

STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



OCTOBER 2011

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

The October Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at J. Arthur Rank Centre, Stoneleigh Park on Thursday 13th October at 7.30 p.m.

Parish Council Chairman Howard Baker

It is with great sadness that I have to report that our Chairman, Howard Baker, passed away on Monday 12th September after a short illness. Howard had been a Parish Councillor for Ashow Ward since May 1999 and Chairman of the Parish Council since May 2007. Howard was extremely committed to his community and readily worked on their behalf. His professionalism will be greatly missed

This now means that Ashow Ward will be looking for another Parish Councillor to replace Howard. I hope someone will willingly come forward to replace him.

Pat Maddison - Parish Clerk

STONELEIGH HISTORY SOCIETY

Members of the Stoneleigh History Society continue their investigations and a great deal of work has been undertaken on various topics. At the most recent meeting Pam Baker gave a presentation about her findings about the usage and occupants of various village houses over the centuries and Sheila Woolf shared her extensive research about the fascinating history of the Swan Inn which incorporated the area from the current Old Post Office to the Village Club for two centuries up to 1821. We were joined by Julian Birditt and Richard Upton who have longstanding connections to the village, and by Patrick Sawdon who is renovating the cottages on the Coventry Road.

Our next meeting will be held in the Village Club at 7 pm on Wednesday 12 October when there will be a 'bring and share' so that anyone who has old photographs etc. as well as their memories of life in Stoneleigh can share their experiences. Do come along if you would like to join in this trip down memory Lane.

Margaret Wallis

HIGH SPEED RAIL LATEST

There has been no lull in the campaigns surround the proposals for High Speed Rail between London and Birmingham, and beyond. Political lobbying, press campaigns and individual representations have continued vigorously despite the end of the official consultation period on 31 July. (For Stoneleigh Action Group's response on your behalf, see the village website www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk). Everyone concerned about the likely effects of the proposed scheme is encouraged to make their views known at <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/353> The Government has stated that any petitions reaching over 100,000 signatures will be given time for discussion in Parliament.

There has been considerable publicity following a statement that written petitions would not count towards the numbers gathered electronically. This in effect disenfranchised the c100,000 people who had signed petitions at various events since the HS2 proposal was announced. However, following a public outcry, it has now been announced that there is a possible way round this via the Backbench Business Committee and at the time of writing a debate on HS2 is scheduled for Thursday 13 October. Watch this space!

An attempt has been made to bring the various threads of the anti HS2 campaign together in one website www.betterthanhs2.org This includes AGHAST (Action Groups Against High Speed Two) which is a federation of 72 local groups (including Stoneleigh) and two national organisations - HS2 Action Alliance (mainly research) and Stop HS2 (mainly campaigning).

Margaret Wallis

Stoneleigh Park – Estate Management

Public meeting

The new management team for the Stoneleigh Park estate wants to meet with local residents on the evening of Thursday 27 October to talk about their long-term plans to modernise the park and attract new tenants. Many residents will be aware that the Royal Agricultural Society of England granted a lease of the 1,047 hectare estate in December 2010 in a deal that could bring up to £50 million in investment over the next 10 years. LaSalle Investment Management was appointed to bring to Stoneleigh Park its experience of creating and managing thriving science parks.

LaSalle director Andrew Bull, backed up by RASE chief executive Denis Chamberlain, will set out his ideas for modernising the park's facilities and attracting the tenants that will secure the park's prosperity. Andrew hopes to be able to talk about progress made in diverting the park's traffic away from Stoneleigh village.

The meeting is endorsed by local MP, Jeremy Wright, who will be chairing a discussion of the proposals – so long as Parliamentary business allows him to get away from Westminster in time.

All residents of Stoneleigh, Ashow and the immediate area are invited. The meeting will take place in Stoneleigh Park's Princethorpe Suite (next to Stoneleigh Park Lodge) from 7pm to 8.30pm on Thursday 27 October. Light refreshments will be provided.

Booking a place is not essential, but please drop the organisers a line if you are likely to attend to phil.kennedy@fd.com

Phil Kennedy

Stoneleigh Village Club

The club has been busy over the past few weeks, and we hope you all enjoyed the very successful events. Well done to Colin & Lynda for the fabulous Charity Night in aid of breast cancer.

A big thank you to all those people involved in organising the pool, darts, dominoes and crib. There is space on these teams if anyone is interested please see Nigel Roberts or Jimmy. A particular thank you goes out to Paul Britton for bringing home the Darts Trophy after winning The League. Paul you're our favourite!

SVC are also very grateful to Pete Whitehouse for decorating the club interior and fixing the lights.

Forthcoming Events:

October

23rd Quiz Night from 8pm

29th Halloween from 6pm

November

5th Bonfire night from 6pm

19th Bellringers Quiz Night

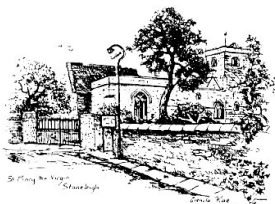
26th Quiz Night with Fish & Chips from 8pm

Don't forget we plan to hold Stoneleigh Open Gardens. Please let Any member of the committee know if you want to volunteer for this event

Look forward to seeing you in the Club.

Sue Brooks

St Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh



Stoneleigh Village

a talk by Shirley Ball

In aid of St Mary the Virgin

2012 Roof Appeal

Saturday 29th October 2011

at

Stoneleigh Village Hall

7.30pm

Tickets £10.00

To include a glass of wine and a light supper

Available from Stoneleigh Parish Office

02476 415506

St Mary the Virgin Stoneleigh



The state of the church building.

Every five years we are bound by church law to commission an architect's detailed report on the state of the church building called the Quinquennial Review and the 2010 review document came to us in June 2011 .

One would think that after all the work done, and money spent, that this review would be a good one; well it is, up to a point. It recognises the work carried out over the last 5 years, but, given the age of the building it also identifies the ongoing problems and sets the degrees of their priority over the next five years. We have two areas that require urgent attention; they are the nave roof and certain areas of stonework.

The priority is the nave roof.

An inspection of the roof cavity has established that the copper roof is sagging between the rafters with the original support, possibly chipboard, having sagged through absorbing moisture over the possible 40 years since the roof was installed. The copper is in danger of cracking and there is no way short of replacement that can prevent water penetration if this occurs.

The stonework on areas like window sills is letting in water .

Certain areas of stonework like widow sills and other parts exposed to water penetration urgently need to be refaced to prevent the continuing effects of frost upon these vulnerable spots; work on other areas can be left to later in the overall task.

What will it cost?

We have established through a survey of estimated costs that the total bill could be **£263,295.** with the roof costing £70,000 and the stonework £50,000, The balance is made up of costs for scaffolding (£42,500.); professional fees (£28,462.); VAT at 20% (£43,882.) and other administrative costs of £28,450.

What are we doing about it?

We have already made appeals to two national charities for help. The Headley Trust, a Sainsbury family charity, has received our appeal for help with the roof; this was submitted by 8th August. We shall not know the outcome of this before mid- November. The other appeal is to the National Churches Trust (NCT) who have asked us to re-frame our general appeal into one "for slightly less than £50,000 including fees". This will to be submitted by 30th of September to the NCT with the support of the local County Trust.

Where to now?

It is early days yet but we are planning a programme to raise money by events in the church and village hall. We will be appealing to other charities for outside help and we shall also be making a public appeal to old and new friends. S.G.C. & I.N.S.



Stoneleigh Youth

Hybrid Arts – Further to holiday commitments it has not been possible to deliver the weekly Hybrid Arts group sessions throughout the summer holidays, we do have 4 sessions left and these will recommence on Wednesday 7th of September, every Wednesday at the village hall from 5pm - with the final one being delivered on the 28th of September 2011. Stella would like to would like to hear your ideas and feedback from all the children that attend. Just so you're aware, the team delivering the final 4 sessions will be Sally Montague, Jo Graham and Lucy Wilson. You can add Hybrid Arts onto your Facebook accounts to remain in contact with them after the sessions have ended.

As utumn is upon us and darker nights and winter drawing in, please ensure you have lights on your bikes and be careful when riding on pavements that you do not accidently damage cars or run into people. Be extra careful crossing roads, reflective arm bands are good, stay in groups in well lit locations, play safe.

A few suggestions to help you through the Autumn and Winter months - check out the Warwick district council wensite www.warwickdc.gov.uk/WDC/leisure.

There are a wide range of activities including and many sports, also scouts and cubs - www.warwick-scouts.org.uk and guides and brownies - www.ggw.org.uk/index.htm

The Kenilworth Youth and Community Centre - Tel:01926 855205, website: www.midwarwicks.info/kyandocc.The senior youth club meet on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. The junior youth club on Friday evenings (2 sessions) . All term time only.

Keep your eyes on Stoneleigh Village Club activities - half term, Hallowe'en and bonfire night are all fast approaching.

Tony Hanselman

Stoneleigh Village Luncheon Club

The next lunch is on October 4th

Menu

Roast Beef
Seasonal Vegetables
Apple & Blackberry Crumble



Festive Lunch & Advent Music

Sunday 11th December
12.30pm
Cost: £15

The logo for Ashow Village Club, featuring the word 'Ashow' in a large, stylized serif font, with 'Village Club' in a smaller, cursive script below it.

**Join us at Ashow Club
for some wonderful advent music**
(courtesy of singers from Armonica Consort
and Coventry Cathedral Choir)
and a delicious hot buffet lunch

*Places are limited,
so book early to avoid disappointment!*

*Tickets available from Lucy Morris
RSVP by Monday 27th November
01926 852992 / ashowclub@gmail.com / 26 Ashow*

Howard's Way

Howard's Way was meticulous, uncompromising and idiosyncratic. It came to Ashow in 1983 when Howard purchased 6 The Long Row, and immediately removed all the DIY work of its previous owner... and did it properly. Windows were rubbed down using five different grades of sandpaper, and were primed, undercoated, and triple top-coated. Tiles were re-hung in straight lines. The heating was re-designed with so many controls that the boiler became neurotic. A watering system for the hanging baskets was installed, fed from the upstairs WC cistern, into which was dropped a handful of Tomorite so that the flowers received a liquid feed as well! Villagers looked on with amusement, which morphed into fascination and admiration. Here was someone with all the skills and the ability, dedication and patience to apply them to perfection. No short cuts. No second best. No time for those who did not aspire towards the highest standards. Unsurprisingly, he became indispensable. When anything broke down or needed improving, we would 'call for Howard'. What shall we do without him?

Howard brought the same fastidious approach to his work on the Parish Council. No detail of planning was too small, and no statement of policy too grand to be questioned exhaustively. He was resolute in highlighting waste and inefficiency in local government. Howard treasured living in Ashow and, as a councillor, devoted countless hours to safeguarding and enhancing the local environment.

Howard's End was cruel. Would that he had died suddenly, on a sunny day, on his allotment, in his trademark shorts and sandals, while picking yet another prize-winning marrow. Let us remember with fond affection and give thanks for all that he did for Ashow and the parishes. And for reminding us that for a job to be done well, there is only one way - Howard's Way.

David Clark

Past Chairman, Stoneleigh, Burton Green & Ashow Parish Council

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Wine Tasting with cheese

Friday 7th October 2011

7.30pm

Tickets: £7.50

Hosted by Bablake Wine's wine exper

Tickets available from Lucy Morris

RSVP by Monday 3rd October

01926 852992 / ashowclub@gmail.com / 26 Ashow



Christmas Wreath Making Workshop with local florist, Ailsa Vigor

Make a handmade, traditional moss-backed door wreath
under Ailsa's expert guidance - all materials provided



Monday 28th November 2011

Time: 7.30pm

Cost: £20.00

(to include tea, coffee & mince pies)

Tickets available from Lucy Morris
ashowclub@gmail.com / 01926 852992 / 26 Ashow

From the Vicarage:

Thanksgiving: It is the word at the heart of Harvest Festivals. As we move from the month of September, with the last vestiges of Summer, into October with its decidedly Autumn feel, it can be easy to feel downhearted: less natural light and heat, less colour, less cricket! Already the shops – and indeed planning within the Church – turn our thoughts towards Christmas rather than Summer Holidays. But this moment of Harvest Thanksgiving gives us something special. As the hymn puts it, “All is safely gathered in, ‘ere the winter storms begin” It may not have been the best harvest with the weather problems earlier in the year, but it still comes as a constant reminder to us that, in this ‘green and pleasant land’, we have so much to be thankful for. So much that we take for granted, but which the vast majority of people in this world could only dream about: safe water coming uninterrupted out of our own taps in our own houses, a ready supply of good and varied food available day by day, electricity as the flick of a switch. Even the vast majority of the ‘poor’ in this land enjoy the opportunity of these things.

Thanksgiving: Even if you do not believe that there is any God, let alone the loving benevolent God known and proclaimed by those who follow the Christian faith, you cannot reasonably claim that you have earned the right to be here rather than in another less pleasant, less fruitful part of this planet. Accidents of heredity and birth can hardly be attributed to our own efforts however successful or otherwise we have been with our lives since. We should respond by not just being thankful, but by giving thanks. Appreciating all those who have been involved in providing and maintaining our way of life, and saying thank you to them or for them, helps us to break out of the culture of self-centredness which so badly affects English society – and if you do believe in God, what should be more natural than saying thank you to Him as the source of everything.

Thanksgiving: Another way of looking at the word is to show our Thanks by Giving. Once we appreciate that so much of what we have and enjoy is ours more by accident than by right, then we should have sufficient concern for those who ‘have not’ to eagerly desire to share with them. Those who offer ‘Harvest Gifts’ this year at our services will be helping to provide for the needy in Leamington through the work of “Steph & Geoff” and their team of helpers at Leamington Christian Mission – but such giving should be a way of life, rather than a one-off event. John 3:16, one of the most famous verses in the Bible, begins “God so loved the world, that he gave...” May our desire be to follow that example – both giving thanks and thankfully giving.

Jim Perryman

3-PARISH SPOTLIGHT

(Ashow-Leek Wootton-Stoneleigh)

(See www.a-lw-s.org.uk for up-to-date service details.)

It was a disappointment that there was insufficient interest to enable us to run our Alpha course this year, but there have also been many encouragements too as we have welcomed new members, celebrated (or are about to celebrate) Harvest festivals, enjoyed social occasions and restarted many activities after the summer break. The final wedding of the year, held at Stoneleigh at the start of September, enjoyed some of the best weather of the year. We have been thinking in our services about the theme of Discipleship: what it means to follow Jesus. Our theme for October will be Faith.

The congregation at Leek Wootton have welcomed Sarah Lee as their new Parish Administrator and she has quickly settled in to the role which is a great help to Jim. She can be contacted by phone on 01926 511433 or by e-mail at admin@leekwoottonchurch.co.uk

October includes a "Fifth Sunday" (30th) when we will be gathering from across the parishes for a united service at Leek Wootton (10.15am) rather than our normal 9.30 or 11.00 services.

Stoneleigh - Neighbourhood Watch Team

Burglary: A building on a sports ground on Coventry Road was broken into on Tuesday 23rd August.

Entry was gained by breaking in through the roof at the main entrance. Two males were seen running away from the scene. The offenders were wearing light blue tracksuits, rucksacks and hats.

CRIME TRENDS

Please be vigilant and make sure vehicles and property are secure.

There has been an increase in the number of thefts from rural premises and agricultural land. Anyone who stores agricultural equipment outside should ensure that equipment is made secure and is not visible or easily accessible. The equipment and machinery are being stolen for the scrap metal value.

**THE UNITED BENEFICE OF
THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY, ASHOW
and
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, STONELEIGH**



SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2011

Sunday 2nd	11.00am	United Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 9th	9.30am	Holy Communion - Ashow
	11.00am	Sung Holy Communion - Stoneleigh <i>with speaker from the Children's Society</i>
Thursday 13th	10.30am	Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 16th	9.30am	Holy Communion - Ashow
	11.00am	Fellowship Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 23rd	9.30am	Village Thanksgiving Service - Ashow Ashow PCC would like to invite all villagers, but especially those who help in any way with the upkeep and running of Ashow Church, whether they be a regular member of the congregation or not, to join us for this special service.
	11.00am	All Age Worship - Stoneleigh
Thursday 27th	10.30am	Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 30th	10.15am	Three Parish All Age Holy Communion - Leek Wootton

NOVEMBER 2011

Wednesday 2nd	7.00pm	All Souls (Faithful Departed) Service - Stoneleigh
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FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism at Stoneleigh

Sunday 28th August, Vincent Dean Hickman

Sunday 18th September, James Axl McGranaghan

Wedding at Ashow

Friday 26th August, Alex Long and Jess Wyatt

Wedding at Stoneleigh

Friday 2nd September, Luke Galliana and Sophie Jones

Funeral at Stoneleigh

Thursday 8th September Eileen Florence Hiorns

Interment of Cremated Remains at Stoneleigh

Monday 12th September Elizabeth Jean Bardell

A Date for your Diary!

On Sunday 6th November at 4.00 p.m. there will be a

'Songs of Praise'

at Stoneleigh Church. This will take the form of a 'Thank you' to all who help in any way with the life, the running and upkeep of St Mary's Church and churchyard.

For further details keep an eye on the church notice board.

Priest in Charge, The Reverend Jim Perryman

Phone 01926 850610 or email:jim@a-lw-s.org.uk

Ashaw Contact: Stephen Harvey 01926 852543

Stoneleigh contact Ian Smith 01926 853238.

To arrange a wedding or a funeral please contact the Vicar,
for any other matter of parish administration please

contact Sue Wareham on 02476 415506,

Email:admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk

<http://www.a-lw-s.org.uk>

J L Huthwaite



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My heart is inditing
Coronation anthems and other music by
George Frederick Handel
Performed by
CHORUM
Directed by Ron Binnie

St Mary's Church, Stoneleigh
Saturday 1 October
7.30pm
Tickets (at the door) £5.00

This month's edition of *Stoneleigh and Ashow News* was compiled by Liz Sykes. Thanks to all contributors.

The editors for the November 2011 edition are Jean and David Vaughan, Wentworth House, Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh. 024 7641 4453 vaughan_dandj@btinternet.com (n.b. There's an underline between vaughan and d).

Copy deadline: 18 October 2011.

We prefer electronic copy but hard copy can be submitted if this is not possible. Advertisements accepted, subject to space and editorial discretion - £25 full or £12.50 half page.

Obituary for Howard Baker 1934 – 2011

Sadly, after a short but vicious illness, Howard Baker passed away on Monday 12th September and will be sorely missed by all in Ashow and by his many friends.

Howard was born in 1934 in London and came to Coventry in 1957, where he worked for many years for the GEC until his retirement.

He and Terry came to Ashow some 30 years ago. Howard embraced village life with tremendous gusto and was a very supportive member of the Village Club. Nothing was too much trouble for him. The maintenance and improvements to the Club is testimony to that. He willingly shared his expertise to all of us on any problems, be they computers, televisions, train sets, vintage cars and even aeroplanes! He also loved gardening and kept an immaculate allotment – becoming a pumpkin and marrow prize winner on many occasions.

Howard was Chairman of the Parish Council and proved to be a wonderful ambassador on all our behalves. His meticulous research kept us informed on all the relevant issues.

Howard was also a keen tennis player and a member of the Beechwood Tennis Club.

He will be fondly remembered by all his friends here in Ashow, Coventry and elsewhere. He and Terry had been married for 49 years. Our thoughts and sympathy are with Terry, Mark and the family.

Mike Cotton

Neighbour and friend

THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION
OF OUR LADY ASHOW



Presents

An Evening of Music
With 'Con Voce'



*The Popular Mixed Voice
Choir from South Wales*
On Saturday October 22nd
2011 at 7.00 p.m.

TICKETS £15.00
(including a glass of wine and canapes)

AVAILABLE FROM
STEPHEN HARVEY 01926 852543
and KATE JONES 01926 853511

Stoneleigh WI

At the September meeting we were given a talk by Terry Barker who had worked for many years in the BBC drama department. She gave an insight into the productions with which she had been involved during her career with the BBC.

The usual groups have re-convened after a summer break:

Craft – this now has a lead up to Christmas activities; this month a lovely lunch was provided on the 12th which was enjoyed by all. Some extra hardanger

Book club – this group met at Marion's Adcock's house and after an interesting discussion on the books read, Marion provided a lovely supper.

Strollers – strolled to Charlcombe followed by lunch at a local hostelry.

The next village lunch is on October 4th when we will be serving roast beef with the appropriate accompaniments followed by apple and black-berry crumble. As usual **PLEASE** let me know whether or not you will be coming so that we can cater properly for the numbers. We do not want to get into the government figures for wasting food!!

The coffee morning is on October 18th in the club – ALL are welcome.

Liz Sykes - 02476 418301



Dates for your diary 2011...

...October

Saturday 8th
Saturday 22nd

Wine Tasting with cheese, 7.30pm (cost: £7.50)

Convocci Welsh Choir gathering in Club
after evening concert

Wednesday 26th
Friday 28th

Bridge Afternoon, 2.30pm (cost: £2.50)

Murder Mystery Evening - details to follow (cost: £5)

...November

Saturday 5th
Saturday 12th
Wednesday 23rd
Monday 28th

Bonfire Night

Movie Night, 7.30pm (cost: £2.50)

Bridge Afternoon, 2.30pm (cost: £2.50)

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop, 7.30pm
(cost: £20)

...December

Saturday 3rd
Sunday 11th

Movie Night, 7.30pm (cost: £2.50)

Festive Lunch & Advent Music, 12.30pm
(cost: £15)

All ticket enquiries to Lucy Morris
01926 852992 / ashowclub@gmail.com / 26 Ashow

*In addition to regular opening hours,
Ashow Village Club is available for private functions and meetings
For details, please contact Lucy Morris - details above
Opening hours: Tue 9-11 Fri 5.30-7, 9-11 Sun 12-3, 8-11*