

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, 824167, revgurner@btinternet.com Parish Office, 1 Castle Street TA14 6RE website: www.hamhillchurches.org
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)	
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 kimcamp73@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
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 pipershaun@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
HAMDON COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT -	Maria Eames 01935 824064
HISTORY GROUP	Carol 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
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, Jill Ullihorn 829513
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
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	carolyn_leyley@hotmail.com Facebook: @StokeBabyAndToddlerGroup
STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP OPENING HOURS - Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm; Saturday 8am - 1pm; Sunday 8.30am - 12.30pm	Lyn Foley 01935 823051/07714 005265
STOKE LUNCH CLUB FOR OLDER PEOPLE . Lighthouse Café last Wednesday of the month.	
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 01935 579592 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 Hall	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	cath@somersetccc.org.uk Tel: 07968 521746
VILLAGE AGENT - Cluster SS2 Cath Holloway	Jennie Harris 881718
VILLAGE ARTISTS - Monday 10.00am - 12.30pm, Friday 10.00am - 12 noon (Memorial Hall) Thursday 7.30pm - 9.30pm (Memorial Hall)	
WORKING MENS CLUB - Daily - Lunch times & evenings	Dianna Bailey 01935 881647
YOUTH CLUB - Weekly - Monday 7.00pm at Hamdon Youth & Family Centre	Mark Greaves 01935 823297
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: clerks@stokehotmail.co.uk

Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council

NEWSLETTER

May 2020

feeling worried or anxious, financial support. Callers will be asked to describe the support they require.

SSDC Wellbeing Hub You can also call the District Council on **01935 462462** between 8am and 4pm seven days a week if you need support during the Coronavirus crisis.

The Council can provide information regarding:-

- **Business grants** during the Coronavirus crisis
- Access to **free food boxes** if you're facing financial hardship
- Access to the **food boxes** being provided to the vulnerable from our Wellbeing Hub

It's so important that all of us continue to obey the social distancing rules and stay at home. It **will** save lives. Guidelines are changing all the time about what we can and can't do outside, and so you can find the most up-to-date information at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

Keep looking out for one another. Remember to be kind. Stoke is an amazing village with a strong history of self-support and we will get through it somehow - together. Keep washing those hands and practicing social distancing!

Stay safe and well.

Clr Barbara Brooks, Chair
01935 824432 chairshpc@hotmail.com



CORONAVIRUS
STAY HOME
PROTECT THE NHS
SAVE LIVES

CHAIR'S UPDATE

First a big thank you to all the lovely volunteers who have worked so hard to help set up the village new Community Shop and who have been helping to keep it going so smoothly during these difficult times. Also, a big shout out to the 39 volunteers who signed up to offer help to others in the Stoke Community Help Scheme by making deliveries from the Shop, collecting prescriptions and so much more.

A big shout out too to all those in our village who are nurses, doctors, carers, delivery drivers and all those who are continuing to work to bring much needed services to all of us. We really appreciate every single thing you do! And a shout out too for all those of you in the village who are quietly lending a hand to your neighbours in need. You're all stars. This is such a great village to live in.

It's been brilliant to see everyone out Clapping for Carers on Thursday evenings at 8pm Let's make as much noise as we can every single week to show our appreciation and thanks!

Councillors have been working proactively over the past month to source possible funding for all the community venues/shops in Stoke. The Club, Community Shop, Charity Shop, HCAP, Memorial Hall and Youth Centre have been alerted to potential grants of £10k from the District Council towards ongoing costs and some grant payments have already been made. We have approved and paid the Sports and Recreation Trust this year's £4k annual operating grant and have alerted them to a possible £10k grant from Sport England from their Community Emergency Fund. We have also sent information to Castle School and Stanchester Academy about funding available for their extra costs while the schools are closed. We will continue to search grant funding databases for any additional support and will alert the appropriate organisations.

A **Somerset Support Helpline** by the County and District Councils has been launched on **0300 790 6275** if you need transport to medical appointments, waste collection and disposal, emotional support if you're

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

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HCAP Grant

We are pleased to announce that following a £12,500 grant approval from our own Parish Council a few months ago towards the purchase of the Hamdon Community Arts Project in North Street, South Somerset District Council has now awarded its own matching £12,500 grant to help to help save this brilliant community asset. This will help to safeguard the future for the Playgroup, performance space for Stoke Sub Hamdon Band, storage for the Charity Shop and of course a fantastic arts venue which will only get better in years to come.

Cllr Barbara Brooks, Chair
01935 824432 chairshpc@hotmail.com

HAMDON MEDICAL CENTRE

Our village surgery recently posted the following on Facebook:-

All the staff at Hamdon Medical Centre would like to thank our patients for their understanding during the COVID-19 outbreak. We are grateful for the messages of support and thanks that we have received (and the biscuits and chocolate!). We appreciate that these are challenging and worrying times for you. We would also like to send a HUGE Thank You to the local Community Help Project that has been set up, you are doing an amazing job at supporting our local community.

You will have heard messages in the media about letters for high risk and very high-risk patients being sent out by the government. There are also different terms such as social distancing, self-isolation and shielding being used - we get confused too! We are still waiting for computer searches to use that will look at our computer system and identify those of you that fall into the very high risk category - this is a national issue and not restricted to Hamdon Medical Centre. As soon as we have those searches please be assured that we will action them. Some of you will have been contacted directly by your hospital teams already.

BONFIRES

Whilst many of us are in 'lockdown' and it is gloriously sunny and warm, we now have time to tidy our gardens and allotments. However, with the recycling centres closed and Somerset Waste Partnership not collecting the garden waste some of us are clearing this waste with a bonfire.

Although there is no law against having a bonfire it is only courteous to consider your neighbours. Please check whether your neighbours' windows are open or whether there is washing on the line.

Also, consider what time of day you decide to have your bonfire. Ideally, at this time of year it is better to light a bonfire after 7pm.

Never leave your bonfire unattended and make sure it's not too big. Do not burn rubber or plastics as all of these factors are considered a nuisance and you could be reported.

For any advice and further/up-to-date information on incidents please go to the website: 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.

EVERY STEP COUNTS AND HEALTH WALKS

There are no walks planned for the near future due to the Coronavirus, they will resume as soon as the situation allows. Please use the permitted hour exercise time to keep walking and stay active. (Some chap walked a Marathon by going round his garden!)

Stay safe.

Mark, Anne, Stella and Penny

STOKE PERFORMING ARTS GROUP

It was with great sadness that SPAG took the decision to postpone its planned performances of 'Chicken House Chicks', scheduled to take place on the first weekend of May 2020. This was in light of the Government advice on reducing the risks of spreading the Covid-19 virus and the subsequent 'lockdown' that followed.

SPAG is hoping that this production can be re-scheduled for next spring, with a view to performances taking place in May 2021.

Later this year when (fingers crossed) the current measures are lifted and once 'normal life' can resume, we are planning some light hearted entertainment for Christmas, combining our traditional Christmas carol singing with some other themed 'turns' - short sketches, readings, poetry etc. to make more of an event to celebrate the festive season.

In the meantime, Stoke Performing Arts Group would like to thank everyone in our local community for your continued support and wish you all safe and well during this challenging time.

Jeanie Augarde (On behalf of SPAG)


Stoke Performing Arts Group

STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP: YOUR VILLAGE - YOUR SHOP



Well, my word what a baptism of fire the Community Shop has endured. We signed the lease to start the 1st March, opened our doors on the 2nd and Covid-19 hit the UK with a lockdown on the 23rd. In between these times the Community Shop Committee had to work with partner organisations, and very quickly had to develop new ways of working. Barbara Brooks and Sarah Moore from the Parish Council initially worked to develop name badges and information packs for the Helpline Volunteers as well as talking to Day Lewis Pharmacy.

Who would have known that the door between the new Charity Shop and the Community Shop would become the life saver it has! The Charity Shop Committee have worked tirelessly with us to help ensure that the Community Hub was established. The Community Helpline is using the Charity Shop as its office, whilst using the Community Shop phone line. The Charity Shop now has a waiting area running through it so that people can socially distance whilst waiting to enter the Community Shop, as well as housing the grocery boxes waiting to be delivered to those who are self-isolating.

Paul from Priory Coffee has headed the running of the helpline. This is now fully staffed and is functioning well despite the curve balls that have been dealt us. When the Medical Centre stopped accepting paper prescriptions, we quickly worked out a secure way to deal with this. If you find yourself unable to manage your repeat prescription, please contact the helpline on 01935 509100 so we can help you. Paul and his team of volunteers are delivering groceries and prescriptions and have even taken people to urgent hospital appointments. To date (15/4/20) the helpline and Community Shop have actioned over 150 calls for assistance.

Since opening the Community Shop, the Committee's learning curve has been exponential as none of us have had direct retail experience, but we have been learning very quickly setting up new systems and processes, ordering structures and new ways of communicating with each other.

For those of you who are regular patrons of the Community Shop you will have undoubtedly seen me and /or Katherine Rahe working there. What you don't see is all the work that happens in the background in people's kitchens. The Committee has been working very hard on the community's behalf.

However, that said, this venture would have failed in its first few days had it not been for the volunteers and Manager Ann Davison who have kept the shop staffed, stocked and running smoothly. My heart is filled with gratitude for all the work you have done and continue to do on behalf of our Community.

In addition I cannot go on without mentioning the kindness and support shown by you, the thoughtfulness

of members of our community who have gone that extra mile: the Brownies providing lavender bags, donations of daffodils, potatoes, cakes, biscuits and Easter eggs that have been put into the grocery boxes to let the recipients know that their extended community is thinking of them. I have had several teary moments with people, and as I write this my heart is bursting with pride for this community.

Lastly, I would like to thank Stoke Working Men's Club for showing their support by setting up a 'Just Giving' page that is dedicated to the Community Shop. Rest assured, whatever is raised will be put to very good use to help us purchase a new EPOS system (that is a new till and stock control system).

My gratitude to the committee Katherine, Emma, Sue M, Sue W, Rosemary, Pat and not to forget our hard-working accountant Sally - none of this would happen without you.

Once this is over please remember to particularly support your local businesses as this is a very trying time for them all. Please be safe; keep hand washing and safe social distancing.

Lyn Foley - Chair of the Community Shop Committee

A THANK YOU FROM A GRATEFUL RESIDENT

A huge thank you to all our helpers at our community shop and chemist. Also, to our postmen and refuse and recycling collectors for getting us through this difficult time and doing it so cheerfully. You're all stars!

Thanks also to our NHS and care workers - big applause to you.

STOKE SUB HAMDON BROWNIES

Our village unit is really pleased that after an initial resource bag was delivered to our members that the girls have been busy sowing wildflower seed in their gardens. Doing a variety of badges including Mindfulness and Aviation. Hattie is the first Brownie in the unit having done a fab Sensory story unit meeting activity to have achieved the Express Myself - Theme award! We hope that a few more will get there soon too. We had a virtual camp during the Easter holidays sleeping in dens at home, and our first gathering on Zoom to show and tell our stories. The new term will bring some fun badge work in Grow your Own and First aid, working towards the Be Well - Theme award.

Your thanks for the handmade lavender bags that have gone into the deliveries from the Community shop have been passed onto the girls and they are very glad you liked them.

To follow more of what we are doing, go to our public Facebook page Girlguiding in Stoke sub Hamdon. Or contact Brown Owl 01935 823606.

Stay home, stay safe.