

# The Stoker

**Stoke Golding Village Magazine**



*Including*

**Dadlington Matters**



### **Note from the Editors**

*The recent road closures due to bridge repairs and water pipe replacement in Stoke Golding are providing the opportunity for residents to experience life without through traffic. It is lovely to cycle and walk in peace and quiet (see page 21) but obviously this has caused more traffic going*



*through other villages including Dadlington and a bit of a problem for the bus service, so it has not been popular with everyone. We have heard a suggestion that the way to stop Stoke Golding and Dadlington being used as a 'cut through' might be to have a toll charge for non residents to go through the villages! (We're not sure how this could be implemented though - any suggestions?)*

*Congratulations to Izzie for her continuing success on the rugby field. Last month we heard about local football team and bowling team successes - what amazing talent we have in our two villages.*

*Speaking of talent - did you go along to the Dadlington Flower Festival? We were blown away by the flower arrangements and hope you enjoy the colour photographs from the festival in the centre pages.*

*Don't forget next month is the July/August combined issue - we are looking forward to receiving all your news and views.*

**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.*

Please send articles for the **July/August** issue of The Stoker **by 15th June** to:  
**The Editors, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding.**  
**Email [thestoker@gmx.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:ella42@sky.com)***

*Publication of any articles or letters submitted does not imply approval of, or agreement with, any views and comments contained, and are published without prejudice.*

*Cover picture: Japanese Blossom Trail by Alyson Banks-Davies from Dadlington's Flower Festival.*

## Isabel

Isabel Mackinder, better known as Izzie, was for the third year in a row picked to represent Leicestershire County at rugby. However this year, following great results in her GCSEs and her rugby, she has moved away from Dadlington to study both for 3 A Levels and elite rugby, at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire.

Her rugby does not only include 15-a-side, but the far quicker 7's. This season not only has she played for Leicestershire County but in March, while at Hartpury she and her team won the prestigious HSBC Rosslyn Park 7's, beating Loughborough College 31 – 5 in the final. To top that, in April she spent 10 days in Japan representing England Colleges, with Hartpury College, in an international tournament against girls from Japan, New Zealand, Russia, and Canada.



### **New Borough Councillor for Ambien Ward**

Jonathan Collett is our new Borough Councillor following the recent elections. He has asked us to publish his contact details for any correspondence relating to Ambien Ward.

Email: [Jonathan.Collett@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk](mailto:Jonathan.Collett@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk)

### **Stoker Apology**

Stoke Golding Baptist Church services usually start at **6pm**, not 6.30pm as stated in the Stoker in last month's magazine. We hope this has not caused anyone any inconvenience.

## **Ten of a Kind – June 19** *(answers on page 25)*

*In June 1919, one hundred years ago this month, the home secretary wrote to the mayor of Leicester confirming that the town would become a city. So here are ten questions relating to Leicester.*

1. Leicester's professional football club changed its name to Leicester City in 1919. What had they been called up until this point?
2. In which year was Richard III originally buried in Leicester?
3. How many universities are located in Leicester?
4. Why was Radio Leicester's opening in 1967 a memorable event?
5. What is the name of Leicester's mayor?
6. The river Soar runs through Leicester. Which river does it flow into?
7. What name was given to the greatly deformed Joseph Merrick who was born in Leicester and became the subject of a 1980 film starring John Hurt?
8. In which month does the Leicester Comedy Festival take place?
9. Robert Dudley, the first Earl of Leicester, was the suitor to which famously unmarried English queen?
10. Thomas Cook, the world's first travel agent, organised his first ever holiday trip in 1841, a day trip from Leicester station to a temperance meeting in which nearby town?

### **Village Security Guard**

It was suggested in a previous edition of the Stoker that members of the community could club together to provide a village security guard service. One of our readers has contacted us to say she would be interested, but is concerned about what happens if not everyone contributes as it would mean they would benefit from the service without paying for it.

We would be interested to hear your views about this idea.

### **The White Swan Benches**

Following last month's article a lovely lady phoned to say she was born in and grew up in Stoke Golding. She frequented the White Swan and clearly remembers sitting on their "hard and uncomfortable wooden benches". Her memories are from late 1938 and early 1939.

Alas, I couldn't persuade her to let me use her name!

Steve

## Scout Group News

The beavers did an Easter egg hunt in the hall; the cubs had been busy making containers for real eggs to do an egg drop from a tall ladder and see which ones survived, and the scouts had to design a way to save a fresh egg dropped from a great height!



The beavers have been racing ahead with their cyclist's badge including learning the safety aspects and the importance of wearing a helmet. They learnt various skills on their bikes, making good use of the Rec.

The cubs have been finishing off their team challenge badge. Soon they will be embarking on their cyclists and athletics badge. Hopefully the spring showers will have ceased by then.



The Scouts have been learning vital life skills to earn their skills badge, including changing a plug and light bulb and cleaning toilets. As many a parent of university age young adults would agree these are vital skills to learn. So, with more outdoor themed activities planned the group continue into the summer term.



Jennifer

It was a few days ago when John and I met up, and he was punctual to the minute we'd agreed. Nothing could persuade him to join me with a cup of tea or coffee. Off came his hat and coat, placed carefully on the sofa beside him, ready to get down to business. He also slipped an attractive copy of his slim booklet; "Memories of Rural Life" into my hands. John has been part of the farming community his whole life. Quoting from John Terry's well informed foreword; *"He has lived and breathed farming all his life, in fact, dedicating his life to the farm. He has no time for holidays or hobbies, but thankfully he has written these stories down before they would be lost forever."* Charles Frisby, another well-known resident of our farming community is also thanked; *"For all his encouragement without which I would not have written this book."*

John's father's family came from farming stock in Huncote, before moving to Hinckley Fields farm, and later to what was then called 'Black House Farm and now Brook Farm. As a young man John's Dad went to stay with an uncle in Canada for six years, but on his return met up and married his Mother. She was a Hinckley girl and was working in hosiery. John's Dad was now expected to continue working on the family farm, living alongside *his* father and mother. Neither of John's parents shared a Christian faith, so John never remembers being sent to Sunday school, but he admits to being very happy at St Margaret's Church of England Primary school. There were no school buses in those days, so it meant walking there and back through all weathers, including through the snow of 1947, which even closed the roads down for traffic. He continued his education at what was then known as Hinckley Grammar, now John Cleveland Academy. He was quite obviously a smart young pupil, but at the age of thirteen his schoolwork was hampered by the onset of asthma. He was often away from school, but thankfully he seemed to grow out of it by the age of fifteen when he was sadly expected to leave school to join his father on the family farm. When I ask him if he was ever married, this is met with a burst of laughter, and; *"I'm too young to get married"*. They were dairy farmers with a pedigree herd of 'British Whites', and a final acreage of over a hundred acres.

Since John's parents died, both in their eighties, John has worked the farm on his own. He is now in his eighties, and I ask him to look back and reminisce about any hobbies or holidays he's had. This is met with the same laughter as the mention of marriage. I ask him if he ever feels that his dedication to the farm has caused him to sacrifice the time he might have been able to spend on himself. *"John is it really true that you've never been on holiday?"* He considers for a moment, and then; *"My annual holiday was a day out at Market Bosworth show. I thought it was marvellous to see the various breeds of cows and pigs."* and; *"I'll always remember going with my Dad to a big cattle market in Scotland. It seemed an enormous event, and very exciting."* He follows this by another memory. *"Yes, I did get to London for a day, but I*

*was stuck inside Olympia along with our cattle, so I never saw anything outside". He admits to a love of dancing as a young man. "I'd get to the Locarno in Coventry, and the Co-op in Nuneaton had a dance hall."* I ask him about his parents. *"Build me a picture John."* He admits that his father was a hard man, and when I ask about his Mum, he only says: *"She was little, and very pretty."* I also discover that John has enjoyed painting with watercolours. He surprises me by telling me about a copy he made of a painting by Renoir called 'La Grenouillere' – or the Frog Pool. I look it up on Google and am very impressed.

One of his childhood memories was cycling with David Edwards to Sibson, to the stream under the bridge, catching "Bull Heads" darting from stone to stone in the clear water. The memory has been revisited, and on the back cover of his book John quotes; *"To my surprise they are still there darting from stone to stone as they were almost a lifetime ago"*. Apart from the wealth of John's lifetime stories, this book, a perfect gift, is doubly enhanced by Richard Machin's highly professional cartoons.

*John's book can be bought at Tomlinson's farm shop. and Anne Morris from the farm has the remainder of them, which she sells at market. The price is now £5.99., and Anne can also be contacted on 212381. Yours Beth*



Our Neighbourhood Plan Committee is working on writing a plan that will give us a chance to influence and shape development and growth of our local area.

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

Everyone is welcome to come along.

Next few meeting dates: 13<sup>th</sup> May, 10<sup>th</sup> June, 24<sup>th</sup> June, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 22<sup>nd</sup> July .

**\*\*Please note there is no meeting Bank holiday 27<sup>th</sup> May \*\***

## A muse on Trees

I was startled to see my oak come into leaf in early April, usually it's one of the last trees to burst into life and quickly turned to the ash which remained in tight bud. With the old country saying 'oak before the ash and we are in for a splash, ash before the oak and we are in for a soak' in mind I was curious to know why. The explanation rests with the particularly mild February, and spring generally, which favoured the temperature responding oak. Ash is light sensitive and whilst the ash saplings in the hedgerows are now in leaf, the mature trees did not come into leaf until 8th May.

I was recently invited on an organised woodland walk. Questions inevitably turned to ash die back and confirmation that managing the disease has now been abandoned and efforts are now turning to questions on whether the dead trees should be left where possible as wildlife habitat or if the trees should be felled and disposed of as timber. I have two small shelves made from the English elm that was lost outside my home in the 70's and as a gardener the tools I value the most for balance and endurance have ash handles. Delving a little further, the ash, which I think has a very pleasing grain, seems to be denigrated as an oak imitator in furniture or as firewood. I wonder how long it will be before an entrepreneur creates the next must have ash furniture?

I asked what trees were likely to replace the ash and walked into a minefield. It would seem that trees are placed into three classifications - native, naturalised and exotic. The ash is a native - it was established on our island before we separated from the continent of Europe after the last ice age. There are thirty varieties (Woodland Trust) - alder, alder buckthorn, ash, aspen, beech, birch (downy and silver), blackthorn, box, buckthorn, cherry (wild and bird), crab apple, dogwood, elder, wych elm, guilder rose, hawthorn (common and Midland), hazel, holly, hornbeam, juniper, lime (common, large and small leaf), field maple, oak (English and sessile), Plymouth pear, Scots pine, rowan, service tree, spindle, whitebeam, willow (bay, crack, goat grey, osier, white) and yew. From this list there are of course some trees which have been developed as cultivars for our parks and gardens.

However, there are a few startling omissions from this list - chestnuts were introduced by the Romans over 1,000 years ago and are considered naturalised and sycamore, thought to have been introduced in the fifteenth or sixteenth century could be either naturalised or exotic, a classification applied to trees brought in by plant finders (predominantly eighteenth and nineteenth century). A conversation I had last night included information on the gardeners of James 1 paying ships captains to bring back plant materials for the Royal gardens.

The tree that was being favoured by the leaders of the woodland walk was the sycamore which is not a native but grows very fast, reproduces from helicopter seeds very successfully (huh says the gardener), is useful habitat

for squirrels, birds and wide ranging insects and bees. This does rather suggest the need for a fourth category of environmentally useful trees when nature has struck a blow and destroyed a third of our trees in one fungal swoop.



For the editors who said they liked poetry.

### **An Epilogue**

I have seen flowers come in stony places  
And kind things done by men with ugly faces,  
And the gold cup won by the worst horse in the races,  
So I trust, too *John Masefield*

*Karen Jones*

ps The native English elm is back, not in large numbers but a strain resistant to the fungus spread by elm bark beetles.

### **St Margaret's Church Flower Festival - a Plea for Help**

Can you help? We need new volunteers to help man the stalls in St Margaret's School hall over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

Our annual Flower Festival will take place this year, but we do need more helpers. We need people to man the stalls for a couple of hours on **Saturday 24th August** between 10.00am and 5.00pm, **Sunday 25th** between 12.00 noon and 5.00pm, and on **Monday 26th August** between 10.00am and 5.00pm.

Can you spare some time to help on one of our many stalls? We have tombola, raffle, plants, toys, cakes, books and bric-a-brac stalls. We also need help in the kitchen. Or maybe you could help in church on Friday 23rd August?

This is St Margaret's major fundraiser for the year, and this year we need to raise as much money as possible in order to do the major maintenance work on the floor that is required to keep our church open for services, and safe for all those who use and visit it.

If you can help please contact Margaret Croxall Tel: 01455 212387 after 6.00pm  
or email [jenny@thehirons.com](mailto:jenny@thehirons.com)

Thank you

*Jenny Hirons*

## The Honorable Member: Part 1 of 2

In 2017, thirty years after his first election, David Tredinnick was duly re-elected as Member of Parliament for the constituency of Bosworth, in which lie our villages of Stoke Golding and Dadlington. But what of his predecessors and how did our representative parliament come about?

The origins of parliament date back to Anglo-Saxon times. Although the King was all-powerful, he relied on the advice of his noblemen and religious leaders and held meetings with them called witan. In 836, King Wiglaf of Mercia assembled just such a witan on Croft Hill. The witan evolved into King's councils under the Norman kings. In addition, moot courts were held in each shire where four men from each village met and made decisions about local matters. For centuries, these two groups were quite distinct but in 1265, after the Earl of Leicester, Simon de Montfort, had taken control of the country, he called a parliament that included both the councillors and representatives from each shire and city. The earliest names recorded as knights for Leicestershire are William Hamelyn and Robert Burdet who attended a parliament in 1290. Their sole purpose was to approve taxation that the king needed, often in order to wage war. The two groups initially met together but after 1341 the representative commons began sitting in a different place, their first home being the chapter house of Westminster Abbey. In 1547, Edward VI gave the commons the use of St Stephens Chapel in the Palace of Westminster, an arrangement that has resulted in the current seating of MPs, sitting facing each other as they would have done in the choir stalls of the chapel.

When James Bellers and Richard Hotoft took their seats in the 1414 parliament, the role of the commons had evolved from a body that merely approved the king's tax proposals, to one that petitioned the lords and the king to make laws that addressed their concerns. It was agreed from then on that no law could be enacted unless agreed on by king, lords and commons. In 1429, new rules were introduced that meant only the wealthy landowners could elect the shire knights, all of whom appear men of considerable wealth. Among the knights representing Leicestershire were the Marquis of Granby, eldest son of the Duke of Belvoir, Sir Wolstan Dixie, founder of the Dixie Grammar School in Market Bosworth, the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Stamford and his son Lord Grey of Groby who served together, and the exquisitely named Sir Clobery Noel. With such a small electorate and the ability of many powerful magnates to pick their own men, the system became increasingly corrupt until, in 1832, the Great Reform Act totally revamped the whole system. Leicestershire was divided into two constituencies and our area fell into Southern Leicestershire. By now, MPs belonged to parties and in the 1832 election Edward Dawson, a liberal and Sir Henry Halford, a tory, were elected.

*Michael Dix*

## Fool on the Hill

## Time means money.....

For those of you who are not in the know, 80 Tetley's Decaffeinated Tea bags will usually set you back £2.40 in Tesco's. When they are not selling enough of these, the price drops to £2.00 which is when, and only when I, and here I believe I am not alone, will purchase them with a wholly disproportionate sense of smug self-satisfaction. I will now gloss over the bit where just two days after a Teabag less shopping trip, Mrs Fool's afternoon ladies tea extravaganza was placed in jeopardy by the absence of said product. This resulted in a severe tongue lashing from the dearly beloved and yours truly, tail firmly between legs, setting off on a mercy dash to Morrison's where stocks were replenished at the now, non-negotiable, price of £2.50. The litre of two star consumed by the family jalopy in pursuit of the re supply mission, served only to rub salt into the wound. Everyone, of course, loves a bargain but sometimes a little extra expense can save you a lot of heartache and stress. Ponder for a moment all those pence that you saved along the way and ask yourself a question. What did I do with the money?

This, curiously, brings me to the business of travel and, in particular HS2. Whilst idly channel hopping the other day, I happened across a travel fact from 1965. To fly to Australia at that time involved 4 flights and presumably a number of hotels along the way. You would have thought then that reducing the number of flights by half would have been sufficient to please most people. But no, we have pushed to the point where this journey is possible with just one flight. I have spoken to a few people who have made this journey and, universally, they conclude that they would rather have toothache and listen to a five hour lecture on the mating habits of a Patagonian Dung Beetle delivered in Welsh, than repeat the experience. The saving in time is immense but the damage caused by the resulting stress can only be imagined. So, to follow up on the teabag hypothesis, what are you going to do with the extra 20 minutes that you save on a high speed train as opposed to the current offering? For folk in the commercial world this will mean fitting in another meeting or focus group which will be stressful, as opposed to sitting on a train listening to Wagner or the Spice Girls on your i-Phone, which will not. Well, maybe a little bit with the Spice Girls. For the desperate housewives from Urmston on a day trip to the capital to see Mama Mia for the 500<sup>th</sup> time, it will allow time for those two extra Pina Colodas in Chez Maurice's which tips the day from a tipsy giggle into the abyss of a sick hangover on the 8.15 back home.

Tell me that is worth the extra fifteen trillion pounds.

## F.O.T.H



# Dadlington Matters

## The Holiday of A Lifetime

So where would your dream destination be? And what would you hope to find there? Beautiful gardens may well be on your list and holiday destinations was the theme that St James' Church took for its annual flower festival this year.

The festival has been running for decades and it never fails to impress and delight. This year was no exception. The stunning displays that adorned the church represented various holiday locations and activities, from salmon fishing in Scotland to snowshoeing in the Dolomites. A glorious array of Japanese blossom, seemingly suspended in mid-air welcomed the many visitors as they entered the church. Inside, the many displays had been arranged by a number of Dadlington and Stoke villagers and friends, all under the watchful eye of festival organiser, Caroline Fielden. There was considerable variation between the various locations symbolized around the church with nice little touches like a miniature pair of wellington boots alongside the main stage at Glastonbury, the famous Singapore Merlion and even a pair of palm trees in the tropical beach display.

Next door, the village hall was an attraction in its own right with a number of stalls to visit and the opportunity to sit and enjoy a cup of tea, a selection of soups and a range of cakes and other enticing delicacies. A huge amount of work had gone into getting everything ready for visitors, with many villagers giving generously, not only their time and effort but in donating prizes, plants, home made produce and books. The festival is the major fund-raiser for the church and the record breaking £3,394 will help to pay for the costly upkeep of this ancient building.

*Michael Dix*

*Photographs from the festival are on page 16*

## Police Crime Information

There has been an increase in cars been taken from driveways in the area. The police advise that most of these incidents involve unlocked cars and residents should take extra care to ensure their vehicles have been secured. To prevent keyless entry vehicles been targeted, Faraday pouches are available at Hinckley Police Station for a small cost of £2.00.

## **Kitchen Corner**

### **CHOCOLATE FUDGE BROWNIES**

*This is a wonderful 'yummy' dessert and versatile too. You can serve it with Ice Cream, fresh cream, summer fruit or a fruit coulis.  
You do not need a food mixer and there is very little washing up.*

#### INGREDIENTS

*14ozs. (375gms.) dark chocolate  
7ozs. (200gms.) butter  
2 cups caster sugar  
3 eggs  
1tsp. Vanilla extract  
1 cup of sifted plain flour  
1 cup chopped nuts (optional)*

#### METHOD

*Pre-heat the oven to 180C (160C fan) or gas mark 4. You will need a well greased and lined baking tin 8"x12" (20cm x 30cm).  
Break the chocolate into small pieces, melt together with the butter in a medium saucepan over*

*a low heat and stir until smooth and well blended. Break the eggs in a small bowl and whisk lightly, add to the chocolate mixture with the sugar and vanilla extract, stir until mixed then add the flour and nuts and fold carefully. Pour into the prepared tin and bake in the oven for 30 minutes. Undercook rather than overcook, the brownie should be fudgy and sticky, not dry and cake-like.*

*Let the brownies cool in the tin and when cold cut into squares. Store in an air-tight tin. This recipe also freezes very well.*

*Hope you enjoy this, Avis.*

### **A Thank You to the Stoker Advertisers**

I have managed the advertising for The Stoker for the last 5 years, and I feel it is about time the businesses who support the magazine through their advertising got a mention. The magazine has been running for 18 years and many of our advertisers have been with us for years! We are so grateful to them for their continued support as their financial contribution certainly helps with the running costs. MANY THANKS for staying with us.

**Ella**

## What's On

# Ambion Voices Summer Concert

Wednesday 10th July at 7:30  
The Tithe Barn, Bosworth Battlefield

Featuring the first performance of

## Battle

The story of the battle as seen by villagers  
from Stoke Golding & Dadlington

Tickets: £2.50 from Bosworth Battlefield  
on 01455 290429

### StokeArts at the Village Hall \*\*Dates for your diary, 2019



**Saturday 22 June:** Richard Durrant,  
**Saturday 21 September:** Claude Bourbon  
**Saturday 30 November:** Flossie Malavialle in Concert.

All concerts start at 8pm (doors open 7.30pm).  
Bring your own drinks and nibbles.  
Tickets for all concerts: £10 (£8 child).

<https://stokearts.yapsody.com>  
tel: 01455 213798  
email: [stokearts@gmail.com](mailto:stokearts@gmail.com)

### Coffee and Chat (Monthly) at Dadlington Village Hall



**Thursday 6th June**  
**10.15 am - 12.15pm**

**All Welcome**

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

# What's On

## St Margaret's Primary School PTA



### Annual Summer Fair Fundraiser

**Friday 28th June 2019  
5.30-7.30pm**

- ◆ Licensed bar including a new Pimms bar!
- ◆ Ice cream and sweet treats.
- ◆ BBQ with Tomlinson's meat.
- ◆ Games and stalls for all the family.
- ◆ Music and entertainment.
- ◆ Raffle with a 'Be A Captain For A Day' star prize, courtesy of Ashby Boats!

**Come along and support the  
village school.**

**Free entry, all welcome!**

## Methodist Church

### Coffee Morning

Saturday 15th June

10.00 - 11.30



For Methodist Homes for the Aged

## 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.

## StokeArts @ the Village Hall - The Sounds of Simon

A review of an entertaining evening!

The evening of 27<sup>th</sup> April was completely sold-out at Stoke Golding Village Hall and we were treated to an amazingly reminiscent show featuring the songs and life stories of Simon and Garfunkel. The tribute band played Paul and Art to perfection, including snippets of their famously fractious relationship, as well as replicating the beautiful harmonies flawlessly. With video clips, stories, and memories from the last 50+ years, this was a wonderful show filled with excellent



music, nostalgia, and a genuine love for these great musicians. The feeling in the hall was truly awesome!

**Don't miss our next show featuring Richard Durrant on 22 June**

# Dadlington Church Flower Festival Photographs



*Spain - Doreen Rose*



*Organisers Corinne and Caroline*



*Japan - Lynn Wherrett*



*Libby and Imogen enjoying A Tropical Beach - Alyson Banks-Davies*



*Glastonbury - Rachel Rees-Jones*



*Flower preparation*



*lunchtime chat and 'posh nosh' at the village hall*



*Easter Island - Corinne Wilson*



## **Village Troughs Need Your Help**



The village troughs have just been planted for the summer. This is done by volunteers with the cost covered by the parish council. Now comes the maintenance problem, particularly in dry weather. A number of lovely people already adopt the ones near to their homes but any extra help is always welcome - they dry out so quickly! If you're within watering distance of one could you help please?  Particularly in need of friends are those on Roseway, bottom of Station Road, in front of the

new beauty salon and one opposite the village sign on Wykin Lane.

*Leila*



## Welcome to Race Rapid Stoke Golding Runners!!

We are a social, fun running group with an all inclusive ethos with an aim to promote running for fun in the Stoke Golding and surrounding areas. We welcome all abilities so whether you are a beginner or an experienced runner we will always give you a warm welcome and tons of encouragement. Membership is open to runners aged 16 and over and there is absolutely no maximum age limit!! If you want to run...join us!

Stoke Golding Runners is the social participation arm of Race Rapid - a multi-sport super club, coaching in triathlon, duathlon, running, cycling & swimming based at the fantastic Mallory Park.

Stoke Golding Runners was born out of a desire to give everyone and anyone regardless of their ability the opportunity to give running a go in a safe, fun, friendly and supportive environment. Our village community and bringing people together is at the heart of what we do, it's just an added bonus that we get fitter and healthier at the same time!!

**We offer 2 sessions per week with qualified run leaders meeting outside the Village Hall on: Tuesday evenings at 7.15pm Saturday Mornings at 8am (9 am during Winter months).**

Our sessions include social 2-6 mile runs on various routes in our beautiful countryside, speed and strength sessions to develop endurance & technique and specific structured training plans for different distances.

There is no pressure for times/pace/expertise – we encourage everyone to go at their own pace and just do what you are comfortable with in a safe and friendly environment. EVERYONE really is welcome!

**We offer a free 9 week Couch to 5K programme twice a year – the next one will begin in September 2019.**

We have the added benefit of having access to all that Race Rapid has to offer at a reduced cost for members!

The club offers opportunities to take part in regular organised events e.g. Parkrun, 10k races, half marathons and marathons although there is no prerequisite to sign up for anything if you don't wish to!

You don't need to become a member straight away - we offer your first session for free and thereafter it is either £2 per session pay as you go or you can sign up as a full member (£46 p/year).

If you decide it's not for you that's fine. Turn up and say hello, you will be very welcome and you never know what fun you might have!!!

**If you would like more information please contact Ali Waterer on 07738 072207 or message us via our facebook page [www.facebook.com/RRSGR](http://www.facebook.com/RRSGR)**

We look forward to seeing you soon!  
Ali, Gina & Anthony (Run Leaders)



## CASAG



This month's health promotion theme is **Macular Degeneration** as it is Hearing and Sight Month. As you can see there is a lot of information and support available. Contact telephone number is 0300 3030 111 or [www.macularsociety.org](http://www.macularsociety.org)

There are leaflets available which provide advice at all stages of the disease.

We had a CASAG meeting in May where we heard about Dr Park the new register.

Dr Dockrell is leading an NHS England initiative to bring practices together where they share resources and work collaboratively to provide appropriate services. This is called the Primary Care Networks.

**The next CASAG meeting is in Wednesday 3rd July at 6.15pm at Castle Mead Surgery.**

*Jennifer Michie*

## More Fowl Play

This article is based on a report published in the Leicester Mercury of 6<sup>th</sup> January 1838

Adapted from the **Denis Cash Archive** by Bob Quinney

Last month I recounted the story of five young Stoke Golding people found guilty of acting in a riotous manner and seriously injuring Mr Lee, in whose field they were gleaning without permission. Gleaning, you might recall, was the collection of the remnants of corn left on the field after the harvest and used as litter and food for the gleaners' fowl.

Further scrutiny of Denis's splendid archive revealed that offences involving fowl were quite common in and around Stoke Golding in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, which suggests that Mr Greenway was right when, summing up last month's case, he was quoted as saying that because *"the character of the lower orders of Stoke Golding was so radically bad it was absolutely necessary to proceed to conviction....."* It seems the judge in this month's case had taken notice.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1837 Thomas Bradbury of Sutton Cheney found two young men, James Ward, 23 years old and Joseph Ward, 25, trespassing on his master's field. Bradbury and his master, William Smith, *"collared"* the Wards and when searched James was found to be carrying *"a gun-stock and barrel"* and Joseph *"three live fowls."* The Wards were charged with stealing the three fowls. The trial took place at the County Quarter Sessions in January 1838 and the jury found both James and Joseph guilty.

Mr Burnaby, counsel for the Wards, and obviously clutching at straws, made a desperate last minute plea to overturn the verdict by claiming that the indictment failed to state that the fowls were *"tame"* ones, arguing that this was a fatal objection to the prosecution's case. This led to *"a good deal of sparring and jarring between the learned gentlemen, about tame fowls and wild fowls."*

The Clerk of the Peace, Mr Freer, claimed that *"all indictments for fowl stealing were drawn in such a manner, both at sessions and assizes."* Mr Collison, the Clerk of Arraigns, supported Mr Freer, while Mr Hildyard, counsel for the prosecution, *"submitted that Mr Burnaby was wrong, remarking that it was not necessary to describe domestic fowls or their progeny as tame, and laughably observing that no one thought of saying 'a tame egg'."* The *"sparring and jarring"* then descended into a bawdiness not altogether unusual for a 19<sup>th</sup> century Court of Sessions (but regrettably unsuitable reading for refined Stokers) and the exasperated Chairman finally put an end to the shenanigans of learned counsel by overruling the objection.

It must have been an amusing case for spectators in the gallery but not, unfortunately, for the Wards who I presume were brothers. Both had a prior conviction but whether this was for fowl theft is not stated, and *"the*

*Chairman, remarking that the frequency of fowl stealing in the neighbourhood amply justified him passing a severe sentence, not so much with a view to their correction as to warn others from following their example” sentenced each to ten years transportation.*

## Higham Lane Bridge Repairs

Work to repair the bridge on the way to Higham from Stoke Golding is nearly complete at the time of going to press, after a car crashed into the side of the bridge several months ago.

The country lane leading to the bridge is being enjoyed by walkers, cyclists and horse riders while the road is closed.



# Redmoor Academy Update

## Message from the Principal

A major aspect of school life is to help develop our students into responsible members of our community, with a deepened knowledge and understanding of the world around them and some of the issues being faced. At Redmoor, we do take our wider responsibilities very seriously - one of our 3 core values is to help our students to become “good people” - and we are active in our support of the local community and in our efforts to help our students develop a wider perspective. As always, we are incredibly proud of them and feedback from all outside groups who come into school never fails to recognise how impressive they are.

## Raising funds for the Foodbank

Before the Easter holidays Redmoor Academy hosted a collection event for Hinckley Foodbank which was organised by two of our year 8 students, Josh and Thomas. We were very proud of the generous donations throughout the school that helped us to collect 347.9 kg of food, with an approximate value of £608.82!



## Year 10 mock interviews

This month, our students have benefited from experiencing interviews with members of local businesses to ready them for the world of work and future study. All students were asked questions, based on their current CVs, given written feedback on their performance and guidance for the future. Our students were excellent and the feedback was how mature, confident and polite they were.

## Student President Elections

We would like to congratulate Luke and Leah on their recent appointments as Student President and Vice President of Redmoor Academy. As part of our emphasis on understanding citizenship, democracy and politics, whilst also ensuring our students contribute to the development of our school, we held elections after an impressive campaign process. Several students applied and were interviewed. This was followed by speeches to all students and staff and then a final vote. We look forward to working with Luke and Leah who no doubt will contribute to our school's success.



## #trashtag Geography competition

In a bid to improve our environment and take responsibility for the world around us, our KS3 students were set a challenge to litter pick in the local community and make a real difference to the area that they live in. They worked together to improve places such as streets, parks and gardens, working hard to change their environment and be a good role model to others. Prizes went to those who made the biggest change. First place went to our year 8 students, Molly and Micah, for an impressive transformation as a result of their hard work.

I hope you have found this update from Redmoor Academy useful and for further information, to arrange a visit during the school day or to discuss future opportunities to work together, please visit our website or us at 01455 230731 or at [office@redmooracademy.org](mailto:office@redmooracademy.org)

Matt Nicolle  
Principal

### **Stoke Golding Parish Council Vacancies**

- ◇ Are you concerned about your local area and the wellbeing of its residents?
- ◇ Do you want to take a civic role and represent your local area and local people?
- ◇ Do you want to contribute your skills and expertise for the benefit of the community?
- ◇ Are you passionate about facilities and services for your community?

At the local elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May five Councillors were elected to serve for a term of four years; there are still two vacancies for Parish Councillor in Stoke Golding.

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor and participating in the collective decision-making processes of the Council please come along to a meeting on the first Wednesday of each month to observe or contact the Parish Clerk for further information on: [clerk.stokegoldingpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.stokegoldingpc@gmail.com).

# Church Matters

## From St Margaret's Church



### Spiritual Teaming

I must admit to being a 'team man'. I was born into a team – I called them Mum and Dad! When I went to school I discovered teams of teachers, cleaners and dinner-ladies. And so it has gone on: at Fort Dunlop where I worked from the age of 16 years – I was one of a team. At university there were teams of lecturers and in the R.A.F. we were encouraged to think and work as a team.

In the Church it has been more tricky. When I was ordained the model of the parish priest was that of an individual 'leader'. And we had a view of bishops as one-off, above the fray, diocesan masters. (It is just possible that this concept has led to some of the Church's problems with child abuse coming to light today.)

In a totally different context we read in Genesis God saying, 'It is not good for man to be alone!' And of course no man or woman is alone because God is with us. But we constantly need reminding that this is true – and that we are surrounded by other team members.

Pentecost – the old Whitsun – falls in June. It is the festival of our not being alone but rather our being part of a team – the human race united. Every nation under the sun was represented in Jerusalem on that first Pentecost and they all heard the disciples speaking to them in their own languages.

Our Biblical narrative, in the Acts of the Apostles, speaks of the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples. And then through them the ears of the crowd were opened to the very 'oneness' of humanity.

They were filled with joy, just as though they had stumbled across family members they had not seen for years.

My understanding of this is that it was a revelation of what God had created from the beginning. The Holy Spirit opened ears and eyes to the way that things are because God the Father made them that way.

We do not decide to join the human race – we are members from the beginning. It was as a team that we were created and in teamwork in Church and world that we will be most blessed.

Alan Davis

# Church Matters

## Church of England April Services

### St. Margaret's Church

2nd	10.30am	All Age Service
9th	10.30am	Benefice Service Fenny Drayton
16th	10.30am	Holy Communion
23rd	10.30am	Morning Worship
30th	10.30am	Benefice Service Higham

### St. James's Church

2nd	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
9th	10.30am	Benefice Service
16th	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
23rd	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
30th	10.30am	Benefice Service Higham

### The Methodist Church June Services

2nd	10.30am	Mr Michael Holt
9th	10.30am	To be arranged
16th	10.30am	Mr John Cooke
23rd	10.30am	Mr Nigel Roberts
30th	10.30am	Revd Wes Hampton

### Zion Baptist Chapel June Services

2nd	6pm	Bill McIntyre
9th	6pm	John Needham
16th	6pm	Malcolm Welch
23rd	6pm	Steven Connor
30th	6pm	Bill McIntyre

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### Answers to 10 of a Kind

1. Leicester Fosse
2. 1485
3. 2 - University of Leicester and De Montfort University
4. It was the first local radio station in the country
5. Sir Peter Soulsby
6. The River Trent
7. The Elephant Man
8. February
9. Elizabeth I
10. Loughborough

# **Notes from Stoke Golding Parish Council, May Meeting (Draft)**

## ***Election of Chairman of the Council***

It was unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr Terheege as Chair. It was agreed to place an advert for Councillor vacancies in the Stoker.

## ***Election of Vice-Chairman of the Council***

It was unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr Beale as Vice-Chair.

## ***Establishment of committees for the ensuing year, appointment of members and review terms of reference***

It was unanimously agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee will include Cllrs Beale (Chair), Terheege and Fisher and non-councillor members will be re-appointed.

It was unanimously agreed that Sport in Stoke Golding will include Cllrs Pegg (Chair), Beale, Terheege and Fisher and will operate as a sub-committee of the Village Hall Management Committee.

## ***Appointment of Registered Financial Officer (RFO)***

It was unanimously agreed to appoint Theresa Case as RFO.

## ***Borough Cllr Jonathan Collett (newly elected) reported on the following:***

Aims to reflect residents concerns; main concern seems to be housing development. HBBC now under Liberal control.

St Margaret's Church re-development proposals and funding.

## ***Matters arising from previous decisions of the Parish Council***

Annual tree inspection is now complete and a report has been received.

## ***Planning Applications:***

### ***New Applications:***

16 Ivy Close – erection of detached annexe. The Parish Council considers this retrospective application to be over-development on an inappropriate site.

29 Wykin Lane – two storey side and single storey rear extensions.

39 Station Road – single storey side extension.

### ***Permission approved:***

37 Wykin Lane – proposed studio and playroom above approved garages.

35, Arnold Road – proposed single storey front and side extension.

Land off Hinckley Road – variation of condition 2 for external alteration to dwelling on plot 63.

Land east of Stoke Road – agricultural building for livestock with associated hardstanding.

2 Whitemoors Close – two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

Land off Hinckley Road – variation of condition 1 to substitute the house type on plot 83.

### ***Refusals:***

St Martins Convent – deed of variation to amend section 106 agreement relating to provide the provision of right to buy for 8,9,14,51 and 53 Convent Drive.

## ***402/14 Review of Parish Councillors' areas of responsibility***

●Chair: Cllr Rachel Terheege – member of Sport in Stoke Golding (SISG) Committee, member of Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC).

●Vice: Cllr Sarah Beale –Data Protection, compliance, member of Village Hall Management Committee and SISG, Chair of NPAC.

Cllr Chris Pegg – ground maintenance, cemeteries, recreation ground and Chair of SISG.

Cllr Fisher – play equipment, member of SISG, NPAC and Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee.

Cllr Smith – play equipment.

All councillors share responsibility for planning issues.

The Clerk to publish on the Stoke Golding Village Website.

### ***Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) meetings***

Minutes of the NPAC meetings held on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April were noted.

It was noted that a housing numbers' paper presented to HBBC was declined.

Expenditure for maps was agreed, at an annual subscription of £120.00.

Expenditure for additional room hire for workshops was agreed a cost of £10.50 per hour.

### ***Update on Sport in Stoke Golding (SISG)***

An update by Cllr Pegg on progress was noted and SISG will meet shortly to discuss the initial plans and costs.

### ***Update on works to St Margaret's Churchyard wall***

Four quotes were noted and it was agreed to proceed with Resurrection Stonework, at a cost of £3,786. The Clerk to update the PC. An application for permission from the Diocese under section B5 (3) - routine maintenance, repair or rebuilding of walls has been agreed. An application for EIP funding has been acknowledged and will be confirmed in June/July.

### ***Update on memorial safety – gravestone repairs***

Paperwork for the right side of Hinckley Road Cemetery has been collated and categorised according to risk and quotes have been sought for the required work.

Three memorials have been laid down for safety and notices put on the memorials to notify family members. Suggested work for four graves was discussed and agreed. It was agreed to proceed with a faculty application for all works and to proceed with EIP funding application for phase one - high risk repairs.

### ***Communications received by the Clerk:***

*Written:*

- A request to meet representatives of a residential proposal for Stoke Lane was noted and declined.

- Comments regarding land use in Sherwood Road and a PC reply were noted.

- Comments regarding dog concerns at the rec were noted - the Clerk to acknowledge.

- Comment from Cricket Club were noted.

A comment from a resident regarding Hinckley Road Cemetery boundary was noted - the Clerk to reply and seek further guidance from LRALC.

### ***Future agenda items:***

The following was resolved:

- To consider pump track.

- To consider the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

- To consider football pitch marking request.

- To consider the annual tree inspection report and work to trees.

**Next meeting - Methodist Hall, Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm**

## Staffroom Memories 19: Taiwan – Part 2

The first day of our British Council visit to Taiwan was a free day for us to explore the capital, Taipei, where we were staying. My nine headteacher colleagues and I were keen to visit what was then the tallest building in the world, Taipei 365, but there was a problem. Getting there meant using the city's metro system whose station names were, understandably, written in Chinese. Being something of an underground railway enthusiast, I had already studied the metro map in great detail and immediately took charge. When the others discovered that this would be the 20th underground railway I had travelled on, I became the resident expert and soon I was being quizzed on everything from rolling stock to station design, about which I knew nothing.

The purpose of the visit, to share ideas and expertise, was quite challenging as the culture in Taiwan was very different to ours back home. I believe that competition is a good thing provided it is part of a balanced approach to education. In Taiwan competition was everything. We were treated to displays by schools' swimming teams, their gymnastic teams, even a diabalo throwing team. The biggest competition was for the best test results and parents placed such high value on these that the majority of children spent every evening at their local cramming school, practising, practising and practising. The teachers were held in high esteem and trusted to do their job and there was little interference from the government. If only, we all thought.

On our last evening, the senior staff of the school where I'd spent most time took me out to dinner. The restaurant was amazing: lantern lit paths around amazing gardens where diners were eating under the stars. It was explained that it was traditional to have a drink when, and only when, a toast was made. Our meal began and, one by one, members of our group stood and made a toast. As we sat down, my wine glass would be topped up so that after about 15 toasts, I was starting to feel slightly tipsy. After 30 toasts I'd decided it would be prudent to start on the soft drinks and so I declined any more wine. This caused some consternation amongst my hosts. Disappointedly, they explained that they had read articles about the drunken behaviour of the British and they had wanted to observe the phenomenon first hand!

It is the custom on these trips for the visiting teachers to provide a 'British' gift for their host schools like, it was suggested, Scottish shortbread. I had racked my brains and ended up buying... Scottish shortbread. At Heathrow however, I had decided this wasn't enough and had bought an additional gift. So when it was agreed we would pool our presents to be distributed amongst all of the schools we had visited, out came the shortbread. And then I added my Heathrow purchase- a tea towel with a map of the London Underground on it. My status immediately transformed from underground expert to underground nerd.

*Michael Dix*



## Obituaries



### Joan Thurman

Joan, of Stoke Golding, passed peacefully away on 9th April, 2019 aged 97 years. Joan had lived in the village since the mid 1950's and had taken an active part in village activities. She had been a WI member for over 40 years and until recently had attended the Thai Chi group. Joan's funeral took place on 8th May at the Nuneaton Crematorium.

*We offer our sincere condolences to Joan's family and friends.*



### Stoke Golding WI

#### **BUSINESS AND FUN.**

Stoke Golding W.I began its May meeting with business as usual followed by a report on the Annual Council Meeting given by Lesley Gent. After this we had a discussion and vote on the resolutions which were this year 'The decline in local bus services and Raising awareness of the importance of cervical screening.' After points of view on both resolutions were put to the floor both were accepted and forwarded to our representative to take to the Annual General Meeting later in the year.

After delicious refreshments provided by the committee we were entertained by Stoke Golding's own version of 'Would I lie to you.' Here each member was asked to bare their souls by providing three facts that they had experienced but only two being true and the third would be a lie. These admissions were read out to the audience who proceeded to question the authors of these revelations and then to vote on which they thought was the lie. Many lies were found out but in some cases the person telling the lie managed to hoodwink the audience. The stories were varied and amusing and in some cases quite scary but all were interesting and showed what good storytellers we all were.

Our next meeting on 12th June at the Methodist Hall, is regarding Flower Arranging when I am sure we will all learn something, even those of us who tend to make a real hash of putting flowers in a vase. Anyone who would like to come along and join us would be very welcome

*Val Hartwell*



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