

Stoneleigh & Ashow News



February 2019



“The Heart of Stoneleigh” Defibrillator
In the phone box on The Green.

Co-ordinator

David Ellwood 07785 284482
Text, if no reply.

Trained Volunteers

John Churchley	07885 496795
Becki Coombe	07841 378404
Laura Elliott	07738 222969
David Ellwood	07785 284482
Richard Hancox	07770 826310
Ian 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.

HS2 UPDATE

Coverage of HS2 in the national and specialist press has continued unabated over the holiday season and beyond. Extensive attention was paid to the suggestion by several senior politicians that costs need to be considered more carefully and the idea has also been mooted that other issues (the NHS, social care and so on) should take priority and the project should be scrapped. That these points were made amidst the feverish climate of decisions over Brexit has raised the hopes of those who have long campaigned for an end to HS2.

There has also been widespread publicity (including in an edition of 'Panorama') to the injustices and inconsistencies of mitigation and individual compensation for businesses and individuals along the route. Some politicians and HS2 Ltd. have argued that the cost issue can be solved by reducing speed, the number of trains running, number of passengers, number of tunnels, type of materials used and so on, thus negating the original arguments in favour of the railway by seriously weakening the original business case.

Locally, there has been little further clarification about timing and impact. Early in January, the Parish Council and the History Society were somewhat surprised to be invited to give interviews to a consultancy, 'The Decorators', hired by HS2 Ltd. to consider the history of the areas through which the route passes, and also the impact on the area of 'the 1981 tornado' (Does any News reader remember that?). Anthony Bianco and Sheila Woolf attended these interviews. Apparently the idea is that travellers on the train will be able to listen to podcasts about the area through which they are passing. So much for the priorities of HS2 Ltd.!

The Parish Council has drafted a list of ten points for action with/by HS2 Ltd and the works contractors during 2019; these are listed on the Parish Council website. See their report on page 18 of this edition of the News.

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



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



February is that time in the year when Christmas and New Year celebrations feel like a long and distant memory, yet the warmth and long days of Spring still feel a long way off. The cold, damp, dark days can seem to be never-ending and we begin to wonder if Winter will ever end.

In the church year we celebrate the festival of Candlemas on February 2nd. It marks the midpoint of winter, so if you are reading this after February 2nd you can be reassured that we are more than half way through the dark season.

It is called Candlemas because it was traditionally the day the church candles were blessed and, going back a long way in history, it also signalled the end of Christmas. Nowadays Christmas ends on January 6th and we tend not to bless the candles because we have electric lights, so candles do not have the same importance.

However we can still take some time, in this often difficult part of the year, to stop and give thanks for the tiny flickers of light in our everyday lives.

We can stop and notice the earliest signs of Spring in the snowdrops, in the first buds on the otherwise bare trees or those first brave migrant birds who begin to show up in preparation for their breeding season.

In our personal lives, no matter how difficult or challenging they can often be, we can stop and notice those people and events that make it a little easier. Not least the fact we do now have electric lights, running water and central in most of our homes.

So as we wait for Winter to end and Spring to spring let us all take some time to be thankful for the small things that remind us that the Winter season of both creation and our lives does always come to an end and the warm sun and lighter days do eventually arrive.

If you can join us to celebrate the festival of Candlemas it will be at Ashow Church 9:30am on Sunday February 3rd.

May the God of light bless you and your family.

Rev Nikki

Baby and Toddler Group – Stoneleigh Church

Drop in for free play, a story and refreshments and an opportunity to meet other carers.

Tuesday February 26th 10 am to 12 noon

Tuesday March 26th 10 am to 12 noon

Contact Rev Nikki (07891012660) for further information.



Please remember The Village Hall is now on Facebook.

Stoneleigh History Society

Our November meeting was a talk by Mike Sharpe on the various ways in which family history could be researched and presented. Members were given some good ideas to take away.

Our Christmas Social was a very pleasant occasion and gave us the opportunity to chat, share ideas and make plans for the future.

No meeting was held in January but our February meeting will be a talk by Stuart Green. Stuart and his family used to live in Stoneleigh, and he will be talking about his father Alan's time in Bomber Command during World War Two. No doubt it will be a fascinating talk, and it will be lovely to see Stuart again in Stoneleigh; he would very much like to meet up again with old family friends, and so visitors are more than welcome. We meet, as usual, at 7.30pm in the village hall, on Tuesday February 26th.

I am delighted to say that we have sold all 300 of the 2019 calendars. Thank you to all who have supported us! We shall be presenting a cheque to Myton Hospice in the near future; details in the March issue.

New members are always welcome to join our thriving society. Our programme for 2019 is a good one. Details of the programme, and how to join, can be obtained from the society's website www.stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk or by coming along in February!

Sheila Woolf

This month's front cover:
Heart
quilled by Audie Taylor

Stoneleigh Village Club

Est. 1856

www.facebook.com/stoneleighvillageclub
stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com



Do you receive our fortnightly member emails? If not, please email stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com so we can put this right!

MONTHLY EVENTS

(Remember to also check our Facebook page & our outside noticeboard!)

Mondays	8.30pm	Darts Team
Tuesdays	8.30pm	Pool Team
Weds: 13th & 27th	7.30pm	Bingo
Weds: 6th & 20th	7.00pm	Knit and Natter
Thursdays	7.30pm	Crib & Dominoes (check fixture list for location)
Thursdays 14/2 & 14/3	7.45pm	Book Club (to review at 8pm)
Tuesdays 19/2 & 19/3	10.30-12	Coffee Morning

To find out more about any of the above, simply visit on the evening, or email your question to us: stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

(Remember to also check our Facebook page & our outside noticeboard!)

@KenilworthCops drop in Police Surgeries Sundays 17th Feb, 24th March
2-3pm

You can also email our Safer Neighbourhood Team:

wre.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

First Duck Race Planning Meeting Monday 4th March 7pm
*** please note the Duck Race will not go ahead unless multiple persons support the organising ***

Pancake Race and Tasting! Monday 5th March 7pm

**Wear your best apron and trainers and bring your cleanest frying pan...
and £1 coins!!**

☺ STONELEIGH VILLAGE CLUB WELCOMES NON-MEMBERS TO
SIGN IN FOR £1 PER VISIT ☺

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Stoneleigh WI

The January meeting was well attended and enjoyed by all who attended. The speaker Trevor Langley, spoke entertainingly and knowledgeably about Warwick. He has also offered to take us on a walk around Warwick later in the year.

The visit to the distillery in Shipston on Stour and the pottery proved to be very popular and provided a number of Christmas presents all made locally.

Next month we look forward to the talk/entertainment by Steve 'Ely' Allen entitled A Musical History Trip. Everyone is welcome – it's at 7:30 at the village hall on Monday March 4th. We look forward to seeing you there.

The annual skittles evening is on February 14th at Leek Wootton. This is a very pleasant social evening with keen competition. The evening does include a hot supper. This is open to all.

The craft group meets every Monday morning in the village hall from 9:30 onwards. There are demonstrations and projects that they support – the current one is to make covers for incubators for the maternity unit. There is also an art group and many of those who attend had never painted before – their results are quite remarkable.

Village lunch – this is now on Tuesday January 29th at the usual time of 12:30pm. Please let me know if you wish to attend – or you're unable to if you've put your name down for it. There will be no lunch in February. In March we return to the first Tuesday of the month – the 5th of March.

Coffee morning as usual on the 3rd Tuesday at the club starting 10:30am. Come and have a natter – everyone is welcome.

Liz Sykes

02476 418301

Did you attend Stoneleigh School in the 1960s or 1970s? I would love to hear your stories about your time there, for a forthcoming book on the history of the school.

If you attended even earlier, in the 1940s or 1950s, I would still like to hear from you!

If you can help, please contact me on 02476 418759 or email shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you,
Sheila Woolf

Harry - a Proud Equestrian

Our October 2018 issue included an item, contributed by Liz Sykes, which highlighted that young Harry Horton-Barr, then aged 12 years, with his team of North Warwickshire Pony Club, had qualified for the 2018 Horse of the Year Show to be held in October at the NEC Birmingham. Harry's grand-parents live in Stoneleigh and Harry keeps his pony in the fields off the Birmingham Road. Liz's article drew attention to the team's efforts to raise the necessary funds towards the expenses of participating in the week-long event.

A reader suggested to Harry and his family, that he might like to write about his experiences at the show. The following is his report:

After qualifying for the HOYS (Horse of the Year Show) at the end of August it was a whirlwind of fundraising and training up until the big week.

Myself, Bo Crump, Alex Mallalieu, Isla Holman-West, Kate Tuttiett & Sam Pipkin made up the North Warwickshire team and as we had to do additional training with our ponies Pappy, Gunner, Splash, Casper, Nikki & Denny, we hired an indoor arena at Moreton Morrell College. We could play loud music and get people cheering in the stands to get the ponies used to the atmosphere we would be facing when we arrived at the NEC. We also had new races to learn as a team; the races are all relay and even include a couple of fancy dress races too, which make it exciting for the crowds!

The last time the North Warwickshire pony club team qualified for HOYS was back in 2001 so the branch were extremely excited to be heading back after such a long time.

We arrived at the NEC on the Monday because we had to get the camp and stables all set up as there is an award throughout the week for stable tidiness and our team turnout. It is marked on one day by the Household Calvary, which we won, and overall we were 2nd in the stable cup where the points are added up for the duration of the show.

The ponies have to be vetted on site to check they are fit to compete and all the riders weighed to make sure we are not too big for our ponies.

Six teams across the country qualify for the show, this year we competed against teams from Oakley Hunt West, West Hants, Romney Marsh, Atherstone Hunt and the Morpeth Hunt.

The competition at HOYS has two separate competitions - the first one is the Pony Club Cup which we competed for over the Wednesday and Thursday sessions. It was a tight competition with Oakley and West Hants finishing equal first and we were just behind for a respectable 3rd place! We did manage a session win though, which was great to be presented with, in the spotlight.

We then started to compete for the Prince Philip Cup; all teams taking part in four sessions of races and then the top four highest scoring teams head into the final (double points) on the Sunday night. This was a really tight competition and it went down to the very last race in the final session to decide which teams were in the final! Luckily we won that final session and we made the final.

Through to the final were West Hants, Atherstone Hunt, Oakley Hunt West and ourselves! It was a fast and furious final with double points on offer; it was all to play for. After battling it out over another seven races, the overall winners were the West Hants- they had been really consistent all week, followed in 2nd by the Atherstone Hunt and then in equal 3rd, us and Oakley Hunt West! The crowds were screaming with excitement, cheering us on. We have never experienced anything like it. It is definitely something we will all never forget and our amazing ponies behaved impeccably all week.

We are so grateful for all the support and donations we received; all of which went towards our amazing matching kit, team colours and matching rugs for our ponies and made us look super smart all week.

As a team we all agreed it was the best week of our lives and we have made friends for life within our team and with the members of other teams.



Well done Harry! Harry is now 13 years of age and may compete in Pony Club events, in future years, until the age of fifteen.

Photograph courtesy of
1stclassimages

Stoneleigh Community Orchard CIC – seeking website developer

The Stoneleigh Community Orchard Community Interest Company is looking for a volunteer to design and build its website. The purpose of the website is to provide information to the public on Stoneleigh Orchard's different apple and pear varieties, the process of making cider and perry, how to buy Orchard products and Orchard events. It will also inform people on how they can get involved and become an Orchard Friend to support the investment required to develop this amenity for the benefit of the village and the local community.

We are looking for a volunteer with an interest in helping the local Community; perhaps a student or someone with a little website development experience looking for a project to add to their Portfolio.

For more information, please contact:

**Quentin Compton-Bishop at
stoneleighborchard@btinternet.com.**

Wilf Swan, a former resident of Ashow, who ran the Ashow Club with his wife, Annis, passed away on January 4th.

The funeral will be held at Ashow Church, with a burial, on February 6th at 12.30.

“Thank You”

I am very pleased to report that, following my “Flag Flying” at Christmas, I have sent £636 to Myton Hospice and wish to offer (on behalf of Myton) my sincere thanks to everyone who contributed and wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2019.

Robin Bussell

Note from the Treasurer!



This time last year our little Stoneleigh & Ashow News magazine was in danger of going out of existence within the next two or three years due to increased printing costs and lack of funds.

However, thanks to the excellent response of residents in Stoneleigh & Ashow, our finances are now in a much healthier position! I received so many encouraging emails and notes from residents who wanted to say how important they thought the S&A News was for both villages and for them personally.

This has been very rewarding for all of us volunteers who produce and distribute the newsletter, but of course, we have to hope that many residents will continue to support our efforts or we will soon be back where we were! Printing costs continue to increase!

If you are able, and would be willing, to set up an annual direct debit as a voluntary contribution to S&A News that would be most welcome, and would make fewer banking trips to Leamington for me! (Typically, amounts are about £10 or £12 per year).

Our account details are;

A/C No: 63535718 Sort: 60-12-35

Ref: *Please use your name as reference*

However, if you prefer to send a donation directly to me, please use:

Dr Bill Crofts,

North Lodge, Coventry Road, Stoneleigh, CV8 3DT

We will be happy to receive whatever you can give in whatever way you prefer to give it. Thanks and best wishes for 2019!

Bill

Film Night



On our next film night, we will be showing:

The Post

Directed by Steven Spielberg

Nominated for many awards including Best Motion Picture of the Year

Friday 8th March in Stoneleigh Village Hall at 6.45 for 7pm

Cast includes: Meryl Streep, Tom Hanks and Sarah Paulson

Based on a true story. Katharine Graham is the first female publisher of a major American newspaper – The Washington Post. With help from the editor Ben Bradlee, Graham races to catch up with The New York Times to expose a massive cover-up of government secrets that spans three decades and four U.S. presidents. Together, they must overcome their differences as they risk their careers to help bring long-buried truths to light.

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

Tickets: £3.00, to cover refreshments and room hire.
To reserve a place and a pastry call Jane on 01926858315

Dates for film nights in 2019:

March 8th May 10th

July 12th September 13th November 8th

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This month's edition of **Stoneleigh and Ashow News**
was compiled by **Jane Taylor**, 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 March 2019 edition will be compiled by
Sheila Woolf
shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk

Copy deadline: 18th February 2019

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

Advertisements at £40 (full page A5) or £20 (half page)
accepted at the editor's discretion, subject to S&A News policy.
Please note that advertisers should provide their own artwork.

Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir News

The Choir have been going through its busy season with concerts galore! Following on from the highly appreciated Armistice Commemoration, there were Carol Concerts in the Family Chapel at Stoneleigh Abbey 5th & 6th of December, put on by the Abbey itself. In the wonderful atmospheric setting a selection of Christmas songs, carols and readings was enjoyed by a capacity audience on both nights. The Choir opened with a rendition in Latin of “O Come All Ye Faithful” (Adeste fideles) with the audiences joining in after the first verse. The Choir sang a full and varied programme of seasonal music interspersed with the combined, massed voices of the audience and Choir for popular carols. The soloist Anna Bird rendered two lovely songs.

The audience excelled itself during a version of “The Twelve Days of Christmas”. They were divided into sections, each section singing a “day” from the song in a “stand up, sit down” interlude! It was not only “Lords” that were “a leaping” on both nights and there was fierce competition going on to get in “on cue”!

Choir Chairman, Phil Jones gave the traditional readings and the end Blessing in the absence, through illness, of the Stoneleigh Vicar, Reverend Doctor Nikki Moon, and Kate McCutcheon told a selection of Christmas related tales both amusing and touching. Her last piece was a story of the frontline troops during the First World War having an unofficial cease fire on Christmas Day and playing the German soldiers at football instead of trying to kill each other. It was not reported whether the Germans won on penalties! Sadly hostilities resumed the next day with sides exchanging horrendous artillery bombardments.

Immediately following Kate’s moving and splendid reading the Choir sang “Silent Night” in German as the lights were dimmed producing a most collection for LWS Night Shelter in Leamington, thanks to the generosity of our audiences, raised £650 which the Choir rounded up to £750.

For more on the work of LWS, a small local charity providing food and a safe environment for homeless and vulnerable people in the Leamington, Kenilworth and Warwick areas, can be found on its website: www.lwsnightshester.org.

The Choir would like to thank all those who attended for their support, Kate McCutcheon for her fine readings, our soloist Anna Bird for her sweet singing and the Staff of the Abbey for making it all possible. We hope Nikki and Liz Sykes (who was unable to read due to sickness) are now fully recovered.

Both the SMVC and Stoneleigh Ladies Choir contributed to the Christmas Carol Service in Stoneleigh Church on Sunday 16th December.

On 10th December we celebrated the 80th birthday of our Musical Director of 20 years standing, Alan Biddle, with a bit of a shindig in the Stoneleigh Village Hall. We are truly indebted to him for his leadership, professionalism and friendship. Happy Birthday again and thanks Alan.

Best Wishes as always from Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir.

Advanced Notice - Our March Concert "A Disney Fantasia" will be on Friday 22nd & Saturday 23rd @ 7.30 pm and a matinée @ 5.00 pm Sunday 24th March 2019. Catering by Top Nosh who will be providing a two course hot meal at the interval is included in your ticket price of £20.00 per person. Bring your own nibbles, glasses and liquid refreshments. On Thursday 21st @ 7.30 pm we open the doors to Senior Villagers of Stoneleigh who are welcome to come along enjoy the show and interval tea and biscuits without charge. Anyone who lives outside Stoneleigh is welcome to come along too for a mere £5.00 per head. Just let us know. Proceeds will be given to local charities. Come see all your favourite characters get involved in a tangled web of laughs and surprises! The ending puts The Mousetrap in the shade – well we like to think so!! Tickets now available from Phil Jones on 01926 853511 or by email: kathrynjoness@hotmail.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

The February Ordinary Council meeting will be held at Ashow Village Club on Thursday 14th February at 7pm. Members of the public are invited to attend all Parish Council meetings.

To view the full details of these and other meetings, including upcoming planning applications, please visit the Parish Council website:

<http://stoneleighshowparishcouncil.btck.co.uk/CouncilMeetings>

The Parish Council precept for the next financial year, April 2019 - March 2020 has been agreed at £16,980. This is a small increase on last year's figure. Full details of the accounts can be found in the December 2018 meeting minutes on the PC website.

The PC is very keen to progress with the Neighbourhood Plan for Stoneleigh & Ashow. A meeting to consider the next steps with the plan will be held in early February. Residents are encouraged to get involved with the plan, and if anyone would like to help the Parish Council with this, please contact us at:

stoneleighshowparishcouncil@gmail.com

We would love to hear from you.

At the last Parish Council meeting, held on January 10th, Raghu Sittambalam, Site Delivery Officer, and David Butler, Policy Manager, from Warwick District Council came along to introduce themselves and explain their role in taking forward developments in the local area. One of the key developments affecting the residents of Stoneleigh and Ashow is Kings Hill, which proposes to build 2,500 dwellings, as well as a community centre, primary school, secondary school and park. There are many issues with the proposed development that the Parish Council have raised with Warwick District Council, chief among these being the increased traffic that this will mean for the area. It has been agreed that there will be regular meetings between local councillors and representatives from WDC to examine how developments are being managed and provide updates on planning applications. The information from these meetings will be shared at Parish Council meetings.

Also during the January meeting, the Parish Council agreed a focus list of several points for action with HS2 and the works contractors during the coming months. The list can be found on the Parish Council website, in the minutes of the January meeting. If anyone wishes to add any issues to the list, please contact the Parish Clerk or Cllr Bianco.

At the meeting in December, the PC was joined by Fiona Anderson, of Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action, who talked about a pilot project which is aiming to reduce social isolation within the rural areas of Warwick District. The Rural Life project is aiming to find out about issues which people living in rural communities may have which leave them feeling isolated. This could include lack of groups or activities, or the ability to travel into towns to use services. The project can help with setting up clubs, making connections with other services, or looking at ways of finding funding. More information about this project can be found on the Warwickshire CAVA website: www.wcava.org.uk.

The PC meeting in November welcomed representatives from HS2 to provide an update on the rail development. Lots of issues were discussed during the meeting, and details can be found in the meeting minutes on the PC website, along with a copy of the presentation given by HS2.

Also at the November meeting, Councillors were very keen to express their enjoyment of the event held to commemorate the anniversary of the end of WW1. The Parish Council acknowledged the efforts made by everyone involved, and with particular note to Ms Woolf, and would like to thank everyone for such a wonderful event.

Hannah Watts, Parish Clerk

Donations from the village lunches and coffee mornings raised £250 which was sent to **Crisis In Coventry** towards their Christmas appeal for the homeless. Thank you, Liz



The United Benefice of
The Assumption of our Lady, Ashow
and
St Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh



SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday 3 rd	10.00 am United Holy Communion at Ashow
Sunday 10 th	9.30 am Holy Communion at Ashow 11.00 am All Age Worship at Stoneleigh
Wednesday 13 th	10.30 am Midweek Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 17 th	9.30 am Holy Communion at Ashow 11.00 am Fellowship Holy Communion at Stoneleigh
Sunday 24 th	9.30 am Village Service at Ashow 11.00 am Sung Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh

From the Registers

Funerals

Tuesday 4th December – Diane Phillips – Interment of Ashes at Ashow
Thursday 20th December – Jill Foster – Funeral Service at Stoneleigh
Friday 21st December – Doreen Hunter – Funeral Service at Stoneleigh
Wednesday 9th January – Iris Donachie – Funeral Service at Stoneleigh
Saturday 12th January – Mary White – Interment of Ashes at Stoneleigh

Contacts:

For Pastoral Care or to arrange a baptism, wedding or a funeral,
please contact:

Reverend Nikki Moon 07891 012660 email njmoon@outlook.com

Please note that Revd Nikki works from Sunday to Wednesday

Churchwardens :

Ashow: Vacancy

Stoneleigh: June Burr 02476 227726 Gordon Gatward 01926 512528

Deputy Warden: Richard Ashley 01926 427729

For any other matter please contact the Parish Administrator,
Jackie Cubitt, 02476 415506 email: admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk
website: www.stoneleighchurch.co.uk

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