

SH NEWS

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

G.O.M. (Yes, he's back)

MAVIS'S QUIZ

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

EVERYTHING BUT THE MOO

SPOTLIGHT ON 'DAVE & KAREN POLLINGTON'

READERS LETTERS

VILLAGE SHOW REPORT

PAGEY'S PATCH & MUCH MORE

OCTOBER 2018 Issue 10

www.stokehammondpc.com



St LUKE'S, STOKE HAMMOND

Rector: Revd John Waller 01525 261062

October 7 th	11.00	Family Service <i>Harvest Festival</i> – Revd John Waller
October 14 th	09.00	Morning Worship – Jeremy Hopkinson
October 21 st	09.00	Holy Communion – Revd John Waller
October 28 th	09.00	Café Church – Lay Leader

*PLEASE ALSO NOTE THE FOLLOWING DATES FOR COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS
AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, BRAGENHAM SIDE.*

Saturday 13 th October	08.30 – 10.30 (Last Orders)
Saturday 10 th November	08.30 – 10.30 (Last Orders)

Church Wardens:

Diane Webber 01525-270409 and Harry Davies 01234-822780

METHODIST SERVICES

Minister: Revd Donna Broadbent-Kelly 01525 240589

October 7 th	11.00	United Service at St Luke's
October 14 th	11.00	service – Revd Donna Broadbent-Kelly
October 21 st		Local Arrangement
October 28 th	10.30	Combined at Stewkley Methodist Church

Coffee Mornings

Wednesdays at 10.30 - 11.30
(*contact 01525-270287*)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Before running through Parish Council News, the PC would first like to thank everyone involved with the Village Show, the committee, volunteers and helpers and the many local organisations that provide support, for putting on such a fabulous community event. We've heard nothing but positive comments and we understand some stallholders have already booked their places for next year. The committee even managed to get publicity for the show and Stoke Hammond through the BBC Three Counties Saturday morning 'Treasure Quest' show, the final destination being Stoke Hammond with Chris Page the Chair of the Show Committee giving a live radio interview as he stood cooking burgers and sausages on the BBQ.

Following the Summer break your PC met on the 4th September along with ten members of the public, but rather disappointedly no representation from either of our two AVDC District Councillors or that of our BCC Councillor. Anyway, the meeting proceeded and as was somewhat expected, the main topic of discussion related to the latest planning application for the Land East of Fenny Road. The application 17/04457/ADP was seeking approval of reserved matters in connection with the previous approved application number 14/03000/AOP for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of a residential development of 64 dwellings. This new application was a revision to a previous detailed application against which the PC had raised several objections, some of which had been partially addressed, but following a lengthy debate and taking onboard comments raised by the attending members of the public, your PC unanimously agreed to object to this latest application on the following grounds:

"This application differs significantly from the original planning permission. Most concerning is the change to include 3 storey houses. This is totally out of keeping with village vernacular; there are no other 3 storey homes in the village. This development overlooks Area of Attractive Landscape, designated by AVDC. This effectively provides a 'window' overlooking the AAL. This will be lost permanently to this development, if approved as it stands. Houses are turned sideways behind the front boundary hedge in order to fit them into the site. The site contains cul de sacs allowing access to homes, from a central single road. Social housing is grouped together, rather than being within the development as mixed tenure. This is bad planning practice. There is grave concern about the adequacy of existing foul and surface water drainage. Overall, the development is more suited to a town rather than village environment. The PC requests, in view of the new planning issues raised that this matter be returned to committee for determination. The PC wishes to speak at a committee meeting."

As regards other discussed planning applications 18/02550/ALB & 18/02549/APP for the erection of a 1.5 storey, two-bedroom dwelling with associated new driveway entrance and gates. Opposite and within the site of Stoke Lodge. Your PC resolved to object to this application, on the grounds that a recent application for a garage on this site was refused and it now appears that the applicant now wishes to construct a house. It also falls within the conservation area, is not in keeping with the listed building on this site and is out of keeping with the street scene and appears to be in front of the building line.

The final application 18/02729/APP for the removal of an agricultural occupancy condition on Kings Farmhouse, Leighton Road, was also objected to. Indeed, a similar application was also submitted last year and objected to by your PC and subsequently refused by AVDC. This new application presented no new evidence, and thus your PC had no reason but to reiterate its previous objection.

So, to other matters – The tree overhanging and obscuring the Pedestrian Crossing beacon and overhead light has been reported to AVDC as the tree sits on their land. AVDC's tree department has since reported back to the PC that the works should have been undertaken by the time of reading this edition of the SH News.

You may have noticed 'Speedwatch' signs around the village and the MVAS being located near to Tyrells Manor, all in an attempt to slow the extra traffic that is passing through our village whilst the Bypass closures are in place. The MVAS results once downloaded will probably make interesting reading as this will give an indication of the average speeds and the volume of extra traffic we have had to absorb.

The idea of the PC running 'Surgeries' where you the parishioners of Stoke Hammond could meet and talk with your Councillors outside of the public PC Meeting was broached by Cllr Geoff Lane. It was agreed that some people would prefer such an environment to discuss Parish matters. So, we are looking into suitable dates and venues when such meetings could be held. Two such possibilities are Wednesday mornings at the Methodist Church after the normal weekly Coffee mornings and on a Saturday morning at the Community Centre following the monthly Community Breakfast. We would also look to hold a surgery in Newton Leys South for those residents who fall within our parish.

Finally, plans are well advanced for Stoke Hammond to take part in the 'Battle's Over – Commemoration of the end of World War 1'. We plan to light a Beacon on the village green, along with many other towns and villages throughout the UK. Revd John Waller will lead a short service followed by the playing of the Last Post before lighting the beacon at 7pm. St Luke's plans to lay on refreshments for those

that attend. This all happens of course on Sunday 11th November Remembrance Day – more details will be announced nearer to the time.

The next PC Meeting, will be held on the evening of Tuesday October 2nd at the normal Community Centre venue, starting at 7.30pm. As always, all are welcome to attend.

Should you wish to contact your Parish Council, please do so via our clerk:

Sue Severn, 19 Curlew, Watermead, Bucks. HP19 0WG 01296 336575 07778 473392

clerk.stokehammondpc@gmail.com

www.stokehammondpc.com



Battle's Over

A Nation's Tribute

11 November 2018

On 11 November 2018, the United Kingdom and its friends overseas will mark the day 100 years ago when the guns fell silent at the end of the First World War.



<https://www.local.gov.uk/battles-over-nations-tribute-11-november-2018>

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STUDIES

“A study out today”

“A survey reveals”

“A review by students”

“Scientists at such & such University”

“An article published in a medical Journal”

Any news item starting with the above phrases can probably be dismissed as pointless and irrelevant to the man in the street. The BBC seem to stumble on at least one of these each week.

3 weeks back there was a report that after a survey of some twenty years it was established that no alcohol was good for you. It wasn't clear whether this meant that total *abstinence* was good or if there was no single drink which *was* good for you. This second scenario suggests there might be a lot of drinks which are not harmful.

This was followed by a piece published in Science magazine that not only did air-pollution affect asthma, lung cancer and heart disease but may now increase the risk of dementia. (n b we've all got to die of something).

Today I learn that a YouGov poll reveals 1 in 5 UK adults are drinking more than the recommended 14 units per week. Looking around my friends I can only imagine:

- a) They are asking the wrong people
- b) People asked are telling fake truths
- c) I associate with the wrong people!

As a result of this poll “Drink Aware” have suggested that the vulnerable middle age drinkers (30 -65! -that leaves me out) should have a couple of alcohol free days each week. Like that's going to happen nationwide.

And finally, all these people conducting surveys and studies, haven't they got a real job?

Grumpy Old Man



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THE Lindens

Here at The Lindens, we are always looking to see how we can improve the facilities and experience for our residents and respite guests at our "Home from Home".

In the last few weeks we have created a new Treatment Room for our residents and guests. The facility can be utilised by visiting Doctors and Nurses for private consultations. In addition, it is also used by Chiropodists, Manicurists, and Opticians and is proving to be an excellent amenity.



As usual this month there has been lots of musical entertainment for our residents to enjoy along with fitness and Art Classes. At the Art Classes this month the focus was summer geraniums and birds.

At The Lindens, we welcome visitors, so if you would like to call in and join us for morning coffee, please phone us and ask for Tina or Milli.

Are you interested in working or volunteering here? Simply call us to discuss the range of options available. We look forward to meeting you.



Michael Hamnelly
Director, The Lindens.

**The Lindens Stoke Road, Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire, MK17 9BN.
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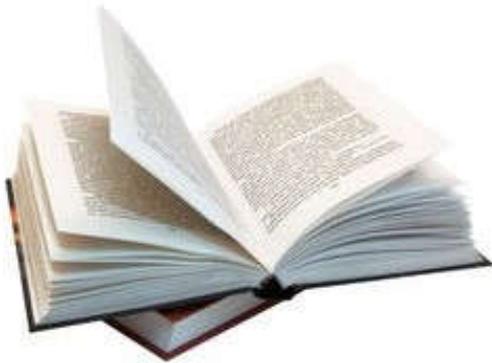
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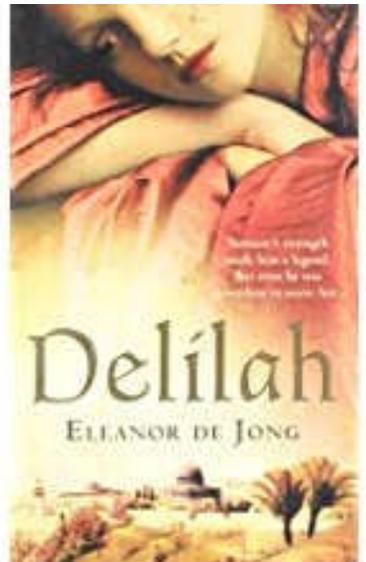


This month's read was '**Delilah**' by Eleanor de Jong. A complete change from recent books this, as the name suggests, tells the story of Samson, hero of the Israelites and the woman, Delilah, paid to seduce and destroy him. It is set in the Holy Land where the Israelites and Philistines are locked in bitter conflict. Delilah - desirable, headstrong, reckless is tempted by an offer she can't refuse to bring about Samson's downfall and the story twists and turns throughout as she attempts to please everyone consequently causing death and destruction all around.

Whether or not this story is true to the legend or whether there is a certain amount of poetic licence is certainly a question but the embellished tale keeps you guessing until the end.

Our group's reaction was mixed. It was readable and reminded some of a modern love story with twists, turns, deceit and a certain amount of graphic description of passion but I don't think it could be described as one of our favourites and not one of us was tempted to look out for more books by this Author.

Next month's book is '**The Children Act**' by Ian McEwan.





VILLAGE SHOW

REPORT

The fifth village show was held on Saturday 8th September and despite some gloomy weather predictions in the days leading up to the event, we stayed dry and great fun was had by all. The show was opened by Hazel Turner who the show committee last year voted as “Villager Of The Year 2017.” This award is in recognition of contributions made to the village community and we are pleased to let you know that this year the award went to Diane and David Webber. Thank you Diane and Dave for all you have done.



Before the show opened up at 1pm we had a visit from BBC Three Counties Radio who ended their ‘Treasure Quest’ at our show at midday (see website for photos) – The treasure being Chris Page, our chairman (not much of a treasure! – Ed) who gave a few words on the radio station to promote the event. Anyway, the BBQ was full on, the kitchen kicked into gear and the 25 stall holders were fuelled whilst putting up their stands. We were treated to live music, competition marquee, bar, BBQ, teas, coffees, cakes, numerous stalls, fun dog show and fabulous raffle prizes at the end. Over 600 people were there on the day and we were supported by over 30 volunteers, 4 wonderful sponsors of the main events and many local businesses and the cups were won as follows:

Fruit & Veg
Food & Drink
Adult Best in Show
Child Best in Show
Vehicles
Photography
Flowers
School Cup
Committee Cup
Art & Crafts
Scarecrow

Jacqui Armitt
Alison Sheehan
Jacqui Armitt
Katie Humpreys
Geoff Lane
Tiggy Dyall
Chris Page
High Ash
Dean Jackson
Jill Williamson
Bella Dungar



The surplus funds from previous shows has been spent on a 12m x 8m marquee (the competition marquee at the show), a gas BBQ (used at the show) and the Beacon used for the Queen's anniversary and future remembrance days. The BBQ and marquee are available for hire for use by the village at local events or with the hire of the Community Centre. The committee will be looking to spend the surplus for the use of the village and this will be announced at our AGM. We borrow much of the equipment on the day and it would be great to have some of it for our own use as a village.



Lastly, we would like some feedback from those who were there... what worked, what didn't and what you would like to see at future shows. If you have an idea that would benefit the village, let us know. If you would like to help with the show or join the committee PLEASE contact us. For 5 years the majority of the committee has been the same people. We need new ideas and new blood.

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“EVERYTHING BUT THE MOO”

Following last month’s ‘Dog Tails’ for this seventh extract from the book ‘Everything but the Moo’ written by Hazel Turner’s late mother Pam Murphy, we enter the world of ‘Things Domestic’ – Read on to find out what this actually entails.

THINGS DOMESTIC!

Now my old rolling pin has gone and I can actually shut the kitchen drawer I feel rather sad. A bit like the day I threw out the tatty collection of dolls that my children so despised. The drawer housed a collection of recipes as well garnered over nearly a quarter of a century, and once vital to my daily needs.

When I was married, not only could I not boil the proverbial egg, I could not even boil a potato, and the 1912 edition of Mrs. Beaton that I had inherited from my mother was not much use either. Before the war, our subterranean kitchen had been presided over by a series of cooks that my long-suffering step-mother trained from the local orphanage each rising from kitchen maid as her predecessor married, and we girls were not allowed to enter their holy precincts.

Now I can not say I blame them, I do not care for people watching my culinary efforts, on the basis that what the eye does not see the heart does not grieve for. I had attended one or two haute cuisine classes, making game pie and exotic sweets, but these were of no use in 1945. The intermittent years had been spent in the services, as I have said before, learning to eat whatever was put in front of you.

The collection came from every possible source, starting with Ministry of Food handouts as to how to make the best of reconstituted milk. The welcome given to a tin of that terrible stuff is ludicrous now that we could almost bath in the fresh product. As for re-constituted egg; the first real egg I bought I paid a shilling (5p) for on the black market, so a tin of powdered yellow goo was like gold dust.

Jellied feet and pigs ears. I wonder why on earth I kept that, although the Austrian au pair I had in the early 1950’s to look after the children, told me the other day how much she had enjoyed the brawn I used to make. Though I do remember that Mock Goose, a recipe given in the Farmer’s Weekly in 1950 by Mrs. Arthur Webb, consisting of onions, potatoes and a soupcon of pigs fry was very tasty, when the butcher could spare a few extra bits of pig.

I have kept Mrs. Webb’s “Know your Joint”, even though I doubt if any self respecting butcher would now recognise them. So many joints are covered with obscene material – fat.

Rabbit brawn, using a pigs trotter and half a rabbit (use the back and leave the



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legs for another dish) sounds wildly exciting. “Mock” meringues, made with corn flour, are still a little familiar in the seedier baker’s window.

As food became more plentiful and one could afford, not so much in the terms of money but ingredients, to become more adventurous the recipes became more colourful, and less ingenuity was required to provide a nourishing and interesting meal. One thing those years taught me was to abhor waste, and I still render down every scrap of fat and make breadcrumbs from crusts of bread and soup from left over vegetables.

In the 1960’s, I occasionally attended some cookery classes that made Mrs. Beeton look like one of her “Slut Farthings” (badly made bread). Hours spent taking all the bones out of chickens and then building them up again to look like a chicken, oddly enough, with all sorts of savoury spices and fillings occupying their interior. It was at this time that my children went through a “Chicken and chips”, “egg and chips” and “steak and chips” period, and nothing could beat the chocolate pudding with chocolate sauce at school on Fridays, with baked beans and Lyons Swiss Roll for tea. But at least my dinner parties attained a certain elegance.

But I have one worry. When you consider the changes in eating habits and food over the past fifty years, will the next quarter century bring us all this phoney ertzarts food prophesied by the pundits? I, for one, sincerely hope not. The world will be a much duller place when a good juicy steak or pork chop is replaced by a sort of bit of chewing gum, or a pill, even if that is fine for astronauts,



Pam and her husband with daughters Hazel and Claire, celebrating Hazel’s 21st at the Sculpture Gallery

I thought the bane of my life was packing school trunks. By the time I had disinterred the sixth tennis ball (clearly marked with the owners name from the dog’s basket, and married the myriad pairs of shoes, I reckoned I could teach Madam Callas a thing or two. That was even before we

reached the socks. How eight pairs of beige knee length socks, marked, became a heterogeneous assortment of thirteen articles of hose varying in size from baby booties to seven league boots, of all colours of the spectrum I have never worked out! It probably has something to do with that terrible fourth form genetical



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problem: "If Sooty and Sweep have six offspring 2 black and 2 white and 2 khaki, give reasons for this statement."

In later years I left this to the returning pupil merely casting a jaundiced eye to see that more or less everything was put in the trunk, and prepared to answer frantic SOS's for biology books – found regrettably at Half Term under the owner's mattress, and eye liner, "to be sent in a pencil case

I know now that I never even started before. I have just despatched sixteen year old for her first session at "A" level college, eighteen year old as an embryo physiotherapist to Northern climes, and a god daughter, to whom I am in loco parentis, and who uses my house as a repository, to Italy with the foreign office, as I suspect a sort of 20th century Marta Hari, in the course of one week!

"A" level girl should have been easy. Her gear can consist in the main of tattered jeans, tennis shoes (odd ones – very odd!), trainers, ex school blouses thrown in a pan with a pot of dye to produce that currently fashionable psychedelic effect topped by Arran type sweaters, so stretched that they could comfortably encompass a fairly far gone pregnant elephant in addition to their rightful owner. She had received permission to take her elderly and much travelled rabbit (live!), and his accoutrements seemed to take up as much room as hers. As I looked the sordid pile over, and threw out the fifth jodhpur boot, I pointed out that that I did not think that the "A" level syllabus in Biology, Chemistry and Physics included riding, and she would be dependent on the kindness of local farmers for any such extra-curricular activities. Suggestions that a few concessions to gracious living such as a dress or two should be included were looked on with scorn!

The physiotherapist's list of uniform made that demanded by her former school look as if it was equipment for a nudist colony. Regulation shoes, white drip dry blouses, grey skirt, hospital capes, and piece de resistance six pairs of black knickers. There was also a set of BONES skulking about, which the spaniels had been eying eagerly, and I fully expected to find them buried in my favourite rose bed, if not engaging in a talk yourself out of this exercise with the local police!

Before Marta Hari could start packing she had to unpack the trunks left behind before her last sojourn in foreign parts. Each treasure unearthed brought screams of delight or derision, and the next local jumble sale should be a sell out! Most fascinating of all were the piles of old love letters, and I kept getting asked whether I thought the one starting "My Darling little itsy bitsy" was from the one with acne or the one with halitosis. Why I should remember, if she could not, I do not know! There was not a case, trunk, box or paper bag that did not contain some signs of

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Three generations. One sense of duty

someone's imminent departure somewhere. I banged my shins on piles of erotic literature, pop records, tennis racquets and physics books round every corner.

When I first walked into Tyrells Manor, there was a lovely lady waiting, Mrs. Doris Hedges, who came in four mornings a week, and was with me for eighteen years, supplemented by au pairs when the children were small. But the time came for Mrs. Hedges to retire, and I had to look around. I had a cottage available which helped.

Among the many replies, was one with a stamped addressed envelope, from someone in a psychiatric hospital, who was looking for a post where she could have her two daughters during the holidays: they were currently at boarding school. Her husband had left her for "a newer shinier model". I liked her letter, and she came to see me, and I took her on, she had wonderful references, one of which castigated me for daring to employ her as a domestic.

Sheila was such fun, and when she overcame her nervousness, she told me her story. She had a sad childhood, and married someone in a Government service, and they had spent a fair time abroad, where her two daughters were born. After a spell in the UK, when they had bought a small cottage with mostly her money, the husband was posted to Cairo. She was to follow when she had found a suitable girls boarding school. She arrived in Cairo to find that he had fallen in "leurve" with a lady very senior to him.

Sheila created mayhem, and tried to commit suicide, so was promptly sent home to the psychiatric hospital. He AND his girlfriend were also sent home. They were a major security risk. Mike, Sheila's husband, then moved into *her* cottage. Which was near his work.

While Sheila was working for me the girls were transported home by car at the beginning and end of every term and for exeats. They settled in comfortably in the farm's cottage and I lent her furniture and a small television.

Mike, Sheila's husband came early to collect the girls to go back to school one November Sunday, and found Sheila sitting in front of a roaring fire, watching television, the girls out playing with friends. He was jealous, and suggested that they should go upstairs and make use of the double bed. Sheila told him "Nothing Doing!" He rambled on about the cold cottage, no television etc. etc. For once they took the girls back to school together. Later that afternoon, some friends from the village where Sheila and Mike had the cottage visited her. They let drop that the girl friend was ensconced there. Needless to say Sheila asked for a lift back to me and her farm cottage!

Next month – Woman in a Man's World.

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STOKE HAMMOND GARDENING CLUB

In what can only be described as 'glorious weather' we set off for our trip to the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew. We had a wonderfully comfy ride with only a



couple of minor holdups and this visit was by popular demand so we were all looking forward to the day out.

Kew looked great in the sunshine and we set off to explore the wide broadwalk borders, the

pagoda, the amazing tree-top walk, the Palm House and, of course, the Temperate House which had been re-opened in May by Sir David Attenborough after a five year restoration programme. This magnificent Victorian glasshouse displays thousands of plants from all over the world, many of them endangered, and all labelled with information everywhere. Inside the front door are two urns of 'Angels Trumpets' which were beautiful and had been featured on 'Gardeners World' only last week. Kew is also home to their own scientists and horticulturists all working to identify plant solutions to some of the most critical challenges facing us today.



There were so many more attractions to see including the Alpine House, Arboretum, vegetable gardens and apart from the opportunity to see plants collected by intrepid Plant Hunters over the years it was also fascinating to see Kew Palace which had been the summer residence of King George III, Queen Charlotte and their 15 children. There were knowledgeable guides and plenty of printed information about their life at Kew and even the kitchens and domestic quarters next door fired the imagination. To be honest the 5 hours we spent there were definitely not enough as we certainly did not see everything - I even failed to get to the shop which was a first !!!

I am sure everyone enjoyed the visit and, of course, the amazing weather was the icing on the cake. Our next Gardening Club event will be our Christmas get-together so put a 'save the evening' in your diaries for Friday 14th December and letters will be going out to all our members in early November.

Church News

Review:

Afternoon teas: Our September afternoon tea was the last of the year. It had been a rainy day, so there were just a stalwart few, but we did put the world to rights! The next Afternoon tea will be May 2019!

Ride and Stride: Our churchwarden, Harry took part in the Ride and Stride again last month, visiting 34 churches!...Wow! He's collecting sponsorship money as we speak. Funds will be divided between the Bucks Historic Churches Trust and St Luke's Church in the village. Harry offers his thanks to everyone for your support.

Village Show: The church held a bric-a-brac tombola stall with many prizes at the village show. and raised a total of £117 for which we are most grateful!



Community Breakfast: Last month's community breakfast was later in the month than usual, but just as busy. Owing to Dave being unwell, the cooking was done by Diane, who coped admirably despite a rush on sausages and fried eggs! Dave will be back next month.

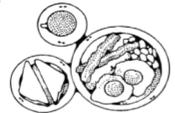
Forthcoming events:

What a busy month we have coming up...and it's not even Christmas yet!

Prayer meetings: Our prayer meetings will take place this month at **8pm on Wed 10th and 24th October at The Birches, Church Rd.** If you have anything you'd like prayers for, please let us know and if you'd like to join us, please be sure to call John, as we sometimes change times and dates last minute.



Community Breakfast: We will be holding our Community Breakfast again on **Saturday 13th October** (back to our usual 2nd Saturday) and serving breakfast from **8.30am**.



St Luke's Day – Gift Day: St Luke's day is 18th October and as he's our patron saint, we are proud to celebrate this anniversary by holding a Gift Day on **Saturday 20th October**. St Luke's symbol is a winged ox. The symbol was developed over centuries, but fully expressed as we know it now, by Rabanus Maurus - a medieval German archbishop - and represents sacrifice, service and strength – qualities Christians aspire to. In the next couple of weeks, every house in the village will receive a letter inviting you to give a donation in the envelope provided. Envelopes can then be left at the places listed in the letter or brought to the church gift day. Donations are used specifically for restoration and project work (our next project is the improvement of our heating system). If you wish, you may specify where you'd prefer your donation to go. We'll be serving **teas and coffees from 10 to 12** and **soup and rolls from 12 till 2** for donations. We'd love to see you so come on down!



Special services:

Harvest festival & lunch: Harvest is a special time in church and given the unusual weather we've had, this year will be particularly significant. Our harvest festival gives us a chance to thank God for providing for us. Come and join us to thank Him for His bounty. Our **Harvest festival** is at **11am** on **Sunday 7th October**.

We're looking for people to help us decorate the church. We'd be especially pleased if you could help with **flower arranging**. If you're particularly experienced or keen, you



could make an arrangement for one of our windows. We can offer a contribution towards the cost of flowers and we have plenty of gardens with greenery. Contact Diane for details. If you have any produce you'd like to offer - from your own garden or something you've bought, fresh or packaged, feel free to bring it to the service

where you will be able to lay it at the altar. All donations are given to a local food bank after the service. We'll be having our **Harvest Lunch** (buffet with pudding!) at **1 for 1.30pm** on the same day. **Please contact Harry, John or Diane by 3rd October if you'd like a ticket.** Tickets are **£6** for adults (**£3** for children) and include a free glass of wine (not for the children!) **No tickets on the door.**

St Luke's Day – patronal festival: We'll be holding a special service of thanks for the life of St Luke with Holy Communion on **Sunday 21st October** at **9am**. Do come and join us!

Café church: On **Sunday 28th October**, we'll be holding another **Café church** service. This is a different style of interactive service we have been offering on an ad hoc basis for the last few years and is more accessible to complete newcomers to church. In fact the "service" lasts only about **15 to 20 minutes**. Your



choice of simple breakfast is served from **9.30am** on. There are newspapers, games and toys for the children and there's the opportunity to chat! There's no charge, but donations are taken in place of a collection. At about 10.15, the leader will ask for your attention and the "service" begins. There may be a song or a reading, but there are usually some prayers and thought-provoking comment on life, linked with how God fits into our lives in the modern world. If you don't have much experience of worshipping in a formal church service, but want to try church, this is the service for you!

Church Benefice Website: www.brickhillchurches.org.uk. If you want to come to a service, all church service times are listed on the website, along with contact details for the Rector. His phone goes straight to an answerphone but he will reply as soon as he's able. The Rector's day off is Monday.

Church news articles are now available to read on the benefice website (click on Stoke Hammond in the list and scroll down to Stoke Hammond Newsletters)

If you would like to come to church but have mobility problems please ring John (see below) regarding transport. If you would like to volunteer to help, have a prayer request or enquiry, please ring **Churchwardens: Harry, on 07773065271; Diane, on 270409** or **Treasurer: John, on 270202**.



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TEBBUTT PAINTINGS



Inland Waterways Association, Milton Keynes Branch, in association with Canal & River Trust, The Parks Trust and Wyvern Shipping Co Ltd, invite you to our

Autumn Canal Clean-up



Photo: Vernon Draper

Friday 12 - Saturday 13 October 2018

Join us for our Clean-up of the Grand Union Canal from Fenny Stratford to Leighton Buzzard.

This twice-yearly event is organised by IWA Milton Keynes Branch, sponsored by Wyvern Shipping Co Ltd and supported by Canal & River Trust and The Parks Trust. Everyone is welcome whether by boat or on foot. You can litter-pick from the towpath and hedges, or work aboard a boat to retrieve items from the canal or opposite bank. Hi-vis jackets, gloves and hard hats etc. are provided, but please bring your own safety footwear (steel-capped boots mandatory on workboats). Tea and coffee are provided, but please bring your own lunch. If you are under 18, you must be part of a supervised group. We look forward to seeing you!

Itinerary and Contact:

Friday 12 October, 09:30: Sign-in and Safety briefing, for 10:00 start at Fenny Stratford Lock, MK1 1BY. Lunch midday-ish. Finish at Globe Inn Linslade, LU7 2TA (Bridge 111).

Saturday 13 October, 09:30: Sign-in and Safety briefing for 10:00 start at the Globe Inn Linslade, LU7 2TA (Bridge 111). Finish at the Grove Lock pub, LU7 0QU (Lock 28) early afternoon.

For further information and to volunteer, please contact Pat Titmas at: pat.titmas@team.waterways.org.uk stating which day(s) you would like to attend, whether you are attending by boat or on foot, and which activity you would prefer.

If you haven't heard about the Clean Up before, please see: <https://www.waterways.org.uk/miltonkeynes/cleanups>



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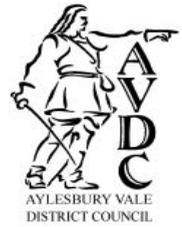
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News

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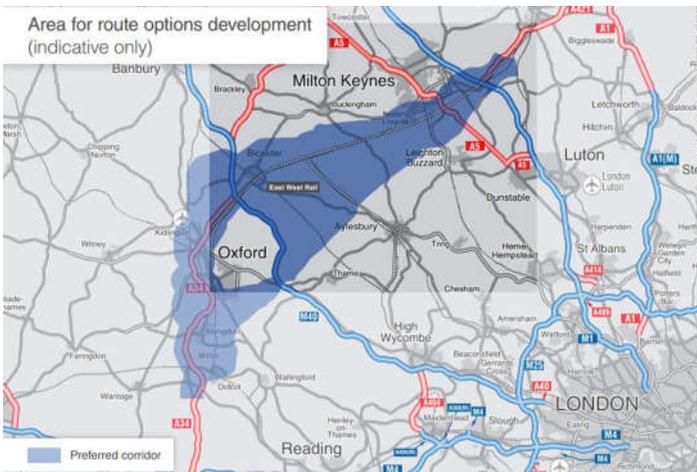
12 September 2018

For immediate release

Cambridge - Milton Keynes - Oxford Expressway Corridor B announcement

Highways England has today announced that Corridor B is its preferred route for the proposed Cambridge - Milton Keynes - Oxford Expressway, following a programme of stakeholder engagement. This is the first of a number of key decisions that will be taken in respect of this locally and nationally important project. Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC) says today's announcement is important in helping us to start to understand more about the government's plan for the area and to continue to work with partners to understand the potential implications with its members, local communities and partners.

The expressway is just one of the components of the government's strategy for the Cambridge - Milton Keynes - Oxford growth corridor and is of great relevance to our residents and businesses as approximately 70% of the new road will pass through Aylesbury Vale.



The Leader of the Council, Councillor Angela Macpherson, said: "Today's announcement provides clarity on the government's preferred corridor. Whilst this is a scheme of national importance, it is essential that Highways England engages with us and our communities in the critical next stage of this project that will be

focused on determining the detailed route within the identified corridor. "We now need to take time to properly assess and understand the corridor decision and discuss the implications with our local communities, members and partners, in particular, Buckinghamshire County Council. This cannot be another HS2, and we will press the government to understand the benefits this infrastructure can bring to the Vale. "The government has identified that the expressway can help to unlock growth across the corridor and we want to work with government to help shape good growth and create successful and sustainable places with our local communities."

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READERS LETTERS



***Dear Editor** – I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the Committee of the Village Show and the volunteers for putting on such a grand Village Show. I do hope that they manage to raise funds. Yes, I did make my way there (and back). Spent some cash that I had on me. Roll on 2019 and the next one!*

Mavis Berrow

***Dear Editor** – I am most concerned about the speed of some of the cars that travel along Bragenham Side, the worst offenders I have to say seem to be the parents delivering and collecting their children from the Day Nursery held at the Community Centre. It would be so easy for a child or indeed an adult to step out in the road not realising the excess speed that some vehicles are travelling at on what is a quiet residential road. Please think and curb your speed.*

Name & address supplied.

***Poppy Appeal 2018** - In this 100th year since the ending of the Great War (World War I) the Poppy Appeal has issued not only the 1914 2018 poppy pins but also a unique **Centenary Pin**. I have just 50 of these special pins being sent to me. Each one costs £2.50, (I have an invoice for £100 for them here!) so if you require one do please let me know, otherwise ordinary Poppies may be obtained from the usual sources, that is to say The Dolphin, The Three Locks Public House, The Boot, Food and Wine Store and The Stoke Hammond Sports Club.*

*There will be a service of remembrance in St Luke's, at the top of Church Road, starting promptly at **10.45 on Sunday 11th November**. Wreaths will be laid by the Parish Council, on behalf of the Ex Servicemen's Association and the one family that lost relations in World War II ,the service is ecumenical and open to everyone. You will be made most welcome.*

Hazel Turner

Poppy Appeal Organiser for Stoke Hammond and Soulbury.

READERS LETTERS CONT/D

Christmas Tree Festival - I am on the scrounge! If you have a Christmas Tree St Luke's could borrow for the 8th and 9th December would you let me know, I promise to return it the following day. The theme is All things Bright and Beautiful. Trees do not have to follow the theme of the hymn, so if anyone has a decorative talent and would like to decorate a tree to display they would be most welcome. Themes already being made are 'All creatures great and small', All things wise and wonderful, the Junior Turners are doing 'The pleasant summer sun'. The organisations that are planning a tree are welcome to meet me in Church on the evening of FRIDAY 23 November at approximately 6.30pm (or after work) in Church to discuss positioning of the trees. I look forward to meeting you, there will be warm drinks and/or a glass of wine to be had.

Hazel Turner

01525 270404

Hon.Secretary to St Luke's PCC

HOUSE of COMMONS REGULATION of FIREWORKS LEGISLATION



PLANNING A PRIVATE FIREWORK DISPLAY/PARTY?

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE CURRENT LEGISLATION REGARDING ANIMALS. NB - INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE POLICE, ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANISATIONS AND SPECIALIST LAWYERS DUE TO THE DEVASTATING LOSS OF LIVESTOCK/HORSES/DOMESTIC ANIMALS FROM PRIVATE OR ORGANISED FIREWORKS EVENTS.

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The offence carries a fine of up to £20,000 and/or a prison term of up to six months. The Act is enforced by local councils, animal health officers and the police.

We kindly ask that you please remember this is still a village where there are livestock, horses and domestic animals that may take fright to fireworks which could lead to accidents causing loss or injury to both people and animals.

Name & address supplied.



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Local references available upon request.

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Stoke Hammond Parish News Edition - September 2018

New Term... We have enjoyed welcoming the children back to school and they look super smart in their new uniform and new logo! Over the holidays, our new signage has been installed both inside and outside the school and we have now launched our new website, which can still be found at highashschool.co.uk.

For prospective parents of children due to start school in September 2019, we are holding our **Open Morning on Thursday 4th October** from 9:30am until 12:00pm so please feel free to drop in at any time that morning for a tour and informal meetings with Mrs Boyce, our Headteacher. If you are unable to attend this time, then please contact the office on 01525 261620 to come at a more convenient date and time.



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Sun: 7am till 10pm

Our products:

News & magazines	Beers, Wines & Sprits	Pet food
Confectionary & snacks	Soft Drinks	Health & Beauty products
Bread (inc. Turney's) & cakes	Tobacco & Cigarettes	Frozen food & Ice creams
Dairy products	Groceries	Greeting cards
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Sandwiches & ready meals	Fruit & Vegetable	Stationary items

Other services:

- Paper delivery available for local residents (delivery charge is 25p per day).
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- Cash machine will be available.
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- Pies and coffee will be introduced in the morning.

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-------------------------	--

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DAVE & KAREN POLLINGTON

By Barbara Munn

Dave is our Group Scout Leader in charge of all scouting activities for 6 – 14 year olds in Stoke Hammond and has recently been awarded the “Chief Scout’s Commendation for Good Service”



Dave (right) receiving his award from the MK District Commissioner – July 2018

As many of you will know the village has a Beaver colony for boys and girls aged 6 to 8 years old, a Cub pack for 8 to 10½ year olds and a Scout troop for the 10½ to 14 year olds. Together they form the High Ash Scout Group which has been running since the 1970’s and currently supports around 50 young people from Stoke Hammond and surrounding villages. The young members can often be heard enjoying themselves on Thursday evenings whilst making the most of the village Community Centre facilities. As well as the weekly meetings the group will often



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travel further afield to experience weekend camps, expeditions, water activities and climbing.

The Scout movement helps young people from 6 – 25 to enjoy fun and adventure while developing skills such as teamwork, leadership and problem solving; practical skills like cooking and first aid and personal skills such as resilience and empathy all with the aim of creating positive, confident young people and stronger communities.

Young people who want to join scouting should get in touch with the group as they often can find space for more. There are also opportunities for volunteers of 14 years upwards. You don't need to have been a scout and people from any background would be welcome whether you are able to offer an hour a month, a day a year or more. The skills you gain would be transferable to your workplace and enhance your CV or education application. Our village group is thriving, but it constantly needs more volunteers so if interested please see the contact details at the end of the article.

- ***EARLY LIFE***

Dave was born in Kimpton, Hertfordshire to parents who moved there from Heston on the outskirts of London after they married and have stayed in the same house ever since. He and his younger sister went to the village primary school and both became involved in Scouts as his father was the Scout leader. At 11 he moved to secondary school in Hitchin and remained in the scouting movement going on adventurous expeditions abroad with Venture Scouts to places such as Switzerland, Germany and Southern Ireland. After A levels in Maths, Physics and Chemistry Dave went to Bradford University to study Mechanical Engineering with Manufacturing Systems, a 4 year sandwich course for which he was sponsored by SFK and spent his year in industry at their factory in Luton. During that year he and Karen moved from being friends to becoming a couple.

Karen was brought up in Harpenden and is also from a scouting family. Her father was an Assistant County Commissioner and her mother helped making costumes for the annual Harpenden Gang Show which she continues to do to this day. While they were both Venture Scouts she and Dave met and became good friends; Karen took part in many of the activities and expeditions alongside Dave. At 18 Karen left school and went to train as a nurse at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London. When they met again a few years later Karen invited Dave to the hospital ball and after that they managed a commuting relationship with Dave in his final year at Bradford and Karen now a qualified RGN in London. Because of the scouting connection both sets of parents became good friends and although Karen's father is sadly no longer

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alive her mother and Dave's parents continue to go on holiday twice a year with friends they made whilst being parents of scouts.

- **CAREERS**

After graduating in 1992 Dave became a graduate engineering in Wigan for Milliken, a US owned industrial textiles company and was lucky enough to have his induction training in the USA. Over time Dave became a Planning Manager and then a Advance Production Manager working in several of the company's factories in Lancashire. Milliken owned an industrial mat manufacturer in Denmark and in 1998 decided to buy out a competing company which happened to be in Leighton Buzzard. Dave and Karen leapt at the chance to move nearer to their families and Dave became the technical support manager helping to bring in modern manufacturing processes and improving safety. Later he became the factory manager. At the end of the 90's Milliken decided to amalgamate all of it's mat manufacturing operations in Manchester and gradually closed down the Leighton Buzzard facility. For a while Dave commuted weekly but found combining this with a young family quite difficult so he moved to work in Bletchley for Terrapin which made flat pack buildings such as temporary school classrooms and was one of the original offsite construction manufactures delivering the new army barracks at Colchester and providing temporary custodial cells to reduce prison overcrowding. He was initially the factory manager and became a director in 2005.

When the recession struck in 2008 the demand for building hire evaporated so his construction company was in trouble and Dave was made redundant. He spent a while looking for a middle management position, but such things were in extremely short supply so eventually he decided radically to overhaul his ambitions. He was fortunate to bump into a neighbour in Tesco who, after hearing his circumstances, dropped a note through his door suggesting something interesting might be available at Milton Keynes Council. So in 2009 Dave made the slightly surprising move to become responsible for managing the development of the Early Years Childcare scheme offering free education and childcare to 2 year olds from deprived areas of the city through the government's Sure Start Scheme. Dave described his time there as eye opening when he learnt about the level of deprivation. But he also found it very rewarding to help families and see success stories. In 2012 he moved back to offsite construction and joined his current company, Prestige Homeseeker. It makes over a dozen luxury park and leisure lodges a week from its production lines in Rushden and Kettering, Northamptonshire. Dave is now the Operations Support Manager overseeing the groups production planning, process improvement initiatives and assisting with trouble shooting.

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- ***KAREN'S CAREER and the POLLINGTON FAMILY HOME LIFE***

Karen and Dave got engaged in 1993 and married in 1995. At the beginning of 1995 Karen moved from St. Mark's hospital in London to St. Helens hospital in Lancashire and then to Whiston Hospital in Liverpool. Karen chose to specialise in colo-rectal nursing and her various jobs have led to the post she has now held since 2004. As a specialist nurse in stoma care she works both in Milton Keynes Hospital and the community caring for people in their own homes which she finds both emotionally challenging and very rewarding. In Wigan the couple first rented and then bought a house in 1996. They found Wiganers very welcoming and friendly and enjoyed a busy social life. In 1998 their first son, Jack was born not long before they moved back south. The company wanted Dave to take up his job here straightaway so they rented in Leighton Buzzard while they sold their house in Wigan. The very first house they liked the look of in the estate agents window happened to be here in Manor Close and so they moved here in 1999 paying double the Wigan mortgage for a smaller house. Karen returned to work after maternity leave taking up a post at Milton Keynes Hospital until Toby was born in 2001. By 2008 Karen had returned to working at Milton Keynes Hospital and the couple moved to their current property in Scotts Close to give their growing family a bit more space. Jack is now about to begin his second year at Swansea University studying Mechanical Engineering. Toby meanwhile is now in Year 12 at Cottesloe School and is taking A levels in Maths, Physics, Design and Technology and Further Maths just as his brother did 3 years ago and their father many years before that.

- ***SCOUTING***

When Jack was 6 he joined the nearest Beaver colony which was then in Newton Longville but later moved to Stoke Hammond. Dave became a parent helper after he volunteered to accompany a group to the Space Centre in Leicester. At 8 Jack moved to Cubs and then to Scouts until he was 14 when he joined one of the Milton Keynes Explorers Groups. As Toby turned 6 and was to join Beavers Dave decided to regularly help with Cubs and then 11 years ago he became their leader. He is now Group Scout Leader which involves supporting all the section leaders and working with the Parents' Committee to manage the groups finances and generally oversee it's smooth running. Being a small village group there is a good feeling of camaraderie between all the volunteers with each section regularly helping each other out especially when it comes to camps or more adventurous activities. Like all groups in Milton Keynes there is a constant need for additional volunteers, especially in the older scout section where David Tooth is officially the only adult leader, so any offers of help are warmly welcomed. Both Jack and Toby continue to help when they can.

Scouting is something the family has in common, going to 2 or 3 camps a year, including a chillier one just before Christmas. Previously Karen was on the Parent's Committee; now she prefers to stay in the background and offer emotional support from home. But all agree scouting has provided fond memories, ample social opportunities and great #SkillsForLife.

- ***FOOD***

The family enjoy the odd takeaway with their favourite being a curry from The Ganges in Fenny Stratford. They all enjoy traditional pub food and like to explore new venues. Their favourite locally remains The Red Lion in Great Brickhill where the boys both have part time jobs and Helen, the landlady, used to be one of the Cub leaders. At home Karen insists Dave is the better (but less frequent) cook with chocolate and alcohol-based desserts his speciality. Toby bakes bread and cakes and has won a prize for his platted loaf in the village show.

- ***HOLIDAYS***

With 2 teenage sons the family prefers to take activity breaks often with their extended family sharing large houses predominantly around the UK. Over the last few years they have climbed Snowdon and other mountains, experienced white-water rafting, canoed, zip wired, surfed and climbed. They have just returned from North Yorkshire where they joined up with Dave's sister and her family for a fun week which included celebrating their parents 80th Birthdays.

- ***DESERT ISLAND CHOICES***

Karen said that Dave just can't manage without his mobile phone and lots of apps. A mobile not being in the spirit of the radio 4 programme we compromised with an app only device giving access to rugby and formula 1 information. Karen's needs of her lip balm were far simpler.

As a long-distance commuter Dave enjoys audio books by authors such as Dan Brown, Jack Ryan and John Grisham. Karen loves reading books and has recently finished Liza Jewell's most recent novel "Watching you".

As an edible luxury Dave immediately picked Terry's Dark Chocolate Orange and Karen was even more enthusiastic about Lindt Lindor White Chocolate Truffles.

If you would like to know more about scouting opportunities for boys or girls from 6 – 14 in the village or about how you could help as an adult or teenage volunteer, please get in touch through the village Facebook page or email highashscouts@mkscouts.org.



Toby, Dave, Karen and Jack

MAVIS'S QUIZ

Answers to last month's quiz and if you remember it was the case of finding a word that could be placed either in front or behind each group of three words. Here are the answers and I have to apologise for those of you who struggled on question 10 as the last of the three words should have read as STILE and not STIFF, the correct answer being TURN.

- (1) STATION (2) CHECK
(3) CHEER (4) BRAIN (5) FLOWER
(6) PUBLIC (7) SAFETY (8) UNDER
(9) PEA (10) TURN

Some more of the same to get the little grey cells working, finding a word that can go either in front or behind the following group of words??

- (1) BLUE, HOUND, PRESSURE (2) SPOT, FOLD, EYE (3) CREAM, FLY, CUP
(4) AGE, CAST, CURTAIN (5) HOCKEY, PACK, SKATE (6) ECONOMICS, RULE, TRUTH
(7) LAND, LIGHTS, TIDE (8) BOILED, CORE, BOARD (9) MASTER, PLANK, WAY
(10) FILL, LOCKED, LADY

Best of luck, hope you can work them all out !!

Answers next month





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TAKE A LOOK AT OUR NEW WEBSITE

www.stokehammondcommunitycentre.com





Blocked drains scam - Aylesbury Vale

Thames Valley Police have received recent reports of a scam, where residents are told that there is a problem with their drains.

Victims are being contacted by people claiming to be either from Thames water or Dyno Rod, saying that their drains are blocking and require specialist equipment to clean them, costing around £500 to hire.

At one property in Wendover the money was handed over and we are aware of several other attempts in Aylesbury.

If you receive an unsolicited phone call, or someone comes to your property, don't always believe what they are saying. Scammer will try and get your confidence and may use technical information, to make it sound like they know what they are talking about. Consider using a call-blocking service, which will stop calls that aren't in your address book coming through, unless you authorise them.

You can find more advice and information by visiting the [Buckinghamshire and Surrey Trading Standards](#) or [Action Fraud](#) website.

You can also download a copy of the Little Book of Big Scams.

Please look out for vulnerable friends, neighbours or family and make sure they know how to deal with unsolicited telephone calls.

If you have been a victim of this or another type of fraud you can contact [Action Fraud](#) online or by calling 0300 123 2040

Watch out for these fake TV Licensing emails.

We've seen a sharp increase in reports about fake TV Licensing emails claiming to offer refunds. The emails state that the refund cannot be processed due to "invalid account details". The links provided in the emails lead to phishing websites designed to steal personal and financial details.

Always question unsolicited requests for your personal or financial information in case it's a scam. Never automatically click on a link in an unexpected email or text.

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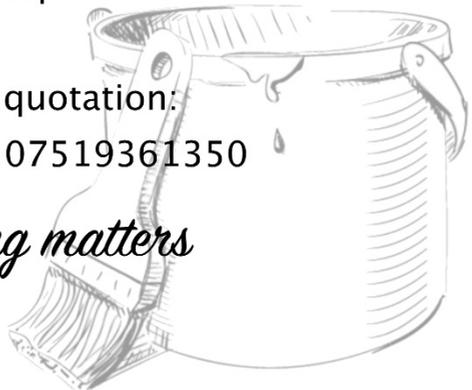
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PAGEY'S SOW & GROW "PATCH"

October is almost upon us. Those of us who grow have a had an interesting year. Cold and snowy early in the year when we are trying to get early seeds germinating and then dry and hot through late spring and summer. I've had some great success and some failures. In fact, like every year regardless of the weather. The lesson every year of course is don't set yourself to a rigid timeline program. Nature has a way of catching up if the weather is cold or hot, wet or dry, we just have to adapt (and we have to water in really dry times). So this year

Toms, peppers, melons, cucumbers, squash, garlic, sweetcorn, French beans, spuds, asparagus, blackcurrants, plums, apples have been bountiful. My onions, carrots, parsnips, Brussels sprouts have not - far from it in fact. Why....the carrots and parsnips failed to germinate and I resowed twice. The Brussels have been attacked mercilessly by the cabbage white butterfly and eaten to extinction and the onions never gathered pace through the summer as they have before. I guess it might be the curse of "showing off" what did it! Last year the parsnips were as long as my leg, the onions as big as my head and the carrots as sweet as....a sweet thing. And everyone knew it cos I showed them! Now I pretend I've eaten them and guide them to the toms



So we are all harvesting, storing, freezing and giving our surplus away. Over the next few weeks gather in Toms, squash, courgettes, melons (assuming onions, shallots are already in) - an early frost will do em in! The same by the way for the tender perennials - pelargoniums, dahlia, cannas, tuberous begonia and glads need lifting, especially if you have the cold, wet clay soil I have...shiver. I will be bringing in (to the greenhouse) key pots, herbs, ginger, lemon grass for the winter as well as sowing winter salads now. Also get your garlic, onion sets and broad beans in the soil by end of October latest - yes it's that time of year - mulch in loads of compost, fertiliser now and plant the cloves and beans 3 weeks later. As early as possible cut your herbs for drying - bay leaves, bergamot, sage, thyme, rosemary.....tie in bundles and hang up in your kitchen to dry. Gives a great smell and 6 weeks later crunch them into self sealing bags to use for the next 8 months.



Lastly tidy up the garden, pull weeds up, dig over and lay the last bit of grass cuttings down on the soil to help reduce nutrients leaching out of the soil in winter rains. Prune where needed and put grease bands on fruit trees...yes do it! Put feet up, make notes of your best tasting crops (for me Lark F1 sweetcorn and sweetmax squash were both fabulouso) , get the logs in for the wood burner, select a book, pour a drink and put your feet up.

Pagey



STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY CENTRE



Serving the community

DO YOU WANT TO HELP THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION RAISE FUNDS AND IT WON'T COST YOU A PENNY?

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**EVERYTIME YOU WANT TO MAKE A
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COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AS YOUR
CHARITABLE CAUSE.**

The management committee are seeking further members to help run the Community Centre and arrange events. If this interests you then please contact Greg Noble 01525 270744 or email shcommunitycentre@gmail.com

www.stokehammondcommunitycentre.com

STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

It's that time of year again – AGM Time!

Tuesday 13th November
7.30pm at the
Community Centre,
Bragenham Side.

STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY CENTRE



Serving the community



You are cordially invited to our AGM to find out what we have been doing over the last year, and our plans for the forthcoming year. Your input will be welcomed and please enjoy some drinks and nibbles with us on the night.

The management committee comprises of the following positions: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Parish Council Representative and Secretary. With the exception of the Parish Council Representative, the management committee is elected at the AGM. If you are interested in being considered for one of these positions or as a volunteer member, please submit your nomination to the address below. Nominations need to be received no later than the 6th November 2018.

Greg Noble – Oak Farm, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond, MK17 9DB
email: shcommunitycentre@gmail.com

The Secretary position is currently vacant, would you be interested?



FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT
FRIDAY OCTOBER 19th
SEE ADVERT ON REAR COVER



News from Buckinghamshire County Council

28 August 2018

Council to consult on 'realistic' options to make household recycling centres affordable.

An eight week consultation starts today (August 28) to hear the public's views on a series of proposed cost-saving and future growth measures to make the County's household recycling centres (local tips) affordable for the future.

The ten centres are well used and extremely popular, however, the County Council is having to reduce costs across all its services as funding reductions in the public sector continue to bite.

National figures show that in comparison with other areas, Buckinghamshire has a much higher number of sites serving its population. In addition, centres currently take certain waste like rubble, soil, plasterboard and car tyres for free where other Councils make a variety of disposal charges.

Buckinghamshire County Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment, Bill Chapple OBE said the review was a 'reluctant but necessary step'.

He said: "We have an extremely tough budget to meet from April 2019 onwards and this means facing up to some difficult decisions. There definitely needs to be changes, but my overall aim is to retain a service that still works for the majority of people going forward.

"Looking at all the data available, the responses to our user surveys and what other councils do, and bearing in mind the views of residents at four focus groups we held in July, there are some preferred options that we are setting out in the consultation. Realistically, without these, we're not going to get anywhere near our financial savings target.

"For example, there is a proposal to permanently close at least one site, with the preferred option being Bledlow. We are also including other proposals for closing two sites, Bledlow and Burnham, and to bring in selected weekday closures on days when the sites at Burnham, Chesham and Aylesbury (Rabans Lane) are less used.

"We're also proposing to introduce charging at all sites for specific waste that we don't legally have to accept for free. I completely understand that people don't like being faced with extra charges, however, I have taken into account the fact that less than a third of waste falls into this category, so the charges won't affect everyone and it also brings us into line with what other councils do.

"Of course, there are other areas where we have genuine choice and that's where an open and honest consultation is so important. For example, we're looking for views on which two weekdays people would prefer Burnham (if this site remains open), Chesham and Aylesbury (Rabans Lane) to be closed, and also what Buckinghamshire residents think about people from outside the county using our recycling centres, which is of course an extra cost to local county taxpayers."

The Council also plans to extend the operation of reuse shops (currently at Aston Clinton and High Wycombe and run by South Bucks Hospice) so more can be recycled and sold with the money going to charity.

Bill added: "I hope people will see the reasons for the changes I have to bring in and I look forward to hearing views on the areas where there is genuine and open choice."

The consultation runs until midnight on Monday, October 22. Access to the online survey and supporting information is available at www.buckscc.gov.uk/hrc-review A series of drop-in events is also planned in local libraries so people can find out more details about the proposals.

Council See red as Blue Badge abuse reports increase

10 September 2018

Those found to be fraudulently using a Blue Badge for easier parking across Buckinghamshire could face prosecution, fines of up to £1000 and possible withdrawal of the badge itself.

That's the clear warning from Buckinghamshire County Council as it brings in new measures to tackle the rising number of reports of suspected abuse of the Blue Badge Scheme.

Designed specifically to improve access for those with very restricted mobility, the national scheme has become open to various types of abuse by both badge holders themselves and others including friends, family and colleagues.

Examples of common misuse include using a badge issued to a person who has since died, or badges that are no longer valid or reported as lost or stolen. Other examples include letting a friend or relative use the badge or using a fake or copied badge. Cases can also be brought against anyone making a fraudulent application for a blue badge.

County Council Member for Resources, John Chilver said that it was abhorrent to think that people would actually abuse a system designed to help disabled people get on with their lives.

"It's shocking that people stoop to this level," he said "But reports are increasing and it's time for us to clamp down on this clear and blatant fraud to safeguard genuine Blue Badge holders."

"My advice to anyone who knows they are misusing a badge is to stop doing it now before they are caught. We will be carrying out more checks than ever before, so I make no apology when I say people have been warned."

For details about Blue Badges, a full set of questions and answers and how to report misuse, visit <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/blue-badge/>





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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

WASTE COLLECTION DATES



EDITORS NOTE: APOLOGIES TO THOSE FEW WHOSE COLLECTION DAY IS A TUESDAY.

Waste Bin: 	Recycling Bin:  Paper, glass, cardboard, plastics, cartons, cans & tins	Food Waste Bin:  Non-recyclable or compostable.	Garden Waste Bin: 
Wednesday 26 Sept		Wednesday 26 Sept	Wednesday 26 Sept
	Wednesday 3 Oct	Wednesday 3 Oct	
Wednesday 10 Oct		Wednesday 10 Oct	Wednesday 10 Oct
	Wednesday 17 Oct	Wednesday 17 Oct	
Wednesday 24 Oct		Wednesday 24 Oct	Wednesday 24 Oct
	Wednesday 31 Oct	Wednesday 31 Oct	
Wednesday 7 Nov		Wednesday 7 Nov	Wednesday 7 Nov
	Wednesday 14 Nov	Wednesday 14 Nov	
Wednesday 21 Nov		Wednesday 21 Nov	Wednesday 21 Nov
	Wednesday 28 Nov	Wednesday 28 Nov	
Wednesday 5 Dec		Wednesday 5 Dec	

EDITORS NOTE

So, to start with, AVDC made the dates printed for Waste Collection in last month's edition pretty pointless, by announcing a new collection day for most of the village. I say 'most' because the majority now have a collection day of Wednesday but for a very small number of households, AVDC have in their infinitive wisdom decided their collection date should be Tuesday. I'm still trying to get my head round as to how splitting collections across two days is more efficient! This also unfortunately means the Waste Collection Dates printed this month do not apply for the small minority whose collection falls on a Tuesday – Sorry.

Waste Collection Dates aside, I hope you enjoy reading the 'Spotlight On' feature, the Village Show report and the other regular features, plus we've received more Readers Letters this month.

Many local organisations submit regular reports, but some do not and I'm sure our readers would like to know more about you. You know who you are, so please do let me have more information about what you do and are planning.

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

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

VILLAGE DIARY

Tuesday 2 nd October	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre 19.30
Sunday 7 th October	Harvest Festival – St Luke's Church 11.00
Tuesday 9 th October	Ladies that Lunch – Sports Club Pavilion 12.30 -13.45
Saturday 13 th October	Community Breakfast – Community Centre 08.30 – 10.30
Friday 19 th October	Family Quiz Night – Community Centre 19.00
Tuesday 6 th November	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre 19.30
Saturday 10 th November	Community Breakfast 0 Community Centre 08.30 – 10.30
Sunday 11 th November	WW1 Centenary Commemoration – Village Green - Times TBA
Tuesday 13 th November	Village Show AGM – Community Centre 19.30
Tuesday 4 th December	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre 19.30
Saturday 8 th December	Senior Citizens Xmas Lunch – Community Centre
Friday 14 th December	Gardening Club Xmas Dinner – Community Centre – Times TBA



ORGANISATIONS THAT USE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

High Ash Scouts, Cubs, Beavers

Every Thursday 17.30 - 21.30hrs

Contact: John Till 01525 261444

Pilates - Group Matwork

Monday's 9.25am, 10.30am & 11.45am
7.10pm & 8.15pm

Contact: Louisa Harris 07941 203589

Buttons Pre-School

Monday - Friday

Contact: 01525 270501

**To Hire the Hall please telephone 07555 711929
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Aylesbury Vale District Council	01296-585858
Gypsy Hotline	01296-383774
Litter Enforcement Officer	01296-585395
Social Care Services (<i>Emergency Duty</i>)	01494-817750
MK General Hospital	01908-660033
Stoke Mandeville Hospital	01296-315000
Luton & Dunstable Hospital	01582-491122
SH Gardening Club (<i>Eileen Curry</i>)	01525 270858
Clerk to the Parish Council	07743-355484
Parish Council Chairman (<i>Greg Noble</i>)	01525-270744
County Councillor (<i>Janet Blake</i>)	01525-261288
District Councillor (<i>Neil Blake</i>)	01525-261288
District Councillor (<i>Ben Everitt</i>)	07817-756158
High Ash School	01525-261620
M.P. (<i>John Bercow</i>)	020-7219-6346

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STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
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Quiz Night



FRIDAY OCTOBER 19TH AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Doors Open 7.00pm the Quiz starts at 7.30pm

Entry £8.00 (£5 for Children) including a Hot Supper

£££ CASH PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM £££
(Max 6 persons per team)

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dietary needs, please call Alison on 07966 052806 or
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