

CONTACTS

Church of England at St Mary's, Church Services: 1st Sunday 11.00am Cafe church in All Saints Hall 2nd Sunday 11.00am CW Holy Communion 3rd Sunday 11.00am Morning Praise 4th Sunday 11.00am CW Holy Communion 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 9.00am BCP Holy Communion	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 01935 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
FLEXERISE 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	Steve Deane 07881 464280 email: stevekatherine@hotmail.co.uk
FOOTBALL - YOUTH TEAMS - Training weekday evenings. Matches Saturdays & Sundays	Steve Arnold: stokefcchair@hotmail.com & John Elliott: stokefcsec@gmail.com 07775 562122
FOOTPATHS - problems and issues contact the Parish Clerk	Sarah Moore, Clerk 01935 822455
GARDENING CLUB - Monthly - Fourth Wednesday 7.30pm (Memorial Hall)	Secretary: sec.sshgardeningclub@gmail.com. Tel : 01935 823691
HAM HILL COUNTRY PARK - VOLUNTEER RANGERS - Weekly Weds 9.50am-3.30pm (Ranger's Office)	Paul McNeill 07973 887129
HAMDON MEDICAL CENTRE	01935 822236
HISTORY GROUP	Carol Parker 825393
LIGHTHOUSE CAFE - Monday 10.00am - 1.00pm	Sarah Russell 826355
MAY FAYRE - Annual Event for Sports & Recreation Trust	Denise Burton 827793
MEDITATION GROUP - Tuesdays at 7.30pm at Priory Coffee	Emma Herrod 01935 829443
MEMORIAL HALL BOOKING SECRETARY	bookings.stokememorialhall@hotmail.com. Mary Steel 01935 508996
PARISH COUNCIL - Monthly First Wednesday 7.00pm, The Hamdon Youth & Family Centre Website: stokesubhamdoncouncil.com	Lyn Foley, Chairman 01935 83051 Sarah Moore, Clerk 01935 822455
POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER	Abby Linaker email: abby.linaker@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)	
STOKE AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION	Derek Goad 01935 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 - 4.30pm; 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 Castle School Training Band - To be arranged	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
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 01935 881718
VILLAGE AGENT - Cluster SS2 Cath Holloway	cath@somersetccc.org.uk Tel: 07968 521746
VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP - Tuesdays 7.45pm- 9.45pm & Friday 10.00am - 12 Noon (Memorial Hall) (during school term times only)	Ali Dunford 01935 823394
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



PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Well, what a great couple of weeks we have had for entertainment in the village starting with SPAG's 'Chicken House Chicks' play, the Platinum Jubilee Do on the Memorial Hall Grounds, an exciting visit from the Circus and then the Summer Fete, all of which were supported by our village organisations and community groups. These are fabulous examples of people working together.

Moving forward, the Parish Council would like to invite everyone to a Parish Meeting in the Memorial Hall on Monday 25th July from 7pm onwards. This is your opportunity to connect with local organisations, hear what they have done and what they plan to do in the coming year. Due to Covid, this will be the first time since 2019 that this meeting has happened, and it is important for you to put your ideas forward. If you cannot make it but want to make a suggestion, please feel free to contact myself, Lyn Foley - email: chairsshpc@hotmail.com or leave a note for me in the Stoke Community Shop.

The Parish Council would like to develop a 5-year Community Strategy so that we can formulate a plan for work and/or projects that you would like to see happen. We would welcome 'blue sky thinking' for future work; we need to think this far ahead as project work has to be costed and grants sorted, which takes time. We are committed to listening to you and trying as best we can to work with you to help develop our amazing community.

We would like to look at different areas for development; some of the headings will be Village Environment, Transport, Housing, etc., building on the good work of the previous Parish Councils, this is the time to have your ideas listened to. Please take this opportunity to meet your Parish Councillors as well as members of other village organisations. Refreshments will be available.

Lyn Foley

Chair of Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council

PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY



Would you be interested in joining the Parish Council and helping us to support and protect our village facilities and activities?

We meet once on the first Wednesday evening monthly. We have 1 vacancy at present. If you would like to know more about it all, please contact Sarah Moore, our Parish Clerk on 822455 for an informal chat.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 87 of the Local Government Act 1972 that 1 vacancy has occurred on the Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council. Unless a request for an election to be held is submitted in writing to the Proper Officer of the South Somerset District Council, at the Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2HT by no later than 8th July 2022 by ten electors for the Parish of Stoke sub Hamdon, the Parish Council will proceed to fill the vacancies by co-option

Mrs S Moore, Parish Clerk, 10th June 2022

ROAD CLOSURE

Somerset County Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, have made an Order prohibiting all traffic from proceeding along;

Ham Hill Road - from the junction with Cherry Lane, north westwards for a distance of **446 metres**. This Order will enable **Utility Services Ltd to carry out piling works on behalf of BT Openreach**. The Order becomes effective on 7th July 2022 and will remain in force for eighteen months. The works are expected to commence on **12th July 2022** and last until **12th July 2022** between the hours of **09:30 - 15:30** for a total of **6 hours**. Please visit <https://one.network/?tm=128415381> for further information on the alternative route. Please note that should you require to view a closure which is more than two weeks ahead, you will need to register for free with One.Network. For information about the works being carried out please contact **Utility Services Ltd** on telephone number **01884 763 100** quoting reference number ttr0920949SS.

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.

UPDATE ON THE OLD URC CHURCH

Good news, and not so good news, about the old URC church in North Street.

At the end of January 2022, the Southwest Synod URC closed the building and have put it up for sale at Auction. HCAP did just manage to secure the funds necessary to buy the Church, offered to them at a community rate of half its value, but the Committee decided that because of Covid, together with exorbitant gas and electricity charges announced in January, that the Business Plan envisaged in 2019 would not now be viable. The Synod have paid all the overheads for the Old Church for the past 5 years, and the Playgroup, in the basement of the Church, have retained rights of tenancy. HCAP has returned all donations made by generous villagers

The good news is that, in May, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities had granted £120,000 to HCAP as matched funding towards operating the building as a Community Centre for The Arts. Sadly, the Committee of HCAP has had to advise the Ministry that the project was no longer deliverable. However, the Community Ownership Fund will be open until at least 2025; HCAP have been invited to rebid if circumstances change and will remain in contact with the SW Synod URC.

Bill Southcombe, Trustee HCAP

"A BIG THANK YOU"

We would like to express our sincere 'Thanks' to all the organisations and numerous volunteers involved in giving Stoke-sub-Hamdon residents the most wonderful Platinum Jubilee Celebration we could ever have wished for. Their amazing input, with the added bonus of a beautiful day, gave us all such a special and memorable day and was greatly appreciated.

Sally and Mike Maloney

STOKE-SUB-HAMDON GARDENING CLUB

July Activities:

Wednesday 27th July in the Memorial Hall. Catherine Bond of CB Plants, Lower Severalls Nursery, presents: "Herbs and Perennials and How They Benefit Pollinators". Doors open 7.15pm and meeting commences 7.30pm. Raffle and refreshments!

New members always welcome, and your first visit is free. Enquiries: Club Secretary - secsshgardeningclub@gmail.com

AFTERNOON TEA CLUB

Bus Trip to Sidmouth

After much organisation I am pleased to announce that the Afternoon Tea Club are putting on a bus trip to Sidmouth on Wednesday, 13th July 2022. We have a 52-seater coach to fill, many of the seats have already been allocated to club members but I still have 15 left. If you would like to come with us, then please ring me Lyn Foley on 01935 823051. It will be on a first come first served basis, if you need help with your mobility or need equipment taking, please let me know. For those of you who may need a wheelchair then please make sure you can bring someone along who can help you.

This will be the first bus trip in many years from the village and it is the first one we have organised, so bear with us.

The Afternoon Tea Club Team: Jill, Kay, Lisa, Sue and Lyn

FRIENDS OF HAM HILL

Guided Walk – Ham Hill: It's Past and Present

Join us in July for a one mile walk along the Parrett Trail as it passes through Ham Hill Country Park. Discover an old lime kiln, the Time Stones, learn about the plant life and enjoy panoramic views. The walk will be led by Dot Walford, author of "Somerset's 50 Mile Parrett Trail" book and a qualified walk guide.

Choose from Thursday, 14th July or Saturday, 23rd July. Please arrive at 10.45am for an 11.00am start. There is no charge for the walk though donations to the Friends of Ham Hill would be gratefully appreciated. Numbers are limited so booking in advance only by email: info@friendsofhamhill.org.

No dogs please. Though terrain is mostly flat, the walk is unsuitable for buggies or wheelchairs. Full joining details will be emailed a few days before the walk

SOMERSET SIGHT

Do you have a few hours a week free to support a person living with sight loss in your community?

Somerset Sight, the independent charity for blind and visually impaired people living in Somerset, is urgently seeking volunteers in our area to offer companionship and practical support to people living with sight loss. In return for your time, Somerset Sight will offer full training and cover all reasonable expenses. For more information and an informal chat, please call 01823 333818

STOKE WALKING GROUP

Summer Hours for Walks: From April to end of October, guided group walks of approximately 90 minutes will start at 10 am. Walks start and end at the Lighthouse Café as usual, on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.

Additional Monthly Summer Walks: On the 1st Monday of the month in July, August, September and October only, there is an opportunity to go on a slightly longer walk of 4 to 6 miles. These walks are guided, start and end at the Lighthouse Café at 10am. Next Walk Dates: 4th July – 4-to-6-mile walk starts at 10 am, 11 July and 25th July – 90-minute walk starts at 10 am. Please be aware that the Every Step Counts walks at 0930 are currently not available

LITTER PICK

We will be meeting at 9 am on Sunday July 10th outside the All Saint's Hall for the bi-monthly litter pick. Please join us if you can. I can be contacted at helivet@msn.com if you need more details. Equipment is provided but stout gloves are always a good idea. It should take 1.5-2 hours and there is a free coffee after at Priory Coffee afterwards courtesy of the Community Shop.

Catherine Fraser

SUMMER FETE – SATURDAY, 2nd July

Don't miss Stoke sub Hamdon's Summer Fete which will be held on Saturday, 2nd July 2022 from 11am to 4.30pm in the Memorial Hall and its grounds. There will be a variety of stalls, refreshments (including a bar) and much more. If you would like to volunteer to have a stall, please contact Denise Burton on 07788 900672 or by email at denisesburton@btinternet.com. Otherwise just come along and enjoy the day.

STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP: YOUR VILLAGE – YOUR SHOP

Summer treats: We stock a wide range of ice creams, ice lollies and frozen desserts as well as chilled fruit drinks, sodas, coffees and teas, so pop in for some thirst-quenching summer treats.

Prestige Awards: You may remember a while back that Stoke Community Shop won Best Small Convenience Store of the Year: South West England (Somerset) in the Corporate Livewire awards. Four of our Volunteers travelled to Devon for the ceremony and to receive the award certificate on the 15th of June. This is a real achievement for our shop, our volunteers and all our customers – and a tribute to the community spirit of our village.

Volunteering We're always looking for new volunteers to join our friendly volunteer team, especially during the summer months when many people are off on their holidays. If you think you can give us a hand – even if it's only to do an occasional shift – please drop in and speak to one of the team; or email volunteers@stokeshop.co.uk.

For more information about the shop and how you can get involved, visit stokeshop.co.uk or www.facebook.com/stokescommunityshop

STOKE CHARITY SHOP

Your Charity Shop Needs You

Stoke Charity Shop operates entirely through the dedication of our volunteers. This includes the executive committee as well as the volunteers who work in the shop. After many years of devoted service two members of the current committee will not be seeking re-election at the next AGM on the 5th of September. There are 4 executive positions: Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and three Co-opted positions: Events Coordinator, Health and Safety Coordinator and Administrator, to be elected. You need not work in the shop to be on the committee and there is always support available. Our Shop has enjoyed considerable success over the last 10 years, providing thousands of pounds during that time to Stoke Sub Hamdon Sports and Recreation Trust toward local projects and grant awards to local groups and individuals. Your help is needed to ensure the Charity Shop continues to thrive. A summary of Roles and Responsibilities, along with Nomination forms is available at the Shop. You are invited to speak to any one of the current committee members to find out more.

Grants Available

The Charity Shop accepts applications for Grant funding for local groups and individuals engaged in projects that benefit our residents and village. Recent grants have been awarded to the local Brownies, Stoke Gardening Club and the Lighthouse Café. To apply contact Jane Baker by email: jeb3101@aol.com

STOKE VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP

The Village Artist Group is a small, friendly, supportive group of people, of all ages and abilities, who meet weekly - Tuesdays 7.30-9.30pm and Fridays 10.00-12.00 midday during term time at the Memorial Hall, to practise all forms of the visual arts in a relaxed atmosphere. We have a pool of incredibly talented and sociable people here who would always welcome new members to join in the fun.

If you are interested in venturing out once or twice a week and are looking forward to a very rewarding and affordable pastime, please contact me on 01935 829513 for a free introductory session and or a chat.

CHICKEN HOUSE CHICKS

A PLAY FOR THE PLATINUM JUBILEE

78 years ago, Stoke sub Hamdon and the surrounding area was invaded by a large number of Allied troops, waiting to leave for France to take part in the D Day landings. Harry S Hamilton of Battle Creek, Michigan, was stationed in Montacute and inscribed his initials on the roof of the Priory Gatehouse. W D Miller of Texas was in Stoke sub Hamdon, he sadly died in action in 1945. The Women's Land Army girls, based in a converted chicken house hostel in North Street, were busy on the farms, taking the place of men who had been called up. Rachel, the youngest of the 10 Hebditch children, together with Margaret Terrell and her sisters, were living in the village at the time and were witnesses to all this.

Stoke Performing Arts Group was privileged to have Rachel (now Mrs Pantling) and Margaret (now Mrs Jennings) in the audience for their play about the Land Girls, "Chicken House Chicks", in the Memorial Hall, Stoke sub Hamdon on 21st May, as part of the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Also present in the audience was Mrs Mary Taylor. Mrs Taylor was living in Skipton, Yorkshire, during the war. She applied for the Land Army as soon as she was of age but was turned down because she was in a reserved occupation, making bandages in a mill. Once the war was over, in spite of her mother's opposition, she joined the Land Army and travelled all the way from Yorkshire to be met at Yeovil Pen Mill and taken to a farmyard near Yeovil Golf Course where an outhouse had been converted to a hostel. Mrs Taylor was an invaluable resource for the author in the writing of "Chicken House Chicks."

Each and every member of the cast and crew contributed to the success of "Chicken House Chicks". This was truly a community affair, with local talents coming to the fore.

The question on everyone's lips as the last performance finished was, "when can we do it again?"

40TH ANNIVERSARY FALKLANDS CONFLICT

What a great night on the 11th June when we commemorated the 40th anniversary of the Falklands Conflict. A total of £816 was raised with the proceeds going to The Royal British Legion. Many thanks to all the people who attended this evening of reflection. Special thanks to Rob, Karen and Richard Hebditch, Keith Robins, Brian Shaw, Pete McGann, Jon Greetham, Tom Noble, Louise Greaves, Stoke Working Men's Club and staff, and everyone for all their donations and support.

Jon Moore and Shaun Pitt-Kerby

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July	
2nd	Summer Fete
4th	Stoke Walking Group
9th	Book Signing – Montacute
10th	Litter Pick
11th	Stoke Walking Group
13th	Afternoon Tea Club - Trip to Sidmouth
14th	Friends of Ham Hill Guided Walk
23rd	Friends of Ham Hill Guided Walk
25th	Parish Meeting
25th	Stoke Walking Group
27th	Gardening Club Talk
30th	Concert Trip to Wells Cathedral
September	
5th	Charity Shop AGM