STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



MAY 2013

Resident of Stoneleigh; Lord Mayor of Coventry!

Tim Sawdon's year as Lord Mayor of Coventry began in style – he and Nicky were married just hours before taking office! With this unique beginning to his year as Lord Mayor, Tim might well have foreseen what interesting times lay ahead of him. And what a year it was: the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, of course, but also the Golden Jubilee of Coventry Cathedral, and an Olympic year, with sporting events taking place right here in the city. In fact, Tim found himself in a good position to challenge the "London 2012" nomenclature when he was introduced to FIFA president Sepp Blatter., who presented Tim with a London 2012 pennant. "What about *Coventry* 2012?" was Tim's response–and to his credit Blatter organised a Coventry 2012 pennant, which now hangs proudly in the Council House.

Tim has been a City Councillor for 39 years, a fact which obviously amazes him. He became a councillor because he wanted to play his part in improving the lives of ordinary people, and as such has represented Wainbody Ward for all that time. When he became Lord Mayor, having become the longest-serving councillor in his turn, he was equally keen to help a variety of organisations in the city. Accordingly he decided, as part of his Lord Mayor's charity, to work with the Heart of England Community Foundation, which enabled grant aid to be given to a number of deserving groups in the city, rather than nominating one or two, as has been more traditional. "I have been enormously impressed by the sheer number of voluntary groups around the city," Tim says. "Everything from Sea Cadets to caring for the elderly. It's the people who make the place." Thus he has been able to assist many organisations working with some of the most disadvantaged members of the community.

What have been the highlights of Tim and Nicky's very special year? They have visited China, and Russia, to link up with Coventry's twin cities of Jinan and Volgograd. Trips to Kiel and Cork, two more of Coventry's twins, have also been made. In fact, of the 500 or so engagements a Lord Mayor can expect in his year of office, some may last for only fifteen minutes, others for several days. But unusually Tim and Nicky have been able to meet <u>two</u> archbishops of Canterbury! At the Golden Jubilee of Coventry Cathedral they were able to meet Rowan Williams, and more recently as part of his pilgrimage around the country, "Coventry's own" Justin Welby. Oh, and Princess Anne has been a frequent visitor, coming to the cathedral, but also to a Citizens' Advice Bureau event and to open an engineering block at Coventry University. One of the perks of being Lord Mayor is the chance to observe the way royalty works: "On one of those occasions I had to introduce her to ninety-four people," Tim recalls, "and she stopped and talked to each one of them. Impressive."

The real highlights, however, have been witnessing the pleasure brought to people by key events in the city's life, or in the life of an organisation within it. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress have many events to attend, but for each of those events it is the organisation's "special day." Tim speaks with real pleasure of the opportunity afforded to three children from Grange Farm Primary School, of which he is a Governor. The children had won the chance to shadow the Lord Mayor for the day and they obviously relished their time at the cutting edge of local politics. "They were such bright kids," Tim says, "and asked really good questions."

Tim and Nicky have put together a number of albums to remind them of their year, and it will inevitably be with some regret that they hand over their chains of office in May, to the current deputy and his wife. It has not been entirely easy for either of them to combine such a whirl of activity with work, but as Tim reverts to being a "mere" councillor again, they will have much to remember from a special year in Coventry's history – and their own.



Photo courtesy Trinity Miirror plc S Woolf

Stoneleigh Community Orchard Update

Despite the flooding followed by the freeze that marked the winter of 2012 and early spring of 2013 it would seem that the orchard is thriving and is very much on the cusp of springing back to life.

The orchard group look forward to developing plans for the coming growing season. Those of you who have walked down to the meadow will have seen that a small additional area has been acquired courtesy of the "Meadows Society" within which a new line of trees has already started to be planted. The group have plans for this line to be completed and for an additional line of "dwarf" apple trees to be planted within the new area during a community planting event to be held this coming Autumn. We hope that this will be as enjoyable an event as that held during December 2011 which was a great success as well as a lot of fun !

The Community Orchard at this point in time relies heavily on the generosity of the residents of Stoneleigh and even more so now that the LEADER funding has been used up. Thanks to all those who have contributed and become a "Friend of the Orchard" during 2012 and we look forward to their continued support during 2013. The fund generated has already enabled an early season grass cut to occur, thanks once again to the efforts of John Craine of Glebe Nurseries as well as the purchase of some Oxeye daisy wild flower seed which is hoped will complement and add to an ongoing germination resulting from the 2012 sowing.

The Stoneleigh village orchard can still very much be considered a "project in development" and it is hoped that our community can look forward to and participate in its incremental development on a yearly basis.

Further information on this project can be found on the Stoneleigh village website.

To become a "Friend of the Orchard" please contact *Pete Freeman* (Chairman), 5 Church Lane, Stoneleigh. 07791 303764





WOULD YOU LIKE TO ENJOY THIS BEAUTIFUL SCENE?



ENJOY A LIGHT LUNCH OVERLOOKING THE TRANQUIL RIVER AVON

AS OFTEN AS YOU LIKE DURING OUR OPEN SEASON.

STONELEIGH ABBEY SEASON TICKETS, JUST £12 EACH!

CALL 01926 858535 FOR DETAILS

HIGH SPEED RAIL LATEST

There is not a great deal to report locally this month. As it happens, there is a Warwickshire County Council meeting about HS2 on 19 April, the next bilateral meeting with Hs2 Ltd engineers is scheduled for 23 April, and the Stoneleigh Action Group has a meeting with Jeremy Wright M.P. on 3 May. There will be a report on these in the next *News*. Concerns about the recent announcement about a construction site between Stoneleigh and the A46 have been expressed to the County/District/Parish Councils and will continue to be raised at every possible opportunity. Do **YOU** care about this development? If so, please help us fight it.

Nationally, the Hs2Alliance and Stop HS2 groups have been very active, briefing newly-formed action groups along the 'Y' route north of Birmingham, briefing journalists and MPs, and providing material for programmes such as *Newsnight* which recently featured an item on compensation (another programme, on the flawed business case, is in the pipeline).

Margaret Wallis on behalf of the Stoneleigh Action Group

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 9th May 2013 at 7.00 p.m. This will be followed by the Ordinary Council Meeting at 7.30 p.m. Both are being held at Stoneleigh Village Hall.

E - Olde Village Shoppe

It has been suggested by Mr Jim Mancini to operate an on-line system for the housebound, disabled etc to help with their shopping in an emergency. Mr Mancini has agreed to be the co-ordinator and it was hoped that twelve people could be found to operate this system. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to be part of this team. If you are interested please let Jim know.

If anyone is interested in using this service please contact Jim 02476 418424 for more information.

Pat Maddison - Parish Clerk

Come and join us at the

STONELEIGH WI TEA PARTY

In Stoneleigh Village Hall on Saturday 18th May 2013

3.30pm until 5pm

£6 per person

Proceeds in aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance

Tickets available from Rachel Gill: 02476 414030

Stoneleigh and Ashow Joint Parish Council Annual Report- 1st April 2012 – 31st March 2013

Members

The composition of the Parish Council in May 2012 was as detailed below:

Ashow Ward Councillors Mrs J Mackenzie and Mrs S Wyatt

Stoneleigh Ward Councillors A Agranovsky, Mrs L Fletcher, G Gatward & R Hancox

University Ward Councillors D Botterill and Ms T Grant

- At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10th May 2012 Councillor G Gatward was appointed Chairman and Councillor Ms T Grant was appointed Vice-Chairman.
- □ At the May Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Mr P. Lam was co-opted as Parish Councillor for UniversityWard.
- □ At the June Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Mr J. Smith was co-opted as Parish Councillor for University Ward.
- □ At the October Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Mrs E Mancini was co-opted as Parish Councillor for Stoneleigh Ward following the resignation of Councillor A Agranovsky.
- □ At the close of the December Ordinary Meeting Councillor G. Gatward resigned from the Parish Council due to ill-health and Councillor Mrs S Wyatt resigned as she was moving to Harrogate to live.
- □ At The January Ordinary meeting Cllr R Hancox was appointed Chairman.
- □ At the January Ordinary Meetring Mrs H Fryer was co-opted as Parish Councillor for Ashow Ward and Mr D Wintle was co-opted as Parish Councillor for Stoneleigh Ward.

Meetings

During the period I_{st} April 2012 to $3I_{st}$ March 2013 the following meetings were held:

Annual Council Meeting and 11 Ordinary Meetings

Attendance of Councillors at these meetings is detailed below. Councillors with an asterisk after their name were not on the Council for a full year so the number of meetings reflects this position. Maximum possible attendance 12 meetings.

| 8 | 67% attended |
|----|---|
| 10 | 83% attended |
| 2 | 67% attended |
| 9 | 75% attended |
| 10 | 83% attended |
| 6 | 60% attended |
| 10 | 83% attended |
| 6 | 100% attended |
| 7 | 70% attended |
| 3 | 100% attended |
| | 10 2 9 10 6 10 6 7 |

District Councillor B. Mackay attended 11 out of 12 which equates to 92?% County Councillor M Doody attended 1 meeting out of 12 which equates to 8%.

Finance

Precept levied for the financial year 2012/2013 was \pounds 7,412. Other income during the year was Bank interest of \pounds 16..67, concurrent expenditure \pounds 180, community forum \pounds 1,000. Total income for the year being \pounds 9,208.67, which when added to the accumulated balance gave a working total of \pounds 36,591.49. During the year total expenditure was \pounds 22,864.13 which results in a surplus of \pounds 13,727.36.

The following grants were distributed during the year:

| Ashow Church | £500 |
|--|------|
| Stoneleigh Church | £500 |
| Ashow Village – Diamond Jubilee | £200 |
| Stoneleigh Newsletter | £250 |
| Stoneleigh Village Hall Sports Project | £500 |
| Campaign Against Gateway | £300 |

Planning

All planning applications received from Warwick District Council are considered. During the year a total of 40 new planning applications were considered. The applications can be classified as shown:

Ashow 2 Full – 1 Withdrawn, 1 Refused1 Listed Building – 1 Granted.

Stoneleigh 26 Full – 16 Granted, 2 Refused, 3 Withdrawn, 5 Awaiting Decision.

5 Listed Building – 4 Granted, 1 Awaiting Decision.

University 6 Full – 4 Granted, 2 Awaiting Decision.

Stoneleigh Village Play Equipment

The annual inspection of all the play equipment was carried out in September.

Pat Maddison

Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer for the period of the Report.

This issue was edited by Sheila Woolf The June issue will be edited by Billie Phipps Address:3, The Bank, Stoneleigh Phone:024 76849032 Email: billieaphipps@gmail.com Alternatively you can contact: editorsandanews@gmail.com Copy deadline: May 18th 2013 Please note that this is the last date for submissions - earlier ones are most welcome! We prefer digital A5 electronic copy, but paper copy can be submitted as an alternative Advertisements at £12.50 (half page) or £25 (full page) accepted at the editor's discretion, subject to magazine policy and available space Fonts: with the increasing proliferation of digital fonts, S&A Volunteer Editors may not have your chosen font installed on their computer, resulting in an automatic substitute font being used. If you wish to use a particular font please notify the editor who will try to oblige. Please be patient!



WI REPORT

At our monthly meeting on 8th April we had a flower arranging demonstration by Barbara Gee, who is one of our members. The styles varied from a Japanese inspired arrangement of irises to a more traditional basket of carnations, roses, veronica and foliage. The arrangements were prizes in the raffle. Scarves from the Silk Painting Day were displayed at the meeting.

A Scrabble/Rummikub games afternoon was held on 9th April. The Book Club also met on 9th April and discussed "You before Me" by Jojo Moyes and "The Kashmir Shawl" by Rosie Thomas. On 19th April a group of members visited the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford.

Following the introduction to Tai Chi at our January meeting, a class will be held on the second Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall. The next class will be on 9^{th} May at 2pm. The cost will be £5 and non-members will be very welcome.

The next village lunch will be on Tuesday 7th May. The menu will be gammon with Parsley sauce followed by fruit strudel. If you would like to book a place, please ring Liz Sykes on 02476 418301. The next coffee morning will be on Tuesday on Tuesday 21st May.

At our next meeting on 7th May we will be discussing the resolution concerning the continuing decline of our high streets and the damaging effect this has on our local communities, which will be voted on at the National AGM in June. The discussion will be followed by a talk on ovarian cancer by Victoria Barber.

STONELEIGH WI OPEN MEETING

MONDAY MAY 13TH 2013

STONELEIGH VILLAGE HALL

A talk by Ray Sturdy on Triumph Motor Cycles

Entrance £2 including refreshments

Everyone Welcome

The Trees

The trees are coming into leaf Like something almost being said; The recent buds relax and spread, Their greenness is a kind of grief.

Is it that they are born again And we grow old? No, they die too. Their yearly trick of looking new Is written down in rings of grain.

Yet still the unresting castles thresh In fullgrown thickness every May. Last year is dead, they seem to say, Begin afresh, afresh, afresh.

Philip Larkin, 1967

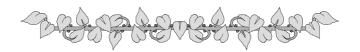
Stoneleigh History Society

The March meeting included our AGM, looking back at the year's achievements and ahead at some exciting plans. In May we shall be mounting an exhibition in the Leigh Chapel, containing many old photographs of people and places in the village, as well as a timeline of events in Stoneleigh from the year AD100 onwards! Do come along and look; we have been delighted to be able to copy pictures brought to us in the past, and would welcome more. Please don't throw anything away! If you have pictures or documents which may be of relevance to village history, please consider allowing us to see them. Between May 18th and June 2nd our exhibition will coincide with the "Leamington Looks Back" History Festival, and teas will be available in the church on the Bank Holiday weekend – please see the church article for details.

Our speaker in March was Bruce Smith, an authority on Drove Roads. It was good to welcome several visitors to the talk, some of whom had specialist knowledge to add to the speaker's. After a general introduction to the subject, he produced a fascinating map, created in 1675, showing quite clearly that what we now know as the B4115 was part of a sheep drovers' road between Gloucester and Coventry. Members of the Society determined to verify that our own Swan Inn (aka The Club!) was once a stopping-place for drovers and their livestock, were thrilled to discover that a key marker for "likely places to stay the night" was the presence of two fir trees nearby, planted by earlier drovers. See our cover-page illustration!

The meeting on April 30th will be an informal discussion on future projects. As ever we should be pleased to see new members, especially newcomers to the village. The meeting begins at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. On May 28th there will be presentations on the village workhouse, and on James Wentworth Leigh.

Sheila Woolf



Stoneleigh Village Club

мау

Sat 4th Quíz Níght tbc



Sat 11th FA Cup Final

and Race Night tbc

Sat 18th Social Night

Sat 25th Social Night

Enjoy Your Club!

Please see the noticeboard and emails for details and any changes to the social events.

Kim and Martin would like to thank everyone who has joined with us and helped us to keep the social program going over the past year and we wish all the best to the new social committee



An Evening of Entertainment with the

Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir

and Fish and Chip Supper and Dessert at Stoneleigh Village Hall at 7.30 pm. on Wednesday 19th June 2013

Tíckets £16 from Stephen Harvey (01926 852543) or Kate Jones (01926 853511)

Raffle. Bring your own wine/beer/glasses etc. (profits to Ashow Church Fabric Fund)





Ashow News

The Evening of Entertainment with the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir on Wednesday 19th June at 7.30 pm at Stoneleigh Village Hall, is to raise funds to pay for urgent repairs to the stonework, following our Quinquennial inspection by the Diocese.

The church at Ashow is over 900 years old and not surprisingly, needs maintenance from time to time.

Any donations towards the restoration work will be gratefully accepted.

Events at Stoneleigh Park during May

Sunday 5th - Monday 6th May KIT CAR 2013

Two days of live action and displays with hundreds of stands selling everything a car builder needs and over 4000 privately owned kit cars on display. Camping is available on-site from midday on Saturday 5th May to midday on Tuesday 7th May. http://www.nationalkitcarshow.co.uk/

Tuesday 14th - Thursday 16th May PLANTWORX 2013

A new biennial exhibition for the construction equipment industry, PLANTWORX is set to become a dedicated working machinery event for all construction professionals and product showcase. http://www.plantworx.co.uk/

Please note that there is a planned road closure for Stareton Lane (the Stoneleigh Park end) during this event.

Wednesday 15th May PIG & POULTRY LIVE 2013

The innovative conference-based technical business day for the pig and poultry industries returns to Stoneleigh Park this year with industry wide debate, networking and trade exhibition. http://www.pigandpoultry.org.uk/

Friday 17th - Saturday 18th May MOTABILITY 2013 - THE BIG EVENT

The Big Event is the largest display of Motability vehicles in the UK and the perfect way for visitors to find out everything they need to know about leasing a car, scooter or powered wheelchair through the Motability Scheme. http://www.motability.co.uk/whats-on-and-get-involved/one-big-day/

Subscribe to the Stoneleigh Events Visitor Newsletter

Distributed monthly, the Stoneleigh Events newsletter is packed with all the latest events and offers at Stoneleigh Park. If you would like to receive the newsletter straight to your inbox each month, please follow this link to sign up: http://www.stoneleighevents.com/subscribe.aspx

Contact Stoneleigh Events Tel: 02476 696969 / Out of Hours Contact Number: 07557 651704 •

Email: info@stoneleighevents.com • www.stoneleighevents.com



From the Vicarage:

Volunteers are the heroes of many organisations, and the Church is no exception. Between the writing of this article and its publication, Stoneleigh and Ashow Parish Churches will have held their Annual Meetings, during which the many people who freely give so much of themselves to support the life of the church will, I hope, have been recognised. I offer my thanks now more widely and publically to them. I wouldn't dare to try and record names, or even groups, because I would be bound to miss someone accidentally, but please be sure that – whatever your role – you are appreciated and valued.

The more public 'volunteers' are those who hold official positions in the Church, especially those who serve as Churchwardens and as Church Council members. They are the ones who are given the task of directing, with the Vicar, the administrative life of the church as well as advising on the worshipping life. They are the representatives of the wider congregation and community – the eyes and ears of the church. Of course, as I write, I cannot be sure who has been elected to serve for the coming year, but there will be notices displayed at both churches following the meetings. Please do value these willing volunteers and help them as they seek to serve and represent you in their particular role.

May is the time of the annual "**Christian Aid Week**" when other volunteers may appear on your doorstep to deliver and collect the special red envelopes which are your opportunity to show that you care about the plight of the desperately poor and needy around our world. Some people misunderstand the name and think that it is aid for Christians, but the aid is for needy people of all faiths or none. It is Christian organisations who administer the aid directly, but with no strings attached. It is administered with great care and efficiency ensuring that your donation really makes a difference. This year's theme is "**Bite back at hunger**". If you receive an envelope, please be generous and also remember to complete the Gift Aid section if you are a UK taxpayer. And whether or not you choose to donate, please be friendly to the volunteer collector who is freely giving their time and energy to help bring hope and transformation to poor communities around the world.

If you don't get an envelope delivered, you can always donate online at **www.caweek.org.** If your envelope doesn't get collected by Sunday 19th May, please let me know (01926 850610 / vicar@a-lw-s.org.uk) and we'll sort it out.

There will be a special Churches Together service to launch this year's Christian Aid Week at Kenilworth Methodist Church on Sunday 5^{th} May beginning at 6.30pm. All are very welcome.

Leek Wootton Link-up:

In the belief that Winter really has gone away, and that Spring has truly sprung, we are racing through the seasons and holding the first of our Summer Teas at All Saints Church on the afternoon of Sunday May 5th. These will then be held on the afternoon of each first Sunday of the month ending in September, all beginning by 3pm.

As in recent years, our opening Summer Tea is an extra-special event which we would love you to join us for. Get your Teddy Bears (and other soft toys) building up their courage and fitness levels ready to join in the annual Parachute Jumping from the Church Tower. Pictures from last year are in the Leek Wootton Social section of the **www.a-lw-s.org.uk** website. My teddy will be jumping again, so it shows that age is no limit (for bear or owner!!!). Jumping usually begins around 2.30pm – parachutes provided – 50p per jump.

Jím Perryman



Plus ca change ...?

On Wednesday, notwithstanding that a number of children were playing about in the street in Stoneleigh Village, the rider of a motorcycle drove his cycle at headlong pace through the village, regardless of the danger of so doing. Is it too much to express a hope that the riders of motor-cycles and the drivers of motor-cars will check their pace when passing through the towns and villages, lest they add to the appalling number of road accidents that now take place every day?

Lord Leigh to a local newspaper, August 6th 1936

Did You Know ...?

Stoneleigh Village Club now has a free WiFi facility; do drop in and try it!

Dates For Your Diary - Church Events

Everyone is most welcome to any of the events listed below, we look forward to seeing new faces – and old!

<u>May</u>

<u>Friday 10th</u> 6.45 for 7.00 p.m. Film Night in Stoneleigh Village Hall, '**QUARTET**'. Tickets ± 3.00 from Sarah or Sue, include tea and cakes in the interval. Bring your own cushions and a glass of wine and enjoy a relaxed evening with friends.

<u>June</u>

<u>Wednesday 19th</u> 7.30 p.m. An evening of entertainment by Stoneleigh Male Voice choir. Further details elsewhere in the magazine.

<u>July</u>

<u>Friday 12th July</u> Film Night-<u>Saturday 13th July</u> Village Duck Race -- teas will be served in the church during the afternoon.

<u>August</u>

Bank holiday Monday 26th August Barbecue -at Sarah and Michael's.

<u>September</u>

<u>Friday 13th September</u> Film Night <u>Sunday 22nd September</u> Harvest Lunch –in the village hall following the service.

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 UNITED BENEFICE OF

THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY, ASHOW and ST MARY THE VIRGIN, STONELEIGH SERVICES FOR MAY 2013

| Sunday 5th | I I.00 a.m. Rogation Walk and Service at Ashow, starting at church and ending at Abbey Farm, the home of Bob and Clare Burdett |
|---------------------------|--|
| Thursday 9th | Ascension Day |
| | 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh |
| Sunday 12 th | 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Ashow |
| | I I.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh |
| Sunday 19st | Pentecost |
| | 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Ashow |
| | I I.00 a.m. Fellowship Holy Communion at Stoneleigh |
| Thursday 23 rd | 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh |
| Sunday 28th | 9.30 a.m. Village Service at Ashow |
| | I I.00 a.m. All Age Worship at Stoneleigh |

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

Everyone is welcome to all services at both churches. If you are nervous about coming to church, perhaps if you haven't been for a while, please don't be, we love to see different faces and look forward to perhaps having a chat over coffee afterwards.

Stoneleigh Church is open every day from 10.00 a.m. until 4.00 p.m. If you would like a time of peace and prayer, there is a prayer table with leaflets and suggestions. Please write your prayers in the prayer book if you would like the congregation to include your prayers in the services.

By the time you read this the annual church meetings will have taken place and our re-elected Churchwardens and PCC will be in office. Please see our notice boards if you would like to know who holds these positions at both churches.

If you know of someone who has just moved into Stoneleigh, please let us know so that our pastoral team may welcome them.

From the registers

Wednesday 17th April, funeral service at Canley for Miss Edna Beatrice Brown Saturday 20th April, Interment of cremated remains, Geoffrey Calcot Kerby Sunday 21st April, Holy Baptism of Maisie Kathleen Eva McGranaghan