

SH & NLS NEWS

Stoke Hammond & Newton Leys South

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G.O.M.

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BUCKS NEWS

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2021

www.stokehammondpc.com



**Thank you Nikki Gladdish & Eileen Curry for
creating this magnificent display at Lock 23**

**SOME OF THE EARLY SCARECROWS
APPEARING AROUND THE VILLAGE
AHEAD OF THE SHOW ON 7TH AUG**



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Hopefully, you will be reading this edition of the SH & NLS news before the Village Show taking place on the afternoon of Saturday 7th August from 1pm-6pm. It's going to be a great way of celebrating and getting together now that we're out of lockdown. One must say a big thankyou to the Village Show Committee and their band of volunteers for putting on such a great event, which takes a massive amount of organisation and work to put together. But the other reason for mentioning the show is that your Parish Council will be hosting a stall to allow you the Parishioners to meet with your Councillors in an informal setting and get an insight into past, current and future projects, plus ask questions that have been nagging with you but you've not had an opportunity to put to your council.

We are all very much aware that Gigaclear are in our village, and will be for some weeks yet, but please be assured that we have very much been in constant communication with Gigaclear, to try and ensure the least possible disruption and inconvenience to our parishioners. This may not always be evident by things such as non-working traffic lights and grass verges unable to be cut because of signage and barriers, but as soon as an issue is brought to our attention, our hard working and brilliant clerk, is straight on the case.

We are a very new council, so over the last month or so many of us have been attending various training courses and will continue to do so, to ensure that we can be proficient and more fully understanding of what we can and cannot do as a Parish Council and the correct and most effective methodology to achieve the results that will benefit our parish.

Whilst Planning matters can be found in the separate 'Planning Applications' section elsewhere in this edition of the SH & NLS News and although not actually within our parish, the Landfill Site in Newton Leys does very much affect us all. Councillor Stephen McNally in his Newton Leys South News, provides greater detail, but basically the Public Inquiry into the application to extend the operation for the use of the site till 2037 was quickly adjourned as the Inspector deemed further up to date assessments were required.

For those of you who are Facebook users, you will of course have seen the posts concerning The Dolphin PH and the Fenny Road layby, both of which are very much being led by our new Unitary Ward Councillor, Phil Gomm. We as a council have for a very long time been campaigning to try and get the dismal mess that is the layby addressed, but whilst it is within our parish, the land is owned by Buckinghamshire Highways, who are at last recognising that something needs to be done. We have also been putting pressure on the Canals River Trust to exercise more control over the moorings of the boating community, who should in fact moor on the opposing side of the canal which is a legitimate canal path mooring area. If as Councillor Gomm is suggesting, this layby area could be turned into a more pleasant setting with no moored boats or caravans, but something to use as an attractive canal side recreation area, then we suspect the majority of the parish would be in favour of that. We will keep you advised of progress.

With regard to the Dolphin and whilst we are extremely supportive of seeing our village having their pub back, this is not a Parish Council project, and if successful would be a Community Project very similar to The Stag in nearby Mentmore. We have of yet not been consulted on the project, but would certainly let our opinion and voices be known if the need arises.

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It was all quite surreal returning to the Community Centre for our July PC Meeting held on Tuesday 6th July, as we had not been there for some 16 months. We were joined by 5 members of the public and Unitary Ward Councillor, Phil Gomm.

Councillor Gomm did run through the current status on the aforementioned Fenny Road layby along with other Buckingham Council matters.

Other items of interest from the meeting were as follows:

- A member of the public asked what was happening about the planting of a new tree to replace that felled on the Green. This had been the subject of a poll, which determined the residents were in favour of such a replacement and indeed this had previously been agreed by the PC. We had however been advised by our tree specialist that the best time to plant a semi mature tree would be the latter end of the year and so we will program for that to be done.
- Another member of the public wanted the badly overgrown state and poor surface of the bridleway that runs down to Bletchley from opposite Dorcas Lane brought to our attention. The responsibility for keeping the undergrowth clear but not the maintenance of the surface or fencing does lie with the PC under their Devolved Services agreement. It was agreed the PC would ask their contractor to carry out an assessment and report back to the PC with their recommendations.
- The matter of the land adjacent to the Community Centre on Bragenham Side is an ongoing project subject to new consultation with Parishioners, but on the advice of Councillor Gomm that we are allowed to create a new field gate entrance with a public side gate, the PC agreed to instigate this asap. It would seem however, from quotations received, that the current shortage of building materials will govern the timescale for getting these works done. It was also agreed to increase for the summer months the cutting of the grass to this land from every four weeks to fortnightly.
- Councillor Franzine Sharkey was elected as the Parish Council's representative to the Stoke Hammond Community Association (SHCA), and it was at this point that Councillor Greg Noble also chair of the SHCA advised, that the approach road and pavement to the Community Centre that leads off Bragenham Side was going to be resurfaced from Monday 16th August with the works expected to last for two days. For the duration of the works both the Centre and the adjoining playground would need be closed to the public.

The next PC meeting is scheduled for 7.30pm on Tuesday 7th September to allow our councillors to have a bit of a break for August, but we are still around and available should any important matters arise. This September meeting will be held at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side.



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

Joanna Simonds, Hollymill Cottage, Newton Road, Stoke Hammond, Bucks. MK17 9DE
Tel: 07818 016108 clerk.stokehammondpc@gmail.com www.stokehammondpc.com

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READERS LETTERS



John Bowler would like to thank everyone in the village for their prayers and support during and following his recent illness. I am greatly affected by, and appreciative of, the kindness and consideration shown by many of our wonderful villagers. I'm making a steady recovery – back in the saddle – though I've never ridden a horse; better not try at my age.! Thanks again everyone.

Kind Regards,

John.



**A DATE FOR
YOUR CALENDARS TO JOIN
US AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THE EVENING OF
SATURDAY OCTOBER 16TH TO TAKE PART IN OUR QUIZ
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Update on fighting coronavirus in Buckinghamshire



16 July 2021

Dear Resident,

By now I think that we are all aware that on Monday (19 July), England will move to the final stage of the roadmap for unlocking and all current laws and restrictions around Covid will be lifted.

I am certain that when this was being planned the Government had not fully anticipated the rapid increase in infection rates. This has been due predominantly to the ease of transmission of the so-called 'Delta variant'. The infection rate in Buckinghamshire has increased significantly to 248 per 100,000. However, for those over 60 years the rate is far lower at 38.1 (51 cases). It would appear that the vaccination programme has been a major factor in the lower infection rate and the potential for serious illness amongst the older and most vulnerable groups. Hospitalisation rates also remain low with Buckinghamshire Hospital trust having 10 patients with Covid in the latest data.

You can get the latest data on Buckinghamshire at the [Covid dashboard](#) on our website.

On balance the Government's view is that this is the best time, during the summer months, to allow some return to a more normal life. This involves a shift away from laws and rules towards us all making personal choices about how to manage the risk both for yourselves and, importantly, for others.

Next Monday will not feel like a big release for everyone and some people will find this next step worrying, particularly after such a long period of legal restrictions. We are expecting the Government to update the guidance for people who are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable in the coming days. **So please keep thinking of others and how we all still need to work together to keep everyone safe.**

For that reason, I will personally be continuing to respect requests to wear a face covering in busy indoor spaces like shops and on public transport. **I would also ask that we do not seek to challenge or stigmatise anyone who continues to wear a mask where this is not specifically required as this can be very upsetting for those who remain apprehensive.**

I also want to thank everyone for all the effort and sacrifice that's been made since the start of the pandemic, as we move into this new phase of adapting to the virus. None

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of us could have imagined what we have collectively been through and I'm incredibly proud of everything the people of Bucks have done, and continue to do, to help their communities and to help stop the spread of the virus.

Guidance from Monday

As we know, the Government is moving from imposing rules and restrictions to issuing guidance on what people should continue to do to stay safe and protect others.

From Monday, some key protections will still remain in place:

- Get a PCR test if you develop Covid symptoms and isolate your household while you wait for the results.
- Isolate if you test positive for Covid or if contacted by NHS Test and Trace.
- Government expects and recommends that people continue to wear face coverings in crowded areas such as on public transport.
- While the work from home instruction is being lifted, a gradual return to the workplace over summer is expected and recommended.
- Government is encouraging more use of the NHS Covid Pass in high risk settings (you can get this via the NHS App, which is different to the NHS Covid-19 app).

Overall, the Government is still strongly advising people to really think carefully about minimising the number, proximity and duration of social contacts and to try to meet outside or where you can let plenty of fresh air in.

For the full details on the guidance for England from Monday, please [check the Government's website](#).

Vaccinations

It was very reassuring to hear again this week from the Government scientists about the overwhelming evidence that the vaccines are continuing to weaken the link between infection and serious illness and death. We know having two doses of the Covid vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and others from the risks of Covid-19 and with restrictions lifting on Monday and the current rise in cases, it's more important than ever to get your vaccine. If you haven't had your first jab yet, or are due your second, please arrange it as soon as possible. Currently, the NHS advises an eight-week gap between doses.

673,777 vaccine doses have now been administered in Buckinghamshire. Anyone aged 18 or over is eligible for a Covid-19 vaccine and, as ever, you can book both doses through the [NHS national booking system](#). Please call 119 if you can't book online.

Drop-in Pfizer clinics this weekend

Please be aware of our drop-in vaccine clinics – which make it really quick and easy to get your first or second dose with no need for an appointment. There's a Pfizer clinic today (Friday) and tomorrow (Saturday) at Wycombe Library, 8:30am – 5:30pm both

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days. So anyone aged 18 or over can get a first dose here, or second dose if their first dose was already Pfizer.

And there's more 'drop-in' vaccine clinics at Stoke Mandeville Stadium (9.30am – 7.30pm, every day until at least Sunday (18 July)), again offering the Pfizer vaccine. Finally, the 'Health on the Move' vaccine van is back in Bucks visiting Aylesbury, Wycombe, Gerrards Cross and Chesham. You can get first or second jabs here without an appointment (please leave an 8-week gap between doses).

Timings and venues for drop-in clinics may be subject to last minute changes to the schedule, so please check the [CCG \(Clinical Commissioning Group\) website](#) for the latest updates, and for other local vaccine information.

Testing

Covid testing will continue to be an important part of keeping us all safe. I know there's a lot of different information and messages out there about testing so I just wanted to underline the basics of which test to get, when, and how to access Covid testing in Buckinghamshire:

- If you have Covid symptoms, [book a PCR test via the national site](#). PCR tests can be ordered by phone or online and can be delivered direct to you, or you can visit a local testing site.
- If you've been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace as a contact, you can book a PCR test – but a negative test result does not remove the need to self-isolate.
- If you don't have Covid symptoms you can use rapid tests, known as Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs), to regularly check whether you might have Covid. The easiest way to do a rapid test is with a home-testing kit which can be picked up from pharmacies or [ordered online](#).
- You can find out more about [accessing rapid tests on our website](#).

Please remember that if you are on a low income and have been asked to isolate, you may be able to claim a £500 support payment – [go to the Government's website to find out more](#).

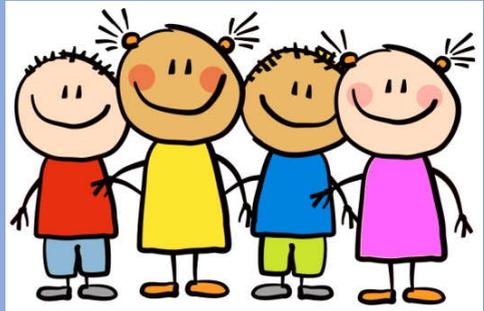
Silverstone – British Grand Prix

The British Grand Prix is on at Silverstone this weekend (15-18 July) with a capacity crowd expected. This is because the event is part of the Government's Event Research Programme so stringent measures are being followed and information and advice is available for local people on the [Silverstone website](#).

Even though it's not in entirely Buckinghamshire, we know large events at Silverstone do have an impact on our local communities and of course, it's an event many of our residents are likely to be attending – obviously you should only go to Silverstone if you have a ticket and please be mindful that the event takes place before the final easing of

Joyful Tots

- Joyful Tots is an inclusive session for parents, carers, or anyone looking after a baby or preschool child. Friendly mums are there to chat with and share problems, advice and information.
- We have been suspended for a considerable time due to the pandemic, but we would like to offer something for carers isolated by the situation
- Our regular session was 10 – 11.30am on Friday mornings during term times at Stoke Hammond Community Centre and Stoke Hammond Community Association still have this slot available at the centre and necessary equipment and toys
- Sadly, Jacklen is returning to full time work now her youngest is starting school and the extra hygiene and risk assessment responsibilities involved in managing the session under Covid mean that we'd need **volunteers to come forward and build a team** before we consider starting again
- An ex preschool leader, Diane no longer has her own toddlers, but has plenty of experience (and no distractions!) but needs your support to continue
- If you think you could help restart Joyful Tots, please Call Jacklen 07897 487657 or Diane 01525 270409 or message us on Facebook



Covid restrictions. Please be sure to follow all the measures outlined as part of the safe staging of this event.

How to keep getting our email newsletters

This will be my last Covid newsletter. I have often been asked why they only talk about Covid, rather than other local and council issues like roads or waste collection, housing, jobs etc. That is because these newsletters have been produced under the Government's Emergency legislation. That legislation will now expire and I will not be able to continue to write to you as I have over the past 18 months.

Personally, I would really like to continue this regular communication with you and importantly be able to widen it to include all those other matters that you would like to both hear about. The only way we can now do this is if you sign up for the new newsletters. The link is: www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/signup

I really hope that we can keep this conversation going and would welcome your feedback.

Stay safe, protect Bucks

Lastly, we know Covid isn't over, we know that risks remain, and whilst it feels like we're entering a new phase in this pandemic, with the current rise in cases none of us can be sure of what lies ahead in the coming weeks and months. Please remember that even if you've been vaccinated, you can still catch and still spread Covid-19, sometimes without knowing it.

Thank you again for continuing to play your part. Please continue to look after yourself, your loved ones, and importantly each other in our wider communities across Buckinghamshire and the country.

Martin Tett

Leader of Buckinghamshire Council



**Buckinghamshire
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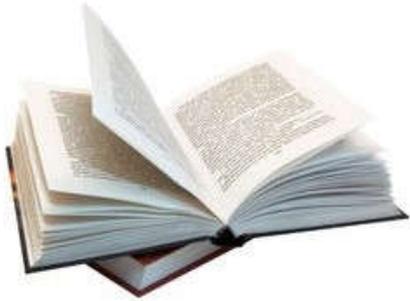
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STOKE HAMMOND BOOK CLUB



At last, we were able to hold our monthly meeting and it was good to see everyone. As a bonus we were delighted to welcome two new members to the Group.

The book we read during June was *The Heart of the Matter* by Graham Greene. The Novel won much acclaim but our opinions were mixed.

The story is set in a small British Colonial outpost in Sierra Leone during World War 11. The main character is Major Henry Scobie, a pious and righteous man who, when passed over for promotion feels he has let himself down and more particularly failed his unhappy wife. He eventually has money worries leading to a single indiscretion which gradually escalates in to a list of moral dilemmas for him culminating in tragedy.

Everyone agreed that it was, of course, well written and one of our group made the interesting point that the main character - Scobie - was Greene describing himself. He wrote the book following his wartime service with MI6 so was well connected with his subject. Greene was apparently a rather cold character who had gone through tough times in his life resulting in a lack of interest in people or their wellbeing, possibly a loveless marriage to a devout Catholic and his own struggle with Catholicism all of which added to his general character and consequently, it is felt, that of Scobie.

The comment was made by one of the group that they liked Scobie to start with but went off him as the book progressed. it was also described as 'hard going' and it was thought that several other characters were more deserving of sympathy than Scobie. Descriptions of West African countryside were appreciated and praise came from one of our members who said that she found this book different from many Graham Greene novels with the politics and catholic church information interesting. Summing up - worth the effort of 'staying with it'.

Our new book for the coming month is something completely different - 'The Go-Between' by L.P. Hartley.

Louisa Harris Pilates

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NEWS FROM NEWTON LEYS SOUTH (NLS)



Hello Again,

Big news this month is that the Public Inquiry into the planning application to extend the life of the landfill to 2037 was adjourned shortly after the meeting started on the 6th July, the inspector stated that there

was no up to date Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), there was only the original EIA from when the original planning application was made. There was also a question on section 73 of the Town and Country planning Act 1990, whether the application should be a new planning application or an extension to the old planning application. This is still being debated.

The inspector will be visiting Newton Leys on the 20th July to view the landfill site, Jersey drive and the issues on the amenities and the local area. The EIA will be completed by 24th July and the hearing will be moved to 19th October 2021. Hopefully we will get the result that we are hoping for.

It was good to see football flags during the euros and you could hear the screams across the development during the final, same old result I am afraid.

The Stoke Hammond Village show will be taking place on the 7th August from 1pm to 6pm, there will be lots of information in this newsletter, but I hope you will be able to attend, there will be a stall at the show where you can meet the Parish Council and discuss any issues you may have.

www.stokehammondvillageshow.co.uk

I have been contacted a few times about the leaseholds and the extra money Bovis homeowners have to pay to keep the green areas tidy as well as pay council tax to Buckinghamshire council for these services. There are lobby groups talking to the Government on this matter. Please feel free to contact me to see how we or the Unitary councillors can help , we can also lobby our Buckinghamshire MP Greg Smith. The play park equipment has been out of use for a year and I have contacted the contractor several times and will continue to



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We can't quite believe it's the summer holidays already! We had a fantastic end to the year, including a huge water fight, a snuggly movie morning and a very special end of year show and picnic. We are so proud of all our children- it has been a difficult year and they've brought kindness and happiness with them every day.

We'd like to say GOOD LUCK to our graduates moving up to 'big school'- we're sure you'll all have a wonderful time at your new schools. And we look forward to welcoming back familiar faces, and meeting many new friends.

Our 'Tiny Ashes' Forest School sessions (age 2-4, parents stay and play) have been so popular, we're going to continue to run them. To book your child in please check the Tiny Ashes pages on our website.

*We are a volunteer committee run charity.
The committee would like to extend a MASSIVE thank you to our incredible staff, who have gone above and beyond in these difficult circumstances to keep our children safe and happy. We couldn't be more proud of everything that you have achieved.*

Thank you to our outgoing committee members for all your hard work this year, and welcome to our new committee for September 2021! If anyone is interested in joining the committee please get in touch.

try to get them to action the issues.

The grass at the front of the development by the show home was reported as it was very long and blocked the view of cars pulling out towards Newton Longville, this has now been cut and will be monitored and maintained.

The public house in Stoke Hammond has been up for sale and there is potential to turn this into a community pub, Councillor Phil Gomm is looking for potential investors or people with skills to assist in the buying and running of the pub if it is purchased, if you would like more information, have a look at the Facebook site for the Dolphin pub.

We are also looking at cutting back the trees on the bridleway that runs parallel to the A4146 so that you can walk to Stoke Hammond and return along the canal if you fancy a 5k walk or run.

Please enjoy your Summer Holidays and time with family.

Councillor Stephen McNally



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Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire, MK17 9BN

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

Web: www.careatthelindens.co.uk

THE Lindens

Here at The Lindens we have been enjoying the fabulous sunny weather. It has enabled our residents to enjoy garden visits, seeing their loved ones in our beautiful gardens. Our patio area continued to be a popular area to chat, read newspapers, do quizzes and shoot hoops too!



Groups of our residents have been making margherita pizza, cupcakes and carrot cake. Then for World Ocean Day residents worked together to create and make a poster. Sea creatures and fish were painted, then cut out and mounted on the poster. Coloured tissue paper was used to create a seabed effect.



Several of our residents celebrated their birthday, our Kitchen Team always bakes and decorates a special birthday cake in celebration.

If you are looking for a career in Care or to develop your skills further, give us a call we will be pleased to hear from you.

With Best Wishes

Michael Hannelly

Director

The Lindens

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

Tel 01908 371705

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PAGEY'S SOW & GROW "PATCH"



Well summer has really arrived at last. The sun is beating down and I am cremating anything I can get my hands on onto the BBQ. The factor 50 cream is on, the beer is in my hand and Greg has reminded me to please do my "tips". First tip....hide when Greg comes round 😊 - only kidding Greg.

Well August and September are really high points as you see your veg grow and consume those delicious home grown fruits, roots and leaves. Sure, some of your early plants have finished blooming (my sweet Williams this year have been spectacular) but we have dahlias, lavender, clary blue, lilies, poppies, rudbeckia, asters etc delivering colour for ages yet.

Whether it is plants or fruit and veg we have to keep watering and feeding. For veg the tubas or fruits are all water and so need to be looked after - every day in the hot period. Cucumbers, melons, squash, peppers, chillies, tomatoes etc love and need water and feeding with a tomato liquid feed (every 10 days). But a word of warning in that irregular watering can cause fruits to split - even potatoes can split. If it hasn't rained for a couple of weeks the ground will be hard and the water will run off



and not get to the tender roots, so little and often is key. Also tomatoes will develop blossom end rot if they are not watered every day, which is a hard black bottom (that's right !) to the fruit - ugly and inedible. Pick the fruits as they ripen and don't be afraid to cut back long trailing cucumber or squash vines. With tomatoes, cut off the lower leaves as they start to wrinkle up and sow a few basil seeds or lettuce seeds in the pot or ground underneath the foliage. Nothing goes better with a Tom than basil.

Donna Saggerson

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There is still time to sow salad crops of radish and lettuce as well as herbs, dill, coriander and parsley. Kept moist you will have an abundance of fresh herbs through to late autumn. If you had strawberries make sure you peg down the runners for new plants next year AND start to collect seeds for next year. I have great fun keeping seeds from peppers, chillies, tomatoes, squash, melons, cucumbers etc for next year's crop. I am asked what variety they are but it was so long ago I can't remember so I respond with a yellow one (pepper) or large one (tomato) or outdoor one (melon). You get

the gist. Same with flowers – collect the sweet Williams, poppies, Malva, clary blue, dahlia seeds, sweet peas etc. Do they always come back exactly the same as the parent? No, they don't, but hey who cares. So, water, dead head, eat produce and collect seeds ...oh and enjoy the sun!

PAGEY

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MAVIS'S QUIZ

Answers to last month's quiz and if you remember you had to recognize the world cities from the illustrated silhouettes.

- (1) AMSTERDAM (2) VENICE
- (3) DUBAI (4) LONDON
- (5) NEW YORK (6) SYDNEY
- (7) PARIS (8) SINGAPORE
- (9) WASHINGTON (10) MADRID



Something along similar lines– can you identify from these silhouettes the title of these well known films. To assist we've given you a small clue and the first letter of the title with the remaining blank spaces.



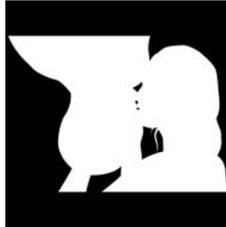
(2) Quentin Tarantino
P _ _ _ _ _



(1) Iceberg Ahead!
T _ _ _ _ _



(3) A Space Opera
S _ _ _ _ _



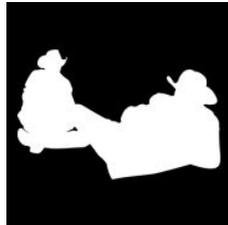
(5) Casts His Own Web
S _ _ _ _ _



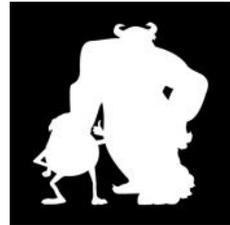
(4) Stupid & Stupider
D _ _ _ _ _



(6) Vampire Romance
T _ _ _ _ _



(8) Male Cowboys
B _ _ _ _ _



(8) One Eyed
M _ _ _ _ _

Best of luck, the answers in the next edition



Diary of 16th June et seq

Tuesday 16th

11.40 Gigaclear working digging up road. Grabber lorry takes out (overhead) telephone line. Driver says sorry and tells management.

14.02 I phone Openreach and get a machine and music

14.07 I get cut off.

14.09 I get back to machine and music

14.10 Speak to nice Lady in India. Just able to understand but she says an engineer will appear within 48 hours. Gives me a reference number.

14.45 2 men and two vans appear. One man takes a photo of loose wire hanging from pole and disappears. Turns out these are Gigaclear guys and nothing to do with Openreach.

15.00 Big guy turns up in Openreach van. Lots of ladders and pair of pliers? "Can't touch that mate its an electric pole. I need a cherry picker"

15.22 Fourth man turns up (Gigaclear?) "Please report it again and say line is down and out of the way. They" keep sending you safety guys"

15.35)

15.36)

15.37) Couldn't get through kept getting cut off

15.38 Got through to a crowded office and a guy who couldn't speak intelligible English (Bombay?)

15.42 Given up the will to live - await developments

16.20 Basil from MAP turns up and talks to Wife. (MAP seem to organise workers from Diban on behalf of Gigaclear?) *"He'd come from Suffolk and I told him we'd been instructed to ring 0800 again but couldn't get through. He rang about 4 people but couldn't get BT. So he rang the top man at MAP. He has made it a "top priority" so we expect to see development tomorrow morning!!! Well maybe"*

18.00 Couldn't find water meter access point - Gigaclear had buried it while refilling their trench.

18.30 Neighbour who works with water found it using an Anglian Water dowsing tool. Cleared and renovated.

Wednesday 17th

08.00 Today should be exciting. I'm still waiting on a BT engineer. Gigaclear are digging down the other side of the road. Building projects continue at opposing properties at the top of the road. Removal lorries are expected at Sheehan's old property and -oh yes it's bin lorry day!

09.50 Another man from MAP (daily inspection). Took another photo of the disconnected wire. Seeing me watering the dying sods he did say they come back and top soil and seed.

11.30 Wife - *no sign of BT so spoke to Diban man and asked him to chase it up! Gave him reference number.*

Thursday 18th

14.25 Rang BT again on mobile. Cut off from Indian sounding man - bad line. He knew who we were though!

Friday 19th

10.20 reported situation to Plusnet. Alex in Leeds took our reference number and said Plusnet would get BT on the problem. Left it with him

Monday 21st

09.45 Rang Openreach again. Same incomprehensible gentleman and all I understood was "checking". Not cut off.

09.55 "dis takes time" meanwhile I'm getting street sounds from Bombay!

10.01 Am told "you must contact your service provider". "Well thank you for not telling me that a week ago. And I hope that was being recorded for training purposes - Goodbye".

10.05 Rang Plusnet in Leeds again. Bloke named Jo. Who updated notes. Very helpful. They will get Openreach(UK!) on the job within 72 hours.

AND they did!! Nice young guy turned up. No cherry picker - no mate to hold his ladder - just got on with the job and replaced telephone wire.

Gigaclear	0/10
Diban	0/10
Plusnet	10/10

(Seriously)Grumpy Old Man

PLANNING APPLICATION NEWS & UPDATES June & July 2021

In this section you will find details of planning applications received, comments made by your Parish Council, and any updates on previous planning applications.

NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

21/01923/APP 32 Phoebe's Orchard, Stoke Hammond. MK17 9LW

Erection of ground floor front extension.

The PC had no objection to this planning application

21/01656/ACL Land of Fenny Road, Stoke Hammond

Application for a Lawful development Certificate in respect of the 64 dwellings.

The developer was seeking to confirm that work had started on this site within the prescribed 3 year period from the original planning application approval. By way of the fact they had constructed the entrance road and the foundations to one of the new homes. The PC deemed that this was a correct statement of facts so had no reason to object to this application.

21/02508/APP Orchard End, Hillersdon Chase, Stoke Hammond MK17 9DH

Demolition of existing garage and erection of new dwelling and garage.

The PC felt that this was an over development of the site and that the parking area did not provide sufficient space for the turning of vehicles, which would lead to reversing onto Hillersdon Chase. The PC resolved to oppose this application.

21/02398/APP Orchard End, Hillersdon Chase, Stoke Hammond MK17 9DH

Proposed swimming pool and pool building.

The PC had no objection to this planning application

PLANNING UPDATES:

21/00064/APP 8 Brookfields, Stoke Hammond MK17 9FR

First floor extension over double garage.

The application has been refused, as it was considered to be of an unacceptable scale, bulk and massing which would have a detrimental impact upon the neighbouring dwelling.

21/00718/COUAR Barn at Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond MK17 9DB

Determination as to whether prior approval is required in respect of transport & highway impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and locational considerations for the conversion of agricultural barn into one dwelling house (Class Q(a)) and in relation to design and external appearance of the buildings (Class Q(b))

The application has been refused, as it was deemed that amount and scale of the proposed work and change of materials was more akin to the construction of a new residential dwelling in open countryside rather than the conversion of an agricultural building.

21/00045/APP Orchard End, Hillersdon Chase, Stoke Hammond MK17 9DH

Demolition of existing garage and the erection of a new garage building.

The application has been approved.

20/01633/APP Stoke Hose Farm, Stoke Road, Stoke Hammond MK17 9DB

Erection of ancillary residential annex and separate car port.

Originally refused in August 2020 on the grounds this would be the construction of a new dwelling in open countryside, the applicant appealed against the decision, but the inspectorate on the 22 June 21 upheld the original refusal and dismissed the appeal.

For further information/updates on these or other planning applications in our locality, please visit the following website entering the application reference or use the map search facility - <https://www.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/search-planning-licensing-applications>



The past few months have been strange for a lot of people and for the Sports Club it has been no different. We found ourselves changing the layout of the Sports Club and changing how we run this is because of the rules the government gave us. We would like to thank our members for keeping us going through the difficult times and the volunteers that run the Sports Club. We had to make the difficult decision to not allow any new members, this was due to the numbers that we had to limit to within the Sports Club. We are pleased to announce we will now be able to welcome new members.

Our football team will be starting their season in August. They are under new management and hope to have a successful season. Please come down to support your local football team. Once fixtures are announced we will publish them on the Facebook page.

The cricket teams are currently half way through the season. The league side have faced a difficult first half of the season and not winning many of them. The Sunday team are going well and the midweek team are also going well. The midweek season will soon come to an end as the light evening slowly fade away.

Inside the club house we have improved many aspects. We have had new carpet laid along with new furniture. We have upgraded our TV and also installed a second TV to allow different programs to be watch by our members. We have also changed some of the bar stock to keep up to date to what the members like.

We are a very friendly Club and wish to welcome anyone new to come and visit us and have a drink and get to know us.

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STOKE HAMMOND GARDENING CLUB



Despite high hopes I am afraid the latest news from the Gardening Club is rather doom laden!

The Committee had been anxious to get something in the Club diary and were optimistically hoping to perhaps do an outing in September. There have been several snags working against us:

Firstly, many of the venues contacted were not keen to welcome Groups at the moment even though things were relaxed on July 19th - whilst being desperate to see some visitors they didn't feel ready for Groups. Secondly, I have just been to Stratford on Avon and on the way back popped in to a couple of National Trust properties on our lists. They were not in a very good state as it was explained that their gardeners could not work during lockdown and are being slow to return plus volunteers were thin on the ground - literally ! Hence, the gardens were looking rather scruffy and overgrown. Everyone was working hard to restore the neglect but there was a long way to go. I am sure this could apply to many venues. Thirdly, the coach company has quoted for a couple of suggested venues but again were cautious about a full coach in the light of the constant contradictions and were likely to recommend 'mask wearing' on board.

So, the Committee has reluctantly agreed that we should leave the trip for this year and hopefully make up for it next year. Very disappointing but we hope you will understand.

We had also been thinking about the possibility of an Afternoon Tea for members some time in August. Once again opinions are mixed as to whether it is sensible to arrange a gathering with caution being so strongly recommended. However, if we plan to go ahead, we will contact all members by email or letter.

Sorry about all this negativity - we will surely get back to normal soon !

St Luke's Church News

Review:

When I look back to review what has happened over the last couple of months, I'm sad to say that there's not much to report. The plans we had for the church fete were scuppered by the postponement of the roadmap to reopening! We're still continuing with services once a month in the village and circulating weekly round the parishes in the benefice. Our plant stall has been running through the summer at The Birches Church Rd and is helping with fundraising efforts.



Ongoing Activities:



Food Bank: The food bank is continuing to be used on a regular basis, although with no pattern. Many thanks to those who have continued to donate both financially and in kind. If you are using the food bank and have any specific requests you'd like us to provide, (store cupboard items only I'm afraid) please leave a note at The Birches, Abbotsford or in the box itself.

Prayers: Our prayer meetings are still suspended as we go to press, although we are hoping to reinstate live meetings once allowed. In these times of climate crisis, (heat waves and fires across North America and now serious flooding in Europe and China) prayers are particularly important. We pray for national, international and local as well as personal issues for those who have health or other concerns. Your prayer requests are in complete confidence. We're planning another prayer walk soon. If you see us around the village and would like prayers, please stop us and let us know!



Outreach:

Community breakfast: Lots of people have been asking when the next breakfast will be and we are hoping to run the first post-Covid breakfast on **11th September 8.30 to 10.30am** at the **Community Centre** subject to National guidelines. For those who've not yet attended, we offer a "Full English" (or parts of it – your choice!) including vegetarian or toast/ croissant and cereal and more! There is no charge, but you're welcome to make a donation if you wish (whatever you can afford or whatever you think it's worth). Please come and find out what this popular event is about!



Children's work: We're still looking for someone to co-ordinate our **Open the book** programme in which a small team of adults go into our benefice catchment primary schools, (High Ash and Bow Brickhill) an hour a week to perform role play Bible stories with props. If you are a Christian parent or retired/part time teacher or similar and you'd **like to get involved** with this, (DBS check required) please contact us (details below) as the rest of the team are raring to go!



Services:

The Rector is still producing a weekly reflection, published on the village Facebook page. Both the weekly reflection and children's bible story videos read by the Rector or church member are uploaded to You Tube weekly. Links are on the benefice website (see below).

August & September dates: The next church service at St Luke's will be held on **1st August** and will be **Holy Communion**. We are continuing to follow health and safety guidelines and respectfully request that churchgoers continue to wear masks and continue social distancing for the sake of elderly church members. Services in the benefice are advertised on the church noticeboard and benefice website. Additional services at St Luke's will be advertised on the website and by email to those electing to join our email list.

New service pattern: We're currently reviewing our service pattern so can't give details of September services yet, but we're hoping to increase the frequency of **Café church** services. Those who've been before know we start with breakfast and follow with a brief (15-20min) informal "service". Please check the benefice website for details or contact us (details below) if you'd like to go on our email list.

Fundraising:

Plant Stall: Our plant stall has now raised in excess of £380 so far. Bedding, perennial & vegetable plants are available for a suggested contribution but pay what you think they're worth. Why not add a weekly walk round Church Road to your routine so you can see what we've got! We're also happy to chat about plant needs if you'd like.



Forthcoming Events: Events have been greatly curtailed this year, but we're still planning a schedule. We'd be delighted if anyone wants to help out and are now looking for support with the fete. Contact **Dave Webber on 270409** if you can help. Our churchwarden Harry Davies will be cycling in the **Bucks Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Ride and Stride** in aid of the church again this year. If you're a keen cyclist looking for an excuse to go on a day's cycling **please contact Harry Davies (see below)** to collect a sponsor form! **Barn Dance** tickets will be available soon. As last time, early birds will get cheaper ticket prices by **buying by 21st August** (fete) Adult £8, Child £4. Prices will then rise to £10 and £5 respectively.

Updated event schedule (please note there are some changes):

7th August Stall at the Village Show

8th August Afternoon teas at the church 3-5pm

21st August Church Fete at the church 1-4pm

4th September Barn Dance with Pig Roast & disco SHCC

11th September Community Breakfast SHCC

11th September BHCT Ride and Stride

18th September Afternoon teas at the church 3-5pm

3rd October Harvest Lunch (after the Harvest festival service)
SHCC

27th November Christmas Fayre SHCC

December hamper raffle

We're looking forward to seeing you all again soon!



Bible verse of the month:

Psalm 34:18 (New International Version)

*18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*



One of the things that encourages Christians is knowing that whenever things are going badly, we can rely on God to be with us and share our cares and burdens. Knowing that he loves us makes them more bearable and gives us hope to carry on. If you're feeling this right now, why not pray, asking the Lord for his strength to carry you through this difficult time. You can pray aloud or in your head, he won't mind – he loves you!

Church Benefice Website: www.brickhillschurches.org.uk.

St Luke's usually offers baptisms, weddings and funerals which are still available under strict limitations. Please contact the Rector if you'd like to discuss any of these. The Rector's contact details are on the website. His phone goes straight to an answerphone but he'll reply as soon as he's able, or contact a Churchwarden. The Rector's day off is Monday. If you have a prayer request or enquiry, please ring **Churchwardens: Harry, on 07773065271; Diane, on 270409 or Treasurer: John, on 270202.**



MAP
(Not to scale)



VILLAGE DIARY

Saturday 7 th August	Village Show – Community Centre 13.00 – 18.00
Sunday 8 th August	Afternoon Teas – St Luke’s Church 15.00 – 17.00*
Saturday 21 st August	Church Fete – St Luke’s Church – 13.00 – 16.00*
Saturday 4 th Sept	Barn Dance/Pig Roast – Community Centre – Time TBC*
Tuesday 7 th Sept	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre – 19.30
Saturday 11 th Sept	Community Breakfast – Community Centre 8.30 – 10.30*
Sunday 18 th Sept	Afternoon Teas – St Luke’s Church 15.00 – 17.00*
Sunday 3 rd October	Harvest Lunch – Community Centre – Time TBC*
Tuesday 7 th October	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre – 19.30

* Please see the Church News Section in this edition for further details.

ORGANISATIONS THAT USE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Innovations

Tuesday’s 09.30 – 15.30hrs
Contact: Yvonne 078846 338153 or Alison 07714 664716

Buttons Pre-School

Monday – Friday 09.00 – 15.00hrs
Contact: 01525 270501/07973 158368

Joyful Tots

Every Friday 10.00 – 12.30hrs

High Ash Scouts - Cubs & Beavers

WE ARE PLEASED TO ADVISE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE HAS FULLY REOPENED FOR BOTH REGULAR AND OCCASSIONAL HIRE.

ART CLASSES – DJ Artworks

Thursday’s 09.30 – 12.30hrs
Contact Deborah Johnson djartworks@hotmail.com

To Hire the Hall please telephone 07555 711929 or e-mail: enquiries@shcommunityassociation.co.uk

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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 (<i>Jo Simonds</i>)	07818-016108
Parish Council Chairman (<i>Malcolm Newing</i>)	07702 067966
Gt Brickhill Ward Councillor (<i>Phil Gomm</i>)	07778 117647
Gt Brickhill Ward Councillor (<i>Jilly Jordan</i>)	07740 308468
Gt Brickhill Ward Councillor (<i>Iain Macpherson</i>)	Not Available
MP - Buckinghamshire. (<i>Greg Smith</i>)	01296-714240
High Ash School	01525-261620
St Luke’s Church (<i>Revd John Waller</i>)	01525-261062
St Luke’s Church Warden (<i>Diane Webber</i>)	01525-270409
St Luke’s Church Warden (<i>Harry Davies</i>)	01234-822780
Stewkley Methodist Church (<i>Revd Donna Broadbent-Kelly</i>)	01525-240589

Police non-emergency number 101

NHS Helpline non-emergency number 111

EDITORS NOTE

Well, July 19th came and we're out of Lockdown, and whilst we're nowhere near out of this Covid crisis let's hope it is the last time we have to suffer this major restriction on our day to day lives.

I thank Chris of Pagey's Patch for his little 'dig' about look out and hide when Greg is about, but unfortunately some of the contributors and please, without you there would be no SH & NLS News, do sometimes require a gentle little nudge from me, to make sure their editorial is with me on time. In order that I can get things put together and off to the printers, so that this journal does indeed land on your doormats as the new month begins.

May I please have copy for the October/November 2021 issue by the **20th September**
 Greg Noble, Oak Farm, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond. MK17 9DB
 01525 270744 E-mail: gregnoble1980@aol.com



WASTE COLLECTION DATES

STOKE HAMMOND VILLAGE & NEWTON LEYS SOUTH

Waste Bin: 	Recycling Bin:  <small>Paper, glass, cardboard, plastics, cartons, cans & tins</small>	Food Waste Bin:  <small>Non-recyclable or compostable.</small>	Garden Waste Bin: 
	Wednesday 4 Aug	Wednesday 4 Aug	
Wednesday 11 Aug		Wednesday 4 Aug	Wednesday 4 Aug
	Wednesday 18 Aug	Wednesday 18 Aug	
Wednesday 25 Aug		Wednesday 25 Aug	Wednesday 25 Aug
	Thursday 2 Sept	Thursday 2 Sept	
Wednesday 8 Sept		Wednesday 8 Sept	Wednesday 8 Sept
	Wednesday 15 Sept	Wednesday 15 Sept	
Wednesday 22 Sept		Wednesday 22 Sept	Wednesday 22 Sept
	Wednesday 29 Sept	Wednesday 29 Sept	
Wednesday 6 Oct		Wednesday 6 Oct	Wednesday 6 Oct
	Wednesday 13 Oct	Wednesday 13 Oct	



PLAY TODAY & WIN A STAY

Support Our Lottery
This Summer



WIN A Luxury Forest
Staycation!

- £25,000 jackpot!
- Sign up from £1 per week
- Help our cause help the community
- Don't miss the special draw!

To start supporting, visit:

www.buckinghamshirelottery.co.uk

and search for: Stoke



STOKE HAMMOND VILLAGE SHOW

WE'RE BACK FOR 2021....!

SAT 7th AUGUST 1PM - 6PM

FREE ENTRY

'CASH' RAFFLE PRIZES

PLUS ALL OF THIS....

Bar – BBQ – Live Bands

Teas & Cakes – Kid's Rides

Fun Dog Show – Many Stalls

Competition Tent & More

DO JOIN IN ON ALL THE FUN....

For More Details & to Download Entry Forms please visit:

www.stokehammondvillageshow.com



*The Scarecrow Competition
Why Don't You Take Part?*

THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, BRAGENHAM SIDE. MK17 9DB