

## CONTACTS

Church of England at St Mary's, Church Services: <i>Sunday, 9th May 10.30am Holy Communion</i> <i>Sunday, 16th May 9.00am BCP Communion</i> <i>Sunday, 23rd May 10.30am Morning Praise</i>	The Rector Rev. Nick Clarke. Tel 07842 192402, revnickclarke@gmail.com The Vicarage, 1 Castle Street TA14 6RE website: www.hamhillchurches.org
ALL SAINTS HALL BOOKING SECRETARY	Ann Davison 07709 609488
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)	
BROWNIES - Weekly - Every Tuesday during term time (Hamdon Youth & Family Centre)	Jackie Poole 01935 823606
CRIME & MYSTERY BOOK GROUP	Kathy Smith 07366979178
"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)	Ruth St John-Murphy 01935 829408
'GET FIT WITH SUE' - Mondays - Fitness Pilates 5pm (call first), Aerobics & Toning 6pm. Thursdays - Fitness Pilates 6pm	Sue Menzies 01935 829632
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 MEDICAL CENTRE	01935 822236
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
HAMDON COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT -	Maria Eames 01935 824064
HISTORY GROUP	Carol Parker 825393
LIGHTHOUSE CAFE - Monday & Thursday 10.00am - 1.00pm	Sarah Russell 826355
MAY FAYRE - Annual Event for Sports & Recreation Trust	Denise Burton 827793
MEDITATION GROUP - Tuesdays at 8.00pm in the HCAP building (URC)	Emma Herrod 01935 829443
MEMORIAL HALL BOOKING SECRETARY	bookings.stokememorialhall@hotmail.com. Mary Steel 01935 508996
PARISH COUNCIL - Monthly First Wednesday 7.15pm (Memorial Hall)	Barbara Brooks, Chairman 824432 Sarah Moore, Clerk 822455
POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER	Carole Brown email: carolebrown@avonandsomerset.police.uk
POST OFFICE COUNTER (INSIDE STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP) 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
STOKE AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION	Derek Goad. 824337
STOKE BABY & TODDLER GROUP - Memorial Hall. Thurs.9.30am to 11.30am in term time	carolyn_lefley@hotmail.com Facebook: @StokeBabyAndToddlerGroup
STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP OPENING HOURS - Monday to Friday 8am - 4pm; Saturday 8am - 4pm; Sunday 8.30am - 12.30pm	01935 509100
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
STOKE PERFORMING ARTS GROUP	Jeanie 07967184952 or Moira info@stokeperformingartsgroup.co.uk
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 ARTIST GROUP - Monday 10.00am - 12.30pm, Friday 10.00am - 12 noon (Memorial Hall) Thursday 7.30pm - 9.30pm (Memorial Hall)	Malcolm Uhlhorn 01935 829513
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: clerkshpc@hotmail.co.uk



## CHAIR'S UPDATE

### When can I .....?

#### Position Now

- All non-essential retail now opens in village incl. hairdressers and personal care salons
  - Outdoors - Up to 6 people can meet outdoors (or two households) in our gardens and on the Rec or Memorial Hall Grounds
  - Outdoors - Fleur de Lys and Prince of Wales can offer drinks and food outside (only). No indoor drinking. Takeaways continue at pubs and restaurants.
  - Indoors - Children's activities allowed (up to 15 people) at the COVID-19 Secure venues like the Memorial Hall, and the Hamdon Youth Centre, and schools
  - Indoors - No other community or social activities allowed yet between households
  - We can stay away overnight in self-contained accommodation (your own household only, not mixed with others)
  - No international holidays allowed yet
- Assuming the Government confirms on May 10th that we can all move to Step 3 of the Roadmap these are some of the things that will change in the village from May 17th :-*

#### 17 May (at the earliest):

- Outdoors - Up to 30 people now allowed to meet together in gardens and public green spaces.
- Outdoors - entertainment allowed
- Indoors - only 2 households together or maximum of 6 people from different households
- Indoors - community activities in venues can re-start i.e. clubs, pubs, indoor sports. Social distancing and masks still required (1 metre spacing) where more than 2 households are meeting together.
- Masks required in shops and public venues and on public transport
- Government decision awaited on when international travel might become allowed. *We'll update you in the June newsletter on what the Step 4 changes will be once they are confirmed.*

### Recreation Ground: New Rules For Dogs?

The Sports & Recreation Trust, who do such an excellent job in looking after the Rec on behalf of the Parish Council, came to our last meeting for a joint discussion on how best to keep our Recreation Ground clean and disease-free. Like in many villages, the majority of dog-walkers are responsible and proud of their neighbourhoods, picking up their dog's poo and either putting the bag into the many dog poo bins provided by the council around the village and on the Rec, or by taking the bag home and putting it in their own rubbish.

But regrettably over the last year when perhaps more people have been at home walking their dogs, they have noticed a big increase in dog mess not being picked up and this has now escalated to an unacceptable level. Leaving your dog's mess for anyone to step in is just not on! Football teams have to scour the Rec picking up mess before they can

## Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council

# NEWSLETTER

May 2021

### Free COVID-19 test packs available for all

The UK's successful vaccination programme together with the lockdown and social distancing measures are beginning to show real results. As of 19th April, over £36m vaccinations had been given giving a good level of protection. Deaths and infection rates are substantially on a downward trend and providing we all continue to be sensible and follow guidance, it is hoped this trend will continue.

The Government are encouraging all of us to pick up two free lateral flow test packs each week even if we don't have symptoms. Testing on a regular basis (which we can do at home and which gives us the result there and then) will help to identify people who are carrying the virus without symptoms (this can be 1 in 3 of us). By self-isolating if positive, we will help to reduce the spread even more, speeding up the return to normal life. You can pick up the tests for free from local pharmacies.

### Business grants available

New Government grants are available for non-essential retail and the hospitality, leisure and personal care sector to help businesses whilst they move back to normal working. Please see the District Council website for more information on how to claim: deadline 30th June.

<https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/life-events/coronavirus-support/coronavirus-business-support/>

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

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So please, let's all make an effort this coming month to improve the situation. Always pick up and encourage others to do so. If you see any dog's mess on the Rec, or even on the footpaths elsewhere in the village, please report it to the District Council. This is a very easy process. Click on the 'Report It' link on the Home Page of their website. This will then give you the option of clicking on the link for 'Dog Fouling' and then to 'Report Dog Fouling'. The more a problem is reported, a clearer picture emerges about where these problems persist and then where the District Council's resources can be targeted'.

### Speed Indicator Device

Our new equipment ("SID") which monitors the speed of cars through the village is now up and running, which is good news. Our thanks to the volunteers who move it for us. The first location was up by Stanchester School outside the Co-op. Total number of cars over the two-week period were 13,019 incoming and 11,587 outgoing. The data downloaded showed that during the day 89% of incoming traffic and 75% of cars going out of the village were under the 30mph speed limit. But the bad news is that there were some much higher speeds, mostly around school collection time, late afternoon 'coming home from work' time and in the evenings. This needs monitoring and we all need to do our bit to slow down! The second location (at the end of April) is down in West Street by the Rec.

We are allowed to keep our SID in each location for a period of two weeks before having to move it. Evidence of excessive speeding is required to be recorded over a very lengthy period before Highways will consider any approach by the parish council for traffic calming measures, but it is at least a valuable first step.

### Planning

#### 21/00656/HOU - Tatchells Thatch, 2 Tiptoft, Stoke Sub Hamdon

Erection of single storey rear extension. New walls hamstone to match existing and slate roof to match existing lean-to area. Parish Council have no objections or observations. Awaiting decision by SSDC

*Cllr Barbara Brooks, Chair  
01935 824432 chairsshpc@hotmail.com*



### Major Roadworks Round Our Village

I think we were all surprised when major roadworks started around our village at the end of March. The Parish Council do not appear to have received formal notice of these so that we were not able to warn you in advance. We have now been able to obtain a schedule from Gigaclear of the planned works by the contractors who are putting in fibre broadband in the village. The schedule of works is set out below: please note it may be that planned dates may change slightly as work progresses (work is currently ahead of schedule); and most roads will have traffic light systems in place.

If you have any issues regarding your property during these works you can contact

Andrew Kerby, the Gigaclear Community Engagement Manager (SW) on 07901 217615 or Andrew.kerby@gigaclear.com .

\*\*Great Field is being changed from traditional dig to use of PIA as per wayleave and landowner agreement. Therefore, these dates need to be confirmed once design validation of PIA completed and materials ordered, and works can be scheduled.

\*\* Castle Street - Permit has been requested for May half term and following week and consultation is being held by contractors and the school next week to ensure minimal disruption and plans are clear.

Location	Build start	Build finish
North Street to Great Field junction	29/3/21	21/4/21
North Street (from Great Field junction) to Walscombe Close and Queens Crescent	21/4/21	17/5/21
Kings Road	17/5/21	21/5/21
Castle Street	May**	June**
High Street - West to East Stoke	1/6/21	29/6/21
Great Field, Tiptoft, Glovers Close, Becks Field	July **	Sept**
New Road to West Street	31/3/21	2/4/21
West Street (South)	26/4/21	10/5/21
West Street to Ham Hill junction	10/5/21	2/6/21
The Avenue	2/6/21	9/6/21
Langlands	9/6/21	18/6/21
Matts Lane, Hamdon Close	18/6/21	30/6/21
Ham Hill Road, Princes Close	30/6/21	12/7/21

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2021 AT 7PM

The Parish Council are now holding their meetings via the virtual meeting platform Zoom. The basic package is free to use and can be accessed at <https://zoom.us/>. If you would like to attend our virtual parish council meeting please contact me at clerksshpc@hotmail.co.uk for the ID link by 3pm on the day of the meeting. If you do not have access to the internet but would still like to listen in on the meeting please telephone me on 01935 822455 for the telephone conferencing number so that you can dial in.

If you would like to participate in the public session, please email/phone through the subject/question you wish to raise with the council when you asked for the ID link/telephone number.

If you are accessing the meeting via the internet:

- Click on the link given to you in the email
- Download the Zoom app, if not already done so

- Test your speakers and microphone on your device (you will be prompted to do this)
- You will then be put in a 'Waiting Room' until you are invited to join.
- Once connected, you must click on the video camera icon at the bottom left hand side of the screen to enable the video. This is so that councillors can see who is attending the meeting.

If you are accessing the meeting by telephone:

- Dial the number given to you by the Clerk.
- Once connected you will be prompted to type in the meeting ID plus #, then #, then the password plus #. You will be placed in a 'Waiting Room' until invited to join.

All microphones will be automatically muted from the start of the meeting. If you wish to participate in the public session your microphone will be unmuted when you are invited to speak.

*Sarah Moore, Parish Clerk*

### LUNCH CLUB

Now that we have been allowed to mix a little more, I have been trying to think of ways I can help you all mix safely once again so, I have come up with a compromise. I have decided to host a get together on a Wednesday, once a fortnight, for those of you who wish to have a chat and a catch up.

The first session will start on Wednesday, 19th May 2021 in the Memorial Hall starting at 2.30pm until 4.30pm. I will put on tea/coffee, cakes and maybe soup and a roll. It will be an opportunity to chat and catch up, perhaps play dominoes or cards, if you fancy with friends. I am able to take up to 27 people, so if you fancy a couple of hours in the company of others, please phone me to book a place before Saturday, 15th May.

I will be offering lifts to those who need them, but early booking is essential so that I can manage the demand. There will be a nominal £3 charge to cover food and venue costs. If you would like to attend, please phone me on 01935 823051. Please leave a message if no one answers, and I look forward to meeting you all again.

*Lyn Foley*

### STOKE CHARITY SHOP

**Thank You:** A grateful thank you to the many residents who returned to the Charity Shop for our reopening on April 12th. Following our successful half-price sale, the shop is restocked for summer with new and preloved fashion for all the family, household essentials, toys, books and games.

**Donations Dates:** Covid restrictions continue with an isolation period of 72 hours before processing, so donations will continue to be accepted at HCAP on specific days. Donations must be clean, complete and saleable. Please review your donations before bringing them to the session. Items should fit into a rubbish sized bag which we will provide. There is currently a limit of two bags per household. Thank you for your cooperation during the restrictions. Donation sessions are on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month from 10am to 12Midday at HCAP, North Street starting on 1st May.

### MEMORIAL HALL AGM

We are really looking forward to re-opening our Covid-19 secure hall on Monday, 17th May. During the quiet time we have taken the opportunity to make great improvements. To enquire about a booking, please email [bookings.stokememorialhall@hotmail.com](mailto:bookings.stokememorialhall@hotmail.com).

We shall be holding our AGM online on Wednesday, 12th May 2021 at 7.30pm. You would be most welcome if you would like to join us. Please contact me, Jill Uhlhorn on 01935 829513, if you are interested.

### NEWS FROM STOKE PERFORMING ARTS GROUP

#### George Mitchell – “One From The Plough”

On the weekend of 11th-12th September 2021, Stoke Performing Arts Group are planning a free open-air event on Ham Hill to celebrate the life of George Mitchell.

Not many people know about George Mitchell, but he was behind the massive Union rallies on the Hill in the 1870's. It was a time when the farm labourers, whilst working on the rich agricultural lands of Somerset, were starving and living in hovels. They had no-one on their side. The farmers, the landlords – even the clergy- all combined to “keep them in their place”.

But George Mitchell was on their side. He was born a poor agricultural labourer in Montacute but fought his way out of poverty and never forgot his roots. He knew that only way the farm labourer was going to get a wage he could actually live on was to join the new Agricultural

Union. He was passionate about persuading people to join the Union. 20,000 people came to Ham Hill from far and wide to attend his Union rallies. Can you imagine what it was like down in the village, to look up at the Hill (before the Monument was there) and see the banners waving, hear the bands playing and the sound of 20,000 voices cheering the speakers?

We might not get quite 20,000 people! But we want to do George proud and celebrate an unsung hero of our area. We will have narrators and short sketches of scenes from George's life, as well as music. It's going to be a lot of fun. We will need performers and behind the scenes helpers and would welcome new members to join our group.

With the next planned step in reducing the Covid restrictions due to take place on 17th May, our intention is to hold a SPAG meeting once it has been confirmed, and to advertise the details a.s.a.p. We know it is a leap of faith – but it's something to look forward to, and we look forward to having you with us.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Moira at [info@stokeperformingarts.co.uk](mailto:info@stokeperformingarts.co.uk) or Jeanie on 07967184952 or visit the Stoke Performing Arts Facebook page.

### LITTER PICK

After March's first successful litter pick, I have planned another for Sunday, 9th May at 9am outside the All Saint's Hall. Wear sensible footwear and gardening gloves. I will provide litter pickers, bag, thin vinyl gloves and hand sanitiser and a free coffee at Priory Coffee afterwards. I expect each route to take 1.5 – 2 hours. There were 17 of us in March; let's hope for a similar number of May the 9th. Please email at [helivet@msn.com](mailto:helivet@msn.com) if you are coming.

*Thanks - Catherine Fraser*

### VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP

The Stoke sub Hamdon Village Artist group exists to encourage, promote and practice the visual arts in all forms – Abstract, Still Life, Landscapes and Portraiture by whatever means; iPad, pencil, pastels, watercolour, oils and acrylic and, in or on any medium you like.

From 18th May 2021 the group are meeting again in the Memorial Hall, one morning and one evening a week during term time (all being well of course). We are really looking forward to seeing you there.

Further information on dates etc. will be posted nearer the time. For more information contact Malcolm on 01935 829513

## May Diary

1st	Donations for Charity Shop at HCAP
9th	Litter Pick
15th	Donations for Charity Shop at HCAP
17th	Memorial Hall Online AGM
18th	Village Artist Group restarts
19th	Lunch Club restarts

### POLICE INFORMATION

For any advice and further/up-to-date information on incidents please go to the website: [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk). If you are a witness to or the victim of a crime, then it is imperative that you report it to the police immediately whether it is during the day or at night. When reporting an incident please telephone either 101 for non-emergencies or 999 for emergencies only.