

SH NEWS

INSIDE THIS PACKED EDITION:
PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
PAGEY'S TIPS
G.O.M.
MAVIS'S QUIZ
EVERYTHING BUT THE MOO
CHURCH NEWS
BOOK CLUB & MUCH MORE

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019 Issue 6

www.stokehammondpc.com



St LUKE'S, STOKE HAMMOND

Rector: Revd John Waller 01525 261062

August 4 th	11.00	Family Service – Revd John Waller
August 11 th	09.00	Morning Worship – Valerie Kerr
August 18 th	09.00	Holy Communion - Revd John Waller
August 25 th	11.00	Holy Communion <i>at Great Brickhill</i> Revd Norman Thorp
September 1 st	11.00	Family Service – Valerie Kerr
September 8 th	09.00	Morning Worship – Phillipa Cook
September 15 th	09.00	Holy Communion – Revd John Waller
September 22 nd	09.00	Morning Worship – Jeremy Hopkinson
September 29 th	11.00	Holy Communion Benefice Service <i>Village Hall Little Brickhill</i> – Revd John Waller

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

Saturday 10th August 08.30 – 10.30 (Last Orders)

Saturday 14th September 08.30 – 10.30 (Last Orders)

PLUS, THESE OTHER SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS.

Sunday 18th August Afternoon Tea at St Luke's 15.00 – 17.00

Saturday 14th September An evening with local author Jack Sheffield
19.00 at the Community Centre

Sunday 22nd September Afternoon Tea at St Luke's 15.00 – 17.00

Church Wardens:

Diane Webber 01525-270409 and Harry Davies 01234-822780

METHODIST SERVICES

**REGRETFULLY THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER SERVICES HELD IN THE
METHODIST CHURCH STOKE HAMMOND.**

**Should you require further information or details of Methodist Services to
be held in Stewkley, please contact the Minister.**

Revd Donna Broadbent-Kelly on 01525 240589

**WE ARE PLEASED TO ADVISE THE POPULAR WEDNESDAY COFFEE
MORNINGS CONTINUE, BUT NOW AT THE SPORTS PAVILLION,
BRAGENHAM SIDE. 10.30 – 11.30**

(For more information please contact 01525 270287)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Aside from the question continually asked of us “do you know when The Dolphin is going to reopen?” and sorry no we don’t and its very much out of our hands and jurisdiction. The other main current talking point is the matter of the 5 trees so suddenly hacked down on the pathway between Manor Close and Bragenham



Side. Your PC had absolutely nothing to do with this and had no prior knowledge this work was going to be carried out. The first we knew was when a very irate and quite rightly so resident from Manor Close contacted us to try and find out who had authorised this work to be carried out on what appeared to be 5 very healthy trees.

The trees sat on AVDC land and It soon became apparent that they were indeed the culprits in chopping down these trees and cited the reason for their removal as being the fear of these trees causing possible future subsidence to the neighbouring properties in Meadow Brook, but worry not they say they intend to replant with new less invasive trees later in the year! Once this all became public knowledge, we know that many of you were absolutely incensed and appalled by what some called AVDC’s cavalier attitude to not only their very own planning conditions and tree preservation rules but the total disregard to those most affected by the removal of these 5 healthy and well-established trees. Many noted that when the adjacent Meadow Brook development for 13 new homes was first placed



before AVDC the landscaping proposal highlighted the intention “to maintain and improve the southern boundary which would enhance and reinforce the local character and reduce potential visual impacts.” The AVDC Case Officer stated “that these landscaping proposals were considered to complement and enhance the appearance of the development and under Reserved Matters regarding Landscaping also highlighted Policies GP39 and GP40 of the AVDCLP which seeks



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to preserve existing trees and hedgerows where they are of amenity, landscape or wildlife value.” So, AVDC and in particular their planning department, knew the trees were there and the distance between them and the new homes they were giving planning approval for, but then less than two years later, AVDC decide to remove the trees for fear of litigation for subsidence being caused by these trees to the nearby homes. We are aware that some of the most affected homeowners are considering legal action against AVDC and the PC has resolved to offer appropriate support

PLANNING: During the last two months, there have been few planning applications to consider, 19/01081/APP related to The Nook on Newton Road for a two-storey rear in-fill extension and double storey garage extension. This was an amended design to a previous application to which the PC had objected on the grounds that the proposed new roofline was of a too greater height. This new application had addressed this issue in that the new roof would be of the same height as the present roof. The PC resolved to support this new application.

Planning application 19/02129/APP was another resubmittal for design changes to extensions to Little Orchard, Hillersdon Chase. The PC had no objection to the previous designs covered in application 19/00862/APP and likewise had no objections to what seemed to be very minor changes to the design detail. The PC did however question as to why the erection of a new section of rear wall to Stoke Lodge, Stoke Lane as covered by application 19/02242/ALB also requires new rear gates where none existed before and there is already adequate access provision to the property. Stoke Lodge is a listed property and also falls within the Conservation Area and this must be taken into account by the planning officers when making their recommendations.

MVAS: Over the last few months we’ve accrued two lots of data from the MVAS (Mobile Speed Activated Sign) the full details of which can be viewed on the PC website www.stokehammondpc.com. The sign was located on the Leighton Road monitoring traffic entering the village from the direction of Leighton Buzzard and for the period 9th April through to 5th May counted some 43,924 vehicles with an average speed of 30.6 mph and a maximum recorded speed of 65 mph at 19.30hrs on the 17th April. For the latest results for the period 14th June through till the 3rd July there was a total count of 32,720 vehicles with an average speed of 30.9 mph and a max recorded speed again at 65 mph at 23.30 hrs on the 17th June. We share the MVAS with Drayton Parslow, hence the reason the MVAS is here on alternate months.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE: We await the results of the ‘Best Kept Village’ Competition, and whilst we do not expect to win, we do very much hope that we have improved on last year’s score. If we do enter again next year one would anticipate that our new wild flower meadow area on Bragenham Side which will then be in full bloom



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will very much add to our score as will we hope the new benches for the Green which are due to arrive in July along with the two new planters for the old pond site which will be positioned either side of the John Harrup memorial bench.

NEW LAND: This report has already touched on the planning applications debated at the both the June and July Parish Council meetings and other than normal monthly matters there is not much else to report other than to give an update on how things are progressing on the development of the new land on Bragenham Side. The provision of access to this site has and continues to be of most concern and to this end the PC sought pre application advice from BCC Highways who visited the site in May of this year. They wanted to ascertain that a 4.8m road width could be achieved to the site to maintain simultaneous two-way vehicle flow and that vision splays can be maintained along with safe pedestrian access. In principal the BCC Highways Management Team felt that these criteria could be achieved. The PC is now seeking the advice of an independent Highways Consultant to establish the nature and the costs that would be involved to achieve an access compliant with the Highways Authorities requirements.

PC MEETINGS: On a final note, the PC hold no meeting in August with it being the holiday season, but it was an agenda item at our last meeting to decide whether we should likewise hold no meeting, like many other Parishes in December. It is a very busy month for all and diaries are crammed with activities and the PC already holds a separate meeting in December to agree the Parish Budget for the forthcoming Financial Year. It was therefore decided that the PC would trial for this year in not holding a December meeting. Should an important matter arise that requires public discussion then a special meeting can always be called.

Your Parish Council wishes you all a fantastic summer and looks forward to seeing many of you at the Village Show on Saturday 7th September. Our next PC meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd September 7.30pm at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side to which all members of the public are warmly invited,



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

Sue Severn, 19 Curlew, Watermead, Bucks. HP19 0WG 01296 331816

clerk.stokehammondpc@gmail.com

www.stokehammondpc.com

LATE NEWS: Your PC learnt as this edition of the SH News was going to press, that Stoke Hammond has been awarded a Certificate of Merit in this year's Best Kept Village Competition. In a high scoring Morris Cup, Stoke Hammond scored 80. Hedgerley won with 98 and Chearsley and Cuddington tied for Runner-Up with 97. Well done to those who helped make our village look that little bit better this year.



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Been in the Industry for over 30 years and have full liability Insurance, The Managing Director was personally responsible for getting high speed broadband to the village of Stoke Hammond and he wants all villagers to get the most out of this at a reasonable cost. He was on the SDLT executive committee and has helped out at numerous village and Church events with his "hobby" of PA/Audio.

Local references available upon request.

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PAGEY'S SOW & GROW "PATCH"



top up the water butts' which I use for my irrigation system in the greenhouse and encourages all round growth. Yes, I know, weeds grow faster than anything too. Flipping weeds - they can grow on anything, paving slabs, driveways and on any bit of dust or of course in our wonderful beds, borders and pots. Keep weeding though, before they flower and seed and dispose of them. I used to compost weeds but bung them on the bonfire now.



ONIONS & CUCUMBERS

Anyway, we are now in real growth and eating season. I pulled my garlic mid-July and laid them out to dry (and then it rained on them lol) and have started eating my onions. I will pull them up mid-August, along with the shallots, to let them harden off for a couple of weeks in the sun. Really good crop this year which I sowed from seeds back in December, especially the banana shallots. The toms need constant care, pinching outside shoots, tying to stakes and weekly feed (tomorite or similar) and we are eating ripe beautiful toms everyday now. The same actually with cucumbers, keep them moist and feed every 2 weeksand keep picking them otherwise you will not get more flowers produced for more fruits. I have grown both toms and cucumbers inside the greenhouse and outside in the borders and both are doing really well this year. The melons I planted out mid-June and a few fruits have set, just remember to try and keep fruits off the ground (I'm growing mine up a wigwam type

August already...yikes, the planet is spinning faster than normal! The summer weather so far has been back to normal I think, unlike last year that was just fabuloso. We've had sun and rain which helps cut down on some watering outside, helps

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structure) and the sweetcorn is racing away after just 4 weeks in the ground and will be ready end of August. July and August are really for resowing (salads), prepping for winter greens to be sown now, feeding, picking, watering and weeding. Compost everything which isn't diseased and isn't a weed. Try and have



SWEETCORN

layers of veg or plant matter, grass clippings and tear up / shred newspaper and add that in too....and if possible, turn the mix for next year's lovely compost.

Now is also the time of those pesky pests.....slugs and snails (beer traps and nematodes as well as just hunting them out late at night on my patio) , aphids and black fly- lots of black fly this year - just squish them with your fingers - and

loads of lady birds this year too....all different colours from pale orange to deep red , some with a few black dots , some with up to 9 (yes I count them). If you spray bug killer you kill the lady birds and hover flies too, so do try running your fingers up the stem, collecting black fly as you go and put them in tissue or squish. The other nasty pests are Lily beetles which again is hand picking the adults (bright red backs) or disposing of larvae from underneath the leaves (they cover themselves in their own poo as they munch into your leaves). We were great at picking off the beetles earlier in the year and have less issues now. Lastly the vine weevil is out and about munching on plants and laying its white larvae in the soil of your pots to munch on the roots. You will know if they are in your neck of the woods, plants look very lacklustre, leaves go yellowy and flowers fail to materialise. I suggest nematodes early in the year and again 3 months later. If you turn out your pot and sift through your soil you will know whether you have them....there will be very few roots and these little white grubs (our chickens scrap over them).



THE PAGEY VEG PLOT

Some people have real problem with red mites, especially in a greenhouse - I just hose down the greenhouse floor which seems to keep them at bay and keeps the greenhouse a little cooler and more humid through June to August. Some plants

St Luke's Church, Stoke Hammond

invite you to:

'An Evening with Jack Sheffield'

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Saturday 14th September 2019
at 7.00 p.m.

Stoke Hammond Community

Centre MK17 9DB

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david.webber@btinternet.com

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(squash, pumpkin, cucumber, melon) suffer from powdery mildew or downy mildew. I always get it to some extent but generally cut and dispose of infected leaves (not compost), keep watered and fed and try not to have the veg too close to each other (allow air to circulate). I'm sure some of you have your own remedies...let me know what they are 👍

Lastly enjoy your spuds if you grew some, don't leave in the ground for too long if you have slugs about, keep picking the French / runner beans (so delicious right now) and enjoy the sweetest carrots now that you will never get from a supermarket. Water, weed, feed and eat.....next month we will talk about storing and preserving our excess produce . **PAGEY**

STOKE HAMMOND GARDENING CLUB

After many years of being kind to us the weather decided to turn horrid for our annual Afternoon Tea and Plant Swap. However, we decided to carry on regardless and despite a morning of rain, wind and grey skies we managed to get things sorted. We wondered whether anyone would brave the weather although we should have known that our loyal members would do



their best - and they did. From 2pm they started arriving and we eventually had around 50 in total queueing for their tea and cakes, sorting out the plants, chatting and making the best of it. At least it was dry in the afternoon and some even sat outside. We had some lovely raffle prizes and we would like to thank all those who added to the prizes particularly Valerie for her usual welcome contribution and our local artist Julie who, once again, brought along two of her lovely paintings. Donations this year were for the Alzheimer's Society and thanks to everyone's generosity resulted in us sending a cheque in excess of £200. Thanks, are also due for all cake contributions and not only the committee members but also to all the willing helpers on tea duty, washing up and generally keeping things moving with hardly time to circulate - we really appreciated your help and hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

Our next event is the trip to Castle Ashby on Thursday July 18th - let's hope the weather behaves itself this time.



THE Lindens

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

- *24 Hour expert care delivered with compassion.*
- *Well-appointed double & single en-suite rooms with care call systems, televisions, DVD players and Internet facilities.*
- *Meals prepared in house using locally sourced ingredients, individual dietary needs catered for.*
- *Lecture theatre and cinema room.*
- *Sun lounge available for our residents, guests and visitors to take afternoon tea and enjoy family gatherings.*
- *Dedicated respite/convalescence suite with private patio.*

The Lindens Residential Care Home, Stoke Road,
Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire, MK17 9BN

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

Web: www.careatthelindens.co.uk

THE Lindens

Michael and The Lindens would like to make a special tribute to Pauline Hannelly who passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family, on Saturday 29th June, 2019.

Pauline, also known as "Matron", believed passionately about care, dignity and respect for the elderly, making it her life's work alongside her family and a multiplicity of other duties. She taught swimming and took part in both the running and shaping of the local community, becoming an Honourable Alderman of the local district council.

When The Lindens was taken over in 2003 by Michael and his mother, they shared the vision of creating a warm and welcoming "Home from Home" for the elderly in a beautiful setting. As Michael developed and expanded The Lindens, Matron was always on hand to provide support.



In the Autumn, a special remembrance garden will be created at The Lindens, in memory of Matron and all the loved ones of The Lindens. Visitors to the gardens will be welcome to come and spend thoughtful moments and share cherished memories here.

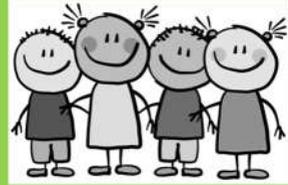
We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives,
Until we meet again.

Michael Hannelly
Director
The Lindens

New to Stoke Hammond...

Joyful Tots

- A friendly place where we play, learn and share together
- For parents, carers, or anyone looking after a baby or preschool child
- Our regular session is now 10 – 11.30am on Friday mornings during term times at Stoke Hammond Community Centre, MK17 9DB
- £2 per family – light refreshments provided (but no charge for your first session!)
- Can't make the date but still interested? Give us a ring to let us know times and days you'd prefer



For more info Call Jacklen 07897 487657 or Diane 07739 392029
Facebook: Joyful Tots

We've been enjoying ourselves with all sorts of activities at Joyful Tots recently: decorating biscuits, planting bean seeds, singing songs and action



rhymes, and listening to stories...and we even played outside a couple of times when the weather was really nice!

We've finished for the summer, but start back again on September 13th. Why don't you come and join us?



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN JOINS WALKERS TO CELEBRATE 17 YEARS SIMPLY WALK

County Council Chairman Brian Roberts joined volunteers and organisers of Simply Walk last Friday (5 July) to help celebrate the 17th anniversary of the popular health walk scheme.



The Chairman joined more than 90 volunteer walk leaders as they gathered in brilliant sunshine to enjoy a walk in the beautiful grounds of Hughenden Manor in High Wycombe, followed by a picnic and a celebratory slice of cake.

Since it began in 2002 the walking scheme has grown steadily and now offers over 80 walks around the county, attracting more than 700 walkers a week.

Simply Walk is part of a countywide programme of free, volunteer - led walks, which aims to help people get outdoors and be more active. The walks are all sociable and you don't need any special equipment to join in, just a pair of comfortable shoes. The programme runs year round, including weekends and offers a choice of different walk lengths and locations.

Cutting the cake that had been made specially to mark the anniversary, Brian Roberts said: "It's wonderful to see how this scheme has grown and grown every year, thanks to the hard work of the organisers and team of volunteer walk leaders. Without their continued commitment and willingness to give up their time to lead these walks, the scheme would not be the success it is today."



Gareth Williams, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health said: "Simply Walk is a fantastic programme that promotes wellbeing in terms of both physical and mental health. Its ongoing success is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Fiona Broadbent, who has been running the scheme since it started, along with the large team of volunteers who help lead the walks. Well done everyone!" Simply Walk is a partnership scheme funded by Buckinghamshire County Council, South Bucks and Chiltern District Councils, Burnham Health Promotion Trust and donations from walkers. For more information including a full list of walks visit: www.buckscc.gov.uk/simplywalk

www.buckscc.gov.uk/news

<https://twitter.com/buckscc>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/buckinghamshirecc>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Our-Buckinghamshire/118283198190717>



Stoke Hammond local Store

Under new management, the local shop has been refurbished and re-opened on 1st January 2011. It is currently known as "Stoke Hammond Food and Wine".



Opening hours are: Mon-Sat: 6am till 10pm
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
Medicines	Baby food & other products	Household Sundries
Sandwiches & ready meals	Fruit & Vegetable	Stationary items

Other services:

- Paper delivery available for local residents (delivery charge is 25p per day).
- Negotiation is underway to re-open the post office as "Post Office Local"
- Pay-point/Top up services will be available.
- Cash machine will be available.
- Photocopier & passport photos will also be available.
- Pies and coffee will be introduced in the morning.

Exclusive Promotions:

Wines from £2.99	Beers from 6 for £5.50 <small>(500ml cans)</small>
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Strong beers are from **£1.09** (500ml cans)



Images of the stolen black Lexus that was driven through Stoke Hammond by two crazy idiot's early morning Saturday 20th July. Eventually their driving skills did not match the speeds they were driving at and they lost control and smashed into the verge opposite Willow Lodge. They absconded with the false number plates but were subsequently apprehended by the police. Thankfully as it was

early morning, traffic was light and no other vehicles were involved.



Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust



The 2019 Sponsored Ride + Stride takes place on

Saturday 14th September

Roll up cyclists, riders and walkers!



- Ride + Stride is open to walkers as well as horse-riders and cyclists – in fact to anyone using a non-mechanical form of transport
- It takes place between **10.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.**
- The object is to raise money through **sponsorship** for the repair and restoration of churches and chapels of any Christian denomination in Buckinghamshire
- Half the money raised goes to the church or chapel of the participant's choice, and the other half to the Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust
- Participants can plan their own route or join an organised route or event
- Everything you need to plan your Ride+Stride day is available on the BHCT website www.bucks-historic-churches.org.

The majority of Buckinghamshire's churches and chapels will be open, even some of those that rarely provide access will open for all or part of the day. Many churches will have a welcome party and offer refreshments to participants; others supply a form for visitors to sign. **Why not get sponsored in aid of St Luke's?!**

If you are interested in taking part, please speak to our Church Warden, **Harry Davies (07773065271)** for more details, or ask for a sponsor form. Thank you!





I KNOW IT'S EARLY BUT



I need to remind you of our Christmas Tree Festival

The fundraising committee have had a busy year this year and so once again I am going to give them a rest. I am putting on the Festival on Saturday 7 December, and I need help from anyone who would like to dress a tree. The Scout Leader, David Pollington has chosen "The Twelve Days of Christmas" as the theme. So, the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers will be making trees again. Trees don't have to follow the song but could follow what happens over the 12 days from Christmas Eve to January 5. So put your thinking caps on and come up with some ideas!

Joyful Tots, Innovations and Buttons, will I am told by Tracie Bailey, be doing items for trees. Perhaps Pilates people might like to do a tree helping Louisa Harris, and those that do Yoga, run by Julie Robinson or the fitness class people run by Lizzie Lauder might like to join in to. The Book Club will be putting together an idea too. So, it's up to you now. Any individual or company in the village with an idea is very welcome to do one too.

It would be good to see trees from the Parish Council, the church, the Community Association and the Sports Club too this year. During the school holidays High Ash will be approached too to see if they, once again would like to make items for the tree they bring down.

So, if you would like to see St Luke's look fabulous inside again over Advent and the Christmas period please help.

If you don't want to do a tree but would like to sponsor a tree in memory of someone you have lost and miss would you make cheques payable to Stoke Hammond PCC. Cost is £5 to cover expenses only. Your name and the person(s) you are remembering will be placed in a Remembrance Book.

For further information email hmt404@hotmail.co.uk or leave a message and telephone number on 01525 270404. Don't forget to save the date. Have some fun and join in but do let me know as I do a programme listing all the trees!

Finally, fully dressed trees will need to be in position by FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER.

Hazel Turner



Stoke Hammond Parish Council Community Transport Scheme

SHPC Community Transport Scheme is in need of a volunteer to act as Co-ordinator.

The Co-ordinator

The Scheme is lightly used and the Co-ordinators role is straightforward and not time consuming, they:-

1. Act as liaison between scheme users and the drivers.
2. Hold the dedicated scheme phone and maintain a simple record of journeys undertaken.

If you would like to help support the scheme in this way we would be pleased to hear from you. In the first instance contact the Parish Clerk via the Parish Council website www.stokehammondpc.com

Barbecue safety advice

Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service is reissuing its seasonal barbecue safety advice for the summer months.

Richard Priest, head of Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service's community safety team, said: "It's natural to want to make the most of the good weather by going outdoors for a barbecue with family and friends.

"However, there are a few things it's worth remembering to make sure you don't end up having to ring 999.

Keep a bucket of water, sand or a garden hose nearby for emergencies.

- Follow the safety instructions provided with disposable barbecues. Never use a barbecue indoors or in a tent.
- Never leave a lit barbecue unattended.
- Make sure your barbecue is well away from sheds, fences, trees, shrubs or garden waste.
- In the countryside or public park areas, only use disposable barbecues where there are specially designated areas and carefully follow the safety guidance.
- Use enough charcoal to cover the base of the barbecue, but not more (normally around 5cms or 2 inches).
- Keep children, pets and garden games away from the cooking area.
- After cooking, make sure the barbecue is cool before moving it.
- Empty ashes onto bare garden soil, not into dustbins or wheelie bins. If they're hot, they can melt the plastic and cause a fire.
- Enjoy yourself, but don't drink too much alcohol if you are in charge of the barbecue.



Always keep water nearby

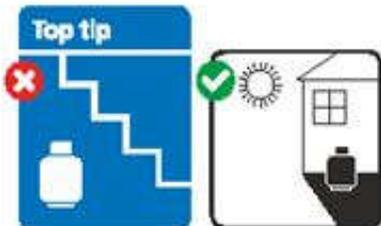


Never use petrol or paraffin to start or revive your barbecue; use only recognised lighters or starter fuels on cold coals.

Gas barbecues

Never store gas cylinders under the stairs – if there is a fire they might explode and block your escape route.

- Store gas cylinders outside, away from direct sunlight and frost.
- Take care when turning bottled gas barbecues on and off.
- Make sure the tap is turned off before changing the gas cylinder.
- After cooking, turn the gas supply off first and then the barbecue control. This will stop any gas from leaking.
- If you suspect a leak, turn off the gas cylinder and try brushing soapy water around all joints, watching for bubbles.
- Make sure all joints are tightened, safe and secure.
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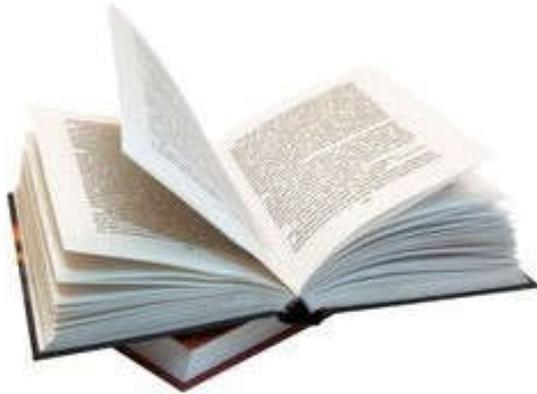
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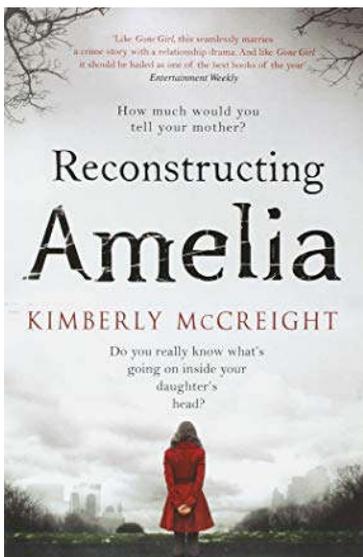
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STOKE HAMMOND BOOK CLUB



Book One 'RECONSTRUCTING AMELIA' by Kimberley McCreight



Kate Baron is an attorney and single mother- Amelia is her only child. The drama begins when Kate receives a call at work to say that she needs to get to Amelia's school at once. She arrives slightly later than planned to find the area full of police and medics and is told that Amelia has committed suicide by jumping off the school roof. From here on the story delves into the bewildering world of teenage girls, bullying, wanting to belong and innumerable other intrigues. Eventually Kate has reason to believe that her daughter did not commit suicide and the twists and turns continue from here as she is determined to get to the truth.

The Group mostly enjoyed the book feeling it was a sad tale of the times with all the added complications of growing up being added to the pressures of media and technology. Some felt sympathy for Kate who was doing her best to hold down a high-powered job and also cope with the demands of a teenage daughter who had seemed so sensible and 'normal' to her mother until now. It encompassed the strange ideas of teenagers and their way of looking at things and although some thought it a bit slow it certainly had a good, if tragic, ending.



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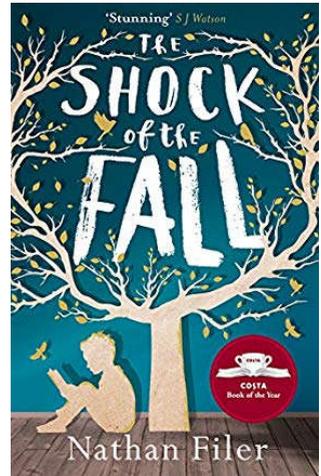
Book Two 'THE SHOCK OF THE FALL' by Nathan Filer

While on vacation with their parents Matthew Homes and his brother Simon sneak out in the night and only Matthew comes home safely. This is the basis for the guilt felt by Matthew from then on. It is not until some way into the book that we find out what happened and how events haunted Matthew in a variety of ways for the rest of his life.

Despite the potential for it to be a bleak and dark read the witty observations provide some lighter moments.

Some of the Group found it an easy read, interesting but far from uplifting. They thought it was well written and expressive with characters, in particular other family members, well described but the overall summing up was although it was worth reading - 'didn't really enjoy it - relieved to get to the end - found it rather depressing'.

The first book for next edition of the SH News is 'Tales of the City' by Armistead Maupin (and we are all hoping it is a bit more cheerful than of late !!)



As years went by, the berries grew
and all I did was pick and chew
and taste the thick, sweet goodness,
licking fingers to cleanliness
(or as close to clean as can be found
when hoarding red dye off the ground).
Yet, as I scrounge through all the thorns
I'm attacked by prickly plants with horns

I now fear this yearly surprise,
so, when mother hands me a tub
I struggle like a drowning cub.
For I have come to realise
a chore is set to penalise.

Berry Harvest – anonymous

Picking berries – a rural chore,
and one few people would deplore.
Few are given the chance to taste
though they'd collect with boyish haste.
But I, myself, have had the pleasure
of eating the best, by measure.
As a boy I picked for the feast,
rummaging through like a hungry beast.

and now I simply cannot tell:
is this red the red of hell?
Are my digits smeared in blood?
Is it pain or a joyful flood
cascading from my youthful eyes?

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“EVERYTHING BUT THE MOO”

In the last extract from Pam Murphy’s book ‘Everything but the Moo’ we learnt what Pam, Hazel Turner’s late mother did and experienced during the war. This is the second part of that story.

WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR, GRANNY? Part Two.

The Royal Engineers were stationed at Sandridge, an outpost of the main HQ at Luton Hoo. I was billeted out in St. Albans in most comfortable digs with Mr and Mrs Jones in Carlisle Avenue, along with Captain Battersby, nicknamed ‘Bats’. (He certainly was not that, he became a leading architect and was knighted for his services to Liverpool but sadly died in his 50’s of MS I think). There was a bus but I cycled the three miles to Sandridge before breakfast and back after dinner each day. It was all very formal in those days, not the ubiquitous first names. You called equals by their surnames, those above ‘Sir’. I became ‘Sunshine’, I do not remember



Luton Hoo

how though there was a popular song ‘You are my Sunshine’. There was a platoon of about 60 ATS with an officer who lived out as well as about 100 men and 30 staff officers. I made several life long friends at Sandridge. One was Percy Charles, or P.C., became known as ‘Poice’ and I called him that for years afterwards. Most of the men were an uninspiring lot, apart from Poice and Bats, though

I will always be grateful to a chap called ‘Sludge’, his official title being SO2 Drains – he taught me so much that has been useful to me. We had a pretty good time there – going out to dinner at the local pubs, cycling around the countryside, going swimming in the summer. Bats was posted, then Poice, and we moved up to Luton Hoo and the war became much more serious.

When Christmas came, I was told that I would be on duty, which meant serving Christmas lunch to the troops with another officer, Don Chapman. (Many of them had leave). We had hotted up remains in the evening and I prepared to cycle back to my digs about 9pm. The ATS RSM (Regimental Sergeant Major) rushed out to me to say “Oh, Ma’am, please come, Paterson’s cut her head open.”

I went to the hut, occupied by about twenty cooks and orderlies. They were all stoned out of their minds, fighting drunk. There was Paterson laid on her bunk bleeding copiously from a very nasty head wound. Well, you can not put a tourniquet on a head, and though I made up a pad to stem the bleeding, she needed

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TEBBUTT PAINTINGS



medical attention.

Eventually I called Don, who risked Court Martial going into ATS quarters, and he tried to get the RAMC at Luton or a civilian hospital to no avail. There was chaos in the hut, and the RSM got all the sergeants to try and restore order, without much success, until they passed out. Nothing except a whiff of teargas, followed by handcuffs would have calmed that lot! Eventually Paterson passed out, I hoped from drink and not loss of blood and about 1am I set off back home to my digs. I got to the end of the drive! The Platoon Office Clerk was coming in, weeping, in a state of disarray and dishabille. She had last been seen going off with an American G.I. after lunch.

“Oh, Ma’am, whatever shall I do?” she said.

“Go to bed and report sick in the morning,” I snapped and cycled off.

When arriving back at my digs my landlady nearly threw me out for returning at “such a disgraceful hour”.

I was in the Mess by 8am next morning, checked on Paterson, whose head was probably sorer from her hangover than her wound, and went to breakfast. The RSM asked me to come.

“Please come quickly, Saunders has cut her throat.” I went off to the huts again, to find a girl with a nasty jugular wound; though fortunately she had missed vital parts with the very blunt penknife she had used. She was a religious maniac, who thought she was not good, or was too good, I am not sure which, for this world.

Eventually the woman RAMC Doctor appeared, despatched both Saunders and Paterson to hospital and then saw the Clerk.

“And WHAT do you think I can do for HER after all this time?” she asked me.

I gabbled: “I don’t know, but as I could not get medical help for a girl in extremis and I was too tired and likely to be thrown out of my digs when I got back ... I am not supposed to have anything to do with ATS Regimental duties...” I went on, and burst into tears. The doctor had an awful hangover but she managed to calm me down. I asked my Brigadier later that day to make it plain to Miss Thorne that my 7/4d a day (34p) was not supposed to cover first Aid.

I had another fracas with Miss Thorne shortly after I arrived at Luton Hoo. The HRH The Princess Royal was coming to inspect all the ATS officers. We formed a large semi circle, me as most junior at the end of the line. They walked in and Diane Thorne, walking past said: “ This is Crabtree, who has joined from the VAD’s”.

“Oh,” said HRH, “I KNOW Miss Crabtree”. She spent the next five minutes telling me what was going on at Harewood, about her son George, who was a Prisoner of War, and who had asked for some loo paper in a Red Cross parcel, as well as other items of local gossip. She asked me how I was getting on etc. etc. I could see Diana Thorne nearly having apoplexy! When she eventually moved on there was no time

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for the other officers to be presented. Miss T. sent for me and if she could have reduced me to the ranks she would have done so!

My father was over the moon when I was commissioned. As it happened, the next day he was taking Winston Churchill round various of the North East. The news from those parts was not good, and the war news was terrible. Father was dreading it, but it all went very well, and Churchill in his famous siren suit was very cheerful.



Sir Winston Churchill in one of his famous siren suits.

After lunch they retired to my father's office for brandy and cigars. Churchill told father that it was a great day for him, as his daughter Mary had just been commissioned in the ATS. "And she's done it all on her own, with no help from me," he said.

Father replied: "I know exactly how you feel, Sir, my daughter got her commission yesterday." There's nothing like trumping the Prime Minister's ace, Mary Churchill was one below me in the Army list.

The Royal Engineers were concerned with training troops for the Second Front in Europe, bridge building being an important item. Also for the buildings and maintenance of army establishments, and building POW camps for the increasing numbers coming back, and most important dealing with the land mines that had been laid hastily in 1940, for which there were no maps and plans, and even more vital, Bomb Disposal. It was a most interesting job, any day could bring anything and I travelled round with

the Chief Engineer a great deal.

One day a red tabbed, gold braided Colonel walked into my office, and said "I'm Laurie Bishop – you are Sunshine." That's how I met the Bishops, who became life long firm friends. They were coming to live in a Guest House in Harpenden, and his wife Margot and I became very close.

1943 saw the turn of the war in the Middle East and the plans for the invasion of France. The Engineers moved from Sandridge and I left my comfortable digs and lovely feather bed for the 'Cattery', more cold damp huts, though the ablutions were at least a covered walk.

I had four weeks leave a year, if I got it, when I thankfully went home to Harrogate. My stepmother was running the house with great difficulty, keeping up, as best she could pre war standards, when she had four maids. Mr. Lemon the lodger had

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gone, which was just as well. Now she had an elderly disagreeable cook, called Nellie, and one maid too old to be called up. Food was strictly rationed, and heating limited. Petrol was rationed, and later there was none for private use.

Clothes were on coupons, 26 a year. A wool dress was 11 coupons, a pair of stockings or socks 2. Make do and mend was the order of the day, and nothing was thrown away. Jerseys were undone and re-knitted. Shoes patched and patched. The civilian population did not wear stockings unless it was freezing cold, they used brown leg make up and lines up the back of the legs to indicate seams. In the services we had to wear thick lisle stockings the whole time in uniform, very much darned over a wooden 'mushroom'. Life was far from easy and there was always the possibility of air raids. Even my father, who took Sunday afternoon off after his 90 hour working week had to use a bicycle to go up to the Golf Club – he was 74.

He had just fallen off it one day when Topsy and Peter came in to announce that they were engaged. (He never rode the bicycle again!). That August we had two



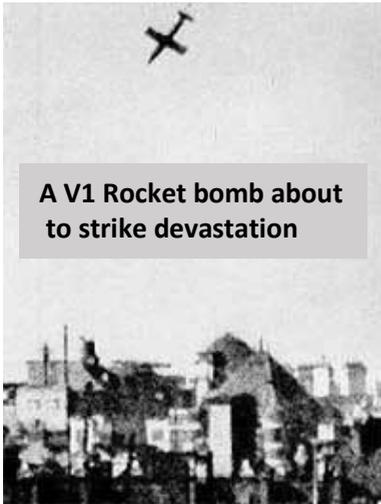
The Pinafore Room at The Savoy Hotel.

celebrations, my 21st, held at The Savoy in the Pinafore Room and a fortnight later Topsy and Peter's wedding at Christ Church, Harrogate, with the reception at Stonefall. Daphne and I were

bridesmaids; Daphne had left school and was to go to Mrs. Hostler's Secretarial College, at Greatford Hall, Stamford, later the home of Harry and Mary Dowsett (Brooke Marine shipping magnet).

Keith Murphy, the nephew of Stanley and Dorothy Murphy, oldest family friends, came up and was an usher. He and I travelled down on the train to Luton on Sunday. He was stationed at Watford, and was due to go to the Middle East, where he was training to parachute into Albania to form part of the resistance movement. He asked me to write to him, which I did, along with several other boy friends at the time, including one I thought I would probably marry in due course of time. **(I learnt from my mother, just prior to her death, that he had been in the RAF, from South Africa. Sadly, he was killed on a mission. She must have loved him, for while turning out I found a photograph of him – there was no name – just another unknown airman).**

Life was such a flux in those days. I had so many boyfriends who had been killed, particularly in the RAF, or worse, they were 'missing' presumed dead. I had a number of near escapes from bombs and later the terrible V1s and V2s. You lived for today. Troops were not allowed to go to London without a special pass but I did



A V1 Rocket bomb about to strike devastation

one Sunday and nearly died when a bomb landed a few yards in front of me, I was covered in dust, but unhurt, but obeyed orders after that! Momentum was growing for an invasion. There was to be a conference at Eastern Command, chaired by General Montgomery together with those Generals who had been so successful in the Middle East. Only officers could take the Minutes, and Margery Parkes and I were detailed to do this.

We had of course signed the Official Secrets Act, but were again sworn to secrecy. We were issued with new shorthand books, and pens. One of us started at 8.30am to 10.30. Then we

were lead with an armed guard to a **LAVATORY** off the ADC's room to type our notes! The armed guard stood outside, and if we wanted to go to the loo (we insisted we used another one) we were accompanied by an armed guard! Each piece of paper had to be accounted for, and our notebooks and carbons were handed in to be destroyed. So start the planning day for the D-Day landing known as **OVERLORD**. At the end of each day we had to be escorted to the General's Mess, in Whitewalls. We were both fairly good looking and presentable, and the Generals thought that this was great fun – we received various propositions from those that had been stuck in the desert for years. We thought they were frightful old bores! But it was quite dull to return to the mass of work awaiting us.



A V2 Rocket Bomb.

During this period there was not a lot of relaxation, though Monty ordained that all officers must take one afternoon off a week for exercise. Many played hockey, but I played hooky, and found that going riding in Wheathampstead counted. Or playing golf. We were stuck out in the wilderness. Luton, had little amusement three miles away, and if you went to the 'flicks' you had to come back in the 'passion cooler' (a three ton truck, standing room only males and females separated!).

A bicycle was essential. I often spent Sunday off taking my bicycle on the train to Bedford, and cycling the six miles to Barford where "Aunty Betty Newton" lived during the war. I had several exciting experiences cycling back from Harpenden late at night, without lights, because there were no torch batteries.

In 1944 I was promoted to the rank of Junior Commander, I do not know why. It meant a rise of pay up to £1 per day. The invasion took place, midst much rejoicing, and work changed.

I had been involved with the training of the Sappers, as the Engineers were called, with the flame throwers and landing craft for the invasion. Now it was dealing with the vast camps required for the prisoners of war. I found it most depressing going round these camps, though they were far better than those that British POW's had occupied. We were involved with unexploded bombs and beach mine clearance, extremely dangerous jobs.

Those in the services had a comparatively easy life. For civilians, stricter rationing, travel restrictions, and in the south of England the continuous bombing and rocket bombs produced conditions that it is difficult to describe the hardships. There were not the terrible casualties of the First World War, yet people waited daily for long delayed news of loved ones overseas in the war zones, particularly from the Far East – the “Forgotten Army”.

While I was at home on leave in December 1944, Aunt Dorothy Murphy, as we called her, rang to say that Keith had been seriously wounded in Greece. We had been corresponding in a desultory fashion, after he had written to say he was going to get married, and I had replied, “Good, so was I”. Neither plan worked out. He was ditched on the steps of Cairo Cathedral, but he continued writing to me. I wrote through the Army Post Office, and it was the only letter he received. I forgot about it, I was working very hard, though there was a lot of fun with young men who were returning home after years abroad.

In May 1945, the war came to an end. We had a marvelous celebration and painted the statues in Luton Hoo – to scrub it off the next day.

But then there was even more chaos, because things stopped, and no one knew what to do, though the Sappers were inundated with work, with bomb disposal, mine clearance, and particularly POW accommodation.

Early in June 1945, I was going down to the Mess for lunch when I got a telegram saying “In London tomorrow, if you can meet me phone between 1-2pm.” I thought, “You’ll be so lucky”. But when I got to the Mess, it was full. I went to the bar, where there was a chap that I loathed. He asked me to have a drink, and I said that I had to make a phone call, and rang the number. I arranged to meet Keith at the Dorchester the next day, which I had off.

Well as Jane Eyre says, so dear reader, we got married, and the outcome of that was, after a time, Hazel and Claire – and then my super 5 grandchildren! (*And now 4 great grandchildren - HT*)

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Church News

Review:



Garden party and BBQ: We had superb weather for the Garden party and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, young and old.

Church Fete: Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way and all those who came on the day. The weather wasn't quite so favourable, but we all had a jolly good time!

Community Breakfasts: Another busy Community breakfast in June, with several newcomers and lots of children! Our collection for the Food cupboard also did very well – many thanks to donors. July's breakfast was also very busy, especially towards the end. Sincere apologies to those who had to wait for their breakfasts!

Afternoon tea: June's afternoon tea was relatively quiet this month, but we welcomed lots of folk from outside the village. Visitors are always more than welcome, so if you have friends visiting for the weekend please invite them to join us! July's tea (with cafe church) has not yet taken place as we go to press, more news in the next issue or check the church website (see below).

Barn Dance: I think it's fair to say that the Barn dance was an outstanding success! The band gave a fantastic performance and although dancing started off slowly, it soon picked up, with the dance floor filling for every dance! More dancing followed after a break for a succulent roast pork roll with apple sauce and stuffing. As the evening wore on, everyone relaxed and by the time of the final dance, nearly everyone joined in. Everyone we asked said they'd come back again next year, so watch this space!



Forthcoming events:

Prayer meetings: Prayer meetings are open to all denominations so please join us if you want to! There'll be meetings at **8pm on Wed 14th and 28th Aug and 11th and 25th Sept at The Birches, Church Rd.** If you'd like to join us or would like prayers for someone, please call John, (we sometimes change times and dates). **Prayer request cards** are available at the Community breakfast or from the church. If you don't have the opportunity to complete



a card, please feel free to call one of the church wardens with details of your prayer requests.

Community Breakfasts: The next two Community Breakfasts will be held on **10th Aug and 14th Sept.** Breakfast can be ordered **from 8.30 till 10.30am.**

We've been delighted at the success of our breakfasts over the past few years, but we'd still like to see more villagers who've not yet been. **There is no charge** (there honestly isn't - we're not in it for the money – though if we regularly made a loss we'd have to reconsider!) but if you'd like to make a donation, feel free to give what you think the breakfast is worth or what you can afford.



Afternoon teas: Our next afternoon teas will be **18th Aug and 22nd Sept**. The latter will be our last afternoon tea for the year so we do hope you'll be able to make it to one or other of the teas! We offer a warm welcome, a good chat and delicious cream teas and homemade cake.



Cheese and wine evening with local author Jack



Sheffield: Jack Sheffield is a celebrated author known for his books based on his career as a teacher and headmaster. His books are full of amusing (sometimes hilarious) anecdotes and are a joy to read. Jack will be giving a talk on **14th September at 7pm at the Community Centre** to a delighted audience and you are welcome to join us. **Tickets priced £7** are available from Dave Webber (see details for Diane below). Our full page advert is elsewhere in the SH news!

Harvest festival & Harvest Lunch: We will be holding our harvest festival and sharing our harvest lunch again on **Sun 6th Oct**. Our Harvest Festival Service will take place at **St Luke's Church at 11am**. If you would like to help decorate the church, please speak to Diane (see below). We love to see the church beautifully decorated and full of harvest fare! Following the service, we will be holding our Harvest Lunch at **1pm at the Community Centre**. Tickets will be going up this year to reflect increased costs and are priced at **£7.50** per adult and **£5** per child aged 3-14 (children under 3 are free) and will be on sale in September. Look forward to seeing you there!



Special events:

Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride: We're really keen to invite new riders and striders to join the team for St Luke's this year, so **please consider whether you think you could join in!** There's no clash with the village show this year, so get your cycling shorts or your walking boots on! This is an annual event that our Churchwarden Harry takes part in. Participants are sponsored to walk or ride (usually bikes, but horses as well!) round as many churches as they can between **10am and 6pm** on the 2nd Saturday in September, (**14th September** this year).



Sponsorship money collected is divided equally by BHCT, half the proceeds going to the trust and the other half going to a church of your choice (in Harry's case, St Luke's). Whether you're a cyclist, a (horse) rider or a walker, and you think you'd like to take part, please contact Harry (details below) or go online to:

<https://bucks-historic-churches.org/ride-stride/>

Pastoral visiting: We are considering setting up a Pastoral visiting group to visit the elderly, housebound or those temporarily "out of action" or in need of support. If you are already visiting someone, but would appreciate some "cover" when you go on holiday, if you are someone who could spare some time to visit someone, or someone who would like a visit, please contact us on any number below.



It's your church, we want to involve YOU!

Nativity: Yes, we know it's early to be talking about Christmas, but if it's going to happen, we need to start thinking about it now. We've been asked (again) to present an adult Nativity performance on the village Green (We last held one 5 years ago). If it were to go ahead, it would probably be held in the afternoon on Sunday 22nd December BUT...we need a team to help organise it. **Could you be part of the team?** There's a lot involved, but we already have contacts from last time and with a big enough team we would manage; without it, we'll have to wait for another year. Please contact any church member if you'd like to help.



Help needed: We are hoping to do a big Autumn clean of the church and need lots of helpers. If you'd like to be involved, please contact a churchwarden or the treasurer (see below) The date will be advertised in the next SH news.

Dates for your diary:

Harvest festival & Harvest Lunch 6th Oct

St Luke's day 18th Oct

Gift day (nearest Saturday to St Luke's Day) 19th Oct

Patronal service 20th Oct

Future Fundraising events:

Christmas Fayre: 30th November



Bible verse of the month: *Galatians 6v2:* ²Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.

What does it mean? This verse speaks plainly, saying that we should help each other when we can see another person is in difficulty. Of course we can't necessarily carry another person's burden, but we can perhaps lighten their load by sharing it, perhaps picking up some small part that will make their life easier– even when we know they can't reciprocate. This is a means of fulfilling the law of Christ which is to love our neighbour as ourselves.

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



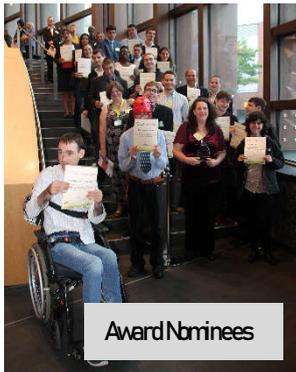
St Luke's offers Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals and other services according to your needs (thanksgiving for the birth of a child, blessing of a wedding, etc.) Please contact the Rector or a Churchwarden if you'd like to discuss your situation.

The church is located at the top of Church Rd, off Newton Rd. If you'd like to come to a service, church service times are listed on the website, with the Rector's contact details. 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 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.**

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ADULT LEARNING AWARDS.

Winners and nominations were celebrated at the Buckinghamshire Adult Learning Awards 2019 held at the Waterside Theatre as part of the national Festival of Learning in June. The annual event which was attended by over 130 people recognises learners, trainees, assessors, tutors, learning support assistants, volunteers and staff.



This year's ceremony marked the first time that the celebrations were extended to include learners from Buckinghamshire Adult Learning's new Traineeship scheme which offers high quality work experience placements and employability workshops to young people aged 16 to 24. Also included in the awards were nominations from the Supported Internship programme which provides work opportunities for young adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

Sandra Bacon from Aylesbury, who is a learner in English and Family Learning, was crowned Adult Learner of the Year 2019. She was nominated by her tutors Iva Abbey and Jill Organ for her commitment and effort, as well as her enthusiasm and diligence in hard times. Sandra said of her journey, "My Buckinghamshire Adult Learning classes have made me feel more confident, more than 'just a mum', and have given me the old Sandra back. "I now realise that I am capable of doing anything I want to. My classes have been wonderful and the teachers are fantastic.



The title of Trainee of the Year was scooped by Alicia Stocke from Aylesbury who was also commended for her drive and commitment, as well as completing her work before the end of the trainee programme and getting a job interview for which she was successful.

Tim Wright from Chesham, who has taught English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) for Buckinghamshire Adult Learning for 13 years, was awarded 'Tutor of the Year 2019' after being nominated by ESOL Coordinator Laura Delaney.





Laura said, “Tim truly deserves recognition, not only for his professional knowledge, and commitment and dedication to his learners, but his incredible ability to consistently and positively share his good practice and professionalism throughout his team and the wider service.”

The ‘Learning Support Assistant of the Year’ accolade went to Gay Hutchings-Hay from High Wycombe, who has worked for Buckinghamshire Adult Learning for two years on a number of ESOL and English courses, as

well as courses for adults with learning disabilities. The final award of Volunteer of the Year was handed to Richard Vincent, from Aston Clinton, for his work in classes for adults with learning difficulties.

The awards event was attended by the County Council’s Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Anita Cranmer who presented the certificates and awards to nominees and winners; and Sarah Callaghan, Service Director for Education.

Cabinet Member Anita Cranmer said, “Buckinghamshire Adult Learning programmes have changed many people’s lives by being part of their journeys of self-development and reaching new heights.



“I am delighted to see recognition and reward for everyone’s achievements. This year’s ceremony has really shed a spotlight on the amount of dedication within Buckinghamshire Adult Learning, from learners as well as staff.” Individuals who received medals were: Mrs Alison Rae, Mrs Joyce Rutter and Mrs Jennifer Woolveridge.

www.buckscc.gov.uk/news
<https://twitter.com/buckscc>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/buckinghamshirecc>
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Our-Buckinghamshire/118283198190717>





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Tuesday's 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 Southcott Community Centre,
 Grasmere Way
 Linslade
 LU7 2PJ

Wednesday's 6.00pm - 7.00pm
 Trinity Methodist Church Hall,
 North Street
 Leighton Buzzard
 LU7 1ES

£8.00 per class
 for block booking of 5-6 weeks

£10.00 per class drop in
 (please call in advance to check availability).

Booking Essential
 Limited spaces available

Contact: 07974 141874
 The Core Club or Nikki G Zumba
 Email: nikki@wizfht.co.uk

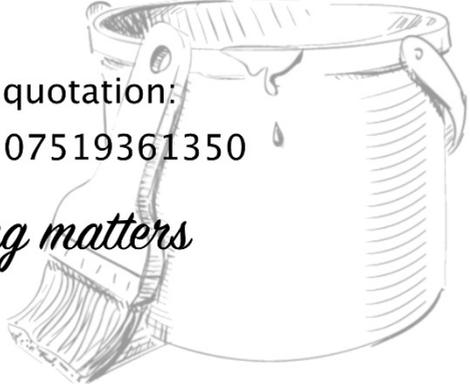
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 01525 270857 or 07519361350

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DEMOCRACY? 2019

By the time this is read we should have a new Prime Minister. At the time of writing we are down to the last two – Jeremy and Boris. We have had so much coverage in the papers on the t v and radio, live debates etc. it might seem that you and me (“the men in the street”) should have opinions in the matter and these would have some influence on the outcome.

This is not the case however. Let’s consider this in terms of numbers. Strictly this is an “election” for the leader of the Conservative party but effectively this produces the Prime Minister. We had lots of political banter amongst Conservative MP’s (314ish) to arrive at the two finalists. The decision is now made by members of the Conservative Party. Membership was around 123,000 before an unusual surge came about because some of the Brexit party changed allegiance . But let’s assume the original membership figure of 123,000. If there is a “turnout” (yes I know it’s a postal ballot) of say 50% then we are looking at 61,500 “voters”. If it’s close and 55% vote for the eventual winner the number is only 33,825.

33,825! Does this really represent the Country’s opinion on who should be our leader? I would point out that some 63,000,000 voted for Trump in the last U S election.

Grumpy Old Man

On the bright side there has been very little coverage of Brexit for the last month and a half!

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PARTY THAT
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with Nikki Gladdish



Zumba

Monday's 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Brooklands Middle School, Brooklands Drive,
Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 3PF

Zumba Gold Thursday's

For the older active adult

10am - 10.45am

Southcott Community Centre
Grasmere Way Linslade LU7 2PJ

Please wear comfortable clothes and bring water!
No need to book - just turn up!

Contact your local licensed Zumba instructor
Nikki Gladdish 07974 141874
Email: nikki@wizfit.co.uk
f [Nikki G Zumba](https://www.facebook.com/nikkigladdish.zumba) www.nikkigladdish.zumba.com



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fitness

**Beginners
welcome
at all venues**

GET DOWN FEEL GREAT



MAVIS'S QUIZ

Answers to last month's quiz and if you remember you had to place a word that can be put either in front or behind the listed three words. So how did you do?

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|----------|
| (1) BRUSH | (2) MAN | (3) NAIL |
| (4) STATION | (5) BOOK | (6) BACK |
| (7) APPLE | (8) BOARD | (9) BLUE |
| (10) BLACK | | |



More of the same for this edition, place a word that can be put either in front or behind the following words ??

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) Line – Bag – Drunk | |
| (2) Shave – Noon – Birth | |
| (3) Brush – Field – Lock | |
| (4) Bencher – Chat - Date | |
| (6) River – Holiday – Note | (5) Bearing – Cock – Foot |
| (7) Tender – Code – Bell | |
| (8) Double – Room – Sore | |
| (9) Bumble – Hive - Line | |
| (10) Magic – Pudding – Spot | |

Best of luck, the answers in the next edition.



LADIES WHO LUNCH: There will be NO Ladies that Lunch in August because of school holidays, many of our ladies look after their grandchildren over the period and others are away on their holidays. We will be back in business in September. The date for your diary is Tuesday September 3rd September. Usual time of 12.30 in the Sports Club.

In July we not only held our usual Ladies that Lunch (thank you to Margaret and Irene for assisting Hazel while Valerie was in Scotland!) but on July 9 eleven members went to have Afternoon Tea at Cafe Rouge in Queens Court Milton Keynes. The waitress having served us with tea or coffee the participants enjoyed ham and cheese toasted sandwiches or a vegetarian option that included mushrooms. This was followed by scones with jam and cream, it was interesting to see which order these ingredients were applied to the scones. The tea was finished off with a variety of delicious cakes. We were all so full we asked for doggy bags and took the remnants of the food home with us. We all had a lovely afternoon. Thank you to Valerie and Laraine for organising the trip. Many thanks too to the drivers, including Keith, for taking us all there and bringing us all safely home again.

We will be saving again for a Christmas treat.

TENNIS ANYONE?

The Summer Coaching Packages are now available to book on the Great Brickhill Tennis Club Website.

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/GreatBrickhillTC/Coaching>

Great Brickhill Tennis Club runs a continuous programme of coaching throughout the year led by Head Coach, Ross Neary.

There is something for everyone, whatever age or level of tennis you are.



Adult Improvers – designed to improve your overall game play. Running on Fridays from 8:00-9:00pm this course runs until Friday 12th July.

Junior Coaching – coaching for children aged 4 to 16 years. There are four groups based on both age and ability (4-8yrs, 7-10yrs, 9-12yrs and 11-16yrs). Junior coaching runs on Fridays from 4:00pm (term time) until 12th July.

Cardio Tennis – Even if you don't play tennis you may find our Cardio Tennis of interest. It's a great way to keep fit and you don't need to be a member to join this course. Cardio Tennis runs every Wednesday 10:30-11:30am until 10th July.

High Ash C of E School Parish Council Newsletter

Grow Together Shine Forever

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Parish Newsletter (for Aug/Sept issue)

The last two weeks of term were very busy....

We had an Oracy Showcase where our successful finalists performed their speeches on global warming to their parents and the staff at High Ash. The children had scripted their own speeches and they were articulate, expressive and moving with some amazing vocabulary- a real showcase indeed! Each KS2 Finalist received a personal certificate to remember this achievement.

We also had our Music Concert in the evening where our talented orchestra and choir performed along with individual musicians, with some duets and group performances. Many of these were arranged by the children themselves which is a credit to their progress in music. It was also great this year to be joined by members of the choir from St Mary's Church, Great Brickhill who sang with our choir as well.

Fundraising News...

A huge thank you to HASA for organising our Summer Fair and to everyone who came out to support us. As you know we are looking to update our reading books and I am delighted to inform you that the Summer Fair raised £3,200. What a great contribution this will be! We will be ordering our new books in September, so thank you!

Back to School....

The children will start back at school on Wednesday 4th September - Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd are staff INSET days.

Sara J Boyce

Sara Boyce
Headteacher
headteacher@highash.bucks.sch.uk

STOKE HAMMOND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Why not hire the **Community Centre** or the **Meeting Room** for your party or business meeting. Discounted rates for residents of Stoke Hammond. To book or discuss your requirements please call 07555 711929 or 01525 270151 alternatively email your enquiry to: enquiries@shcommunityassociation.co.uk



TAKE A LOOK AT OUR NEW WEBSITE
www.stokehammondcommunitycentre.com



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

INVITES YOU TO GIVE US YOUR VIEW ON ROADS

Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) is seeking the opinions of residents on the county's road system in a new online survey that will provide information that will inform the council's strategic highways planning.

This online survey is open to all residents, and is in addition to the annual National Highways and Transportation (NHT) survey which was sent to 3,300 randomly selected households in Buckinghamshire during June. Through this survey, BCC will be taking a deeper look at two of the key NHT questions which concern 'Road Condition' and 'Road Congestion'. The opinions collected through this survey will be used to supplement the information obtained via the NHT.

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation Mark Shaw said: "when we look at the combined results of these two surveys, we can really start to build a picture of how the public views and rates our services. This will assist both Buckinghamshire County Council with transport planning and Transport for Buckinghamshire - the strategic highway maintenance arm of the organisation – with advising us on where the roads budget is best spent each year.

"We really value the views of our residents, and this additional questionnaire will give us a better understanding of any issues respondents are experiencing with road condition and road congestion."

The survey will remain open to the residents of Buckinghamshire until 30 September 2019. It takes under five minutes to complete and is open to all residents even if they have responded to the initial NHT survey received last month. The results will be made available on the BCC website in the autumn this year.

You can complete the survey by going to the following website:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BCCtransportsurvey2019

www.buckscc.gov.uk/news
<https://twitter.com/buckscc>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/buckinghamshirecc>
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Our-Buckinghamshire/118283198190717>



VILLAGE DIARY

Monday 5 th August	Gardening Club trip to Winterbourne House & Gardens
Saturday 10 th August	Community Breakfast – Community Centre 08.30 – 10.30
Sunday 18 th August	Afternoon Tea – St Luke’s Church 15.00 – 17.00
Tuesday 3 rd September	Ladies that Lunch – Sports Club 12.30 – 13.45
Tuesday 3 rd September	Parish Council Meeting – Community Centre 19.30
Thursday 5 th September	Gardening Club trip to Waterperry Gardens
Saturday 7 th September	Village Show – Community Centre – From 13.00
Saturday 14 th September	Community Breakfast – Community Centre 08.30 – 10.30
Saturday 14 th September	Cheese & Wine Evening with author Jack Shepherd Community Centre – 19.00
Sunday 22 nd September	Afternoon Tea – St Luke’s Church 15.00 – 17.00

ORGANISATIONS THAT USE THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Pilates – Group Matwork

Monday’s 09.25, 10.30, 11.45, 19.10 & 20.15hrs

Contact: Louisa Harris 07941 203589 louisa.pilates@gmail.com

Joyful Tots

Every Friday 10.00 – 12.30hrs

Contact Jacklen 07897 487657 or Diane 01525 270409

Innovations

Tuesday’s & Wednesday’s 09.30– 15.30hrs

Contact: Yvonne 07846 338153 or Alison 07714 664716

Buttons Pre-School

Monday – Friday 09.00 – 15.00hrs

Contact: 01525 270501/07973 158368

Slimming World

Wednesday’s 19.30 – 21.30 hrs

Contact Emma Yorke 07933 790954

High Ash Scouts, Cubs & Beavers

Every Thursday 17.30 – 21.30

Contact John Till 01525 261444

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

SH NEWS – ADVERTISING RATES

For 6 bimonthly editions: **FULL Page - £85.00 HALF Page - £50.00 QTR Page - £30.00**

To upgrade to full colour on rear cover, additional per edition cost:

FULL Page – plus £15.00 HALF Page - plus £10.00 QUARTER Page - plus £5.00

Note: Upgrading to full colour is on a per edition basis, not a commitment for 6 editions

Bucks County Council	01296-395000
Community Transport Co-ordinator	07729-699488
Registrar (<i>Births, Deaths & Marriages</i>)	01296-382581
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 (<i>Sue Severn</i>)	01296 331816
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

Police non-emergency number 101

EDITORS NOTE

If you didn't get along to the Barn Dance held on Saturday 20th July down at the Community Centre and as reported in the Church News in this edition, well, all I can say is you missed out – it was a fabulous event. Let's hope we can say the same for the Village Show to be held on Saturday 7th September. New for this year, the show is to run an hour longer till 6pm. The Live music will continue after the normal raffle/awards ceremony until the end of the show.

May I please have copy for the October/November 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

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

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 31 July		Wednesday 31 July	Wednesday 31 July
	Wednesday 7 Aug	Wednesday 7 Aug	
Wednesday 14 Aug		Wednesday 14 Aug	Wednesday 14 Aug
	Wednesday 21 Aug	Wednesday 21 Aug	
Wednesday 28 Aug		Wednesday 28 Aug	Wednesday 28 Aug
	Wednesday 4 Sept	Wednesday 4 Sept	
Wednesday 11 Sept		Wednesday 11 Sept	Wednesday 11 Sept
	Wednesday 18 Sept	Wednesday 18 Sept	
Wednesday 25 Sept		Wednesday 25 Sept	Wednesday 25 Sept
	Wednesday 2 Oct	Wednesday 2 Oct	

Registration for the Dog Show opens @ 12.30am. Show starts @ 1.00pm

STOKE HAMMOND DOG SHOW

7th SEPT

AT THE
STOKE HAMMOND
VILLAGE SHOW

ADMISSION £1
CHILDREN FREE

- 1:30pm Waggiest Tail
- 1:50pm Appealing Eyes
- 2:10pm Handsome Hound
- 2:30pm Finest Golden Oldie
(7 years and over)
- 2:50pm Prettiest
Female Pooch
- 3:10pm Best Rescue
- 3:30pm Judge would most
like to take home
- 3:50pm BEST IN SHOW

THE COMMUNITY CENTRE
BRAGENHAM SIDE. MK17 9DB
www.stokehammondvillageshow.com



£1.50 per class

Register on the day - No pre-booking!

Thank you to our wonderful sponsors
for supporting our Fun Dog Show

ALL proceeds raised will be donated for the care & welfare of HULA's animals

www.hularescue.org | 01908 584000 | hula.reception@nawt.org.uk | Registered charity 1094115

STOKE HAMMOND



VILLAGE SHOW

Sat 7th Sept 2019

Live Bands . Bar & BBQ

Large Show Tent

Many Stalls & Amusements

Raffle . Teas & Cakes

Fun Dog Show

Admission £1 . Children Free

1-6pm at the Community Centre

Don't Miss This Exciting Village Event

STOP PRESS: New for this year longer opening hours



**** Tricky the Twister Balloon Modeller ****
making balloon models for the
Kids all afternoon



@twister_tricky

trickythetwister

Never have enough cash on the day?

Contactless/Chip & pin card payments avail at the Bar & BBQ

www.stokehammondvillageshow.com