

STONELEIGH & ASHOW *News*



DECEMBER 2011
JANUARY 2012

ASHOW CHURCH GRAND PIANO



Almost a year ago, a beautiful Challen grand piano was donated to Ashow Church. The piano, which was in need of a complete overhaul, was allowed to stabilise to the church conditions and has, over the past few weeks, been stripped and, essentially, totally rebuilt. Once finished, it will be to full concert standard.

Naturally, this has all cost a considerable amount of money, so donations towards the renovation of this wonderful piano, however small (and ideally gift-aided), would be most welcome.

We plan to dedicate the piano in Spring 2012, when there will also be a piano recital so that we can all enjoy this very special instrument.

For more information or to make a donation, please contact Bob Burdett on 01926 852545 / burdettashow@yahoo.com.

Bob Burdett

Treasurer, Ashow PCC



A nativity scene, circa 1920, featuring the editor's paternal grandmother, Lydia Penman (far left, kneeling).

COVENTRY MUMMERS

“A E I O U downderry we’ve come this Christmas to be merry...”

For the 37th year since its revival, Coventry Mummers will once again, on 26th December, be spreading their merriment and performing the traditional Stoneleigh Mummers’ Christmas Play. It was collected by a local historian and village resident, Mary Dormer-Harris, in 1926 from the man who played the part of ‘Doctor’, so the Mummers attempt to keep as closely as possible to the original script... whisky and mince pies allowing!

The Mummers start in the village of Ashow at 10.15am, with two performances, and then progress to Stoneleigh village and perform at various venues. They always perform near to the church at 12 noon and outside the club at 1.15pm.

Why not take a chance to walk around this lovely village and watch a traditional Christmas play (never performed exactly the same twice!) and without any mention of turkey... just a magpie?

If you would like to host a visit from the Mummers, require further information, or wish to purchase a DVD of previous performances, then please take a look at our website - www.coventrymummers.org.uk - or contact Tim Chatham on 07875 388135.

Gary ‘The Doctor’ Wilkinson



FROM THE VICARAGE

Christmas – a message of peace, yet a time of hectic activity and noise. Bustling crowds focusing on trying to get the best for themselves and sparing little thought or time for those outside their own little world. Well, that is one picture of those events in Bethlehem as people flocked back to take part in the great census, taking little or no notice of the young couple searching for a place of rest and refuge as the time approached for the birth of the Saviour of the World. God's greatest gift was among them, yet they were blinded by their own more immediate needs and concerns.

In 1966, Simon & Garfunkel recorded a song called “7 O'clock News / Silent Night”, where the gentle singing of the familiar carol is gradually challenged by the reading of a news bulletin telling the events of one day in America in that year. As the message of peace is sung, we hear of issues to do with the civil rights struggle, drugs, murders, protests and a call to increase the war effort in Vietnam. It is a powerful antithesis which reflects that same basic situation – that while God still offers his greatest gift, the message we listen to is one that bears no similarity. If you wish to listen to this song, it is temporarily available on the website www.a-lw-s.org.uk/media or by using the audio link on the website menu.

And so to Christmas 2011. The message remains the same, but so do the distractions. All the activity can so easily stop us from really experiencing the peace that God longs for us to receive – His peace in our hearts – peace flowing from a knowledge of God's love and grace and from a true sense of forgiveness and reconciliation. As one of Cliff Richards' Christmas songs (“Mistletoe & Wine”) phrases it, “...a time for giving, a time for getting, a time for forgiving and for forgetting”. We hope that our presentation of this eternal message, through our various and varied services and concerts through December, will help you to find time and space to leave the hustle and bustle, the noise and clamour, and to let God's greatest gift touch your hearts and lives, bringing real meaning and joy into your celebrations.

And for those who, like me, will know the sadness of having someone special missing from those celebrations this year, may that gift of God's love and peace be a special help and comfort for you.

However "Happy" or "Merry" you may or may not feel , I wish you all a Peace-full and Blessed Christmas and a Hope-filled New Year.

Jim Perryman

CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE EXPANSION OF COVENTRY AIRPORT (CAECA)

Announcement - 20th October 2011

For the past seven years, John Border has been CAECA'S representative on the Coventry Airport Consultative Committee, and has done excellent work on behalf of local people. Unfortunately, owing to work commitments, he is now standing down from the committee. However, John, who was a founding member of CAECA, continues to be an active CAECA member.

Effective immediately, John Astle is the new CAECA representative on the Coventry Airport Consultative Committee. John, a Stoneleigh resident who is extremely knowledgeable on airport matters, will do a sterling job on the Consultative Committee.

Archy Muir

Chairman, Campaign Against the Expansion of Coventry Airport



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

The December Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Ashow Village Club on Thursday 8th December 2011 at 7.30pm. Then join us for a drink and nibbles after the meeting.

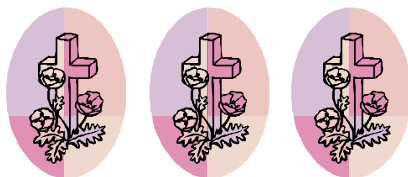
The January Ordinary Meeting will be held at Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 12th January 2012 at 7.30pm.

Stoneleigh Park - LaSalle

Denis Chamberlain, Chief Executive of RASE and Colin Hooper, Estates Director LaSalle, Stoneleigh Park attended the Parish Council meeting in November and gave a short presentation of LaSalle's plans for the showground. Colin Hooper indicated that he wishes to attend the Parish Council meeting on a quarterly basis and is planning to attend the February meeting. I will remind you of this nearer the time, but I hope as many of you as possible will attend.

Pat Maddison

Parish Clerk



FROM THE REGISTERS

Interment of Ashes at Stoneleigh

25th October 2011 - Baby Elizabeth Bradley

16th November 2011 - Charles Henry Taylor

19th November 2011 - Barbara Christine Badger

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2011

A huge “thank you” to everyone who supported the appeal in this very special year for the Legion. More than 25% of its funds raised now go to service personnel under the age of 40 – a sobering comment on our times. I am delighted to say that as we go to press, our interim total is nearly £3,100, and we await the churches’ collections which will boost the eventual sum considerably.

I would like to say a personal “thanks” to Mary White, who has reluctantly had to cease her house-to-house collecting after many years of doing so, and to Janet and David Gibson who have taken over her “round”. As usual, Peter Whitehouse, Dennis Craddock and Ernie Ball have done a marvellous job of collecting, too. Several people have asked me, “How big is our patch?” and have been surprised to learn that it includes the Green Lane shops, Brook Farm, Finham Park School and Finham and Woodfield Primaries, as well as the Coventry Golf Club, the Deer Park Golf Club and several businesses at Abbey Park and Stoneleigh Park, in addition to our two villages of Stoneleigh and Ashow. In all, 45 collecting boxes were distributed this year. If you know of any other local shops or offices which might like to take a box in 2012, please let me know.

It would be impossible for me, as co-ordinator, to continue this work without the unfailing support of Dennis and Dot Craddock and their crack team of money-counters once all the funds are in. Thanks to one and all!

Sheila Woolf



STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS

- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held at **7.30 pm** in **Stoneleigh Village Hall** on **Tuesday 17th January 2012**.

This is an opportunity for the editors to review the previous year's issues and to discuss any policy matters, as well as to approve the accounts. Members of the distribution team are also invited to attend this meeting and any feedback about their experiences would be appreciated.

We would welcome additions to our editorial team. Anyone who has desktop publishing skills (we use PagePlus), and who would enjoy the challenge of editing an issue, is encouraged to attend the meeting. Please contact Margaret Wallis (024 7641 4271 or ms.wallis@virgin.net) with any initial offers of help and/or queries.

Margaret Wallis

Chair, Stoneleigh & Ashow News Editorial Team



This month's front cover:
*Snowy Ashow fields
in the afternoon sun*
Photographer: Lucy Morris

STONELEIGH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Damage to property: At approximately 2100hrs on Thursday 27th October 2011, offender(s) smashed a double-glazed window at the front of the Village Hall on Birmingham Road. Police were informed.

Number plate theft: At lunchtime on Sunday 13th November 2011, a black, crew-cab-style 4x4 was seen to drive down Church Lane and then drive away later. Subsequently, it was discovered that a car parked in Church Lane had had its number plates stolen. It appears that these were then fastened to the 4x4, which filled up at a petrol station and drove off without paying, but with the petrol station having taken the (stolen) registration number of the vehicle. Due to huge increases in fuel prices this year, this situation is becoming ever more common, apparently. Police were informed.

Intruders disturbed?: On Monday 14th November 2011 at about 2145hrs, an intruder was disturbed on the private rear drive serving the houses on Birmingham Road and The Bank. This drive connects with Stoneleigh Close. The single intruder ran off when a householder disturbed them but, as it was pitch dark, the person was only seen in silhouette. On Tuesday 15th November 2011 at about 1000hrs, a darkly-clothed and hooded male was seen by a resident in Church Lane looking suspiciously around the place. The resident called a neighbour for assistance, but by the time they arrived, the person had gone. Police are aware.

You will be pleased to know that the Police have increased their activity in Stoneleigh most recently and will continue to do so over the coming weeks.

Due to the clocks turning back and the nights drawing in, please ensure that preventative measures are in place at your properties so that you don't become a victim of crime. When your home is vacant, you can leave a hall lamp and/or light on a timer switch to give the impression of the property being occupied. Please make sure that all ladders, access towers etc are locked away, dismantled if not in use, or moved away from upstairs windows if you are out.

Please remember that crime 'prevention is always better than cure'. Please be vigilant and make sure that vehicles and property are secure.

YOUR LOCAL SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS TEAM

PS 803 KETTLE

Beat Manager - PC 800 TOWLE (Adriano)

PCSO 6190 PIMLOTT (Jackie)

PCSO 6223 KING (Ed)

If you have any further information concerning any incident or would like to speak to a WRE SNT officer about any local concerns or issues, please contact the team on 01926 684471 or you can email at wre.snt@warwickshire.police.uk. The team aim to respond to all messages within 24 hours (rest days, abstractions etc may cause a delay responding).

Please note the above number for the Warwick Rural East team is not staffed 24/7. The local website is www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk/wre.

If you wish to report a crime, please contact the crime desk on 01926 451111. **If it's urgent, dial 999.** Please visit <http://www.warwickshire.police.uk> for force news and information.

Tony Hanselman & Rod Wheat



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Join us at our
Annual Christmas Fayre
Thursday 8th December
6.00pm ~ 9.00pm

Farmers Fayre Farm & Coffee Shop
Stoneleigh Park CV8 2LZ

Telephone: 024 7669 2844

Email : enquiries@farmersfayre.co.uk

Chef demonstrations ~ Food & drink sampling
Gift baskets & hampers ~ Ask the butcher
Traditional Christmas toys & gifts ~ Jewellery
Christmas decorations ~ Raffle in aid of Myton Hospice
Free gift wrapping ~ Choir
Complimentary mulled wine & mince pies & more...



ASHOW CHURCH NEWS



The Concert by the Con Voce Choir from South Wales was an outstanding success. Their singing was beautiful and the soloists, Ben Smith (who also sings with "Only Men Aloud") and Catrin Hendy, were extremely good. Our particular thanks go to Kate and

Philip Jones who organised the event, all the ladies who made the canapés, and David and Keith for putting up their marquees again. The evening made a profit of £1,756 for Ashow Church funds. Thank you to everyone in Ashow and Stoneleigh who supported us.

Decorating the church for Christmas

The church will be open on Saturday 17th December from 10.30am for decorating the candle poles and Christmas tree (children are very welcome to help with this). If you are unable to attend then and wish to help with the poles, Diana Holt and Margaret Cotton will be doing the large arrangements on Wednesday 14th December from 10.00am to 12.00pm, when the church will be open. Please bring foliage, berries etc with you.

The annual Ashow Carol Service is on Sunday 18th December at 4.00pm and, of course, our Christmas Day service will be at 9.30am.

Stephen Harvey

Stonleigh Village Club

The club has been extremely busy over the past few weeks, so we hope you took the opportunity to participate in these successful events.

Halloween was a most popular occasion, enjoyed by all involved. Thanks to Dave Brown and Tracey for organising the ghostly games for the children.

Thank you too to Nigel Roberts for organising the folk band Leere, who kept a full house entertained on a Sunday afternoon and early evening.

Bonfire Night was also a great success. Particular thanks to Liz and Mick Wrist for providing the BBQ and for the generous donation to the Club's much-needed funds. Thanks to Jan, Nicky and Lisa for the grand job on the firework contribution buckets. And thank you to the Meadows Society for the use of the meadow which, of course, made the event possible.

Forthcoming Events

BELL RINGERS' QUIZ - Friday 26th November

8.00pm start

XMAS BINGO - Friday 2nd December

8.00pm start

LADIES' NIGHT - Wednesday 7th December

7.30pm start, Xmas decorations

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE, HANDBELLS & CHRISTMAS RAFFLE DRAW - Sunday 18th December

SANTA'S GROTTTO - Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December

Open for children from 7.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY OPENING HOURS - 12.00 - 2.00pm

Look forward to seeing you in your Club.

Sue Brooks



STONELEIGH WI

At last month's meeting, we welcomed back Penny Frank, who gave us a fascinating talk and slideshow on where she and Tom now live in Switzerland. The scenery was magnificent - definitely a 'wow' factor. It was really good to meet up with them both again.

Afterwards, we had some wine and cheese and then the Annual Meeting, when Pat Lines was again installed as President.

The Book Club met, when a brief discussion was held on the books read and the books for next month were selected. It was followed by a pleasant evening at Mu's.

A quiz evening was held at the Village Hall; an enjoyable evening that taxed our braincells!

The next meeting will be on Monday 5th December. The speaker will be Jill Fraser with her talk entitled "How to survive an English vicarage". This will be followed by some festive food and carols.

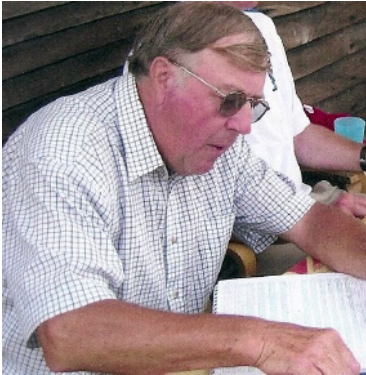
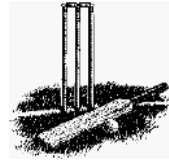
Lunch Club on Tuesday 6th December will be courtesy of Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir, who will be providing the entertainment afterwards. Please, as usual, let Liz Sykes know if you wish to attend or are unable to (024 7641 8301).

Coffee Morning on Tuesday 20th December will be a bit different this month - a little later than usual at 11.30am - to incorporate some special celebrations for some of our 'regulars'.

Liz Sykes

STONELEIGH CRICKET CLUB

Joe Ball wins prestigious award



I'm sure that all Stoneleigh residents will be delighted to learn that Joe has won the Warwick District Council annual Sports Award for the Club Volunteer of the Year. He received his trophy during the presentation evening hosted by David Moorcroft at Leamington Town Hall.

Now in his early seventies, he has been Secretary of the Football Club for 50 years and, after being a player until injury curtailed his career, now maintains their ground in Stoneleigh village to a high standard.

Also a player for many years at the Cricket Club, Joe has gradually adopted the role of groundsman at the magnificent Stoneleigh Abbey ground and now tends the square and outfield with loving care. He has presided over a programme of continuous improvement for the last 25 years or so, and the pitch is now regarded as one of the best in the South Northants League. The club was given the best ground award in 2008 by the league thanks to Joe's hard work.

Joe is Stoneleigh's regular scorer, producing scoresheets of a high standard. He has also scored regularly for one of the county junior sides and occasionally tends the scorebook for Warwickshire Imps.

Not content with all this, Joe also keeps a watching brief on activities at the Village Hall, where he organises the bookings and manages the takings.

Long overdue recognition for a club stalwart.

Notes contributed by *Dave Wildgoose*

STONELEIGH PARK



Quarterly update from Colin Hooper, Estates Director, Stoneleigh Park

New estate management team

I would like to introduce myself as the new Estates Director of all Stoneleigh Park's 1,047 acres. I am now firmly in the saddle, having taken up the post at the end of September to head the on-site estate management team.

Many of you will already know my colleague, Richard Wood, who is Facilities Director and a long-standing member of the estate management team. Richard and I work with the lead asset manager at LaSalle Investment Management, Andrew Bull, and his colleague, Chris Mitchell.

I was very pleased to receive an invitation from the Parish Council to meet regularly with them and contribute to this newsletter. I hope to become a familiar public face of Stoneleigh Park.

A major new tenant – GEA Farm Technologies

In October, we had the pleasure of welcoming the head office of GEA Farm Technologies to the estate from their previous base in Milton Keynes. As the dairy industry's market leader, they felt it was crucial for them to be based at Stoneleigh. It was great to hear GEA Farm Technologies' managing director, Paul Gerrard, refer to Stoneleigh Park as "the Harley Street of agriculture", stating that it's where an agricultural business like theirs should be.

Over the months prior to their relocation, we worked closely with the GEA team to create an environment which was ideal for their business, and I am glad to be able to say that everyone is pleased with the outcome. Next time you visit Stoneleigh Park, have a look at the transformation made to the former JCB Pavilion at the north-western corner of the Grand Ring. GEA's new, modern facility includes a showroom, a warehouse for spare parts, a design centre for new dairy installations, a training centre, and dedicated space for corporate entertaining.

Meeting with local residents

About 80 local residents joined us for a presentation on our ambitions for the Stoneleigh Park estate on Thursday 27th October – just after the November issue of this newsletter went to press. LaSalle's Andrew Bull and the Royal Agricultural Society of England's Denis Chamberlain joined me to explain our plans to create an agriculture-related science park and a national equine centre of excellence. Local MP Jeremy Wright chaired the meeting, and we also heard from ward councillor, Bertie MacKay.

We heard a broad range of views in a long 'question and answer' session. There is a desire for us to build on existing personal links between Stoneleigh Park and the surrounding community.

The dominant issue raised was traffic. We understand your concerns about ease of movement in the area and quality of life. We have proposals for highways improvements that we believe will ease congestion and divert a significant proportion of Stoneleigh Park's traffic away from Stoneleigh village. We will share more information with the Parish Council and local residents as our plans develop.

Stoneleigh events

The following events will all be happening before my next quarterly update in this newsletter:

- 15th January 2012 - Ultimate East Meets West Bridal Expo LIVE

- 29th January 2012 - Militaria 2012
- 19th February 2012 - MG Show 2012
- 16th - 18th March 2012 - Edible Garden Show
- 27th March 2012 - Agricultural Buildings Show

For more information about these and other days out, please visit the Stoneleigh Events website - www.stoneleighpark.com.

Contact details

The main contact details for the estate management team are:

- Lettings and development:
Colin Hooper - colin.hooper@eu.jll.com
- Day-to-day management:
Richard Wood - richard.wood@eu.jll.com

Colin Hooper



OPENING HOURS

Ashow
College Club



Friday
5.30pm - 8.00pm

Saturday
12.30pm - 3.30pm

Sunday
12.30pm - 3.30pm
8.00pm - 11.00pm

VOLUNTARY SPEED LIMIT IN ASHOW



Please drive slowly through Ashow. There is a voluntary speed limit of 20mph.

Think children and animals!

Please suggest to any guests, children, relatives, contractors etc that they also observe this speed limit when in the village.

DROP SCONES

On a chilly weekend morning, there's nothing we enjoy more than drop scones for breakfast. The batter takes no time at all to make and the boys enjoy helping to cook them. They also enjoy eating them smothered in syrup, so it's a very occasional treat!

50g butter, melted

25g caster sugar

2 eggs, lightly beaten

250g self-raising flour

275ml milk

Pinch of salt

Sift the flour and salt into a bowl. Stir in the sugar. Make a well in the centre, pour in the egg and a little of the milk, and start beating, gradually incorporating the flour. Beat in the melted butter. Gradually add in the rest of the milk until you have a smooth batter that drops reluctantly off the spoon.

Heat a frying pan over a medium heat. Grease with a little oil or butter. Drop tablespoonfuls of the scone mixture into the pan, leaving room for them to spread. After a couple of minutes, when they are set and little air bubbles start to appear, flip them over and cook until the second side is golden.

Serve with maple syrup, blueberries and bacon for a delicious winter breakfast treat!

Lucy Morris

THREE PARISH SPOTLIGHT

Ashow-Leek Wootton-Stoneleigh



(See **www.a-lw-s.org.uk** for up-to-date service details and other information about the three parishes.)

Through Advent and Christmas, we especially hope that everyone will recognise that we are Three Parishes working TOGETHER. Everything on offer is offered to everyone – whether or not it is happening within the building you would feel a natural affinity to. If you need help to get to the event(s) you would like to attend, please ask (contact the vicar or one of the churchwardens) and we will do our very best to get you there – and back!

Sunday 11th December has lots of choices: the Kings' Chamber Orchestra are returning to Kenilworth for another of their excellent, and really enjoyable, concerts – this year at St Nicholas Church. There will be a concert geared to children in the afternoon (3.00pm) and for adults in the evening (7.30pm). Information for this can be found at the King's Table in Kenilworth. Sadly, this year's unexpectedly late date for their concerts means clashes with some of our own big events – so choices will have to be made, but the message is clear: don't choose to go away somewhere or to do nothing that day!

The same evening, local group "Chorum", led by Ron Binnie, the organist at Stoneleigh, will be performing Handel's "Messiah" in Stoneleigh Church at 6.30pm. Tickets available from the Stoneleigh Church office (admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk).

Three carol services are on offer, each with a different style: a "family"-flavoured service at Leek Wootton on Sunday 11th at 4.00pm; a "choral" service at Ashow on Sunday 18th at 4.00pm; and a "Nine Lessons & Carols" service at Stoneleigh on Sunday 18th at 7.00pm. If the one in your village isn't the most suitable for you, then please come to one of the others.

Two “Blessing of the Crib” services are on offer on Christmas Eve – 3.30pm at Leek Wootton and 5.00pm at Stoneleigh. Both are very child-friendly, but the Stoneleigh service is normally a little shorter than the Leek Wootton service. What time and timing best suits you and your family?

Two “Christmas Night” communion services are offered – 10.00pm at Stoneleigh and 11.30pm at Leek Wootton. These services will be very similar and reflect the tradition of the “Eve” being seen as the start of the new day rather than the end of the old one. If the ‘midnight’ element of this service is important to you, then Stoneleigh begins at midnight in Bethlehem and Leek Wootton includes midnight in the UK!

Christmas morning again offers options. The traditional words of the Book of Common Prayer will accompany our Eucharistic worship at 8.00am in Leek Wootton, and the more contemporary words will be used at 9.30am in Ashow. Informality and fun is the focus of our All Age Christmas Celebration at 11.00am in Leek Wootton, where we expect to see evidence of Christmas presents on view as we give thanks to God for his wonderful Present to us and all the world.



January may be seem a bit of an anti-climax after all that, but we have moved our Christingle service to the end of January for the season of “Candlemas”, and so that will be something really special to look forward to at the start of 2012, a year which looks set to be full of highlights.





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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

STONELEIGH & ASHOW CHURCHES



DECEMBER 2011

Saturdays 3rd, 10th and 17th

ADVENT BREAKFASTS

9.15am – 11.15am, Stoneleigh Village Hall

An opportunity to prepare yourself spiritually for the Christmas season and get away from the shops!

Sunday 11th

A performance of *HANDEL'S MESSIAH* by CHORUM

6.30pm, Stoneleigh Church

Tickets £10.00, to include mulled wine and mince pies, available from the Parish Office.

Saturday 17th

Stoneleigh Church will be open to give everyone an opportunity to see the **CHRISTMAS FLORAL DECORATIONS.**

Afternoon tea will be served from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

Sunday 18th

4.00pm - ASHOW CHORAL CAROL SERVICE

A candlelit service with the 'Parish Voices' choir, to which all are most welcome.

7.00pm - STONELEIGH TRADITIONAL CAROL SERVICE

Everyone welcome to come along and sing their hearts out with the carols we all know and love! Mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards.

JANUARY 2012

Thursday 12th

STONELEIGH & ASHOW POST CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP MEAL

7.00pm, Clarendon Arms Kenilworth

Tickets £12.00, which includes a two course meal and coffee

Friday 27th

FILM NIGHT – see posters for film details

6.45pm for 7.00pm, Stoneleigh Village Hall

FEBRUARY 2012

Tuesday 21st

ASHOW CHURCH SHROVE TUESDAY

PIE & PANCAKES EVENING

Clarendon Arms Kenilworth

Further details to be announced soon

Friday 24th

QUIZ NIGHT

7.00pm, Stoneleigh Village Hall

MARCH 2012

Friday 9th

FILM NIGHT – see posters for film details

6.45pm for 7.00pm, Stoneleigh Village Hall

Friday 30th

AN EVENING WITH DAVID MOORCROFT

Stoneleigh Village Hall

Further details to be announced soon

*Film Nights will also take place on **Fridays 11th May, 13th July** and **7th September**. Don't forget to mark your diaries!*

Further details and tickets for all of these events are available from the Parish Office. Please ring Sue on 024 7641 5506 and leave a message, or email admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk.

**We do hope you will be able to join us
at some of these events.**



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
STONELEIGH & ASHOW CHURCHES



LATEST ON HIGH SPEED RAIL



Those of us who thought that the campaign against HS2 would subside once the period for consultation closed in July have been proved wrong! Campaigning activities and media interest have continued in the following months, culminating with the publication of the report of the Transport Select Committee on 8th November. Although most newspaper and TV headlines intimated that this Committee fully supported HS2, nothing could be further from the truth. The Committee makes many serious criticisms of the project as currently envisaged, including flaws in the economic arguments used in its favour, the lack of a coherent integrated transport plan into which high speed rail might fit, and the need for much more work to gauge the likely impact on communities along the route. The majority of national, and many local, newspapers, radio and TV stations gave extensive coverage to the findings, which can be read in full on www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201012/cmselect/cmtran/1185/118502. Well worth a look. Apologies to those readers who don't have internet access.

During October, Philip Hammond was replaced as Secretary of State for Transport by Justine Greening, who is expected to announce the results of the public consultation, her reaction to the TSC's report, and her subsequent decision on HS2 in particular on or around 14th December. Prior to that, she has agreed to meet with MP's to listen to their concerns about the project. Representatives of the action groups in South Warwickshire, including the Stoneleigh Action Group, met our local MP, Jeremy Wright, on 17th November, and it is hoped that our views will be transmitted to the Secretary of State and that she will take these views into account.

Much uncertainty remains. In the event of the Government approving proposals for HS2, the Stoneleigh Action Group has made provisional plans for an information evening on Tuesday 10th January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. It is hoped that Jeremy Wright and key local personnel can be present on that occasion. As there is no January edition of the Stoneleigh & Ashow News, details will be distributed separately to residents if it is necessary for that event to go ahead. Do keep an eye on the village website for further information - www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk.

Margaret Wallis

Stoneleigh Action Group

STONELEIGH UNITED CHARITIES

Stoneleigh United Charities is a fund comprised of the proceeds of many of the ancient charities which have been donated to the villages of Stoneleigh, Stareton and Ashow over the centuries. Its aim is to provide help for those in financial need in these villages, and the charity is now inviting applications for hardship funding to be included in the annual distribution. If you, or someone you know within the villages, is in need of financial assistance, please apply for consideration to the Chairman, Jean Vaughan, 1 Wentworth House, Stoneleigh CV8 3DH.

Sue Wareham

Clerk to the Trustees
024 7630 6894



STONELEIGH OPEN GARDENS

23rd - 24th June 2012

Thank you to those people who have expressed an interest in helping and in opening their gardens next year. However, to make this event a success, more gardens and help is required.

Money raised will go to:

Stoneleigh Church - towards the roof repairs (which require £250,000).

Stoneleigh Village Hall - towards the cost of the new five-a-side football pitch and tennis court (which require £40,000).

Stoneleigh Village Club - to help put on events such as bonfire night and the duck race.

Should you wish to help in any way, or have any suggestions, please feel free to contact Lisa Reay (lisareay@btinternet.com / 024 7669 7037) or Barbara Gee (barbara.gee@gmail.com).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Lisa Reay



Ladies' Night at Stonleigh Village Club Wednesday 7th December, 7.30pm



Following on from the success of our first meeting, we offer a warm welcome to any interested ladies wishing to join us. We intend to extend our floristry skills this month by making a table centre and to begin making a Christmas wreath.

For future meetings, we have discussed interests such as make-up, topic speakers, cake decorating and general crafts. With limited funds at the moment, we are also looking for local people who would be prepared to share their interests and talents with us!

Everyone is welcome to join us at SVC and, if you would like to make a table centre or a wreath, please bring along the following:

- 5 main flowers (Rose, standard Carnation etc)
- 1 pack of Spray Carnations
- Bits of filler such as statice, solidaster)
- A good selection of foliage from your garden
- A standard size candle

All other materials and sundries will be provided for a nominal charge. Email Barbara if you have any questions:
barbara.gee@gmail.com

Barbara Gee

This month's edition of *Stoneleigh and Ashow News*
was compiled by **Lucy Morris**,
who would like to thank all contributors,
and to wish all readers a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

The February 2012 edition will be compiled by
Robin Bussell
The Oaks, Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh CV8 3DH
024 7641 6183
robin.bussell@sky.com

Copy deadline: 18th January 2012

We prefer electronic copy,
but typed or handwritten material
may be submitted as an alternative.

Advertisements at £25 (full page) or £12.50 (half page)
accepted at the editor's discretion, subject to magazine policy.

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



Priest in Charge - The Reverend Jim Perryman
Tel: 01926 850610 Email: jim@alw-s.org.uk
Ashow 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 024 7641 5506.
Email: admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk
<http://www.alw-s.org.uk>



We wish a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Healthy New Year to you all. We have pledged donations to the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance instead of sending local Christmas cards.

So far, our donations total £310.

Shirley and Ernie Ball

Mary Beagrie

Joyce Beale

Kate and Charlie Beaumont

Jayne and David Brooks

Eileen Burman

Jean and Robin Bussell

Viv and Martin Cooper

Betty Craddock

Lena Crockett

Iris Donackie

Jean Fardoe

Penny and Tom Frank

Paul and Barbara Gee

Mandy and Dean Gibbs

Janet and David Gibson

Roger Gilbert

Ann and Jim Harris

Judy and Chris Hadfield

Daphne and Dick James

Marian and Mike Murray

Richard and Janet Parkam

Sheila Rench

Alec and Janet Sanders

Tim Sawdon and Nicky Edwards

Jenny Skidmore

Kim and Martin Smith

Liz Sykes

Jean and David Vaughan

Julie, Keith and Harry Walker

Margaret and Ken Wallis

Jill and Clive Watson

Bill and Stella Whatmore

Mary and Cec White

Madeline White

Rosemary Williams

Sheila Woolf

The flag will be flown at The Oaks, Vicarage Road
over the weekend of 17th - 18th December.

If you have missed the list above and would still like to contribute,
your donation will be acknowledged on the 'flying notice'.

Robin Bussell



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



SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2011

Sunday 4 th	11.00am	United Holy Communion - Ashow
Thursday 8 th	10.30am	Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 11 th	9.30am	Holy Communion - Ashow
	11.00am	Sung Holy Communion & Baptism - Stoneleigh
Sunday 18 th	4.00pm	Choral Carol Service - Ashow
	7.00pm	Traditional Carol Service - Stoneleigh
Thursday 22 nd	10.30am	Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Saturday 24 th	5.00pm	Crib Service - Stoneleigh
Christmas Eve	10.00pm	'Midnight' Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 25 th	9.30am	Holy Communion - Ashow
Christmas Day		

SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2012

Sunday 1 st	11.00am	United Holy Communion - Stoneleigh <i>This service will be conducted by Revd Viv Baldwin and will include a special celebration for the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Syd and Eileen Creed. We would like to extend a welcome to all of Syd and Eileen's friends to join us.</i>
Sunday 8 th	9.30am	Holy Communion - Ashow
	11.00am	Sung Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Thursday 12 th	10.30am	Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 15 th	9.30am	Holy Communion - Ashow
	11.00am	Fellowship Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 22 nd	9.30am	Village Service - Ashow
	11.00am	All Age Worship - Stoneleigh
Thursday 26 th	10.30am	Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
Sunday 29 th	10.15am	Three Parish Holy Communion - Stoneleigh

*For further details of all services and events,
please see our **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY** feature.*