#### November 2019

No. 186

# The Stoker



# **Stoke Golding Village Magazine**

Including

# **Dadlington Matters**

70p

#### Note from the Editors



Dear reader,

Welcome to the November edition of The Stoker.

As you may be aware, this magazine consists of contributions submitted by the many organisations that exist within the villages of Stoke Golding and Dadlington -



from Schools, Churches, Pubs and Clubs, Scouts, Social and Historical groups. Together with the many interesting articles submitted by local residents and by members of our 10 strong Stoker team of volunteers this wonderful combination results in the interesting journal you are about to read!

Apart from the reviews of what has taken place... quite a lot, take a look at the "What's On" pages, as well as other events dotted around the magazine, there are plenty of activities lined up to entertain us.

As we read through the magazine prior to sending it to be printed, it dawned on us how many people within our villages engage with village life to the betterment of all the villagers that live here. Once again, we realise how lucky we are to be living here!

We sincerely hope you enjoy reading this edition.

#### 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 Nov to: The Editors, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding. Email thestoker@gmx.co.uk

If you can submit articles by e-mail or on a memory stick (Microsoft Word) it makes our job much easier, (**500 words maximum** please). All correspondence, including e-mails, must include your full name, home address and home telephone number.

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

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

Cover picture: Coffee and Chat ladies helping to raise money for Macmillan.

#### 25 years of service to Stoke Golding Garden Show

Once upon a time, many years ago (27 to be precise) a couple moved into Stoke Golding village after correctly noting that it had four watering holes that needed to be visited. Not long after their arrival Tina's husband, Malc, unexpectedly expressed an interest in taking on an allotment at the Convent site. He was duly presented with said plot of land as a Christmas present and happily set off, almost daily, to get it ready for the inaugural planting of crops.

We need to now fast forward to Malc returning home one day bearing copious fruit, vegetables and an oddly cryptic message from someone, who shall remain nameless, to say that Tina is now the



Secretary of the Stoke Golding Garden Show. Tina would like it to be known that she never actually volunteered for this role and, as is often the way with village life, it was simply something that 'happened', couldn't be avoided, and evolved over time.

Fast forward again and 25 years later Tina Waters is still the Secretary of the village annual event and has the broken fingernails, brain fog and grey hair to prove it!

The committee very kindly showed their appreciation of this marathon by presenting Tina with some personalised 'bubbles' in a lovely keepsake box. She is extremely grateful for this offering and would like to say thank you to the anonymous committee member(s) for their generosity. Does this mean she has to sign up for a further 25 years perhaps?

Tina would also like it to be known that should any candidates be at all interested in taking on the role of Show secretary, then they should please feel free to contact her. She would also like to send a warning message to the wives/partners of anyone taking on a village allotment – beware of signed, sealed and delivered arrangements made over a few fruit and vegetables during 'chats'...

Anonymous



**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 Everyone is welcome to come along.

Next few meeting dates : 11<sup>th</sup> November, 25<sup>th</sup> November, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 6<sup>th</sup> January, 20<sup>th</sup> January, 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 17<sup>th</sup> February.

#### Local Air Ambulance benefits from Stoke Golding Garden Show 2019

Stoke Golding Garden Show exceeded initial expectations and demonstrated once again that it is a Show to be reckoned within the annual village, county and national calendar.

The Show committee would like to extend a huge thank you to the local community, competitors, sponsors and judges for their very generous contributions. The committee would especially like to thank 'The Charity of Thomas Barton', the 'George Ward Charitable Trust', a generous 'Anonymous' donator and all of our wonderful sponsors who helped to get the Show up and running for the 89<sup>th</sup> time. Stoke Golding Club deserves a special mention for allowing us to take over the function room for the day and for providing competitors and visitors with the delights of delicious cake, tea and coffee during the day and the wonderful faggots and peas in the evening. Maria's baps were soon sold out and are established as a firm favourite, especially with the competitors. We would like to publish a special mention for the continued kindness of Jean Jones, who once again helped out at the Secretary's desk.

This year we are proud to announce that we have been able to donate £1200 to our local Air Ambulance, £250 towards the Christmas Party for local children at Stoke Golding Club, £250 towards the cost of the food for The Villiers Family 'Big Breakfast event' (due early in 2020) raising funds for the Acute Respiratory Disorder Syndrome charity, £250 to Robin Hood Playgroup, £150 towards St Margaret's Church fundraising campaign, £100 to the Big and Small Church Club, £150 to The Acorn Centre (Warwickshire) and £50 towards the village



firework event held at The White Swan. We have also kept back a small amount of profit and would like to offer this to another worthy cause within the local community. If you know of an organisation (preferably one that hasn't received funding from the Show before) that you feel could benefit from a little financial help, please get in touch before the end of the year.

A little advanced warning for next year - Our novice classes have grown in popularity so we have decided to include a novice dahlia – plenty of time to choose your tubers and brush up on your growing technique.

**Date for your diaries -** the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Show will be held on Saturday 29th August 2020. In conjunction with Stoke Golding Club, we are hoping to arrange extra entertainment in the evening, following the Show, to celebrate this huge milestone of achievement.

**Schedules** – these will be available from late July 2020, but in the meantime if you have any questions, queries or suggestions please contact Tina on 07809629690. *Tina Waters* 

#### Stoke Golding Action Against Developments.

Recent proposals have highlighted that Stoke Golding is in line for a housing boom. This, we feel will *extinguish the light from our community,* indeed speaking with several local prominent figures they have stated that an expansion of this scale and magnitude will in all probability destroy our strong community. There is currently a proposal for 60 homes (not confirmed), with further potential stages around our village which would **almost double the amount of homes to in excess of 1500 by 2027**. We need to control these numbers and reduce them dramatically. (\* source data from HBBC SHELAA OCT 2018)

Realising the impact this will have on our village, several of us have formed a group to help the community influence the direction of any future growth potential. We have learnt so much in a few short days, particularly how the government have relaxed planning policies; also, how developers manipulate so many organisations for own gain. Our aim is to reduce disruption to the community and to eliminate the risk of all the local villages losing their identity. Our hands are not tied!

Local borough and county councils are being put under pressure to approve ever more sites for developments that would previously not have been considered. The Green Belt is no more! Failure for councils to bow to the developers in this manner can lead to them receiving financial penalties from government. The landowners and developers are not subject to these kinds of punitive fines, allowing them to attack small communities such as ours aggressively, with little or no risk. This planning system leads to only one outcome, developers' profit, with little or no regard for what is required for the area, community, schools, roads, shops, healthcare, etc.

We feel "enough is enough, not in our village". 72 residents came along to our event at The White Swan (Thank you again Andrew and team) with 29 apology emails, all within only 48 hours' notice. We do need to engage with the community to a greater level and we are looking to recruit likeminded supporters to stand any chance of success. Please contact us at <u>StokeGoldingAAD@gmail.com</u> or via the <u>Stoke Golding community Face</u> <u>Book page</u>. We are reviewing other possible communication opportunities by hopefully utilising local pubs/businesses and we already have plans for several follow up meetings, so please engage with us.

Join us if you care about your community, struggle with current levels of traffic, enjoy foraging in the hedgerows, enjoy walking or cycling through our countryside, struggle for medical appointments....

#### Stoke Golding Scout Group Learn Skills for life!



The Beavers have been finishing off their chef's badge by making pizza and washing up! They have also been playing team games.

The Cubs are working through their skills challenge badge by learning about how the body works, healthy

eating, benefits of exercise and learning about the digestive system and making poo (which involves tights, coco and flour !) They have made autumn print pictures with leaves and paint and have learnt to change light bulbs, iron, fold tops, set a table and make tea and toast. It doesn't get better than that.





The Scouts have been doing bits and bobs remaining of badges which included a hike back from Shenton. So all in all a lot of skills have been learnt!

#### It Was Dry !!!

At the beginning of September around 30 cubs joined 114 others at a District Cub Camp at Fox Coverts. And yes it was a dry camp !!! The theme of the camp was Captain Marvel!

The Cubs arrived on the Friday eve and then spent Saturday to Sunday in groups of 12 doing 12 activities including bracelet- making, climbing, archery, shooting with air rifles, tranja cooking and making a drink, making a hammock at the spider man base and pizza-making on an open fire to name but a few. On the Saturday night the Cubs took part en masse in a glass decorating activity and on Sunday, before they went home, there was a falconry display. The Cubs had a great time. Our group scooped the prize for the best dressed Cub and leader!

Our Cubs had fish and chips on Saturday night- thank you to Rosie and Mark for organising, collecting and delivering the meal. Thank you also to Alfie's dad who came to camp to help out for the weekend and those leaders again who generously gave their time to give the cubs a fun and wonderful weekend.

#### Jennifer

#### Macmillan Fundraising Fun

Well done to everyone who organised and supported the recent Macmillan Coffee mornings in our two villages. A fantastic amount of money was raised for a worthwhile cause.

#### Macmillan Coffee Morning at Tammy's Hair Design

What a wonderful morning raising money for Macmillan. A big thank you to everyone for helping, from washing up, donating cakes, serving tea and eating cake.

Thank you to Eco Windows, Dolly Carts, Buffed and Beautiful, George and Dragon, Stoke Golding Club, LP Fitness, White Swan, Bernie's Ice's, Rebound, Creative for the raffle prizes.

#### We raised **£655.00**

See you all again next year. Tammy and Charlotte. Xx





#### **Coffee and Chat**

The monthly community coffee morning at Dadlington Village Hall raised £390 by selling delicious homemade cakes, a raffle, craft stall, bring and buy and some quite bizarre competitions, including guess how many berries in a pie and a dunk your biscuit challenge!

A lot of fun was had by everyone including the organising team and a fantastic total of **£390** was raised for Macmillan.

Thanks to everyone for your support.

#### **Stoke Golding Methodist Church**

Home made cakes, jams and various stalls helped to raise **£152.00** for Macmillan. It was a lovely morning with plenty of chance to have a chat with fellow villagers.

Thank you to everyone for your support.





COME DRESSED IN YOUR WARTIME ATTIRE – PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED MALE & FEMALE

#### Art Exhibition and Sale



On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November in the Baxter Hall –opposite the Church

- We have a brilliant range of artists and media to 'showcase' Stoke Golding artists.
- Open from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.
  No entry charge and cups of tea and coffee will be available.
- Absolutely no obligation to buy anything but a donation will be made to St Margaret's Church Restoration Fund from any sales made.
- Please pop in and see a range of art – large and small – and you may find that elusive Christmas present.
- We look forward to seeing you!

Pauline Goodsell 01455 212955 millburn5@hotmail.co.uk

#### What's On at Stoke Golding Club

- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov **Bingo Bonanza** with Jayne Hayward
- Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov
  ReggaRockaBoogie Tunes from 60s through to 90s
- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec **Family Xmas Disco & Karaoke** members free non members £5
- Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Dec **Xmas Bingo Bonanza**
- New Year's Eve Simon Henley as Elvis and Dean Thomas £12 (limited tickets left)

#### Weekly events

Tuesday eve - **Jitterbugs** Thursday eve - **Salsa** Friday eve - **Bingo** Saturday from 11am -**Breakfast cobs, coffee and cake** 

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



#### LOVE FOOD, HATE WASTE.

Ladies of Stoke Golding W.I were perhaps apprehensive of the entertainment value of the talk 'Love Food, Hate Waste' that was scheduled for their October meeting. But as soon as Mohammed Bashar began his talk we became instantly amazed and downright worried on how the waste of food can affect the environment.

He began by asking us which were the 10 most wasted foods in the U.K., some of which such as bread and potatoes we were able to guess, but some were a lot more unexpected. The total amounts of these per year were astronomical and the methane gas given off from these foods as they decompose in land fill sites, along with the fuel etc. required to bring them to and distribute around this country, pollutes the atmosphere and causes global warming far in excess of that caused by plastics and emissions.

A rather frightening aspect we all agreed and so Mohammed went on to suggest ways that we all could put into place that would help us reduce our food waste. These included making shopping lists and only buying what we need, taking notice of sell by dates and using food before the need to discard it, storing food correctly and cooking only the right portions so as not to have left over cooked food that has to go in the bin or better still, if possible, freeze it for another day. Many, we felt, were common sense ideas but were obviously not being put into practice.

The impact of this, along with that of the rest of the U.K. doing the same, would have a Global, Social, Environmental and Financial impact - the latter alone could save the average family  $\pounds470$  a year.

It was a very lively meeting with many questions and suggestions throughout the talk as well as questions asked for at the end. But Mohammed, or Bash as he referred to himself at one time did leave us with some hope for the future as he said that there did seem to be some progress as people begin to realise the effect of throwing away food and, with concerted effort on all our parts, things could be changing.

Our next meeting is our Annual Meeting and begins at 7.15pm at the Methodist Church Hall and also includes a Millionaire's Night. Members please be on time.

Val Hartwell

Stoke Golding website: www.stokegolding.co.uk

### What's On



BONFIRE NIGHT

Bonfire lit 7pm fireworks 7.30pm We look forward to seeing you all! Andy and Debs Tel: 01455 212313 for details

## **Christmas What's On**

#### St Margaret's Church Snowman Festival



Our Snowman Festival will take place on Saturday 7th December 2019 from 10.00am to 5.00pm.

Come and see our amazing display of Snowmen in the Church and enjoy turkey rolls, sausage rolls, mince pies, mulled wine etc in the Baxter Hall.

There will also be cakes and jams for sale, plus a raffle and tombola.

Parking at the school

If you make a snowman please bring it to the church on Friday 6th December between 10.00am and 6.00pm.



# **Dadlington Matters**







We have 3 films lined up to show you before the end of 2019. They are all very different,

but they all have a music theme.

Prices have been kept at £3 for your first drink.

All the films are on Fridays with doors opening at 7pm and the film starting at 7:30pm.

Nov 8th: Wild Rose, Nov 29th: Fisherman's Friends

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



Thursday 7th November 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.

#### The Strange Case of the Dadlington Teacups - Part 1

As Mrs Hudson showed me into the room, I realised at once that Holmes had a visitor. Oblivious of my entry, he was methodically examining a small china teacup with a lens. I gave a little cough which barely distracted him from his task but he did glance up. "Ah, Watson," he said, "Allow me to introduce Mrs. Kitely. She has presented us with a most intriguing case which I am confident can be solved through logical deduction. Here, take a



look." And with that he proffered me the cup. "Tell me what you see"

The teacup bore the legend 'Dadlington Women's Unionist and Conservative Association' but other than that, it was quite unremarkable. "Where is the mystery, Holmes?" I enquired. It was Mrs Kitely who replied. "Ours is only a humble village of a few households, most of them engaged in agricultural labouring." "Exactly." Holmes took up the conversation, "One

would have thought they might have formed one of those trades unions, but a conservative association? For women?" He turned to face his guest. "Watson and I will begin our investigations at once dear lady," he continued, " and I am sure we will soon be able to furnish you with details about your intriguing teacups."

We travelled in a four- wheeler to our dear friend, Mr. Google. His reputation for discovering information was well deserved and he quickly supplied us with

some possible lines of enquires, one of which caused Holmes to shake his head in disbelief. It transpired that since the Great Reform Act of 1833, women had begun to take a far greater interest in the affairs of the country across the political spectrum. Could the Dadlington association have been campaigning for universal suffrage? " I cannot believe the



womenfolk of this small village were rising up for women's votes," mused Holmes, "Maybe they took to throwing themselves under the horses at Leicester Racecourse. What do you think, Watson?" I did agree that it was unlikely, but suggested that we make a visit to the town of Hinckley to discover if any such activities had been reported by the local newspaper.

"And did you notice the name of the manufacturer." Holmes continued. Truthfully, I had to admit that I had not done so. "And that," came his reply, "is why it is I, Sherlock Holmes, who is the country's number one consulting detective. On the base of the crockery were the words ' Rock Pottery, Burslem'." I acknowledged his attention to detail as we turned again to Mr. Google. Unfortunately, on this occasion, he could supply us with nothing about the pottery. "Another mystery for us to solve," declared Holmes, "and one, if I'm not mistaken, that will involve a journey to the six towns." I left soon afterwards to pack my valise for this next stage of our investigation.

#### Beth's Corner ......THE COUNTRY PUB OF THE YEAR.

I know very little about beer. So, when I was told that "The George & Dragon" had won CAMRA'S 2019 'Country Pub of the Year' I was blissfully ignorant of the significance of the award. Now I was going to learn what it actually means, and not only to our already popular village pub, but also to those who work so hard maintaining the standards we all take for granted. As usual the news filtered through to



me via 'The Stoker'." *Was there a chance I could do a small item about this exciting news*? But it wasn't until Alex (from the pub) asked if she could pop round to share this amazing news that I began to understand. Mind you, my daughter already knew how prestigious CAMRA is to the pub industry and



was amused to discover how ignorant her Mum is on the issue of pubs and beer! So, although sharing the village news with Alex is always special, it becomes even more so when there's so much to celebrate.

My first surprise tho' was the other reason for celebration. The moment Alex slips off her coat, and does that gentle protective rub of every Mum's tummy. "Oh, Alex how wonderful! I cry: "How many months?" "Six months today Beth and we already know she's going to be a girl." Here again we digress as we

start to discuss girls' names... I apologise for spending so much time on our latest addition to Stoke Golding, but now I must get all the details correct about CAMRA.

When I tell friends about the award, they are all thrilled, especially for Church End Brewery itself. In these difficult days, with staff shortages causing so many pubs to close, it's great to know that a pub managed by a small family brewery and run with such integrity, is a winner. There were also a couple of Regional awards for their Mild – namely "Grave Diggers" and "Fallen Angels." The celebrations also cover 'The Silver Jubilee' for Stuart and Rosemary, setting up Church End Brewery, and for the vision and courage it must have taken to make the decision to completely overhaul the pub from scratch. Eight years ago, they took over The George & Dragon. For the first few years it was run by their daughter Katie, before placing it in the very capable hands of Alex. We shall have Alex (*and the bump*) until just before Christmas, and then it's back to the original smiley face, our much-loved Katie, whilst Alex is on maternity leave.

All these celebrations have taken over the whole morning, and while my daughter has been looking after Alex with fruit teas and cookies, I've had a lovely morning enjoying a welcome breath of fresh air and village chat, as well as adding a new subject to my vocabulary – <u>CAMRA</u> - and what it means!

#### Fool on the Hill

#### Easy money....

Sitting in my Chamois leather recliner, I glance away from the 100 inch smart TV, with surround sound naturally, and gaze admiringly as the sun shines on my silver Mercedes S class. This sits pleasingly on the neatly manicured driveway of my mini mansion. Nothing disturbs me except for the raucous call of a pair of Pink Flamingos that I keep for amusement. In my post Lottery fantasy world that is. In the real world I am lounging on a decaying effort from DFS peering at a diminutive Korean telly, which is about as smart as a cucumber and was purchased from the Coop when they were still doling out Green Shield Stamps. On my drive, which is in dire need of weeding, sits my ageing Japanese box which the local garage assures me, should be good for at least another 100 miles or so as long as I go steadily. For Flamingos, read Magpies.

Now it seems to me that life would be a whole lot easier if those in power were to shunt the odd billion in my direction. I am pretty sure they could manage this, as an election looms and many billions of pounds seem to be popping up to secure the affection and hence, votes, of the electorate. In fact, so glibly do they talk about such sums, that it is easy to convince yourself that perhaps a billion is not such a big deal. Let's just have a look at this shall we? In this country a billion pounds is defined as one thousand million and, just for a moment, let's imagine that some Government clerk hits the wrong button and a billion quid destined for Bombs' R' Us Incorporated of the good old USA,finds its way into your Post Office Savings Account. Let us further assume that there is no sudden outbreak of competence amongst those who rule us and this dosh is quietly forgotten.

If you went even moderately berserk with a new house, couple of flash motors, holiday home, ride on Lawnmower, posh food for the cat and then let's chuck in a world cruise and some plastic surgery for the other half's saggy bits, it is highly unlikely that you would get through £10 million. So that just leaves £990,000,000 to go. If you had 70 years to spend it you would have to get through about £38,000 a day, seven days a week. Even if you bought every crazy thing in the middle aisles of Lidl and Aldi and stood the drinks for the whole pub every night, I doubt that you would make much of an impression on that sort of money particularly as, even at today's miserable interest rates, it would be earning you nearly £10 million a year in interest. These sums to mere mortals are in the realms of Unicorns.

So when the Government talk of a £40 billion overspend on a new train set, I think we have cause for concern.



F.O.T.H

#### What King Henry did next!



We know what happened at the Battle of Bosworth but what happened afterwards?

Come and find out at St Margaret's Church, Stoke Golding on **Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm.** 

when a talk will be given by Professor Steven Gunn from *Oxford University*.

**Ambion Voices** will sing 'Battle, The Villager's Story' composed for them by Michael Dix.

This is a ticket only event

Free tickets can be obtained online at: info@goleicestershire.com

Please contact David Goodsell 01455 212955 if you have any questions about this event or need help getting tickets.



#### **News From St Margaret's School**



The beginning of September is an exciting time for any school, especially as we welcome new starters. This year we welcomed new children into lots of classes, but 32 children began their journey in school by joining the EYFS class. They are full of fun and are learning

about what it means to be a 'St Margaret's' child.

As well as the new children, we also welcomed a new Executive Principal. Mr Watson is the executive principal of both St Margaret's and Gilmorton Chandler. He splits his time across each week over both schools and has adapted quickly to life at a village school. We look forwarded to him moving our fabulous school forward.

#### Aly Steele

Head of School St Margaret's CE Primary School, Stoke Golding

#### **Stoke Golding Garden Show**





One of our Stoker deliverers, Mary McGrath, with her prize-winning apple pie.



#### Flossie Malavialle at Stoke Golding Village Hall

Flossie Malavialle is a French born singer who has been based in the North East of England since 2002. Several years on, she has become an accomplished performer playing at folk clubs and festivals all over the UK (and beyond) and supporting acts such as Fairport Convention and Show of Hands.

Flossie's powerful yet sensitive rendition of songs combined with her quaint northern twang and humorous banter will no doubt entertain and leave you with a smile. Her songs include famous numbers such as Carole



King's 'So far away', Paul McCartney's 'Early Days', Abba's 'Slipping through my fingers', and also Edith Piaf's eternal favourites 'No regrets', 'La vie en rose'... or Jacques Brel's 'Amsterdam' and 'Ne me quitte pas'...

If you have never seen or heard Flossie before, we're confident there will be something in her répertoire to suit your taste. We have seen her on several occasions and have thoroughly enjoyed her performances. She's a firm favourite of ours.

We look forward to seeing you at the village hall on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Martyn and Ruth Fisher Flossie's website: flossiemalavialle.co.uk

#### Stoke Golding – A New Look at the Ancient

Higham on the Hill, Stoke in the Dale Wykin for Buttermilk and Hinckley for ale. (anon.)

Many of us know the above, but what of its alternative?

From Higham looking down no view, Stoke in the Dale below Wykin claims the milking pail, as bounteous dairies show Hinckley distils the malted grain, whence health and vigour flow. (anon.)

Two simple verses telling a little of four settlements. As the poem publication dates of Nichols volumes are circa 1790AD and after, then the inclusion of the above suggests the verses had been known many years before that date. It is doubtful if it was modern when published.

Evidence of our history is collated from many sources; documentary proof from census records; church records; births, deaths and marriages; charters and parliamentary rolls; on occasions from old buildings, some still with us and others that have gone, although records may survive. The presence of the churches themselves – often built in early medieval times, circa 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> century- indicating usually the central location to a community, either a village or town.

Beyond the Norman conquest the records are sparse, and it is through archaeology that the story of our past can be told - only a glimpse into the past as often what unfolds is not the full story, but a measure of past activity.

It is thought that Stoke Golding was extant in the Anglo-Saxon period. This conclusion could have come about through excavation in 1931 into the mound close to Park House. Anglo-Saxon artefacts were recovered and dated to the 7<sup>th</sup> century. More recent excavations and field walking by Hinckley Archaeological Society has resulted in numerous shards of Anglo Saxon pottery being found – enough to show there was an active community within Stoke Golding. The finds themselves don't give us dates, nor the size of the settlement- that would require more extensive local work.

A link from the Anglo/ Saxon period into the early medieval times of 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> century came from other pottery shards designated as Saxo/



Norman, the period covered from circa 900AD through to 1100AD, continuous activity and possibly a growing community.

Through the same excavations and field walking results, Hinckley Archaeological Society was able to show that man was active many years before the Anglo Saxon period. Prior to these investigations only one shard of Roman pottery had been found in Stoke Golding, and that recording to the official county council historic records was only listed as possibly Roman, not officially recognised.

Through earlier excavation and our work, we now had an assemblage of 55 shards of Roman pottery, a few pieces of Roman C.B.M. (ceramic building material) and one piece of Roman glass. The work of the Hinckley Archaeological Society was cut short due to more building work on the Park House building plot. One of the last finds on the site was a Roman shard designated as Romano/ British – an indication of early Roman activity. Through the county archives (H.E.R.)-Historic Environment Records – we can see that little is recorded of earlier activity as only three flints have been recorded.

Field walking by Hinckley Archaeological Society just south of Stoke Golding has resulted in a scatter of Neolithic flints numbering 300 pieces which include cores, blades, bladelets, scrapers and flakes – these dating to approximately 4,000BC or before. They were found in one field which is close to springs, an essential part of life.

Among the finds were a few pieces of Neolithic material, these possibly dating to 6,000BC or earlier. As these people were partly nomadic or transient then occupation cannot be ascertained -more work would have to be carried out and more finds obtained to build a picture of possible activity. Earlier still, but with less certainty of why the finds were present were three flints recognised as Palaeolithic. These being prior to the last



Ice Age, perhaps 20,000 years old or more. One

interesting find was a partly worked flint axe head.

Evidence in and around Stoke Golding points to a



history far exceeding a medieval past with Anglo-Saxon activity of perhaps 1,200 years ago, Roman activity from 1800 years to almost 2000 years ago and then, from the flints we can see that our forebears certainly passed through the area and possibly stayed for a while, between 4,000 – 8,000 years ago and maybe earlier.

What has been looked at probably amounts to 1% or 2% of the historic core of Stoke Golding and, like other villages, there will be more to find in the future.

Malcolm Lockett Hinckley Archaeological Society.

#### The Arts Society - Sparkenhoe Canal History and Heritage. 4 November 2019

**Roger Butler** is a landscape architect, writer, photographer and lecturer with a keen interest in the heritage of our canal network.

\*\*\*Immediately following this lecture, **Ambion Voices** will perform a short piece composed for them by Michael Dix entitled: 'Three Reflections on the Ashby Canal'.\*\*\*

Talks are held in the **Dixie Grammar School Hall**, Market Bosworth, CV13 0LE and start at 7.30 p.m. Guest fee of £5 payable. For more information please contact:

Margaret Birch on 01455 291052; Bridget Flavell on 01455 290300; or John Hawkes on 07590 496150.

#### **Redmoor Academy Update**



The start to the new academic year at Redmoor, as always, is a very busy time. Our ethos of excellent academic experience, coupled with the highest levels of pastoral care have seen a variety of activities take place. Year 7 have participated in team building experiences to Beaumanor Hall and we have launched our Redmoor Enrichment week which gives children experiences

outside of the classroom, such as touring France and learning new sports. We have also commenced our new 'Redmoor DNA' approach; a list of values and behaviours that we want to see all students demonstrate: resilience, engagement, determination, motivation, organisation, optimism and responsibility. We have also been reflecting on our excellent results and our journey so far, which has led to two prestigious educational publications asking us to share our story about our success and ethos at Redmoor. So this month, we thought we would share how we learn at Redmoor and the impact this has had on our students.

#### Learning at Redmoor

In our two years since taking over the leadership of Redmoor, we have put teaching and learning and the research that goes behind this at the heart of everything we do. We believe that the learning of our students should be underpinned by a knowledge rich curriculum, which is varied and broad in its content and skills. But we also believe that lessons should be engaging and inspiring. If you visit us you will see children debating, discussing and on the edge of their seats as they discover new knowledge and experiences.

Educational research has often lagged behind research in other fields, but recently educationalists have started to really focus on what makes excellent learning. We

have fully engaged in the world of cognitive science, visited the Institute of Education in London and as a team read the best studies in the world. After reflecting on the work by John Sweller, Ebbinghaus, Mary Myatt, Rosenshine and others, we now have a rigorous, challenging yet also engaging curriculum at Redmoor. Students are taught what we believe to be the most

#### John Sweller

An educational psychologist who developed the cognitive load theory. In practice this means that our working memory can only hold so much information, so we should aim to move it to our long-term memory. We do this through the use of our knowledge organisers

important knowledge. Using our knowledge organisers, which summarises this, they memorise key facts for homework, so that this knowledge is transferred into long-term memory. This then enables students to use working memory to evaluate, analyse and infer from the knowledge they have now learnt, retained and understood. Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction uses cognitive science, psychology and educational research to provide ten principles which ensures excellent teaching in the classroom. In our lessons, you will see our teachers 'teaching to the top', so all students are exposed to high level academic

rigour, but also 'scaffolding up' so students who might find things difficult are supported by extra resources and teacher support. With expert questioning, modelling of what excellence looks like and lots of quizzing to improve memory, students will make excellent progress.

All of the above has led to our success at Redmoor. However, we also believe that educating the whole child, not just the academic side, is vitally important and we see it as our responsibility and privilege to do so. As we continue this term to work on our Redmoor DNA, we look forward to our school evolving and our students making more academic and personal progress than ever before.

If you would like to visit us during the school day or be involved in supporting our amazing students in any way, please contact us at <u>office@redmooracademy.org</u>

#### Lisa Hickman Vice Principal



#### Old Photos

We have recently been contacted by Irene Batt who originated from Stoke Golding but left upon getting married 52 years ago and now reads The Stoker online. She kindly included some old photographs that she has recently inherited, the first one could be of parish councillors: Back row ?, ?, Mr R Flavell, Mr J E Underwood. Front row Mr K Geary (snr), Mr Boughton, Mr F

Hall.

This photograph is of a Stoke Golding gala, an event as children we all looked forward to. Unfortunately no dates are available.

Irene tells us she was Miss Stoke Golding in1964.

If anyone has further information on the photos we would be very interested.



# **Church Matters**



#### From St Margaret's Church

#### REMEMBERING

Sir Edwin Lutyens deserves to be more widely known. He was the leading, internationally acclaimed, architect of his time – 1869 to 1944. He designed buildings around the world as well as in this country. Locally, for example, he designed the Arch of Remembrance in Leicester in 1925.

In November each year we particularly remember one of his designs – the Cenotaph in London. A year after the armistice ending the First World War – in 1919 - Lutyens was asked to construct a temporary building in Whitehall to be the centre of a national act of remembrance. It was made of wood and plaster.

And because it was to remember all the empire's troops who died in the war, whatever their race or religion, Lutyens took as his model a classical Greek, empty temple with no specifically Christian symbolism or texts.

Public opinion backed by the Prime Minister, David Lloyd George, demanded the cenotaph be made permanent and it was then rebuilt in stone.

The armistice in 1918 had obviously led to a tradition of great partying and celebration. The powers-that-be thought some of this behaviour 'inappropriate' and so began the annual Festival of Remembrance, with a more sombre tone, in the Albert Hall on the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday.

A further marking of the end of the war was the creation of the tomb of the unknown warrier in Westminster Abbey. At the time of its inauguration there were complaints that Christian prayers were being said at the tomb – perhaps the unknown warrier was Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist or Jewish!

To continue this non-specific religious character of remembering it is interesting that most of the Remembrance Day symbols and actions are not specifically Christian: the two minutes silence and the buying poppies for instance. The last post and reveille are often played at remembrance commemorations – again carrying no specific religious denominational tag.

Obviously, we may make up our own minds about this: either these matters are <u>not</u> to do with religion, or they are to do with <u>all religions.</u> I think that Sir Edwin Lutyens would have chosen the second option.

Alan Davis

# **Church Matters**

| S    |         | Church of England N<br>et's, Stoke Golding | nber Services<br>St James', Dadlington |     |                    |
|------|---------|--|--|-----|--------------------|
| 3rd  | 10.30am | All-Age Service                            | 3rd                                    | 9am | BCP Morning Prayer |
| 10th | 9.45am  | All-Age Service -<br>Methodist Chapel      | 10th                                   | 9am | BCP Morning Prayer |
|      | 10.55am |  | 17th                                   | 9am | BCP Holy Communion |
| 17th | 10.30am | Holy Communion                             | 24th                                   | 9am | BCP Morning Prayer |
| 24th | 10.30am | Morning Worship +                          |  |     |                    |

#### The Methodist Church November Services

| 3rd  | 10.30am | At Higham Methodist<br>Church                     |
|------|---------|---|
| 10th | 9.45am  | Revd Wes Hampton<br><b>Remembrance</b><br>Service |
| 17th | 10.30am | Mrs Judith Cooke                                  |
| 24th | 10.30am | Mr John Cooke                                     |

#### Zion Baptist Chapel November Services

| 3rd  | 6pm | John Needham   |
|------|-----|----------------|
| 10th | 6pm | Mark Menzfeld  |
| 17th | 6pm | Richard Cotton |
| 24th | 6pm | Steven Connor  |

#### **Methodist informal Service**

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

#### Everyone is welcome to join us.

#### Ten of a Kind – November 19 (answers on page 30)

November 2019 marks both the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first woman to take her seat in Parliament (Lady Astor) and the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first televising of Parliament, so here are ten question about parliaments.

1. Which British crown dependency has the oldest continuously running parliament in the world?

2. On which day in 1605 did the authorities discover Guy Fawkes and his stash of gunpowder under the Houses of Parliament?

3. What are strangers told to do by the police officer in charge of the central lobby as the Speaker of the House of Commons' procession comes through?

4. According to the 2010 Fixed Term Parliament Act, how many years should there be between general elections?

5. What object, used as part of the defences at the entrance to a castle, is the emblem of the Houses of Parliament?

6. Would you find the woolsack in the House of Commons or the House of Lords?

7. Three ex-prime ministers have statues both inside Parliament and in Parliament Square. There was to be a fourth but Westminster Council rejected the request and it could now to be erected in the politician's home town if they can find a plinth high enough to protect it! Who is the subject of this statue?

8. Which of the UK's devolved parliaments is often referred to as Holyrood?

9. Which national newspaper first published details of MP's expenses in 2009, leading to a major scandal?

10. In which century of turmoil between Parliament and royalty were various parliaments given names such as the Long Parliament, the Short Parliament, the Happy Parliament and Useless Parliament?

#### Stoke Golding 2020 Calendars on sale



We are delighted to announce that local resident Bill Shearer has worked his magic to compile another Stoke Golding calendar for a new decade.

The 2020 calendar will be available from late October and can be bought from all three village pubs or ordered on the Stoke Golding Community Facebook page – contact Bill Shearer. Price  $\pounds 6.95$ The calendar would certainly make an ideal Christmas present.

The Stoker was delighted to help Bill with suggesting a local printer, Elite Printing in Barwell, as the one he usually uses is no longer in business. The fantastic cover photo here was taken by Bob Ward.

A huge thank you to Bill for keeping the calendar going (now in its 8<sup>th</sup> year) for fans of Stoke Golding to enjoy. Don't miss out on the chance to buy one as they are sure to sell quickly. *Flla Orr* 

#### Kitchen Corner BOIL AND BAKE FRUIT CAKE



Fruit cakes are sometimes rather tedious to make, but this one is really simple and if you do not have an electric food mixer, this is the cake for you. If you want to make the cake a little more special, then substitute brandy or rum for the water, this way it is good enough to serve as a Christmas cake.

#### **INGREDIENTS**

100gms (4ozs) Butter 225gms (8ozs) Soft Brown Dark Sugar 450gms (1 lb) Mixed Dried Fruit 150ml ( ¼ pt ) Water 2 Beaten Eggs 225gms (8ozs) Plain Flour 2tsp Baking Powder

#### **METHOD**

Pre-heat the oven to150c (130c fan) or Gas mark 2. Grease and line a20cm (8inch) cake tin.

Put the butter, sugar, fruit and water

into a large saucepan and bring to the boil, stirring occasionally. Turn the heat down, cover the pan and simmer for 15 minutes. Allow the mixture to cool.

Sift the flour and baking powder together, add the flour and eggs to the pan. Stir until everything is combined and pour into the prepared tin.

Bake for  $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 hours until the cake is brown and beginning to come away from the sides of the tin. Another test is to insert a skewer into the centre of the cake and it should come out clean.

Cool in the tin for 20 minutes and turn it onto a cooling rack. When cold, wrap in cling film and then foil until you are ready to decorate. You are now ahead of your Christmas plans. Well done!

Enjoy the baking,

Avis

#### Guided Walk – Legacy Trail Taster Walk

#### Eddie Smallwood

**Date:** 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019 9:00am – 2:00pm **Venue**: Meet in the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre carpark at 9am. **Parking**: In the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre carpark which is chargeable.

Meet local historian Eddie Smallwood in the carpark of the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre at 9am for a walk which is approximately **8KM** in length. Walk around the area of the 1485 Battle of Bosworth and visit churches connected to the battle, including Sutton Cheney, where Richard III is reputed to have prayed, and Dadlington where some of the dead from the battle are buried. Hear the story of the battle and learn about the lives and deaths of those involved. Find out about the sculptures planned for those sites which will tell the story in iconic works of art. The walk will finish back at the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre at around 2pm. The walk is suitable for adults and children over 12 years of age. Dogs are not permitted.

#### Staffroom Memories 21: 'On the Tele'



When I was a young lad, I always fancied being a television star. I now know that I'd have been absolutely useless. My last appearance was on East Midlands Today after we'd become the first school in the city of Leicester to achieve Dyslexia Friendly status. The interviewer was very kind and incredibly patient as I kept responding to her questions in a

nervous monotone. She coached me into putting more enthusiasm into my answers but I continually stumbled over my words and punctuated my sentences with "er" and "I mean.". After a number of takes, my bit was 'in the can' and then she moved on to interview some of the children. They spoke with such clarity of thought and diction: it was humbling.

My first appearance on the box had taken place a few years earlier. On the first training day of a new school year, I would invite governors in to join the staff as I presented a resume of the previous year and outlined the areas for development for the coming twelve months. As people assembled, I had a small quiz running on a PowerPoint, just for a bit of fun. One quiz featured a question about the number of twins we had in school. The answer - ten sets - amazed one of our governors so much that he contacted East Midlands Today about it and they duly arranged to come and film a feature. It was meant to be filmed over lunchtime, when I was outside with my lunchtime supervisors. However, they were late and filming only began once the rest of the children had gone in and the supervisors had gone home, leaving me with ten sets of incredibly excited twins who were high as kites. By the time they came to interview me, I was near to exhaustion, after spending twenty minutes trying to contain these children in a large area with nothing to do but run around like mad things.

I was much more at ease when Watchdog dropped in to film a piece about a conman who'd never turned up to one of our Parent Teacher Association discos. I told my friends and relatives to watch out for me as I was filmed along with the PTA chair, turning children away in a reconstruction of the night the disco man never turned up. Apparently, he had previous form and they'd already run a spot on him a couple of years earlier. The TV people also wanted to film the disco and so they provided a DJ, music, balloons, streamers, the lot. The music started, the cameras rolled and the children did what they always did at discos: the girls stood in groups and chatted, the boys chased around and skidded across the floor. This didn't quite fit the image the director had in mind and so the children were gathered together and ordered to dance. It looked lovely but it was so unrealistic. We all looked forward to the programme's airing, but I was a tad disappointed when my staring role was almost totally obscured by the PTA chair who kept standing in front of me. I rang my eldest son. "Did you see me?" I enquired. "I think I saw the corner of your ear," came his reply.

Michael Dix





#### Louis Embra

Louis Embra died 10th September, 2019, aged 91 years, in Pembrokeshire. Former resident of Higham on the Hill and Stoke Golding. Beloved husband of the late Mary, much loved father and grandad. Louis funeral was held on 2nd October at St Peter's Church prior to interment in the church cemetery.

#### **Barrie Quinney**

Barrie, of Stoke Golding, died on 17th September, 2019 aged 84 years. Beloved husband of Jean and much loved father to Julia and father in law to Andrew and grandfather to Craig and Tai and Scott and Lisa. The funeral service was held at Stoke Golding Methodist Church on 18th October followed by committal in Stoke Golding cemetery.

We offer our sincere condolences to the friends and families of Louis and Barrie.

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

#### **Report by Borough Councillor**

Borough Cllr Jonathan Collett reported on the following:

Liberal Democrat Council – future direction still not clear.

Davidson's public consultation on 11<sup>th</sup> October – Borough Cllr Collett will attend the consultation and make any comments when a planning application is submitted.

Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan – an application for designation of area has been submitted.

Neighbourhood Plans – in the current situation with the shortfall in the five year housing supply, these can offer some protection.

Mira Liaison Group – meeting attended and future meetings to be hosted in parishes.

Fly tipping – a problem in the area at the moment.

Cllr Clover raised an issue regarding adoption of roads at the Morris Homes development and will forward the information to Borough Cllr Collett and County Cllr Ould.

**Playground inspection:** The safety inspection report was noted - the Clerk to instruct MS to tighten the 4-way rocker and exercise bike belt and fill ground wear in gateway. The annual ROSPA inspection was noted and the risk score was as low as possible on all items - the Clerk to instruct MS to monitor chain wear on swings and damage to climbing wall post.

**Ground Maintenance Report** It was agreed to proceed with sweeping of the cemeteries' block paving at the end of November, at a cost of £365.30. Removal of waste from cemetery litter bins was discussed and it was agreed to monitor. An update on the flower beds at Hinckley Road Cemetery was noted. Work was required to remove ivy from yew trees at Hinckley Road Cemetery and to complete work to the ground at the recreation field when stumps have been removed

#### Planning Applications:

#### New Applications:

116 Sherwood Road – two storey rear extension.

St Martins Catholic Academy – erection of three replacement classroom buildings and one additional classroom building. The Parish Council wishes to raise concerns regarding the continuing traffic congestion and parking issues at school times around Convent Drive and the entrance to the school car park. These issues will be increased by further expansion of the school and need to be resolved prior to any planning been granted for further expansion.

4 Blacksmiths Yard – works to trees.

**Minutes of Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) meetings** A report by Cllr Beale was noted and included: Update on first draft – 90% complete. Workshops brought forward in response to the Davidson's consultation. Cllr Beale would like to thank the NPAC for their continued hard work and response to the increased sense of urgency to complete the plan. **Update on Sport in Stoke Golding (SISG)** Following information received from the quantity surveyor it was agreed that a meeting of SISG should take place to discuss the best way forward for this project.

**Update on memorial safety – gravestone repairs** The faculty has been confirmed and works are to be completed within five years. Following a failed safety inspection, works to lay down a memorial at St Margaret's churchyard were agreed, at a cost of £280.00. Comments from the PCC regarding the repair, replacement or removal of the railings around a grave at the churchyard were discussed. The Clerk to write to the PCC regarding the information received on this matter and the view of the Parish Council. The Clerk will seek advice from the Diocesan Advisory Committee, ahead of an application for a confirmatory faculty.

**Tree inspection report and works to trees** The work to trees/hedge at the recreation field was complete. Concerns regarding this work from a resident were noted. A price for new trees to be planted at Hinckley Road Cemetery was noted. The Clerk to contact HBBC regarding the provision of trees. **Wykin Lane Cemetery** It was agreed to proceed with a quote to replace gravel pathways with block paving, at an amended cost of £9700.00. EIP funding has been confirmed for £4300. Work will be completed in 3-4 weeks. **Proposals for play equipment for 12-18-year olds** Cllr Mclean to carry out initial investigations for a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).

Work to the recreation field pathways Options are still been investigated. Installation of benches It was agreed to proceed with re-installation of the circular bench, at a cost of £75.

**Police Newsletter** The Clerk to request a link from the police which could be shared on the village website and in the Stoker.

**Convent Drive play area** The Clerk to contact the Head of HBBC Planning to request an update and a site meeting to discuss on-going safety concerns. **Additional litter bins** Cllr Clover is currently collating information and this matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Councillor training** It was agreed to proceed with Councillor training on the 13<sup>th</sup> November, at a cost of £200.00 plus mileage allowance.

Arrangements for village Christmas tree Cllr Fisher to liaise with the Charity of Thomas Barton regarding the lights' switch on.

#### Communications received by the Clerk

**Written** National Highways and Transport Survey was noted and Cllr Clover to complete. Rural Strategy Review request to meet Councillors was noted - the Clerk to make the arrangements. Cemetery Administrator report regarding moles at WL Cemetery, grave at WL Cemetery and turfing of settled plots at HR/WL Cemeteries was noted - the Clerk to make the arrangements. Residents comments regarding mowing at the churchyard were noted and the Clerk to reply.

#### Next meeting - Methodist Hall, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm

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#### 10 of a Kind Answers

1. The Isle of Man

2. November 4<sup>th</sup> - he was going to detonate it the following day at the opening of Parliament.

3. Remove their hats – he or she shouts, "Hats off, strangers." 5. Portcullis

6. House of Lords – it is where the Lords' speaker sits.

- 7. Margaret Thatcher
- 8. The Scottish Parliament
- 9. The Daily Telegraph
- 10. 17<sup>th</sup> century

4. 5



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