

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, 6.30pm evening worship;

3rd Sunday: 8.00am Communion 11.00am morning worship;

4th Sunday: 11.00am morning worship, 6.30pm communion.

Associate Vicar: Rev Annie Gurner, 824167,
revgurner@btinternet.com

Parish Office, 1 Castle Street TA14 6RE

website: www.hamhillchurches.org

AFRICAN DRUMMING - various day and evening classes	Sharon Stone 07966 613724
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 Martock Christian Fellowship)	Ian Rumbelow 881712
BRIDGE CLUB - Weekly - Monday starting at 8.30pm (Working Mens Club)	
“EVERY STEP COUNTS” - 9.30am & “HEALTH WALKS” 10.30am. Meet outside the Lighthouse	Penny on 822208 or Mark 07496 148756
FLEXERCISE 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
GUIDES & BROWNIES - Weekly - Every Tuesday during term time (Hamdon Youth & Family Centre)	Jackie Poole 01935 823606
HAM HILL COUNTRY PARK - VOLUNTEER RANGERS - Weekly Wed. 10.00am - 3.30pm (Ranger's Office)	Paul McNeill 07973 3887129
HAMDON BRASS BAND	Sonja Hellier 01460 241297 email pipershaunt@hotmail.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.	Ann or Karon 01935 826832 Email: hamdonplaygroup@btinternet.com
HISTORY GROUP	Caral Parker 825393
LADIES CIRCUITS Thursday at 6pm in the Memorial Hall	Sue Menzies 829632r
LIGHTHOUSE CAFE - Monday & Thursday 10.00am - 1.00pm	Sarah Russell 826355
LOTO CLUB - 2nd Monday every month 10.00am - 12.30pm in The Lighthouse	Dru Perry 822703
MAY FAYRE - Annual Event for Sports & Recreation Trust	Denise Burton 827793
MEMORIAL HALL BOOKING SECRETARY	bookings.stokememorialhall@hotmail.com. Jill Uhlhorn 829513
PARISH COUNCIL - Monthly First Wednesday 7.15pm (Memorial Hall)	Barbara Brooks, Chairman 824432 Sarah Moore, Clerk 822455
POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER	Malissa Thompson email malissathompson@avonandsomerset.police.uk and Carole Brown email: carolebrown@avonandsomerset.police.uk
POP-IN - Weekly - Thursday (Oak Tree House)	Paul Spearpoint 826375
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)	
SEATED CHAIR EXERCISES - Friday at 10am in the All Saints Hall	Sue Menzies 829632
SONG BUS SINGING GROUP - Weekly Wednesday 9.15am - term time. All Saints Hall	Jeanette Rumbelow 06749 733686
STOKE AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION	Derek Goad. 824337
STOKE BABY & TODDLER GROUP - Memorial Hall. Thurs.9.30am to 11.30am in term time	John 01935 432471, Carolyn.lefley@hotmail.com
STOKE LUNCH CLUB FOR OLDER PEOPLE. Lighthouse Café last Wednesday of the month.	Lyn Foley 01935 823051/07714 005265
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	Gill Robins 01935 329904 Jane Herbert 01460 419317
TAEKWONDO & LITTLE DRAGONS - Mondays 5.00pm - 5.30pm Little Dragons; 5.30pm - 6.15pm Taekwondo beginners; 6.15pm - 7.00pm Taekwondo Adults (Stanchester)	Jennie Clark 07921 393425
TAI CHI - Weekly - Thursday 4.00pm - 5.00pm in Memorial Hal	John 07721 060901
TINY TURRETS (Castle Primary School) - Foundation Stage Unit for children aged 2 - 4 years Two daily sessions 9.00am - 12 noon and 12 noon - 3pm. Extended provision available from 7.45am - 5.30pm ages 3+	Castle Primary School Office 01935 822342
TRIANGLE TRUST - Raising funds for Hamdon Medical Centre	Jennie Harris 881718
VILLAGE AGENT - Cluster SS2 Cath Holloway	cath@somersetccc.org.uk Tel: 07968 521746
VILLAGE ARTISTS - Monday 10.00am - 12.30pm, Friday 10.00am - 12 noon (Memorial Hall) Thursday 7.30pm - 9.30pm (Memorial Hall)	Diana Bailey 01935 881647 Diana Bailey 01935 881647
WORKING MENS CLUB - Daily - Lunch times & evenings	Mark Greaves 01935 823297
YOUTH CLUB - Weekly - Monday 7.00pm at Hamdon Youth & Family Centre	Youth Worker Lou on 07402 987921 or email lou.chant@cyp.me.uk

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

Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council

NEWSLETTER

July 2019

PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR'S UPDATE

At our July meeting we were very pleased to agree a grant of £300 to Lyn Foley to help her set up a monthly Lunch Club for older people in our village. This lovely initiative starts on August 28th and we wish it every success. The parish council is keen to support all age groups in Stoke, young and old for their health and wellbeing projects.

On the same note, the parish council's own formal Befriending project in partnership with AgeUK Somerset is set to start this September. All three services – Lyn's Lunch Club, The Lighthouse coffee mornings on a Monday and Thursday and the Befriending project will be working closely together to offer a wide range of friendship and social opportunities. The Befriending project is aimed at older people over 60, generally living on their own or perhaps as a carer, who would welcome a visit once a week for a chat and a cup of tea. The parish council has made a grant to AgeUK Somerset who will induct and support volunteers and produce literature to be circulated to every household in the village. Do you know someone in your street who would benefit from a bit of company? Have a chat to them to see if they would like a visit. And if you yourself can spare an hour a week to visit on a regular basis please sign up as a volunteer! I firmly believe in leading by example, so I have myself already signed up as the first volunteer. Will you join me? Together we can make a real difference to our neighbours' wellbeing.

We had an excellent turnout to the 'ideas meeting' for the village VE Day75 celebration weekend next May with some 40 people and 29 organisations and venues represented. This day celebrates the 75th anniversary that Churchill announced that the war was finally over and peace had arrived. Lots of ideas were put forward which we will let you know more about later when the groups decide the final list.

We responded to residents' complaints about building contractors' lorries speeding up North Street towards the West Street development. We wrote to the developers alerting them to the fact that this was dangerous for pedestrians, children and drivers alike in such a narrow road and that there was a restriction throughout the village for vehicles over 7.5 tons. We asked them to instruct their suppliers to approach the site from the A358 end of West Street and they have apologised and agreed to do so.

I had the pleasure a couple of weeks ago of cutting the ribbon and formally 'opening' the Stonewater affordable housing site at Orchid Acre Close behind the Co-op at East Stoke. This group of 14 houses comprises 3 two bedroom and 5 three bedroom social rent houses, and 6 shared ownership houses. The parish council area firmly supports the need for more affordable housing in our village and it's good to see this happen.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications have been permitted with the usual conditions: -

19/01378/FUL Working Men's Club - Installation of iron railings associated works and new entrance porch canopy.

19/01738/TCA and 19/01623/TCA - The Gables North Street Stoke Sub Hamdon TA14 6QR - Applications to carry out tree works in a Conservation area

The following are still ongoing: -

19/00987/s73A Summerfield - West St Development - Section 73a application to alter 3 conditions from pre-commencement to pre-occupation. No new information published on SSDC planning portal.

Contact details:

Barbara Brooks, Chair of the Parish Council
Tel: **824432**; Email: **chairsshpc@hotmail.com**
Tamarisk, High St (opp. Working Men's Club)

Articles for the Newsletter, or to advertise forthcoming events: please email or post to Sarah Moore by 16th of previous month. Contact information is on the bottom of the back page of this newsletter.

TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Over the past few weeks there have been a number of incidents, involving both unacceptable antisocial behaviour and some malicious or criminal activity. This has involved damage to the new adventure playground equipment on the Sports & Rec Ground, vandalism on farmland, theft and verbal abuse to some of our older residents. It's not just in Stoke however - neighbouring parishes have also been suffering.

So who's behind all this?

And what can we do about it? It's very easy and perhaps natural for people to assume that if something happens in the village "well it's got to be our young kids, hasn't it, I've seen them round in the village".

But hang on a minute. That's not really fair. Without witnessing the damage taking place and being able to put names to faces none of us actually has proof of who is doing it. Discussions the Parish Council had been having with the police, other organisations, and other parishes revealed that there are groups of youth coming into our village from two neighbouring villages with the express purpose of stirring up trouble, mouthing off and causing damage. And when the new play equipment at Stonehill in East Stoke was vandalised in the first month after its installation in 2016, it was known to have been caused not by local youth but an adult from outside the village. Like any public place, anyone can come into our village and indeed they do so. It would appear then that the culprits behind the recent incidents could come from a number of possibilities, so it would be wrong for any of us to jump to immediate conclusions.

When I moved into the village 10 years ago, I was genuinely shocked at the level of anti-social behaviour in Stoke and the attitude of some young people, and we really wondered whether we had made the right decision to retire here. I didn't know then about the neighbouring parish problems. Since then so much has changed in Stoke due to the active partnering by local schools, the police, social services, youth workers and recreation groups etc all working together to improve things, providing more guidance for our young people on what is right and wrong behaviour, and increasing the number of

recreational opportunities to alleviate boredom. Although it is horrible when it happens, such malicious behaviour is now the exception not the norm in Stoke, and it is carried out by just a few 'bad apples', not the majority.

I know from talking and listening to some of our young people - who may be noisy and sometimes challenging teenagers but who otherwise don't cause trouble - that they are feeling they are being branded unfairly by adults - and this can cause resentment in time. They are as appalled as the rest of us by the actions of a few. It is important that we carry them with us, not against us, for peer pressure. They can be part of the solution.

What we can all do

It is also vitally important that we work together as a whole community to acknowledge and tackle this problem, not just leave it to someone else to deal with, or to blame. So please keep your eyes open for any potential trouble and stop it where you can. If you are parents or guardians you have a huge role to play too, by encouraging your children to always be responsible members of our community and not to get involved with the 'trouble-makers' who spoil it for the rest of us.

If you witness anti-social behaviour or vandalism by anyone, it's vitally important that you report it every time to the police on 101, giving the date, time, place, damage done (including verbal abuse) and a description of the people involved including names if known. Please get a crime number from the police. Then please send the information to me (your details will be kept confidential under our Privacy policy). This will enable us to get a better feel of where things might be happening and work with the police to encourage follow up action.

It is hoped that a meeting can be organised with representatives from all the local schools, youth clubs, youth workers, local housing associations, parish councils, SSDC, the police and others to try and formulate a joined-up plan, some additional education, and more police resource.

Barbara Brooks, Parish Council Chair

STOKE ACTIVE WALKERS

Tuesday, 6th August 2019

We begin our August walk by going around the back of Castle Farm and along to Jubilee Woods. We will go through the woods and up Kings Road and then follow the track towards Percombe. We will then take the footpath past West End garage, cross West Street and follow the path to Norton, past Turnpike and along to Creedy. From there we will 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 UNDERTAKEN AT THE WALKERS OWN RISK.

For more information please contact Norman on 01935 822792.

STOKE PERFORMING ARTS GROUP

Stoke Performing Arts Group held two very enjoyable and successful evening performances of 'Pint Sized Plays' at Stoke Working Men's Club on Thursday 11th and Friday 12th July. SPAG would like to thank SWMC for hosting the event, Denise Burton and Val Stidson who helped to run the raffle, our cast and crew for all their hard work and our audiences for coming along on two very warm summer evenings to support us.

Dates for your diaries!

Our next event will be two Murder Mystery evenings to be held on Friday 8th and Sat 9th November 2019. Further details to follow.

We are always looking for new members to join us, both in front and behind the scenes. If you would like to know more about what we do email: info@stokeperformingartsgroup.co.uk, phone Jeanie on 01935 579592 or visit our Facebook page - Stoke Performing Arts Group.

Jeanie Augarde, SPAG

LUNCHEON CLUB UPDATE

I would like to thank all of you how have showed an interest in attending the Luncheon Club. I have received 20 firm attendees, but I will open a waiting list up to anyone who wishes to attend. To let you know the first one will be held in the Lighthouse Cafe on Wednesday 28th August at 12 midday. I would appreciate prompt attendance. I would like to thank the Parish Council for their grant, to help me with start-up costs, and to thank the charity shop and Rec Trust for their grant that will allow me to purchase much needed equipment.

If anyone would like to attend the Luncheon club or volunteer, please don't hesitate to call me on 823051. Lyn Foley

GRATEFUL THANKS TO STANCHESTER SCHOOL

St Margaret's Hospice would like to say a huge thank you to the pupils and staff at Stanchester Academy for opening their garden for us, the young people were fantastic guides to their school garden, woodland and allotment area, and a credit to the school.

We would love to grow the event next year and have other gardens open alongside the school - please do get in touch if you would like to get involved, many thanks.

Susan Bickle, 01935 709182

STOKE SUB HAMDON MAY FAYRE

We have now finalised totals for this year's May Fayre and are delighted to have achieved a profit of £8,723 to use on projects etc within our village. Another great result which wouldn't be achievable without all the help of our volunteers, so a big thanks to you all once again.

Thanks also to those of you who have already stepped forward to offer their services for next year's May Fayre. We are still looking for people to help with the organisation so if you are interested, please do contact me on 01935 827793.

Denise Burton, May Fayre Committee

QUILT SHOW

Stanchester and Purple Patchers proudly present their annual Quilt Show on Friday, 6th September and Saturday, 7th September between 10am and 4pm in Martock Church TA12 6JL. Entry is free. There will be quilts galore, fabulous sales table with lots of fabric, 100's of threads, books and magazines and a tombola table. This year we will be featuring the work of an active member of both groups, Diana Clarke, who sadly passed away in 2018. All proceeds will go to Yeovil Intensive Care Unit.

HAMDON COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT

We are delighted to announce that we will be taking part in the Somerset Arts Week's Silver Anniversary Festival from the 26th September to the 6th October 2019. There will be various activities taking place so please check out our website for further details, www.HCAP.org.uk

EVERY STEP COUNTS AND HEALTH WALKS

Why not come along and join us on our led walks and enjoy seeing the lovely, everchanging 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 AGM will be held on Thursday 19th September at 8:00pm in the band room at the former URC. This is an open meeting, everyone is welcome.

As part of Somerset Arts Week, the band is giving a concert at the former URC on Saturday 5th October at 7:30pm. Tickets will be £5 and will be available for the beginning of September. There will be a raffle and refreshments.

Before that on 26th September the band will be having an open rehearsal. Please come and see us at work and play and may be try an instrument of two.

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.

DIARY OF EVENTS:

AUGUST

3rd	Flower, Produce and Craft Show
6th	Stoke Active Walkers
12th & 26th	Every Step Counts and Health Walks
28th	Stoke Luncheon Club

SEPTEMBER

6th - 7th	Stanchester & Purple Patchers Quilt Show
15th	Stoke Band Harvest Festival in Montacute
19th	Stoke Band AGM
26th	Stoke Band Open Rehearsal