

September 2021

No. 204

The Stoker



Stoke Golding Village Magazine

Including

Dadlington Matters

70p

Note from the Editor Stay safe - Kate



As you may notice, this editor post looks somewhat different. Jane and Steve have kindly invited me to join the editorial team, and this is my first attempt at editing the magazine with their help! I'd like to thank them for all their help and support as well as that of the whole Stoker team.

We hope everyone enjoyed summer either here in Stoke Golding or on their travels. This edition has some great sporting achievements for the local young football teams as well as summer events from the village, and the beautiful community sunflowers everyone has grown. We are looking forward to the joint celebration of our 20th Anniversary and the 60th anniversary since the village hall opened on the 5th of September, and hope to see many of you there. See page 3 for details. Finally, thank you to all those subscribers who have paid their subs, if you are still to pay or want to sign up for an annual subscription, the details can be found on page 9.

Kate

The Stoker Team

Editors: Jane White (01455 212416), Steve Smithers (01455 213798)
Kate Poyser Clark (01455 213744)

Production Team: Rosemary Collier, Ella Orr, Jan Pettyfer, Jill Webster,
Jennifer Michie, Michael Dix, Jan Zelenczuk, Sandra Pollard.

Please send articles for the **October** issue of The Stoker **by 15th September** 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: Harvest time by Colli Bob

Stoke Golding Village Hall and The Stoker Anniversary Celebrations

This year the village hall is celebrating its Diamond Anniversary (60 years) and The Stoker, 20 years of publications.

On Sunday 5th September the village hall will be open from 2 – 5pm for everyone to join us for tea and cakes (coffee, cold drinks and biscuits).

Do come and celebrate with us, and if you've never been in the hall, you'll see what a lovely venue it is for children's and adults' parties.

Cake contributions would be most welcome, and if you have any photos of the hall over the past 60 years, and would be happy for us to borrow them, please let me know. We would also be grateful for any bunting to help decorate the hall with. There will be a charity collection bucket for 'Toilet Twinning', as we hope to twin the village hall toilets with some in the poorest places in the world: www.toilettwinning.org
Many thanks

Ruth Fisher (on behalf of Stoke Golding Village Hall Management Committee)

01455 212489, 07790 628527, ruthsg21@btinternet.com



AGATHA CHRISTIE QUIZ by Avis

1. Which actress played Ariadne Oliver in several productions of Poirot?
2. What was the name of Agatha Christie's second husband?
3. What was the name of her first novel?
4. What was her maiden name?
5. Beth Ellis wrote a popular column for the Stoker each month, but in what production did she play Mrs. Boyle?
6. Who played Colonel Race in the film of Death on the Nile?
7. Which Miss Marple T.V. production did Hugh Bonneville play the Senior Detective?
8. Name the film and the two Dames who appeared with Peter Ustinov in an Agatha Christie adaptation?
9. In a Miss Marple adaptation of Murder at the Vicarage which Knight of the Realm played Colonel Protheroe?
10. Who were the four main stars of the film of Witness for the prosecution?

Answers on page 25

Community sunflowers of Stoke Golding

The lovely community sunflowers grown from the seeds given out by St Margaret's church at Easter have been brightening up many of the village gardens this summer. Here are a few of your photographs of them in bloom. What a cheery sight they are. Thank you to all the people who posted them on Facebook. Commiserations to those who lost them to the slugs and snails....mine suffered a similar fate. See how many more you can spot throughout the magazine.



Singing Together Again at Last!

Ambion Voices, Stoke Golding and Dadlington's Community Choir, enjoyed a wonderful, sunny August evening of singing and chatting (and maybe a drink or two) together after many months of being apart.

The choir has kept going throughout the pandemic using an online platform, but, although this has helped us to keep in touch, singing in our own living rooms without anyone else to join in with has started to lose its appeal. Singing is apparently one of the best ways to pass on infection, so the group has been understandably very cautious.

Thanks to Linda Gosling, who allowed us to use her beautiful garden for the occasion, we were able to exercise our vocal chords, singing along to the songs we recorded during lockdown.



During the evening we presented Rita Aston with a rose, aptly named 'Thank you', to show our appreciation for organising all our music over the past few years.



We are really looking forward to singing indoors again at the beginning of October at Stoke Golding Village Hall. This venue will give us space to be socially distanced while we are singing.

Here's to our next rehearsal together!

Jane White & Rachel Rees-Jones (choir leaders)

Worthy Winners!

Despite a disrupted season from Covid and the wet winter, Stoke Golding under 12 football team have had an amazing season in Division One of the Tamworth League. The team throughout the year have shown fantastic team spirit and you may have seen many of them running around the village and local area during lockdown to keep up their fitness. This personal investment, motivation and hard work later helped them win many of the close games and led to an end of season finale against last years league winners.

One match with everything on the line, where only a win would win the league. A great bunch gave it there absolute best for each other and ran themselves into the ground, as they had all season in a very competitive match. Well done Liam, William, Isaac, Ollie, Aidan, Lucas, Joseph, Ricardo, Bode, Charlie, Ben, Noah, Charlie, Fred and a special mention for George. He epitomised the team ethos, having later found to have played most the final game with a fractured forearm, but still scored both goals as the team came from behind to win 2-1and Stoke Golding win the league!!

The club, parents and coaches are very proud of the team's achievements, that were delivered with the strong values and sportsmanship throughout. Thank you to the club committee and our parents, especially Chloe and the linesman volunteers, and thank you again to the Thomas Barton Charity for supporting the local club and our team.

David and Charles (Under 12 coaches)



Division 1 Champions!!

Stoke Golding under 13s have been crowned champions of the Tamworth and District Football league. They finished six points clear of second place losing only two games all season. After being top and well clear of both the Tamworth and Leicestershire league last season, lockdown stopped the team in its tracks. Winning the league this season was richly deserved with all of the team and coaching staff showing great commitment and quality to come back and lift the league title this season.

A big congratulations to everyone associated with the team....not bad for a little village club.

Scott Tetchner (manager)



Congratulations to all the boys in both teams. Well done on your success and your dedication from us all on the Stoker team.



The iconic Black-browed Albatross at Bempton Cliffs

The albatross is generally confined to the southern hemisphere, the black-browed breeding in the South Atlantic. So Sunday the 4th July was a very special day as I managed to encounter one at Bempton Cliffs. It had appeared at this location from the previous Monday to Wednesday though ironically I was tied up with the car going in for a service and other annual chores related. It did something of a bunk from Thursday up until the appearance again on Sunday though I did have more than a suspicion, based on knowledge of previous occurrences on this coast, that it had continued north across to Denmark. This very same bird has made very brief annual appearances among the gannets at Bempton in more recent times though hardly giving sufficient time for those living some distance away to connect. A longer stay of one on the mainland coast is certainly unprecedented, so this time hordes of birders have managed to catch up with a species for so long considered unattainable.

Naturally I keep records but the fact that my British list now totals 510 species is quite naturally incidental to seeing the actual birds. Though the black-browed Albatross does very occasionally turn up in Britain the most famous was “Albert”- fully Albert Ross- who first appeared on the Bass Rock gannetry in 1969 then subsequently Hermaness, Shetland, almost annually from 1972 to 1995. In 2004 another stayer appeared, yet again of course in a gannetry, this time at Sula Sgeir, a rocky outcrop forty miles north- west of the most northerly tip of the Western Isles of Scotland. Over the years birders have forked out a fortune to visit these two locations. Please use the internet to read some of the experiences of birders who have made such momentous journeys; truly fascinating!

David Abbott

Image by Trevor Charlton courtesy of the BBC



Subscription renewals are now due for October 2021-September 2022

Hello all subscription members. If you currently have a subscription with us, your renewals are now due. As we enjoyed a celebratory 20th anniversary free issue this year thanks to the Thomas Barton Trust, the amount for the next annual subscription will be £6.30

We would be most grateful if you could pay electronically by BACS to the Stoker bank account - Account Name: Stoke Golding Village Magazine, Account No: 60748536, Sort Code: 20 23 60. Please identify your payment using the first 4 letters of the street you live in followed by the first 4 letters of your surname. We would be grateful if you could email us at thestoker@gmx.co.uk to let us know you have made a BACS payment so we can check it has gone through ok.

If you cannot pay this way, we can of course accept cheques made payable to the Stoke Golding Village Magazine, or cash in envelopes, which you can drop in at the below addresses.

Jane White – 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding

Kate Clark – 23 Wykin Lane, Stoke Golding

Sandra Pollard – 87 Hinckley Road, Stoke Golding

Michael Dix – 14 Shenton Lane, Dadlington

If you cannot manage to deliver the subscription, or you require any help or assistance please do contact me on 01455 213744 or email me at katepoyserclark@gmail.com

If you are interested in joining our subscription service to the Stoker the annual subscription is £7.00, please email or call me to set up your subscription.

Many thanks to all our volunteers who deliver the Stoker we couldn't do it without you.

Kate Poyser Clark



Ducks on parade

What a great picture of the ducks at Duck Bend, aka the Bath Piece!

Picture was sent in by Carole Brettell

Stoke Golding Lockup



Following my piece in the last Stoker about visiting a number of village lockups on the Leicestershire-Derbyshire border and asking for information on a lockup in Stoke, I was contacted by fellow Stoker team member Jill Webster. She tells me that Stoke Golding did indeed once have a lockup which was demolished in 1925. It was located on the corner of Main Street and Hinckley Road opposite where the village sign now stands, and it appears on an ordnance survey map of 1886 as an inn.

In Hall's history of the village (1941), he refers to it as 'The Rising Sun', an ale house, and states that it also doubled up as the village lockup. As the majority of miscreants incarcerated in the lockup were likely to be drunks, this must have made the parish constable's job fairly easy, locking them in at the end of a heavy night's drinking.

M Dix

St Margaret's Church, Stoke Golding – Help Needed!

Our Treasurer is retiring after 10 years. We are looking for a member of our community with some experience of book keeping to volunteer for this unpaid role. There is no need for the person to be a member of the congregation. The person would only need produce accounts for the Church Council every 2 months and attend 2 meetings a year. Please speak to David Goodsell 01455 212955 to find out further details.

Birth Announcement

Vivien Louise McQuade, from Station Road, was born at Leicester Royal on 15th June 2021 at 9:38 weighing 7lbs 13oz to delighted parents Jamie and Gemma.

Congratulations from all the Stoker team.



Ten of a Kind – September 21

20 years ago in September 2001, about a million children spent a minute jumping up and down on their school playgrounds in an experiment to see if the vibrations caused would register as an earthquake. Here are ten questions on earthquakes and other natural phenomena.

1. So, did the children register an earthquake – yes, barely or no?
2. Which volcano erupted in 79AD destroying the towns of Pompei and Herculaneum?
3. Which former volcano is the highest point in Leicestershire?
4. What is the name of the fault line that runs for 1,200 km in California?
5. What is Old Faithful, found in Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming?
6. What name is given to the molten rock before it leaves a volcano and becomes lava?
7. In which county do you find the spa towns of Droitwich Spa, Malvern and Tenbury Wells?
8. What name is given to a huge wave caused by underwater earthquakes or volcanoes?
9. What name is given to the scale that measures the magnitude of earthquakes?
10. What event caused an earthquake measuring 0.3 on that scale, on 27th February 2016, by the side of the River Soar in Leicester?

Answers on page 33

Christening Announcement

Henrietta Elizabeth Burton

On the 1st August 2021 at St Peter's, Higham on the Hill.

Alex and Mark would like to thank her godparents Arthur Shorthouse, Rhiannon Cornick, Sophie Burton and Charlotte Burton and all their family and friends for supporting Henrietta on this important day. A big

thank you to Dean Mark and everyone at St Peters for a lovely service, the Stoke Golding Club for their hospitality and a special thanks to Joy Alstead for the wonderful Christening cake.



Navigators and Explorers badges and a meeting with Dr Luke Evans MP

The end of term raced past with the group benefitting from the good weather. It's hard to reflect back on a summer term when it is currently raining after a particularly hot few weeks.

The cubs have continued with their Navigator badge by designing a route to the school from their home, with some interesting designs. They have also been out for a circular walk from the Village Hall with maps in hand to look at features on their route.

The Beavers did part of their Explorers badge by completing a walk from Sutton Cheney wharf to the battlefield centre and after a snack and drink and run around they walked back still full of energy.

The scouts and Explorers had the local MP Dr Luke Evans and representatives from District and County Scout group to congratulate the group on their superb effort with litter picking for "Mucky March". Dr Evans was grilled by the Scouts and Explorers with in-depth questioning on mental health issues and the environment. The representatives were impressed with the maturity of the Scouts and Explorers with their questions.

All sections of the group finished the summer term with football, rounders and hotdogs a fitting end of the summer term.

The Group's AGM has been postponed to Thursday 26th August and hopefully it will take place Face 2 Face.

It only leaves me to thank the leaders and in particular John and Fionna for all their hard work throughout the year and in particular organising the virtual sessions. Thus keeping the group going during the pandemic and I know parents have been very grateful for the support of the Scout Group and it's made a big difference for a lot of individuals.



Jennifer Michie

Battlefields and Borderlands Way – an update

Regular readers of the Stoker will be familiar with the above book which I co-wrote with Eddie Smallwood last year. For those unfamiliar with this informative tome, the 'Way' is a 42-mile circular walk that begins in Witherley and passes through our two villages as well as the sites of battles, skirmishes and sieges from various times in our area's past. Our original print run of a thousand copies ran out in the new year and we have brought out a second edition which is also selling well. Sales have been helped through having an article in the Leicester Mercury and the walk being featured in a supplement to the Observer. This resulted in our first 'international' sale – well Aberdeen!

Copies at the bargain price of £6.50 are available locally at Bosworth Battlefield, The White Dove Gallery at Shenton, Atherstone Stables and Market Bosworth newsagents. Alternatively, you can also order a copy direct from Eddie by email: eddie.smallwood@btinternet.com and he will deliver it free to anyone living in Stoke Golding or Dadlington. Finbar saw the last article about this book, and as you can read below, is walking it for charity. **Michael and Eddie will donate £1.50 of every book sold mentioning Finbar to his charity.**

M Dix

Finbar's charity walk 42 miles along the Battlefields and Borderland's Way

Finbar aged 6 is doing a sponsored walk over the summer holidays to raise money for his local Riding for the Disabled Association (Arden RDA). Finbar said that he wanted to help this charity as at Covid's peak they were forced to sell a horse to keep going.



Finbar loves horses and riding, and wants to support this amazing charity.

He is walking the 42 mile Battlefields and Borderlands Way over the summer holidays. Finbar and his mum Emily found out about this walk and book from the Stoker inspiring him to walk it for his favourite charity.

Do you want to join him in making a difference to all those who come to ride with Arden RDA? Thank you in advance for any contribution to this cause that means so much to Finbar and his proud Mum Emily

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/finbars-battlefield-and-borderlands-way-walk>

Good luck Finbar from us all on the Stoker team

Locals of Note 2: Justice Temple - Regicide

The buildings in Wellsborough, now occupied by the Dixie Grammar School junior department, stand on the site of Temple Hall where, in around 1599, Peter Temple was born. The third son of a wealthy landowner, he was apprenticed to a linen draper in London but, on the death of his two older brothers, he inherited the hall and returned to Leicestershire. These were turbulent times for England as the English Civil War broke out between the Royalists supporting King Charles I and the Parliamentarians. Following an outbreak in hostilities in 1642, Peter, a captain of the horse with the Parliamentarian army, rose to prominence in Leicestershire. He was appointed to committees for the defence of Leicester and for the management of the militia and in 1644, he was elected High Sheriff of Leicestershire. In 1645, he was involved in raising supplies for the Scottish army that had arrived in Leicester, but as the Royalist forces approached in May that year, he withdrew his troops to Rockingham, an act that saw him accused, by some, of cowardice. During the siege of Leicester, he was in the relative safety of London, but it seems to have done him no harm as he was chosen to be a Freeman of Leicester and was elected a Member of Parliament.

At some point in his life, he became a judge and in January 1648 he was one of judges who condemned Charles I to death, signing the death warrant two days later, the sixteenth of fifty signatories. This made him a regicide: one who has killed a king. During the Commonwealth that followed, Peter was both active as an MP and as a militia commissioner for Leicestershire, based at Coleorton. However, his circumstances changed dramatically on the restoration of the monarchy and the return of Charles II. In June 1660, he surrendered himself and was imprisoned in the Tower of London. The outcome for regicides under the new monarch was bleak. Most were sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn, where Marble Arch stands today. Even the deceased didn't escape this fate: Oliver Cromwell's body was removed from Westminster Abbey and his severed head placed upon a pole on top of Westminster Hall. Peter pleaded not guilty at his trial but was condemned to death. However, he pleaded against this and had his sentence commuted to life imprisonment. He was returned to the Tower where he died three years later, his lands in Wellsborough being given to the king's brother, James, later King James II.

M Dix



Stoke Golding Surgery Update

Dear Patients we are sorry for the delay in putting the Flu clinics on this year, deliveries are scheduled for mid-September and early October, but there are some additional issues we need to work out as NHS England have said there is a possibility of giving COVID boosters and Influenza's at the same time for all our patients over 50 and those on the chronic disease register that normally get an influenza injection. What is delaying the process is a lack of information regarding delivery of the COVID vaccines, what type and how long patients need to sit after the jabs etc, which has a big impact on how it is organised. Meetings are taking place over the next week with our clinical commissioning group and we hope we will then be able to put the correct timings on the appointments and release the dates, but rest assured it will happen and we hope you will bear with us and book with us when it's available.

We have a new member of the team, Natalie, who will be working Monday- Wednesday at Stoke Golding along with a member of the Hinckley team, Amanda, on a Thursday. We hope this mix of staff will help the Sara's and Julie who have done a marvellous job during the pandemic despite the lack of staff.

In September 3 new nurses will start at Castle Mead, Tamyka, Helen and Anne-Marie. They will take their turn in coming over to Stoke Golding. Every day should be covered by either a nurse or Health care assistant once they are trained. Amanda Thompson, our Nurse Practitioner will also be running an urgent on the day clinic Monday, Wednesday Thursday and Friday mornings at Stoke Golding.

The pharmacies are running a new service and our staff have been trained to refer patients to them for minor issues that over the counter medication can be brought for colds, coughs congestion, earache, conjunctivitis, constipation, diarrhoea, infant colic, hayfever, simple urine infection, dermatitis, cold sores etc, etc. Nationally GPs should not prescribe medication on prescription that can be bought cheaply over the counter.



*Castle Mead and Stoke Golding
Surgeries*



Dadlington Matters

Anyone for Tea?

August 2021 saw the return of Dadlington's much loved Church fundraiser - the Cream Tea at Hall Farm.



This quintessentially English event was wonderfully hosted by Mark, Kate and Serena Walker who had ensured that the garden looked suitably splendid and the setting was perfect.

Caroline Fielden and her excellent team of helpers made sure that the tea flowed and

home made cakes kept appearing all afternoon. This mouth-watering selection of cakes, made by local villagers, simply could not have been surpassed.

Donated plants were sold and the ubiquitous book stall and tombola all helped to boost takings.

Many very generous prizes had been donated for the raffle and all of this led to total of £3007.24 raised for St James' Church. This will be a much-needed boost to their funds after a challenging year.



Thank you to all who helped put the many marquees up and to those helpers on the day who made it such a success. A final thanks to the 200 people who attended and enjoyed the afternoon enormously.



Simon Rees-Jones

Dadlington Flower Festival - Friday 24th, Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th September 2021.

Please join us at St. James' Church Dadlington. The theme this year



“A Night at the Movies”.

Open 12 - 5pm each day.

Soup and a roll served from 12.00 to 2.00pm, with teas, coffee, cakes etc served all day.



There is also a Raffle, Tombola and other Stalls in the Village Hall.

Screen on the Green

Dadlington Village Hall's Screen on the Green is looking forward to opening up again this autumn with four excellent films for your enjoyment. We will be starting with a “Fantastic” film from 2016.

Our license agreements does not allow us to publicise the films in the Stoker as it is not a free magazine but all the details are on our website: <http://www.dadlingtonvillagehall.co.uk/screen-on-the-green.html>

At the time of going to press, we are unsure of how many we will be able to accommodate for this first film. In order to secure a place, please telephone Glenis or Phil Kitely on 01455 212189. Places will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. Once a decision has been reached on numbers, it will appear on the website and we will operate a waiting list. As it stands, there will be no admission on the night without a reserved ticket. However, this may change. Once again, please check the website.

Tickets cost £3 for your first drink and doors open at 7pm with the film commencing at 7:30. The dates for the remainder of the year are:

- Friday 10th September
- Friday 8th October
- Friday 12th November
- Friday 10th December



Coffee morning at Dadlington Village Hall is back!

Thursday 9 September at 10.15am

We look forward to seeing our regulars and new faces for lovely cake, coffee and chat.



Live Music & Theatre returns to Stoke Golding Village Hall

We are very excited to be back for the 2021/22 season with professional live music and theatre at Stoke Golding Village Hall. We are also very excited about the acts we have managed to book through the Live and Local rural touring scheme. These are quality professional performances on your doorstep.



To kick us off, on Sat 2nd October 2021 we have “Tears of Laughter” featuring the virtuoso mandolin of Simon Mayer and the honeyed vocals of Hilary James performing what the Guardian call ‘A witty and captivating mix of folk, swing, blues and classical showstoppers’.

Next up on Sat 20th November we have secured a theatre production of Three Men in a Boat featuring Giles Shenton. The Telegraph describes this as a ‘Pitch-perfect comedy about, well, three men in a boat’.



Moving into 2022, on the Sat 19th February we have returning guests, in the form of She’Koyokh performing as a quartet. Last time around they brought the house down with their lively mix of Balkan and klezmer music – put on your dancing shoes!

All shows are in Cabaret format, so bring your own drinks and nibbles. We are mindful that Covid remains a dynamic situation and so will carry out a Covid risk assessment prior to each show and take appropriate precautions.

This season we are offering credit card booking through Ticketsource. What’s more we are absorbing all booking and credit card fees. Tickets are priced at £12 each. How tempting is that? We advise you to book early.

To find out more details about the shows and to book tickets online, visit our website www.stokegoldingvillagehall.co.uk/events or contact Alan at stokearts@gmail.com; 01455 212416.



The biggest sunflower in Stoke Golding?

Thanks to Vicky Brine and Max (next to the sunflower) for sending this picture of their whopping 9 and a half foot sunflower! Let us know if there is one taller.

Charity Fun Day at the George and Dragon

The George and Dragon held its annual charity fun day on the 15th August. The event was a great success raising a total of £3,095 which will be split between the Nuneaton Wildlife Sanctuary, the Earl Shilton



centre for Age UK and Georgie's Gift. There were also collections made for the Little Princesses Trust through the sale of Avis Raynor's cookbook, which raised £85 and by Lucy Godsmark who had her hair cut for this great charity, as well as for Rainbows Hospice. You can read more about Lucy's haircut below.



Alex Burton was pleased to see the return of this important charity event and wanted to thank all on the charity committee for the smooth planning and their hard work on the day as



well as all those who volunteered their time and services on the day. The auction drew a great crowd, and as always there were many generous prizes on offer supplied by many local companies. After great entertainment, browsing the stalls and plenty delicious cakes

everyone had plenty to smile about. Thankfully the weather behaved too! It was great to see so many people out enjoying themselves again and catching up with each other after the lockdown prevented these events happening last summer.



Lucy's courageous cut!

As part of the charity fun day held at the George and Dragon on Sunday 15th August, Lucy Godsmark, barmaid from the pub, had 21 inches of hair cut off for the Little Princesses Trust. Lucy's extreme makeover has raised



so far an amazing £399 for the Little Princesses Trust and £514 for Rainbows Hospice. Rainbows Hospice played a vital role in providing care for Lucy's sister Amy, and Lucy and her family regularly raise money for the hospice to honor Amy's memory. Lucy would like to thank Anne Wigley for her beautiful haircut, and



for donating her time for such a worthwhile cause.

Update on Stoke Golding's Neighbourhood Plan

In April, the Parish Council sent an updated draft Neighbourhood Plan to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) for the next stage in the consultation (the Regulation 16 consultation). HBBC conducted this in May and June, and the Plan has now moved on to its Examination. An independent Examiner has been appointed and the Examination commenced on 2nd August - it is likely to run until late September. The Examiner will consider whether the Plan meets the necessary regulatory requirements, as well as considering the comments from HBBC and other parties (including the Parish Council). He will then rule on the acceptability of the Plan - passing, requiring change or rejecting as appropriate.

The Plan submitted in April had already been updated for the planning approval on the land east of Roseway (65 homes) and included Mulberry Farm as a 25 home reserve site to give future flexibility around housing growth.

However, after submission of the Plan, there was the unexpected, and much opposed, approval of the 55 homes in Wykin Lane at the Planning Appeal. Since this approval has now been given, it is logical to add these 55 dwellings into the proposed housing supply.

We also now know HBBC cannot currently demonstrate a five-year supply of deliverable housing sites. This lack of a five-year supply of deliverable housing triggers something called the 'tilted balance', which alters the regulations to make getting planning permission easier for developers.

To give some protection for local communities, the regulations provide those parishes which have an up-to-date neighbourhood plan in place some limited protection against this tilted balance presumption. To benefit from this protection, the Plan must be approved by referendum, must meet the local housing need and must contain a housing allocation.

The scope of what is considered a 'housing allocation' does not include our two planning approvals for Roseway and Wykin Lane, which are designated as 'windfall'. We currently include Mulberry Farm in our Plan as a 'reserve' site but the Parish Council will seek to alter this into a full allocation to benefit from neighbourhood plan protection.

The Plan has progressed beyond the point where Parish Council can make unilateral changes to it and, therefore, we need to work with the Examiner to get desired changes incorporated.

With the Roseway approval (65 dwellings), Wykin Lane approval (55 dwellings), Mulberry Farm allocation (25 dwellings), the housing supply increases to 145 homes plus any further windfall.

Throughout the Plan's preparation, HBBC have been unable to supply a target minimum housing figure. However, they have suggested we should consider a population-based approach, with a target of 144 homes plus a 10% safety buffer, which takes their overall proposed target to 158 homes.

We are currently at 145 homes plus windfall. For a few more windfall homes, we are proposing to the Examiner a solution compliant with HBBC's comments, i.e. Roseway (65) + Wykin Lane (55) + Mulberry Farm (25) + windfall (13) = 158 homes.

It is likely to be late September before we receive feedback on the acceptability of this proposal and the plan more generally.

Mervyn Ward

Sprucing up the Baxter Hall



Thanks to the efforts of a number of willing volunteers, the Baxter Hall has been cleaned and painted ready for the new term to start in September. The garden next to the hall by the school path has been tidied up too. Here are some of the decorators and gardeners hard at work!



The Baxter Hall Charity will soon be officially managing the building after a year of fighting for it's survival as a community space.

If you would like to find out more information about the hall including how to book it, please visit our website www.thebaxterhall.com.

Jane White

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The parish council would welcome any ideas to celebrate this momentous occasion next June. Please let the parish council know what you think would be good village-wide activities, such as street parties, themed decoration of the village etc. You can send any ideas to Katie on the parish council at katie.sgpc@gmail.com



Bob's Focus - good news on the canal for the water voles

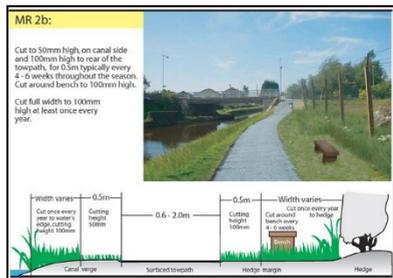
Well it looks like things are starting to warm up now, Summer this year has been a bit stop and start but according to the weather man tonight we have a bit of high pressure on the way. Well we have to believe the weather man don't we? Michael Fish has never got over his quote on 15th of October 1987 when he said "Earlier on today, apparently, a woman rang the BBC and said she heard there was a hurricane on the way. Well, if you're watching, don't worry, there isn't!". So in view of that I'll go and consult the pine cones, wet my finger and stick it in the air! Right, this water vole thing that I have a bee in my bonnet about, the contractors turned up again last week and did their usual, prompting another couple of emails from grumpy here who also mentioned that the contractors were breaching the wildlife and Countryside Act.

I'll summarise the response as I know some of you will be getting bored with this but I do believe it is now positive and will see our towpaths change for the better.

Firstly I was thanked for reporting these problems to the CRT, if I hadn't have reported them, nothing would have been done.

They have now had a meeting with the contractors on the ground and sent them a new mowing regime, their GIS (mapping team) will be updating their database re the voles colonies so they sincerely hope this is the last time we will see a full width cut other than the winter cut.

The change in the spec that will affect us is that from bridge 19-42 that will be the same spec as the SSSI from Carlton that will enhance the fringe giving cover for the voles, letting the flowers flower etc. Moorings and bridge approaches will still be cut to the edge as they are throughout the network, so we will watch this space. I am also looking into the possibility of a SSSI with Natural England although this may be a longer process.



Right, hopefully we can put this one to bed for a while.

Yesterday I did one of my favourite local circular walks from SG, through the fields to Shenton and back, beautiful early morning walk, got soaked as the undergrowth was still full of the previous nights rain but it's only water. Wildlife wise, although the birds were in good voice I didn't actually see a lot and the camera shutter only woke up briefly to catch a Chiff Chaff perched fairly low in a tree.



When I got home I sat on the patio bench by the pond and started to tease off my rather muddy and soaking wet boots, my attention was down to a butterfly that silently passed my shoulder and landed on the Magnolia over the pond, no way would I get to my camera before it flew away, but I did. *Limnitis Camilla*, a White Admiral, usually found in woodland in southern Britain, in my garden!

Sometimes you can search too hard when all you really need is on your doorstep, sighting reported to Nature Spot. Enjoy the next few weeks and wear sunscreen.



Bob Wills



Interested in joining a Creative Workshop?

This is a message to all the inspiring, creative, and artistic people that we have in our villages today. Would you like to attend a local community workshop on a weekly or fortnightly basis?

You are invited to bring your work, sharing our knowledge and skills with each other as we create in our own space.

This workshop will initially be for 3 hours between 9.30 and 12.30, subject to the interest shown, on a weekly or fortnightly basis. The venue will be the Baxter Hall as soon as it becomes available, which is likely to be around the end of September.

Please let me know if you are interested. I can be contacted by phone or email.

Thank you, Doreen Rose
dor.rose@btinternet.com
01455 213798

Staffroom Memories 30: Dinner Ladies

Who'd want to be a dinner lady? I reckon Lunchtime Supervisors, to give them their official title, have one of the hardest jobs in schools. After three hours bottling the children up inside, insisting that they concentrate, that they work diligently, that they put in maximum effort, they are then released into the care of these unsung heroes for an hour of eating and letting off steam. The least trained members of staff spend half their time encouraging reluctant eaters to maybe try some vegetables, before heading outside in all weathers to attempt to stop the children from attacking each other. Unlike other staff, who get all day to build up the precious relationships that do so much to ensure good discipline in school, the supervisor has just an hour with the children. At my last school, we did train our supervisors in how they could develop play with their young charges and how to ensure the children were safe and well behaved, but they had their work cut out.

In my second school, we had a lovely lady who was both the lollipop lady, seeing the children safely across the road at the start and end of the day, and the lead dinner lady, although, come to think of it, I'm not sure she was ever appointed to that position: she just assumed it. She was not a lady to be argued with and the dinner hall was an orderly place. The only issue I ever had, as I ate my meals alongside the children, was that every lunchtime, as you sat quietly eating your turkey twizzlers, the air would be rent by this lady's thundering voice informing one and all that, "There's too much noise in here!" No-one ever felt brave enough to enlighten her that she was the cause of it.

As a headteacher, I got on well with my lunchtime staff who did an amazing job. However, we didn't always see eye to eye. As the growth in digital technology meant children were spending more and more of their free time in front of screens, they seemed to find it harder to play when deprived of their beloved phones and tablets. The school bought lots of equipment for them to use at lunchtimes; balls, hoops, stilts, ropes. We operated a hire system that ensured the children treated them with respect and returned them once they'd finished with them. There were some arguments over the equipment but, by and large, lunchtimes became far more civilised. Every so often, the lead supervisor would come to me to complain that behaviour was getting worse and their solution was always to ban the equipment. I had to steer a tricky path between taking on their concerns, showing support, and enacting an equipment ban that I knew would make their job infinitely more difficult.

M Dix

Official opening of the faith and reflection garden at St Margaret's Primary School

On the 21st of June there was a socially distanced official opening of the Faith and Reflection garden, welcoming Mrs Ann Jones from The Thomas Barton Trust and Mrs Sally Robertshaw from St Margaret's PTA. Sadly no one from the Alderman Newton Educational Foundation was available to attend.

Two of the year six girls read out a prayer of thanks in front of the prayer tree and Mrs Jones cut the ribbon to official open the garden.



Andrea Mepstead, the School Business Manager wanted to say a huge thankyou to all the contributors that have funded the garden, and that it will provide an inspirational area for the whole of the school community to be quiet, reflect and pray. The garden has running water in the form of a small pond area with a fountain, seating and planting

Answers to Agatha Christie Quiz

1. Zoe Wanamaker, 2. Max Mallowan (The Archaeologist), 3. The Mysterious Affair at Styles, 4. Agatha Miller, 5. The Mousetrap, 6. David Niven, 7. The Mirror Crack'd, 8. Dame Diana Rigg and Dame Maggie Smith in Evil Under The Sun, 9. Sir Derek Jacobi, 10. Charles Laughton, Tyrone Power, Marlene Dietrich and Elsa Lanchester.

Fool on the Hill Lap of the Gods.....

The more politically astute of you may be aware of the existence of a chap called Dominic Cummins who, by his activities during the Pandemic, did much to enhance the tourist potential of Barnard Castle. He was also rather chummy with our current Prime Minister until Boris made him go and stand outside number 10 with a dunce's hat on his head. He has subsequently taken on the role of school sneak and let no opportunity pass him by to put the boot into his former employer. His latest pronouncement is to report that the PM had said (allegedly) that he was surprised to find himself in his current position and by inference, that he was not equal to the task. Many would no doubt concur. However in fairness to the blond bombshell, nobody is really up to that job because it is a fundamentally impossible task. Every day brings a new and disparate problem that the media will seek to question him on in the hope that he will trip up, and they get a good headline. How on earth is anyone supposed to get a grip on the correct way to deal with a bunch of lunatics rampaging across the Middle East when the next day you are called to explain why Mrs Ramsbottom's sofa has floated out of her front window in Barrow in Furness? Never mind a pandemic or Brexit or why our new warships seem to have taken on the properties of a colander. While he squirms in the glare of the media headlights, the honourable members opposite are lining up to pour fuel on the bonfire of his discomfort. If at any time your own tribe perceive that you are becoming a liability then better watch out for a repeat of the messy bit in the Julius Caesar tale. Some will fare better than others but ultimately all leaders will fail because they are doing a superhuman job whilst being hampered by the fact that they are human.

I have been giving this matter some thought and have concluded that the solution to this human frailty is to get yourself a god or two. Greek and Roman history is littered with deities who were responsible for the sea or the weather or war or whatever. Thus, whenever anything went wrong you could simply explain that the people had, in some unspecified way, displeased the relevant entity or more simply pass it off as the will of Zeus or whoever and, as he was a god, you as a poor mortal could never understand his methodology. The lines of communication between mortals and deities were such as to render a complaints procedure a bit difficult. As the invention of gods is now a bit old hat why don't we try something else? Let's just accept that our leaders are human, with all that this entails, and thank goodness that there are people out there willing to take on this thankless task.



F.O.T.H

Obituaries

Pamela Newell

Pamela Newell, beloved wife of Harold, loving mum to Kim, Karen, Tracy, Philip and the late Andrew. A very special grandma and great grandma, passed away on 8th July, 2021, aged 84 years. Will be sadly missed by her loving family and friends. Donations in memory of Pam to Macmillan Cancer Support via W Smith and Sons, Funeral Directors, Avenue Road, Nuneaton, CV11 4JT.

Colin Draycott

Colin Draycott of Poplars Farm, Dadlington, passed away peacefully at home on 26th July, 2021, aged 77 years. Beloved husband of Merle, much loved dad of Anthony and Kate and loving grandad to William, Rosie, Lillie, Archie, Charlie and Sam. Donations in memory of Colin to Air Ambulance and British Heart Foundation via G.Seller, Funeral Directors, Upper Bond Street, Hinckley.

Robert John Baxter

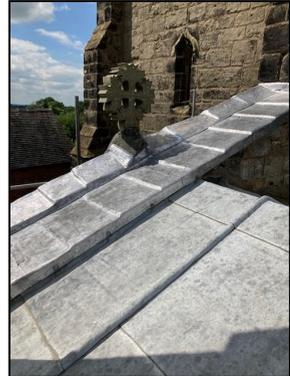
Robert John Baxter, formerly of Stoke Golding, passed away at home on 5th August, 2021, aged 66 years. Beloved husband of Debbie, much loved father to Kyran and Kyle, grandad to Joshua and Scarlet and brother to Steve. Donations in memory of Robert to Help for Heroes, via McCartneys Funeral Directors, 47, Coventry Road, Hinckley.

We send our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Pamela, Colin and Robert from the Stoker team.



St Margarets - Church Restoration, Update Blog 14

It has been a while since the last update - mainly due to the works slowing a little over the Summer. The main reason for this was the limecrete floor that took longer to dry than initially anticipated - nearly 3 weeks. Work though has been taking place particularly on the roof with lead work to fix various leaks and ingress including the West window of the South aisle. In addition repointing works have been completed at a number of locations on the external walls (please note the 'different' stone on the repointing picture was part of a previous restoration).



Most strikingly though work has started in the last week on laying the Ancaster stone slabs. It has to be said that they are both sympathetic in nature as well as being incredibly beautiful. They certainly complement the existing aesthetics of the church. The stone slabs are substantial in nature and will take time to settle on the thick bed of motar being laid.





It is worth noting that a small section of the floor has been kept aside for the insertion of the glass panel providing a view to the original pillar foundations. This was first mentioned in blog 7 and will now come to fruition providing an interesting internal feature to the church.

Ian Baines, (Stoke Golding Photography & Walking)

Additional lead works photos by Midlands Stone Masonry

A Change of View

Five hundred years ago our view from the village would have been quite different from the one we see today of neatly hedged small fields. Then we would have been looking out over three huge open fields, a common and meadows near the streams. A recent plague had reduced the population by almost half and landlords tried to solve the double difficulty of expensive labour and untilled ground by enclosing the large fields to promote sheep farming. A national law required everyone over the age of seven to wear a cap of wool on Sundays, but in 1584 the Manorial Court of Stoke Golding found that most of the local inhabitants were not complying with the order and were each fined 8 pence. In 1591 the Lordship of Stoke Golding was sold to Sir John Harington and in 1601 the three large fields of the village began to be enclosed. However, in 1604 the Lordship was sold off to 25 people. Local commissioners gave instructions to the new owners to fence or hedge their land and to provide tracks and drainage, all within twelve months. But, many of the new landlords fenced only their outer boundaries, leaving the inner hedges for a year or two as the legal costs of enclosure worked out at more than £1 an acre. Many of the new owners moved out of the village and built their houses out in their newly acquired fields thus necessitating new tracks to be constructed, creating the view of the countryside we see and love today. What will our view be in 2521? And will we still love it?

Jill Webster

Church Matters



From St Margaret's and St James's Church



By the time you read this article, the Tokyo Olympics will have ended and the Para Olympics will be in full flow. A year later than intended and with such strict

Covid protocols meaning no spectators and very restricted contact between athletes, many (including me) wondered about cancelling them until 2024. Nevertheless, the events were televised across the world so we could all share the atmosphere generated by the athletes themselves - the BBC managed some 300 hours. Held they were. And what joy at seeing all the hard work put in by the athletes, coaches, friends and families coming to fruition and showing it off to the world. Unlike other world events, the Olympics brings together all those disciplines over several weeks, providing an opportunity for athletes from all over the world to come together and simply enjoy the moment. For many, this will be their first Olympic Games and a lifetime experience – they may participate in more Olympics but...

“Going to Church” has been something like this. It would be easy to suggest that without TV or facebook or Zoom during the pandemic going to church would be a distant memory. However, backroom stuff has continued even during lockdown – churches open for private prayer, telephone or letter contact with isolated people in the community, parish magazines produced. With the opening of churches for services, slowly but surely people are returning as we reassure them it is safe to do so. To give some context, perhaps the 2020/1 Olympic Games and our return to church remind us there is a light at the end of the tunnel. We welcome the ‘regulars’ but let us not forget there may be people for whom this will be their first experience of a significant change in their life. May it be more than a one off “lifetime experience”.

Let us not forget – God is our light, strength and protector no matter what comes our way. It is up to each of us to seek a true friendship with God, someone with whom we can laugh with, cry with, shout at, knowing that bond will not break – sharing this with others who are just starting out is part of our background support.

For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: in returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength (Isaiah Chap 30 Verse 15)

Keith Cornford

Church of England June Services Services September 2021

St James' Church

12 September 10.30am Benefice Communion

19 September 9.00am Morning Prayer

St Margaret's is still being renovated so remains closed for the present.

THE METHODIST CHURCH SEPTEMBER SERVICES

5th	10.30 am	Revd Patricia Mucorombindo
12th	10.30 am	T.B.A.
19th	10.30 am	Mr Nigel Roberts
26th	10.30 am	Revd Steve Hoggar (Harvest Festival)

Macmillan Coffee morning The Methodist Church Hall

SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER

10.30 am-11.30am



All Welcome

Closure of the Zion Particular Baptist Chapel

We sadly received the news from Malcolm Welch that due to an ageing congregation and declining numbers, the decision was made that the chapel had to close. The last service was held on the 1st August led by Mr Joe D'Souza. The chapel will not be holding any further services. The Baptist community was set up in the village in the 1840's, with meetings held in the home of Mary Brotherhood. In 1852 Mary was left a legacy of £300 and although extremely poor, she purchased land next to her cottage for the building of a Particular Baptist Chapel devoting the whole sum to her project and the chapel was opened on 6th July 1853. Mary died in 1870. Another benefactress Mrs Rubly of Dadlington, joined the church soon after Mary's death and in 1875 she paid £453 to enlarge the chapel and build a schoolroom, and new seats, a new pulpit and baptistry were provided. She too, willed a house and six cottages to support the church. The congregation although not large, continued the cause until sadly the decision being recently made to close.



We welcomed Julie Ede who gave us a wonderful talk on Coco Chanel. We also welcomed guests.

We had a show of slides depicting Coco's amazing life. She started off as a very poor orphaned girl, a situation which she hid for the rest of her life. She designed simple dresses which were the opposite of much of the fashion at the time and this made her designs stand out. She used little black dresses with white collars and cuffs, reminiscent of the nuns who were involved in her childhood. She was sponsored by a succession of wealthy and influential men, and amassed a great deal of personal wealth. She maintained her slim build and looked young even when she was in her 60s.

She had a contract with MGM for 1 million dollars and advised on design, then returned to Paris during the depression. She organised a diamond exhibition to lift spirits. During the war she stayed at the Ritz in Paris.

She started to step back slightly from her business in her later years, leaving Carl Largarfed to take on a lot of the design and she died in her sleep on 10th January 1971 of old age.

Programme until April

September 21st: Joe Oldacre and the Anker Morris Men. Joe will give a talk on Morris Dancing with a practical demonstration (hopefully).

October 19th: The Beauty Room with Sophie Johnson.

November 16th: Annual meeting followed by Christmas Crafts with Carolyn Boulter.

December 21st Christmas party

January 18th Fun and games, table games, quiz and chat.

February 15th Wine tasting with John Whitehead

March 15th Hopefully Tai Chi

April 19th Monthly meeting

We would love to welcome guests, so if anything appeals to you please join us.

Lesley Ghent





Kitchen Corner

AUTHENTIC ORIENTAL FRIED RICE

In the last issue of the Stoker, I gave you a recipe for 'Sticky' Pork Fillet. I also suggested that it should be served with fried rice. So here is a recipe for Oriental Fried Rice.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 Egg (beaten)
- 2 Cups of cooked Long Grain Rice
- 3 Rashers of Streaky Bacon
- 2ozs. (75gms) Shredded Pork (optional)
- 1tsp. Grated Ginger
- 4 Chopped Spring Onions
- 4ozs. (125gms) Prawns
- 1-2tsp. Soy Sauce
- Oil
- Salt & Pepper

METHOD

It is essential that the rice is cooked at least the day before it is needed. This enables the rice to thoroughly

dry out.

Chop the bacon into small pieces and fry until coloured and a little crisp. Drain onto a paper towel, set aside.

Add a little oil to the wok or large frying pan and when moderately hot add the beaten egg, when cooked one side turn it over. Turn out onto a chopping board and roll the omelette up and cut into strips. Add a little more oil to the pan and cook the grated ginger for one minute, now add the cooked rice and heat through on a low heat for about 5 minutes and stir. Add the rest of the ingredients (except the soy sauce) and mix and when completely heated add the soy sauce and mix well. Taste for seasoning.

Another recipe from my kitchen, Cheers, Avis

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