Stoneleigh & Ashow News



December 2021 January 2022

"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 07596 276829
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!







e hope that you're enjoying reading this edition of the *Stoneleigh & Ashow News*. The *News* is emailed out to all local groups and societies, as well as being available on the Stoneleigh village website - http://www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk/.

We're mindful that not all Stoneleigh and Ashow residents are able to view the electronic *News*. If you are a friend or neighbour of someone who doesn't have online access, do please consider offering to print a copy for them or, if you have a laptop or tablet, load the *News* on to it and offer to pop round once a month so that they can read it. Of course, this has the added bonus of providing an opportunity for a catch-up and a cuppa!



This month's front cover **Christmas Candles** (Photo: Lucy Morris)

WCC Mobile Library Service

Nora Blagburn



id you know that, for anyone who enjoys reading, Warwickshire County Council offer a great free mobile library? Every three weeks on a Monday afternoon, Ray drives into Stoneleigh village car park in the Mobile Library van, bringing with him a selection of books to choose from, including fiction and non-fiction, hardbacks, paperbacks, large print, braille, talking books and children's books. There is no time limit and there are no fines for late returns.

Requests for books can be made directly to Ray when he visits. Alternatively, ring the very helpful person at Kenilworth Library on 01926 851031.

He'll be visiting next on Monday 13th December 2021 from 2.20pm to 2.45pm. Do bear in mind that he's only there for 25 minutes before he's off to the next village, residential home or nursery!

Please make use of this marvellous free service while we still have it. Don't let it go! USE IT OR LOSE IT!









Christmas Card
Delivery Service

Kenilworth, Leek Wootton, Hill Wootton, Stoneleigh & Ashow

Collections from late November

Kenilworth Books
GDT Automobiles
Steve Crowe Butchers

Farthing Gallery
Leves Lane Pharmacy

All Saints Church, Leek Wootton Stoneleigh Village Club Ashow Village Club

Last collection Friday 17th December

Only 25p



Saturday 4th, 11th & 18th December 9am – 3pm

Delivery from Sunday 20th December

Film Night is Back!

Friday 14th January 2022

6.45pm for a 7.00pm showing, Stoneleigh Village Hall

Tickets: £3.00 (to cover room hire and refreshments)

To reserve a place and a pastry, call Jane on 01926 858315 by Wednesday 12th January



The Secret Garden tells the story of Mary Lennox (Dixie Egerickx), a 10-year-old girl sent to live with her uncle Archibald Craven (Colin Firth), under the watchful eye of Mrs Medlock (Julie Walters), with only the household maid, Martha, for company. The film is set in 1940s England at Misselthwaite Manor, a remote country estate deep in the Yorkshire moors. Mary begins to uncover many family secrets, particularly after chancing upon her cousin Colin, who has been shut away unwell in a wing of the house. Whilst exploring the grounds of the manor, Mary discovers a wondrous garden and meets a local boy Dickon, who helps her fix stray dog Hector's injured leg using the garden's restorative powers. The three children adventure deep into the mysteries of the garden; a magical place that will change their lives forever.

Screened using our brand new sound system and projector!

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

Stoneleigh Community Orchard CIC Update

Pete Freeman

ith apple pressing concluded and the juice fermenting in tanks over the winter period, attention amongst board members has been focused towards how the orchard can be sustained and equipped for the next decade. Readers may recall that 2021 marks a decade since the orchard's creation. From experience, the only guarantee in life is that change will happen irrespective of opinion, and this, no doubt, will equally apply to the evolution of the orchard and its related processing.

Given this observation, the board has directed a lot of research into how similar local enterprises have developed in order to be informed of what challenges may lay ahead. This research has revealed some startling realities that show that Stoneleigh Orchard is relatively unique in Warwickshire in the way it operates. It seems that most of Warwickshire's cider producers receive apple juice pressed outside of the area from more traditional cider counties such as Herefordshire. The apple juice is then conveyed and received in large tankers for fermentation locally. One can only speculate as to what impact transporting juice in tankers has on the quality of the product, not to mention the impact on the carbon footprint (which is at the forefront of so much recent public discussion). From research, it also seems that the option to subcontract the processing of derived products also appears to be the first recourse of local producers.

On the face of it, this makes Stoneleigh cider a relative "one-off" for the county and this can be viewed very positively for its future. In a recent discussion with an established local cider producer, I mentioned our ever-increasing harvests and requisite scales of production. Our operation and circumstance was very familiar to that producer as something he had encountered a decade or so back; the advice was that we will have to grow ourselves in order to meet those volumes. Since shipping apples to Herefordshire seems as ridiculous as shipping tea to china, it seems, by deduction, that a challenge of scale will need to be addressed in-house in order to meet the volumes of apples harvested going forward.

Given the drive towards change, and as the pressures of scale start to mount, as a first step it makes sense for the Orchard to work more closely with the Meadows who own the land on which the orchard is located. With this in mind, I will shortly be taking up a position on the Meadows in addition to being on the board of the Orchard.

With the festive period almost upon us, the Orchard Group want to mention that we intend to run Twelfth Night wassailing celebrations this year, the date of which is subject to the preference of the Coventry Mummers around whom the event largely centres. Twelfth Night falls on Monday 17th January, according to the old Julian calendar, so there are two potential weekend dates of Saturday 15th January or Saturday 22nd for this celebration to occur. This date is yet to be confirmed, so keep an eye on the village noticeboard and website! The wassail procession will depart from outside Stoneleigh Village Club at 7.00pm and will then progress to the orchard, where the Mummers will present a play. The gathering will then make a great cacophony of noise so as to awake the trees and drive out malevolent spirits (towards HS2) before wassail readings occur at selected trees throughout the orchard. Refreshments will be provided and hopefully the weather will be kind on proceedings, so do participate and bring with your pots, pans and other things with which to make a noise!

Finally, on behalf of the Orchard board, I want to wish readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Orchard Friends' subscriptions and yearly renewals for 2022 for 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. Alternatively, why not become a long-term friend and set up a direct debit?

Contact: Pete Freeman (Chairman)

5 Church Lane, Stoneleigh petefreeman773@gmail.com

Richard Hancox (Treasurer)

richard.hancox@highwaysengland.co.uk

HS2 Update

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

esidents should have received notices direct from HS2 Ltd regarding planning road closures, restrictions and HS2-related work scheduled in our area in the near future. However, if recent incidents are anything to go by, we need to be aware that such notices do not necessarily bear any resemblance to reality! An example in the last month has been notice of the closure of Dalehouse Lane. Many of us altered our travel movements assuming that closure would be, as announced, early in the month but - no - notices later appeared saying the road would be closed from 22nd November to 5th December. Who knows what will happen? extremely annoying, adding to the general inconvenience to residents, to say nothing of the continued desecration of the local countryside and what seems perpetual chaos around us. There are also numerous unintended consequences of road alterations, e.g. the COVID vaccination centre has been moved back to Stoneleigh Park from the Ramada Inn, just as four-way traffic controls have been introduced at the Park entrance, causing delays and confusion.

Representations continue to be made to HS2 Ltd staff and our local contractors regarding local developments, including road closures. (See also the Parish Council report on page 12.)

As the News was being compiled, the Government announced its revised plans for transport, including HS2. The HS2 eastern leg (Nottingham to Leeds) has been scrapped and the Integrated Rail Plan proposes other measures for the Manchester to Leeds section than had been previously announced. This has far-reaching consequences for those private individuals, local councils and organisations who had made plans (or been forced to move house etc.) assuming that the project would go ahead. The original business case for HS2 has been seriously undermined. A huge political row has followed – not suitable for comment here. Meanwhile, the London to Birmingham section is deemed too far advanced to be cancelled now.

Somewhat surprisingly, there was little mention of HS2 during the recent Climate Change Conference in Glasgow.

Church Christmas Message

June, Gordon, Kate and Anne on behalf of everyone at Stoneleigh and Ashow Churches

t's almost impossible to believe that it's time to write our Christmas message again! After last Christmas, with some services in church, with social distancing in place, and with an outdoor carol service in the churchyard on a magical December evening, we then started the year in yet another lockdown, which was in force until early summer!

Things aren't yet back to normal. We are currently looking at three Cs:

- 1. **COVID** is still with us and is far from conquered, but science and vaccines have tamed it.
- 2. **Climate Change**, and how to tackle it, is now perhaps the major problem that the world faces.
- 3. **Christmas** the wondrous constant that gently reminds us that God is present and with us in all that we face.

Perhaps these three things can unite a troubled and frightened world.

This Christmas, we are back in church with Petrica, our new Priest in Charge, for all our services. Do join us, perhaps at one of the carol services, or bring your children and grandchildren to the crib service on the afternoon of Christmas Eve.

Ashow Church will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday 18th December at 10.00am. All offers of help would be appreciated.

We will be decorating the Christmas tree in Stoneleigh Church from 1.30pm onwards on Saturday 18th December. Do come and help. We have a lot of lovely decorations to put on it; enough for the whole village to help! It's fun and we would love to see you.

Wishing everyone a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year!



Stoneleigh WI

Liz Sykes

ovember has been a very busy month. The craft and produce morning in the hall was very successful, as well as the trip to Evesham Country Park and other ongoing activities.

We held the AGM at the beginning of the month, but unfortunately we were unable to appoint a new president. Marie, our acting president, has agreed to carry on in the interim.

The craft group continues to meet each Monday morning and has produced some lovely Christmas items. They also made poppies, with donations to the British Legion. The art group meets on Monday afternoons. Both groups meet in the village hall.

The Lunch Club met for the first time in October and welcomed one of our members who had moved into a home during COVID. It was good to see Shirley again.

The next lunch will take place on 1st December at Stoneleigh Golf Club. This will be a Christmas lunch, and we look forward to many members attending.

December: Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 1st Lunch at Stoneleigh Golf Club

Friday 3rd Traditional and contemporary wreaths workshop

Monday 6th Monthly meeting – a Surprise Christmas!

Wednesday 8th Book Club (The Unlikely Backpacker)

Friday 10th Craft and Produce Market

(see separate poster on page 16)

There are many activities to sample – do come and join us.



Poppy Appeal 2021

Kate & Philip Jones

or over 100 years, the poppy has been a symbol of remembrance and hope. That one small flower has transformed the lives of so many and continues to do so to this day.

This year's poppy appeal to date has raised over £2800, with one box still to be counted; an amazing sum.



A special thanks to those people who did the collections around the houses in Ashow and Stoneleigh, the venues which sold poppies, and the team of helpers who counted the money.

Every poppy sold counts and every donation you make matters.

Stoneleigh History Society

Sheila Woolf

ur October meeting was a very interesting one, when Dr Richard Churchley told us about the meanings behind the names of many of Warwickshire's pubs and hostelries. Many of us felt tempted to follow the trail!

In November, our meeting will be a members-only get-together, when we shall be showing the film of the "1000 Years of Stoneleigh" show, and celebrating some of the Society's achievements during the course of our 10 years in existence. Following the meeting, the film, which was recorded and edited for us by Bill Crofts, will be available to view on YouTube.

We look forward to our first meeting of 2022 on 25th January, fervently wishing that it will be a less COVID-troubled year! New members are always welcome to join us, and can do so by viewing our website at http://stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk/.

Parish Council Notes

Hannah Watts, Parish Clerk

stoneleighashowparishcouncil@gmail.com

Meetings

The next meeting will be held online via Zoom on **Thursday 9th December 2021**. The access link will be published on the website three days prior to the meeting. To view the details of this and other meetings, including upcoming planning applications, please visit the Parish Council (PC) website at http://www.stoneleighashowparishcouncil.co.uk.

At the PC meeting in November, we were joined by Paul Kinsella from Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and Darren Abberley from Aecom to talk about the proposed Stoneleigh Bypass. A copy of their presentation is available to view on the PC website. They confirmed that the bypass was still a number of years away and that timing was dependent on the completion of HS2 works in the area. Although the closure of Birmingham Road was not discussed in any detail, it was confirmed that WCC will shortly be undertaking traffic surveys in the area to understand the traffic flow prior to the road closure and how it changes once the road is closed.

Every few months, Warwickshire East Rural Forum Safer Neighbourhood Team (part of Warwickshire Police) hold a vote on local community safety priorities. The two options with the most votes are actioned. We have included a request for high visibility patrols to prevent and detect road-related offences on Birmingham Road, Stoneleigh.

Don't forget to check out the <u>Parish Council website</u>, 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 also keep up-to-date by following the PC Facebook page.

Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir News

Philip Jones, Chairman

he choir is rehearsing for the Rev Petrica Bistran's licensing as vicar of Stoneleigh and Ashow on 29th November in Stoneleigh Church. We are really looking forward to welcoming him.

We will also be performing a Christmas carol concert at Stoneleigh Abbey at 7.00pm on Wednesday 8th December in the Riding Stables. Tickets are on sale for £15 (to include a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie). Tickets are available from Philip Jones (kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk/01926 853511/07910 240453), any choir member or the ticket office at Stoneleigh Abbey.

The choir would like to wish all our supporters and friends a very happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.



Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir

Pat Wightman

here is some good news and not-so-good news to report. The not-so-good news is the that the Ladies' Choir will **not** now be singing at Walsgrave Hospital because all 'live' music at the hospital has been cancelled. As previously reported, the choir was looking at the possibility of a singalong carol evening on the playing fields behind the village. Permission was granted for this, but it was felt that there was insufficient time to organise it properly, so it has been put on hold until next year.

The good news is that the choir is going ahead with two hours of carols and Christmas music in Cannon Park Shopping Centre on Saturday 4th December from 11.00am to 1.00pm. In addition to this, the choir is awaiting confirmation to sing at the Christmas market in Talisman Square on Saturday 11th December. It is hoped that we will raise some money for charity at both venues.

Each year, the choir votes for a charity it would like to support; this year's vote went to the Trussell Trust, a charity which helps local people in crisis and which supports Warwickshire District Council's food banks in Kenilworth, Leamington Spa and Warwick.

At the end of November, we will take part in the licensing service at Stoneleigh Church to welcome the new vicar, Rev Petrica Bistran, to the parish of Stoneleigh and Ashow.

So, Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir has survived another year, with regular attendance by a good number of members. We hope that those members who have been sheltering will feel ready to return in the New Year.

We have a few vacancies, so if you know of anybody who is interested in joining the choir, they should contact our Secretary at sharronmced@gmail.com.



Calling All Singers!

Susan Spencer

Advent and Christmas at Ashow Church

This year, our Advent Carol Service will be on Sunday 5th December at 4.00pm. There will be one rehearsal for that service at Ashow Church on the previous Thursday evening, 2nd December at 7.00pm.

The Christmas Carol Service (complete with handbells) will be on Sunday 19th December at 4.00pm. Again, there will be one rehearsal for it on Thursday 16th December at 7.00pm.

If you are interested in singing, please drop me an email at pypesmill@gmail.com.

This year, as we hopefully return to more normal life patterns, we will be content to use the well-loved music choices from past years.





books. bric-a-brac. Christmas wreaths. decorations & other Christmas treats

Tea & coffee £1 Cake £1

Stoneleigh Village Hall, 10am to 12 noon

Friday 10th December 2021

Everyone welcome! Sit and en joy meeting your friends.

Stoneleigh Village Club Update

www.facebook.com/stoneleighvillageclub stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com Est 1856

fter a rollercoaster twelve months which saw us closed last Christmas, we are looking forward to welcoming members, members' families and friends to the club for the festive season.

But first, an update on October's events. The Saturday quiz was a great success, with our quiz masters, Tracy and Dave Brown, testing the knowledge of the eight participating teams across a number of rounds including music, sport and even Stoneleigh's history. It was a great occasion and everyone enjoyed the quiz and supper. It was lovely to see the club buzzing once again. Thanks to Jim and Karen for keeping everyone's drinks charged, and especially to Tracy and Dave for hosting the quiz. The picture below shows the teams recovering after an intense round of questions!



On Saturday 30th October, we hosted a members' children's Halloween fancy dress party. The 30-or-so children who attended played traditional Halloween games, the dangling doughnut-eating contest being a favourite. Prizes were awarded for best costume and best carved pumpkin.



In the evening, the adults indulged in some karaoke singing, with many accomplished performances. Here are some of the Stoneleigh ladies belting out a bit of Tina Turner. All in all, a lot of fun.



Christmas Is Coming

The club is busy planning for Christmas. We will formally switch on the Christmas lights inside and outside the club on Friday 3rd December at 7.00pm, with the usual countdown.

The date for the club members' children's party is still to be confirmed. It will most likely be on a Sunday in early December from 3.00pm to 5.00pm. We expect Santa to be in attendance, which is very exciting. Further details will follow in email correspondence to the membership.

As in previous years, we will be running a Christmas lottery whereby numbers (priced at £1 each) are purchased from a number grid located at the bar. The winning numbers will be drawn after the Christmas carol service on Sunday 19th December. First, second and third cash prizes will be handed out to the winning tickets, so please support us with your loose change at the bar.

Christmas Opening Hours

Christmas Eve, Friday 24 th December	4.00pm – 10.00pm
Christmas Day, Saturday 25 th December	11.00am – 1.00pm
Boxing Day, Sunday 26 th December	12.00pm – 6.00pm
Bank Holiday, Monday 27 th December*	12.00pm – 6.00pm
New Year's Eve, Saturday 31st December	3.00pm – 12.30am
New Year's Day, Sunday 1st January 2022	12.00pm – 6.00pm
All other days	Usual opening times

^{*} Note: The Mummers are planning to perform their play outside the club on the lunchtime of Monday 27th December. There may or may not be Morris men in attendance!

Beating those Post-Christmas Blues

In January, the club will be hosting the ever-popular Wassail festival in conjunction with the village cider orchard. More details on this ancient ritual will be sent out via email.

If you want to get in contact with the club or join, please email stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com.

May we take this opportunity to wish all of our members, their friends and families a very merry Christmas and an enjoyable New Year.

Your Club Committee

Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire CV8 3DH 024 7641 4440 Stoneleigh Village Club Ltd Registered in England No 8560869



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



Contacts

Ashow

Churchwardens: Kate Jones 01926 853511
Anne Gregory 01926 717084
Deputy Warden: Peter Shrimpton 01926 859404

arden. Feter Simmpton 01920 85940-

Stoneleigh

Churchwardens: June Burr 024 7622 7726 Gordon Gatward 01926 512528 Deputy Warden: Richard Ashley 01926 427729

Or please contact the Parish Administrator:

Jackie Cubbitt 024 7641 5506 admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk

Office hours: Wednesday 9.00am – 12.00pm, Thursday 9.00am – 1.00pm

Ashow: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12954/
Stoneleigh: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12964



From the Registers



Friday 5th November 2021

Robert Henderson Duckham (Bob) – funeral service at Stoneleigh

Monday 8th November 2021

Geoffrey Minion – funeral service followed by burial at Stoneleigh

Thursday 11th November 2021

Madeline Lucy White – funeral service followed by burial at Stoneleigh

This edition of **Stoneleigh and Ashow News**was compiled by **Lucy Morris**, who would like to thank all contributors.
The online colour version can be viewed at the village website

www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk.

The February 2022 edition will be compiled by Jane Taylor jane0891@yahoo.com
Copy deadline: 18th January 2022

We prefer digital A5 copy, but paper copy may also be submitted.

<u>Placing an advertisement in Stoneleigh & Ashow News</u> Our page format size is A5. Rates **per annum (10 editions)** are:

Full page (13 x 19cm) £100

£50
£25

Rates for advertising in a single edition are:

Full page	£40
Half page	£20
Quarter page	£10

How to create your advertisement

- Create an advertisement to match your chosen size (see above). We accept the following formats: Word, pdf, jpeg, png. Don't worry too much about exact dimensions; the editor can scale it, if required.
- Email your advertisement to the Treasurer at <u>bill.crofts@btinternet.com</u>, stating:
 - Size of advertisement that you would like
 - Number of editions in which you would like it to feature
- Deadline for entries is the 18th of the month prior to publication, i.e. 18th August for September's edition.
- Once received, you'll be invoiced according to your requirements and your ad will be placed with the editor(s) of your chosen editions.
- All advertisements are accepted at the editor's discretion, subject to S&A News policy. Editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.

Flying Christmas Greetings

Robin Bussell

For many years, friends and neighbours in and around Stoneleigh have made charity donations instead of sending local Christmas cards. Christmas greetings have been recorded in the *Stoneleigh & Ashow News*, with generous donations acknowledged by "flying the flag". Online publication of the *News*, pandemic restrictions and my less than razor-sharp memory have conspired, this year, to dampen response to this unique custom. I have, nonetheless, received donations for Myton Hospice, and these will be acknowledged when I fly the flag at The Oaks, Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh on 17th/19th December. In the meantime, I'm sure that all the usual contributors will wish to exchange Christmas greetings.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Mike and Pam Baker
Shirley and Ernie Ball
Nora Blagburn
Jayne Brooks
Margaret and Alan Brown
Jean and Robin Bussell
Quentin Compton-Bishop and
Sally Davies
Viv and Martin Cooper
Sue and Bill Crofts
Pete Freeman and Mandy Smith
Jim and Karen Gavin
Janet and David Gibson
Judy and Chris Hadfield
Ann Harris

Ted and Betty Hind
Ann Lowe and Jules Storer
Marian Murray
Janet and Richard Parham
Tim and Nicky Sawdon
Patrick Sawdon
Kim and Martin Smith
Liz Sykes
Jean and David Vaughan
Keith and Julie Walker
Margaret and Ken Wallis
Clive and Gill Watson
Simon and Julie White
Pete and Jan Whitehouse
Sheila Woolf



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



Services for December 2021 & January 2022 December 2021

Sunday 5 th	11.00am	United Holy Communion – Stoneleigh	
	4.00pm	Advent Carol Service – Ashow	
Sunday 12 th	9.30am	Holy Communion – Ashow	
	11.00am	Holy Communion – Stoneleigh	
Sunday 19th	4.00pm	Carol Service – Ashow	
	7.00pm	Carol Service – Stoneleigh	
Friday 24 th (Christmas Eve)			
	3.00pm	Crib Service – Stoneleigh	
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion – Stoneleigh	
Saturday 25 th (<i>Christmas Day</i>)			
	10.00am	Holy Communion – Ashow	
Sunday 26 th (<i>Boxing Day</i>)			
	10.00am	Holy Communion – Ashow	
January 2022			
Sunday 2 nd	10.00am	United Holy Communion – Ashow	
Sunday 9 th	9.30am	Holy Communion – Ashow (tbc)	
	11.00am	Holy Communion – Stoneleigh	
Sunday 16 th	11.00am	United Holy Communion – Stoneleigh	
Sunday 23 rd	9.30am	Village Service – Ashow	
	11.00am	Holy Communion – Stoneleigh	
Sunday 30 th	9.30am	Holy Communion – Ashow	
	11.00am	Holy Communion – Stoneleigh	