

STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



SEPTEMBER 2015

STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS : - EDITORS WANTED

We shall shortly need one or two volunteers from Stoneleigh or Ashow to take on the editing of the News for one month each year, most likely February and June. If you are IT-savvy with some experience of desktop publishing (we use PagePlus) and interested in the challenge of working in a team of volunteers producing a local news booklet, please get in touch with me for further information.

Thankyou.

mswallis1@gmail.com

Margaret Wallis, Stoneleigh & Ashow News Coordinator

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

It was printed by Warwick Print.

The online colour version can be viewed at
www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk.

The October 2015 edition will be compiled by Lisa Reay
lisareay@btinternet.com

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We prefer digital A5 copy, but paper copy may be submitted as an alternative.

Advertisements at £30 (full page A5) or £15 (half page) accepted at the editor's discretion, subject to S&A News policy.

Cover Photo; **Promise of cider to come.**

Stoneleigh Village Orchard, 16 August 2015.

Photo *Marianne Puxley*



Stoneleigh Village

FREE
ENTRANCE

Food, Beer and Craft Market

Saturday 19th September from 12 noon



Local Produce
and Crafts



Visit the Church
Harvest Festival



Market Stalls - Tombola
Barbecue - Teas & Cakes - Bouncy Castle

Ashow Church Pig Roast

The Pig Roast held in the gardens of Ashow Village Club on a fine Sunday lunchtime, August 16th, was very well attended by about 140 people, and was a very pleasant occasion. Mr Tebby of Rouncil Farm cooked delicious pork. Thanks go to all the people who provided salads and a wonderful selection of puddings.

Sue Eliot-Higgitt organised a very popular “Lucky Dip” for the children, and the raffle made a lot of money; thanks to everyone who donated a prize. A painting of Ashow Church donated by Anne and Tony Gregory was auctioned by David Holt for £90.

The day raised £1754 for the church which is badly in need of building repairs.

Finally, our thanks go to the Mackenzie family for all their support and co-operation at the Club, and to everyone who helped set up and provided tables, chairs and marquees.

Stephen Harvey and Kate Jones (Churchwardens).



Villagers queuing for their pig roast and salads

How many ducks does it take to mend the Club roof?

On Saturday 18th July the Church bells rang to herald the start of Stoneleigh village fair and duck race. The sun shone, beer flowed, the barbecue sizzled, cars kept arriving; hungry visitors were fed with tasty burgers, potatoes and cakes supplied by the ladies of the village. There were plenty of activities, displays and stalls during the afternoon; dog shows, owls and parrots, splat-the-rat, facepainting, skittles, bouncy castle, tombola and the bookstore.

At 4 PM the bells rang again for the start of the eagerly awaited Duck Race; crowds thronged the riverbank in anticipation of seeing their duck arrive first at the bridge. Some very expensive Celebrity Ducks were launched first (for a separate prize) followed by the 1500 brave little 'non-celeb' ducks doing their best to reach the end and not be trapped in weeds on the way. Hardy folks in kayaks were there to make sure none were lost. All this hard work by 'willing' volunteers helped to provide a fantastic day out for hundreds of visitors, raising funds for charities including Stoneleigh Church, Village Club roof repairs, The Village Handbells, and the Owls Rescue. Thank you to all who worked so hard and gave support and generous donations raising an astonishingly magnificent sum of over £4500.

Nora Blagburn, Ann Lowe.



The Club roof still needs repair so please come and support

The STONELEIGH VILLAGE FOOD, BEER & CRAFT MARKET

In the delightful setting of the Meadow, you will find a variety of exciting stalls tempting you to find early Christmas presents.

Handmade Gifts and Jewellery, Cards, Scarves & Handbags, Local Specialist Cheeses, Breads, Pies, Cakes, Local Honey, Fudge, Preserves, Plants, Bargain Books, Bric-a-brac, Tombola and much more !

To revive and sustain you there will be Tea and Cakes, Barbecue & Jacket Potatoes plus liquid refreshment at the Beer Tent

For the Children - Face Painting, Crafts, Nature Challenge, Bouncy Castle. The church will be decorated for harvest festival and there will be a local History Display.

Saturday 19th September 2015. 12 noon until 5pm - Free Entrance

Another Miracle in Stoneleigh - Summer Serenade 2015

This year's Summer Serenade experienced an even greater miracle than in 2012 when rain threatened the event. As the bar was due to open at noon, organisers were still wondering about a cancellation due to heavy rain but, miraculously, a few minutes later the rain stopped and before long the sun appeared, the fizz flowed (thanks to Keith and Harry Walker and helpers) and worries lifted.

As in previous years, we were entertained by the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir with their Musical Director, Alan Biddle, and Conductor, Judy Hadfield, in a programme including spirituals and songs from the shows. Last year the newly-formed Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir, Conductor Karen Whyte, performed a short set. This time they performed a 'Tribute to the Fifties' and folk songs from around the world during one of which they were accompanied by Paul Reay on drums. The choirs joined forces to sing 'Let the River Run' and 'You'll Never Walk Alone'.

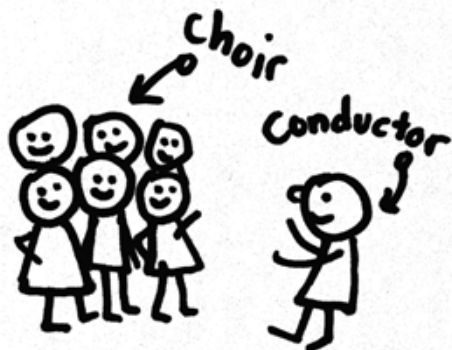
A cheque for £2100 was presented to Sarah Worrall from Acorns Children's Hospice. Thanks to those who so generously supported the raffle and to those who kindly provided raffle prizes. This generosity continues the SM-VC's longstanding tradition of charitable fundraising.

An event such as this can't take place without a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes. Thanks to those who loaned furniture and – even more – to Phil Jones's valiant team who collected and returned it to their rightful owners, use of the Curtain Call van being particularly appreciated. Thank you to Jean and David Vaughan and Judy and Chris Hadfield for the

use of their gardens.

Once again - Well done and thank you Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir and the Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir for another wonderful afternoon's entertainment.

Margaret Wallis



Stoneleigh goes global

On 5th July, we celebrated the bicentenary of Sir Henry Parkes, grand old man of Australian politics, in fine style. The sun shone, the Australian flag flew and the bells rang out. We welcomed a full church to witness the unveiling of a memorial stone, near to the font in which Henry had been baptised 200 years (and three days!) previously. The service was a particularly moving one in which a reading was given from Henry's own Bible, brought from Sydney to Stoneleigh especially for the occasion by his great-great-grandson Ian Thom. Standing beside the font in which so many of his ancestors had been baptised, Ian was visibly moved, and spoke of how it was worth travelling from the other side of the world to be in Stoneleigh.

Among the congregation were many special guests, including the Lord Mayor of Coventry Michael Hammon, Laurie and Marilyn Clarke who live at Parkes' birthplace, Moat House Cottage, and representatives from several Warwickshire history societies. Filling the south aisle was a visiting cricket team from Melbourne, the "Reds". Our singing of the Australian national anthem was certainly helped by their presence!

After drinks and canapés in the churchyard the day continued with a match between the "Reds" and Stoneleigh Cricket Club, at Stoneleigh Abbey. Despite play being interrupted for a time owing to a thunderstorm, the eventual result was an honourable draw, meaning that Stoneleigh retained the ashes, which Paul Smith had helpfully provided for the occasion. Who might have dared dream that in a few short weeks time the England team would give us cause for similar celebrations?



So many people had contributed to making the day special: the Rev. Sharon Goble gave an inspiring address, members of the congregation provided superb refreshments, the readers, ushers, bell-ringers and Ron Binnie the organist

played their invaluable parts. The church flower arrangements were magnificent and the memorial itself had been designed and affixed by Rory O'Connor, cunningly hidden by Keith Walker's curtaining until the unveiling. Our official photographer was Tony Swann from Finham. In the afternoon a super tea had been laid on by staff at the abbey and the entire "cricket experience" engineered by Paul Smith. The day concluded with a barbecue at the Club, thanks to Ann Lowe and her team.

Of course I cannot fail to extend whole-hearted thanks to those in the History Society who helped in so many ways, as well as everyone at Stoneleigh Church. Margaret Wallis was the prime mover during many months of organisation – a huge "thank you", Margaret. It is difficult to express sufficient thanks to Ian and Val Thom who were prepared to travel from Australia to join us. We feel we have made good friends.

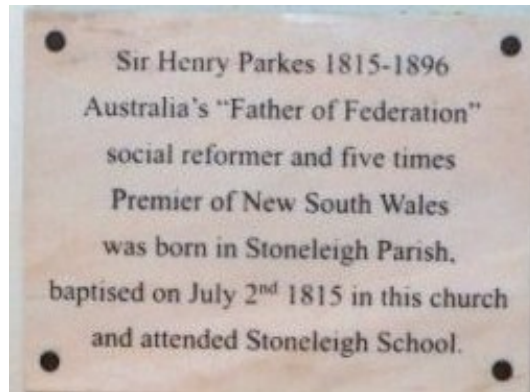
It's not surprising to find local newspapers covering events like these. It was extraordinary, however, to find Stoneleigh in *The Times* on Tuesday morning – and also in *The Australian*! We had been delighted to welcome Gideon Haigh the cricket writer as our guest (again, thanks to Paul) and his articles – providing "background" in advance of the start of the Ashes a few days later – ensured that, albeit briefly, Stoneleigh went global. As Gideon wrote:

"In the next seven weeks, the cricket publics of Australia and England will hear ceaselessly of their differences — their many decades of mutual antagonism, their innately antipathetic temperaments. Yet in the village of Stoneleigh on Sunday, a church service and a game of cricket conveyed how deep is their shared heritage."

Sheila Woolf

Photo; Sally Brown





Stoneleigh History Society

Our display about the life and achievements of Sir Henry Parkes continues in the Leigh Chapel throughout the summer.

The Society will be playing its part in the Heritage Weekend (10th-13th September, with guided tours and displays in the church (see p14); you will also find us at the Food, Beer and Craft Market on 19th September.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday September 29th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, when we shall be launching our next big project – a comprehensive update of the plan of the churchyard, which was drawn up in magnificent style by members of the W.I. in 1981. We aim to photograph every grave, record its precise location and correlate the information given on the stones with biographical details already known. It will be a huge project but one which we hope will be of benefit for future inhabitants of the village. We shall need a large numbers of helpers, so please contact us if you would like to be involved. You do not have to be a member of the history society to take part, but if you would like to find out more – and perhaps help us with information - why not come along on September 29th?

Sheila Woolf

Stoneleigh Community Orchard Update

Over the summer period much work has been undertaken developing and preparing the cider processing plant to receive this autumn's harvest. The work is on schedule to complete in late September. There will be dates in October when members of the community are welcome to join in with the fruit gathering as well as participate in apple pressing. Please refer to October's edition of the Stoneleigh & Ashow news for details of these dates.

We would also like to remind villagers of our 'Orchard' pub quiz at the village club on the evening of Saturday 24th October. The proceeds will go towards a tree planting event this coming December. On the basis of the previous quiz, this will be a competitive and enjoyable event. Please make a note in your diary!

Also during the summer a visit was made to Sandwell Valley Country Park near West Bromwich, Birmingham where the group had been invited by the Park Rangers to harvest the seed of an unusual flower called "Yellow Rattle". For a number of years the group have been exploring methods of introducing wild flowers to the orchard.

These efforts have had varying success owing to the strength of the grass. Yellow rattle is parasitic upon grass roots and therefore is able to thin large areas of grassland naturally. The results of its introduction at Sandwell Valley Country Park have been very impressive and we hope to learn from this and sow a small area of the meadow this coming autumn in order to test its effectiveness in our environment.

The Orchard group encourages new members at an annual cost of £10. Donations can be made to Pete Freeman as Chairman or to Richard Hancox as Treasurer. Cheques should be made payable to Stoneleigh Village Community Orchard. To become a long term friend you can set up a direct debit.

Pete Freeman (Chairman), 5 Church Lane, Stoneleigh.

Pete.Freeman@swft.nhs.uk

Richard Hancox (Treasurer) Richard.Hancox@emhighways.co.uk

Ways to meet your neighbours.....

1.Film Nights

A well kept secret (from some, perhaps) are the film nights in the Village hall. Not only do we watch well-reviewed films in the company of neighbours, but get a chance to discuss them at interval over tea, coffee and (possibly) the best Danish pastries in the world.

Recent films have been: 'A Hundred Foot Journey' with Helen Mirren, 'The Imitation Game' starring Benedict Cumberbatch and 'My House in Umbria' featuring Maggie Smith and some wonderful Italian scenery.

Marianne Puxley

The next film will be '**The Help**' [Set in the 1960s, it's about two women who build an unlikely friendship around a secret writing project – one that breaks all the rules.]

Friday 11th September 2015 6.45pm for 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Tickets: £3.00 (to cover room hire and refreshments)

For tickets and further information, please contact: Jackie at the Parish Office (024 7641 5506 / admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk) or call Sarah (024 7671 5256)

2. K2Tog. (Knit 2 together)

We meet for a knit and a chat every second Tuesday at 7.30 pm in the Village Club. Dig out that sweater or soft toy you've been meaning to finish and come along!

Next meetings 25th August, 8 September 2015.

By popular demand our next - optional - project will be Kate's stripey socks.

All welcome!



Heritage and Harvest

I have just spent a chunk of my afternoon carefully peeling two stripes of black paint off a wall of my son's freshly decorated room... The black stripes on the red background were intended as a nod towards his preferred colour scheme born out of his passion for all things Dennis the Menace. I had advised against dedicating the whole room with the characteristic red and black stripes, suggesting that he might feel differently about the Beano in a couple of years' time. But even this small gesture, kindly meant, was a big mistake, quite frankly, and the removal of them and subsequent repainting has been a labour of love. It made me think about the restoration work that we've seen on our National Trust visits through the summer. What painstaking work is involved as layer upon layer of decoration over the years is stripped carefully away, each one part of the story of the house, each one giving us a clue to the changing world in which we are the next generation. What enormous efforts go in to preserving and maintaining the places and spaces that we treasure, so that they will not only last but be engaging and interesting and appreciated by people today and in the future.



Beautiful setting; remarkable old building with a story to tell; a space to wander in apart from the hustle and bustle; friendly guides ready to share with you their love of this space; a trail to engage the children; tea and cake... perhaps you, like me, enjoy that kind of day out at National Trust properties. On **Saturday 12th**

September you can have just this kind of experience, right on your doorstep when St. Mary the Virgin church in Stoneleigh joins in with the Heritage Open Weekend. The building is open every day from 10 – 4, but we are making a special effort as part of this weekend to uncover the secrets that make this parish church so treasured.

Heritage Open Days *“celebrates what makes local communities and neighbourhoods special. By stimulating curiosity and discovery, the event connects people with their local places and helps foster a sense of belonging and pride.”* So wander by the river in the meadows, come into church and listen to our guides; families try out our children's trail; indulge in tea and cake being served in the club, and tell us what you think. As a church, we

are always addressing how to best use this special space in our present time and for the benefit of today's community, and we would love to hear your views.

The sacred spaces treasured over generations in Stoneleigh and in Ashow take some looking after in maintaining building and churchyard and we are grateful to all who garden, clean, arrange flowers, fundraise and care for our buildings both practically and in oversight with the likes of health and safety, sound and light complications and bat surveys! Last month we thanked some of those who have contributed so much of their time and efforts in a special Songs of Praise service. It won't be the last time we will want to thank people for all that they offer within the life of the Church, and it is always good to know if there are others willing to help, especially as some of our senior and more experienced volunteers retire.

Enjoyment and a thankful heart go together. When we appreciate and value something, we are grateful. Many people respond to that gratitude by finding ways of giving back and contributing to sharing it, whether that be for the benefit of our community, future generations, or those who are less fortunate than ourselves. In Church in our Harvest Festivals we offer the shared experience of gathering in thankfulness for all that God has given us that is good in our lives, and ways to express that in words and music in our worship.

Join us on **Sunday 13th September at 11am** in Stoneleigh as we thank God in our **Harvest festival** for all He gives us to enjoy and to share. A bring and share lunch will follow the service 12.30 in the village Hall. Ashow's Harvest festival will be at 11am on Sunday 11th October. This year we will be hearing more about the local Foodbanks and finding out how best to support them.

Happy Harvest!

God bless

Reverend Sharon Goble

sharon.goble@btinternet.com; 07799220407; 01608 682 282

Stoneleigh Church Bellringersa plea from the tower

The church bellringers are looking to the future and now need to train some new ringers.

The training of ringers initially requires learning how to handle a bell. Handling a bell with confidence may take a few months – change ringing may take a little longer. No knowledge of music is required, just some patience and perseverance. This is rewarded with a challenging pastime/hobby – being part of a team ringing well can be a satisfying experience. It is, in addition, a very effective form of both physical and mental exercise.

Ringers come from all walks of life and are of all ages, from children of twelve upwards with no upper age limit. The great English ringing tradition is kept alive with the help of these ringers. There is a good social life in the bellringing fraternity, often with visits to other towers in the area and outings further afield.

We ring the bells for Sunday services, for weddings, for local events and for days of national importance, for example St George's Day and special anniversaries.

If you are interested in becoming part of our team, then please call in and see us in the tower on our practice night, which is every Thursday from 7.30-9.00pm, when we would be able to give you more of an insight into what we do. Please note that juniors need to be accompanied by an adult during initial training sessions.

Janet Parham



Holiday Club

This summer members of our Stoneleigh church committee gave children a chance to utilise their imaginations. Song and dance was a key part to the creation of happiness for the young people. Getting involved they enjoyed all the games, stories and inventions to develop the Mega Makers Holiday Club.

Each day a different member of the team told an inspiring story of the many miracles that Jesus performed. The story told was linked with our key phrase that we worked around that particular day. Children participating in the stories gave them all an urgency to believe. The energy of this companionship created a holy atmosphere for the young people to form a religious sentiment.

The Mega Machine, Eddie Mophead and many songs were a great part that really gave an effect towards the children's range of ideas to make their own machines. Painting, playing and singing the children always seemed full of energy and eager to be involved in all the activities possible.



A huge thank you to all the adults and helpers who contributed a great deal of time, commitment and effort towards the Holiday Club. Also a big well done to Reverend Sharon Goble for the organisation of the Mega Makers Holiday Club.

By Lydia Taylor, aged 13.

And a big thank you too from all the Grannies, Grandpas, Parents, relatives and friends to Sharon and Chris Goble and their faithful band of helpers for making such a good week for children of diverse ages. It made a rather wet week marvellous fun!



Stoneleigh Church

'Bring and Share' Harvest Lunch



Sunday 13th September 2015

at Stoneleigh Village Hall

Approximately 12.30pm following the
Harvest Festival Service.

'Bring and Share' lunch is also known as 'Jacobs Join'. Please bring either a sweet or savoury dish to be shared with everyone.

Please bring your own wine or soft drinks, tea and coffee will be provided.

Further details call Sarah 02476 715256

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

The September Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 10th September at 7.30 p.m.

Vacancy for Parish Councillor in Stoneleigh

I wish to advise all the residents of Stoneleigh that a vacancy has arisen for a Councillor in Stoneleigh Ward on the resignation of David Wintle. If you are interested and would like to find out more then please contact the Chairman Richard Hancox on 07770 826310 or email

Richard.hancox@emhighways.co.uk or myself on maddisonsg@bbmax.co.uk or 01926 491482.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Parish Council to thank David for all the hard work and dedication he has given whilst serving as a Parish Councillor, especially for all the work he has carried out for Gateway, Neighbourhood Plan, Local Plan and Planning Issues.

Pat Maddison - Parish Clerk

HS2 Latest

The controversies over the costs and overall implications of HS2 have continued to rumble on throughout the summer with no sign of public concern and media interest abating. The situation is further complicated by the current political situation which means that there is uncertainty whether cross-party support for HS2 will be maintained.

The consultation period for the second set of amendments to the Hybrid Bill (Additional Provision 2) closed on 14 August. The Stoneleigh Action Group (against HS2) petitioned about the very modest changes that had been proposed in this area and continues to liaise with the Select Committee in the hope that points in our original petition regarding better mitigation and better management of the construction works (e.g. prohibiting construction traffic over Stoneleigh Bridge). As the News goes to press, the consultation period on the Revised Environmental Statement ended. In its response, StAG emphasised issues such as noise mitigation.

As this short summary illustrates, this is a complex, ever-changing and frustrating situation. However, StAG will do its best to raise matters of local importance at every appropriate opportunity.

Margaret Wallis (on behalf of Stoneleigh Action Group)

Stoneleigh WI

The July meeting was, as is customary, 'members' night', when a group of the members organise the evening. This year the theme was the WI centenary. We were served with refreshments reminiscent of 100 years ago; members dressed accordingly and we had memorabilia from that era. It was a very pleasant evening, with some of the members talking about the items that they had brought.

We had a successful trip to Bath and visited the American Museum. Our craft group particularly appreciated the exhibition of quilts.

Our next meeting is on Monday September 7th. The speaker will be Paul Tabiner talking about 'The real CSI'.

The lunches in the Village Hall recommence on Tuesday September 1st. The menu will be quiche, salad, new potatoes and gateau. Please contact Liz if you need to confirm or cancel your place – 02476 418301. The coffee morning at the club will be on Tuesday September 15th at 10.30am.

Liz Sykes

Naturewatch in Stoneleigh and Ashow

Stoneleigh's Great Bat Hunt

A lot more happens after dark in the village than you might have realised. You just have to get out on a warm summer's night to find out.



At midsummer, a group of volunteers from the Warwickshire Bat Group, led by Tricia Scott, was welcomed to Stoneleigh by members of the Orchard Group. We learned a lot from Tricia's briefing. Bats are apparently not blind. They see as well as you or I can in the dark but prefer to avoid daylight and use their echolocation to hunt insects at night. The UK has 17 distinct species of bat and we are still learning about their lives. On mainland Europe, bats are known to migrate long distances to hibernate, but in the UK, although many summer roosts are known, relatively few hibernation sites have been documented. There are none known in Warwickshire, so perhaps all our bats migrate to other parts of the UK.

Echolocation sounds are too high pitched for human adult ears, so bat detectors are a must for bat enthusiasts. The gadgets make high pitched sounds audible and facilitate identification of the different species. We waited a long time for sunset on the shortest night of the year but dusk fell at last and we started out. Bats were spotted at four different sites, some visible, others were picked up with the bat group's electronic bat detectors.

Our first stop was the woods overlooking the Sowe river at the bottom of Motslow Hill. Flitting in and out of the oak trees were two species of Pipistrelle bat - common and soprano. These tiny (5gram) bats can eat 3000 flying insects in a night. More bats were feeding under the canopy at the edge of the wood. Later, on Stoneleigh bridge, Daubenton's bats were seen flying up and down over the river's surface and under the bridge arches. Tricia said this is typical behaviour of Daubenton's. They often roost in gaps in the stonework of old bridges. Repointing old bridges can apparently wall in the sleeping bats - bricklayers beware! The next stop

was the churchyard, by now in complete darkness, where bat detectors briefly picked up the lower pitched sounds of a passing Noctule. The cluster of people peering at the sky must have puzzled the late night dog walkers. The final stop was the footbridge over the river. Clouds of moths and flies swarmed around the streetlight, fed on by both species of Pipistrelles.

Warwickshire Bat Group seemed pleased with their tally of four species of bats detected and the Stoneleigh villagers learned a lot about bats.

Tom Marshall.

The Bat Conservation Trust <http://www.bats.org.uk>

Warwickshire Bat Group <http://www.warksbats.co.uk>

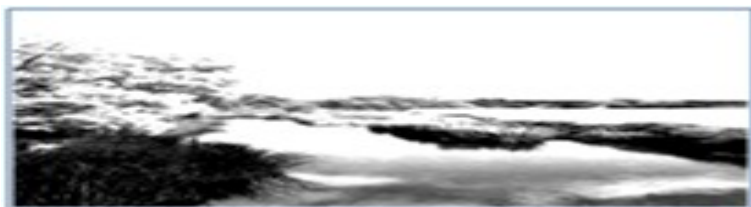
River Sowe wildlife

Readers Alan and Dan Williams report that otters have returned to the river downstream from Stoneleigh Abbey close to the repaired weir. “[We] have seen them several times while out dog walking in the early evening ...probably hunting, ...as there seem to be a lot of fish in the river. To see otters in such a wonderful natural environment is a real pleasure.”

I was also glad to hear the ululating cry of the dabchick or little grebe on the Sowe again this week. They seem to disappear for weeks on end and I always fear they have gone for good.

This shy little bird has a habit of disappearing under the water and popping up again metres away. The dabchick brings my tally of waterbirds seen on the Sowe to six: swans, mallards, coots, moorhens and that intruder, the cormorant. Can anyone report any others?

Marianne Puxley



Stoneleigh Cricket Club

Cotswold Hills League Div 4

At the time of writing, the Unicorns sit proudly at the top of the table having won 10 of the 15 matches played with one abandoned. After one or two indifferent performances in mid-season, there were back to back matches away and home against Stanway who have a delightful ground in the Cotswolds. Two very enjoyable matches resulted in a win for the away team in each case. Since then Stoneleigh have powered to the top of the table with a string of wins, including a fine home success against Bretforton, the early season pacesetters and favourites for the title. The most recent match, away to Blockley (who older readers may remember us playing in the 1970s & 80s) resulted in defeat after a much changed team failed by just 10 runs to chase down 242 to win. But there were enough bonus points from the match to keep us on top of the table.

The batting has again been led by James Chapman with 654 runs at the splendid average of 93 while Lee Moreton has amassed 414 runs at 31. Mark Edgington has taken most wickets (19 to date) with Dave Griffin and Phil Chapman claiming 16 each. But it has been a great all-round team effort with everyone doing their bit when required.

So one more win from the 2 matches remaining will secure promotion and 2 victories would see us go up as champions – fingers crossed!

The Stoneleigh 'Ashes'

As part of the village celebrations for the bicentenary of Sir Henry Parkes' birth in the Parish, Stoneleigh entertained a team from Down Under, 'The Melbourne Reds'. They were undertaking a punishing tour of 18 matches in the UK and one or two players looked the worse for wear when they arrived at Stoneleigh Church for the morning service. But they soon perked up on arrival at the Abbey, which of course is always breathtaking for new visitors. The Reds batted first with their No3 batsman making a century in a total of 197-6.

A fine tea was provided for players and guests in The Orangery but shortly after the resumption, the heavens opened. The newly arrived covers did their job and play was eventually able to resume with Stoneleigh making a good effort at a run-chase. Hal Sutcliffe, who had earlier taken 3 wickets,

hit 3 massive sixes in his 44 off 26 balls, a feat which earned him 'Man of the Match' award from The Reds. But the innings faltered, leaving Paul Smith and Phil Chapman to bat out for a draw as the evening light declined. The 'Ashes' were declared shared and the teams adjourned to the Village Club for a Tube or two after an enjoyable day.

Sunday Friendlies and Midweek

Mixed results in the non-league matches but the team has again been led from the front by Phil Chapman. The midweek evening match against Barford resulted in a Tie but the Sunday side could not repeat the feat, going down rather lamely to the same opposition.

For more club details, contact secretary Phil Chapman (01926 774864). *Notes contributed by Dave Wildgoose, Fixture Secretary (024 7659 4879).*

J.L.Huthwaite



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We work with people with learning difficulties to provide them with work and training opportunities.

Do you have a few hours you could spare to volunteer for us at the nursery? If so we would love to meet you.

Opening hours:

Mon-Fri 8.30 - 4.30

Sat: 9.00—4.00

Sun: 10.00—4.00



DO YOU KNOW WE HAVE A FUNCTION ROOM ON SITE?

We offer a wide range of services to ensure that whatever type of function you are looking for we can meet your requirements. We have many groups and societies who hold their regular meetings with us and we are also able to accommodate workshops, Speakers etc. for you.

We cater for Christenings, Weddings, Funerals, Birthday Parties, Anniversaries, Business Meetings in fact any event that you may have in mind.

Why not make an appointment and have a look around at our facilities and we will be happy to provide you with more information.

Stoneleigh Village Club Events

September

Tuesday 8th Knitting group 7.30

Saturday 12th Heritage Weekend -

Tea and Cakes 1pm – 5pm

Quiz (Handbells group) 7.30pm

Tuesday 15th Coffee morning 10.30am

Friday 18th Rugby- England v Fiji – 8pm

Saturday 19th **Food and Craft Market** from 12 Noon in the Meadow.

Saturday 26th Rugby- England v Wales 8pm



October

Saturday 3rd Rugby-England v Australia 8pm

Saturday 10th Rugby-England v Uruguay 8pm

24th and 25th Rugby- World Cup semi finals 4pm

Saturday 24th Quiz 7.30pm (Orchard group)

Saturday 31st Halloween events



Heritage Open Day Saturday 12th September

St Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh, will be open 10am to 4pm

- Guided tours
- Children's treasure hunt
- Bell ringers in action 2.30-3.30pm
- History Society exhibition
- Teas in the Village Club 2-4.30pm

The church will be decorated ready for harvest festival on Sunday

Displays in the church will be available 10th -13th September.



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



SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2015

Sunday 6 th	10.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Ashow <i>(please note change of time)</i>
Thursday 10 th	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Sunday 13 th	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Ashow 11.00 a.m. Harvest Festival All Age Worship at Stoneleigh followed by Harvest Lunch in the village hall
Sunday 20 th	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Ashow 11.00 a.m. Fellowship Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Thursday 24 th	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Sunday 27 th	9.30 a.m. Village Service at Ashow 11.00 a.m. Sung Holy Communion at Stoneleigh

Contacts

Vicar: [Revd Sharon Goble 01608 682282 or 07799220407](mailto:sharon.goble@btinternet.com)
email :- sharon.goble@btinternet.com

Churchwardens :

Ashow: Stephen Harvey 01926 852543. Kate Jones, 01926 853511

Stoneleigh: Ian Smith 01926 853238. Sarah Ballinger 02476 715256

For Pastoral Care, to arrange a baptism, wedding or a funeral, please contact
Revd Sharon Goble.

For any other matter please contact the Parish Administrator,
Jackie Cubitt, 02476 415506

email: admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk