

STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



NOVEMBER 2016

Let's get creative!

Like many people, I sometimes struggle with this time of year with the short daylight hours and long evenings. However much I'd like to, it is rather impracticable and self-indulgent to go into hibernation. Instead, this is the time of year when I start to get back in touch with my creative side. There's nothing quite like working with your hands and creating something that takes time, trouble, love and care. I find it soothing, therapeutic and rewarding (apart from when I drop a stitch, obviously!) Of course we're all wired differently, but for me an evening making something or being creative is far more regenerating than slumping on that sofa in front of the tele... (but in all honesty, depending on the project, I can often strike a compromise and do both!)

Can I encourage you to get creative this November?

Here are a few ideas to give you an incentive:

Are you crafty?

On Sunday 27th November at Stoneleigh Abbey it is their annual craft fair. This year I will be there (when not at services!) with others from Stoneleigh and Ashow congregations with a stall full of lovely homemade crafts to sell to help raise funds for both churches... thank you in advance for those November evenings which you will give to making something for our stall. (Crafty, no?!) ...Or come and buy something unique for those tricky-to-buy-for relations. You could do it on the way to or from the advent all-age communion service at Stoneleigh village hall at 11am, or the Advent carol service at 4pm at Ashow!

Do you like to be in stitches?

Marianne Puxley has written elsewhere in this magazine asking if there is interest from people to gather to design and stitch a project as part of our heritage interpretation of Stoneleigh church. This would provide Stoneleigh with another stitching project, as an ongoing similar project already exists in Ashow. I have heard how much fun it was when the pew cushions were worked on a couple of decades ago, so here is another opportunity to have fun being creatively "in stitches" together.

Do you play a musical instrument?

If you would rather work with crotchets than with crochet, then I would love to hear from you if you would like to help us form a band or orchestra (depending on what instruments are forthcoming!) to accompany carols at the Stoneleigh Christmas carol service which will take place in the Kennel Club building in Stoneleigh Park on Sunday 18th December at 7pm. Many of you musical people are already singing at it with the Male Voice and Ladies' Choirs, or in playing handbells. If however you play a portable instrument, or are willing to dust one off and play along with us, please be in touch with me by Remembrance Sunday (13th November) telling me what you play, your versatility and when you might make a practice with others. Then our organist, Ron Binnie will sort our parts and we'll have a blast!

Look forward to hearing your creative adventures through November!
God bless

Reverend Sharon Goble
01608 682 282 or 07799220407
sharon.goble@btinternet.com



**CANCER
RESEARCH
UK**

Cancer Research U.K. Coffee Morning

The Kenilworth committee will be holding a Coffee Morning on
Wednesday 9th November 2016 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 2017 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.
Abbey House, Ashow. Tel 01926 852543.

Remembering the Somme

Friday, 18 November saw the end of the Battle of the Somme, an offensive which had lasted for 141 day with the loss of close to 1,300,000 casualties from both sides of that conflict. Exactly one hundred years later, the Stoneleigh History Society, together with the Earlsdon Research Group invite you to join us to reflect on a few national and local stories and events from that tragic period.

.. AND THE DARK SOMME FLOWING

From: 'A Farmer Remembers The Somme' by Vance Palmer

A Centenary Reflection in Words and Music with guests Spires Music

**in the Chapel at Stoneleigh Abbey
on Friday, 18th November 2016 at 7.30pm**

The performance will be followed by refreshments and viewing of the Earlsdon and Stoneleigh 1914 -1918 History Exhibitions

Admission free, but donations will be invited for the international charity, War Child (whose work provides safe havens for children in active war zones). See: www.warchild.org.uk

Prior booking essential. As numbers are limited,
please contact to confirm places
(details below).

Earlsdon History Society: Avril Newey
email: englishearth@avrilnewey.plus.com or tel: 02476 677384

Stoneleigh History Society: Sheila Woolf
email: shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk or tel: 02476 418759

Special Announcement

Stoneleigh and Ashow Joint Parish Council

After over 17 ½ years as the Parish Clerk, Pat Maddison has decided to retire. I don't think even Pat thought she would still be here in 2016 when she agreed to take on the role back in April 1999!

During her time Pat has seen many changes both to the Parishes of Stoneleigh and Ashow and to the other Parishes that were once part of our Joint Parish Council – namely Burton Green and The University.

Being the Clerk to a Parish Council is a complex and varied role and Pat has worked tirelessly over the years keeping many County Councillors, District Councillors, Chairman and Parish Councillors in order both at and between meetings.

We have already informed our new Clerk Sarah that we will be looking for her to emulate Pat's achievements and that we fully expect her to be with us until at least the year 2044 in order to set a new record!



We could not let Pat retire without showing our appreciation for her services over the years so Councillors past and present, and friends gathered for a farewell drink and a few nibbles after the last Parish Council meeting in Ashow where Pat was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers and a voucher for high tea at a very nice hotel in south Warwickshire.

We all wish Pat a long, happy and richly deserved retirement.

Richard Hancox

Chairman Stoneleigh and Ashow Joint Parish Council



Ashow Church News

Ashow Pig Roast

The Pig Roast held in the garden of Ashow Club on August Bank Holiday Sunday was extremely successful. The PCC are very grateful to David and Diana Holt for organising this. The weather was beautiful and it was very well attended with 150 adults and children. The children's games and lucky dip were very popular. We would like to thank Kate and Phil Jones for doing the raffle (and all those who gave prizes). Also all those who helped with marquees and chairs and all who donated salads and delicious puddings. The profit for the church funds was £1619.

Harvest

The Harvest Festival Service at Ashow Church was very successful again this year. The church was beautifully decorated by Diana Holt, Margaret Cotton and Susan Spencer. A decorative Harvest Loaf was provided by Bakers Dozen from Leyes Lane in Kenilworth. We were very grateful for the provisions and fresh fruit and vegetables donated by the congregation and the village. The offertory collection and a cheque for £50 from Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir was sent to the Addington Fund, and donated dried goods and another cheque for £50 from the choir was sent to the Kenilworth Food Bank.

The Harvest Lunch took place afterwards at the Village Club, which made a very attractive venue thanks to the hard work of Anne and Tony Gregory. Special thanks also to Rosemary Brown and Jean Shrimpton who provided the puddings.

Advent

Ashow Church on Sunday 27th November at 4 pm will be having a candle-lit Service for Advent, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Baptism

We recently had a Baptism Service in church, for Elsa Phoebe Dimambro, daughter of Rachael and Tom, who were married at Ashow last year. Elsa's grandparents are Martyn and Brenda Foster, from Ashow.

Stephen Harvey
Churchwarden

Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir

So far this autumn, it has been a busy time for Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir with concerts in Astley Church and Saint Francis of Assisi Church in Kenilworth; the latter was in aid of the Diabetic Association and for which we were joined by the Stoneleigh Ladies Choir. We are now preparing for carol concerts and the spring show.

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 6th December: SMVC will sponsor the Stoneleigh Village Seniors' Christmas lunch.

Wednesday and Thursday 7th and 8th December: carol concerts in the chapel at Stoneleigh Abbey. Tickets will be available from the office at the Abbey. The retiring collections will be in aid of Cruse Bereavement Care, Kenilworth.

Diary Dates for 2017

9th, 10th, 11th and 12th March: Annual musical show in Stoneleigh Village Hall.

Sunday 2nd July: Summer Serenade and which, this year, will be held in the Walled Garden at Stoneleigh Abbey, by kind permission of the residents.

Further information concerning these 2017 events will be promulgated in the New Year.

Phil Jones
Chairman, SMVC

I would like to say a 'Big Thank You' to Mandy and her Team for organising the Macmillan Coffee Morning this year.

Also for all those who came along and supported them to raise the magnificent sum of £540



Sarah Ballinger

Stoneleigh History Society

In September Peter James spoke about the history of silk-weaving in Coventry and Warwickshire and as usual Peter gave us a fascinating talk, well-illustrated and wide-ranging. At the October meeting, on Tuesday October 25th, Vic Nock spoke about medieval weaponry.

In November we have two events: the first, in the chapel at Stoneleigh Abbey, will mark the centenary of the end of the terrible Battle of the Somme in 1916 (see advert for details). Please come along on Friday November 18th at 7.30 pm. The event, with music, readings and poetry, is free, but we welcome donations to War Child. It is essential that prior booking is made, however, as space in the chapel is restricted. Please contact me if you wish to come. It will be a very special evening and we are grateful to the management of Stoneleigh Abbey for opening for us whilst our church is closed.

In complete contrast our regular November meeting, on Tuesday 29th, will be a talk given by me, called "Here Come the Girls", about rich American women who married into Warwickshire gentry. Everyone is welcome at the village hall.

Sheila Woolf

02476 418759

shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk



The 2016 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

By the time you receive this newsletter the Poppy Appeal will be well under way. My thanks, as ever, to those helpers who give up their time to take house-to-house collections, and to those who help distribute, collect and collate monies from the 40+ boxes which go to local businesses and schools.

Please give generously!

Sheila Woolf

Honorary Organiser, Stoneleigh Area.



STONELEIGH VILLAGE CLUB

established 1856

EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

BINGO WEDNESDAY 9th and 23rd

KNIT & NATTER WEDNESDAY 2nd, 16th AND 30th



SAVE THE DATE

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY 17th DECEMBER 5.00 o'clock
FATHER CHRISTMAS IS COMING !

Remember to get your children's names on the list
Numbers are limited to 50

Christmas raffle will be drawn on Sunday
18th at the club

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

The November Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Stoneleigh Village Hall, Stoneleigh on Thursday 10th November 2016 at **7.00 p.m.**

By-Pass Stoneleigh Village

At the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 13th October Cllr Wallace Redford , our County Councillor, informed us that Warwickshire County Council (WCC) were prepared to look at the possibility of a by-pass for Stoneleigh Village providing the Parish Council formally made a request to Mr Peter Butlin at WCC. The Parish Council passed a motion "For a by-pass to be considered for Stoneleigh Village". This was unanimously agreed.

Parish Clerk

I wish to advise everyone that I have decided to retire as Parish Clerk after nearly 18 years in the position. I am delighted to be able to announce my replacement. It is Mrs Sarah Windridge and she takes up the position on the 1st November. She can be contacted on 02476 301982.

Co-option of Councillor for Stoneleigh Ward

I wish to advise you that there is a vacancy for a Councillor in Stoneleigh Ward following the resignation of Mrs Estelle Cole. This vacancy has already been advertised on the village notice board and also on the web-site. I have been advised by Warwick District Council that an election has not been called.

Do you feel you can put something back into the community? If so why not apply to become a Parish Councillor. This position hopefully will be filled by co-option at the November meeting. If you are interested or wish to know more about this position please contact the Chairman, Richard Hancox, on 07770 826310 or email Richard.hancox@kier.co.uk

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank Estelle for her contribution she has made to the Council. We wish her well in the future.

Pat Maddison
Parish Clerk



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Stoneleigh Church Film Night



Friday 11th November in the Village Hall

6.45 for 7pm

Make yourself feel at home, bring your own wine, cushions or a comfy chair.

Coffee and Cake in the interval

This month we are showing '**Eddie the Eagle**' described as a film with a feel good factor. £3.00, to cover refreshments and room hire,

To reserve a place call 02476 415506 and pay on the door.



Could you make a stitch in time? Stitchers needed to help tell Stoneleigh's story in thread.

As many of you will know Stoneleigh church is undergoing essential repairs funded in part by the heritage lottery fund. Heritage Lottery Fund will only award money to projects that benefit the local and wider community. As Sarah Ballinger explained in last month's S&A news, in order to fulfil the commitment to do this the church wants to make itself as accessible and useful to as many people as possible.

One suggestion for how to do this is to make information about the church building and the history of Stoneleigh more visible and interesting for children and adults who visit the building. Various ideas for how to do this have been put forward, one of which is to display a timeline which would depict key events in the village and the church and link them to world events. This is ambitious enough, but we would also like to make this timeline, or graphic story, a lasting thing of beauty. We want to make a textile of it! 'Like the Bayeux tapestry!' said one enthusiastic soul. The 11th Century Bayeux tapestry is 70 metres long, so we won't be doing anything quite like that. However we will need as many needlepersons as possible as we envisage this as a collaborative project. So this is a plea for anyone who has any skills in embroidery, appliqué or general needlework to get in touch. The project is in its very early stages; we haven't decided yet exactly how we can convey information on cloth. So if you have ideas, please put them forward!

Marianne Puxley
marianne.puxley@btinternet.com

HS2 UPDATE

It seems that Royal Assent will be postponed from December to Spring 2017 so in theory work cannot begin until after then. However, to date almost £2 billion have been spent on large staff salaries, consultants, buying blighted homes and businesses, etc. - all before a spade has hit the ground.

Chris Grayling, the current Transport Minister, is on record as continuing to give his full support to HS2, thus dashing hopes that the new Government would thoroughly review all projects especially in view of the Brexit vote.

National and local press stories continue to emphasise the escalating costs of the project, to highlight its impact on local communities and to question its economic viability.

Locally, issues still need pursuing with HS2 Ltd. and StAG continues to be in negotiation on their plans for this area. The topic will be on the next Parish Council meeting agenda, following the full discussion on 8 September (see minutes on the village website). It is clear that the community will need to maintain links for the foreseeable future. If any News reader is prepared to help with the ongoing campaign, please contact Martin Smith architect_smith@yahoo.co.uk or 024 7669 0906.

Margaret Wallis

on behalf of the
Stoneleigh Action Group (against HS2)

Operation Christmas Child.

‘A small shoebox can have a big impact.’



This year we have collected over 36 shoe boxes from the village via the church to be sent to children throughout the world. If you missed the collection date you can still take your shoe boxes to the Kings Table in Kenilworth between the 1st and 18th November. Thank you.

Sarah Ballinger



Flying the Flag at Christmas

For many years now, I have “flown the flag” around Christmas time to offer Christmas greetings between friends and neighbours instead of sending or delivering 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 my gatepost when the flag is flying. In return, those joining in give a donation for the selected charity. Last year, the wonderful total of £885 was sent to the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance.

I have supported the WNAA for many years and, this year, I propose to divide donations between Myton Hospice and the Addington Fund. We are all familiar with the superb work of the Myton Hospices but I am also particularly impressed with the Addington Fund which, although set up to combat the personal disasters suffered by farmers after foot and mouth disease, continues to help many, many rural folk who are in need. The floods in the North West last Christmas, for example, generated many calls for help of all sorts.

If you wish to take part this year please send your contributions (cash, or cheques payable to “Myton Hospice” **or** “The Addington Fund”) to Robin Bussell at The Oaks, Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, CV8 3DH - and before 18th November, please, to meet the next S & A News deadline. The flag will be flying over the weekend of 16th /18th December.

“Thank You”

Robin Bussell





STONELEIGH WI REPORT

Members were invited to bring items to be valued at our Antiques Road Show on 3rd October. Unfortunately the speaker did not arrive and the President invited members to talk about their items and the reasons they had chosen to bring them. Although the meeting was not what members were expecting, it proved to be very enjoyable.

During October members of the Craft Group sampled a variety of craft skills. They made mosaic pot stands and plant pots with the help of member Yvonne Brown. On 17th October another member, Rhona Robbins gave a demonstration of beading for Christmas and on 31st October there was a demonstration of applique techniques.

On 5th October the Leigh Group of WIs held a fashion show at Baginton Village Hall. The clothes were provided by Wanda's Fashions of Dunchurch and modelled by members of Baginton WI.

On 21st October there was an outing to the Spa Centre to see Cole Porter's Kiss me Kate. There was another theatre trip on 28th October to see Fallen Angels by Noel Coward at the Priory Theatre.

The next Village Lunch will be on 1st November in the Village Hall. The menu will be beef casserole and apple tart. If you wish to reserve a place please ring Liz Sykes on 02476418301. The next Coffee Morning will be on 15th November in the Village Club.

The next meeting will be on 7th November and will be our AGM.

Rachel Gill

J.L.Huthwaite



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Coffee Morning

All proceeds to
**Stoneleigh Church and Flower
Fund**

Thursday 1st December at 10.30am

To be held at **Stoneleigh Village Hall**

Cake stall Raffle Christmas Table

All Donations greatly appreciated

Everyone Welcome - Please do come along



Stoneleigh Church Building News

The Contractors are half way through their 21 week contract. They report that works are progressing well and they are working to programme.

Masonry work defrassing, re-pointing and replacing stone work has virtually been completed on the tower but is continuing on the East end and on the North and South walls. So far as replacement is concerned the specified Courshill stonework has been cut at the Quarry, finished in Croft's own workshop, delivered to the site and then carefully hoisted, piece by piece, up to the relevant level and then fixed in place.

The majority of the scaffolding canopy roof over the nave is now in place but the portion nearest the East side of the Tower could not be erected until the Tower scaffolding was reduced to below nave roof level on that side.

Work has begun on stripping the nave roof in the area protected from the elements by the canopy. The underlying felt type cover has also been stripped off to reveal Chipboard decking which is being torn away by hand together with the very thin layer of glassfibre insulation, then bagged up and dropped outside to the ground to be carted away.

The internal "birdcage" scaffolding has now been completed. Protective sheeting and boarding over the pews has been finalised and the top working area of the scaffold is also boarded over. The debris mentioned above is being removed from outside so that as the ceiling boards are stripped from inside there is little or no debris to fall down. Defective plaster on the interior walls has been identified for removal and replacement before redecoration.

As to the Fundraising Appeal I am becoming less pessimistic since I last reported a shortfall in the region of £60,000. Not only have we the splendid result of Sheila Woolf's talk but we have heard from Congregational & General Charitable Trust, which has just agreed to send us £10,000 and our own Almshouse Trustees have voted to contribute £20,000 to the Appeal.

Ian Smith

Community Report

I am pleased to tell you that we have managed to arrange the open morning I talked about in last month's update. This is on the 26th November, see below for further details. At this 'Restoration Workshop' you will be about to find out what is going on whilst the building is closed by talking to Kevin, the Foreman, and watch a demonstration of their specialist skills. During this time the Village Club will also be open for hot drinks and cakes, provided by Jane and her team along with hot soup which Jim has kindly offered to provide for us. Whilst you are enjoying your refreshments there will be an opportunity to see a photographic display of the work at higher level which is out of access to the general public.

The work on the Website and the new guides for the church is progressing and we are grateful to the History Society who are helping us with the research.



A big thank you to Sheila Woolf who gave her really interesting talk on 'The Importance of Stoneleigh in the Writings of Jane Austen' and Jane Taylor and her team for the supper they served on the evening. It was a sell out and raised £1040 for the Restoration Fund.

Sarah Ballinger

Restoration Workshop at Stoneleigh Church on

Saturday 26th November

10 am – 2pm

Find out what is going on whilst the building is closed.

Come and talk to the skilled craftsmen about the restoration project at our church, see a demonstration of the specialist skills required.



This event will take place in the Churchyard with a display of photographs and refreshment available at the Village Club.

Church Contacts

Vicar: Revd Sharon Goble 01608 682282 or 07799220407

Churchwardens at Ashow:

Stephen Harvey 01926 852543. Kate Jones, 01926 853511

Deputy Church Wardens:

David Holt 01926 859537. Robert Burdett 01926 852545

Church Wardens at Stoneleigh:

Ian Smith 01926 853238. Sarah Ballinger 02476 715256

Deputy Church Wardens:

Stephen Palmer 02475 014457. Richard Ashley 01926 427729

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

Office Hours Wednesday 9.00 am to 12.00, Thursdays 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

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.

The December/January 2016-17 edition will be compiled by

Lucy Morris

Email: lucyandphil@metronet.co.uk

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

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2016

Tuesday 1st	8.00 pm -9.00 pm	Remembering loved ones who have died in the Leigh Chapel
Sunday 6th	10.00 am	All Saints United Holy Communion Service at Ashow
Thursday 10th	10.30 am	Holy Communion Service in the Leigh Chapel

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 13th	9.30 am	Remembrance Service at Ashow
	10.55 am	Remembrance Service at Stoneleigh Village Hall
Sunday 20th	9.30 am	Holy Communion Service at Ashow
	11.00 am	Fellowship Holy Communion at Stoneleigh Club
Thursday 24th	10.30 am	Holy Communion Service in the Leigh Chapel
Sunday 27th	11.00 am	Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh Village Hall
	4.00 pm	Advent Carol Service at Ashow

From the registers

Baptisms

Elsa Phoebe Dimambro— Sunday 26th October – at Ashow Church