STONELEIGH & ASHOW



SEPTEMBER 2017



"The Heart of Stoneleigh" Defibrillator

In the phone box on The Green

Coordinator

David Ellwood 07785 284482 Text if no reply

Trained Volunteers

John Churchley	07885 496795
Becki Coombe	07841 378404
Laura Elliot	07738 222969
David Ellwood	07785 284482
Richard Hancox	07770 826310
lan Huston	07974 237331
Sharron McEldowney	07760 101775
Claire Neale	07557 675842
Lisa Reay	07716 416320
Martin Smith	07958 955629
Mary Taylor	07890 535506

Remember: Always ring 999 first!



Film Night

Friday 8th September in Stoneleigh Village Hall 6.45 for 7pm

This month we are showing: **'Sully** - Miracle on the Hudson'

On January 15, 2009, the world witnessed the "Miracle on the Hudson" when Captain "Sully" Sullenberger glided his disabled plane onto the frigid waters of the Hudson River, saving the lives of all 155 aboard.

However, even as Sully was being heralded by the public and the media for his unprecedented feat of aviation skill, an investigation was unfolding that threatened to destroy his reputation and his career...

Starring Tom Hanks and directed by Clint Eastwood.

Make yourself feel at home, bring your own wine, cushions or a comfy chair. Coffee and cake in the interval.

Tickets: £3.00, to cover refreshments and room hire. To reserve a place please call Sarah: 07977513794 or email <u>sarahjballinger@gmail.com</u>

Treasurer (still) wanted

After many years of serving as Treasurer for the *Stoneleigh & Ashow News,* Clive Watson plans to resign at the end of the year.

Duties mainly involve dealing with Warwick Print and with occasional advertisers, and handling voluntary contributions.

If any reader wishes to serve the local community in this way please contact Clive for further information. 024 76441 1658 or CTW66@me.com

Harry Bodenham - Bell ringer

Bob Taylor

In June, the Stoneleigh bell ringers raised a glass to fellow team mate and former tower captain Harry Bodenham.

A BBQ was held in his honour to celebrate his achievement of 70 years of dedicated ringing alongside his 86th birthday!

Harry started learning the ropes at the age of 16 in June 1947 at All Saints in Warwick. Harry had to have a break from ringing to complete his National Service in North Africa where he was famed for his architectural skills.

He went on to ring at St. Mary's in Warwick and in 1990 he joined St. Mary's in Stoneleigh where he is still an active member of the band.

Over the years, Harry has successfully rung four peals. He has taught and instructed numerous ringers - new and old.

Today Harry enjoys his Thursday night bell practices and Sunday services where he can be found leading the ringing up and down of the bells. He encourages the new learners with their understanding of counting places and gives out his valuable advice where required.

Stoneleigh bell ringers past and present wish him the very best and thank him for his immense contribution to their tower over the past 27 years.

Three cheers for Harry!



Another brilliant Summer Serenade

Margaret Wallis



The sun shone brightly for the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir's 'Summer Serenade', held on 2nd July at a lovely new venue - the walled garden at Stoneleigh Abbey, permission kindly given by the residents (one of whom, choir member Alan Whitfield, having had the brilliant idea to suggest it). Another change from previous events was that tables and chairs were hired rather than being loaned by residents and valiantly collected, erected and returned by members of the choir.

The choir, with their musical director, Alan Biddle, and conductor, Judy Hadfield, treated the audience to a selection of songs, including Al Jolson Greats. The Stoneleigh Ladies Choir, conducted by Karen Whyte sang a set in the first half, and in the second the soprano, Victoria Wilson, accompanied by David Mason, enchanted everyone as she moved between the tables sharing some of her favourite songs. Both choirs and the soloist joined together for a rousing finale - a Jesus Christ Superstar medley.

The highly successful raffle was held and a cheque for £2000 was presented by Phil Jones to Anne Croff from Waverley Day Centre in Kenilworth (now known as Waverley). This continues the choir's long and laudable history of charitable giving to local causes.

Huge thanks go to all who made this such an enjoyable event. In addition to the musical contributions, Keith Walker and his team at the bar, the salmon sandwich makers, food and drink purchasers and servers, donors of raffle prizes/purchasers of tickets, and The Outdoor Staging Company who ran the sound system. And thanks again to the Abbey residents. Let's hope they are prepared to have us back next year!

Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir

Philip Jones (Chairman)

On behalf of the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir I would like to thank everyone who helped to make our Summer Serenade such a marvellous success. Both participants and members of the audience alike were thrilled to be in the Walled Garden and everything went according to plan, apart from a few minor glitches which we shall hopefully put right for next year.

Many thanks to the Ladies Choir, Victoria Wilson and David Mason who were our guest artists. We had visitors from as far afield as Australia and Brunei, plus some of our French hosts from the joint ladies and men's choir visit to Bourg la Reine near Paris in late April. We were also delighted to see one of our former members Bill Whatmore and his wife Jana visiting from America.

Thank you once again for your support in raising ± 2000 for the Waverley Centre in Kenilworth.

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Forthcoming events

Philip Jones (Chairman)

Sept. 16th - Concert at St Mary's Church, Cubbington.

Oct. 20th - Joint Concert with the Stoneleigh Ladies Choir in aid of cancer research at St. Francis Catholic Church, Kenilworth.

Nov. $\mathbf{20}^{th}\,$ - Concert at Walton Church near Wellesbourne in aid of the Addington Fund.

Dec. 6th/7th - Carol Concerts at Stoneleigh Abbey.

Tickets for any of the above events are available from any choir member or myself. I can be contacted on 01926 853511

Potential grants for the under-25s

Margaret Wallis & Sheila Woolf (Stoneleigh's LEF trustees)

Just as this edition of the News is being delivered, several readers are facing the prospect of a new school/university year. Increasing university costs, uniform and equipment fees mean that many young people are facing daunting financial challenges. Help may be at hand!

The 300 year old Leigh Educational Foundation exists to provide financial assistance to under 25s who are normally resident in the parish. Details can be found at www.leigheducationalfoundation.org.uk

The deadline for applications is 31 October prior to our meeting on 21 November. Our other meetings will be held in February, May and August 2018, with deadlines the last day of the preceding month. Remember the old saying: "If you don't ask you don't get", and consider making an application.

Seasoned local firewood for sale





Seasoned firewood, suitable for log burners and open fires for sale.

£70 for a cubic metre bag (bag not included). Various lengths and widths available.

Contact Denise on 07528376442

Will Blagburn, 21st October 1929 - 29th July 2017 "The Gentleman of Stoneleigh"



On August 15th, a gloriously sunny day, Stoneleigh Church was full as we gathered to say a fond farewell to Will Blagburn, and to give thanks for his life.

Will was born in 1929 and had a difficult start in life when his father was killed in the Coventry Blitz of 1940; he attended King Henry VIII School in Coventry before spending his professional life working for Laxons the wholesalers, and Thompsons, both well-known businesses in the city. A committed Christadelphian, he demonstrated his faith in many practical ways, not least in becoming a trustee of the Bethany Guild; many conversations were held after the funeral service about his quiet thoughtfulness in helping others.

As a young man, Will enjoyed hitchhiking and climbing in the Lake District and Switzerland with rucksack and small tent, later driving his motorcycle to the South of France. This love of travel continued throughout his married life with Nora.

Continued..

Will and Nora came to Stoneleigh in August 1960, just five years after they were married, having noticed that houses were being built in what was to become Stoneleigh Close. Their house was the second to be completed and occupied, its plot chosen because of its large size, so that they could grow fruit and vegetables. In the years since then they have been at the centre of so many of Stoneleigh's social events, as well as campaigning against the many threats to the village, such as the airport.

Will was quietly determined and persistent when it came to village matters. He was meticulous in seeking out the flaws in planners' proposals, in particular when it came to road planning and housing issues. District, county and parish councillors alike could sometimes be left without an answer to Will's penetrating questions!

Many of us knew Will through his photography, as he so often captured the very best of our scenic village in his carefully-composed pictures. Perhaps most of all, however, Will was a keen observer of people, who enjoyed documenting the fun they were having on occasions such as the Jubilee or the Millennium. Both he and Nora loved children, and as well as the joy brought by their own family, they both found delight in entertaining the young in the village.

Married to Nora for more than 62 years, Will was first and foremost a devoted husband, father and grandfather, and it was particularly special that in his final illness he was able to hold his first great-grandchild. He will be very greatly missed by his family, but also by so many of us here in Stoneleigh.

Sheila Woolf

Nora and her family thank everyone for the outpouring of love and sympathy with so many beautiful cards, prayers, messages and offers of help. It is a real support at this sad time. Thank you to everyone for the generous donations amounting to £800.00 for Myton Hospice Warwick where Will spent his last few days.



The meeting on 3rd July was a quiz night, followed by a fish and chip supper. We were pleased to hear that the President, Chris Ward, is making good progress after her recent stay in hospital.

On 6th July, the lunch club enjoyed a meal at the Malt Shovel in Barston.

Following the afternoon tea on 11^{th} June, we have received a letter of thanks for the donation of £400 made to Zoë's Place.

There was a coach visit to the village of Eyam in Derbyshire on 31st August, during the 'well dressing'. Eyam Hall is a Jacobean manor house within a walled garden. It belonged to the Wright family for 11 generations, but now belongs to the National Trust. There is a craft centre in the



grounds, and the Plague Museum tells the story of the Plague in Eyam, which lasted for 14 months in 1665-66.

The next village lunch will be on Tuesday 5th September in the Village Hall. Please phone Liz Sykes (024 7641 8301) to book a place. The next coffee morning will be in the village club on Tuesday 19th September at 10.30am.



There will be a Harvest Supper in the Village Hall on Friday 29th September at 7pm, all are welcome. Tickets are available from Liz Sykes and will be on sale at the village lunch on the 5th September. Tickets are £8.50.

At our next meeting on the 4th September, Paula Cornwell will give a talk entitled 'Mind your motoring manners.'



Stoneleigh Community Orchard Update

Pete Freeman



As a follow up to the group's AGM & EGM in May, work relating to the formation of a "Community Interest Company" has been handed over to accountants Wallace Crooke, and we will provide updates on how this is progressing in later editions.

The harvest normally commences during the third and the last week of September and continues throughout October and sometimes even into early November. Work normally occurs at weekends. This year we hope to provide

demonstrations of the harvest and pressing process, so all are welcome to attend the picking and observe the process.

At the picking events we had intended to move the apples from the field to 5 Church Lane using donkeys belonging to one of our members, Laura Eliot. On reflection we have abandoned this plan not only for health and safety reasons but to avoid the possibility of finding our harvest en-route to Stratford as they "take off" down the road!





This year will see some product experimentation, as the orchard seems to have produced for the first time an abundance of Perry Pears so encouraged by this we will start to produce a test Perry. This will be a totally new experience as it involves a different processing method and chemistry.

Further experimentation will also occur when an attempt will be made to undertake a process called "keeving". This is a way of making the ultimate style of naturally sweet

sparkling cider and is an artisan process that is largely confined to the Normandy region of France where it is produces 'cidre bouché'.

Interestingly many of the instructions received relating to this process are written in French which should provide an excellent opportunity to brush up on some translation skills acquired courtesy of ex-villager Dominic Benedetti's French language classes at the village hall several years back.

For those interested in attending the popular Orchard Quiz then this is currently planned for Saturday October 21st starting 19:30 in the Stoneleigh Village Club.

Orchard friends subscriptions and yearly renewals cost £10 and these 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



Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing together over 2,500 organisations, 5,000 events and 40,000 volunteers. Every year for four days in September, places across the country throw open their doors to celebrate their heritage and history. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences - and it's all FREE.

As part of this event, Stoneleigh church will be open between 10am - 4pm from the 7th to the 10th of September.

We will be serving refreshments on the Saturday afternoon. There will be the opportunity to visit the Stoneleigh History Society exhibition in the Leigh Chapel and explore the church using the newly produced guides for all ages.





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HS2 UPDATE

Margaret Wallis, on behalf of the Stoneleigh Action Group (against HS2)

During the summer there has been no let up in the criticism of HS2 by media outlets and official bodies. This criticism has not only emphasised the escalating costs of the project and examples of the inadequacies of HS2 Ltd. but the impact on residents and businesses along the route. As an example, when details of the route of Phase 2 (north of Birmingham) were announced there was particular outrage at the fact that much of a newly-built housing development near Sheffield would have to be demolished; apparently old maps of the area were used. Even at the eleventh hour, there is very little hope that the project will be abandoned, despite all the adverse publicity and the pleas to the Government to cancel this (and other hugely expensive projects) and to divert funds to areas of public funding where disastrous cuts have been made.

Locally there has not only been a plethora of announcements about HS2 but other developments which will impact on us all. (Please see the Parish Council's report in this edition, page 18). There is considerable concern about the way in which these various plans will affect traffic in particular. Overall, there is consternation that more attention is being paid by HS2 Ltd. to the fate of newts than of humans!

Anthony Bianco and Margaret Wallis represented the Parish Council at a meeting organised by Warwickshire County Council and Warwick District Council on 28 June at which Gareth Epps, the newly-appointed HS2 Construction Commissioner, explained how he plans to operate, dealing with any problems residents and councils may encounter once building begins. It is important to realise that it will be WCC and WDC who will be expected to sort out traffic problems! Copies of the notes from this meeting are attached to minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 26 July (see their website).

Becki Coombe represented the Parish Council at a briefing meeting on 6 July at which the criteria for applications to the HS2 Community & Environment Fund were explained; discussions are ongoing about possible ways in which this can be accessed by our villages.

Unfortunately, it is clear from developments over the summer that the problems emanating from the HS2 project will continue for the foreseeable future.

Stoneleigh Village Club



Events for September

Bingo: Wednesday the 6th and 20th

Knit and Natter: Wednesday the 13th and 27th

Saturday 16th September: Race night at the Club In aid of Zoë's Place Baby Hospice, who provide palliative, respite and end of life care to babies and infants.

The Social Committee would like to thank all those who helped to make the Duck Race Day so successful. There are too many to name, but thank you all - it was a really great day.



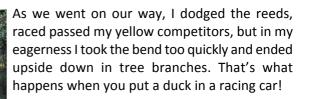
Stoneleigh Duck Race and Summer Fair:

<u>A duck's-eye report</u> Helen the Celebrity Duck (as told to Bernice Evans)

The sun shone over Stoneleigh for the annual duck race and village fair.

At the start line I jostled for position with hundreds of other

ducks, for this high tension race. After weeks of training, I hoped this year would be my year. We'd had a little more rain than last year, so the going was good.



Lucky I was rescued by a nice chap in a canoe.

By the time I was back in the race, it was all over. The winning duck had been plucked from the water at the finish line.

Well done my fellow ducks, and see you again next year!

A Resounding Success

Mike Evans

A full 2 hours and 40 minutes of bell-ringing throughout the Stoneleigh Village Fair left these bellringers tired but happy.

A big thank you from all of us who attended the fair - although we couldn't see you, the echoing bells were a perfect backdrop to the day.



Photo: Sarah Ballinger





Parish Council News

Sarah Windridge - Parish Clerk

The Parish Council invited Officers from Warwickshire County Council to the July meeting to present and answer questions on planned highway improvements near to Stoneleigh and Ashow. A full report is available on the Parish Council website.



A traffic survey is due to be carried out in Stoneleigh in order to assess any traffic issues in the village. Mr Adrian Hart from WCC will attend the November meeting to report the findings of the survey.

Mrs Susan Bridges and Mr Alex Esslemont attended the Parish Council meeting in July to give the Parish Council an update on the latest HS2 news. The enabling works contractor Laing O'Rourke Construction and J. Murphy & Sons have started work preparing the line of the route for the main contractors. Work started so far includes: building great crested newt fencing; the creation of two ponds; planting new habitats and a small parcel of woodland. The process will require the use of some machinery, which will be used off road, on private land owned by HS2.

The next stage will be the 'enabling works', which surveys will determine. There are 50 packages of work in total, examples of which include demolition work in Stoneleigh Park and removing knot weed.

HS2 Ltd. will be returning to a Parish Council meeting later in the year with their traffic experts to discuss proposed traffic measures planned by HS2 Ltd.

Parish Council Notes

Sarah Windridge - Parish Clerk

The Parish Council are pleased to report that Sarah Williams and Martyn Foster have been co-opted onto the Parish Council to represent Ashow ward. Both have been invited to the September meeting to sign the Declaration and join the Council. We look forward to working with them.

Meetings

The <u>September</u> Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 7th September at 7.00pm. Colin Hooper, the Estates Manager at Stoneleigh Park, will be attending to give a presentation on the proposed relocation of the Farmer's Market at Stoneleigh Park.

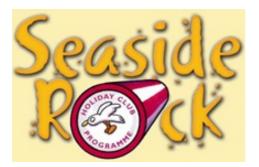
The <u>October</u> Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at Ashow Village Club on Thursday 12th October at 7.00pm.

The <u>November</u> Ordinary Council meeting will be held at Stoneleigh Village Hall on Thursday 9th November at 7.00pm. Mr Adrian Hart from WCC will be attending to discuss the results of the recent traffic survey in Stoneleigh.

Members of the public are invited to attend all meetings. The agenda, including upcoming planning applications, can be found on the Parish Council website at http://stoneleighashowparishcouncil.btck.co.uk/

Parish Council Vacancy

The Parish Council currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor to represent Stoneleigh Ward. If you feel that you can put something back into the community, the Parish Council would love to hear from you. If you are interested or wish to know more about this position, please contact the Chairman, Richard Hancox, on 07770 826310 or email <u>richard.hancox@kier.co.uk</u>



Holiday Club

31st July – 4th August 2017

The seaside came to Stoneleigh for this year's Holiday Club, and so did lots of youngsters, with a record 40 registering to take part. Not all could attend every day, but there were always plenty of participants to fill the teams for the various activities on offer. What better way to learn about it than to hear from one of those young people, so our thanks to Sophie for this report:

STONELEIGH CHURCH 'STONELEIGH ON SEA SUMMER CAMP'

When we first arrived at the door on the first day we got put into groups Jellyfish, Crabs or Seagulls and made hats with a jellyfish, crab or seagull. The jellyfish had ribbon coming down from it for the tentacles and some of the crab hats had legs.



We had loads of fun activities and crafts like putting crushed chalk into a little cross shape. Drawing what we had for breakfast on a paper plate and writing a prayer on to the back of it saying thank you for what we have for breakfast every day.

Continued...

Every day we had singing time, dancing time, and a story. We had a theme song that we sang called Seaside Rock. When we were dancing we followed Weely Wise, and then we followed Frankly Foolish (who were Sharon and Chris). There was a different person telling the story every day. The story that was told was about Jesus' disciple friend Peter.

Weely Wise and Frankly Foolish did a weather check and Weely Wise wore appropriate clothes but Frankly Foolish wore silly clothes. Then they did a beach clear up. There were three buckets and a paintbrush.

We had a selection of fruit every day. We had melon, orange, apple, grapes, blueberries, pineapple and banana.

Every day we played team games. We had to put a snorkel on, and then we had to put a flipper on and hold a shark, and run around the end, take off the flipper and put our shoe back on and run to the start. Then the next person went and you carry on. The first team to finish got 100 points, second place got 75 and third got 50 points. We played loads of different kind of relay games.

We had loads of fun in the holiday club. We thank everyone for helping with the holiday club. Seagulls won with the most points, Crabs came second and Jellyfish came third. We all got a stick of rock at the end.

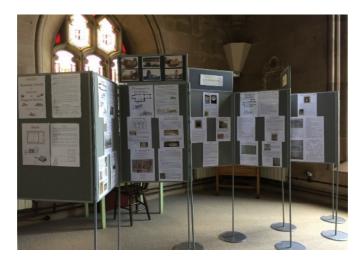
By Sophie Cousins (age 10)

Many of those involved also participated in the service at church on the following Sunday morning, so that the congregation could hear some of the songs, watch the dancing, and hear about the stories and activities. It was a fitting and fun last service for Sharon, who has been the inspiration for the Holiday Club since she joined us.

Maggie Moorhouse

Stoneleigh History Society

Sheila Woolf



It was good to see a number of visitors to our exhibition in the church on Duck Race day. Our displays will remain there for the time being so do go along and see them. On Saturday 9th September we shall be on hand there once again for the Heritage Weekend (see page 14).

Our September 26th meeting will be at the village hall as usual at 7.30pm, but has a change of subject: instead of Shirley Ball talking about Stoneleigh School, Pete James will give one of his popular talks on industrial history, this time looking at the decline of local industries. Shirley's talk has merely been postponed until next year.

We continue our project to write about the lives of those who are buried in our churchyard, and their stories so far can be found by going to: <u>www.stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk</u> and clicking on Burial Database. If you would like to share any information about ancestors laid to rest at Stoneleigh, please contact Lisa Reay on <u>lisareay@btinternet.com</u> / 07716 416320.

Articles wanted

As *The Stoneleigh and Ashow News* is produced in the form of a booklet, the number of pages are multiples of four. This means that sometimes we have little bits of space which needs to be filled. Do you have a favourite recipe to share, or any gardening or DIY tips? Perhaps you have items that you would like to advertise as "Free to a good home"? (Please note we can't guarantee we will use the articles, it will be space permitting.) Please email next month's editor with any contributions (below). Items will

be included at the discretion of the editor.

This month's edition of **Stoneleigh and Ashow News** was compiled by **Mike and Bernice Evans**, who would like to thank all contributors, and to Lucy Morris for taking the time to show us the ropes. It was printed by Warwick Print.

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

The September 2017 edition will be compiled by

Lisa Reay

lisareay@btinternet.com

Craigton, Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh CV8 3DJ 024 7669 7037 Copy deadline: 18th September 2017

All copy should be sent to the editor's email address (above).

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

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

Cover Photograph

A happy girl rides on one of the exhibits at the Stoneleigh Village Summer Fair. Image used with permission.



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



SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

Sunday 3 rd	10.00am	United Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 10 th	9.30am	Holy Communion Service at Ashow
	11.00am	All Age Worship at Stoneleigh
Thursday 14 th	10.30am	Midweek Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 17 th	9.30am	Holy Communion Service at Ashow
	11.00am	Fellowship Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Sunday 24 th	9.30am	Harvest Festival Service at Ashow
	11.00am	Harvest Festival Service at Stoneleigh
		with speaker Ian Bell from the Addington Fund

From September, midweek Communion will take place once a month on the second Thursday

From the Registers - Weddings

Friday 21st July - Daniel George Hankinson to Georgina Frances Pratt at Ashow Friday 4th August - Nathan Jonathan Williams to Sarah Kathryn Witts at Stoneleigh

Funerals

Thursday 8th June – Cecil Leslie White (Cec)- Funeral Service at Stoneleigh Sunday 22nd June – Lena Crocket – Funeral Service at Stoneleigh Sunday 2nd July – Kathleen de la Pole – Interment of remains at Stoneleigh Thursday 20th July – Lena Crockett - Interment of remains at Stoneleigh Tuesday 15th August - William James Blagburn- Funeral Service and Burial at Stoneleigh

Contacts:

For pastoral care or to arrange a baptism, wedding or a funeral, please contact:Ashow Churchwarden:Kate Jones, 01926 853511,Stoneleigh Churchwardens:Sarah Ballinger 02476 715256Gordon Gatward 02476 690746

For any other matter please contact the Parish Administrator, Jackie Cubitt, 02476 415506 email: <u>admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk</u> website: <u>www.stoneleighchurch.co.uk</u> Office hours: Wednesday 9.00am to 12.00pm; Thursdays 9.00am to 1.00pm