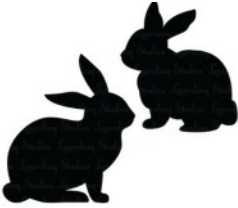


STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



MARCH 2016

**STONELEIGH VILLAGE CELEBRATION
for the 90th BIRTHDAY of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth**

There will be a SERVICE of CELEBRATION to mark this special birthday
on Sunday 12th June at 11am at Stoneleigh Church.

All Welcome

The bells will ring out to herald this joyful day.

This will be followed by a BIRTHDAY PARTY at the Village Hall and Field on
Sunday afternoon starting at 2pm into the evening.

Come and enjoy a birthday tea party for all ages, music, dancing,
fun & games, community singing.

All Welcome

With this March *Stoneleigh & Ashow News*, there should be a separate
INVITATION to come to the BIRTHDAY PARTY

Tickets are required @ £2.50 each. Booking essential

Apply by returning the slip from your invitation by 1st April
or ring Nora on 024 76415405



Stoneleigh Abbey 2016 Season

Our opening date is Friday 25th March and we are open from 11am until 5pm Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Our tour times remain the same as in previous years: 11.30am for the History tour, 1.00pm for the Jane Austen tour and then 2.30pm for General History again.

During the Easter break we are also putting on a free Easter picture trail for children, as well as lots of fun Nature worksheets. Admission charges are: Grounds - Adult £4.50, age 15 and under free;

Grounds *and* Guided Tour, Adult £9.50 and children 5-15 £4.50 with under 5s free.





SUNDAY LUNCH AT COVENTRY GOLF CLUB

TREAT YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

TO A THREE COURSE CARVERY LUNCH

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**To make your reservation call the
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**Coventry Golf Club
St Martins Road, Finham, Coventry CV3 6RJ
www.coventrygolf.co.uk**



WE HAVE A NUMBER OF EVENTS IN THE CLUB IN MARCH

THURSDAY 17th March. St Patrick's Night.

£1 off a pint of Guinness

SATURDAY 19th March. Alternative St Patrick's night

ACOUSTICA will be playing, and Irish stew will be served

SUNDAY 27th March. There will be an EASTER EGG HUNT at 1.00 o'clock in the churchyard followed by an Easter Bonnet Competition in the Club and an Easter Egg raffle .



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GRAVETALK

At the beginning of Lent, one of the Anglican traditions which we offer is the imposition of ashes. This Ash Wednesday service takes a sobering theme where we are invited at the beginning of a season of self-examination to consider our own frailty and mortality. As the sign of the cross is drawn gently on the forehead, we use the words: "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ." I tell the story about the first time I got involved with leading such a service when still in vicar factory and part of a worship group planning a service for the Federation of Theological Colleges in Cambridge. You may be surprised to hear that in preparing for it I had some of the best belly-aching laughs I've ever had! First we tried to authentically create the ash from last year's palm crosses and set off the fire alarms in the staircase. Then we agonised over whether to add water to the ash or not. Deciding to opt for adding water, we unfortunately got a bit heavy handed turning the tap on. If I didn't already know it, I knew how foolish I truly was, when with moments before the service started we were trying to dry the ash under the hand-dryers in the ladies' loos!

Humour can really help when we are facing difficult subjects, and I think that our hilarity was partly fuelled by the sobering theme of our service - our frailty and our mortality. But even before working, later, as chaplain in a hospice setting I was convinced of the importance of thinking about dying and death as part of life, and being able to talk about it sometimes is essential, in my view for people of any age. The imposition of ashes is a liturgical expression of what is an important truth for all of us to face. Death is the ultimate statistic and we are all going to die one day. The words we use cut us all to size and call us to put our lives and the things that preoccupy us into a right perspective. Whatever our achievements or qualifications, whoever of importance we know, however fit we are or careful of our skin care routine, our bodies are all a mixture of elements that will one day decay.

The second phrase we use when we put the ashes on our foreheads, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ" highlights for me our frailty and our dependence on God in Jesus Christ to make sense of this earthly existence. When we are honest and brave and think about our frailty and our mortality, it also makes us think about living. Jesus invites us to live life as his disciple, to embrace fullness of life that lasts beyond the grave. He can make sense of death and life because he has shared it and conquered death and transformed our living.

Our society has got better at talking about death and dying in recent years and the Church of England has produced a resource called Gravetalk which creates a café space to enable conversation about the area of dying, death and funerals. It takes the form of a set of question cards which prompt thought and conversation about just this taboo. I am going to leave this resource alongside the Stoneleigh History Society Display about Stoneleigh churchyard in the Leigh chapel. * It may enable all sorts of healthy conversation about something that affects us all. It may be that you would like more conversation about any of the issues raised for you, and if I or others in church are not available at the time, please do not hesitate to be in touch with us.

Happy Easter!

God bless

Reverend Sharon Goble

Priest in Charge of Stoneleigh and Ashow

Sharon.goble@btinternet.com

01608 682282

07799 220407

- NB the display will be in place from the beginning of May (Ed.)



Big Breakfast 2016

The Kenilworth Committee of Cancer Research U.K. is holding a “Big Breakfast” at **Leek Wootton Village Hall**, from 8 to 10.30am on

Friday 8th April 2016

A full “English Breakfast” will be provided and all donations to Cancer Research UK gratefully received

To help with catering if you wish to attend, could you please fill in one of the forms which are circulating or contact any committee member, or Pat Drummond (Secretary), 30 Birches Lane, Kenilworth CV82AD Tel 01926 854447

or Pat Harvey, Abbey House, Ashow. Tel 01926 852543
or Rosemary Brown,(Chairman), 36 Mayfield Drive, Kenilworth Tel 01926 855808

We hope that our usual supporters from Stoneleigh and Ashow will be able to attend again

NOTE FOR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS TO THE NEWS

Contributors are requested to submit printed copy in A5 format as soon as possible before each edition is prepared, preferably well before 18th of the month. This enables editors to spot omissions and to plan the layout of the News. The regular contributions provide an invaluable community service but editors are dependent on relevant copy being submitted on time. Contributors who send items as email attachments are requested to give the item's title in the subject line; thank you

THANK YOU TO NEWS DISTRIBUTORS

At the recent AGM of Stoneleigh & Ashow News, thanks were recorded to all distributors who ensure that copies reach a far-flung readership. However, a very special thank you goes to **Betty Hind** who has decided to retire after 30 years during which she has never missed delivering a single issue in Stoneleigh Close; what a wonderful record!

Margaret Wallis, Co-ordinator, Stoneleigh & Ashow News team

We are cleaning and unblocking roof gutters in this area over the next few weeks. If you would like yours cleaned and unblocked too, please call **024 7645 4064** for a **FREE** no-obligation quote and inspection



Before



After

Blocked gutters cause the following problems

- Increase chance of erosion to the walls & fascias to your wall interior.
- Re-channel the flow of surplus rainwater to places where it shouldn't go
- Affect foundations of your property
- Cause wood to rot, mould to grow and lead to electrical problems.

Leaking gutters are the most common cause of isolated damp in home across the UK.

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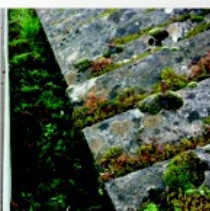


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A PARKES PILGRIMAGE

Following the excitement in 2015 of Stoneleigh's celebration of the bicentenary of the birth and baptism of its famous son who achieved huge success in Australia, we followed the steps of Sir Henry Parkes for part of our recent visit to Melbourne and Sydney. We drove between the two cities (5 hours for each of three days), staying the second night in Parkes where we met members of the Parkes and District Historical Society, saw the exhibits of Parkes memorabilia and the replica of Moat House Farm (his birthplace in Canley) at the Henry Parkes Museum complex, and portraits and a fine marble bust in the Council offices. Driving through the Blue Mountains we stopped off to visit his grave and that of his first wife, Clarinda, in Faulconbridge (her maiden name). Whilst in Sydney we spent a wonderful day with Ian – his great great grandson - and Valerie Thom (who visited Stoneleigh last July to unveil the plaque in the church). Centennial Park is a huge leisure space in the city which Parkes established to be enjoyed by residents 'for ever'; various photos were taken at the side of the famous statue of Sir Henry. We then saw two of the residences he and his family lived in - Hampton Villa in Balmain and 'Kenilworth' in Annandale, where he died. Inevitably these visits made our trip to Australia even more enjoyable and Stoneleigh was never far from our minds.

Ken and Margaret Wallis



HS2 UPDATE

There have been no specific local developments on HS2 since Martin Smith's report in the last News. We are assured by the County and District Councils and by Jeremy Wright, M.P. that our concerns will continue to be taken into account in their future negotiations. The House of Commons Select Committee on HS2 has now completed all the hearings and their final report is awaited. Whilst this report will not specifically address our local concerns, it will undoubtedly make general comments on such things as environmental mitigation, compensation and construction works which may then have localised implications.

HS2 continues to feature prominently in many press and media reports especially as more people realise the impact it will have on their own communities. Ministers and those who for whatever reason are enthusiastic about the project continue to show disdain for those individuals, research organisations etc. who have raised genuine concerns about many aspects, not least the escalating costs involved.

Margaret Wallis (on behalf of Stoneleigh Action Group)

Stoneleigh History Society

The February meeting took us outside the village to Earlsdon, where a splendid refurbishment of a 19thc fountain has been the culmination of more than 30 years' work by our member Avril Newey. We heard all about it from Peter Walters, the well-known local journalist. It was an unusual and enjoyable story.

Our March meeting will be on the 22nd and will feature a speaker from the Warwick County Record Office on the subject of crime and punishment!

All are as usual very welcome.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE STONELEIGH HISTORY SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Stoneleigh History Society will be held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 22 March 2016 in Stoneleigh Village Hall.

Stoneleigh Community Orchard update

Winter in the orchard though relatively quiet compared to other seasons has afforded the opportunity to undertake tasks such as pruning the trees.

The general idea is to encourage fruit bearing growth, maximize the light getting to the branches as well as encourage good form and structure. It really is an art though our West Country plants man John Dennis who supplied the trees advised us not to over prune cider varieties and to just prune to discourage inward branch growth and prevent rubbing. We'll follow his wisdom on this subject. As this article is being written there are further trees to pickup and plant along the riverside. These will be Perry Pear trees with unusual names such as "Judge Amphlett" and "Hendre Huffcap" chosen as good pollinators for our existing trees. It will involve a trip to Herefordshire courtesy of Rory O'Connor and the use of his van. Thanks Rory !

The Orchard group intend to run a quiz at Stoneleigh village club on the evening of 16th April. This as ever is likely to be a popular event and will provide another opportunity to sample the Orchard cider. Plans are also underway for a members' night to be held later in the year.



Back in January members of the Orchard group were involved in installing bat boxes at sites identified by Sharron McEldowney and Marianne Puxley in the copse that lines the river escarpment to the south of the village. John Churchley once again demonstrated great agility and a fearlessness of heights during the installation whilst Kris Turner and Pete Freeman provided stability and words of advice and encouragement from the base of the ladders. Well done John!

The Orchard friends subscriptions have come up for renewal since the start of the year and renewals of £10 can be made to Pete Freeman as Chairman or to Richard Hancox as Treasurer. Cheques should be made payable to Stoneleigh Village Community Orchard, however why not become a long term friend and set up a direct debit.


Pete Freeman (Chairman), 5 Church Lane, Stoneleigh. Pete.Freeman@swft.nhs.uk

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

How cheerful Stoneleigh Village Hall was on Saturday night February 6th. The 10 tables set out with crisp white tablecloths, accented with yellow napkins and a spray of daffodils welcomed the guests that had come to enjoy a light supper and to hear Shirley reminisce and share a small part of her extensive photograph and postcard collection of Stoneleigh, and in doing so, raising a considerable amount of money towards the Church Fabric Fund.

A huge thank you to everyone involved for a lovely evening.

Lisa Reay



Let There Be Light

WARWICK
MUSIC CENTRE

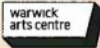
University of Warwick Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
Conductors Lucy Griffiths and Paul McGrath

Stravinsky *The Firebird*
Haydn *The Creation*

Sunday 13th March 2016 4pm

All ages. Butterworth Hall, Warwick Arts Centre
£9 (£7) Under 26s £4.50

Tickets available from the box office www.warwickartscentre.co.uk 024 7652 4524



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The Housing Needs Survey that has recently been carried out by Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC) was adopted by the Parish Council at the February meeting. WRCC will now be sending this report to Warwick District Council and it will form part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Meetings

The March Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Ashow Village Club, Ashow on Thursday 10th March 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

This is a meeting for Councillors which the public has a right to attend.

Stoneleigh's Annual Village Meeting will be held in Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 21st April at 7.00 p.m.

This is a statutory meeting at which members of the Parish Council are required to report back to the electorate on their work over the past twelve months and for the electorate to discuss their hopes and/or concerns in the Village.

Vacancy Parish Councillor - Stoneleigh Ward

I am pleased to advise you that Mrs Estelle Cole has been co-opted as a Parish Councillor for Stoneleigh Ward to fill the vacancy following the resignation of Cllr Sue Crofts. If you need to contact Estelle her details are as follows:

24, Stoneleigh Close, Stoneleigh CV8 3DE, 02476 697631, 07894 046406, estelle.cole@hotmail.com

PC Adriano Towle

As many of you will know PC Adriano Towle has recently retired from the Police Force. He has been Stoneleigh and Ashow's "Bobby" for many years giving excellent service. We would all like to wish Adriano and his family a very happy and long retirement.

Pat Maddison - Parish Clerk

Stoneleigh Church

We would like to say a big thank you to Shirley Ball for the illustrated talk she gave on 20th Century Stoneleigh, to Sheila Woolf who put together the presentation, by transferring photos onto the laptop, and to all the ladies of the social committee led by Jane Taylor. The evening raised just over £1000 and this magnificent sum will be added to the fabric fund.

Our thanks also go to everyone who delivered, completed and collected the Church questionnaires. We had a response rate of over 25%. The results are now being analysed and we will report back in next month's magazine. We could not have managed this enormous task without so many willing helpers.

Dates for your diaries

Saturday 5th March – Organ recital by Ron Binnie, 7.30 in the church. Tickets £10 to include refreshments

Our organist Ron will give a recital comprising of the organ music of J. S. Bach. In addition to two of the major Preludes and Fugues, Ron will talk about the place of the Chorale (hymn) in the Lutheran Church, and will introduce and play a number of Bach's organ Chorale Preludes.

Friday 11th March – Film Night- 6.45 for 7pm in the village Hall - £3.00 to include room hire and refreshments.

This month's film is 'What we did on our Holiday' starring Billy Connolly, David Tennant and Rosamund Pike

Easter Saturday 26th March – Open Church, Easter Egg Hunt and Children's Craft Activities

Come and make your Easter Bonnet to wear to the parade in the Village Club on Easter Sunday. Bring your own hat or start from scratch. Check poster for times and further details

For details of any of the events please contact the Parish Office



“The Heart of Stoneleigh” Defibrillator



The last of our promised donations was received in the middle of last month and the defibrillator should arrive in early March.

Now we need volunteers to make the phone box look its best (despite its twisted door) and to install the device. We need volunteers, too, for the basic CPR and defibrillator training so that this excellent potential lifesaver will be ready to do just that.

We know that an ambulance or ambulance car is unlikely to reach us in the eight minutes which is the target for a Red 1 emergency. We have to be ready to help ourselves.

A few people and organisations have stepped up to the plate with generous donations in recent months, now we need others to give just a little of their time to be ready to help their fellows.

Can you be one of them? I look forward to hearing from you. Please contact me on 07785 284482 or at dae@MediationandArbitration.co.uk.

David Ellwood

This month's cover picture of Spring blossom on the River Sowe was taken by
Will Blagburn.

STONELEIGH MALE VOICE CHOIR NEWS

S.M.V.C. will be busy in the next few months performing at the following concerts :-

March 17th – 20th is our annual show, *An Evening of Comedy and Song*. There are still tickets available for the performances on Thursday 17th and Sunday 20th.

Friday April 22nd Our visit is to St Swithins Church, Barston, near Balsall Common, for a concert to raise funds for the Church.

On *Saturday May 21st*, there will be a joint concert with the Stoneleigh Ladies Choir at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon in aid of the Shakespeare Hospice.

Sunday July 3rd is the dates of our Summer Serenade (details to follow)

Saturday September 17th. We are giving a concert as part of their Heritage Week at Astley Village, near Nuneaton.

If you would like tickets for the March Show or the concert at St Swithins Church, Barston, please contact Phil Jones (01926 853511). If you would like tickets for the concert at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, please contact Geoff Mexson (01926 854602)

S.M.V.C. welcomes new members, so if anyone is interested in joining please come along on to the Stoneleigh Village Hall any Wednesday at 7.30pm. We would be delighted to see you.

APOLOGY

I must apologize to Kate McCutcheon. In the article in last month's *Stoneleigh and Ashow News* about the Carol Concerts held at the Abbey: her name was inadvertently omitted from the list of readers. In fact, it is Kate who organizes the readers and the choir greatly appreciates her efforts. Sorry for the omission, Kate.

Philip Jones (Chairman)

STONELEIGH WI REPORT

At the meeting on 1st February we had a moving talk from Eugene Schellenberg about the Ifakara Bakery Project, which he and his wife Margaret set up in Tanzania in 2001. Mr and Mrs Schellenburg raised £30,000 to provide equipment and travelled to Tanzania to oversee the installation and commissioning of the equipment. Mrs Schellenberg, a former cookery teacher taught the nuns who were to run the Bakery how to make bread. The Bakery provides a staple food all the year round to the local population, especially when the maize harvest fails. They also set up the "Free Breads Fund" which provides bread to the local hospital and ten schools.

On 9th February the members of the Book Club met to discuss "A Year in the Life of a Playground Mother" by Christie Barlow and "My Life in Houses" by Margaret Forster. On Monday 15th February Rachel Gill, Pam Smith and Liz Sykes took part in the first round of the Warwickshire Federation Quiz at Hatton Park Village Hall. Unfortunately the team did not do well enough to reach the final. The following day there was a Social Evening at Leek Wootton Sport Club. Members, husbands and friends took part in a light hearted skittles competition and a supper of steak pie or lasagne was served half way through the evening.

Following last month's bread making demonstration by Annaliese Jacques a group of members took up her invitation to afternoon tea on 26th February at the Clocktower Café which she runs in Hartshill. It was a most enjoyable afternoon, although some of us regretted having eaten lunch.

The next Village lunch will be on 1st March. The menu will be turkey and ham pie followed by cheesecake. If you would like to book a place please ring Liz Sykes on 02476418301. The March coffee morning will be on 15th March.

At the meeting on 7th March there will be a demonstration of flower arrangements for Easter.

Rachel Gill



Church Contacts

Vicar: [Revd Sharon Goble 01608 682282 or 07799220407](mailto:Rev.Sharon.Goble@stoneleighchurch.co.uk)

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

This month's edition of the *Stoneleigh & Ashow News* was compiled by Sheila Woolf, 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 April edition will be compiled by

Pam Baker

2, Manor House Farm, Vicarage Road. Pam@bakerplayroom.co.uk

Copy deadline 18th March 2016.

Please note that the editors' gmail account (editor.sandanews@gmail.com) is no longer in use. All copy should be sent to the relevant month's editor's personal email address.

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

Advertisements at £30 (full A5 page) or £15 (half page) accepted at the editor's discretion, subject to S&A News policy. **If submitting copy for a half-page advertisement please send it as a landscape jpeg.**



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

SERVICES FOR MARCH 2016

Mothering Sunday

- Sunday 6th 10.00 a.m. Mothering Sunday Service at Ashow
 10.00 a.m. Mothering Sunday Service at Stoneleigh
- Thursday 10th 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
- Sunday 13th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Ashow
 11.00 a.m. All Age Worship at Stoneleigh

Palm Sunday

- Sunday 20th 9.30 a.m. Village Service at Ashow
 11.00 a.m. Fellowship Holy Communion at Stoneleigh

Good Friday

- Friday 25th 2.00 p.m. Hour of the Cross at Stoneleigh
- Saturday 26th 8.00 p.m. Easter Vigil at Ashow

Easter Day

- Sunday 27th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion Service at Ashow
 11.00 a.m. Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh

From the registers

Funerals

Saturday 23rd January – Paul Beney- Memorial Service

Thursday 11th February- Margaret Hancox-Funeral Service followed by burial

Baptisms

Sunday 17th January – Rose Turney