

STONELEIGH & ASHOW

NEWS



On Your Marks!

APRIL 2012

Stoneleigh Church Flowers

The Flower group coffee morning that was held before Christmas raised a total of £540 towards the flower fund of Stoneleigh Church.

Thank you to: Jean and David Vaughan for hosting the event at Wentworth House, to all who attended and gave so generously, to those who helped on the day and for all the donations of raffle prizes, cakes and bring and buy.

We will be decorating the Church for **Easter** on Saturday 7th April at 10am. Please do come along and join us. Everyone welcome

If you would like to make a donation towards the Easter lilies, then please do so to either myself or Syd Creed.



Thank you
Mandy Gibbs

STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS

The May edition will be compiled by Kim and Martin Smith

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Any graphics should preferably be .jpg and no larger than 150kb

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

This edition was compiled by Sheila Woolf

Front cover: Coronation Day Race - can you identify the runners?

Photo from the collection of Shirley Ball

PUBLIC NOTICE

STONELEIGH VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS CHARITY (702842) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Stoneleigh Village Hall and Playing Fields Charity is to be held on Monday 16th April 2012 at 8pm at Stoneleigh Village Hall, Birmingham Road, Stoneleigh.

All inhabitants of the parish of Stoneleigh who are eighteen years of age and upwards are entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting.

Elections will be held at the meeting to elect candidates for the elected member positions. The successful candidates shall hold office until the end of the third annual general meeting following their election.

If you would like to apply for one of the above positions please do so in writing to:

The Honourable Secretary,
Sue Marshall
18, Mercia Ave
Kenilworth.
CV8 1EU

Jim Harris

Ann would like to thank all her neighbours and friends for their support over the last few months and for the comforting cards and letters received.

She would also like to thank the Choir for singing so beautifully at the Funeral and also all those who helped make it a memorable day in remembrance of Jim's life.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

The April Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 12th April 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

This is a meeting for Councillors which the public has a right to attend.

Stoneleigh's Annual Village Meeting will be held in Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 26th April 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

This is a statutory meeting at which members of the Parish Council are required to report back to the electorate on their work over the past twelve months and for the electorate to discuss their hopes and/or concerns in the Village.

Precept/Council Tax 2012/13

The precept for the next financial year April 2012-March 2013 was agreed at £12,654. It was agreed last year that any monies not spent from the Special Grant for HS2 would be deducted from this year's precept. Six thousand pounds was allocated to Stoneleigh of which six hundred and forty seven pounds was spent. This left a surplus of five thousand three hundred and fifty three pounds. This amount has been deducted from the precept so the actual amount for this year's precept is Seven thousand four hundred and twelve pounds.

House for Sale Acorn Close

There is a 2 bedroom house for sale to a local person in Acorn Close, Stoneleigh. £140,000 for a 70% share. For an application form please contact Liz Fitzsimmons on behalf of Rural Housing Trust Ltd 01462 742099. Deadline for returned applications is Thursday 5th April 2012. (The houses in Acorn Close were a joint project between Rural Housing Trust Ltd, Stoneleigh Parish Council and Warwick District Council).

Marie Curie Cancer Care – Free Wills Scheme

Free Wills Scheme 1st March – 31st May 2012 available to those aged 55 or over. An up to date Will is the only way to guarantee your wishes will be carried out and will save your loved ones heartache at a difficult time. If you would like an appointment with one of the supporting solicitors please call your local Marie

Curie Legacy Advisor Sally Young on 02920 426045. Supporting Solicitors are as follows:

Angels Coventry
Blythe Liggins, Leamington Spa
Newsome Vaughan, Coventry
Ward and Rider, Coventry
Wright Hassall LLP, Leamington Spa

This offer has limited availability and applies to simple wills. More complicated wills may incur an additional charge to be settled direct with the solicitor. All wills should be instructed by 31st May 2012.

Pat Maddison - Parish Clerk

A HISTORY OF STONELEIGH IN PICTURES

For the Queen's Diamond Jubilee I am trying to compile a History of Stoneleigh in Pictures to complement the display in the church by projecting a slide show in the Club on the evening of June 2nd.

I hope to use many of the photos on the Stoneleigh Website but there must be many that residents or ex residents of Stoneleigh have in their collections which would be of interest to everyone.

Have you photos which I could copy to include in this collection?

I will be pleased If you can let me have copies as soon as possible or if necessary I will be happy to call round to your house in order to take a photo of any suitable prints.

Thank you

Will Blagburn tel 024 76415405 or email blagburn@talktalk.net



Jim Harris

On Thursday 8th March, Stoneleigh Church had standing room only for any latecomers to the funeral of Jim Harris as more than 200 people gathered to pay their last respects to a much loved friend.

In a moving tribute, Mike Baker told of Jim's many talents: his early and successful career with Lombard Finance, his talent at sport both at school and then as a member of Coventry Golf Club and, of course, his love of the 'Sport of Kings' – horse racing, and particularly the Cheltenham Festival (which starts today as I write these words). But, more than anything, Jim was a 'people person' and everyone in the village knew Jim for his outgoing friendliness, his ability to chat and offer help or advice wherever it was needed and all this in the face of many health set-backs of his own.

Jim was a founder member of the Male Voice Choir and Chairman for more than twenty years during which time he guided the choir with a wonderful understanding of the people involved, the audiences we were trying to entertain and the songs we should be singing – whilst always protesting that his own lack of talent relegated him to the back row of the chorus! The esteem that the choir members held him in was amply demonstrated by the singing at the funeral: the renditions of "The Best of Times" (one of Jim's favourites) and "My Way" were surely heard in heaven!

No tribute to Jim would be complete without mention of Ann, his wife of more than 50 years. Ann and Jim made a wonderful couple, loving parents and grandparents and, when the end was approaching, Ann was at Jim's side tending to his every need and with a devotion that is an example to us all.

Yes, we will miss Jim Harris but his name will live on as we remember those Best of Times that we shared together.

Robin Bussell

1952 – 2012 Diamond Jubilee



My Coronation Day Memories, June 2nd 1953

Do you remember Coronation Day, June 2nd 1953? What were you and your family doing on that day? Did you celebrate at home...watch the new television? Did you have a community event – a party or a sports day? Can you recall the weather on the day?

The Stoneleigh History Society is collecting memories of that long-ago June 2nd. We should love to hear about your recollections!

If you would be happy to have a chat about your memories, or would like to jot them down and have them published as part of the Stoneleigh History Society Jubilee Display in the Church, then please contact :- Sheila Woolf 02476 418759 or Shirley Ball 01926 858094.

If you have any photographs or memorabilia which you would be prepared to lend, please be sure to give us your full contact details so that we can return them to you after the event.

Join in the Jubilee Fun

In an effort to make the village more beautiful for the Jubilee and the Olympics may we ask all villagers to consider a red, white and blue colour scheme for their front gardens this year. You might like block colours or mixed.

Please join us and make the weekend of June 2nd-4th 2012 an extra special one.

Gill Watson
02476 411658

Farmer Ted!
Edwin Norman 'Ted' Silk
1923 - 2012

A wonderful man, loving husband, proud father, great friend and countryman who was loved and respected by all who had the good fortune to know him.

Ted was the youngest of 4 children born to Arthur and Edith Silk at the family farm 'Wootton Grange'. After nursery school at Miss Morrissey's he went on to Abbotsford, New Street, Kenilworth and joyfully walked there and back every day from the farm - imagine today's children walking 2 miles each way to school! Ted went on to Warwick School, of which he was very proud and with his great friend, Jack Prince, enjoyed many Old Boys' gatherings - recently attending the 1930s - 1940s Old Boys' reunion.

Having started a Pedigree Frisian herd from scratch 'Farmer Ted' was most successful. He loved his dogs and he loved shooting and along with Jack Prince and their friend Frank Ellis they enjoyed all the country pursuits with many of their outings ending with a convivial talk at The Anchor in Leek Wootton!

Ted's life was to change when on a skiing trip in 1971 he met and fell head over heels in love with Cathy. They married in 1972 and Cathy, who had 2 sons, Adrian and Adam, came to Warwickshire from Lancashire. He embraced his ready made family and was delighted when Charles was born 2 years later. It was an idyllic marriage for 40 years.

Through shooting, Ted met Jim Thompson who introduced him into another passion of his life - Freemasonry. He loved the words and tenets of their ritual and with Jim and Ron Rollason, his old friend from nursery school, he became fully involved and was a founder member of his old school lodge.

After 60 years at Wootton Grange they moved to Bericote Farm, creating first one, then another beautiful home. He enjoyed watching his children, grandchildren and garden grow. He and Cathy also went on many trips, often in vintage cars as well as spending time in their holiday home in France. Their dear friend Julia Ellis regularly kept them company.

Ted was a lovely chap, with a winning smile, twinkly eyes and great company who enjoyed a long, happy and fulfilled life. A true son of Warwickshire who lived respected and died regretted.

Mike and Jinty Cotton

Stoneleigh History Society

Our February meeting marked a significant departure for the society, as we hosted our first outside speaker at the Village Hall. A large gathering listened in fascination to the excellent presentation by David Clark on the history of Ashow.

Our first AGM is almost upon us (March 27th) when, after the business of the meeting, we are delighted to be welcoming Patrick McIlroy who is in charge of the restoration of the Repton Landscape at Stoneleigh Abbey. It should be a very interesting evening – all are welcome, with members being charged only £1 and guests £2.

We hope, subsequently, to make our own visit to see the newly-restored grounds, and future activities also include presentations by members of the society on their ongoing researches, and a trip to the wonderful RASE library at Stoneleigh Park, which houses an extraordinary collection of books and artefacts on agricultural history. We are also planning an extensive display in the church to coincide with the Jubilee Celebrations and the Leamington History Festival.

We are always happy to welcome new members! If you would like to join us, please contact:

Sheila Woolf
shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk

Fund Raising for Cancer Research.

The Kenilworth Committee of Cancer Research U.K. will be holding 2 events locally in April and May.

Wednesday 18th April is the annual **Big Breakfast**, from 7.30 to 11 am at Stoneleigh Village Hall. Full English Breakfast provided. Numbers and preferred times, for catering purposes, to Pat Harvey 01926 852543. Donations to Cancer Research.

Friday 11th May An **Evening Concert** with "Espresso" at Ashow Church at 7.30 pm. Tickets £15 to include Sparkling wine and Canapes, from Pat Harvey 01926 852543, Rosemary Brown 01926 855808, or Pat Wartnaby 01926 852583.

An invitation from Stoneleigh History Society

On Tuesday March 27th at the Village Hall we shall be holding the first AGM of the Stoneleigh History Society, and this will be followed by a talk by Patrick McIlroy who is supervising the restoration of the important Repton Landscape at Stoneleigh Abbey.

The meeting will begin at 7.30pm and the talk will follow at 8pm.



Tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided.

You are warmly invited to attend.

Members £1; guests £2.

Road Closure?

We would like to update residents on progress we have made in petitioning W.C.C. to close the Birmingham Road at the Coventry Road end. We have been to every property in the village to let people know of this proposal and have received positive feedback from residents. Unfortunately we couldn't consult everyone but have left our contact address for those few people who were unattainable. When the petition is completed it will be forwarded to Councillor Doody who will submit it to the appropriate people. Further updates will be submitted to this magazine. Any more information required please contact Jim and Eva Mancini on

02476-418424 or e-mail jimeva29@gmail.com

J.L.Huthwaite



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Stoneleigh Jubilee Celebrations

Saturday June 2nd 2012

2pm till late



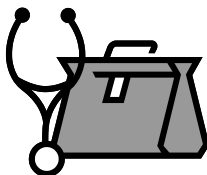
Don't forget to put this date in your diary –yes, we know it's the same day as the Kenilworth Show, but you can easily do both! More and more attractions are being added daily to our list of events, and a full colour programme will appear with your May edition of the *Stoneleigh & Ashow News*.

We would now like to invite you to make the event an even more special and colourful party occasion: why not dress up in appropriate style? Arrive at 2pm dressed in your best, and there will be prizes awarded for the most imaginative outfits worn by children or adults. Perhaps dress patriotically in red, white and blue, or think about costume “through the years” - from the Queen's Coronation in 1953, right through to 2012. Dig out your “vintage” clothes from the 1960s or 70s, or come as a significant character from stories or films during the Queen's reign. It's up to you!

Also:

WANTED – A QUALIFIED FIRST AIDER

We need someone with an up-to-date First Aid Certificate who would be willing to be present during our celebrations. Please contact Nora on 024 76 415405 if you can help. All other offers of help, of whatever kind, would be greatly appreciated by the Jubilee Committee. Be part of this special village occasion!



The Church of St Mary the Virgin
Stoneleigh

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2012

Community Coffee mornings take place in Stoneleigh Village Club on the third Tuesday of each month, at 10.30 a.m.

APRIL

PLEASE SEE THE CHURCH NOTICE BOARDS AND THE CHURCH PAGE IN THIS ISSUE FOR ALL DETAILS OF THE EASTER SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES.

MAY

Friday 11th *FILM NIGHT – See posters for film details.*

6.45 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. Stoneleigh Village Hall

Saturday 26th *STONELEIGH MALE VOICE CHOIR in concert.*

7.00 p.m. Stoneleigh Church

JUNE

Diamond Jubilee Weekend Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd

Stoneleigh Church will be open for teas over the weekend and there will be a special 'Songs of Praise' service on Sunday – further details next month

Saturday 16th – *AN EVENING WITH THE AUTHOR SUSAN HILL*

TICKETS AVAILABLE SHORTLY

Film Nights will also take place on Fridays 13th July and 7th September, don't forget to mark your diaries! Tickets and further details may be obtained from The Parish Office admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk 02476 415506 or Sarah

Ballinger, Churchwarden: 02476 715256.

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

Stoneleigh WI

Brian Collis from Avondale Nursery gave a very interesting illustrated talk on 'Colour in the garden' at the March meeting. He answered questions and had plants for sale.

The Warwickshire Federation of WIs are celebrating 2012 with their own Olympics. This was started with an Olympic flame being passed to each WI in the county. We were the first and went to Baginton village hall in a convoy of decorated cars where the flame was handed to the president of Baginton WI who then passed it onto the president of Hodgett's Lane WI. This all culminated with afternoon tea.

Various activities have taken place in conjunction with this - a games evening with Rummy and Scrabble; a knitting session where our treasurer Rhona produced the most squares and a table tennis tournament that was won by Sheila Skinner. Other events are to follow - with a grand final in July.

We had a very successful skittles evening at Leek Wootton social club that included a meal.

The next village lunch is on April 3rd - **PLEASE** inform us if you wish to attend or can no longer attend - Liz, 02476 418301. The coffee morning is on April 17th at the village club.

The next meeting is on Monday April 2nd when the speaker will be Jane Arnold and her talk is entitled 'Women in Roman times'

Liz Sykes

Stoneleigh Village Club

The club continues to provide events for the community and welcomes everyone to come along and enjoy these functions.

Forthcoming Events:

April

- 8th Easter Bonnet Parade & Egg Hunt 1.30pm start – all welcome
Come and join in the fun.
- 9th Bank Holiday – Open 12.00am - 3.00pm & 7.00pm – 11.00pm
- 14th Mick & Ed's Quiz Night – 8.00pm start - £5.00 per team.
- 21st Jim Ball "Memorial" – Traditional Pub Games – 7.30pm start
Food available

URGENTLY REQUIRED – new Committee members, including Officer roles.
Please contact any member of the Committee.

Reminder – the AGM will be coming up in April – see noticeboard for details.

We look forward to seeing you in the Club; your support is much appreciated.

Sue Brooks

HIGH SPEED RAIL LATEST

Much of the last month's national and local developments regarding HS2 have concentrated on the establishment of a series of 'Community Forums' which are intended to be the means through which local communities inform HS2 Ltd about the mitigation measures they would like to see introduced before building work begins. The Stoneleigh Action Group, Stareton Action Group, Stoneleigh Park Residents Association, Stoneleigh Abbey Residents Association and Stoneleigh Parish Council have been placed in the Forum which includes Kenilworth and Burton Green. The first meeting will be held on 2nd April and a report will be included in the next edition of the News. Meanwhile the Stoneleigh Action Group has met to discuss strategy and will continue to press for 'cut and cover' across Stoneleigh Park.

On 13th March, Warwickshire County Council held a technical seminar to which representatives of many local groups were invited to discuss aspects of the project with technical experts and local councillors.

There have been no further details about the compensation package to be offered to affected households and businesses.

Information continues to be exchanged amongst the increasing number of action groups along the route from Euston to Birmingham. Groups are also being formed in readiness for the announcement of the extension of the route northwards. Despite increasing evidence from many experts about the shortcomings of the project and its enormous cost (c£32 billion), there are no signs that the Coalition Government will change its determination to press ahead.

For up-to-date information check the official site of HS2 www.hs2org.uk For the Department for Transport comments see www.dft.gov.uk/topics/highspeed-rail

Margaret Wallis (on behalf of the Stoneleigh Action Group)

HAPPY EASTER from the Vicarage:

Back in 1991, I had my 15 minutes of fame when I appeared as a contestant on Countdown (I lost!). I was coming towards the end of my first curacy at the time, having been ordained in 1988. When asked what my ambition was, I announced that it was “to NOT be Archbishop of Canterbury”. Well, it appears that I have every chance of avoiding selection again when, as was recently announced, the current Archbishop retires from Lambeth Palace at the end of the year (though Bishop Christopher is being mentioned as among the likely ‘front-runners’)!

I had the pleasure and privilege to meet Rowan Williams on a few occasions while I was serving in his Canterbury Diocese before moving to these parishes. On one occasion, he came to our church in Maidstone to ordain my assistant as Priest. While the public perception may be of a very academically minded man who speaks way over most people’s heads, in those parish and pastoral situations you come across the real human and humble man who, while extremely clever and learned, is a great communicator with all ages and has a warm and caring heart. One of the smaller children in the congregation thought he was Father Christmas!

I am glad to know that I will have other opportunities to meet and hear Rowan in May as he is visiting the Coventry Diocese to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Coventry Cathedral. The most exciting opportunity for us all will be when he comes within Stoneleigh Parish to lead a special “Spirit of the Countryside” service on the site of the Kenilworth Show. This will take place at 12 noon on Pentecost (Whit) Sunday, 27th May and is open to all. Do make a note of this in your diary and come along. There will be fuller details on this next month.

This month, of course, our focus is on the celebrations of Easter – but please don’t forget that without the events of the preceding week: Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, the Arrest, Trial and Crucifixion of Jesus: the resurrection loses much if not most of its meaning. Do join in the drama of Holy Week (hopefully, there is a card enclosed from Churches Together telling you all the details of services and events in the various churches of Kenilworth and the Villages), and then come to really experience the Joy of Resurrection life on Easter Day and the following weeks.

Jim Perryman

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS

Yes it's that time of year again! Ashow APCM will be held in Ashow Club on Monday 23rd April and Stoneleigh APCM will be held on Tuesday 24th in Stoneleigh Village Hall.

Nomination notices for Churchwardens and PCC are up at the back of both churches and we would be grateful if you could add your nominations and signatures as soon as possible.

We are also in the process of updating the electoral roll, if anyone would like to add their names to this, could they please get in touch with Sue Wareham.

Leek Wootton Link-up:

One of the highlights at Leek Wootton each year is the School Easter Assembly, when the children come to the Church on the last Wednesday of term and re-enact the events of the Last Supper, the Arrest and Trial of Jesus, the Crucifixion and Resurrection. It is always a deeply moving moment and I'm sure that this year will have been no different.

The congregation's Holy Week and Easter celebrations are very much shared with Stoneleigh & Ashow for Maundy Thursday evening and Good Friday afternoon, and with the Kenilworth Churches for the Good Friday morning Walk of Witness. We include our own prelude to this by going the 'extra mile' (and a half) and walking from All Saints to St John's Kenilworth for the official start. Why not come and join us this year?

Normal times for Sunday services remain as 8am and 9.30am except on April 29th when the three parishes gather at Leek Wootton for 10.15am. New members of Mothers' Union will be enrolled during this service.

Jim Perryman

The three parish **AGAPE MEAL** which is a simple meal based on the ritual of the Last Supper, will take place at 7.00 p.m. at Stoneleigh Village Hall on **Maundy Thursday, 5th April**. Please bring your own plate, cutlery, glass or mug (so we can make a quick getaway for the pilgrimage to Stoneleigh church). Food will be provided at a cost of £5.00 per head – any profit will go to charity. Please sign up on the lists at the back of all churches if you would like to take part. **ALL ARE VERY WELCOME**

St. Mary the Virgin Stoneleigh - The Church finances in 2011.

2011 has been a year when Parish activity has been as normal as it ever is with church finances; the excess of income over expenditure of £14,523 reflects this near normality. In these circumstances it is worth recording that part of our carried forward surplus is attributable to the £22,031 bequest monies we received and without that we would have had a reverse of the present outcome.

However in closing off this year we have moved into another that will be difficult and far from normal; in fact it will be very reminiscent of 2009/10.

Forward into 2012.

The liquid assets we take forward into 2012 are £53,703. Of this £41,363 is set aside for the repairs we face from the quinquennial report on the state of the church building; this figure includes the £15,500 we have already received in response to our appeals to two charities.

The estimated total cost of this exercise is £263,000. We are now active in seeking to raise money to meet this bill with an appeal to English Heritage which is in course of preparation for submission to them by the middle of April.

This brief report can only cover the broad picture. The annual meeting on 24th April gives you an opportunity to hear the details of the accounts and ask any questions you may wish to put.
S.G.C.

FROM THE REGISTER

Thursday 8th March, funeral of Jim Harris at Stoneleigh,
followed by cremation at Canley Crematorium.

Monday 12th March, interment of Cremated Remains of
John Whiteman Burrows at Stoneleigh

Contacts

Priest in Charge, The Reverend Jim Perryman
Phone 01926 850610 or email:jim@a-lws.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, but
for any other matter of parish administration please contact Sue Wareham on 02476
415506, Email: admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk
<http://www.a-lws.org.uk>



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



SERVICES FOR APRIL 2012

	ASHOW	STONELEIGH
Sunday 1st	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Thursday 5th Maundy Thursday	7.00 p.m. Agape Meal at Stoneleigh Village Hall followed by pilgrimage to church to strip the altar in readiness for Good Friday.	
Friday 6th Good Friday	12.00 noon – Three hour devotional service at Stoneleigh	
Saturday 7th Easter Eve	6.00 p.m. Service of Light	7.00 p.m. Service of Light
Sunday 8th Easter Sunday	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion	10.30 a.m. Coffee and Easter Egg Hunt 11.00 a.m. Sung Holy Communion with children’s activities.
Thursday 12th	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh	
Sunday 15th	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion	11.00 a.m. Fellowship Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd	11.00 a.m. Village Service and dedication of piano	11.00 a.m. All Age Worship
Thursday 26th	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh	
Sunday 29th	10.15 a.m. Three Parish Holy Communion at Leek Wootton	
Information about services and events at Leek Wootton can be found within the magazine or at www.a-lw-s.org.uk		

On the fourth Thursday of each month, at 11.00 a.m., Jim will hold open 'surgeries' in Stoneleigh church. If you would like to speak with him on any matter, please do call in.