No. 166

### Stoke Golding Village Magazine

Including

### **Dadlington Matters**



#### Note from the Editors



Dear reader,

As we finalise this edition of The Stoker, sitting in our warm home, outside it is mizzling. The definition of mizzling is "misty and drizzly" .... not miserable and drizzly as



we first thought. That's good, as now that we're well into autumn we will no doubt have many more mizzling days and don't want to be feeling glum!

Community groups from our villages have been busy. Look at what the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers have been up to! Dadlington folk have been making impressive use of their much-improved Village Hall: some great initiatives, all fostering community spirit. It's lovely to see the What's On pages full again, providing plenty of opportunities to participate in village life.

Of course, if you just feel like some quiet 'me' time then why not put the kettle on, settle down to read The Stoker and maybe have a go at the crossword and ten of a kind quiz and relax....

Don't forget that next month is a double issue, so send anything in for December/January by 15th November.

#### 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 Dec/Jan issue of The Stoker by 15th November to: The Editors, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding/email janewhitesg@gmail.com

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. This includes advertisements which are not checked or verified by us.

Cover picture: Issie Mackinder showing her rugby skills (see page 3)

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#### **Isabel Represents Leicestershire**



Isabel (Izzie) Mackinder has been picked for the second year in a row to play County Rugby. This year at 15 years of age Izzie will be playing not only for her club team of Tamworth; but will also be playing for Leicestershire County.

She started at 6 years of age, playing mixed rugby with the boys at Market Bosworth. She then moved on to a short period at Leicester Forest until she moved to the all girl side, The Vixens, where, as an under 15 's player, Izzie was picked to play for the County as a winger.

For the last 12 months Izzie has been playing for Tamworth RFC and has moved to outside centre being top try scorer last season and scoring in both games this season.

Here is to a successful season at both club and county.

Richard Mackinder

### Stoke Golding Scout Group

#### **Busy Busy Busy!**

The Scouts have been to a county Splash camp which involved a lot of fun experiences from bell boating, sailing, kayaking, paddle boarding and an amazing zip wire. They have been lighting fires, making chariots, making tripods and tent maintenance.





The Cubs have been doing their scientists badge over 2 weeks with fun and MESSY experiments including one with cornflour and water. It took a lot of cleaning up !





The Beavers have been preparing carrots for carrot soup and a harvest festival. They have been finishing off their navigation badge and should know the points of a compass. They have also been making animal masks.

#### Scout Group continued from previous page

With Halloween on the horizon and the annual snowman preparations the Scout group will be busy again.

Jennifer





#### **Kitchen Corner**

#### COWBOY STEW

This is another 'cheats' recipe. The combination of tinned items makes for a great taste and a very easy dish to make. Serve with a baked potato which can bake at the same time as the stew.

> <u>INGREDIENTS</u> 1lb.(450gms) lean minced beef 1 tin Oxtail soup 1 large onion, peeled and chopped ½ lb. (250gms.) mushrooms, sliced 1 tin baked beans (medium size) 1 beef stock cube Chilli powder to taste Salt & Pepper

#### <u>METHOD</u>

Pre-heat the oven to 180C (160C fan) or gas mark 4.

Put a little oil into a large sauté or frying pan over a medium heat, when hot add the beef and turn up the heat and stir until the meat is browned all over. Turn the heat down a little and add the onions and the mushrooms and continue to fry until the onions are softened.

Sprinkle in the stock cube and chilli powder and stir well, now add the soup and baked beans and pour into a casserole. Cover the dish and place in the oven for 1 hour. Easy peasy!!

Thanks Avis for another yummy recipe - Eds

#### **BETH'S CORNER**

#### "The Bodyworks" Osteopathic Centre

An unexpected surprise! As I open the front door I see the silhouettes of *three* human figures. I'm only expecting two, but I discover I have the added pleasure of a whole family to chat with. This is a highly talented family who have lived in the village for the last 25 years, and I am excited to learn about the youngest member's contribution. I've known her Mum, who came to my aid in a painful emergency, a couple of years ago - with my big toe! Of course – I'm writing about our well-known local podiatrist, Gillian Poole. I knew I was also expecting daughter Alicia, to hear all about her new Osteopathic Centre, in Market Bosworth, sharing the same Clinic with her mother. My unexpected member of the family is Dad - Miron, who is the manager of the family business. I am disarmed by this lovely close family unit. My main remit, however, is to find out all about Alicia and her brand new Clinic, but now I need to make this a more inclusive article. Gillian and Alicia squeeze up together on the sofa, so that we can talk together as a threesome. Gillian has just driven from her clinic in Lutterworth, still wearing her clinical 'whites', but she also practises in Earl Shilton, as well as Market Bosworth.

Miron and Gillian met while they were both at University in Huddersfield, Yorkshire although she was originally born across the county border in Burnley – Lancashire. Qualifying in podiatry in Huddersfield in 1986, she first worked full-time for the NHS in Derby, and Leicestershire. They finally found the perfect home they were looking for - in Stoke Golding, where Alicia was born in 1994, and Gillian decided to work part-

time. Alicia went to school at St. Margaret's, St. Martin's and then John Cleveland, before leaving for Maidstone Kent, pursuing her Master's Degree in the European School of Osteopathy. The four year's degree includes; Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology (a lot of 'ologies) as well as practical 'hands on' technique. Graduating last July - and with a first, she's already working three days a week in Rugby as an Associate, and two days a week in Market Bosworth. A generous bursary from Mistress Hester Hodges enabled her to buy an expensive piece of equipment for the clinic, her own authentic skeleton. Presently she's busily promoting "Bodyworks" with some evecatching leaflets, of course, professionally



designed by Miron. I am so looking forward to Alicia's invitation for my first ever visit to an osteopath, to get rid of those aches and pains I take for granted. As they are about to leave, I'm suddenly told Miron needs to get to The Concordia – another talent - and another surprise. He's appearing with 'Stanley Opera' in Puccini tonight! Meantime ..... Good luck Alicia.

Beth.



Just look at the problem my neighbour had when she came home. She spends much time in bed as she regularly has operations. Note how she had to park at the back of the car which was in her

place. The owner-parent I suppose-rather than pop down to see her, somehow manoeuvred the car out, risking damaging mine as happened on one



occasion. Surely it's time the school put up a sign above our garages as they fail to listen. Cost me £80 last time in order to touch up paint. We've had enough! The black van is in her place obviously.

The day before a parent backed into a lamppost in the drive of the house opposite the garages. *David Abbott* 

#### **CSAG** news

September was organ donation month. Although an emotionally painful conversation depending on the timing, but have you asked your nearest and dearest their wishes on organ donation. Or become a " living donor" for bone marrow transplants to help those with blood cancers. To register your match it is a simple mouth swab. For further details look at the Anthony Nolan website:

https://www.anthonynolan.org/



An anonymous donation has enabled the surgery at Stoke Golding to purchase a high tech ECG machine which will benefit patients in the village for many years to come. The new ECG machine will aid diagnosis and email results directly to the GPs computer scree, if necessary to the hospitals and Consultant Cardiologists. Staff at the surgery are very thankful for the generous donation. *Jennifer* 

#### Fool on the Hill

#### Stand and deliver....

When the antecedents of the National Express first started plying their trade, many and varied were the hazards that faced the early traveller. From poorly constructed roads to skittish horses, sources of danger abounded on even the shortest of journeys. If this alone were not enough to deter customers then there was always the prospect of being parted from your material wealth by the likes of Dick Turpin and his many imitators. Even though the flintlock pistols of the day were as likely to blow the hand off the firer as to wound the intended target, there would have been few who, when offered the choice between your money or your life, would have gone for the second option. I imagine that the experience of being robbed in such a manner would have been deeply traumatising, but at the very least there was a clarity about the process that was, in a strange way, honest. All parties in the transaction were in no doubt about what was required and the intentions of the highway man were unambiguous in the extreme. Even the perpetrators were under no illusion that their activities, if detected, would almost certainly result in a very unpleasant interlude involving a tree, a length of knotted rope and a baying mob.

The ones who would seek to part us from our funds today are a much less obvious crew. I am regularly contacted by a very nice gentleman called Mr Mgbebee from Lagos, who is generously prepared to share his Nigerian Lottery winnings with me if I will allow him to use my bank account to process the funds. No harm in that surely? What could possibly go wrong if I reply to an e-mail from one of Kim Jong UN's army of underage hackers pretending to be Pay Pal? It might help their cause a little if they had given the i-Pad a miss and concentrated on their English grammar lessons. We inform that your account is limit. Really? More worrying are the sophisticated professional cyber thieves who can have the same sort of devastating effect on your bank balance as, say, your daughter's wedding. These ephemeral highwaymen can pilfer your finances in ways that elderly dullards (mea culpa) would find incomprehensible. The most insidious though, are suited sharks of the business and financial services world that keep coming up with badly thought out schemes for ruining us all. PPI, dodgy car loans, impossible mortgage arrangements and extended warranties on a toaster to name but a few. Don't get me started on fat tycoons with too many super yachts paid for by pillaging the pension funds of their downtrodden minions.

Sadly our only deterrent to these people is the threat of removing their Knighthoods. King George the third was widely acknowledged to be a few lighthouses short of a coastline, but even he would not have been daft enough to tap these bandits on the shoulder with the Wilkinson in the first place.



F.O.T.H.

#### Poems From Redmoor Academy

#### **My Friend Ben**

On a scale of one to ten How are you My dear Ben? Are you hiding in the house Really quiet Like a mouse Or are you running to the park Playing tag In the dark? Keep that smile on your face Show the others all your grace. The sky is blue The ocean too I am happy because of you.

By Caitlin O'Hara

#### Soldier's March

When soldiers march do they understand? A person killed, a community sad. They serve for peace but do they know, With each war fought, the grudges grow.

As they march through empty streets, Do they strive in the name of peace? They load their guns and while they shoot,

Can they taste love's sweet fruit?

I sometimes wonder if they can Feel the heart within a man, But this is the life that we have built: Too often the product is war and guilt.

By Ellie Charlesworth



#### Stoke Golding's Neighbourhood Plan is shaping up

The Neighbourhood Plan is moving forward steadily after the summer recess.

There are two new Advisory Committee members, Kate McCreight and Richard Stainton, bringing the number up to 7 members. The existing members welcome their input and advice.

The Parish Council has allowed the Advisory Committee to work on producing a comprehensive neighbourhood plan which, once finished, will be brought forward for consultation. This process has already started.

The areas to be worked on include: Employment, Leisure and Wellbeing, Environment, Heritage and Areas of Open Space for Protection, Community Infrastructure and Facilities, Transport and Traffic Management, Housing, including Housing Allocation, Affordable Housing and Windfall sites.

Each topic will be discussed amongst the Advisory Committee members and then turned into a <u>draft</u> Neighbourhood Plan for Stoke Golding. Patience is requested for, as you can imagine, it will take a significant amount of time for them to complete this comprehensive job.

Therefore it is likely that it will be a while before the next public neighbourhood plan meeting takes place. Look out for updates here in The Stoker, once there is a fully approved draft.

Ella Orr

#### A Cathedral Journey – Part 9: The Final Countdown

We had three cathedrals to visit to complete our full set, and, not unsurprisingly, they

lay at the extremities of the country. During a short break in Weston-Super-Mare, we decided to pop down to Truro, only a round trip of 300 miles! When work began on the cathedral there in 1880 it was the first new cathedral for over 600 years. With its three spires, it has similarities with Lincoln cathedral, which is not really a coincidence, seeing as Truro's first bishop and the cathedral's architect had both worked at Lincoln prior to moving to Cornwall.



Then it was a 400 mile round trip to Carlisle, ostensibly to do some Christmas shopping, but really to polish off the penultimate cathedral on our list. Founded as an



Augustinian priory, it became a cathedral in 1133 and is the second smallest in the country, after Oxford. Once we had marvelled at the distinctive ceiling, a tessellation of squares painted a vibrant royal blue, we explored the city and found a rambling old second-hand bookshop. Andrew became very excited when he discovered a book bearing the stamp of his old school in Leicester and even more excited when he found the classification written inside was in his own 16 year old hand. I was afraid my distinct lack of

enthusiasm at this point would upset my old friend, but no. Half an hour later, it was he who thoughtfully rang as I browsed in a forgotten little room on the third floor, to inform me that he was outside and unless I joined him forthwith, I'd be locked in for the night.

And so, having begun our cathedral collection back in 1994, 2005 dawned, with only Peel Cathedral on the Isle of Man to visit. Then 2006 dawned, because this final destination took a bit of planning. However, in the summer of that year, we flew to the island, and after exploring its wild rugged coastline, we found the cathedral. There

has been a cathedral on the island since the 12<sup>th</sup> century, home to the Bishop of Sodor and Man, Sodor being Norse for southern isles and not the mythical island where Thomas the Tank Engine resides. However, after the original building fell into disrepair, a 19<sup>th</sup> century church was re-designated cathedral – in 1980. I'm afraid it was nothing special to look at: that is unless you've just spent 12 years traipsing around every other cathedral in the country, in which case it was the magnificent end of a long journey: the final piece of the jigsaw. *Michael Dix* 



#### A Nautical Collection – part 1

It was the Great Storm of 1287 that did it. It hit the Kent coast with such ferocity that half of Hastings Castle collapsed into the sea as the cliffs gave way, whilst piles of sediment deposited further along the coast left many ports stranded inland. I have embarked on another of my historical collections (Eleanor Crosses, Edward I's Welsh castles) and find myself having a sandwich in Sandwich, the first of seven ports and ancient towns that are collectively known as the Cinque Ports: they are actually called the sink ports, French pronunciation having been corrupted over the centuries.

Sandwich was never by the sea, but the river Stour did provide safe passage to all manner of shipping until it silted up. Now only small craft are moored by the quayside. There is a museum in the Guildhall about the Cinque Ports but it's closed today – there's good planning for you. A short drive south takes me to Walmer, a suburb of Deal. Along this coast Henry VIII, fearing a French invasion, built two castles. Both are superbly symmetrical, Deal having two rings of six towers whilst Walmer has four, around a central circular keep. Walmer is the official residence of the Warden of the Cinque Ports whose previous incumbents include Churchill, the Queen Mother and W.H. Smith.

The Cinque Ports were an alliance of five ports and two 'Ancient towns" who supplied medieval monarchs with their fighting ships, in return for certain privileges such as being free from tolls and customs, being able to hold their own judicial courts and, best of all, to send representatives to hold the canopy over the king or queen at their coronation. My next port of call is Dover, which still retains its harbour – the only one of the Cinque Ports to do so. The original port was at the western end where I can see two huge cruise ships moored today. The vast Eastern Docks, where the cross channel ferries ply their trade is a more modern creation.

As I drive to the next 'port', Hythe, I am struck by how crucial this part of the country is to our national security. I pay a quick visit to the Battle of Britain Memorial and then, after crossing the Royal Military Canal in the middle of Hythe, I head to the seafront where I am aware of the sound of gunfire on the nearby MoD firing range.

The Royal Military Canal was built as a defence against the 13 thousand troops Napoleon had amassed across the Channel for the invasion of Britain. By the time it was eventually built, the troops had gone and it became quite an expensive white elephant for the government of the day.

An indication of the amount of debris deposited by the Great Storm can be seen in my 4<sup>th</sup> 'port', New Romney. To enter St Nicholas church, built before the storm, you need to descend a number of steps from the current ground level. The



church stood close to the old harbour. Now just the flat landscape of Romney Marsh stretches out from the landlocked town to the sea a mile away.

Michael Dix

#### **BACKSTAGE WHISPERS. LONDON 1968**



"Beth darling I know it's understudying, which you don't want. However it <u>is</u> John Osborne's new play, and you'd be understudying Jill Bennett, his new wife, and it's at The Royal Court, which is so easy for you on the tube from Notting Hill. Also darling I'm thinking of your present predicament, bringing three youngsters up on your own." This long persuasive phone message came from my new agent. It was going to be directed by Tony Page, one of The Royal Court's latest 'must have'

directors, and the cast was pretty eye-catching too. Of course, I had to say yes. It wasn't until the heavy play script landed through my Holland Park letter-box, that I realised what I'd taken on. Osborne's play was a conversation piece about all the imagined horrors of the sixties, as seen through the eyes of two sardonic professional women of a certain age. One being a 'resting' actress, with her journalist friend. They sigh against all the radical 'hippy' behaviour of the younger generation. How they all sit round in sad depressing groups smoking 'pot' - instead of drinking alcohol as their own generation have always done. Then there is a long discussion as to which Champagne shows the most elegance and style and taste of the drinker, deciding eventually that it is definitely Moet & Chandon, rather than Dom Perignon. I remember Osborne got slated by the critics for the snobbery of the content, particularly as he had originally made his name, slating that same middle class snobbery in his celebrated "Look Back in Anger". However, he had two highly talented actresses of style and, in Jill's case especially, wit and elegance. I was thrilled even to have been considered a possibility to understudy her. Excitedly I made my way to the first rehearsal, and went backstage for the first time at The Royal Court, in London's Sloane Square, meeting up with the cast, sitting around on stage, sipping coffee. We waited the arrival of Osborne, his two leading ladies, and our Director. I already knew some of the cast, playing the younger 'hippy' characters, and was greeted by "Hi Beth, how on earth are you even going to start

*learning both these enormous parts*"? This was the first time I learned that my new agent had been a little less than generous with the truth. Looking back, I should have made a fuss, but the fact that she was also the agent to Osborne and Jill and the Redgraves, one of whom was also in the cast, I was far too intimidated.

Once the play had opened I was ensconced with the three other understudies in our dressing room at the very top of the theatre. There were understudy rehearsals once a week, with me playing Jill one week and Kate the next. Before I fell asleep at night, I also alternated each part, running over the lines in bed. Jill often greeted me at the stage door, saying she thought she was losing her voice or coming down with flu. I was told; "*Don't believe her Beth, she'll never allow anyone else to take-over her part.*" With such a star-studded cast we naturally transferred to the West End and happily jogged along each night to packed audiences. One warm summer evening I was dreamily making my way down St Martin's Lane, when I suddenly saw the Company's Producer, peering down from the theatre as if she was waiting for

someone. She was. I knew immediately. Crisis ahead! "Beth, Kate's been taken to hospital with pleurisy - you're on." My first thought was: I've got the wrong shoes on. in my Scholl's sandals, most unlike Kate's character. My second thought was; - why hadn't someone rung me during the day? Understudies, like Doctors, are nearly always on call. Whatever the reason, there was no time now to do anything but get into Kate's glamorous Dressing Room No.2 and start getting ready for the performance. Somehow I managed to keep it all together, apart from a couple of moments of panic over some stage business. Once when I had to read out a 'notice' from a newspaper, which I had forgotten to bring onstage. I found a member of the crew behind the set reading one, and grabbed it from his hands, having called out to Jill; "hang on I've left it in the hall." And secondly I toasted Jill with only one champagne glass as in the heat of the moment I couldn't think whereabouts on the set the wretched glasses were. Nobody in the audience would ever have noticed either 'bit of business' but I was not allowed to forget it from madam herself. Everyone else, however, crowded into my dressing room with hugs and 'darling you were wonderful'. . I even had a bunch of flowers and a card from Osborne himself, with a little card saying; "Dear Beth, I here you were smashing. Love John." It's tattered and dog-eared but I treasure it - especially with the spelling mistake. I was called to rehearse the following day, when Tony the Director gave me some helpful notes he'd made from the previous night, and I was told that I would continue to stay in dressing room 2 for the foreseeable future, as they had no idea when Kate would be strong enough to come back. From that time on, Jill would send her dresser in to tell me to come and chat with her each night before the performance. I found it fascinating. She arrived with her chauffeur carrying an ice bucket, with champagne cooling for after the show. The time came, when she started declaring she didn't want 'that fat so & so back" I can't write what she actually said then, as it would be considered appalling today. "I want to continue doing it with Beth." This put me in a difficult position as I certainly didn't want poor Kate to think I was taking advantage of her illness. The time finally came when Kate was well enough to continue. I bought a plant for her dressing room with a Welcome Back card, and stayed to give her a hug before sadly climbing the stairs back up to join my chums up in the understudies' room. Suddenly a message blared out on the Tannoy. "Miss Bennett is not to be disturbed in her dressing room tonight before the show, but will Miss Ellis please come and visit her as usual." So I did - but quietly had a word with Kate too, who just took my hand and smiled: "Don't worry Beth - I've known her - and her insecurity only too well."

#### Post Office Raided for a Second Time

Stoke Golding Post Office was robbed for a second time in a few months on October 3rd. Two men, reportedly armed with a knife and a hand gun, threatened and punched our local Post Mistress, Liz Kingsley, and got away with cash. They then sped off towards Dadlington in a silver Audi, parked near the church. The Post Office remains closed until further notice and anyone with information from the crime should contact the local police on 101 quoting incident no. 162.

Our thoughts are with Liz as she continues to recover from this callous incident and we are sure we speak on behalf of the residents of Dadlington and Stoke Golding in wishing her well. Eds.

# **Dadlington Matters**

#### **Dadlington Village Hall Extension**

After a month of building work, Dadlington Village Hall opened again for business in September. A second quiz evening of the year was the event that marked the first full use of the additional space and it was much appreciated by the quiz contestants.

Unlike January's quiz, when everyone had to whisper their answers for fear of being overheard by other teams in close proximity, the extra space made for a far more comfortable environment. In addition to the extension, panels have been erected along one side of the hall to hide away the storage area that was previously on show in all its glory. There is still some decorating to do and we also want to install baby-changing facilities and a generous donation from the Stoke Golding Garden Show will help with that. The committee would, once again, like to thank everyone who has contributed in



some way to the improvements that have created a much improved facility for the village.

#### **Stop Press**

The village hall have just been awarded  $\pounds$ 4,302, from The Big Lottery Awards for All, for the installation of audio-visual equipment in the hall, new chairs and blinds.

#### DADLINGTON HARVEST SUPPER

Dadlington may not be a very large village, but somehow they manage to put on some really big events. For example, the Flower Festival, the summer Cream Tea and of course the Harvest Supper.

Having been 'co-opted' for several years to help with this event, I have seen it grow, along with the new extension to the hall and the fantastic new kitchen. The relief of having so much space to work in is a real treat. The food is always terrific and there's plenty of it. The wine flows and the raffle sports really good prizes.

The best thing though, is seeing how everyone enjoys themselves so much. What a great way to raise money. We made  $\pounds 637$  towards the next project.

A big thank you to all the helpers and of course those who supported the event.

Jan



#### Coffee and Chat in Dadlington

Even more residents turned out for the second community coffee morning at Dadlington Village Hall than the first one including a group of local , lycra-clad cyclists who enjoyed tucking into the delicious home made cakes. It was a lovely atmosphere and the organising team is hoping to see lots more residents from the two villages at the next session on

November 2nd 10am - 12 noon.

It costs 50p for a drink and 50p for cake and is not intended to be a fundraising initiative - just a chance for members of the community to meet up.

Jane White



Even Archie the dog enjoyed the get together!

#### Ten of a Kind (answers on page 26)

November 11<sup>th</sup> is Remembrance Day, so this month's quiz is all about remembering and memories.

- 1. At what time of day was the armistice that ended World War I signed?
- 2. Remember You're a Womble was the Womble's second album, released in 1974. What did the Wombles collect on Wimbledon Common?
- 3. What name is given to the card game where players try to match pairs of cards by remembering their positions?
- 4. Which member of the Rat Pack brought out a top selling version of the song "Memories are made of this?"
- 5. A memorial to Edith Cavell, shot by the Germans in 1915 for helping Allied airmen escape from Belgium, stands near Trafalgar Square. What was her occupation?
- 6. Which TV programme that ran for thirty years, featured a conveyer belt with a series of objects that the contestants had to remember in order to win them?
- 7. Which professional football club plays at the Memorial Stadium, a ground that was previously the home of the city's rugby union club and then called the Memorial Ground?
- 8. In computing, what does RAM and ROM stand for?
- 9. Which Andrew Lloyd Weber musical features the song Memory?
- 10. Which comic actor, famous for portraying the character Norman Pitkin, once said, "As you get older, three things happen. The first is your memory goes, and I can't remember the other two?"

### What's On

#### The Big Breakfast Back by Popular Demand

at The Baxter Hall, High Street, Come and join us on **12th November** from **8am until 2pm** 



Good food, raffle and relaxed COnversation - all for £3.95!

We look forward to seeing you all All money raised will go to the Acute Respiratory Disorder Syndrome

Research.

#### THE WHITE SWAN BONFIRE & FIREWORKS



4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2017 Pub open 6pm onwards Bonfire lit 7pm Fireworks 7.30pm

Food and outside bar Profits will benefit local groups and charities.

#### Stoke Golding Heritage Group

Our next talk will be held in the Baxter Hall on Thursday 16th November at 7.30pm.

#### "Christmas - True Victorian Style" with speaker Jo Carter.

Discover just how people across the classes really used to celebrate Christmas. The talk will be given in late Victorian Ladies Maid Costume.

Non-members welcome Price £2.50

#### **Remembrance Service**

at the Methodist Church 12th November 9.45am

Followed by a service at the Hinckley Road cemetery at 10.45am



### StokeArts@thevillagehall

Bringing professional music and theatre to Stoke Golding

Wonderful entertainment for the whole family at Stoke Golding Village hall on Saturday 16th December starting at 4pm (Doors open at 3.30pm) please join us for **The Wind in the Willows** performed by Box Tale Soup, a beautiful new adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's much-loved classic, featuring unique handmade fabric puppets and a charming original score.

From the peaceful pleasures of Ratty's beloved River Bank, to the fearful frights and wicked weasels of the Wild Wood, join Ratty and Mole on their marvellous adventures, along with gruff old Badger and magnificent Mr. Toad.

Suitable for all ages 4+ Running time: 60 minutes Tickets £10 (Adult), £5 (Child).

**To book** or find out more, book online at <u>stokearts.yapsody.com</u> or email StokeArts@gmail.com or call Steve on 01455 213798



#### **Christmas Concert Invitation**

Ambion Voices (Stoke Golding and Dadlington Community Choir) invite you to their Christmas Concert at St Margaret's Church on Monday 11th December at 7pm.

Come and hear us sing our favourites including a few Christmas songs and some carols to sing along with followed by light refreshments.

**Everyone Welcome** 

#### St Margaret's Snowman Festival

Sat 2nd December 10am - 5pm

When you have seen the wonderful displays in church there will be stalls in the Baxter Hall including cakes, jams, pickles, etc., raffle and tombola.

Refreshments available including turkey and sausage rolls, mince pies, mulled wine.



#### FREE PARKING at the school.

Why not make a snowman and bring it to church on Friday 1st December between 10am - 5pm. There will be prizes for the three best snowmen as voted for by our visitors. Please include your name and phone number.

## Festive Lights Switch On in the Grounds of Park House

Thursday 7th December

Mulled wine served from 6.15pm Lights switched on at 6.45pm Oddfellows Brass Band and Fire Station Santa until 7pm

Come and Meet Santa Everyone Welcome



(by kind permission of the residents at Park House and thanks to the Charity of Thomas Barton)

#### Christingle Service at St Margaret's Church

#### Sunday 3rd December at 3pm

Everything you need to make a Christingle will be provided.

We do hope you can join us

1 JIIIdo



#### Methodist Church Christmas Fair

Wood turned items Raffle & Tombola

Coffee & Light Lunches

Saturday November 25th 10am-2pm

> Cakes & Preserves

Books &

Bric-a-brac

### **Church Matters**



### From St Margaret's Church

#### Marinade or Glaze?

People in the Anglican churches in our area know that I have just read a book by someone who is self-evidently American - Urban T.Holmes III! I have quoted him in several sermons.

An idea of his I have not quoted before is the following: 'Christian conversion, a turning to Christ, is the result of a marinade rather than a glaze. We are transformed by being soaked in the Gospel, rather than having it brushed on at the last minute.'

Jesus accused the Pharisees of being 'whited sepulchres' - that is white-washed graves. His teaching pointed his hearers to comparing outward appearances to inward realities.

Once in a talk I mentioned that bereavement can leave a lasting bruise. A young widow took me to task afterwards. Her experience, she explained, was not an external mark but something which effected all that she was: we could say that it was an almost unbearable marinade not a superficial scar.

How then do we immerse ourselves in the Gospel?

Urban Holmes would argue that this is a matter of being 'soaked' in God's world - the world in which we and our fellow brothers and sisters live. Speaking of what we as believers should actually do, he ends his book by writing: 'There is an inevitable course to our religious profession...That course leads to living in the world as God sees the world. We can debate the trivial points, but the vision is largely clear. To love God is to relieve the burden of all who suffer. The rest is a question of tactics.'

I am pleased to have his words in my head - and heart! - as we move towards Advent and Christmas.

Alan Davis

("What is Anglicanism" by Urban T.Holmes III)

#### 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.



### **Church Matters**

#### Church of England November 2017 Services

#### St. Margaret's Church

5<sup>th</sup> 10.30am All Age Service

- 12<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Remembrance. All Age Service At Methodist Chapel+ Cemetery
- 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion

 $26^{th}$ 10.30am Morning Service

#### St James's Church

5<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Morning Service 12<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Morning Prayer/ Remembrance. 19<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Holv Communion 26<sup>th</sup> 9.00am BCP Morning Prayer

#### The Methodist Church November 2017 Services

- 10.30am Mr Michael Holt 5th
- 12th 9.45am **Revd Wes Hampton** (Remembrance Sunday) Mr John Cooke 19th 10.30 am
- 26th 10.30am Mrs Judith Cooke

#### **Zion Baptist Chapel** November 2017 Services

6pm	John Needham
6pm	Mark Menzfeld
6pm	Bill McIntyre
6pm	Steven Connor
	6pm 6pm

#### An Italian Class

I'm guite prepared to venture into teaching Italian though my degree is in Theology and Education. Indeed, I've taught at secondary level for over 20 years; A level Philosophy and Ethics for at least ten.

I am totally self taught regarding Italian; main interest being in grammatical structure though evidently the spoken word will be encompassed. Feel sure the language will be of particular interest to any sixth formers who are engaged in a study of a couple of modern languages at present and may well take up Italian at University as is the case with Birmingham.

As I have no experience in this field I am prepared to offer the tuition free of charge. All truly experimental though with a passion for Italy and its culture.

David Abbott 01455 213644

Please phone if interested.



#### **Stoke Golding WI** A Glimpse Into What Could Be and What Should Be.

This week members of Stoke Golding W.I had a very interesting talk given by Wendy Coley, of a little known charity Medical Detection Dogs - a charity that is reliant solely on public subscription but one that could save hundreds of lives and also save the N.H.S thousands or even millions of pounds.

The charity was founded by a lady who, realising her dog was acting out of character when near to a mole on her leg, went to her doctors to have it checked out and the mole was found to be cancerous. Similarly the dog once again gave another warning that something was not quite right and again it was discovered that this time she had breast cancer. On talking to other people she found that many others had had dogs that had reacted unusually to their owners and, on further investigation, cancer had been diagnosed. So this lady decided to try to train her dog to detect cancers by using a dog's highly developed sense of smell. What dog would not enjoy being encouraged to do something that it loves and being rewarded for it with a biscuit? So, using different samples of urine supplied by her local hospital, she achieved success, but the British Medical Profession thought she was crazy and said it was definitely 'no go'. However, on contacting medics in other countries, she found that they had had similar success and one hospital in Italy actually had a dog on site. So she continued with the training of other dogs who continued having success in the early detection of cancer.

On hearing of her findings an ex-prime Ministers wife approached her who had noticed her pet dogs changed behaviour when she had had cancer and agreed to speak for the charity to raise awareness. One day the Duchess of Cornwall came to see her at the Milton Keynes headquarters and agreed to help as much as she could. This was followed by an invite for her to give a demonstration at St James Palace to medical professionals, government officials and similar personnel and finally the charity was given official recognition but not financial help until many more tests were done.

Now, not only medical detection by trained dogs is possible but also medical alert assistance dogs have been trained, whereby people with Type 1 diabetes, Addison's disease, PoTs, pain seizure and severe nut allergies, can be alerted prior to an emergency caused by their condition and can take preventative action.

So with more research and ongoing advances into other illnesses, but still with no government assistance, many more lives could be helped and N.H.S money saved because whenever these wonderful dogs with their amazing sense of smell detect an illness early or prevent an emergency call out to people with complex conditions everyone benefits.

Next month 8<sup>th</sup> November will be our annual Meeting, starting at 7.15 pm followed by a talk on Quiz Shows on TV given by two of our regular speakers from the Concordia Theatre and The Merry Midwives. Going on past talks it should be full of fun and laughter and it will of course take place at the Methodist Hall as usual. Please come and join us. *Val Hartwell* 

### THE CROSSWORD THIS MONTH HAS A NUMBER OF SPECIAL 5TH OF NOVEMBER CLUES

CrossWord

1			2		3		4	5		6	
											7
8					9						
10						11		12			
					13						
14		15		16				17	18		19
				20			21				
22						23					
24									25		
	26						27				

#### ACROSS

- 1 A 9A seen in the sky (6)
- 4 This is usually attached to 1A (5)
- 8 Epidermis (4)
- 9 Bonfire party device (8)
- 10 Mouth devices for keeping babies quiet (7)
- 12 A Catharine wheel does this (5)
- 13 Reflection of sound (4)

14 J.R.s family name in TV programme 'Dallas' (5)

17 Common name for 5th November 'Bonfire \*\*\*\*\*'

20 Stiff (4)

22 Where 9A were invented (5)

23 They attend if a bonfire gets out of control (7)

- 24 Hand held 9A (8)
- 25 Stretched car in short (4)
- 26 Stop (5)

#### 27 Poetry (6)

#### DOWN

1 Remainder (7)

2 Family members, ones own flesh & blood (7)

3 Bonfire treat made of treacle (6) 5 What Gunpowder plotters were

charged with (7)

6 Strangling or throttling (7)

7 Snow footwear (4)

11 Neckwear if cold (5)

15 Copy someone else (7)

16 First initial and surname of

gunpowder plotter (1 & 6)

18 In a perfect manner (7)

19 Large sound amplifying apparatus (7)

21 Reflecting surface of glass (6)

22 Wooden barrel (4)

#### Notes from Stoke Golding Parish Council October Meeting (Draft)

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

#### Convent Drive –

- Planning application for additional classrooms at the school and issues with the service road.
- Concerns for child safety regarding the play area/open space/balancing pond.
- Highway works necessary to bring the road up to standard.
- A resident of Convent Drive expressed his continuing frustrations regarding highway issues and service deliveries to the school.
- Ivy Close HBBC had been very helpful in resolving a problem experienced by residents with regard to the adjacent development.
- Road lines need updating in a number of places and a request was made for the Parish Council to highlight the area by Station Road bridge to Highways.

#### Borough Councillor Reg Ward reported on the following issues:

- Money for new council housing.
- Rural edition of news bulletin.
- Barwell SUE 106 money has been agreed.
- First 260 of 800 homes near the Triumph factory 106 to be agreed.
- New Aldi at Stockwell Head.
- New Lidl at Coventry Road.
- Some interest in Co-op site on Castle Street.
- 5 year housing supply still on target.

#### Matters arising from September's Meeting:

Crime Report for July 2017– the following figures were obtained from the police.uk website: 1 vehicle crime near Hinckley Road – investigation complete, no suspect identified, 1 vehicle crime near Crown Hill Close – awaiting court outcome and 2 anti-social behaviour near Station Road – no details.

A second robbery at the Post Office and a police incident at the Morris Homes Development were discussed.

The following issues were noted:

- Moles at Wykin Lane Cemetery 5 moles have been caught cost £175.
- *Hinckley Road Cemetery* essential boundary maintenance has been carried out cost £600.
- Gym Equipment spare parts have been ordered cost £63.94.
- *ROSPA* the annual playground safety inspection has been carried out cost £171.50.
- Ground Maintenance:
- Recreation field repairs have been carried out cost £15.00.
- *Extra cuts* have been carried out cost £120.00. It was agreed to increase the number of cuts for Hinckley Road Cemetery to 18 and the churchyard to 14 for next year's contract.

#### Reports of Council representatives and Clerk:

The Clerk reported on Planning Nuts and Bolts Training and the following information was noted\_when making consultee comments:

Be objective, not subjective. Refer to policy where possible. Refer to Neighbourhood Plan – even if not complete, as long as it is at draft stage.

Consider the balance between economic/social and environmental considerations. Almost everything is a legitimate consideration for planning purposes except price and view, particularly if you can refer to policy. Check consultee reports and suggest if missing, e.g. noise, flooding etc. Ask the planning officer to give consideration to residents' views, if brought to the Parish Council's attention. However, it is not the Parish Council's place to pass on residents' views they must do so themselves.

Cllr Smith reported on a meeting with the HBBC Tree Officer to assess the trees at the recreation field, and the following issues were noted:

- Oak tree two over-hanging branches should be cut back by 30% and both a climbing survey and dead branch survey should be carried out. A tomographic survey of the trunk should be carried out next year. Cllr Pegg to liaise with tree surgeon to arrange the work and surveys.
- No other trees required work at this time, but should be inspected annually for fungus, dead wood and over-hanging branches.

Cllr Pegg reported on the boundary at Hinckley Road Cemetery. He will liaise with groundsman to mark the boundary and obtain a price for a fence/hedge.

#### Planning Application Matters:

c) Permission approved:

7 Andrew Close - removal of one ash tree.

Refusal:

Land adjacent to Cold Comfort Farm, Rogues Lane – variation of condition of appeal reference for the addition of one static mobile home.

#### Neighbourhood Plan

The resignations of Stewart Anderson and Glynn Chapman were noted.

#### Sport in Stoke Golding (SISG)

Cllr Pegg to contact architects with experience in sports/community buildings, from the list sourced by the Clerk.

#### Clerk's salary review (with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November)

An annual salary increase was agreed and an increase in the Clerk's contracted hours to 13 per week.

#### Village Christmas tree:

Cllr Fisher to liaise with HBBC Tree Officer, regarding the planting of a permanent tree in November.

#### Village centre and post office area

Cllr Fisher raised concerns about the untidy area at the centre of the village, but it was agreed that no action was possible at this time.

#### Laburnum Cottage Community Orchard

The meeting was attended by representatives of the developer, and a proposal for the long-term maintenance of the community orchard was discussed. The following was agreed:

- The Parish Council would be interested in taking over the land subject to a satisfactory proposal and maintenance.
- The Clerk to forward the Parish Council's suggestions for consideration by the developer and further planning consultation.

#### Play area/open space at Convent Drive

A site meeting with HBBC Enforcement Team was discussed and it was agreed that a newsletter be delivered to residents and letters sent to the Enforcement Team and Aurora Living.

#### Pavilion showers:

An initial assessment of the showers was noted and advice from an electrician is still pending.

#### Works to Hinckley Road Cemetery

The following issues were agreed:

- $\bullet$  To proceed with WW1 and WW2 benches, at a cost of £1470 + £150 for installation.
- To proceed with repair of the gate/wall, at a cost of £3105.00.
- To proceed with a claim against the contractor for the damage to the gate/wall.

**Communications received by the Chairman of the Council** Written

Adult Football Club – pitch hire fees complaint.

- The complaint has been noted and the Club invited to meet with the Parish Council to discuss the decision.
- The current fee structure does not allow for a concession to be made due to reduced number of teams and a payment plan cannot be offered due to VAT regulations.
- It was agreed that the Parish Council should return to the HBBC fee structure next season.
- The Clerk to inform the Youth FB Club and Cricket Club of the current situation and the agreed change for next season.

Verbal

The Cricket Club requested removal of football posts between games. It was agreed to decline this request.

#### Next meeting: Methodist Hall, Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 at 7pm



Obituaries



#### PETER HALE

Peter passed away on Wednesday 20th September aged 71 years with his loving wife Carol by his side. He was a loving father and a dear brother to Sue. The funeral service will be held on 16th October 2017 at 2.15pm at the Heart of England Crematorium, Nuneaton. There will be family flowers only but donations in Peter's memory may be given to benefit LOROS and Macmillan Nurses at the service.

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

#### **Staffroom Memories 12: Teaching Embarrassments**

During my teaching career, I was fairly immune to embarrassment: if things went wrong, I was usually able to laugh and joke about it and, more importantly, get away with it. There have been the odd occasions though, when I wanted to just slip away quietly. When I was asked if my school choir could sing at a special event at Hinckley Leisure Centre, I agreed readily. The request for a child to read a short biblical extract was slightly more problematic as we were breaking up for the holidays. Perhaps I should have chosen a child with a good level of literacy, rather than a girl whose evangelical mother was bound to help her learn her lines – she didn't!

I always wanted children to reach a good standard if they were going to perform in public. So when, as a new headteacher, the staff told me about the wonderful maypole dancing the children always did on May Day, I remembered the hours of practice I used to put in with my select group of dancers at the school I'd just come from. I became a tad troubled, come the week of the performance having seen no sight whatsoever of the maypole, let alone children skipping around it. The great day arrived. The parents took their seats in the playground, the maypole took centre stage and the youngest class trouped in. There then followed ten seconds of quite passable dancing before things began to go wrong. Another ten seconds and the ribbons were completely matted. The music was halted, and three members of staff leapt forward to begin the task of untangling ribbons and children. This took a good ten minutes. Then the children trouped off.

I was horrified, but consoled myself with the thought that these had been the youngest children and things could only get better. They didn't! Every class replicated the same sorry sequence. The only saving grace was that after the last excruciating performance, I got the parents up to have a go and they were equally as bad. Later, my teachers informed me that they no-one had done any practice. I informed them that we wouldn't be doing maypole dancing again.

I was the architect of my own misfortune when one of my governors asked me if I could return a calendar he'd lent me; one from his granddaughter's school. I thought it had been a gift and had thrown it away. I had to sneak outside and delve into each of our four giant wheelie-bins in order to locate and retrieve it. How embarrassing that was. A little later, I heard a commotion in the office and on investigating further, found the office staff and a rather annoyed teaching assistant huddled round the CCTV monitor, watching as a familiar figure appeared to be searching the wheelie-bins. I had been discovered, but how was this possible? Then it all became clear. As I turned triumphantly, calendar in hand, and crept back into school, one of the bins, liberated in my search, slowly slipped off in the other direction, down a slope in the car park and into the teaching assistant's car. Time to slip away quietly? No chance! *Michael* 

#### **Apologies for Error**

St Margaret's Flower Festival raised a fantastic £4,740 not £740 as reported in last month's Stoker.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Yoga With Adele**

#### Weekly 'Drop in /Pay as you go ' Mixed Level Yoga classes

Baxter Hall, STOKE GOLDING - Monday 6.15pm & Monday 7.30pm

Mike Bines Movement & Dance Studio, Swan House, MARKET BOSWORTH -

Tuesday 7.30pm & Thursday 12.15pm

Baxter Hall, Stoke Golding - Wednesday 6.30pm

SAPCOTE Pavilion - Tuesday 12 midday, Thursday 10.00am & Friday 10.00am

Fully gualified and insured Fitness Instructor/Yoga Teacher/ K.C.A specialist with 22 years teaching experience.

Tel 07837927227 www.yogawithadele.co.uk Follow me on Facebook @ yogawithadele1

#### Ten of a Kind Answers

1. 11am (The 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month)

- 2. Litter
- 3. Pelmanism
- 4. Dean Martin
- 5. She was a nurse
- 6. The Generation Game
- 7. Bristol Rovers
- 8. Random Access Memory and Read
- Only Memory
- 9. Cats
- 10. Norman Wisdom

#### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS 1 Rocket; 4 Stick; 8 Skin; 9 Firework; 10 Dummies; 12 Spins; 13 Echo; 14 Ewing: 17 Night; 20 Firm; 22 China; 23 Firework; 24 Sparkler; 25 Limo; 26 Cease; 27 Rhymes.

#### DOWN

1 Residue; 2 Kinsmen; 3 Toffee; 5 Treason; 6 Choking; 7 Skis; 11 Scarf; 15 Imitate; 16 G.Fawkes; 18 Ideally;19 Tannoys; 21 Mirror; 22 Cask.

#### Stoker Deliverers

We have a vacancy for the free monthly deliveries to households in the Main Street/Wykin Lane areas in the village. There will be about 20 copies. If anyone who would be prepared to volunteer - please let me know on Tel: 212597.

The Stoker team send grateful thanks to our previous deliverers in this area for their sterling work over the years and our best wishes for their move to a new home. Rosemarv

Stoke Golding website: www.stokegolding.co.uk



#### Tomlinson's Farm Shop, Station Road, Stoke Golding

#### Come to Tomlinson's Farm Shop this Christmas for quality you can rely on



**Try our dry plucked, no additives fed:** Bronze turkeys, geese, cockerels, ducks. Dexter beef, Gloucester Old Spot pork, sausages, sausage meat, dry cured gammon. Bread, cakes, cheese, vegetables and much more.

OPENING HOURS: TUES-FRI 9am-6pm, SAT 9am-5pm, SUN 10am-3pm

Suppliers of locally grown Christmas Trees

Jo & Garth 01455 212199





MOTs.....Used Cars for Sale



