway. Nothing can go wrong, but storm clouds gather overhead. And then the doorbell rings. Set in a 1990's kitchen extension with a boiling kettle as a companion, this is a warm compassionate, witty, sad and brilliantly executed observational comedy capturing the essence of middle-class family life.



'Ginny Davis is on an impressive and endearing form in this one-woman tour de force, vividly telling the story with a lot of humour and not a little refreshing cynicism'.

Tickets for each show cost £10 adults, £8 children

Doors open 7.30pm for 8pm start

Seating cabaret style - Bring your own drinks and nibbles

For tickets please tel: 01455 213798, email: stokearts@gmail.com or visit

<https://stokearts.yapsody.com>

Justice in The Hungry 40's

Andy Tomsett's absorbing piece in last month's Stoker drew attention to the fact that, in the 19th century, penalties for crimes against property were much harsher than for crimes against the person and that food was harder to come by then than it is now. The mid 19th century was known as "the hungry forties" and it was said that "the labouring classes were suffering great and increasing privations and unable to obtain wholesome food in sufficient quantity to maintain them in health."

The cases outlined below, adapted from the Denis Cash Archives, illustrate the disparity between sentences to which Mr Tomsett refers.

Leics. Mercury 1838: James Ward, 23, married, with two children and Joseph Ward, 25, married, with three children, were sentenced to ten years transportation for the theft of three live fowls, the property of John Geary of Dadlington.

Leics. Mercury 1848: Mr Moore, a Dadlington farmer, was convicted of "a brutal assault" on Thomas Mellor junior of Stoke Golding at the Hinckley Statutes. Moore got out of his gig and knocked Mellor down three times without any provocation whatsoever and was fined £2 with £1.8s costs.

Leics. Mercury 1848: Robert Farmer and George Belcher, both 16 years old, were found guilty of stealing "a quantity of oats in chaff" which they claimed they had scraped up from a field while mushrooming. They were found guilty and sentenced to one month's hard labour and "once privately whipped."

Chronicle 1891: Ephraim Simpson, labourer, of Dadlington was charged with assaulting Betsey Keatley, also of Dadlington. Three weeks previously, following a quarrel about a fowl, Simpson had threatened to murder Keatley. Simpson approached Keatley on her doorstep, struck her between the eyes with his fist and knocked her down, severely injuring her face. Simpson was found guilty and fined 20 shillings and 23 shillings costs.

Journal 1840: Thomas Pegg and Edward Calfstick were sentenced to seven years transportation for the theft of twenty pairs of stockings, the property of Joseph Pegg of Stoke Golding.

Chronicle 1891: Samuel Berry, farmer, of Dadlington, was charged with assaulting and beating George Parsons, a child of four years old. Berry claimed he had seen the child pick up two thatch pegs from the side of the road. He ran after the child and "belayed him with a thatch peg, hitting him violently several times on the body." As the child ran away Berry followed him and "inflicted further punishment, beating him across the back and legs." Berry entered a plea of guilty to thrashing the child but claimed he was justified in what he did. Sentencing Berry to a 15 shillings fine, the Chairman of the bench remarked that "If the boy had been guilty of any mischief and Berry had inflicted reasonable punishment nothing need have been said about it." Nothing was said as to what was considered "reasonable punishment" for a four year old child!

The above cases might give the impression that property owners and magistrates were without mercy or humour but the Leicestershire Mercury of 23rd March 1844 reported that Isabella Hammons of Dadlington was charged with “having betrayed an undue partiality for a quantity of tea, and depositing the same in that universal depository, the bosom.” Mr Spencer, grocer, chivalrously declined to prosecute and Isabella was discharged, presumably without a stain on her character.

Bob Quinney

With thanks to Dennis Cash.



Stoke Golding WI

Stoke Golding W.I. February Meeting

Speaker:- Liz McSweeney. Talk :- Adolescent Mental Health

Liz explained that she has a great deal of experience of working with young people who have difficulties dealing with the things life throws at them. She worked for a while (covering for maternity leave) with children who have been in a family suffering domestic violence. She worked for 10 years and qualified as a social worker, assessing the need for custodial sentences for offending or looking at an alternative in the community. She worked with a psychologist assessing the progress of prison sentences. She stressed that care should be taken when speaking to young people with problems. She is now working with schools, addressing and dealing with mental health issues and has found that 75% of mental health in adults has started by the age of 18.

Most recent figures show that 12.5% of 5-19 year olds are assessed as having mental health issues. Liz explained to us that 1 in 10 children have mental health issues and 75% of those diagnosed are not receiving treatment.

Modern children have a lot more to deal with than previous generations with social media pressure, trolls and online bullying, child sexual exploitation, eating disorders.

She helps parents to understand children who have problems and how they can help them.

A very interesting and informative talk.

Lesley Gent

Kitchen Corner Italian Tuna and Prawns

Ingredients

1 Clove of Garlic, peeled & crushed
1 Tin of Chopped Tomatoes
1 Stick of Celery, chopped
8ozs. (225gms.) Mushrooms, sliced
1 Large Tin of Tuna, drained
1 ½ tblsp. Flour
2tblsp. Olive Oil + a knob of Butter
¼ pint (150ml.) Stock or Water
1tsp. Tomato Puree
2tsp. Sugar
½ tsp. Dried Oregano
Salt & Pepper
1lb. (450gms.) Prawns

Method

Melt the butter and oil in a large saucepan over a medium heat. Add the celery and cook for 3-4 minutes, until it begins to soften, add the garlic and cook for a further minute. Now

stir in the flour and cook for 2 minutes, stirring all the time. Add the teaspoon of tomato puree, now pour in the tomatoes, stock or water, mushrooms, sugar and oregano. Bring to the boil, stirring all the time, cover and simmer for 10 minutes. Place the prawns and tuna into the pan, bring back to the boil, then simmer for 10-15 minutes, uncovered. Season with salt and pepper. Pour into a warmed serving dish, garnish with chopped parsley and serve with rice and a crisp green salad.

This is a recipe for 4 persons, but it can be doubled and used as a buffet dish. Happy cooking,
Avis

Obituaries

Joan Lockley

Joan, of Stoke Golding, formerly of Dadlington, passed away peacefully on 7th January 2020 aged 90 years. Beloved wife of the late Ray and much loved mum to Rosalyn and Janette and grandma to Rebecca, Charlotte and Emma and great grandma to Elliot. The funeral service took place at Stoke Golding Methodist Church on 3rd February. Donations in memory of Joan may be made to the Air Ambulance via G.Seller, Upper Bond Street, Hinckley.

Eric Thorpe

Eric, of Stoke Golding, passed away on 26th, January, 2020, aged 80 years. Loving husband of Hilda and much loved dad of Andrew and Alan, loving grandad and great grandad and brother of Jennifer.

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

Fool on the Hill

High on a hill.....

Only the certifiably insane would consider a holiday in the Lake District in January and so it was that Mrs Fool and I recently found ourselves on the shores of Lake Windermere. By the greatest of good fortune, the weather gods smiled on us and whilst we had no need of the Factor 50, it was largely dry with the temperatures in the positive range (just). One particular morning we found ourselves on the pier at Ambleside where the distant snow-capped peaks were perfectly mirrored in the flat calm of the lake surface. It was easy to see why Wordsworth and his ilk waxed lyrical about this area even if the daffodils were still a couple of months off.

I have to confess at this stage that being very much a creature of comfort, I am perfectly happy to stand by the lakeshore and take in the splendour of the view without having the slightest inclination to swim in the lake or go for a tortured hike in the snow zone. My idea of a walk is to stroll comfortably along some well-made and clearly defined path taking in the splendid views and admiring the wildlife. Why anyone would choose to trudge across a murky bog in an impenetrable mist guided only by some plastic covered sheet of something produced by Ordnance Survey is, frankly, beyond me. I admit that these maps are, to me, as unfathomable as a tablet of ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics and giving me a compass is as pointless as fitting a cat flap on a submarine. Going for a walk in beautiful countryside when you can't see your hand in front of your face seems to me the height of folly. You might as well walk through a car wash. As I was pondering this, my point was rather reinforced by the appearance of a heavily equipped Land Rover bearing the legend "Mountain Rescue Team". I rest my case.

As we strolled round Ambleside it soon became obvious that the other visitors in town that day did not share my view of the great outdoors. To a man they were dressed in a manner suggesting that a full on assault to the upper mountain reaches was the sole purpose of their visit. Each was sporting some variant of an outdoor garment that looked like a crossbreed of Joseph's Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat and a spud sack. It further became clear that every other shop was a purveyor of clothing deemed essential to survival in hostile environments. It surprised me that there was a huge difference in price between clothing items that might actually repel the elements and those paying lip service to the idea. You wouldn't set sail in a leaking boat so why would you put yourself at risk on a mountain wearing something that turned out to be as much use as the Kamikaze Pilots Pension Fund?

Fortunately, we discovered the perfect item for keeping warm and dry. A pub.

F.O.T.H



Church Matters

From St Margaret's Church



As March arrives so we begin to see a change in season; the days get longer, the mornings lighter, flowers appear in our parks and gardens and leaves reappear on the trees. In the world around us we can see tangible changes as spring arrives signifying new life and new beginnings.

It is not just in the earthly seasons that we see changes. We are now firmly into the church season of Lent which began in February on Ash Wednesday. Lent is a time of reflection, a time where Christians throughout the world remember the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness and the temptation he faced. Many people give things up at Lent, whether that be chocolate, coffee or social media. It is also increasingly popular for people to take something up for Lent — a new hobby or raising money for charity for example.

Lent is a good opportunity to stop and reflect on ourselves. Part of this is about considering our priorities, perhaps engaging more with the Bible and deepening our relationship with God. In our parishes, the Lent course 'Everyday Witness' is a good opportunity to engage with the season of Lent alongside others. The course aims to help us grow closer to God and gain confidence in sharing our faith with others. The sessions take place at Witherley Parish Room on Mondays at 2.30pm, Higham Methodist Church on Tuesdays at 8.30am, Stoke Golding Methodist Room on Thursdays at 7.30pm, and you are welcome to come along to any.

On Wednesday March 11th, Bishop Guli, the Bishop of Loughborough, is joining us as part of her own Lent Pilgrimage. Starting at the 8.30am Higham Lent Course (Wednesday instead of Tuesday that week!), she will also be visiting Witherley Coffee Morning at 10.30am, then on to Fenny Drayton Church at 12.30pm for our Benefice Lent Lunch (Soup, bread, cheese), which has become a yearly event, in aid of the Bishops' Lent Appeal 'The Cook and Eat project'. She will join the Open the Book team at St Margaret's School in the afternoon, followed by a walk from Stoke Golding to Dadlington, where we will enjoy tea in the Village Hall. You are welcome to come along to any part of the day to meet, chat and pray with Bishop Guli.

I hope that however you choose to mark the season of Lent, you will be able to experience God's love and peace as we move towards the celebration of Easter Day.

Wishing you God's blessings

Linda

Church Matters

Church of England March Services

St Margaret's, Stoke Golding

St James', Dadlington

1st	10.30am	All Age Service	1st	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
8th	10.30pm	Benefice Service (Fenny Drayton)	8th	10.30am	Benefice Service
15th	10.30am	Holy Communion	15th	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
22nd	10.30am	Mothering Sunday	22nd	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
29th	10.30am	Benefice Service (Dadlington)	29th	10.30am	Benefice Service

Zion Baptist Chapel March Services

Services will usually be 1st and 3rd Sundays each month apart from April which will be 1st and 2nd Sundays due to Easter.

1st	6pm	John Needham
15th	6pm	Malcolm Welch

The Methodist Church March Services

1st	10.30am	Mrs Gwen Coley
8th	10.30am	Revd Wes Hampton
15th	10.30am	Mr John Cooke
22nd	6.00pm	Revd Andrew Murphy (Church Anniversary)
29th	10.30am	Circuit Service

Methodist informal Service

On the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10.00am we hold a half hour informal service in the Methodist church hall followed by coffee.

Everyone is welcome to join us.

Notes from Stoke Golding Parish Council – February Meeting (Draft)

Reports by County and Borough Councillors

A report by County Cllr Ivan Ould was circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting and the following was discussed:

Five-year housing shortfall implications.

A444 - travellers have now moved on.

Highway verge maintenance policy.

Borough Cllr Jonathan Collett reported on the following:

Planning Committee update.

Possible solar panel development between Sutton Cheney and Dadlington.

HBBC - budget update and implications.

Matters arising from previous decisions of the Parish Council

Wykin Lane Cemetery pathways – it was noted that work was still pending due to ground conditions.

Playground inspection: The roundabout was too heavy to move and weeds were growing in the rubber surface.

Ground Maintenance Report

There are moles at Wykin Lane Cemetery and the mole contractor had been instructed to remove them.

The adjacent landowner had been reminded to remove tree debris from the recreation field.

An emergency repair to the tap at Wykin Lane Cemetery had been carried out, at a cost of £20.

The tree seat removal and groundwork at the recreation field has been carried out at a cost of £45.

Emergency work to secure a gate at Wykin Lane Cemetery was agreed, cost to be confirmed.

Planning Application Matters:

New Applications:

24 Station Road – external insulation and rendering of entire property.

46 Convent Drive – cut back oak tree to give 4m clearance to property.

Permission approved:

15 Arnold Road – single and two storey rear extension.

Withdrawn:

The White Swan, High Street – erection of six detached dwellings with associated access and landscaping.

Declined to Make:

12 Station Road – crown reduction and reshape of holly tree by 3m.

Minutes of Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) meetings and consider any recommendations

Minutes of the NPAC meetings held on the 6th and 20th January were noted. A report by Cllr Beale was noted and included the following:

Informal Open Event update.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) update.

Draft Plan update.

Thanks were noted for Cllr Beale and the NPAC members for all their hard work.

Update on Sport in Stoke Golding (SISG)

The SISG committee will meet shortly.

Memorial safety – gravestone repairs

Memorial safety work at Hinckley Road Cemetery was still in progress.

The PCC has approved the proposed faculty application for removal of railings at the churchyard.

The Clerk will put a notice on a grave at Hinckley Road Cemetery to try and contact the family regarding a wooden kerb.

Work to the recreation field pathways

Cllr Pegg will meet a contractor shortly to discuss requirements.

Hinckley Road Cemetery boundary matter

Further correspondence from the resident's representative was noted.

Further legal advice was also noted.

A letter has been sent to the resident to confirm the Parish Council's position on this matter.

Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)

The Clerk to seek further information regarding the use of solar panels.

Christmas tree electricity and purchase of lights

Christmas tree electricity was agreed at a cost of £5.00 and new lights were agreed at a cost of £22.50.

To consider a request to book the rec for a Rural Adventure Fun Day and StokeFest 2020

The booking for the Rural Adventure Fun Day on 1st March was agreed. The booking for StokeFest on 25th July was agreed.

Next meeting: Methodist Hall, Wednesday 4th March at 7.00pm



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Answers to 10 of a Kind

1. Lewis Carroll
2. Myxomatosis
3. Aardman – it is the first full length film starring Wallace and Gromit
4. The mountain hare. The Romans are thought to have introduced the other two.
5. Art Garfunkel
6. When it is the name of a Chinese New Year
7. Who Killed Roger Rabbit
8. A warren
9. Talk
10. Aesop

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