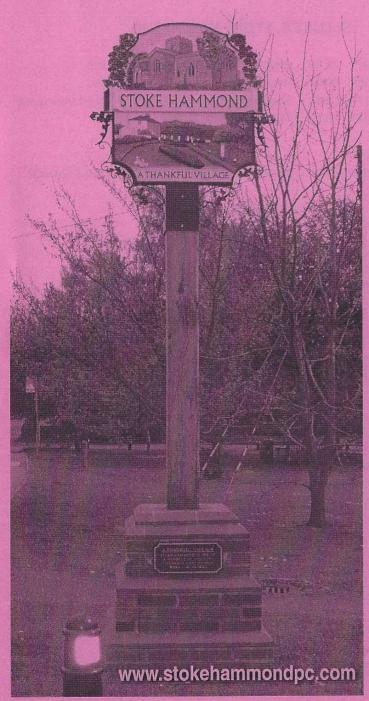
September 2017 Issue 9









#### St LUKE'S, STOKE HAMMOND

September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00	United Service at the Methodist Church
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	09.00	Holy Communion – Revd Steve Barnes
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	09.00	Holy Communion Harvest Service – Revd John Waller
September 24 <sup>th</sup>	09.00	Morning Worship – Jeremy Hopkinson

#### PLEASE ALSO NOTE THE FOLLOWING DATES FOR AFTERNOON TEA IN THE CHURCH

Sunday 24th September 15.00 - 17.00

Church Wardens:
Diane Webber 270409 and Harry Davies 01234-822780

#### **METHODIST SERVICES**

#### Revd Donna Broadbent-Kelly - 01525 240105

September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00	Harvest Festival Service led by Dr. Roger Owers
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	11.00	Service at Stewkley
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	11.00	Service – Revd Corina Shergold
September 24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00	Service – Revd Donna Broadbent-Kelly

#### **Coffee Mornings**

Wednesdays at 10.30 - 11.30 (contact 01525-270287)

#### **Date for your Diary**

Harvest Festival - Sunday 3rd September - 11.00

#### **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

With it being the holiday season, August has as expected been relatively quiet on the PC News front, although your PC and clerk do still have many things to do and deal with, which included the installation of the two new rubbish bins on the playground area to the



Community Centre. These should have been installed some few weeks ago but unfortunately the manufacturers were very slow in supplying replacement parts for items that were damaged on the first delivery. Fortunately, however, it would seem that the design of these bins has cured the repeated problem of rubbish being strewn around the



bins where crows and magpies had delved into the bins (take a look at the before and after pictures). Now all we need to do is make sure that AVDC's contractors manage the empty the bins, which they have failed to do now on two separate occasions, despite reminders from the PC.

Another piece of good news is that Transport for Bucks (TFB) have finally got around to doing something about the A4146 roundabout at Tommy's Carwash, and although as this report went to press, they were still working on the site. It is already evident that the resurfacing and other works that TFB have undertaken, would have seemed to have resolved the problem of the huge lake that always appears on the roundabout after any heavy rainfall, as there have since been several bouts of heavy rain and eureka no lake!

TFB have obviously decided that SH was overdue their consideration, as they have also attended to the layby by the canal on the Stoke Road. It may not be a very high standard of repair, but the crater sized potholes have now been filled and levelled, so one can now drive into and through this layby without the fear of losing one's car into a 'sink hole'.

Planning applications in Stoke Hammond have also been few and far between during the Summer, but the ones before us are as follows:

17/03005/APP Single storey side extension to no 4 Mount Pleasant.

17/02600/APP Removal of condition 4 of Planning Permission reference WG/413/72 regarding agricultural occupancy, Kings Farm, Leighton Road.

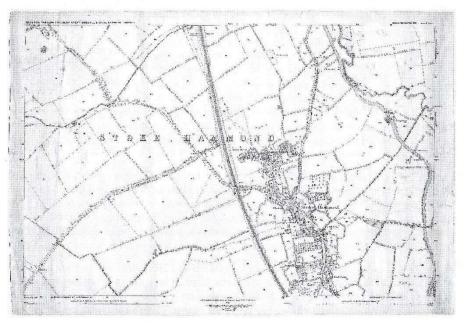
17/03093/APP Extension and raising of roof to existing garage to provide additional living accommodation to rear of ground and first floor, Ayresome, Old School Lane. 14/03000/AOP

Finally, the Fenny Road site, where outline planning permission for 74 new homes was granted back in June 2016 but has been very quiet since, a new application 14/03000/AOP has been submitted applying to discharge conditions 8 and 9 applied to the outline permission which related to archaeological constraints applied following the discovery on the site of significant archaeological remains.

Details of all these applications can be found on the AVDC website planning portal <a href="https://publicaccess.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk">https://publicaccess.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk</a> and will be discussed at the next PC meeting.

(continued overleaf)

As some of you may have read in a recent Village Link Repot in the Leighton Buzzard Observer, Cllr Hazel Turner has very kindly donated to the community an ordnance survey map of our village dated 1881 that was gifted to her as someone born and bred in Stoke Hammond by the late Sir Philip Digby Pancefort-Duncombe 4th Baronet of Great Brickhill, and former High Sheriff and Deputy Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire. This large original map gives a very interesting insight into how the village and surrounding area of Stoke Hammond looked back in 1881.



The Parish Council is arranging for the map to be professionally framed and the Community Association have very kindly agreed for the framed map to be put on permanent display within the Community Centre. At 1.0m x 0.7m in size this would be far too large for many homes, but we feel many residents would maybe like to have a smaller version sitting upon their walls as a talking point for visitors, so your PC is making available colour prints. Finished on 180g/m matt coated paper, the A3 size will be priced at £13.50 ea and the A2 size at £15.50 ea. If you would like to order a print please contact our clerk Sue Severn whose details can be found at the foot of this page.

Finally, just a reminder that the first PC meeting following the Summer break is to be held at 7.30pm Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September in the small meeting room at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side. All are welcome.

Sue Severn, 19 Curlew, Watermead, Bucks. HP19 0WG T: 01296 336575 M: 07778 473392 clerk.stokehammondpc@gmail.com

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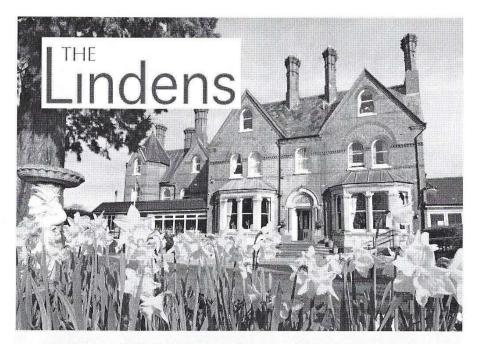


Tel: 01525 270050

Email: info@threelocksgolfclub.co.uk www.threelocksgolfclub.co.uk

Partridge Hill, Great Brickhill, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK17 9BH





The Lindens is a privately owned care home, set in the tranquil Buckinghamshire countryside, offering individual care for our long-term residents and those visiting us for respite care. We provide a real 'home from home' experience for all our residents and their visitors.

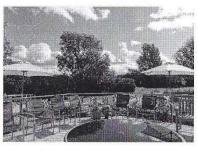
- 24 Hour expert care delivered with compassion.
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- Meals prepared in house using locally sourced ingredients, individual dietary needs catered for.
- Lecture Theatre and Cinema Room.
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The Lindens Residential Care Home, Stoke Road, Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire, MK17 9BN

Tel: 01908 371705 E-Mail: info@careatthelindens.co.uk
Web: www.careatthelindens.co.uk

# Lindens

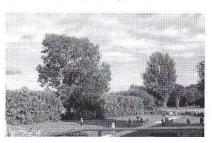
Last year at The Lindens, our grounds to the right-hand side were further developed and landscaped to enable our residents and guests to enjoy the gardens to the full throughout the year.



Indeed the 1<sup>st</sup> Wolverton Cub Group loved the gardens when they visited in June.



There is an upper paved patio area, perfect for relaxing with the newspaper, chatting to friends and family or for parties.



With the bright, sunny weather we have been experiencing (for the most part) this summer our residents and guests have been able to enjoy this patio area to the full.

From here residents and guests can take a stroll down the gentle slope, passing by fragrant clusters of purple lavender, yellow and blue pansies and other bright blooms to the Meadow Gardens.

We warmly welcome visitors, especially volunteers, so if you are looking for a place to come and spend time enriching the lives of others and your own, contact our Manager Chris Ryan to discuss volunteering opportunities at The Lindens.

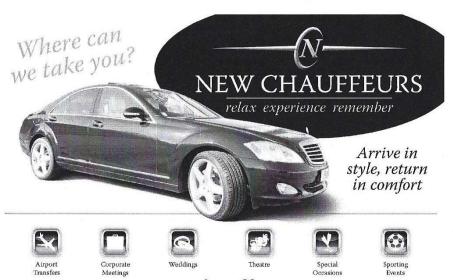
Michael Hannelly
Director, The Lindens.

Stoke Road, Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire, MK17 9BN.

Tel: 01908 371705

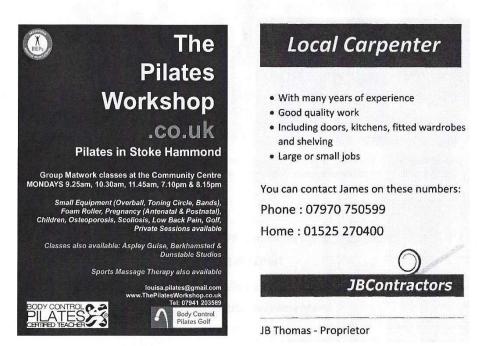
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#### Church News

Afternoon teas: It was lovely to see our visitors at the afternoon teas this month. We will be running afternoon teas again for the last time this year on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September from 3 to 5pm. If you forgot last month, don't kick yourself, just put it in your diary or calendar now and join us for a cream scone or a slice of cake. It would be lovely to see you, so come along and join us!



<u>Forthcoming Events:</u> Village show: As the SH news goes to press, the church has yet to finalise details of a stall for the village show on **Saturday 2**<sup>nd</sup> **September** but rest assured, we will be there!

Community breakfast: After our summer break last month, we will be resuming Community breakfast on the second Saturday of the month – 9th September. For those of you who haven't joined us yet, Community Breakfast runs from 8.30am with last orders taken at 10.30 in

the **Stoke Hammond Community Centre**. We start relatively early, so those who want to have a day out can drop in early while those who prefer a lie in can still make it in time for a breakfast! There is a wide selection of

breakfast items including toast, cereal, pain au chocolate, and a pretty full English breakfast selection to choose from. Our aim is for villagers (and others) to meet each other informally - all ages are welcome. We don't charge, but you're welcome to donate what you think your breakfast was worth or what you can afford. Even if you don't usually eat breakfast, please come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat and get to know your neighbours!

Harvest Festival and Lunch: The church Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 9am at St Luke's Church.

Even when the weather hasn't been perfect, we know that (at least in this country), we are lucky enough to be able to harvest our crops. In our modern society it's easy to forget

that we depend on plants for our food. Plants are dependent on the weather and both are part of God's creations. That's why Christians celebrate Harvest Festival! This is particularly significant in a rural farming community. As part of our celebration, we are holding a buffet style **Harvest Lunch** on the same **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 12.30 for 1pm**. If you'd like to come and join us,

tickets priced £6 (reduction for children) are available from John, Diane or Harry (see below). Tickets include a free glass of wine or fruit juice.

Bucks Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride: The annual event will be taking place again on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. As usual, our intrepid Churchwarden, Harry will be cycling round as many churches as possible on the day. If you'd like to sponsor Harry, sponsor forms will be available at the village show and community breakfast, or you can call Harry with your details.

<u>Help wanted:</u> As detailed in last month's SH news, we are still looking for helpers to either: a) clean the church on a rota basis, (approx every 6 weeks) b) provide flowers (or a donation to cover flowers) for the church on



a rota basis (approx once or twice a year), c) help at the community breakfast or other church events (breakfasts are monthly, but a regular commitment isn't necessary. Events ad hoc) or d) church publicity, (probably a bigger role, but what you want to make of it).

<u>Prayers:</u> We know that people appreciate being prayed for even if their own religious belief isn't strong. We're happy to pray for anyone who requests

prayers for themselves, family members or friends. This can be formally via our public prayer list, or informally in our prayer group. Please be assured that your wishes regarding confidentiality will be respected.

Have you tried praying yourself? Not sure how to pray? Praying is simply having a conversation with God. It doesn't matter if you're not sure he exists or whether you're not sure he's listening. The most important thing is that you pray with openness and sincerity. It's best to find a quiet place where you won't be distracted and just say what's on your mind. Be realistic about your requests: God knows who you are. Prayer works, why not try it and find out for yourself!

Church Benefice Website: www.brickhillschurches.org,uk. Should you wish to attend a service, all church service times are listed on the website, as well as contact details for the Rector.

If you would like to volunteer to help, have a prayer request or enquiry, or to request tickets, please ring Harry: Churchwarden, on 07773065271, Diane: Assistant Churchwarden (unofficial), on 270409 or John: Treasurer, on 270202.



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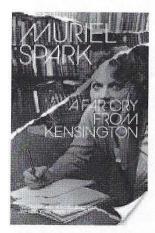




#### STOKE HAMMOND BOOK CLUB



Thanks to the efficient organisation of Margaret Owen we now have a book club in the village and in the usual book club way we read and discuss a different book each month. The titles are totally varied and random and the very first one was 'A Far Cry from Kensington' by Muriel Sparks. We will describe it here and possibly you might think you would find it worth a read or perhaps one to avoid! Don't forget we have a mobile library visiting the village who are brilliant at ordering books on request.



The story was told in the first person narrative which was rather refreshing and describe the life of the main character Mrs. Hawkins a fat and much admired war widow who takes us back to her threadbare years in postwar London. She spends her days working for a mad, near bankrupt publisher (of very good books) and her nights dispensing advice to the other occupants of her Kensington rooming house where they all have their own story. She describes the people she works too with their various foibles and we all found it a relaxing and imaginative read as the story unfolds and intrigues are explained. Everyone had a slightly different opinion of it but the general conclusion was that it was a pleasant, slightly unusual but easy to read book and we wouldn't mind if another Muriel Sparks book appears on our list in the future. Now looking forward to the next book

which is 'The Gathering' by Anne Enright.

E.C.

#### STOKE HAMMOND SPORTS CLUB

The club is open Tuesday nights for Pool Practice, Friday nights at 7.30pm. Home cricket games every Saturday, when the club will be open.

stokehammondsportsclub@gmail.com



STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY CENTRE



Serving the communit

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Sign up to support our cause before 30<sup>th</sup> September to be entered into our SUPER DRAW for this fantastic £500 youcher



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Supporters must be 16 years of age or older A £500 bicycle voucher | Sign up before 30<sup>th</sup> September



#### **WASTE COLLECTION DATES**



Waste Bin:	Recycling Bin: Paper, glass, cardboard, plastics, cartons, cans & tins	Food Waste Bin: Non-recyclable or compostable
	Thursday 7 September	Thursday 7 September
Thursday 14 September		Thursday 14 September
	Thursday 21 September	Thursday 21 September
Thursday 28 September		Thursday 28 September
	Thursday 5 October	Thursday 5 October
Thursday 12 October		Thursday 12 October
	Thursday 19 October	Thursday 19 October
Thursday 26 October		Thursday 26 October
	Thursday 2 November	Thursday 2 November
Thursday 9 November		Thursday 9 November
	Thursday 16 November	Thursday 16 November



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#### LETTERS FROM THE WAR FRONT

100 years ago, in 1917 a young lad called Arthur Kirk who came from Stoke Hammond, was serving on the war front and thanks to his son Bill Kirk, we are able to publish a letter that Arthur wrote home to his mother during that worst of times. Thankfully Arthur returned safely to start a family, but with Stoke Hammond being a thankful village, we know that all from this village that served in WW1 likewise returned safely, hence the reason we are known as a 'Thankful Village' one of only 53 such villages in England.

This is the first of the two letters, letter two will be published in the October edition.

Monday 7/5/17

My Dearest Mother,

Just a few lines in answer to your letter which I received today and two that I had a few days ago, I think I have all your letters now. I am glad to say I am keeping well and hoping you all are the same. We are having grand weather now but I think a steady rain would do a lot of good to the crops. I was sorry to hear about old Flowers at Chadwell, old Johnny will miss her. I would have liked to seen the colt.

There has just been a scrap in the air with a lot of machines, one came down but I don't whether it was ours or German. It was a bad go about Joe Hines getting kicked, I shouldn't think he will be much more use for work and it is very bad about Alf Walduck, I don't know what it is coming too. I don't know what they will do with France after the war for the villages are nothing but heaps of bricks and wood and the shell holes are like ponds.

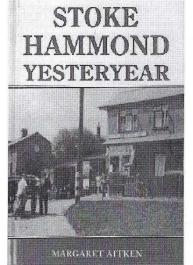
I think it as well that Elsie is not going to London, she dont know when she is well off. I didn't think I could tell you and if I ever I have the luck to get home I shall stay there (there is no place like home). Well mother everything was very nice in the parcel the chitterlings were alright and you said about the breed being dry. Nothing is dry out here, I often think aloud what you have told me (it is driest where there's none). I don't think I have anymore to say this time so I will close now with best love to all.

From Arthur

Xxxxxxxxx

I heard from Will Simmons the other day.

#### STOKE HAMMOND YESTERYEAR A PERSONAL RECORD 1925 – 1948



Stan Andrews, the baker from soulbury stands outside Bonner's with his cart. Assisting him is Raymond Kirk, who was in the author's class at school.

We are most pleased to be continuing with the publication of extracts from Margaret Aitken's book 'Stoke Hammond Yesteryear' first published in 1997 that provides an amazing insight into the life of our village in years gone by. Many thanks to Margaret for granting us permission to publish these extracts. We now reach chapter 6; 'ON THE RIGHT ROAD'.

#### ON THE RIGHT ROAD!

Once every village had its own roadmen – and Stoke Hammond was no exception. Albert Soulbury was a dumpy little man with a noticeable stomach and a considerable 'character'. He wore brown corduroy trousers held up by braces and a wide leather belt buckled around his middle, which usually slipped down somewhat. He was a hardworking, conscientious man who was always busy. Before there were kerbstones and footpaths in the village, the grass verges were neatly chopped back, grassy banks were trimmed with the sickle and scythe and all waste was gathered up into the wheelbarrow and taken away. Likewise, on a Saturday morning the whole village was swept through and all loose gravel and grit was shovelled up and wheeled away. If the 'Best Kept Village' Competition had been in

operation in those days we would have won it year after year.

In the Newton Road there lived an old gentleman by the name of George Bone. Mr Bone had relatives living in Canada and every so often they would send him a batch of newspapers and comics, which he passed on to us. Enid and I would knock impatiently on his door to see if they had arrived. Then we were six or seven years' old and loved stories about fairies, totally believing in such creatures. One day we asked Mr Bone if the comics had come he patted Enid on the head and called her 'fairy'. I was mortally offended that he did not call me 'fairy', but years later it occurred to me that it was Enid's fair hair to which he was referring and not the winged variety!

Great-uncle Jim Scott was a lovely man with a smiling face and a kindly disposition. Whenever you saw him he was whistling a hymn tune. He owned two pieces of allotment ground on the outskirts of the village. One he used as a vegetable garden, while the other was an orchard, partly fenced off with wire netting, where his free-range hens scratched. On this piece of ground there were several sheds built with railway sleepers. One shed was special because there was a wooden seat outside; growing round the door were rambling red roses planted by him. Uncle Jim sat on the seat top smoke his pipe and meditate. Before he left the allotment field to return to the hubbub of the village he would pick a flower to put in his buttonhole. Then off he would go, whistling 'What a friend we have in Jesus'.

Mr and Mrs 'Billy' Rice were well-known village people, Mrs Rice, Enid's Aunt Em, had been a school teacher and also our Sunday School teacher. She organised the Anniversary celebrations and Christmas concerts.

Mr Rice was a good singer and a very clever wheelwright who could make almost anything. In 1936Dad got rid of the horse and cart and bought a 'gate change' Austin Ten car. On the chassis Mr Rice built our first motorised mobile shop. Behind the cab he constructed a wooden skeleton of four corner posts and a strong floor. The sides were left open and, in wet weather, could be covered by





ABOVE: The first mobile shop was built on an Austin 10 chassis by Mr William Rice of Stoke Hammond. BELOW: This photograph shows the author's father @Bert' Bonner serving customer Mrs Atkinson, (a London evacuee), at Drayton Parslow.

sail cloth curtains, which were fastened with hooks. Through the centre a space was left for the 50-gallon paraffin tank. This had a brass tap at the back and, suspended under it. Mr Rice had constructed a wooden box where the measures and funnels were kept. He built series of shelves behind the cab, along the sides and over the top of the tank where Dad stacked his wares. Around the edge of the roof he added a little rail so that that space could also be used. Up there Dad stored door mats. coconut matting, bedroom and hearth rugs, galvanised iron buckets, enamelled washing-up bowls and chamber pots among other items. Hanging underneath from hooks by loops of string were handbrushes, fluebrushes, scrubbing brushes, brooomheads, wet mops, polishing mops, dishcloths, floor cloths and milk

They all swayed madly from side to side as the van travelled over bumpy roads, but I do not

remember any major catastrophe.

Although our general store was the only shop in the village, Stoke Hammond was well supplied by a number of visiting traders. As well as selling paraffin, hardware and groceries, we also sold sweets, haberdashery and medicines. The latter were purchased from Wilfred Durrell, whose shop was at Leighton Buzzard. When not wearing his chemist's hat he was the local comedian and came to entertain us in a concert party. He sang humorous songs, told tales and kept us in fits of laughter.

The first trader that springs to mind was Stan Andrews, who came from Soulbury. Stan made his own mouth-watering crusty bread and brought it around the village in his high-backed baker's cart. His little pony stepped out at a fair rate of knots. He also made calorie-laden dough cakes and lardy cakes.

Mr White was the greengrocer from Wing, a village about five miles away. He came by cart on Friday afternoons with a colourful display of fruit and vegetables, especially bright yellow bananas and red rosy apples. Pomegranates, when they were in season, were a favourite. When cut in half they revealed fleshy seeds to be picked out individually with a pin.

Mr Lovatt cycled from Stewkley, and on the carrier of his bike was tied a bundle of men's clothing wrapped in waterproof American cloth. When the string was untied thick flannelette and khaki working shirts were revealed. There was also long woollen underpants and woolly vests with sleeves, as well as a selection of long woollen socks, suspenders and braces. Although all these items of clothing were necessary they were not of much interest to me. but mention Miss Whitaker and I still get a sense of excitement at the wares she brought in her case.

In the early days Doris Whitaker cycled from Leighton Buzzard with the case strapped on behind her but, as the years passed, she graduated to a motorbike and sidecar, then a small van. She was a draper specialising in ladies' and children's clothes and if you asked for something she had not brought with her she would bring it next time. Miss Whitaker was welcomed into most homes in the village, especially before the Sunday School Anniversary, when we girls had new clothes. It was exciting looking through her case of beautiful dresses in wonderful styles and pastel colours. On top of that, she brought straw hats with matching ribbons. Customers who could not pay in full, could pay so much per week. Some were in debt to her for many years and it was said that she never did get all the money from others!

Finally, there was Mr Tibbles, the rag-and-bone man. Most householders kept a rag-bag and into it went clothes that were worn out and no longer of use.

My friend Jean and I spent hours dressing up with the contents of the rag-bag. Imagine our fury when Mr Tibbles came around and Mum gave him the dressing-up clothes. It took ages to collect a new 'wardrobe' of interesting items.

Mt Ribbles cycled from Leighton Buzzard, arriving in the village on a Saturday morning with several large empty sacks; on a good day he left with bulging sacks. He was small in stature but his manners were impeccable. 'Good morning Missus,' he would say to my mother, 'I'm paying a good price for rabbit skins today - if you've got any!' We usually had. Uncle Arthur went rabbiting with a ferret around the fields and on the railway bank. He usually caught several, which he sold in the village. We had one most weeks. Nothing was wasted because the skin was hung to dry until Mr Tibbles came.

When I was a small girl I had a fairy-cycle, which I outgrew, so my parents began to look around for a larger second-hand bicycle for me. One day my mother decided to ask Mr Tibbles if he ever came across anything that would be suitable. He said that he would keep his eyes open. At last the day came when he arrived with my bicycle. It was certainly second-hand but I was the proudest child in Stoke Hammond when it came.

One day I had a particularly nasty attack of hiccoughs, which still persisted after holding my breath and drinking water from the opposite side of a glass. Unexpectedly my mother said to me 'Mr Tibbles will have your bike back, you know?' She continued talking about Mr Tibbles and the bike until I was so alarmed that I forgot all about my hiccoughs. Then a smile spread across her face, 'Have your hiccoughs stopped?' Nearly in tears, I slowly nodded my head. Her arms went round my shoulders, reassuring me that my bike was for keeps! Next time I had hiccoughs she only had to mention Mr Tibbles and my bicycle and I was cured!

NEXT MONTH , CHAPTER SEVEN – SONGS AND SUNDAYS



Dressed in the contents of the rag-bag - groom Jean Simmons, bride, the author, and bridesmade Daphne Williams.



#### **HEADY PLANTS**

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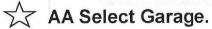
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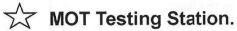


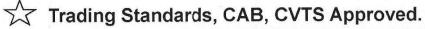


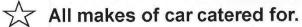












Pleasant waiting area with hot drinks machine.

Good Garage

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4 BED HOUSE FROM £160.00

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#### LETTERS FROM THE WAR FRONT

Last month we published a letter that a young Stoke Hammond lad called Arthur Kirk sent home to his mother, whilst serving on the war front back in 1917. That letter and the one below were kindly loaned to us by Arthur's son Bill Kirk, and do give us a just a little insight into Arthur's life 100 years ago during those worst of times. Thankfully, Arthur and all others from our village that served in WW1 returned safely, which Is why Stoke Hammond is known as a thankful village, one of only 53 such villages in England, and the only thankful village in the county of Buckinghamshire.

Tuesday 3/7/17

My Dear Mother,

I was very pleased to hear from you again today and that you are all alright again. I would have wrote before but I have not had time I am out nearly every other night. I was out Sat, Sun and Monday night but I think I am having a night in tonight – anyway I can do with one.
I am glad to hear Nellie is home for her holiday. I wish I was home with her, I might get mine later on if this job don't come to a finish soon, but I think it will, I don't see how it can keep on another winter.

We still keep giving the old Germans hell and they give us some sometimes. I was out last night and the shells were dropping all around me – I come out of it full gallop.

The weather seems to have cleared up again after the rain, it will do a lot of good. I am glad Dad has got a good crop of spuds on my piece of ground. I hope I have the pleasure in helping him dig them. We don't get many vegetables out here, spuds about once a month. We have nothing only bully and rice pudding for dinner this last three weeks or a month. I am glad Elsie is earning a lot of money it will come in handy these hard times.

Well my dear Mother I hope these few lines will find you all quite well as it leaves me at present. So I will close now with best love.

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#### STOKE HAMMOND GARDENING CLUB



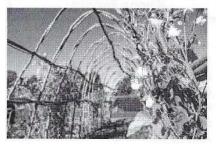
After several days of continuous rain and leaden skies the day for our trip to Jordans Mill in Biggleswade arrived and - the sun shone all day and not a drop of rain fell!

This was our 'shorter outing' of the summer and our coach with 42 eager trippers arrived at Jordans Mill at 11.30 am. First, in usual SHGC style, we all headed to the cafe for some refreshment. We sat in the sunshine alongside the

River Ivel before setting off to visit the Mill and hear all about the milling process through the ages, have the machinery explained to us and hear the history of the Jordan family who have been producing flour and associated products here since 1893 - although a flour Mill on this site was noted in the Doomsday Book in 1086! There was a walk along the river and lovely gardens where oats, barley, wheat etc. were growing surrounded by



flowers with areas of herbs listing all their health benefits and salad crops all clearly labelled. The shop sold the flour and many other products including huge bags of oats



for porridge all reasonably priced and there were also excellent plants available. We piled back on the coach at 3.30pm and had a very smooth and swift ride home. Another good day out.

Our next trip is in September when will be off to RHS Wisley for the day so watch this space.

#### STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Why not hire the **Community Centre** or the **Meeting Room** for your party or business meeting. Discounted rates for residents of Stoke Hammond. To book or discuss your requirements please call **01525-270501** or email: **shcommunitycentre@gmail.com** 



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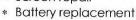
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#### STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Your community association hasn't been sitting still, we've just appointed a contractor to strip and retreat the wooden block flooring to the both the main hall and the small meeting room. The work is hoped to be carried out in September, and will hopefully bring a whole new shine, but anti slip finish to the centre. We are also looking into the costs for upgrading the old and inefficient fluorescent lighting with new generation LED, which will in the long term offer low maintenance and substantially reduced energy costs.

Look out for the flyer in this edition advertising our quiz night for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Sept this will be a fun evening for all to take part in.



Please also see our advert for the Fundraising Fashion Show in aid of The Willen Hospice being held on Saturday 21st October.

STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY CENTRE



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Local references available upon request.

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alternatively email: techdean@techdean.co.uk for a free no obligation survey.

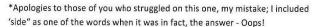
Or go on Facebook and search Techdean

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#### **MAVIS'S QUIZ**

#### Answers to last month's quiz:

- (1) Jam (2) Tea (3) Egg (4) Worm (5) Wolf
- (6) Wind (7) Wild (8) Thunder (9) Sun (10) Side\*





For this month it's more of the same, remember you have to think of a word that can be put before or after the 3 words:-

- (1) Law, Gone, Pass
- (2) Call, Forward, Piece
- (3) Small, Hands, Over
- (4) Drop, Milk, Bitter
- (5) Shave, Knit, Up
- (6) Ground, Table, Instant
- (7) Blind, Book, Bright
- (8) Market, Room, Sense
- (9) Cottage, Lane, Music
- (10) Martial, Ship, Yard

As always, the very best of luck - Answers next month!

#### STOKE HAMMOND RHYTHM OF LIFE SINGERS

Since our first meeting in January 2016 we now have a regular band of happy singers who meet every week singing a variety of genres from musicals, pop and rock n roll songs which span the decades from the 1940's to the present day.

We always offer a warm welcome to new members who want to sing just for the sheer pleasure of it. Our group is very informal with FUN being the main emphasis. So, if you'd like to join us but "think" you can't sing don't worry, there's no pressure. But you will soon realise that anyone can improve on their singing voice and have a whole lot of fun at the same time.

We are happy to do a 'sing a long' at any venue or group with any funds being raised going to Willen Hospice.

We meet Wednesday 7:15pm – 9:00pm at the Sports Club, Bragenham Side. Call 07522 949524



#### SHARE YOUR FAVOURITE RECIPE



# YOU MAY WANT TO SAVE THIS ONE FOR LATER IN THE YEAR, AS A RECIPE FOR A COLD WINTERY DAY PLEASE KEEP THOSE IDEAS A COMING!

SUET BACON ROLL

from Mavis Berrow

4 oz Self raising flour
2 oz Atora suet
1 tbs Mixed fresh herbs (chopped)
4 oz Bacon Lardons
½ an onion (Finely diced)
A little water

- 1. Mix flour, suet and water as required until it forms a stiff dough. Roll this out into an oblong.
- Stir together the herbs, lardons and onion and scatter across the laid out dough.Roll up the dough with the filling on the inside to create a swiss roll effect.
- 3. Encase the roll in greaseproof paper and foil. Place in a steamer for at least 2 % hours. Serve hot.

(This makes a very comforting meal if served with either cabbage or carrots)

BON Apetit .....

#### Come along to Great Brickhill Tennis Club

#### **Finals Fun Day!**

Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2-6pn	( )	Saturday	9 <sup>th</sup>	September	2-6pm
------------------------------------------	-----	----------	-----------------	-----------	-------

- End of season finals matches
- B-B-Q from 4pm
- Awards ceremony

#### **New courses for Autumn**

New to tennis? Why not come along to our new course 'Try Tennis for Free'.

- · No need to join the Club
- First lesson will be at 9:30 10:30 am on Wednesday 13th September
- The first 2 lessons are FREE!

Want to 'keep fit' this autumn? Then why not try 'Cardio Tennis'.

- A great way to keep fit whilst being distracted by a tennis ball!
- Lessons start on Wednesday 13th September from 10:30 11:30 am
- First 2 lessons are FREF!

If you enjoy the lessons on these new courses then the Club is offering a further 10 lessons at the subsidised price of just £40. See our website for more details about the coaching courses.







#### PAGEY'S SOW and GROW "PATCH"

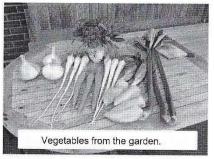
So here comes September. Let's hope we have an Indian type summer - enough already of the rain! Back at the end of June I was doing my rain dance to give the parched soil and newly planted crops and flowers some much needed drink. I think I over did it !!! Anyway, everything has grown really well and the lawn is the greenest in late August I can ever remember. Harvesting will be in full swing for us all. The excess can be stored or given



away. Toms, peppers, onions, chillies, runner beans, French beans, plums and sweet corn can all be frozen and our freezer is full already. Onions, spuds, squashes, garlic and chillies can be stored provided they are dried out in the sun first. Our shallots are all tied up and hanging in the kitchen where they look great. Keep harvesting and deadheading to encourage the last of this year's flowering and growth. Everyone knows it is the right thing to do but we don't all do it...do we Donna (she's a bad girl).

Anyway you really will need to dig up shallots, onions, garlic and beetroot now if you haven't already. If you have spuds still in the ground you are opening yourself up to attack by slugs, snails and blight (I will come back to that) but it's up to you. Keep picking marrows, courgettes, toms, French and runner beans, carrots and parsnips. Pick your squash before the first frosts otherwise they will not store. My butternuts this year are mahoosive (spelling?) and will need curing in the sun, if not they are to keep through the winter.

Believe it or not it is time to think about next year. You can sow winter greens now as well as autumn sown onions. If you have not grown onions from seeds give it a go (onion sets can be planted out in 4 weeks' time). Choose an autumn onion seed, normally a Japanese derivative, prepare the soil in a sunny site and ensure some grow more or fish bone and blood are raked into the soil. Sow the seeds according to the instructions on the packet and you should have lovely early onions next



year! Try it! You should do the same with any spring greens you want but add a little lime to the soil as well before sowing or planting out plug plants.

The other thing to be doing now is seed gathering. Flowers, toms, peppers, chillies, squash, marrows, peas, beans, cucumbers, lemons ....in fact anything that has seeds can be kept and resown. I have no idea why people don't do this, especially if you have kids. Dry the seeds out and grow them early in the spring. Veg and flowers for free......what's the matter with you all. Just a warning note that not all veg comes back exactly as the original...especially squash. I kept and dried out some butternut seeds last year and this

year I've got some lovely orange round squash...just part of the fun. So, dry the seeds out on kitchen paper and store in paper envelopes in a cool dry place. Avoid heat, frosts and damp. Oh yes, label the envelope too. The best show of flowers this year were dahlias...all sown from seed, total cost about £1. What's not too like.

In the last issue I warned of blight and yes I got a dose of it on my maincrop spuds. Warm, wet conditions normally are followed by blight later in the summer. I burnt all the foliage and have kept the spuds separated from my other spuds in storage just in case I get a dose in the spuds. You will know straight away as there will be a darker colour to the spud, it will go soft and stink. Bin or burn affected spuds and sacks they are stored in. If you are not sure if you have had it in the past then you probably haven't.

So Autumn is round the corner - make the most of the last of the summer and enjoy the fruits of your labour!

Pagey

Hopefully you didn't forget to

#### MAKE, BAKE, GROW, SHOW

in preparation for:-



www.stokehammondvillageshow.com

#### OTHERWISE THINK ABOUT 2018

#### STOKE HAMMOND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

There was no meeting in August but we look forward to seeing everyone again on Tuesday September 12th at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side at 7.30pm. the competition will be 'S'. We will be getting organised for the autumn and winter months and It will great to get together after the summer break - any visitors will, of course, be most welcome.



Whether you are looking for short or long term accommodation The Orchard Hotel has so much to offer. This old family home has been sympathetically and tastefully converted and now provides accommodation and assisted living for retired gentlefolk.

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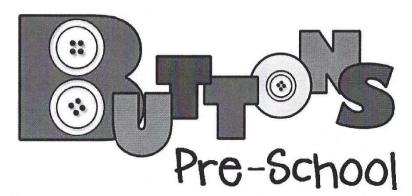
Residents are invited to make full use of the guest lounge and sun room as well as the indoor and outdoor swimming pools and the beautifully and lovingly tended gardens.

The majority of guests at The Orchard choose to be self sufficient and prepare their own meals or eat at nearby pubs and restaurants. However, hotel staff are happy to cater for guests providing this is arranged in advance.

The Orchard is fully accessible for anyone with limited mobility. It is regretted however that pets cannot be accommodated.

For more information please contact:

The Orchard Private Hotel, Stewkley, Buckinghamshire LU7 0HR
Tel: 01525 240 240 Fax: 01525 240 464
Email: orchardstewkley@supanet.com



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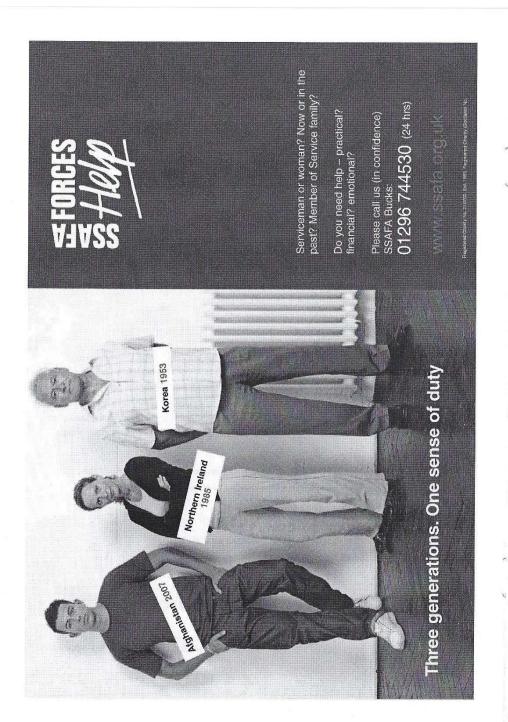
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A.A.A.D.D.

I can empathise with this guy: "I decided to water the garden. As I turn the hose on in the driveway I look over at my car and decide it needs washing. As I start toward the garage I notice there is mail on the hall table which I got from the letter box earlier. I decide to go through the mail before I wash the car. I lay my car keys on the table, put the junk mail in the bin under the table and notice the bin is full. I put the bills back on the table and take the rubbish out first. But then I think as I'm going near the postbox when I take the rubbish out I may as well pay the bills first. I take my cheque book off the table and see there is only one cheque left. My extra cheques are in my desk in the study so I go inside the house to my desk where I find a can of Coke I'd been drinking. I'm going to look for my cheques but first I need to push the Coke to one side so I don't knock it over. The Coke is getting warm so I decide to put it in the fridge to keep it cold. As I head towards the kitchen with the Coke a vase of flowers on the worktop catches my eye- they need water. I put the Coke on the worktop and discover the reading glasses I've been searching for all morning. I decide I'd better put them back on my desk but first I'm going to water the flowers. I set the glasses back on the worktop, fill a container with water and suddenly spot the TV remote. I must have left it on the kitchen table. I realise that when I go to watch TV tonight I'll be looking for the remote but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table., so I decide to put it back in the lounge where it belongs, but first I'll water the flowers. I pour some water in the flowers but quite a bit spills on the floor. So, I set the remote back on the table, get some paper towels and wipe up the spill. Then I head down the hall trying to remember what I was planning to do.

At the end of the day: The car isn't washed – the bills aren't paid – there is a warm can of Coke sitting on the worktop – the flowers don't have enough water – there is still only one cheque in my cheque book – I can't find the remote – I can't find my glasses – and I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then when I try to figure out why nothing got done today I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all day and I'm really tired."

(A.A.A.D.D. – Age activated attention deficit disorder)

G.O.M.



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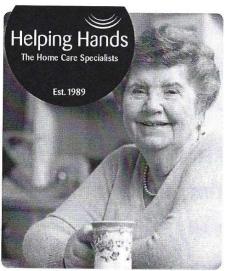
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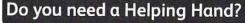
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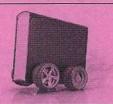
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#### High Ash Scouts, Cubs, Beavers

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#### Pilates - Group Matwork

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Contact: Louisa Harris 07941 203589

#### Metafit

Tuesday 9.30am and 10.00am Wednesday 7.30pm Friday 9.30am and 10.00am Contact: Lizzy 07753 138276

#### **Buttons Pre-School**

Monday - Friday Contact: 01525 270501

To Hire the Hall please telephone 01525 270501 or e-mail: shcommunitycentre@gmail.com

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Litter Enforcement Officer	01296-585395
Social Care Services (Emergency Duty)	01494-817750
MK General Hospital	01908-660033
Stoke Mandeville Hospital	01296-315000
Luton & Dunstable Hospital	01582-491122
Clerk to the Parish Council	07743-355484
Parish Council Chairman (Greg Noble)	01525-270744
County Councillor (Janet Blake)	01525-261288
District Councillor (Neil Blake)	01525-261288
High Ash School	01525-261620
M.P. (John Bercow)	020-7219-6346

Police non-emergency number 101

#### **EDITORS NOTE**

I know many of you were looking forward to the next 'Spotlight On' which should have been published in last month's edition. Unfortunately, Barbara who came up with idea and puts this item together, had a nasty fall and broke her arm, which somewhat limited her capacity to finish last months planned piece. Barbara is now thankfully on the mend, and the delayed 'Spotlight On' for John Bowler should be with us in October.

Some months ago, we ran an advert looking for people interested in joining and forming a small book club. Well the book club was formed and this month we run the first review for the book read and discussed by the club.

Please do get in touch if you have an idea for something you'd like to see in the SH News. We want the SH News to be informative and interesting as well as being a means for local businesses to advertise their services.

May I please have copy for the October issue by 20th September

Greg Noble, Oak Farm, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond. MK17 9DB 01525-270744 E-mail: gregnoble1980@aol.com

#### **VILLAGE DIARY**

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Village Show – Community Centre 13.00 - 17.00
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Harvest Festival – Methodist Church - 11.00
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre - 19.30
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Gardening Club all day trip to RHS Wisley Flower Show - 09.30
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Afternoon Tea – St Luke's 15.00 - 17.00
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Family Quiz Night – Community Centre - 18.00 - 21.00
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre - 19.30
Saturday 21st October	Charity Fashion Show – Community Centre - 19.30
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre - 19.30
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Bazaar - Methodist Church - 14.30
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fayre - Community Centre
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch – Community Centre
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre - 19.30
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Gardening Club Christmas Dinner – Community Centre