

# STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



*Ducks visiting the garden pond*

## APRIL 2016

## AND NOW FOR SOMETHING RATHER DIFFERENT ...

The church's fund-raising efforts continue apace, as you will read elsewhere in this edition. On Saturday May 7th there will be an unusual event which we hope will boost the funds even more.

The choir *Immanuel's Ground* is based in Warwick and is what is known as a West Gallery Quire, so named because the church bands of singers and musicians of the Hanoverian period were stationed in galleries at the west end of the churches, but they also performed for village festivities and dances. The musical life of a village community, church and chapel was sustained by enthusiastic amateur and semi-professional composers, instrumentalists and singers. The Quire's leaders and researchers have not only found musical works by local composers, but have uncovered sometimes poignant, sometimes hilarious anecdotes about the composers, their church and village bands, and their contemporary inhabitants.

*Immanuel's Ground* will take a look, in a concert of music and words, at the times of George III, as seen through the eyes of some of the then residents of Stoneleigh. It promises to be a special evening with some fascinating surprises!

The event is being jointly hosted by the church and Stoneleigh History Society, with all proceeds going to the church fabric fund. Please see the choir's website at [www.immanuelsground.com](http://www.immanuelsground.com) and also the poster in this edition of Stoneleigh & Ashow News - and come along to the church at 7.30 pm on May 7th for a very *different* evening of music!

***Sheila Woolf***

# Immanuel's GROUND Warwick's West Gallery Quire



## ***'In Prosperity and Adversity'***

At the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire CV8 3DN  
Saturday 7th May

7.30 pm

Tickets: £10 including refreshments after the concert

Available from the church office Tel: 02476 415506

e-mail: [admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk)

Proceeds for the church restoration fund



Immanuel's Ground will take another look, in a concert of music and words, at the times of George III, as seen through the eyes of some of the then residents of Stoneleigh. It seems there was little enough prosperity to go round, especially when it came to marrying a soldier...

**In association with**

**Stoneleigh History Society**



## JOURNEYS

In the novelist Rachel Joyce's first bestseller, "*The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*", there is more than one journey. There is the journey that gives the book its plot, when Harold Fry decides not to post the letter to his dying friend but to take it personally to her on foot – a crazy spontaneous journey which took him miles across country and for which he was unprepared in his yachting shoes. But this strange and formative walk left behind the pointlessness of ambling slowly up and down his lawn behind the mower and onto really significant both real and inner journeys to a hospice where his longstanding friend was about to make her final journey from this life. As he encounters others and reflects on his own griefs, limitations and frustrations, Harold's journey explores many big themes. I did not intend to choose a book that would make everyone in my book club cry – but it obviously struck a chord.

In spite of living a life of faith and being disciples of Jesus, the two people who were walking away from Jerusalem on the road to Emmaus that Luke tells us about in his gospel were also on more than one journey. They were physically putting distance between themselves and the events that we now mark over the Easter weekend. They were walking away because they were disillusioned. They were on a journey of grief; their minds were struggling to explore the significance of what had occurred at the crucifixion; they were mapping out an uncharted landscape of what hope could look like after what they had just been through. They had set much store by their expectations and hope of what resurrection might mean, though apparently they did not both agree on whatever they understood of recent events. As they walked they talked it all over. The story of Easter changed everything and yet in their immediate experience it looked like nothing had changed. As they discuss on the road, they are joined by someone they don't recognise. Like the well-loved prose poem, "*Footprints in the Sand*", so often we only realise in retrospect the presence of God in our doubt and darkness on hard paths.

In her book "*Journey to the Empty Tomb*", Biblical scholar Paula Gooder writes about this story, saying: *What Jesus saw in the two*

*miserable, angry disciples was the need to journey beyond themselves. This journey from their own self-absorption to a recognition of Jesus involved the body (walking to Emmaus) the mind (the conversation about the scriptures) and the spirit (inviting Jesus to eat with them).*

Life's journeys take many forms, as we revisit the familiar and explore the new in body, mind and spirit. In May we are invited to join in with plans in the diocese to share a walk in the company of others; talk about the things that matter to us and journey inwards with the God who came to walk with us in Jesus, and breathes his Spirit of life into us.

**Reverend Sharon Goble**

Priest in Charge of Stoneleigh and Ashow

## **FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April, Church Teas 2-4 pm**

This summer we will be serving tea and cake in the church every 4th Sunday in the month, from April to July.

The History Society Exhibition will also be open to browse through.

### **Immanuel's Ground Quire Concert Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm in the church**

A concert will be held in the church by the Immanuel's Ground Warwick West Quire, see poster for details.

### **Film Night Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

6.45 for 7 pm in the Village Hall - £3.00  
to include room hire and refreshments.

Please see poster on the notice board for details of the film.

*If you would like to join us or would like further details please  
telephone Sarah Ballinger (02476 715256)  
or Jackie Cubitt, Parish Office (02476 415506)  
or email [admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk)*

**Sarah Ballinger**



## Ascension to Pentecost 5 – 15 May 2016

The ten days between Ascension and Pentecost have often been regarded as a time for prayer and waiting for the Holy Spirit. This year Bishop Christopher and Bishop John are also calling Christians throughout Warwickshire and Coventry to come together for fellowship, witness and celebration.

Five different strands are being woven into the period from 5th to 15th May:

- ***Pilgrimage of Prayer.*** Our bishops are calling everyone in the diocese to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit and to meditate on scripture. They will be providing a booklet of prayers, reflections and other resources.
- ***Pilgrimage Walk—Cloud and Fire.*** Everyone is also encouraged to spend time walking with one of our bishops on a physical pilgrimage. There is a choice of five routes in the north, south, east, west and centre of the diocese.
- ***Launch of the Diocesan Centenary.*** The *Pilgrimage of Prayer* and the *Pilgrimage Walk* are both being used to launch the preparations for the Diocesan Centenary which takes place in two years' time.
- ***Thy Kingdom Come.*** The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are inviting the whole Church of England to join them “in a week of prayer for the evangelisation of our nation”.
- ***Pentecost Beacon Event.*** All the above will culminate in a special event at Coventry Cathedral at around 5:00 pm on Pentecost (15th May). This will include a live video link with the Archbishop of Canterbury and sung worship led by Noel Richards.

More details from [www.dioceseofcoventry.org](http://www.dioceseofcoventry.org) and [www.thykingdom.co.uk](http://www.thykingdom.co.uk)

**Reverend Sharon Goble**

## STONELEIGH HISTORY SOCIETY

By the time this edition goes to print, our AGM will have come and gone, together with an intriguing talk by Amanda Williams of the Warwick County Record Office on “Crime and Punishment” – confirmation, if any were needed, that it’s good to be living in the 21st rather than the 19th century!

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday April 26th in the church at 7.30pm, when an illustrated talk will be given on the latest developments in the project to record all the headstones in the churchyard. Some extraordinary stories are emerging, and with the latest technology you will be able to pin-point a grave from anywhere in the world, together with information about the life of the person buried there.

Do come along to find out more; an exhibition showing our findings so far will then be in place in the Leigh Chapel over the summer months.

***Sheila Woolf***

### ANOTHER STONELEIGH CALENDAR

Several people have requested that we publish another calendar, this time for 2017. Perhaps it is more important than ever that we record our village and its approaches before the HS2 diggers arrive next year...

If you would like to submit photographs for selection you can send them to me at any time and the Stoneleigh History Society will make their choice in late summer. Last time we had a number of very beautiful snowy scenes, which made choosing pictures for the summer months quite hard! Our last calendar sold out quickly and so we hope that a 2017 one will be a similar success.

Please start snapping!

***Sheila Woolf***

[shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk)

## Tea and Cake



**will be served in Stoneleigh Church  
2 pm – 4 pm  
on the 4th Sunday during the Summer months  
on  
24<sup>th</sup> April : 22<sup>nd</sup> May : 26<sup>th</sup> June and 24<sup>th</sup> July**

*The History Society's summer exhibition  
will also be open to visit in the Leigh Chapel*

### **STONELEIGH VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS CHARITY (702842) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Stoneleigh Village Hall and Playing Fields Charity is to be held on Monday 25th April 2016 at 8pm at Stoneleigh Village Hall, Birmingham Road, Stoneleigh.

Please come along to support your village hall committee.

***Liz Sykes***



## SUMMER SPORTS COACHING

Stoneleigh Village Hall & Playing Fields Trust

The village hall committee would like to arrange some coaching for tennis and other sports for our younger residents, during the Summer holidays. We think that we should make more use of our lovely sports facilities.

Before we go ahead with this, we would like some feedback from local residents for their interest. If you would like your children to take part in this would you please contact me, Liz Sykes, on 02476 418301 or [liz.sykes@talk21.com](mailto:liz.sykes@talk21.com).

**Liz Sykes**



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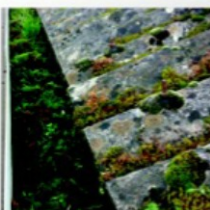


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# STONELEIGH CELEBRATES THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

on Sunday 12th June 2016



## HAVE YOU REPLIED YET TO YOUR INVITATION ?

Do not miss this special event in the village  
Your replies are needed as soon as possible please  
to help us with planning and numbers for Tea.  
Not had an Invitation ? Oh dear ! Ring Nora on 02476 415405  
Don't leave it too long please !

**TICKETS** will be available to collect and pay  
on Saturday 23rd April at 7pm at the CLUB  
and Sunday 24th April from 2pm - 4pm at the CHURCH  
with Afternoon Tea

Delivery possible by arrangement



- Just to tempt you to come - **THE PROGRAMME** planned to date
- 11am Celebration Service in the Church  
The Stoneleigh Bells ring out
  - 2pm The Celebration Party at the Village Hall is opened by  
the Coventry Performing Arts Youth Jazz Orchestra  
Games and Activities in the Field,  
Creative Activities in a gazebo, and more
  - 3pm Old Time Music and Dancing  
while the Birthday Tea is served  
Other possible entertainments !
  - 5pm or there about: Happy Birthday and Toast to The Queen
  - Later Songs through the Years - Community Sing-a-Long  
hopefully led by the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir



### **HELP PLEASE !**

A small group of volunteers is working hard to plan this very unique occasion which will give us an opportunity to celebrate and enjoy time together, with fun for families.

If you can help in any way please get in touch.

*A Man with a Van and his Mate to collect tables*

contact Nora 02476 415405

*Offers of Cakes and Scones*

contact Sarah 02476 715256 or Jane at church

*Loan of Gazebos and Chairs*

contact Amanda email [asmith@goinglean.co.uk](mailto:asmith@goinglean.co.uk)

*Help on the day with early a.m. preparation*

setting up gazebos, tables, decorations, in the Hall and outside,  
laying up tea tables, preparing tea

*Waiters/Waitresses to serve teas, Helpers in the Kitchen*

contact Nora

**'MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK' - we hope !**



Let's all try to make our village look really festive for  
the weekend of the 11-12th June for the Queen's Birthday.



## HS2 UPDATE

The third reading of the amended Hybrid Bill is likely to have been debated and voted on before the Easter recess of Parliament (i.e. before this edition of the News is distributed).

Even if, as is highly likely, the Bill is voted through, there is likely to be some delay once it is sent to the House of Lords. Action groups and individuals can petition the House of Lords but inevitably such petitions will contain points made at length in previous petitions and at the Select Committee hearings. However, this stage in the process will provide yet more opportunity for publicity about the project's shortcomings and its effects on local communities as well as further debate about priorities for Government expenditure. Meanwhile, the report of the House of Commons Select Committee has been published. Some critical comments were made in this report but the Department of Transport, Treasury and HS2 Ltd have dismissed these. Other critical comments from various independent bodies have also been ignored, despite considerable media coverage.

The fear now is that in the rush to push the political process over the line to get Royal Assent (thus giving the green light for building work to begin), many issues will not have been looked at with the care they deserve, and the consequential rise in overall project costs will be inevitable, further damaging the so-called business case for the project.

We can but hope that the Lords will raise some searching questions which cannot be ignored.

**Margaret Wallis** (on behalf of Stoneleigh Action Group)

### **STONELEIGH LADIES CHOIR** invite you to "A Right Royal Do"

on Thursday 16th June - full details, timings etc, will be given in the May magazine. It will consist of afternoon tea with entertainment by the ladies. Please put the date in your diary and come and join in the fun! If you would like to reserve tickets for this event please phone Val Baker:- 02476 414360.

**Kate McCutcheon**

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

### ***Meetings***

The April Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 14th April 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 2016 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.***

### ***Precept/Council Tax 2016/17***

The precept for the next financial year April 2016-March 2017 was agreed at £16,263. Included in this figure is a sum of £3,000 as a special grant.

***Pat Maddison*** - Parish Clerk

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### **Kenilworth Clock Tower**

Some years ago it was reported in the paper that local councillors had voted to change the clock on the tower to a digital clock.

Outrage followed until it was noted that the report was made on April 1st.





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## **STONELEIGH VILLAGE CLUB**

*established 1856*

*Spring is in the air so why not visit the Club and Garden  
Plenty of opportunities to enjoy this month including:-*

**K2TOG** Wednesday 6th April and alternate Wednesday evenings  
Knit & Natter

**BINGO** Wednesday 13th April and alternate Wednesday evenings  
Cash Prizes : New Players welcome

**ORCHARD QUIZ** Saturday 16th April  
Come early, very popular last year  
Try some Stoneleigh Cider, amazing effects !!

**ST.GEORGE'S DAY** Pub Games Competition Saturday 23rd April  
In fond memory of Jim Ball. Proceeds to Charity

**PREMIER and CHAMPIONS LEAGUE**  
All matches on the big screen throughout the month

**INTERESTED** in joining the Committee ?  
Help and new ideas for this coming year ?  
Are you keen to assist with the Garden ?  
Do you want to advertise on the Club Noticeboard ?  
Please speak to our Steward Jim  
or make contact with an existing Committee member

**REFURBISHMENT** A programme has commenced scheduling  
repairs to the roof, damp-proofing of main room rear wall,  
improved electrical circuit to bar, and exterior painting

***Anne Lowe & Committee***

## STONELEIGH WI REPORT



At the meeting on 7th March Fay Gibbs from the Earlsdon Flower Club showed us how to make three arrangements for Easter, which she kindly offered as raffle prizes.

She made it look very easy but provided lots of helpful advice on flower arranging as she went along.

On Tuesday 8th March a group of members attended a Spa Day at Brandon Hall.

On Monday 21st March a group of members attended the Annual Federation Meeting at the Chesford Grange Hotel. After the singing of Jerusalem, the delegates were welcomed to the meeting by Martin Jelley, the Chief Constable of Warwickshire. The first speaker was Heather Jacks the winner of the 2014 Great Sewing Bee. She was followed by Steve Brooks who provided us with "The Greatest Gardening Tips in the world". In the afternoon the draws were made for the Denman Dip, the Denman Memorial Bursary, and the Spring Raffle. After the Chairman's closing remarks, the meeting closed with the National Anthem.

This month the members of the book club have been reading "An African Love Story: Love, Life and Elephants" by Daphne Sheldrick and "Private Papers" by Margaret Forster.

The next Village Lunch will be on Tuesday 5th April in the Village Hall. The menu will be roast pork and apple pie. If you wish to reserve a place, please ring Liz Sykes on 02476 418301. The Coffee Morning will be on Tuesday 19th April in the Village Club.

The meeting next month will be on Monday 4th April and there will be a talk entitled "A Working Warwickshire Wood".

***Rachel Gill***



## STONELEIGH & ASHOWN NEWS

The May 2016 edition will be compiled by

**Kim & Martin Smith**

23 Birmingham Road, CV8 3DD

[kim502@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kim502@hotmail.co.uk)

**Copy deadline: 18th April 2016**

Please note that the address editor.sandanews@gmail.com is no longer in use.

This month's edition was compiled by Pam Baker  
and printed by Warwick Print at the University.

The online colour version is viewable at the Village website  
[www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk](http://www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk)

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.

### Ducks Ditty from The Wind in the Willows

All along the backwater,  
Through the rushes tall,  
Ducks are a-dabbling,  
Up tails all!

Ducks' tails, drakes' tails,  
Yellow feet a-quiver,  
Yellow bills all out of sight  
Busy in the river!

Slushy green undergrowth  
Where the roach swim--  
Here we keep our larder,  
Cool and full and dim.

Everyone for what he likes!  
WE like to be  
Heads down, tails up,  
Dabbling free!



High in the blue above  
Swifts whirl and call--  
WE are down a-dabbling  
Up tails all!





## STONELEIGH CHURCH NEWS

### Results of the Questionnaire

In February many pairs of feet, spent many hours walking around our parish. Discovering roads and houses they didn't realise were there, meeting new people and having interesting conversations. This was a result of our project to find out how the community sees the role of the church in village life today.

In total 500 questionnaires were distributed to members of the congregation and all the homes in the parish. We had 133 completed which means a 27% return rate. This is nearly three times better than the expected rate of reply for such an exercise.

There was strong feeling that the church building is valuable to everyone. It is seen by many as a focal point on the village landscape – *'deeply woven into the fabric of the village'* and *'representing an enduring symbol of Stoneleigh Village's history'* to quote just a couple of the comments.

This proves to us and the Heritage Lottery Fund that there is overwhelming support for the work we are doing to raise funds to repair the church building, to preserve it for others to enjoy its incredible history and to keep it as a special place to worship.

Interestingly, respondents to the questionnaire were predominantly over 55 with only 14% of those who responded having children under the age of 18.

There were many helpful suggestions about use of space and how the building could be made more accessible to the worshipping community. There were ideas of new ways we could attract visitors to the building along with support for continuing to use the building for concerts and other events.



Thank you everyone who helped in this project and especially for those of you who spared the time to complete the questionnaire. A full copy of the 24 page analysis will be available at the back of the church or if you prefer we can send you a copy by email.

For this contact: [admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk)

### **Thank you Ron Binnie**

The recent organ recital by Ron Binnie, our organist raised £540 for the Fabric Fund. Those who attended found it an enjoyable evening. For me his introduction to the pieces really helped my understanding of the mind of the composer, JS Bach, an incredible, talented man. Our thanks go to both Ron for his hours of dedicated practising and Jane Taylor whose team provided the refreshments.



You will see details in the magazine of a concert with a difference coming up in May, performed by the Immanuel's Ground Quire. This is a joint event with the Stoneleigh History Society whose members are helping us raise funds for the church fabric; refer to their separate advert for further details.

***Sarah Ballinger, Churchwarden***



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



**SERVICES FOR APRIL 2016**

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 a.m. United Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion Service at Ashow 11.00 a.m. All Age Worship at Stoneleigh
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion Service at Ashow 11.00 a.m. Fellowship Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 a.m. Village Service at Ashow 11.00 a.m. Sung Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at Stoneleigh

**Contacts**

**Vicar:** Revd Sharon Goble 01608 682282 or 07799 220407

**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)

Office Hours Wednesday 9.00 – 12.00 and Thursday 9.00 – 1.00pm