

CONTACTS

Church of England at St Mary's. 1st Sunday: 8.00am Communion 11.00am informal "Cafe-style" service (at All Saints Hall); 2nd Sunday: 11.00am communion; 3rd Sunday: 8.00am Communion 11.00am morning worship; 4th Sunday: 11.00am morning worship.	Associate Vicar: Rev Annie Gurner, 8241167, revgurner@btinternet.com Parish Office, 1 Castle Street TA14 6RE website: www.hamhillchurches.org Sue Menzies 01935 829632
BODY CONDITIONING CLASS - Weekly - Monday 6.30pm - 7.30pm (Memorial Hall)	Sue Menzies 01935 829632
BOWLS CLUB - Weekly - Friday, 7.00pm - 9.30pm (Memorial Hall)	Sylvia Warry 822044
BOYS BRIGADE - Weekly - Thursday 6.00pm - 7.30pm (now at Marrock Christian Fellowship)	Ian Rumbelow 881712
BRIDGE CLUB - Weekly - Monday starting at 8.30pm (Working Mens Club)	Jackie Poole 01935 823606
BROWNIES - Weekly - Every Tuesday during term time (Hamdon Youth & Family Centre)	Kathy Smith 07366979178
CRIME & MYSTERY BOOK GROUP	Penny on 8222208 or Mark 07496 148756
"EVERY STEP COUNTS" - 9.30am & "HEALTH WALKS" 10.30am. Meet outside the Lighthouse	
FLEXICISE FOR FUN - At Oak Tree House every Monday at 2.30pm	Di Ramsay 0845 6434702
FOOTBALL - SENIOR TEAMS - Training Tuesday evenings 6.30pm. Matches weekend	Ashleigh Bussell 07969 106205
FOOTBALL - YOUTH TEAMS - Training weekday evenings. Matches Saturdays & Sundays	Kim Campbell 07973 630121 email kimcam73@me.com
FOOTPATHS - problems and issues contact the Parish Clerk	Sarah Moore, Clerk 822455
GARDENING CLUB - Monthly - Fourth Wednesday 7.30pm (Memorial Hall)	Sue Winwood 823671
HAM HILL COUNTRY PARK - VOLUNTEER RANGERS - Weekly Wed. 10.00am - 3.30pm (Ranger's Office)	Paul McNeill 07973 3887129 Sonia Heller 01460 241297 email pipershairt@hotmail.com
HAMDON BRASS BAND	Ann or Karon 01935 826832 Email: hamdonbrassband@btinternet.com
HAMDON PLAYGROUP - Monday - Friday term time, 8.30 am - 3.30 pm. 2 years old, 3/4 years old and 30 hours funding available.	Caral Parker 825393 Sue Menzies 829632r
HISTORY GROUP	
LADIES CIRCUITS Thursday at 6pm in the Memorial Hall	Sarah Russell 826355
LIGHTHOUSE CAFE - Monday & Thursday 10.00am - 1.00pm	Denise Burton 827793
MAY FAYRE - Annual Event for Sports & Recreation Trust	bookings.stokememorialhall@hotmail.com, Jill Ullhorn 829513
MEMORIAL HALL BOOKING SECRETARY	Barbara Brooks, Chairman 824432 Sarah Moore, Clerk 822455
PARISH COUNCIL - Monthly First Wednesday 7.15pm (Memorial Hall)	Malissa Thompson email malissathompson@avonandsomerset.police.uk and Carole Brown email: carolebrown@avonandsomerset.police.uk
POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER	Paul Spearpoint 826375
POP-IN - Weekly - Thursday (Oak Tree House)	Sue Menzies 829632
POST OFFICE COUNTER (INSIDE THE SHOP AT THE CROSS) OPENING TIMES Monday & Friday 9.00am to 12 noon, Thursday 1.00pm to 4.00pm (excluding Bank Holidays)	Jeanette Rumbelow 06749 733686
SEATED CHAIR EXERCISES - Friday at 10am in the All Saints Hall	Derek Goad 824337
SONG BUS SINGING GROUP - Weekly Wednesday 9.15am - term time. All Saints Hall	carolyn_jeffrey@hotmail.com Facebook: @StokeBabyAndToddlerGroup
STOKE AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION	Lyn Foley 01935 823051/07714 005265
STOKE BABY & TODDLER GROUP - Memorial Hall. Thurs. 9.30am to 11.30am in term time	Gill Robins 01935 329904 Jane Herbert 01460 419317
STOKE LUNCH CLUB FOR OLDER PEOPLE - Lighthouse Cafe last Wednesday of the month.	Jennie Clark 07921 393425
STOKE SUB HAMDON BAND - Monday & Thursday 8.00pm - 10.00pm Band Room, back of URC Training Band - Thursdays at Band Room, 7.00pm - 7.45pm	John 07721 060901
TAEKWONDO & LITTLE DRAGONS - Mondays 5.00pm - 5.30pm Little Dragons; 5.30pm - 6.15pm Taekwondo beginners; 6.15pm - 7.00pm Taekwondo Adults (Stanchester)	Castle Primary School Office 01935 822342 Two daily sessions 9.00am - 12 noon & 12 noon - 3pm. Extended provision available from 7.45am - 5.30pm ages 3+
TAI CHI - Weekly - Thursday 4.00pm - 5.00pm in Memorial Hall	Jennie Harris 881718
TINY TURRETS (Castle Primary School) - Foundation Stage Unit for children aged 2 - 4 years Two daily sessions 9.00am - 12 noon & 12 noon - 3pm. Extended provision available from 7.45am - 5.30pm ages 3+	Dianna Bailey 01935 881647
TRAINING BAND - Thursdays at Band Room, 7.00pm - 7.45pm	Mark Greaves 01935 823297
TRANGLE TRUST - Raising funds for Hamdon Medical Centre	cat@somersettrc.org.uk Tel: 07968 521746
VILLAGE AGENT - Cluster 552 Cath Holloway	
VILLAGE ARTISTS - Monday 10.00am - 12.30pm, Friday 10.00am - 12 noon (Memorial Hall)	
WORKING MENS CLUB - Daily - Lunch times & evenings	
YOUTH CLUB - Weekly - Monday 7.00pm at Hamdon Youth & Family Centre	Youth Worker Lou on 07402 987921 or email lou.chant@cpyme.uk

PARISH COUNCIL CLERK: MRS. SARAH MOORE, 24 HIGH STREET, STOKE SUB HAMDON TA14 6PS
TELEPHONE 01935 822455 E-MAIL: clerkshpe@hotmail.co.uk

Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council

NEWSLETTER

December 2019



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Anyone wishing to submit articles for the January newsletter, please could you email me or post through my door by the 12 December due to the Christmas break. Many thanks, Sarah Moore, Parish Clerk

PARISH COUNCIL

ACTING CHAIR'S UPDATE

At November's meeting we were very happy to co-opt and welcome Mrs Lyn Foley onto the Council. There are still two more councillor positions to fill so if anyone is interested please contact either our Clerk, Sarah, or myself for details. Hamdon Youth Group's Chair (John Bailey) attended and gave an annual report to Councillors. We were all glad to hear that the group has had a successful year and are happy with the stability that the new centre is providing. It was also good to hear that the group has had some success with some additional fund raising to support its work and the Council were able to approve the same operational grant as last year of £6,290 for the youth worker. The parish council also approved grants to the Memorial Hall for their annual operational grant of £1,000 and £809.68 for their insurance and, £250 to the Lunch club towards their Christmas Lunch.

SPEEDING

Speeding vehicles continues to be a problem village wide, so Councillors agreed that in order to get anything done to improve the situation we would need to fast track the planned purchase of a Speed Indication Device (SID) for use throughout the village. This will enable councillors to gather information in order to provide evidence on the level of speeding to support any changes they would like. Highways to consider or indeed the police to act upon. SIDs are a proven way of alerting drivers to reduce their speed which also has an immediate impact. As an additional step it was agreed to contact the police to alert them of our increased concern; it is hoped this will get some support with on the spot speed traps. Councillors ask all villagers to be mindful of speed limits throughout the village.

CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Please note acts of Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour are increasingly being brought to Councillors attention at our monthly meetings. Whilst Councillors can pass on this info it's really too late. The gathering of information is a very useful part of Policing and building a picture of potential spikes/changes in the level of crime and anti-social behaviour across a community helps to proactively prevent it getting out of control. In order for this to happen, it is important that villagers are made aware that issues regarding crime and anti-social behaviour are documented/recorded immediately with the police; for the more minor issues simply calling 101 allows the Police to build up that picture or react accordingly. If nothing gets reported than it is assumed all's well!

PLANNING

Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council have no observations or objections to the following application.

Application

19/02873/HOU - Tudor, Montacute Road, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6LQ. Formation of a first-floor shower room and construction of new dormer.

Decisions

19/02751/TCA - Avalon, 13 Windsor Lane, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6UE. Notification of intent to carry out tree surgery works to No. 2 trees within a Conservation Area. Permitted.

19/02395/NMA - Summerfield, West Street Development

Application for a non-material amendment to planning approval 18/02324/REM relating to render, windows, tiles and general changes to front elevations including window/canopy/porch styles as well as increase in ceiling heights to plots 11, 15 and 16 to improve visual appearance and quality of the development. Permitted.

19/02523/TCA - East Stoke House, East Stoke TA14 6UF

Fell one tree in Conservation Area. Permitted.
I would like to take the opportunity to wish all residents a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Contact details: Hugh Donovan - Vice Chair of the Parish Council
The Old Butchery, 23 West Street.
Tel: 829181

RECYCLING/WASTE COLLECTIONS

USUAL COLLECTION DAY	REVISED COLLECTION DAY
Monday - Tuesday 23 - 24 December	No change
Wednesday 25 - Friday 27 December	All 2 days later, including Friday pick-ups on Sunday 29 Dec
Monday - Tuesday 30 - 31 December	No change
Wednesday 1 January - Friday 3 January	All 1 days later, including Friday pick-ups on Saturday 4 January
Monday 6 January	Usual collections resume

No garden waste collections 24 December - 3 January; resume from 6 January. Recycling sites on usual schedules including all open 9am - 4pm Saturday - Sunday 21 - 22 and 28 - 29 December, and 4 - 5 January. All sites close 25 - 26 December, 1 January. Christmas trees: home compost; take to recycling site or council drop-off point; book charity collection or, garden waste collectors only, add undecorated trees under 6ft to garden waste collection from 7 January. (Last resort place next to your rubbish bin on usual collection day 6 - 17 January 2020 and send it to costly, wasteful landfill!)

STOKE ACTIVE WALKERS

Tuesday, 3rd December 2019

We will begin our December walk by going around the back of Castle Farm and along to the Jubilee Woods. We will go through the woods, up Kings Road and then follow the track towards Percombe. From there we will take the footpath past West End garage, then cross West Street and follow the path to Norton. We will go past Turnpike and along to Creedy and then follow the footpath which will take us to cross the Crewkerne road and around the back of Norton to The Lord Nelson for lunch.

We meet at 10.30am at Sea Wall, about 50 yards on the Montacute side of Bonnies Lane. Please wear suitable boots or shoes and clothing according to the weather. All our walks are free, and we welcome new walkers to our friendly group. Well behaved dogs are also welcome. **ALL WALKS ARE UNDER TAKEN AT THE WALKERS OWN RISK.** For more information please contact Norman on 01935 822792.

FOUND

Gold club found in Matts Lane - to claim it please give its description by ringing 826471 or calling at 2 Hamdon Close (in Matts Lane).

STOKE BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

A friendly and welcoming stay and play group, held on Thursdays (term time) 9.30am - 11.30am at the Memorial Hall. £2 per family. We have crafts, free play, snacks, hot drinks and cake for adults and song time. This is a community led group supported by Rev'd Annie Gurner and a happy group of volunteers. This Christmas, we will be making cards and crafts on the 28th November. Our last session for this year will be on the 5th December, with our Christmas party and a visit from the Martock Christian Fellowship puppet team. Newcomers welcome! (no sessions on the 12th or 19th December. The group restarts on 9th January 2020).

STOKE CHARITY SHOP

Thank you to all who attended the Charity Shop Jumble Sale in October which raised over £350.00 for local projects. Special mention goes to our dedicated volunteers, helpers and bakers, who make all our events possible and reflects the generous local spirit of service to others. Our recent sale of Christmas items at the Lighthouse raised just over £100.00; thanks to Frances' and Pat's efforts with help from Katherine and Simon.

There is still time to purchase tickets for the Community Christmas Draw sponsored by the local Rotary Club. Tickets are on sale at Stoke Charity Shop for £1.00 each and the Rotary Club will gift the Shop the price of the tickets we sell, plus a little extra if we sell all our supply. This helps our village and gives you a chance at a cash prize just before Christmas. Wishing all our volunteers and customers a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year!

STOKE PERFORMING ARTS GROUP

Stoke Performing Arts Group held two very enjoyable Murder Mystery evenings at the Memorial Hall on 8th and 9th November 2019. The audiences were entertained throughout with an interactive "Who Dunit?" plot in which characters interacted with them and each other and, of course, were witness to a dramatic murder taking place! The services of the Police were required, and then, following some serious suspect interrogation, it was up to everyone to decide who they thought the murderer was.

A wonderful three course meal was served alongside all the action and special thanks must go to Lyn Foley and her team of catering volunteers for their outstanding contribution to making both evenings such a success.

SPAG would also like to thank Rachel Lewis and SWMVC for once again providing the bar, Stable Design Ltd for their marketing services and everyone who gave up their valuable time to create such a memorable village event.

If you would like to find out more about SPAG please email: info@stokeperformingartsgroup.co.uk; telephone Jennie on

01935 579592 or visit our Facebook page. New members are always welcome.

CHRISTMAS PRIZE BINGO

Come along to the Christmas Prize Bingo on Monday, 9th December at Stoke Working Men's Club. Tickets will be on sale from 7pm; eyes down at 7.45pm. Everyone is welcome.

HAMDON COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT

A Christmas Concert featuring the 'A Capella' singers, Parnham Voices, on Saturday 7th December at 3pm. Tickets cost £8 and include seasonal refreshments. Box office 01935 824064, leave a message and we will return your call.

The Christmas Tree Festival starts on Sunday, 8th December. Daily 6-8 pm. The Stoke Christmas Carolers will be at the centre on Sunday, 15th December at 6pm. If you would like to enter a tree at the event, please contact Ann at hamdonplaygroup@btinternet.com.

Friendship and dementia group; the consultation process is now complete so thank you to everyone who has shown an interest for this activity in the village. We are really excited by the prospect of starting a regular group early in the New Year.

HAM HILL VOLUNTEER RANGERS

Come and join our team of Volunteer Rangers at Ham Hill Country Park. Give it a try! It's fun, and no experience is necessary - just turn up. You'll get the chance to carry out a variety of exciting seasonal conservation activities such as scrub clearance, tree planting, hedge-laying, drystone walling, path maintenance, and coppicing.

We meet at 10.00am every Wednesday at the Ranger Office on Ham Hill (TA14 6RW) and finish at around 3.30pm, with a break for lunch. Stay for the full day or just half a day and come along as often as you like. You will be provided with training, gloves, tools, and refreshments.

Wear old weather-appropriate clothes, stout boots or wellies, and a packed lunch (if required).

For more information contact Paul, the ranger on 07973 887129.

STOKE LUNCH CLUB

I am happy to report that we are getting continued support from the community through funding opportunities. The Parish Council has put together a grant application to Somerset County Council for funding for the Christmas meal. Let's see if we are successful. I am starting to receive referrals from different organisations which is fabulous. The Lunch Club has now become embedded in the local calendar and will continue through next year on the last Wednesday of the month.

I will have to make some amendments next year to the running of the Club. From January 2020, I will be seeking a deposit system where on booking a place for the following month a small non-refundable deposit of £3 per person will be required to secure a place.

Christmas meal bookings will close by the 20th December. For those who have booked please could I have a £5 deposit, before the 15th December 2019.

My grateful thanks to Stuart, Loder of Loder's Butchers for supplying me with the beef for November's main meal.

Please don't hesitate to contact me about the Christmas meal or for any other information on 01935 823051.

EVERY STEP COUNTS & HEALTH WALKS

Why not come along and join us on our led walks and enjoy seeing the lovely, ever-changing countryside around Stoke. You will receive a warm welcome, lively conversation and the opportunity for a cup of tea or lunch at the Lighthouse Café after the walks.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month and both walks start and end at the Lighthouse Café opposite the Fleur de Lis pub.

'Every Step Counts' walks begin at 9.30am and last approx. 30 to 40 mins, walking on pavements or paths around the village.

Health Walks start at 10.30am and last approx. 90 minutes, walking along tracks, footpaths and occasionally ascending Ham Hill and visiting neighbouring villages. Just turn up, wearing suitable clothing and shoes for the weather.

If you would like more information, please contact any one of the four trained walk leaders: Mark & Jane 07496148756 Penny 822208 or Anne 826256

STOKE BAND NEWS

The band's Christmas Concert is on Saturday 7th December at the Memorial Hall, tickets are £6 and Christmas puddings and pies will be served as usual.

On Saturday 14th December, we will once again be playing carols outside at the Prince of Wales but this year from 2:00pm until 4:00pm. Please come and sing along with us. This is an event for all the family to enjoy. Let's hope the weather is better than last year's storm.

As usual and weather permitting, we will be around Stoke on Christmas Eve. Merry Christmas to all from Stoke Band.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Go the extra mile and help others. If you're above the age of 18, have a clean full driver licence and own a four-door car, why not volunteer for Somerset County Council to help others get to vital medical appointments? By committing as little as one day per week, you could greatly help a person who otherwise wouldn't be able to make appointments. Alternatively commit to more if that is what you choose!

Volunteer drivers provide a crucial transport service for non-emergency NHS patients and social care users enabling them to get to various locations across the county and further afield. You could also help transport children to college or to school, providing a crucial service to a young person's academic career. Each journey connects people with services they would otherwise miss out on. As a volunteer driver, you would be providing a vital lifeline to people in your community.

This is a rewarding opportunity to provide a valuable, practical support for people within your community and your mileage expenses will be reimbursed at up to 50p per mile. You will also be supported by a Transporting Officer from Somerset County Council's Transporting Somerset team. Not only will you be helping the community, it's an excellent way of meeting new people.

To find out more visit <https://volunteering.somerset.gov.uk/opportunities/volunteer-driver/> or call 0300 123 2224.

POP IN

Pop in meet at the Oak Tree House on Thursday afternoons at 2.30pm. We like to chat over tea and cake and join in games such as board games and Boccia or listen to a speaker from a variety of backgrounds.

We realise that many people are missing out on socialising with us because they need transport. Is there anyone in Stoke sub Hamdon who would have a few hours free on Thursday afternoon to pick up a few older people from the Stoke sub Hamdon area and drive them to and from the group? We will pay 45p a mile for petrol.

If you would be interested, please contact Paul on 07770348767 or Cath on 07968521746.

STOKE COMMUNITY VILLAGE SHOP PROJECT

Stoke Community Shop Committee is now setting up a company that will give our project legal status, so we can raise more funds to help us keep the Shop at the Cross open for the community. If you'd like to pledge funds or volunteer, contact Lyn Foley on 823051.

Many thanks to everyone who came to the Afternoon Tea at the Lighthouse Café in November, and to all the bakers and helpers.

We raised almost £3001 And a big thank you to SPAG, who have donated a fantastic £500 to SOS.

Don't forget to enter our Christmas Scarecrow Competition. It's £5 to enter and entry forms are available at the Shop at the Cross. Judging takes place on 21 December, with a prize for the best one. For more information contact Kathy on 07366997178.

HAMDON YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTRE

We are still in the process of renovating the Youth and Family Centre and at the moment we are currently in discussions with the Planning Department regarding the Listed Buildings Consent. This is a process that must be undertaken before we can carry out some of the work. However, the facility is up and running and we have several groups using it on a regular basis. If you would like to hire the centre for a youth activity for regular use, a one-day event or children's party please get in contact with either Jackie Poole on 823606 or the Parish Clerk on 822455.

HAMDON YOUTH GROUP - WANTED!

Owing to ill health of one of our most dedicated volunteers we desperately need one or more over 18 volunteers to work alongside our youth worker. Meetings are on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Our young people are lively and engaged and deserve to have their youth club. Our alternatives without more volunteers are to pay for a youth worker assistant which will take a big chunk of our hard-won cash, or to close the youth club. Please contact Lou on the details below.

With Christmas looming we have festive programmes both in the Stoke Youth and Family Centre on Monday and the Norton Village Hall Meeting room on Wednesdays, both from 7pm.

Dates for Stoke

2nd December Media/ Quiz/World aids day
9th December Christmas Decoration Making
16th December Christmas Fun

We will return after the Christmas break on 6th January 2020
Check our Facebook page for latest info:
<https://www.facebook.com/hamdonsyouthgroup>

For more information please contact Lou Chant on 07402987921 or email lou.chant@cyp.me

1ST STOKE SUB HAMDON BROWNIES

We just wanted to say what a wonderful difference having the HYFC has made to our unit meetings.... This was probably best demonstrated the most on 5th November when we were able to get the stored equipment from shed and take it into the hall and 4 small groups built a fire in freights. We then took them outside and lit our mini fires. The Brownies sat around the fires, toasted marshmallows and broke into spontaneous campfire songs, enjoyed the local residents' fireworks and ended with our own sparklers for good measure.

To do this in a relaxed, familiar, local place, was just wonderful and in an atmosphere where you just wanted to bottle the moment....

We just wanted to send a massive THANK YOU not only to the committee but also to the whole community for giving us this facility. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas.

DECEMBER DIARY OF EVENTS:

3rd Stoke Active Walkers
7th Stoke Band - Christmas Concert
7th HCAP - Parnham Voices
8th HCAP - Christmas Tree Festival
9th Every Steps Counts
9th Christmas Prize Bingo
14th Stoke Band - Carols on Ham Hill
15th Stoke Carolers - HCAP
16th Every Steps Counts

