

CONTACTS

Church of England at St Mary's, Church Services: 1st Sunday 9.00am BCP Communion 2nd Sunday 10.30am CW Holy Communion 3rd Sunday 9.00am BCP Holy Communion 4th Sunday 10.30am Morning Praise	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	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 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 Weds 9.50am-3.30pm (Ranger's Office)	Paul McNeill 07973 887129
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 -	Peter Hulett 01935 824784
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 7.30pm 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	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)	
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 - 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 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 3.00pm - 4.00pm 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 - Tuesdays 7.45pm - 9.45pm & Friday 10.00am - 12 Noon (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: clerksshpc@hotmail.co.uk



The Parish Council would like to wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR

CHAIR'S UPDATE

Transport Working Group

We asked last month if anybody in the village would like to join our Transport Working Group and I am pleased to say that we have had quite a bit of initial interest and the Group will have its first meeting in December. The Group will be actively evaluating the various schemes that might help in slowing down vehicle speeds through the village and recommending a practical plan and also helping to gather data on speeding, accidents and road layout issues. This information together with our Speed Indicator Device data will be presented to Highways whose permission we need to get in order to implement any schemes.

Meetings will be very informal with everyone encouraged to share their ideas and comments to get as an effective proposal as we can to present to Highways. If you're keen to have your input into speeding and road issues and you'd like to get involved you can still do so - just contact me or the Parish Clerk, and you will be very warmly welcomed.

Potential new development?

Some members of Stoke and Montacute Parish Councils were invited to attend an informal meeting a week ago with the developers of a second potential development of 55 houses along the Feeder Road leading to the A3088. Those attending made the point that it would join the two villages and that the surgery and schools were already struggling to meet needs, and that traffic could increase significantly through the village. The general view of those attending was not in favour for a variety of practical and ecological reasons, but if the developers do decide to go ahead with a planning application it will of course be the District Council who make the actual decision. Under the planning rules there will need to be a full consultation with the two villages, including public meetings, so everyone will have a chance to put questions and feedback the views.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

If you are on your own, elderly or have no family to go to this Christmas, why not come and join us for Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day. It will take place in the Lighthouse Café from 1pm until 4pm, food will start at 1.30pm. I will be restricted to 24 places this year so book early, the closing date for booking is 16th December. Transport can be arranged if required. You can contact me at home on 01935 823051 for further information.

Lyn Foley

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Hamdon Pre-school Playgroup invite you to come along to their fourth Christmas Tree Festival in the former UR Church, North Street between Saturday, 12th December until Saturday, 18th December, 6pm - 8pm.

Everyone welcome.



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.

FESTIVE RECYCLING AND WASTE COLLECTIONS 2021-22

Public holidays mean collections always change over Christmas and New Year and, with the festive period usually meaning more waste to recycle and dispose of, it is important that everyone knows their days so they do not miss a collection.

The revised schedule for recycling and rubbish is below. Every Somerset resident can check their collection days, for now and the rest of the year, using the My Collection Day feature on the somersetwaste.gov.uk website.

Usual day	Revised collection day
Thursday 24 December	NO CHANGE
Friday 25 December	Monday 28 December
Monday 28 December	Tuesday 29 December
Tuesday 29 December	Wednesday 30 December
Wednesday 30 December	Thursday 31 December
Thursday 31 December	Saturday 2 January
Friday 1 January	Monday 4 January
Monday 4 January	Tuesday 5 January
Tuesday 5 January	Wednesday 6 January
Wednesday 6 January	Thursday 7 January
Thursday 7 January	Friday 8 January
Friday 8 January	Saturday 9 January
Monday 11 January	Usual collections resume

As usual, garden waste collections are suspended for two weeks after Christmas Eve to help crews cope with the extra waste that comes with the festive holidays. They restart on Saturday, 9 January – picking up collections that would usually have taken place on Friday, 8 January. Usual garden waste collections resume from Monday, 11 January.

All 16 of Somerset's recycling sites will be open at their usual winter hours throughout the festive period, except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. They are a good option for disposing of large amount of recycling, such as cardboard, and will have special drop-off points for paper gift wrap.

NOTE: Only paper wrapping paper – minus glitter, tape and decorations – is recyclable and can also go in recycling boxes to be collected from the kerbside. Foil, plastic or glittery wrap cannot be recycled so needs to go in the rubbish bin.

If you have space, real Christmas trees can be composted or turned into a garden wildlife corner. Garden Waste Service subscribers can leave their decoration-free tree next to their garden waste bin for collection – so long as it is no taller than 6ft and its trunk no wider than 4 inches. Please try and do this within two weeks of the collections restarting. Everyone without a Garden Waste subscription will need to take their tree, decoration-free, to a recycling site and put it in a garden waste skip. They will not be collected from the kerbside.

SPAG & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

Stoke Performing Arts Group and Friends invite you to join them for an evening of festive music and entertainment, on Saturday 18th December at 6.30pm at the Old Church, North Street, (HCAP). Tickets are £5.00 and include a glass of mulled wine or soft drink and refreshments. Children 5 - 11yrs £2.50. Under 5's free. Tickets are available from Stoke Community Shop and all proceeds to be donated to Children's Hospice SouthWest. **We look forward to seeing you all there!**

VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP WORKSHOP – NEW YEAR

The Village Artist Group welcomes Artist Mike Jackson on Saturday 22nd January between 10.00am-4.00pm at the Memorial Hall, Stoke Sub Hamdon. Giving us an insight and demonstration into his unique, varied, and successful painting techniques. If you are interested in attending the fee will be £25.00 for the day for members and £30.00 for non-members. Phone Malcolm on 01935 829513 for a chat or email malcolmuhlhorn99@gmail.com

STOKE BAND NEWS

The band's Christmas Concert will be on Saturday 11th December at the Memorial Hall at 7:30pm, tickets will be £6. Please phone Jane Herbert on 01460 419317 to book tickets. Monies payable on the night. We will again be serving Christmas puds, mince pies and refreshments, there will be a bar but only a limited one.

On Saturday 18th December, we will once again be playing carols outside at the Prince of Wales, from 2:00pm until 4:00pm. Please come and sing along with us.

On Christmas Eve, we will be caroling around the village again.

The band is looking for a new Trustee. The role covers what happens if the band should fold, which we hope it never does. If you are interested, please speak to Gill Robins at the Prince of Wales.

STOKE CHARITY SHOP

Thank You: A huge thank you to all those who helped make Stoke Charity Shop's Jumble Sale at the Memorial Hall such a success. This was our first such sale in two years and required a concerted effort by volunteers, their families and friends to achieve. We are fortunate to live in a village where residents are so willing to help out on projects that benefit us all.

Grants: Stoke Charity Shop has funds available for grants to local groups planning a project associated with sport, recreation or education. Since returning to normal trading, the Shop has provided funds to the Men's Reserve Football team for new kit and a second bench at the Lighthouse Café. For an application form contact Jane Baker by email: jeb3101@aol.com

Volunteers Needed: The Charity Shop is always happy to welcome new Volunteers. If you have a couple of hours a week spare and would like to contribute to the welfare of our village, you are invited to join our friendly group of volunteers at Stoke Charity Shop. Pop into the shop any weekday from 9am to 3:30pm (12:30pm on Wednesday) for a look around and to hear from our volunteers what is involved.

Donation Dates: Donation days at HCAP will be suspended in December to ensure other organisations in the village can plan and implement their Christmas activities at the venue. Small amounts of donated goods can be left at the Charity Shop during this period.

Next Donation Dates: Saturday 8th January (because 1st Saturday is News Year's Day) and 15th January at HCAP between 10am and midday. You are welcome to bring clothing, children's toys, books and CDs, bric-a-brac and small household and electrical items on the dates above. Volunteers will be on hand to receive your donations. The Charity Shop cannot accept heavily worn, soiled or torn clothing/textiles and shoes. These can be disposed of in your kerb side recycling.



Community Youth Project CYP

Hamdon Youth Group
We are getting ready for Christmas fun in December. Come along to have fun with your friends!

Norton Village Hall Wednesdays 7 – 9pm
1st December Music/ Team games
8th December Christmas arts & crafts
15th December Christmas party

REOPENS 5TH JANUARY 2022
Stoke @Hamdon Youth and Family Centre, Mondays 7-9pm
6th December Christmas arts & crafts
13th December Christmas party planning
20th December Christmas party

REOPENS 10TH JANUARY 2022
HYG will be taking a break over the school holidays. Have a top Christmas! We look forward to seeing you back in January '22

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT LOU CHANT
ON 07402 987921 OR EMAIL lou.chant@cyp.me.uk
or find us on Facebook @HamdonYouthGroup

GARDENING CLUB

It was a shame that the year did not pan out as we had planned and hoped for. However, we did manage several Zoom talks plus the "Back Together Again" event in August, which was a great success.

We are looking forward to the good mix in the programme for 2022 and new members are always welcome. Our next meeting Wednesday January 26th, 2022.

With our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP: YOUR VILLAGE – YOUR SHOP

Get ready for Christmas: We've a fantastic range of Christmas gifts, festive goodies and hamper fillers, along with shop-branded jute bags, pens, travel mugs and gift vouchers – ideal as Xmas presents for family and friends.

Christmas and New Year opening: Your community shop will be open every day over the festive period except Christmas Day. We'll be opening several half days – from 8am till 12 midday – on the following dates: Friday 24th December and Sunday 26th to Tuesday 28th December plus Saturday 1st to Monday 3rd January 2022. The Post Office counter will be closed on the two bank holiday Mondays – 27th December and 3rd January. For full details and any updates, please check the shop window, our website:

stokeshop.co.uk or www.facebook.com/stokecommunityshop.

Orders, please: Don't forget that you can order fresh Bakery Royal breads, pastries, pies and buns from Stoke Community Shop. Order by midday Sunday to Friday for pick-up from the shop the next day after 10am. Plus you can reserve virtually any newspaper or magazine for collection. Pop in and discuss your needs with one of our friendly Volunteers.

Home deliveries: Our home delivery service is here for you if you're unable to get out and about. Call us with your order on 01935 509100 between 9am and 4pm on weekdays and we'll arrange same day or next-day delivery.

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

HAM HILL COUNTRY PARK: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Practical Rangers: to carry out a variety of exciting seasonal conservation activities such as scrub clearance, tree planting, hedge-laying, and coppicing. Meet every Wednesday at the Ranger Office on Ham Hill (TA14 6RW) at 9.50am for a 10.00am start, and finish at around 3.30pm. Just turn up and stay for the full day or just half a day, as often as you like. Wear old weather-appropriate clothes, stout boots or wellies, and bring a packed lunch (if required). Training, gloves, tools, and refreshments will be provided.

And coming soon... so please register your interest for these two:

Visitor Guides: to walk around the Country Park to provide information about Ham Hill to visitors, including what to see and the best places to go.

Visitor Surveyors: to conduct flora & fauna surveys (seasonal) and visitor questionnaire surveys.

For more information or to register your interest contact Paul on 07973 887129.

STOKE WALKING GROUP: EVERY STEP COUNTS & HEALTH WALKS

Next Health Walk dates are on 13th December and 20th December and, every 2nd and 4th Monday morning thereafter. There are two walks to choose from:

- The walk at 9.30am is for those of limited capacity, on pavements around the village, lasting 30 – 40 minute.
- The walk at 10.30am is a more robust walk of 90 minutes around local paths, fields, bridleways and on Ham Hill.

Both walks are led by trained Health Walk leaders over a predetermined route. For both walks, we meet outside the Memorial Hall and end at the Lighthouse Café where drinks and light snacks are available. A register of walkers' names and contact details will be taken at the start for Track and Trace. Well behaved dogs on leads are also welcome. Walkers should wear appropriate, supportive footwear, dress for the weather and wash your hands on returning home. Come and join us to meet old and new friends, explore our beautiful local area and enjoy a cup of tea and a chat afterwards in the Lighthouse.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December 2021

1st	Castle School – Krispy Kreme Donut Sale
11th	Stoke Band Christmas Concert
12th – 18th	Christmas Tree Festival
13th	Stoke Health Walks
18th	Stoke Band Carols at the Prince of Wales
18th	SPAG & Friends Christmas Festivities
20th	Stoke Health Walks
24th	Stoke Band Caroling around the village
25th	Lunch Club – Christmas Lunch

January 2022

8th	Charity Shop Donations
15th	Charity Shop Donations
22nd	Village Artist Group Workshop