

STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



NOVEMBER 2015

“Better to light a candle than to curse the darkness”

I know a lot of people struggle with this time of year as the clock falls back, daylight hours are shorter and, as my husband jests in his own inimitable fashion, “winter drawers on!”

We hadn’t quite got used to the nights drawing in when we hosted the Deanery Synod at Stoneleigh church in September, and discovered that the toilet light had gone and couldn’t find a replacement bulb or torch... The tealights on the wooden ledges created a lovely atmosphere to go in(!) But it was not very practical, and unfortunately suggested a primitive myth of rural church I am at pains to dispel! Still, at least we had running water!



Lighting a candle is one of the most accessible spiritual actions available to us. For those who do not know what words to pray, but who want to focus their thoughts and mark their memory or reflection, the action of lighting a candle can say so much. Candles are a universal language of hope. Unlike other forms of light the elemental flickering of the flame exposed in the air sparks deep within us.

At the beginning of November we mark All Souls’ Day by offering a service during which those who wish to remember a loved one light a candle in their memory. I think this is the most treasured part of this service but we also offer words and thoughts, Bible readings and hymns by which we offer the comfort and hope found in Christian faith when facing bereavement and our own mortality. All are welcome to this **service of Remembering and Celebrating at 5pm on 1 November in Stoneleigh Church.**

On 29 November in Ashow church at 4pm we have a **candlelit Advent carol service**. There is something magical about an old building lit only by candlelight that seems again to really touch people and engage them in worship. In the season of Advent, perhaps it is the simplicity of stepping outside of our technological electronic advancements into an atmosphere of story and sharing that makes it so special. Again light shining in the darkness is a powerful theme of Advent as Christians prepare to celebrate Jesus coming as a baby, recognise that Jesus still

comes to our broken and hurting world today, and look to the future when Jesus will come in glory.

Better to light a candle than to curse the darkness... if you, like so many in our world, find this time of year tough, or for whatever reason are struggling, invite hope and courage into our dark winter by joining us for one of our **prayer times**. On **Tuesdays from 5 – 5:30 in Ashow church** we welcome anyone to join as we light a candle and pray using a simple liturgy with time for stillness and pray with or without words.

On **Thursdays 9:30 - 10:00 in Stoneleigh church** between 5 and 9 of us continue to meet and would welcome anyone similarly who would like to join us sometimes for some of it, or each time for all of it. If you are not able to join us at these times but would like support in prayer, you may like to write in our prayer books available in either church, take some of the resources for your own use from the prayer tables, or contact Sharon.

God bless

Reverend Sharon Goble

sharon.goble@btinternet.com

01608 682 282 07799220407

“Thank You”

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

I would like to say a huge “thank you” to all the friends and neighbours who so kindly sent me cards and messages urging me to ‘get well soon’ during my recent unexpected and unwelcome stay in hospital. They all helped to boost my morale and stay in a positive frame of mind. Jean, too, says “thank you” for the many offers of help she received during this time. Happily, I am now back home and slowly rebuilding my strength although it was disappointing to have missed the ‘Indian Summer’ that prevailed during much of September and which was such lovely gardening weather - viewed only through a hospital window!

Robin Bussell



The WI Report

From early days with Pontins and Butlins holiday camps, Mel Harvey, our speaker on Monday 5th October, has been involved in family entertainments. He talked about the history of Mr Punch and showed artefacts from his personal collection. Then he entertained us with a traditional Punch and Judy Show which created a lot of laughter and brought back memories of childhood holidays.

On Tuesday 20th October a group of 25 members and friends visited Bletchley Park, in Buckinghamshire. It was the main decryption centre during the Second World War, where Alan Turing and other code breakers worked.

In October and continuing in November the Craft Group will be making Christmas gifts and decorations to offer for sale at various meetings in December. The Art group have been experimenting with acrylics.

At a meeting of the Leigh group on Tuesday 13th October we were joined by members of other local WIs for an evening of forties and fifties music.

The next village lunch will be on Tuesday 3rd November and the menu will be pork casserole followed by fruit strudel. Please contact Liz on 02476418301 if you wish to cancel or confirm your place.

The coffee morning at the village club will be on Tuesday 17th November at 10.30 am.

The next meeting will be on 2nd November and will be the AGM.

Rachel Gill



Kings Hill Nurseries

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"Kings Hill Nurseries is a plant nursery situated near Coventry, within easy travelling distance of Kenilworth, Leamington and Warwick.

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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 History Society

In September Lisa Reay launched the beginning of a big project, to transcribe the churchyard headstones and discover some of the interesting stories about “those who have gone before”. Working on the basis of the excellent W.I. project of 35 years ago, it is hoped that a complete record of burials at Stoneleigh can be made. If anyone is interested in helping (you do not need to be a member of the society) please contact Lisa on 02476 697037 or lisareay@btinternet.com.

You may still be able to catch our October meeting, on Tuesday 27th in the Village Hall, when Pete James will speak about the history of Stoneleigh’s fulling mills. The following meeting, on November 24th, will concern the celebrated Leigh Peerage case, a story of murder, mystery and mayhem....maybe!

Sheila Woolf



Sunday 22 November 2015 at 3.00pm
Royal Leamington Spa Centre CV32 4HN

A concert for the whole family
Come and join in the musical fun!
Popular music & favourites from TV and film

Overture: The Barber of Seville
Selected pieces from The Carnival of the Animals
The Sorcerer's Apprentice, Sea Interludes
633 Squadron & Where Eagles Dare
Ladies in Lavender & the 1812 Overture

Conductor - Paul Leddington Wright
familiar to many from BBC Songs of Praise

To book tickets
Tel: 01926 850385
Or buy online at www.wso.org.uk
Tickets £12 with £5 concessions for students & children

Concert venue:
Royal Leamington Spa Centre
CV32 4HN

HS2 UPDATE

On 13 October, HS2 Ltd released its zippily-titled 'Supplementary Environmental Statement 3 and Additional Provision 4' which indicates some changes they are prepared to make following submissions to the HS2 Select Committee. Those who submitted petitions (locally, the Parish Council, Stoneleigh Action Group, Stoneleigh History Society and Stoneleigh Park) are entitled to submit further submissions, with a tight deadline of 27 November which it is our intention to meet collaboratively. There are several areas of concern e.g. no mention of Stare Bridge, contradictory information about measures across Stoneleigh Park, lack of attention to the impact construction will have on the A46 and local roads and residents. There is a vague statement about advising construction traffic to avoid Stoneleigh Bridge.

The SES3 and AP4 documentation can be seen on www.gov.uk/hs2 but note that maps are extremely difficult to read and are vague and inadequate for this area. The Parish Council, StAG etc have been sent individual copies which are rather easier to read but still have shortcomings. Anyone can petition on the contents of the new documents if they wish.

The various groups along the route who have valiantly attempted to engage with HS2 Ltd staff have faced huge frustrations, not least because so few of the staff have been in post for long and have little grasp of the impact the proposals will have on local communities.

The HS2 Action Alliance has undertaken extensive research about noise impacts along the route. This was presented to the Select Committee on 12 October during a lengthy session involving QCs and noise experts. See www.hs2actionalliance.org.uk for details.

The Labour Party leadership election has given rise to extensive press speculation about the future of HS2 and there has been a welcome debate about infrastructure projects in the media, with increasing reference (even by the Conservative Bow Group) to the likelihood that money will be drained from other projects in order to press ahead with HS2 (possibly with Chinese involvement). Watch this space!

On behalf of Stoneleigh Action Group (against HS2)

Margaret Wallis

Coffee Morning

All proceeds to
Stoneleigh Church Flower Fund

**Thursday 3rd December
at 10.30 am**

To be held at **Stoneleigh Village Hall**

Cake stall Raffle Christmas Table

All Donations greatly appreciated

**Everyone Welcome,
Please do come along**



Stoneleigh Church Film Night

A film for all the family

PADDINGTON

**Friday 13th November at Stoneleigh Village Hall
6.45 for 7pm**

Make yourself feel at home, bring your own wine.

Coffee and cake served in the interval

Tickets: £3.00, to cover refreshments and room hire,

From: Parish Office

Tel: 02476 415506 email: admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk



Ashow Church Harvest Festival 2015

Ashow Church looked beautiful for the Harvest Festival, with the flowers arranged by Diana Holt and Margaret Cotton, and the bread and window decoration provided by Susan Spencer. There were many gifts of goods to the Kenilworth Food Bank from the villagers and congregation, and also food purchased with the generous donation of £50 from the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir.

The Food Bank helps to support those in need locally, and in Coventry and Leamington Spa, and also via the countrywide Trussell Trust. There was a talk by their representative Yvonne Wheeler during the service. Donations from the sale of fresh produce at the Harvest Lunch at Ashow Village Club after the service, were also given to the Food Bank.

The lunch at the Club was very convivial and many thanks to those who provided delicious puddings again, including Sharon, Diana, Janey Horton, Nicola Vincett, and Sue Eliot-Higgitt. Pat and Kate organised the main course and hope everyone enjoyed it.

Thanks again to Peter Mackenzie for all his help.

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### **Dates for your Diary**

**Sunday 29th November at 4.00 pm**

Advent Candlelit Carol Service, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

**Saturday 19th December at 10.00 am**

Decorating the church for Christmas.

**Sunday 20th December at 4.00 pm**

Village Carol Service.

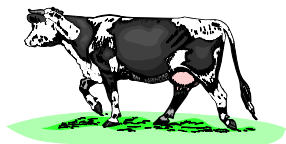
*Stephen Harvey*

## The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2015

Poppies will already be on sale by the time this edition of the Stoneleigh & Ashow News comes out, and will be available via house-to-house collections, the Club and the church. Sadly we have lost several of our sales outlets this year (the closure of the Green Lane Post Office is one example). Nevertheless readers will, I'm sure, continue to be generous in supporting this very special cause. Thank you in advance.

*Sheila Woolf*

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## Flying the Flag at Christmas



For many years now, Robin Bussell has “flown the flag” around Christmas time to offer Christmas greetings between neighbours instead of sending cards.

Those wishing to join in this quaint custom have their greetings listed in the December S & A News and this list is also displayed on Robin’s gatepost when the flag is flying. In return, those joining in give a donation to Robin for his chosen charity:

### ***The Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance.***

If you wish to take part this year please send your contributions (cash, or cheques payable to “WNAA”)

to Robin Bussell at The Oaks, Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, CV8 3DH - and before 18th November, please, to meet the next S & A News deadline. Last year WNAA received £658 from “Flying the Flag”.

The flag will be flying over the weekend of 18th/20th December.

**“Thank You”.**

*Robin Bussell*

### **Cancer Research U.K. Coffee Morning**

The Kenilworth committee will be holding a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 11th November 2015 from 10 a.m. to Noon at Kenilworth Cricket Club, Warwick Road, Kenilworth, to raise money for Cancer Research.

The entry cost is £3 to include coffee/tea and biscuits.

There will also be stalls selling Christmas Cards, and 2016 Diaries, home-made cakes, jams, preserves, books, DVDs and CDs, and a raffle.

Please come and support this excellent cause and have an enjoyable morning.

*Pat Harvey*

# PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

## Meetings

The November Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at the Stoneleigh Village Hall, Stoneleigh on Thursday 12th November 2015 at 7.00 p.m. Please note earlier start time.

## Proposed Housing Development at Stoneleigh

Mr Keith Williams, Director of Stansgate Planning, will be attending the November meeting of the Parish Council. They act on behalf of Court (Warwickshire) Limited who are agents for Stoneleigh Abbey Ltd. They have submitted a planning application to Warwick District Council for the erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings on land adjacent to The Swedish Houses on Birmingham Road. They are also looking for a development of five bungalows on the land to the rear of 15-27 Birmingham Road. We hope as many of you will attend this meeting so you can learn more about the proposed development and have an opportunity to ask questions.

*Pat Maddison - Parish Clerk*

This month's edition of Stoneleigh and Ashow News was compiled by Sarah Ballinger, 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](http://www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk)**.

The December 2015/January 2016 edition will be compiled by

**Lucy Morris**

26, Ashow, Kenilworth CV8 2LE

**[lucyandphil@metronet.co.uk](mailto:lucyandphil@metronet.co.uk)**

**Copy deadline: 18th November 2015**

We prefer digital A5 copy,

but paper copy may be submitted as an alternative.

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

## **“The Heart of Stoneleigh” Defibrillator**



The defibrillator is already closer to becoming a reality after a donation of £500 from Stoneleigh Ladies Choir. Thank you very much indeed, Ladies, for such a generous and rapid response.

The Parish Council has approved the use of the phone box and, with a grant of £740 from the Community Forum a few days ago, we are well on the way to making something like the photograph above a reality on The Green.

I learned last week that, without a defibrillator, the chances of surviving a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) are in single figures. Used in time, a defibrillator can increase that to well over 50%. So the Appeal continues.

Using the device is very simple: you follow the spoken instructions it gives you. To give familiarity, West Midlands Ambulance Service will train up to 12 of us free of charge in its use and in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) but the more people who are trained the better.

So more donations and more volunteers are needed, in the hope of having the device installed by Christmas. If you can help turn that hope into reality, please contact me on 07785 284482 or at [dae@MediationandArbitration.co.uk](mailto:dae@MediationandArbitration.co.uk).

David Ellwood



## Stoneleigh Village Club Events

### *November*

**7<sup>th</sup> November** - The Gunpowder Supper

**14<sup>th</sup> November** - The Bellringers Quiz

**20<sup>th</sup> November** - Fish and Chips Night

Please check notice board for further detail

*Dawn Salt*

This month's font cover

### **Stoneleigh Church**

Photograph by James Cooper



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J.L.Huthwaite



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



***SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2015***

|               |          |                                       |
|---------------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Sunday 1st    | 10.00 am | United Holy Communion at Ashow        |
|               | 5.00 pm  | All Souls Service at Stoneleigh       |
| Sunday 8th    | 9.30 am  | Remembrance Day Service at Ashow      |
|               | 10.55 am | Remembrance Day Service at Stoneleigh |
| Thursday 12th | 10.30 am | Holy Communion at Stoneleigh          |
| Sunday 15th   | 9.30 am  | Holy Communion at Ashow               |
|               | 11.00 am | Fellowship Holy Communion, Stoneleigh |
| Sunday 22nd   | 9.30 am  | Village Service at Ashow              |
|               | 11.00 am | Sung Holy Communion at Stoneleigh     |
| Thursday 26th | 10.30 am | Holy Communion at Stoneleigh          |
| Sunday 29th   | 11.00 am | Advent All Age Communion, Stoneleigh  |
|               | 4.00 pm  | Advent Carol Service at Ashow         |

***From the registers***

***Funerals*** Tuesday 29th September – Teresa Baker- Internment of Remains at Ashow

***Contacts***

**Vicar:** Revd Sharon Goble 01608 682282 or 07799220407

**Churchwardens :**

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

**Stoneleigh:** Ian Smith 01926 853238. Sarah Ballinger 02476 715256

For Pastoral Care or 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](mailto:admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk)