

STONELEIGH & ASHOW NEWS



Ashow Church

JUNE 2020



The Butterfly Month





"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
Laura Elliot	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!

Please Note

Many societies and other groups are inactive due to coronavirus restrictions, so understandably they don't have anything to report at the moment.

Hence, you may find the odd thing that I've added in here for interest whilst we're waiting to get back to some sort of normal.

Ed



Message from the Clerk to Stoneleigh & Ashow Parish Council

Please be aware that the recently distributed leaflet about the closure of Birmingham Road was not from myself or the Parish Council. It has been produced and circulated by a concerned resident. The Parish Council are currently considering the best way forward to engage with all local residents in a fair and appropriate way, taking account of the difficult circumstances presented by COVID19 which limits our ability to hold face-to-face discussions on the matter. Information about this can be found on the minutes of the Parish Council meetings, which are available on the PC website. (<http://stoneleighashowparishcouncil.btck.co.uk>)

Hannah Watts, Clerk to the Parish Council
stoneleighashowparishcouncil@gmail.com

Companies in Covid-19 Crumble!!

It is with great sadness that I have to mention the loss of a few companies as a result of Covid-19.

A local bra manufacturer has gone bust, a submarine company has gone under, a manufacturer of food blenders has gone into liquidation, a dog kennels has had to call in the retrievers, and a company supplying paper for origami enthusiasts has folded. Inter-Flora is pruning its business and Dyno-Rod has gone down the drain.

Saddest of all is the ice cream van man found covered in nuts and raspberry sauce. He couldn't take it any more and topped himself!

Ed



(A post by Debbie Dann on the Stoneleigh Facebook Page)

Not directly COVID-19 related but something to bring a bit of a smile in these strange times. One of the White Park cows that live in the fields near the Showground during the summer calved this morning and much to our surprise she presented us with twins! One boy and one girl, both of them are doing well and they'll be out in the fields by Stare Bridge very soon.

Ed

Warwick District Council Press Release

Friday 1 May

Weekly Update from the Leader and Chief Executive

Warwick District Council

Dear Friends,

Tributes this week to the frontline workers who have sadly lost their fight against coronavirus, highlight the selfless sacrifices being made to keep us safe and ensure our daily lives continue.

While we don't yet know the true cost of this pandemic, we can already see that it will be considerable and far reaching, touching the lives of every resident, today and in the future. Lives lost to the virus can be counted, but the true loss will never properly be measured.

Others lost because of the economic impact of this virus will be more difficult to count, but no less painful to bear.

We recognise that Warwick District Council was established to provide high quality public services. Every part of our organisation is straining to help diminish the pain that so many in our community are bearing.

All our resources are being deployed, so whatever pain you may be bearing during this difficult and testing time, you are not alone - your Council is doing all that it can to help you, your business and your communities. We have dedicated all our assets, our staff and our finances to this end. We are in this fight together.

Warwick District Council Press Release Continued

Financial choices

We want to be clear that your Council, like so many families, businesses and community organisations across the district, has some tough financial choices ahead. In a nutshell, each year it costs some £19M to provide this Council's core services, with around half being funded from your Council Tax and the balance coming from charges, fees and other income generating activities.

The financial impact of this emergency on your Council is projected to be some £4M this year and while Government grants of £1.46M are helpful, we are now forced to deploy our existing financial resources to meet immediate needs. To be clear, on this basis it will not be Westminster that is picking up the bill for this Council's proactive response to the coronavirus emergency, it will be you, not just in this financial year, but for many years to come.

Warwick District Council Press Release Continued

Investing in the recovery

We recognise that Warwick District Council plays a key role in the local economy and must now step-up to provide further support for the Recovery phase, which we will do by:

- Paying £27M so far, in 2,100 grants to hard hit local businesses across the district.
- Launching a £250K Emergency Grant Fund scheme to help support community organisations, which are experiencing short-term financial hardship or adapting their services in response to the emergency. (More details to be announced shortly).
- Fast-tracking capital investment in local housing, infrastructure and community projects, by taking advantage of the Council's prudential borrowing capacity.

In addition, later this month you will receive a revised Council Tax bill, which reverses and refunds the Climate Action Fund precept. This new bill also allows us to provide for those already in receipt of Council Tax support and who may become eligible, with an extra £150 in further relief. Information for residents who are struggling to pay their Council Tax can be found at [**https://www.gov.uk/apply-council-tax-reduction**](https://www.gov.uk/apply-council-tax-reduction).

Warwick District Council Press Release Continued

Getting on with it

Most Council services continue, albeit in a different way.

- The Bereavement Services team are amongst the most affected by the ongoing coronavirus emergency. With social distancing restrictions allowing no more than six mourners to attend a funeral, it has been the staff based at Oakley Wood Crematorium who have been helping residents who are unable to give their loved-ones the service or arrangements they wanted. Now thanks to the work of the Council's IT Services, guest Wi-Fi has been installed at Oakley Wood, allowing those unable to attend a cremation service to view the funeral online.
- The Shielding Hub team shared a video this week (see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1h7G11D-J4s&feature=youtu.be>) which gives a first-hand view of the great work being done by our staff, sharing responsibility for this vital service with colleagues from county council, voluntary organisations and local businesses providing support for our most vulnerable residents.
- The ICT team continue assisting hundreds of our Council officers working remotely online. Efforts are now focusing on enabling our Councillors to attend committees and key meetings online, so timely decisions can be made and council business progressed as before.

Warwick District Council Press Release Continued

Thank you

We were delighted to receive this thank you letter from the Government, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-letter-to-town-and-parish-councils>

sent to our Town and Parish Councils recognising all that they are doing, often behind the scenes. It is humbling to witness the many personal sacrifices and selfless acts being made for the benefit of others across the district.

Finally, one year since this Council was elected, we'd like to pay tribute to the efforts of all political groups to come together and work for the common good. While this was not the year we'd envisaged, through our collaborations a shared vision has been fostered which will no doubt serve our community well in the future.

Cllr Andrew Day

Chris Elliott

Leader

Chief Executive

Warwick District Council

Warwick District Council

The Media Room – Warwick District Council

T. 01926 456069 | M. 07920 535163 | E.

media@warwickdc.gov.uk

Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill,
Royal Leamington Spa, CV32 5HZ. www.warwickdc.gov.uk



If you are at a loose end during lockdown, please help us to fill shoe boxes for children this Christmas.

You could be knitting gloves, hats, and scarves.

You could also have a sort out and find unused toothbrushes, toothpaste, hair accessories, brushes, soap and face cloths, children's toy vehicles, soft toys, puzzles, small balls or small musical instruments.

For the home, tea towels, washing up cloths, small toiletries, make-up, utensils, clothes pegs, plastic utensils and small decorative items are also welcome.

"People say 'it's just a shoe box' but it isn't. It tells that child that someone, somewhere, has done this for them; someone cares about them."

Dave Cooke - Founder of Teams4U.

Each shoe box is given to a vulnerable child or family in Eastern Europe, bringing joy and excitement into an often bleak existence.

(For more information visit **www.teams4u.com**)

The collection of items and filling of boxes is happening all year round.

If you have any items to donate, or would like to cover and fill your own shoe box, contact Jane (01926 858315) and I will be happy to receive them.

Monetary donations are also most welcome to help cover expenses.

Donations can be made online as above.

Thank you.

STONELEIGH & ASHOW ORGANISATIONS 2020-21

The following people have kindly agreed to be the contacts and provide information about the organisations listed. Please contact Margaret Wallis* if there are any changes so that alterations can be notified in subsequent editions of the News. Some email addresses have been included (N.B. if anyone wishes to send a bulk mailing, please use the BCC facility). N.B. a hard copy of this list will be included as soon as we are able to provide a print edition again.

** Contact details included in enclosed list*

STONELEIGH & ASHOW ORGANISATIONS 2019-20

St. Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh and
The Assumption of Our Lady Ashow VACANCY
Priest in Charge

Church /Wardens Stoneleigh	June Burr 024 7622 7726 june.burr1@ntlworld.com Gordon Gatward 01926 512528 <u>gordon.gatward@ruserve.co.uk</u>
Ashow	Kate Jones 01926 853511/07910240453 kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk
Small Groups	Margaret Moorhouse 01926 511285 maggiemoorhouse@hotmail.com
Stoneleigh & Ashow Parish Council	Richard Hancox (Chair) 024 7669 3819 cllrrichardhancox@gmail.com Hannah Watts (Clerk to the PC) 01788890618 stoneleighashowparishcouncil@gmail.com
Stoneleigh & Ashow News	Margaret Wallis* 024 7641 4271 mswallis1@gmail.com
Stoneleigh Neighbourhood Watch	Tony Hanselman 024 7641 5060 t.ha1@gmail.com

Stoneleigh Village Club	024 7641 440 stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com
Stoneleigh Bell Ringers	Bob Taylor 024 7650 3712 bob-bob49@hotmail.com
Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir	Phil Jones (President) 01926 853511 Kathrynjones@hotmail.com Judy Hadfield (Conductor) 024 7641 4616 judyhadfield@hotmail.com
Stoneleigh Ladies Choir	Pat Wightman 07817 899097 patw1965@btinternet.com
Stoneleigh Village Hall & Playing Fields (+ Football & Cricket Clubs)	Joe Ball 024 7641 1315
Stoneleigh Village Hall Committee (+ Stoneleigh Handbell Ringers)	Lynne Fletcher 024 7641 7544 lynnejfletcher@gmail.com
Stoneleigh United Charities	John Astle 01926 850413 j.astle.sajpc@gmail.com
Stoneleigh Meadows Society	Robin Bussell 024 7641 6183 robin.bussell44@btinternet.com

Leigh Educational Foundation	James Johnson 01926 419300 johnson.jfm@gmail.com
Dame Alice Leigh's Almshouses	Stephen Palmer 02475 014457 Srpalmer7@sky.com
Stoneleigh WI	Liz Sykes 024 7641 8301 liz.sykes.t21@btinternet.com
Stoneleigh Community Orchard	Pete Freeman 024 7641 3893 Pete.Freeman@swft.nhs.uk
Stoneleigh Tennis Club	Helen Goddard 07769 950371 goddardmail@googlemail.com
Coventry Airport Consultative Committee	John Astle 01926 850413 j.astle.sajpc@gmail.com
Stoneleigh History Society (+ Village website)	Sheila Woolf shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk 024 7641 8759 www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk
Stoneleigh Action Group (against HS2)	Anthony Bianco 07721624241 BIANCOAA@aol.com
Ashow Neighbourhood Watch	Judith Clark 01926 859561 clarks24@btinternet.com
Ashow Village Club	Jane MacKenzie 07802 622557
Ashow Village Assembly	Emma Hardman 07740 355836 ashowvillageemails@gmail.com

Information from the Church Wardens

At the time of writing, our churches at Stoneleigh and Ashow are both closed on the direction of the Church of England, in line with government policy.

This is very sad for all of us who welcome the peace and serenity of these places of worship, together with the love and companionship of one another, but we have to comply with the regulations.

During the pandemic, the church wardens, helpfully assisted by our administrator Jackie, have tried to maintain contact by telephone with all of the congregation on a regular basis, to ensure that everybody is managing well in these difficult times. They have been very encouraged by the positive attitude of practically everybody they have spoken to and there is a wonderful spirit of love and companionship. Long may this continue once we return to normal.

We are extremely grateful to all members of the churchyard maintenance team who have managed to keep their social distancing whilst keeping the grounds in excellent condition during this period. Those of you who have been able to get out for walks will surely appreciate the great effort that has been made. In addition our thanks go to Clive and his team who have also been keeping an eye on the church itself to ensure that all is well.

You will be pleased to know that Rev. Nikki is making slow but steady progress on her road to recovery, and as well as helping out in the village where she lives is also assisting the chaplains at Warwick Hospital who are under a great deal of pressure at this time.

The APCM of both churches should have taken place by now but these have obviously been postponed and we are awaiting further instructions and guidance from the diocese. We are pleased to advise you that in the meantime all the existing officers and appointees are remaining in their posts (however reluctantly!).

June Burr & Gordon Gatward

Continued.....

A Pentecost Prayer:

We light a candle, and enjoy the flickering light ,
the fragrance and warmth it creates.
But without the spark that ignites,
there will be no flame.
Without the wax, the source of power,
the wick will not burn.
Without the flame,
there will be no fragrance, no warmth, no light.
And so with us, Lord.
You are the catalyst that ignites us,
and the fuel that sustains us.
You fill us with your fragrance as you enter our lives.
You empower us to carry your flame in our hearts,
to be the fragrance, warmth, and light of your love,
in this dark world.

For the Spirit of Peace
that calms our mind and stills our life,
we give you thanks.
For the Spirit of Love
that touches hearts and reaches out,
we give you thanks.
For the Spirit of Joy
that lifts our soul and gives us faith
we give you thanks.
For the Spirit of Power,
that gift of grace
we give you thanks.

For those filled with that Spirit,
for the love, generosity and kindness,
commitment and sacrifice shown during this crisis,
we give you thanks.

Based on a prayer by John Birch, 2016

HS2 Update

Preoccupation with COVID-19 notwithstanding, considerable media attention continues to be given to HS2, especially since the publication of the Public Accounts Committee report which was damning of both HS2 Ltd and H.M. Treasury. The argument rages that the money would be better spent on other things.

Despite these concerns, work on Phase 1 of the project has been stepped up, especially now that restrictions on construction work have been lifted, the challenges of ensuring social distancing notwithstanding. Objections to the work have not only taken verbal form. There have been several different sites (Crackley Wood being one such) where there have been stand offs between demonstrators, HS2 security staff and the police, with many unpleasant scenes being recorded.

Stoneleigh & Ashow Parish Council representatives and StAG were involved in a virtual site meeting about local work, held on 23 April. The policy throughout has been to attempt to engage constructively with HS2 Ltd and their representatives. Quite a challenge! Concerns have been expressed about removal of vegetation as well as aspects of the building work, not least the siting of the entrance to the construction site and increased projections of traffic movements which are far in excess of those originally cited. Experiences in this locality are repeated all along the projected route.

During lockdown traffic and associated noise has been noticeably less than usual, but in due course everyone will notice the effects of vegetation removal which will return us to the noise levels we endured decades ago. Noise from the work on the B4115 has already been increasing noticeably during the last part of May.

On 20 May, a virtual HS2 Forum meeting is scheduled held with Jeremy Wright, designed to share experiences and thoughts. Anthony Bianco will represent the Parish Council and StAG.

It is becoming increasingly clear that this area is going to face up many years of traffic chaos, noise and inconvenience! Not only are there HS2 works but construction around the new Stoneleigh Road/A46 roundabout plus works at the far end of the B4115 and on Dalehouse Lane, all of which will make access to and from the villages more difficult. The Parish Council/StAG continue to press our case with HS2 Ltd and all relevant bodies but – in common with other communities elsewhere - we seem a lone voice in the wilderness but that is not for want of trying! We are working 'way above our pay grade'!! If any reader would like to join our campaign please get in touch with Anthony Bianco on 07721644241 or BIANCOAA@aol.com

Margaret Wallis (on behalf of StAG against HS2)



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Stoneleigh WI

Like other groups we cannot meet until this dreadful virus is over. The members are missing the weekly craft group and the monthly meetings. However, many are busy sewing, knitting and crocheting for various charities.

We all look forward to meeting up again.

Liz Sykes

J.L.Huthwaite



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Stoneleigh Community Orchard CIC update

Pete Freeman

Over the last couple of months, as one week of “Lockdown” blurred into the next, it is with some irony - given the required regulations - that the numbers of visitors to our village, and particularly the orchard, seem to have increased markedly! There is little doubt that the fine weather has also encouraged this and, though there may be some concern over the increased possibility of introducing infection into the village, it is worth reminding ourselves that one of the founding principles of the orchard is to provide a community space where people can enjoy it as an amenity. As the blossoms have been particularly spectacular this year, and the orchard can be clearly seen by passing traffic, this will certainly have caught the eye of those passing through and possibly prompted them to visit.



Another observation is that the removal last March of a 300-metre stretch of barbed wire on the river embankment, has allowed folk to picnic beside the river. Amazingly, on some of the warmer days, some folk have even been encouraged to paddle in the shallows!

The benches under the “Victory Oak”, provided courtesy of Colin Rice and the Coventry Mummers, have provided a point to quietly contemplate, relax or simply take in the environment. In short, this is yet another objective that has been met by those associated with the orchard. Hence, the orchard’s role as a community resource, looks good for the future.

Continued.....

Recently, whilst being based at home during the lockdown, my time outside of normal work hours has largely been centred on boxing up cider. This is, of course, our primary means of funding. Last year's crop was relatively small, amounting to a volume of around 300 litres, which didn't compare favourably with the harvest of 2018 that amounted to some 800 litres. Given these constraints, combined with the popularity of the product, we soon expect to run out of cider! Prices for our 5 Litre boxes are £20 for non-Orchard group members and £16 for Orchard group members.

Let us hope that the magnificent orchard blossoms that we have had this Spring will act as a good omen that the harvest of 2020 will surpass the record crop of 2018!

Finally, during these difficult times, I hope that some of the images I've provided may act as a reminder of Spring, elevate the spirits and allow us to look forward to better times ahead.

Orchard Friends' subscriptions and yearly renewals for 2020 will cost £10 and 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? If you wish to do so, please email Richard Hancox for bank details (see his email below).

Pete Freeman (Chairman), 5 Church Lane, Stoneleigh.

Pete.Freeman@swift.nhs.uk,

Richard Hancox (Treasurer) Hancox,

Richard.Hancox@highwaysengland.co.uk



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Meetings

Because of the current social distancing requirements, there have been some changes with regards to Parish Council meetings. Until further notice, meetings will be held online, via Zoom. Residents are still welcome to join the Parish Council meeting, just email the Clerk at **stoneleighshowparishcouncil@gmail.com** to request a link. Please also note that all information relating to meetings will be on the website only for now. No information will be posted on the village notice boards.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, June 11th at 7pm.**

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

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

Following the cancellation of the April Parish Council meeting due to lockdown conditions, we were pleased that the May meeting was able to take place online. All Councillors, including those from the District and County, attended, along with some local residents. The technology worked really well and we were able to have a productive and interactive meeting.

The main area of discussion was the closure of the Birmingham Road. It was agreed that this will be a main agenda item for the next meeting when it will be decided how the Parish Council will progress with getting residents involved to agree exactly how this will be done. The key issue that remains is which part of Birmingham Road should be closed and the Parish Council is keen to engage with residents to reach a majority agreement. More information about this will be available following the June meeting.

Continued....

Parish Council notes continued..

The meeting also received a comprehensive update about the A46 Stoneleigh Junction development from Warwickshire County Council.

The unusual situation brought about by the lockdown and social distancing guidelines appear to have led to a small number of incidents in the parish where people have acted in ways that have required police intervention. The Parish Council were happy to see that these incidents were resolved, and hopefully, with restrictions beginning to ease, people will continue to follow government guidance about outside activities.

Minutes of the meeting are available on the Parish Council website.

Information about COVID19 is changing quickly, and we are keeping our Facebook page up to date with the latest developments. Don't forget to check out the **Parish Council website** which is regularly updated with local information such as road and traffic issues, HS2 updates and local consultations. It's a great way to find out what's going on locally and get involved. You can find us at:

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

You can also keep up to date by joining the Parish Council Facebook page.

Hannah Watts, Parish Clerk

UK Space Technology in the heart of Stoneleigh!!

Are you kidding! Well I don't want to worry you but there have been some funny things going on up the hill in North Lodge during weeks of lockdown!

Keep this to yourselves, but it's true!

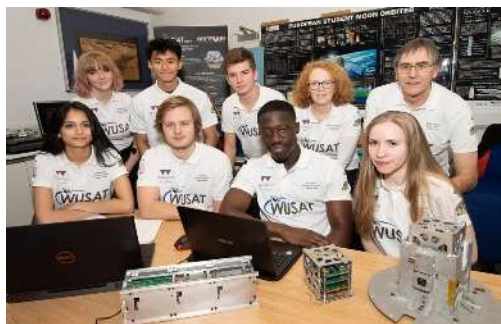
WUSAT-3 is being designed for launch to the International Space Station (ISS). From there it will be placed into a Low Earth Orbit where it will test a novel technology for tracking tagged wildlife from Space. The essence of the technology is that it doesn't use GPS (i.e. like a SatNav), and if successful, it will enable the use of smaller, lighter tags that will help



conservationists to track smaller animals that previously couldn't be tagged, so it will aid the cause of research to protect bio-diversity.

In the wider WUSAT programme, we are working with the University of Leicester to create a major UK Space Technology Hub that will support a Midlands consortium for *Advanced Manufacturing for Space Extreme Environment*.

The Warwick team currently developing WUSAT-3 are shown below.



So who would have thought it! Lots of preparation to re-launch Midlands Space Engineering post lockdown, and it's all happening in Stoneleigh!

One day, when this is all over, I'll arrange an interesting little talk and tell you all about the *Stoneleigh* satellite!

In the meantime, if a Saturn V launcher suddenly appears on the Village Hall car park, don't worry, it's all in a good cause! *Bill Crofts*

The Stoneleigh and Ashow News

The July/August edition will be compiled by

Lucy Morris

lubimorris@gmail.com

38 Priory Road, Kenilworth, CV8 1LL

Copy deadline: 18th June 2020

This month's edition was compiled by **Bill Crofts**

The online colour version is viewable at the Village website

www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk

Placing an Ad in Stoneleigh and Ashow News!

Our page format size is A5, and our rates **per annum** are:

- Full Page (13 x 19cm) - £100 (10x copies)
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 - Which issues you want it to appear in.
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- Editors' reserve the right to edit all contributions.