

STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



Photo: Will Blagburn

FEBRUARY 2013

Stoneleigh Village Club

Last month I reported on our fund-raising efforts aimed at raising sufficient to purchase the Club building and that, whilst we had a noteworthy sum pledged, it was insufficient. These pledges were based upon making outright gifts to the purchase fund. We believe we have now found a way to make these gifts returnable in the event that the Club fails and the property is sold. There would be no timescale associated with such gifts so they could be left to successors. I hope to be able to announce the details, launch the scheme and distribute Forms of Agreement very soon.

If the purchase of the building is to proceed, it is necessary to have a formal organisation that can be the purchaser. We are exploring the options available to us and it seems that the most appropriate route will be to register as a Company Limited by Guarantee; we are taking legal advice about this.



I hope to be able to hold a Members Information Meeting during February to promote these next moves and to answer any questions that members might have and a target date for this is Friday 22nd February. Please keep an eye on the notice board and emails (PS: If we don't have your email address we would very much like to receive it; please email me at robin.bussell@sky.com)

Finally, we have applied for re-instatement of Sky TV together with a WiFi hub and this should be installed soon.

Robin Bussell

Stoneleigh History Society

We were delighted to be present at the Village Club's Elizabethan Fayre at the end of November and to meet some local Elizabethan dignitaries! Our Christmas Social at the Club was well attended and we were pleased to be joined by new members; the society continues to grow.

Traditionally, we have no meeting in January and so our first meeting of 2013 will be on **Tuesday 26th February**, when there will be a presentation by Nora and Will Blagburn on the early days of Stoneleigh Close and other memories of the village from the 1950s onwards. I'm sure we'll all find it an entertaining "take" on the more modern history of the village.

Our **March** meeting, on **Tuesday 26th**, will not only be our AGM, but will also have a presentation by Bruce Smith, an expert on Drove Roads, who will talk about this tradition in our immediate area. This is likely to be an important and very special talk and Bruce will have researched our local roads specifically for us; as ever, please come along whether you are a member of the society or not.

Looking a little further ahead, on **Tuesday June 25th** there will be an outing (instead of the usual meeting)...all the way to Baginton! Principally, we shall visit the newly-restored Bagot's Castle, and will be given a talk by an archaeologist on the history of the site; (for more information see <http://www.bagotscastle.org.uk>). A new Visitor Centre is opening in the spring and so we shall be able to see some of the "finds" from the area. Afterwards we shall have the chance to look around the lovely historic church, just a few yards away. If we are fortunate to have a good Midsummer Evening's weather it will be a rather special trip. Further details will be available nearer the time.

All our meetings are held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Do come along - you will be made most welcome. You don't have to be a member to attend! Nevertheless, if you have been thinking about doing so, why not join us in 2013? Membership forms can be obtained from Lisa Reay by phoning 02476 697037 or Margaret Wallis on 02476 414271. Alternatively, you can join at any of our meetings.

Sheila Woolf

Report from Stoneleigh and Ashow Churches

This Christmas was really special in both churches and the Churchwardens and PCCs have lots of “thank you”s to say!

First of all thank you to the flower arrangers who decorated both churches, to Diana and her team at Ashow and to Mandy and her team at Stoneleigh. Both churches looked absolutely beautiful and a lot of hard work had gone into the planning and decorating.

A second “thank you” goes to all of those who played a part in the carol services. To Shirley who pulled everyone together at Stoneleigh, to Ron who played the organ and to the Stoneleigh hand bell ringers, who helped to bring atmosphere and a special touch to the service.

It was great to see Susan Spencer back in the driving seat for the carol service at Ashow, many thanks to her and Bob Burdett for their hard work in organising this, despite Susan’s flood difficulties, and thank you to all of those who gave up their time to sing in the ‘choir’. Also to the Leek Wootton hand bell ringers for their ‘striking’ contribution to the service.

It was wonderful to have a midnight Holy Communion service at Stoneleigh this year and we would like to thank Bishop John Stroyan for taking the service. It may seem no time at all since Christmas, but this month sees the start of Lent! Ashow have their Shrove Tuesday Pie and Pancake evening on Tuesday 12th February (see details below) and the Lent services start on Wednesday 13th with the Ashing service at 7.30 p.m. at Stoneleigh. There will be no Thursday communion the following day, but there will be a 10.30 a.m. communion service each Thursday at Stoneleigh throughout Lent as from 21st February. There will not be any Lent lunches this year.

Dates For Your Diary - Checklist

February 2013

Saturday 2nd 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 in the Village Hall

Candlemas wine and cheese evening with a talk: “Nurses on Motor Bikes!”
by Rev Tim Brooke (following his visit to Masasi, South of Tanzania) Tickets £7.50 (to include a glass of wine), now available from Sarah Ballinger: 02476715256 or Sue Wareham, Parish office: 02476415506 or email: admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk

Tuesday 12th 7.15 p.m. at the CLARENDON ARMS, Castle Hill, Kenilworth

ASHOW SHROVE TUESDAY PIE AND PANCAKE SUPPER

Ticket £17.50,

Available from Stephen Harvey 01926 852543, or Kate Jones 01926 853511.

CONTACTS

Priest in Charge, The Reverend Jim Perryman

Phone 01926 850610 or 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 a funeral please contact the Vicar.

For Pastoral Care please telephone Dr Elizabeth Penlington on

02476 41 9707; for any other matter please contact the

Parish Administrator, Sue Wareham, 02476 415506,

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

**The Churches of St Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh and
The Assumption of our Lady, Ashow
Lent Breakfast 2013**

Because of falling numbers in recent years it has been decided to hold just one Lent Breakfast this year on February 23rd from 9.15 a.m. – 12.00 noon in Stoneleigh Village Hall.

The theme will be **“If all else fails, read the instructions!”**

If you would like to take part - and all are very welcome - please contact

Sarah 02476 715256

or Sue: admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk,

or sign the notice in church.

HIGH SPEED RAIL LATEST

Concerned villagers attended a meeting on 8 January to hear James Del Mar, rural communities manager for Knight Frank (estate agents), speak about the implications of the Government's compensation consultation exercise. Members of the Stoneleigh Action Group explained the proposals and made suggestions about the most effective ways of responding to the consultation, the deadline for which is 31 January (as notified in the last edition of the News).

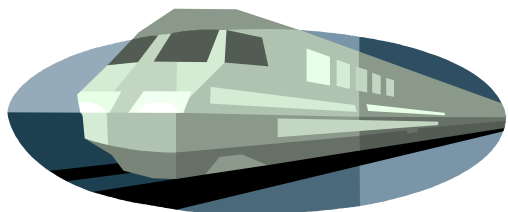
Every taxpayer will pay the cost of HS2 but many householders will pay much more in addition - property blight plus inconvenience and disruption during construction as well as after the railway is operational.

As in the past, readers are encouraged to make their views known to our MP, Jeremy Wright, wrightjp@parliament.uk and, where relevant, quoting the ways in which they are already personally affected by the HS2 proposals.

The next Bilateral Meeting and Community Forum will be held on February 6 and 12th respectively. Rest assured that we shall continue to put forward your views and concerns, including about noise mitigation. The results of the Judicial Reviews are imminent and are awaited with interest.

Margaret Wallis

(On behalf of the Stoneleigh Action Group against HS2)



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

The February Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at the **University of Warwick, University House, Kirby Cross Corner at 7.30 p.m.** On

7th February 2013.

Parish Council

As many of you will know our Chairman, Cllr Gordon Gatward, resigned from the Parish Council after the December meeting due to ill health. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gordon for all his dedication and hard work whilst serving on the Parish Council for the past seven years but especially as Chairman. He was very professional in his approach and kept a level head at all times. This can't always have been easy. We hope his health continues to improve and wish both him and his wife Janet very best wishes for the future.

Also Cllr Sylvia Wyatt, a Councillor from Ashow Ward, resigned at the end of the December meeting. She had only been a Councillor for one year but had been very active and dedicated. She has moved with her husband to Harrogate and we wish them both well for the future.

The vacancies were advertised and elections were not called. We were able at our Council meeting on the 10th January to co-opt to fill the two vacancies. Also at this meeting a new Chairman was elected and we would like to wish him every success for the future. The Parish Council for Stoneleigh and Ashow Wards now consist of the following Councillors:

Stoneleigh Ward

Cllr Richard Hancox (Chairman) 07766 804380, 8 Stoneleigh Close

Cllr Lynne Fletcher 02476 417544, 17 Hall Close

Cllr Eva Mancini 02476 418424, 2 Dudley Close

Cllr David Wintle 02476 307147, 2 The Chantries

Ashow Ward

Cllr Hazel Fryer 01926 859912, Grovewood Ashow

Cllr Jane Mackenzie 07802 622557, The Old Rectory, Ashow

Pat Maddison – Parish Clerk

Ashow Church News

The Churchwardens, Stephen Harvey and Kate Jones, would like to thank the PCC, Sidespersons, and those on the Flower and Cleaning Rota (organised by Diana Holt) for all their hard work over the last year. The church looked beautiful at Christmas, and we are very grateful to all who helped to decorate it, and to Stoneleigh Estate who donated the tree.

The two Carol Services at Advent and Christmas were very popular, and thanks to the Choir and Susan Spencer and Bob Burdett for organising all the music. We donated £400 to Acorns Children's Hospice from the collections in December and January.

Finally we give many thanks to Neil Collett who continues to wind the clock, and to David Wareing who has looked after the churchyard for many years.

At a recent inspection it was discovered that the church is in need of some repairs (not surprising as it is 900 years old!) and we need to raise money for this.

There is a fundraising Pie and Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, 12th February at 7.15 pm, at the Clarendon Arms, Kenilworth. Tickets £17.50 from Stephen Harvey (01926 852543) or Kate Jones (01926 853511). Please join us. Everyone is very welcome.

Stephen Harvey



Stoneleigh Village Club

February

Sat 2nd Quiz Night!

Sat 9th General Social night

Tues 12th Shrove Tuesday:

Pancake Day - Pancakes!

Fri 15th Rock n Roll Night

Sat 23rd General Social Night

2nd March Live music: "ACOUSTICA"



Enjoy Your Club!

Please see the noticeboard and emails for details and any changes.

If any members are not receiving email notifications from the club please drop your name and email address into the club then we can put you on the list.

"Thank you" for your continued support!

From the Vicarage:

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord.

*“Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”*

Isaiah 1:18

As I write, the snow is gently falling – perhaps 3 inches deep by now. Having only returned from the Swiss Alps a couple of days ago, this seems like little more than a gentle dusting, but this is England and travel chaos, school closures and panic buying in case we’re cut off for weeks are all leaping into action.

But there is something very special about snow – magical, beautiful. I went out into the porch a short while ago to collect the post that had been delivered earlier. Did the postman fly here? I assume not, yet there was no trace of footprints. The snow, assisted by the wind, had returned to a smooth coat covering the Vicarage driveway and obscuring every normal undulation of the tarmac surface and every sign of earlier disturbance by our morning visitor with the letters.

Is this part of the picture which God gives to us through the prophet Isaiah? He invites us to come to him with all our imperfections, our wayward footsteps, our blatant sins of rebellion against him and his ways. He invites us: not to come and be told off, or condemned, or ridiculed, or rejected, but to come and ‘reason together’: to have a chat, get things in perspective, understand God’s loving plans and his perfect will. And as we spend that time in his presence, the messed up and damaged places which our big feet have disturbed and soiled are healed and restored as though covered with the drifting snow until every last trace of that sin has gone from God’s sight and all is beautiful once more.

I hope you found safety and security through the adverse weather (which I assume will have cleared by the time of publication – though who knows what it might have been replaced by!) I pray that you will find peace with God in your hearts and lives through the coming months. Maybe you are one of the many people who “aren’t churchgoers”. But the door is open for you to take a look inside and see what is there for you. Maybe the season of Lent is a good time to ‘come and reason together’ with God. He waits to help transform all that holds you back from being the person he meant you to be.

Jim Perryman

Leek Wootton Link-up:

February at All Saints' Church offers a variety of special events:

On Sunday 3rd at 4 pm, our annual "Christingle" service takes place where we will be having a speaker from the Children's Society joining us. This is a lovely service, especially focussed on children, based around the symbolism of the Christingle Orange, with its red ribbon, four sticks containing fruit and sweets and the lit candle at its heart. All are welcome.

The following Saturday (9th: 10 am – 4 pm) is the annual Marriage Preparation Day when couples planning for marriage in 2013 in one of our three parishes gather for a day thinking about their marriage, rather than just the wedding day. It is always an enjoyable as well as valuable day spent together. Please pray for those attending.



A very different event – still a celebration in one sense, but tinged with real sadness at the end of an era and the departure of a good friend – will be the funeral on Thursday 14th February (12.30 pm) of Mrs Chris Jackson. Chris was born in Leek Wootton in 1914 and lived there until the last couple of years when she moved to be with her daughter Pauline – though they still regularly came back to the village for Church services and village events. With the memories Chris had of Leek Wootton life including stories of 'the past' which her older relatives had told her about, she was the living history of the village stretching well back into Victorian times. All those who knew Chris are invited to come to the service which will be followed by a reception at the Sports Club in the village.

Meanwhile, through the month on Wednesday evenings, the "Y Course" continues as a group explore the big questions of life and faith together on Wednesday evenings at the School. If you missed out on this, and would like to express an interest in joining a future group, then please let me know.

Jim Perryman



Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir

“March Showtime”

The spring offering from the choir this year will be a miscellany of “Songs from the Shows” - a nostalgic trip down Broadway and through the West End!

Show dates are 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of March and each performance will be preceded by a 2-course hot meal. Tickets are £20 and may be obtained from Phil Jones (01926 853511).

In addition, there will be a preview evening on Wednesday 13th March at 7.30pm (with tea and biscuits in the interval) and to which we would like to invite Stoneleigh Senior Citizens (at no charge). Tickets for this are available from Robin Bussell (024 7641 6183). For others wishing to attend the Preview, a limited number of tickets are available for sale at £5 each.

Robin Bussell



Stoneleigh and Ashow News

This issue was compiled by Robin Bussell
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bakerplayroom@btconnect.com or editor.sandanews@gmail.com

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We prefer electronic copy (A5), but hard copy may be submitted as an alternative.

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Thursday Lunchtime at 12.30 pm

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www.kashmiryoga.co.uk



The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2012

At the time of the *S&A's News* last going to press it was not possible to give a full total of monies collected in our area. The final figure was £2,567.31, an excellent sum – very many thanks once again to all who collected and all who gave so generously.

Sheila Woolf

The Season of Goodwill

Once again, charitable giving in Stoneleigh over the Christmas season this year has been wonderful and I am very pleased to report the following:

- The ‘flag flying’ at The Oaks, instead of sending local Christmas cards, raised £710 for the Air Ambulance.
- The Church flower ladies raised around £582 at their coffee morning at the Village Hall.
- The Male Voice Choir collected £400 at their Stoneleigh Abbey carol concerts for the Grapevine Charity in Coventry.

“Thank you” to those who worked for these events and a special “thank you” to those who gave so generously. The ‘flag flying’ in particular raised an all-time record sum.

Robin Bussell

WI Report

The Village Christmas Lunch took place in the village hall on 4th December. A traditional three course Christmas meal, with wine, was served. Once again we are grateful for the sponsorship of the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir and to the members of the choir who performed carols and other Christmas songs after the meal. On 6th December a group of members and friends visited Waddesdon Manor to see the house decorated for Christmas and to do some Christmas shopping.

On Monday 7th January we were pleased to welcome Sheila Woolf, who talked to us about Cordelia Leigh. We were introduced to someone who devoted her life to the people of Stoneleigh and Ashow, especially the young people. The talk gave us some interesting insights into the resources which Sheila had used in her research, especially the Diary which Cordelia Leigh kept during the First World War. The members of the Book Club discussed “The Railway Detective” by Edward Marston and “Sarah Thornhill” by Kate Grenville. On 30th January there will be a skittles evening at the Sports and Social Club in Leek Wootton.

At our meeting on 4th February Ernie Boxall will talk about Thai Chi. The next village lunch will be on Tuesday 5th February. If you would like to book a place, please contact Liz Sykes on 02476 418301. The next coffee morning will be on 19th February at Stoneleigh Village Club.

Rachel Gill

Stoneleigh and Ashow News

The AGM for the Stoneleigh and Ashow News will be held on Thursday 31st January 2013 and a report of this meeting will be included in the next issue of the News.

In the meantime, readers should be aware that, unfortunately, annual expenditure for 2013 once again exceeded our income. Our printing costs, for example, total more than £1,700 each year.

This publication is compiled by volunteers, distributed by volunteers and financed by voluntary donations from those who read the Stoneleigh and Ashow News. So, if you are reading these words, please consider making a donation. Even the smallest of contributions will help to keep the News going.

Please make any cheque donations payable to “Stoneleigh and Ashow News” and send them to me at: Alliance Cottage, The Bank, Stoneleigh, CV8 3DA. I am also very pleased to receive any cash donations.

Alternatively, donations may be made direct to our bank account by quoting: Branch Sort Code 60 12 35, Account Number 63535718.

If you would like to become involved in either the production or distribution of the S & A News, we are always ready to welcome new volunteers, so please make yourselves known to our Chairman, Margaret Wallis, tel. 024 7641 4271.

“Thank you”, and I look forward to receiving your donations and being able to cover all our costs in 2013.

Clive Watson,

Honorary Treasurer.

Footnote:

Stoneleigh & Ashow News is very grateful to Stoneleigh WI for its generous donation to our running costs.

Margaret Wallis - on behalf of the Editorial Team.

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF



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



SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2013

Sunday 3 rd	11.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Sunday 10 th	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Ashow 11.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Wednesday 13 th	ASH WEDNESDAY 7.30 p.m. Ashing Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 17 th	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Ashow 11.00 a.m. Fellowship Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Thursday 21 st	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Sunday 24 th	We are trying to arrange for the Archdeacon, the Ven. Morris Rodham to speak to both congregations on this Sunday regarding the future of the Ministry in Stoneleigh and Ashow. Please keep an eye on the pew sheets and the notice boards at both churches for further details. It is most important that as many people as possible come to hear what he has to say.
Thursday 28 th	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh

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

FROM THE REGISTERS

Marriage

Saturday 17th November 2012

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

Funerals and Burials

Friday 28th December 2012

Funeral of Anne Johnson at Stoneleigh, followed by cremation at Stoneleigh

Wednesday 9th January 2013

Interment of cremated remains at Stoneleigh, Josephine Harrison