

STONELEIGH & ASHOW

News



DECEMBER 2012
JANUARY 2013

Advent & Christmas in Ashow

The Ashow Parish Choir is being rehearsed by Susan Spencer and will be singing at the Advent Carol Service on Sunday 2nd December at 5.00pm. This will be our traditional family candlelit service, with mulled wine and mince pies served afterwards.

The Village Carol Service will be on Sunday 23rd December at 4.00pm. Both these services are always very popular. The Christmas Day Holy Communion Service at Ashow will be at 9.30am on Christmas morning and will be taken by the Revd Jim Perryman.

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday 15th December from 10.00am onwards (the week before the carol service!). Everyone is welcome, and it would be nice if some children could help decorate the tree. Please bring a small amount of greenery, if you have it, with which to decorate the candle poles.



I should like to say a belated "thank you" to everyone who helped with the Autumn tidy-up of the churchyard in October.

Stephen Harvey



This month's front cover:

"Christmas Jingle Bells"

by Lucy Morris

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High Speed Rail (HS2) Latest

*Much has happened in the past month, notably the publication of details of the compensation consultation. Anyone whose domestic premises have to be compulsorily purchased or who is likely to be affected by the construction of HS2 can apply for compensation, providing they meet certain criteria. Some small businesses and agricultural units are included. Those who *might* be affected by noise/vibration etc *after* the railway is operational cannot apply for compensation until that point (under current plans - 2026!). Many readers may have views about this - longstanding blight, noise, dust, disruption etc during construction, and so on.*

Full details of the proposals, including maps now showing safeguarding proposals (we are Map 22), plus an application form for compensation, can be found at this zippy address **<http://highspeedrail.dft.gov.uk/consultations/property-compensation-london-to-west-midlands>**. Hard copies of all documentation should be available on request from **0300 1231102**. Another contact point is **www.hs2.org.uk**. A helpful background briefing document has been prepared by the HS2 Alliance. This includes possible questions to raise on the forms. Full details at **www.hs2alliance.org**.

A series of meetings has been organised by HS2 Ltd, supposedly designed to provide more information to concerned members of the public. Extremely short notice was given of these meetings, and some have been held before the deadline for this edition of the News. The Stoneleigh Action Group emailed as many people as possible about these events. On 11th December, there is to be a session in the Abbey End car park in Kenilworth from noon to 8.00pm, and residents are encouraged to attend and to ask questions of the staff on hand there.

When further information is made available, the Group hopes to hold an information session in the Village Hall at which professional property experts will be on hand to offer advice to concerned householders. Further details will be circulated as soon as possible. The timescale is extremely short, with 31st January being the deadline for responses.

On 24th October, two 'bilateral' meetings were held between local groups and HS2 Ltd staff to discuss mitigation issues. No firm assurances were given, but points were made strongly by us about the need for adequate sound barriers, protection of the environment etc. The next Community Forum (Stoneleigh groups, Kenilworth and Burton Green) is to be held on 21st November and it is hoped that more specific information will be forthcoming from HS2 Ltd on that occasion than has been provided at previous meetings.

As previously reported, objections about various aspects of the HS2 proposals are due to be heard by Judicial Reviews, beginning 3rd December. The results of the Reviews will provide some indication of whether the facts behind numerous objections which have been lodged have been heeded. Meanwhile, publicity in favour of HS2 has increased and more staff have been recruited by HS2 Ltd.

Further information will be posted on the village website whenever possible. It is relevant to point out that concerns about HS2 are also linked with more immediate plans for the expansion of Stoneleigh Park and the Gateway development. All these proposals will adversely affect the green belt land around us and will change our local environment irrevocably and threaten our road network, with potential gridlock at peak periods.

Margaret Wallis

on behalf of Stoneleigh Action Group



I and my co-author, Chris Holland, would like to thank everyone who came to celebrate the publication of our new book, “The Diary and Scrapbook of Cordelia Leigh”, on 2nd November at Stoneleigh Church. It was a warm and friendly occasion, and we very much appreciated the help given by so many people to make the event possible. Particular thanks to Sarah and Sue at the church, together with all those who welcomed our visitors, and to Paul and Will Reay, our ace parking attendants!

Sheila Woolf

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Stoneleigh Village Walk



Blow the festive cobwebs away by joining the Stoneleigh Walk on New Year's Day. The walk will start at 11.30am at the Motslow Footbridge. It will be a gentle amble for about one hour and will finish at the Village Club, where sandwiches will be available. Everyone is welcome. Happy New Year!

Robin Bussell

Parish Council Notes

Meetings

The December Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Ashow Village Club on Thursday 13th December 2012 at 7.30pm. Join us for a drink and nibbles after the meeting.

The January Ordinary Meeting will be held at Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 10th January 2013 at 7.30pm.

Pat Maddison

Parish Clerk



Stoneleigh Church Flowers

Please help us to provide flowers in Stoneleigh Church by supporting our fundraising coffee morning

Friday 7th December 2012 at 10.30am

Stoneleigh Village Hall

All contributions gratefully received for the

Christmas Table

to include cake stall, bring and buy, and raffle.

Please come, bring your friends, all will be welcome.

The 2012 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Very many thanks to all those who gave of their time so willingly once more this year in helping with administration of the Stoneleigh Poppy Appeal. This involves distribution and collection of boxes, as well as house-to-house collections, church giving and, of course, counting the money collected! The total raised is not available at the time of going to print, but will be notified in the New Year.

Once again, thanks to everyone in the community who gave so generously in purchasing their poppies.

Sheila Woolf



From the Registers



Wednesday 31st October 2012

Funeral at Stoneleigh - Dr William Anthony (Tony) Reay
followed by burial in the churchyard

Saturday 17th November 2012

Marriage at Stoneleigh - Anthony Philip Michael Jones and
Charlotte Louise Avery

Interment of cremated remains
at Stoneleigh - Sheila Millard Craig

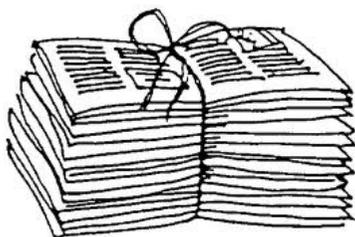
Stoneleigh & Ashow News - AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 31st January 2013 in Stoneleigh Village Hall. 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 welcome to attend to share their experiences, make suggestions etc.

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 offers of help and/or queries.

Margaret Wallis

Chair, Stoneleigh & Ashow News Editorial Team





Stoneleigh WI

Our Annual Meeting was held on Monday 5th November. Presentations were made to members who were retiring from the Committee, and Rachel Gill, the retiring Secretary, was presented with the President's rose bowl. Pam Smith and Barbara Fox have joined the Committee. Pat Lines was re-elected as President, Pam Smith is the new Secretary, and Rhona Robbins is continuing as Treasurer.



During November, members of the craft group tried out various techniques for making rag rugs. They also prepared items for sale at the Elizabethan Fair on 24th November. The Book Club met on 29th November to discuss "A Force to be Reckoned with" by Jane Robinson and "Before the Poison" by Peter Robinson.

There was an outing to see "The History Boys" at the Loft Theatre. A number of members enjoyed an "Autumn Serenade" at Warwick School; a varied programme of music was provided by the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir, the Warwick School Jazz Band, and a wind band and chamber orchestra from Warwick School and King's High School.

The Christmas lunch, which will once again be sponsored by the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir, is on Tuesday 4th December. A traditional Christmas meal will be served. If you would like to book a place, please contact Liz Sykes on 024 7641 8301. The lunch in January will be on Tuesday 8th. The next coffee morning will be at the Village Club on Tuesday 18th December. The meeting on 3rd December will be our Christmas Party, and on 7th January Sheila Woolf will talk about Cordelia Leigh.

Rachel Gill

Stoneleigh History Society

The October meeting was a thoroughly interesting occasion when members and visitors brought along photographs and objects associated with the history of the village – even a brick... thanks, Patrick!

On Tuesday 27th November, we look forward to hearing David Brooks talking about some of his ongoing research into land use – it should be a fascinating evening.

We meet at Stoneleigh Village Hall at 7.30pm; visitors are always welcome. The December meeting will be a Christmas Social on 18th December from 7.30pm in Stoneleigh Village Club. If you think you might like to join the society, come along for a chat!

Sheila Woolf



The Way to Ashow

Following a divorce, I took the surname Newey as it was the maiden name of both my maternal and paternal grandmothers, who were first cousins. The family name is first recorded in the area in a very early 15th century Stoneleigh will. My branch of that family appears to have crossed the border into Kenilworth in the first quarter of the 17th century. In the middle of the 19th century, my paternal great-grandfather, James Hope, was woodsman to Lord Leigh and, by the time he married Ann Strickley in 1850, he had made all their cottage furniture from oak from the Stoneleigh estate; I have their bookcase still. At the end of the 19th century, my paternal great-aunts and an uncle were in service at the Abbey.

In 1983, I published a small book of poems called “The Inheritance”, which was my first, tentative exploration of family and place. It has taken 29 years for me to write its sequel! “Chinewrde Tales” burst into life one morning in May of this year when I woke with the first words of “Hippocrates on Rosemary Hill” in my head. The following morning, it was with the first line of the “The Way to Ashow” that I started my day. Of all the poems that emerged over that extraordinary eight week period, I have found its verses some of the most personally moving of the whole collection. How appropriate that I should now be writing these words for Stoneleigh and Ashow readers, but should I really be surprised? No, not given the additional fact that on my loved strolls through Ashow churchyard, I never fail to spend a few moments beside the grave of the 1940s strict and somewhat testy Kenilworth schoolmaster who first saw and encouraged a writing gift in me.

The Way to Ashow - An Introduction

It is summer 1944. A group of mothers and their young children are walking to Ashow to picnic by the river. In Europe, the Second World War is on the turn, the Allies have landed in Normandy, and Hitler’s troops are being pushed back. In the

Far East, there are fewer hopes. Allied prisoners are being starved and tortured in Burma and Singapore. Indian, British Australian and New Zealand soldiers are fighting in Malaysia and elsewhere, the Americans and her allies are beginning to hold the Pacific, whilst the bomb, which will end this period of suffering but explode another, is still emerging from the drawing boards of the nuclear scientists. Two fathers are fighting overseas, making the threat of the telegram boy's knock on the door a constant terror for their families, whilst our other fathers have, for the past four years, spent days and nights working amongst sirens and raining bombs in Coventry's factories and are exhausted.

In Coventry, the centre of the city is broken and scarred, wooden market stalls sell their few goods from amongst the ruins, the cathedral spire stands witness to death and flames, whilst in Kenilworth the Clock Tower has amazingly survived the devastation around it. Glasspool's, the chemist's, props itself up against its ruined neighbour whilst the elegant houses in Abbey End gaze out through the tumbled stone of their windows and now purposeless doorsteps, on one of whose steps Dr Asplin's beloved dogs no longer suns himself. A rubble of brick, stone and long grass marks the spot where the neighbours from one street in Stoke came to escape the bombs whilst, opposite, Reeves Corn Merchants spill out their sacks of grain and gardening paraphernalia on to the pavement.

But we are going to Ashow! Our journey has started from a small group of houses in the hollow of Spring Lane. Up over Whitemoor Bridge we skip, but not before we have stood on the iron tread of the bridge to wrap ourselves in the steam of a passing train. Then, down the hill and along the path past Hawkes Brickyard on one side and the adventures of the osier bed between the stream and the railway on the other. We rush over the brickyard railway siding to swing open the heavy wooden gate and step on to the Black Pad. On our right is the field where our mothers potato and pea pick to make a little extra for food, clothes and Christmas, but on our left, the scraping, screeching sound of the trucks with their heavy loads continuously climbing and sinking up the sides of the deep-as-

Hades clay quarry. Where we are walking was once where the horses began the task of pulling the wooden trams along the rails to Ashow. Now, with only an occasional rail still set in the earth to remind us, we chatter and laugh between the wild rose, hawthorn and blackberry bushes, past the big white house and on to Windy Arbour. Crossing there, we step over the stile next to Mrs Donaldson's house, the bicycling Second Class teacher at School Lane School who would one day teach us all the Tonic Solfa and the folk songs of the British Isles. Next, over the fields and past the long glasshouses of the Casita Nurseries and out into Glasshouse Lane. Up the road and into the fairy land of Rocky Lane, we are nearly there!...

The Way to Ashow - for first friends



Alan, Jean, Dawn, Cynthia,
Merrick, Ruth and me,
jam and fishpaste sandwiches,
Tizer and cold tea.

On the way to Ashow,
trying not to run,
mothers following afer,
laughing in the sun.

On the way to Ashow
between the lichen banks,
whilst dads are in the factories
forging guns and tanks
or far away, still fighting
to save us from 'The Hun'
while we are hopping, skipping
and practising our fun.

Willowherb and foxglove,
campion, dock, ox-eye,
lady's mantle, bedstraw,
all touch as we pass by.



Meadowsweet and bramble,
goosegrass, sorrel, rose,
pulling at our fingers
where the summer grows.

On the way to Asceshot
where the fletchers walked
and, after them, stout horses
dragged clay carts to the wharf.

With lads and men a'shovin'
and a'runnin' up and down
to get their sticky treasure
on board for Gloucester Town.

But we danced that way to Ashow
between those hay-hazed fields,
gay poppies in the furrows,
mist-scabious, their shields
and when we got to Ashow
there was hop-scotch on the street
with nodding from the doorsteps
and the shop with couponed sweets.

Then, by the river-bank, the beach
with pebbles, grass and trout
and knitted bags to open
to get our costumes out
and plate and bottle, cup and spoon
and gossiping and tears
from nettles stings and dock leaves
and... after seventy years

do you who go to Ashow
along that windy way
still hear us, calling, laughing,
small children out at play?

Can you glimpse the purple heaven
in the sky above the arch
where the rhododendrons blossomed
along the carriage path?



Yes? Then take along to Ashow
your song that must be sung
and our sorrows will all vanish
and you'll once again be young

And when you get to Ashow
remember us, who came
and plaited dreams in Ashow
and sit, and do the same.

Avril Newey

“Chinewrde Tales” is published by Abeon Ltd and is available to purchase at Kenilworth Bookshop, Kenilworth Post Offices and other town retailers or by calling 024 7667 7384. Cost £8.50 (P&P £1.50).



Report from Stoneleigh and Ashow Churches

The Church's preparations for Christmas start on 1st December with our Advent Breakfast. The title of the study on that morning is 'Advent Hope' and its aim is to focus the mind on the real meaning of the period of Advent. The group will meet in Stoneleigh Village Hall from 9.15am to 12 noon. Anyone is most welcome to join us for a lovely social breakfast – full of surprises – and join in with our discussions. Please contact Sarah or Sue if you would like to come along.

On the following afternoon, Sunday 2nd December at 5.00pm, Ashow will be holding its Advent Carol Service. Please do join us for a service that will include all the traditional advent carols and a few different ones from the 'choir'. (See page 2 for further details.)

On the morning of Saturday 15th, the flower arrangers will be decorating Stoneleigh Church in readiness for the carol service the following evening. On that Saturday afternoon, the church will be open from 2.30pm to 3.30pm for people to come along and see the beautiful floral arrangements and have a glass of mulled wine while the children decorate the Christmas tree.

The Christmas services are detailed on the list on the back page of the magazine. We would love you to join us to celebrate 'the true meaning of Christmas'.

Dates for your Diary

November 2012

Saturday 24th November - Elizabethan Fair

In and around Stoneleigh Village Club from 3.00pm into the evening - stalls, entertainment and refreshments following an Elizabethan theme.

December 2012

Saturday 1st December - Advent Breakfast

9.15am to 12 noon in Stoneleigh Village Hall (see above).

Saturday 8th December - Quiz Night

7.30pm in Stoneleigh Village Club. This month, the Church is running the quiz. Teams: £5 for four members, £1 per additional member, payable on the night.

Saturday 15th December - Christmas Flowers and Decorating the Tree

2.30pm to 3.30pm, Stoneleigh Church (see above).

January 2013

Friday 18th January - Film Night - "Nativity"

6.45 for 7.00pm in Stoneleigh Village Hall - £3.00 inc coffee and Danish pastry.

Sunday 27th January - Fellowship Meal

Lunch at the Stoneleigh Golf Club - 1.00pm following the service. Booking early is essential - spaces will be limited. Three course lunch - £11.00.

February 2013

Saturday 2nd February - Talk by Rev Tim Brooke

In Stoneleigh Village Hall, following his recent visit to Masasi, South of Tanzania - details to follow.

For further details and tickets, please telephone Sarah Ballinger (024 7671 5256) or Sue Wareham, Parish Office (024 7641 5506) or email: admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk.





Stoneleigh Village Club

December 2012

8th Christmas Quiz Night, 8.00pm

22nd Children's Christmas Party, 6.00pm

23rd Village Carols and Bells, 7.30pm onwards
BIG CHRISTMAS RAFFLE drawn
at approx 9.00pm



Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve: Club Open

January 2013

5th New Year Quiz, 8.00pm

12th Rock 'n' Roll Night (tbc)



Please keep an eye on the Club noticeboard for any updates and changes

THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR SUPPORT OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS AND TO WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Stoneleigh Village Club

From the Vicarage



The Christmas carol, “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”, speaks of the coming of the angelic choir to the shepherds on the Bethlehem hillside, announcing to them the “good news of great joy” – the birth of their Messiah, Jesus. The accompanying message, as paraphrased in the carol, was “Peace on the earth, good will to men from heaven’s all-gracious King”.

As I write, a week after Remembrance Sunday when we looked back on the horrors of two world wars and the young lives cruelly cut short in those times, the news is telling of more conflict in the “Holy Land”. Death and misery continue in the lands which Jesus knew in his time on earth, in towns and cities which the Bible speaks of all those centuries ago.

The Christmas story reminds us that life was hard for the people of those lands – living under oppression and occupation – and that a message of good news, great joy; a message of peace; would have been just as welcome then as it would be now. Sadly, those who lust for power have no room in their hearts for peace. Just as King Herod was content to order the slaughter of all the young children in Bethlehem in his attempt to get rid of the baby Jesus – the one born to be King – so others today seem content to slaughter children and anyone who happens to be in the vicinity in their hate-filled quest for revenge and the crushing of opposition.

As we turn our thoughts to all the hectic activity which surrounds the Christmas celebrations for so many of us – as we look forward to parties, presents, family gatherings and time off work – as we remember through readings and songs

the events of that first Christmas in Bethlehem – let us pause and pray for those in Israel, Palestine, Syria – yes even Bethlehem itself – that they will find new hope, good news of great joy, peace and good will.

“Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and man, at war with man,
hears not the love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
and hear the angels sing.”

Verse 3, It Came Upon The Midnight Clear, E H Sears [1810-1876]

Jim Perryman

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace - ful wings un - fuled,
3 For lo, the days are has - tening on, by pro - phets seen of old,

from an - gels ben - ding near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heaven - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
when, with the ev - er - cir - cling years, shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gra - cious King":
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on ho - vering wing,
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

Stoneleigh Park Update

Farming minister comes to hear from rural business

Farming minister David Heath came to Stoneleigh Park in October to hear from rural business and confirm £2.4 million funding for Warwickshire's Rural Growth Network.

The visit was billed as an opportunity for the minister to learn how the Government can make rural areas even better places to live and work in.

Local employers and politicians raised issues as diverse as the supply of broadband and the impact of HS2 on farms. The minister then visited three Stoneleigh Park tenants: the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, GEA Farm Technologies, and the NFU.

The minister used his visit to promote the county's Rural Growth Network. Three new Rural Technology and Innovation Centres, including a hub at Stoneleigh Park, will support new and small rural businesses and aim to create up to 500 new jobs over the next three years.

Warwickshire County Council has been busy finalising plans with DEFRA, Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership, LaSalle and other partners to ensure the Rural Growth Network is up and running in the New Year, with Stoneleigh's centre set to open towards the middle of the year.



L to R: Colin Hooper, Farming Minister David Heath and Cllr Alan Cockburn during the minister's visit in October

15-year masterplan secures support

LaSalle's 15 year masterplan for the revitalisation of Stoneleigh Park secured the support of Warwick District Council's planning committee in September. The proposals also found favour with the majority of local people, who engaged with the public consultation process in the summer.

Questionnaires returned showed strong support for key elements:

94% for modernisation

82% for expansion

80% for a science park

76% for an equine centre

87% for highways proposals

Local concerns about preserving the character of the park and the largely rural setting have been addressed through a condition attached to the committee's decision and refinements to the planting scheme. The local Highways Authority is modelling traffic movements prior to giving its own final approval.

The master plan sets out a 22% expansion over the next 15 years and creates capacity for another 1,500 jobs on the park.

Access improvements

Construction work is due to start in the Spring on consented access improvements that will create a new northern entrance to Stoneleigh Park. The project involves installation of a wider bridge at the current Gate 3, redesign of the junction with the B4115, improvements to internal roads, and upgraded security.

Detailed design of a roundabout for the current main entrance is in progress. Construction will not begin until the northern entrance is operating smoothly.

The combined access works will divert Stoneleigh Park traffic away from Stoneleigh Village and improve traffic flow on the B4113.

50 year old's facelift

Stoneleigh Park has been enjoying a period of cosmetic surgery in the run-up to its 50th birthday.

The latest buildings to go under the knife are units 130 and 181 on Avenue M, creating two modern office buildings totaling 3,700 square feet that can now attract new employers to Stoneleigh Park:

- **Unit 130, Avenue M.** The two-storey building offers approximately 1,840 square feet of space with car parking immediately adjacent.
- **Unit 181, Avenue M.** This uniquely shaped, three-storey building provides light and airy office accommodation of approximately 1,860 square feet.

This refurbishment work is far from superficial and includes insulation, heating, wiring and access for disabled employees. External materials have been changed with a view to achieving a more consistent palette of rural materials across the park.

These office refurbishments are just the latest stage in a programme of investment by LaSalle that has led to the refurbishment and reuse of the JCB Pavilion as a UK headquarters for GEA Farm Technologies, the CASE building for Stoneleigh Events, the International Pavilion for Stoneleigh Performance Fitness, and the bungalow at 7 Eastgate as LaSalle's estate office.

Events update

Nextgen showcases future energy technologies

Thousands of delegates interested in renewable energy gathered at Stoneleigh Park in October for Nextgen, a two-day conference and exhibition. Bringing together all renewable energy solutions in one place, the event allowed decision makers to review and compare options. Nextgen showcased the next wave of renewable energy technologies that are looking for partners and funders – everything from algae and bio-char to fuel cells and heat recovery technology.

Inaugural Pet Show chooses Stoneleigh Park

The Pet Show has chosen Stoneleigh Park for its inaugural year. Show organiser, Cheshire-based Complete Publishing, chose Stoneleigh Park over rival venues for its location, flexibility and capacity: “The venue is ideally placed in the heart of England and accessible for people coming from further afield. That was a big draw. We were keen to use a venue that would provide both indoor and outdoor space, and Stoneleigh’s parking capacity was the icing on the cake.”

The Pet Show will run across the weekend of 20th to 21st July 2013, and will include dogs, cats, small animals, birds, horses, and tropical and marine fish.

Further information and tickets are available at **www.thepetshow.co.uk**. Complete Publishing has partnered with a number of animal charities who will benefit directly from ticket sales.

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This month's edition of *Stoneleigh and Ashow News*
was compiled by **Lucy Morris**,
who would like to thank all contributors.

The February 2013 edition will be compiled by
Robin Bussell
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024 7641 6183

robin.bussell@sky.com / editor.sandanews@gmail.com

Copy deadline: 18th January 2013

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

Ashow contact: Stephen Harvey (01926 852543)

Stoneleigh contact: Ian Smith (01926 853238)

To arrange a baptism, wedding or funeral,
please contact the Vicar.

For pastoral care, please telephone Dr Elizabeth Penlington
on 024 7641 9707.

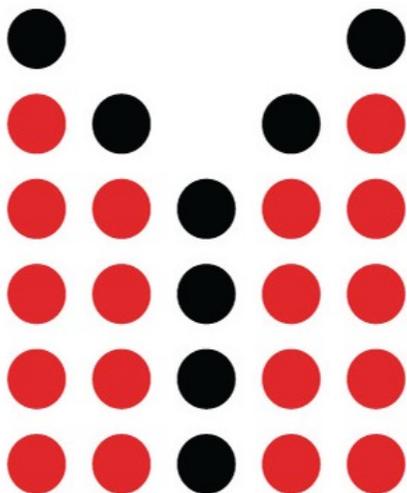
For any other matter, please contact the Parish Administrator,
Sue Wareham, on 024 7641 5506.

admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk
www.a-lw-s.org.uk

Leek Wootton link-up

If you could ask God one question, what would it be?

The Y-Course is designed for people to get answers to their life's BIG questions and is open to all, whether resident in Leek Wootton, Stoneleigh, Ashow or the surrounding area.



The Y-Course begins in January in **Leek Wootton** (venue to be confirmed) and runs over eight weeks. Each of the eight Wednesday evening sessions begins with a meal at 7.30pm. There will be two short 'chat show' presentations, each one followed by group discussion time where you have the freedom to ask whatever you want. The evening will finish by 9.30pm. No prior knowledge of Christianity, the Bible or Church is assumed. The atmosphere will be relaxed, low-key and fun.

To introduce the Y-course, we are having a taster session on Wednesday 5th December at Leek Wootton Primary School. It will begin at 7.30pm with a buffet meal; you'll have a chance to sample what an evening might be like as we discuss the question "Y-Christmas?". There'll be an opportunity to ask some other questions and then to decide over the next few weeks whether you would like to join the course beginning on Wednesday 16th January 2013.

Jim Perryman



Chairman's Update

Last month, I asked the questions: "Is there a future for SVC and could we raise £30k to try and purchase the Club buildings?" The first answer is "I don't know – yet", but:

- We continue to operate at around break-even and this is despite a number of recent setbacks: a broken boiler, insurance premium increase, licence renewal costs, problems with the roof etc.
- Our trading is not yet sufficiently stable to guarantee the future.

The second answer is probably "no":

- So far, I have received pledges for £15,600 which is, of course, insufficient to proceed with a purchase offer.
- We have discussed the possibility of raising a mortgage for the balance. With the financial future not guaranteed, we believe it would be irresponsible to embark on such a commitment, even if a funding offer were to be obtained.
- Lease renewal is another option and that will demand, again, a secure financial future before embarking on this commitment.

On the positive side, and with thanks to our hard-working social organisers, members continue to enjoy a variety of social events. **But**, we would very much like to hear suggestions for events, so please put your thinking caps on and, if you have a little time to spare, offer to help with the organisation.

Finally, I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Healthy New Year, and look forward to seeing you in the Club.

Robin Bussell

Christmas Word Search

G L E T W C R S T O C K I N G
Y I P I D A E R B R E G N I G
A C O V T R P Y A E C E F F U
R E A S L E Q I X O C T A P Z
E M I R Y H A U D P S A J O N
S E A P O B E T H L E H E M I
N R U L O L D O N T F O S P U
A R L S L E I G H A A S U D O
M Y N O P L T T O Y S I S H R
W C E N E M E S I W F E T A N
O B M K A J L O Z Y E G V M A
N E R N C L U H M G O T E L M
S O G I E O Y D N A C X O N E
V E R B I J O Y H U W B K A N
R E E D N I E R Q C A E E R T



- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Bells | 9. Holly | 17. Sleigh |
| 2. Bethlehem | 10. Jesus | 18. Snowman |
| 3. Candy | 11. Manger | 19. Star |
| 4. Carol | 12. Merry | 20. Stocking |
| 5. Joy | 13. Ornament | 21. Toys |
| 6. Elves | 14. Peace | 22. Tree |
| 7. Gifts | 15. Reindeer | 23. Wisemen |
| 8. Gingerbread | 16. Santa | 24. Yuletide |



Stoneleigh Village Club

BIG CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Fantastic prizes to include
iPad, Land Rover experience,
£50 Ocado voucher, luxury hamper...
... and more



Buy your tickets NOW!



Available in SVClub at £1 each





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.

Shirley & Ernie Ball
Sarah & Michael Ballinger
Mary Beagrie
Kate & Charlie Beaumont
Will & Nora Blagburn
Jayne & David Brooks
Martin & Sue Browett
Jean & Robin Bussell
Viv & Martin Cooper
Betty Craddock
Eileen & Syd Creed
Lena Crockett
Joan Dewhurst
Iris Donachie
Molly Evans
Jean Fardoe
Paul & Barbara Gee
Janet & David Gibson
Roger Gilbert
Philip & Rachel Gill
Ann Harris
Judy & Chris Hadfield

Dick & Daphne James
Phil & Claire James-Bull
Marion & Mike Murray
Judith Oliver
Richard & Janet Parham
Sheila Rench
Alec & Janet Sanders
Tim & Nicky Sawdon
Patrick Sawdon
Jenny Skidmore
Kim & Martin Smith
Liz Sykes
Jean & David Vaughan
Julie, Keith & Harry Walker
Margaret & Ken Wallis
Gill & Clive Watson
Bill Whatmore
Rod & Jill Wheat
Mary & Cec White
Madeline White
Peter & Jan Whitehouse
Sheila Woolf

The flag will be flown, at The Oaks, Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, over the weekend of 22nd and 23rd December to acknowledge the charitable donations. 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 2012 & January 2013

December 2012

- Sunday 2nd 11.00am Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
5.00pm Advent Carols - Ashow
(followed by mulled wine and mince pies)
- Sunday 9th 9.30am Holy Communion - Ashow
11.00am Sung Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
- Thursday 13th 10.30am Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
- Sunday 16th 9.30am Holy Communion - Ashow
7.00pm Traditional Carol Service - Stoneleigh
(followed by mulled wine and mince pies)
- Sunday 23rd 11.00am Fellowship Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
4.00pm Village Carol Service - Ashow
- Christmas Eve 5.00pm Crib Service - Stoneleigh
11.30pm 'Midnight' Communion - Stoneleigh
*We are delighted to welcome the Bishop of Warwick,
the Right Reverend John Stroyan, to Stoneleigh to
take this service.*
- Christmas Day 9.30am Holy Communion - Ashow

January 2013

- Sunday 6th 11.00am United Holy Communion - Ashow
- Thursday 10th 10.30am Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
- Sunday 13th 9.30am Holy Communion - Ashow
11.00am Sung Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
- Sunday 20th 9.30am Holy Communion - Ashow
11.00am Fellowship Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
- Thursday 24th 10.30am Holy Communion - Stoneleigh
- Sunday 27th 9.30am Village Service - Ashow
11.00am All Age Worship - Stoneleigh

Information about services and events at Leek Wootton can be
found at www.a-lw-s.org.uk.