

## PARISH COUNCIL

### *Parking – Final Proposals*

Following a public consultation in July, the final proposals to improve/regularise parking spaces are now being submitted to Highways at Somerset County Council. It is expected that the legal framework for getting these implemented will take about two months, following which Highways will slot the work into their budget and day-to-day work plan. We have no control over when they carry out the work, so please be patient!

Feedback from the recent consultation showed that although quite a number of you felt that moving the bus stops and bus markings would free up the flow in the High Street for cars, there was an overriding concern that moving the stops would make this unfairly difficult for our elderly and less mobile residents. We heard what you said and agreed with you, so there will be NO changes to the location of bus stops or bus markings in the village.

All the other proposed changes to double yellow lines, and white line bay markings will stay as proposed. We will continue over the next few months to liaise with Castle School about the use of their staff car park. At the same time as putting these proposals forward to the Council, we have asked them to replace some road signs at the entrance to the village at West Street, and the bottom of North Street, as these signs have been damaged. We have requested new signs to be put up at Sea Wall, indicating to westbound drivers that eastbound (Montacute bound) drivers have right of way in the High Street as the road narrows.

We are also asking them to repaint the Keep Clear sign in the High Street opposite the Shop, so that the house owner can exercise her right of way to exit her property, which she is currently unable to do, due to illegally parked cars. We are also asking them to repaint the double yellow lines adjacent to that on the corner, to improve visibility for cars turning from North Street into the High Street, and to improve road safety.

We are now starting to look at speeding data in the village, and road safety issues in general. One of the original aims in the 2005 Village Plan was to see if we could reduce car congestion at the start and end of school in Castle Street and at East Stoke by introducing a 'school walking bus' for the younger ones, and encouraging Stanchester students to adopt a healthier lifestyle by walking to and from school. If you have any ideas on how we can all help each other to achieve these aims, please let us know! You can email us at [transportssh@hotmail.com](mailto:transportssh@hotmail.com) or drop a note in to me at Tamarisk in the High Street (opp. the Club).

*Barbara Brooks, Vice*

*Chair.*

### *Road Closure*

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. There will be a temporary road closure of Lower Town, Montacute from outside Gaundle Farm to outside Brook House for a distance of 195 metres. This work will commence on 8 September and is expected to last for 33 days to enable gas mains replacement works to be carried out.

### **P.C.S.O. REPORT**

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.

### **ROUTE 60**

Are you 60 and over and would like to hone your driving abilities then come along to Martock Parish Hall on 8 October between 10.00am and 1pm. The only expense is a contribution of £10 towards the assessed drive should you wish to have one.

### **WWI COMMEMORATIVE WEEKEND**

The History Group are holding an exhibition of Stoke sub Hamdon during WWI on 8 and 9 November at the Working Men's Club. In conjunction with this on the Saturday, there will be an evening of music by Stoke Silver Band and some young local singers to commemorate the start of the Great War. The evening will start at 6.30pm with a free buffet and some tasty treats from that era. A raffle will be held during the evening with all proceeds going to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

After the Remembrance Service on Ham Hill on the Sunday tea and coffee will be served in the Working Men's Club giving everyone an opportunity to look around the exhibition. Look out for further information in next month's newsletter.

### **HAMDON YOUTH GROUP**

After a summer of fun we're getting back to normal at the beginning of September. All young people Year 7 and above are welcome to our weekly sessions in Stoke, Thursdays 7.00pm – 9.00pm at the Methodist Church Hall and; Norton, Wednesdays 7.00pm – 9.00pm in the Meeting Room in the Village Hall.

Check our Facebook page, **Hamdons Youth Group**, for the latest info and **www.cyp.me.uk** for details of other events in the area.

We'd like to invite any adults who have an interest in young people to join our team of volunteers. Volunteers help our Youth Worker to run the two weekly sessions plus other special projects. Please contact Bruce Wilson on 822669 or email [brucewilson9@goolemail.com](mailto:brucewilson9@goolemail.com) for more information.

The AGM of Hamdon Youth Group will be held on 29 September at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at Norton Village Hall. All are welcome

### **VILLAGE ARTISTS**

The New Term for the Village Artists starts on week beginning 15 September on Monday and Friday mornings 10am – 12pm and Thursdays 7 - 9pm. Why not call in? All abilities are welcome and we are very friendly.

We will be hosting an event on Tuesday 30 September at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall where the professional Artist, Mike Jackson, will be demonstrating how to paint a lively and colourful country scene in acrylic paints using both brushes and palette knife techniques. There will be a small charge of £5 each on the door.

We will be holding our main Annual Exhibition in the Memorial Hall on Saturday, October 18 offering paintings for sale at affordable prices.

### **HAMDON PLAYGROUP**

Hamdon Playgroup is 40 years old in September!

We would be grateful if anyone has any old photos of the playgroup to make a display. Could you please drop them into the playgroup week commencing 1 September.

We hope to have a playgroup reunion around the end of September. Many thanks in advance.

*Karon Anderson*

### **FESTIVAL CONCERT**

A Festival Concert will take place in the United Reformed Church on Saturday, 20 September. Stoke sub Hamdon Band and the Montacute Village Singers will be performing.

The concert starts at 7:30pm and tickets cost £5, children under 16 will be free if accompanied by an adult. The ticket price includes some light refreshments. The tickets are available from Wayne Thomas on 829542, Jane Herbert on 822402 and Sue Barnfield on 824847. Tickets will also be available on the door.

Over the last few months a lot of refurbishment has taken place at the United Reformed Church and as the Stoke sub Hamdon Band practises in the church, we have benefitted from the improvements and this is our way of saying 'thank you' and contributing to the Church funds. Please come and support what promises to be a great evening.

*Jane Herbert, Stoke sub Hamdon Band*

## **CHURCHYARD HEADSTONES**

Each year we arrange for the headstones in the Churchyard to be inspected. This is for safety reasons. Obviously the condition of some headstones deteriorates over time and can become dangerous. Headstones are legally the responsibility of the family but we may need to act to make them safe, often by laying them flat. We have identified, with the help of a local stonemason, eight stones in an unsafe condition and we have already laid a couple of these flat. You may wish to arrange for a headstone to be repaired before we need to take other actions.

These are the headstones which have been identified as needing repair: Alice Baker 1954; Mary Brimblecombe 1970; Irene Chant 1905 and Charlie Chant 1904; Sydney Frederick Gaylard 1941; Margaret Hawkes 1944 and Henry Hawkes 1970; Mona Margaret Shoemark 1985; Cecil Egbert Turner 1931 and; Ernie Warr 1922.

If you are a relative or know a relative could you please contact Rev Peter Thomas on 01935 881202.

## **HARVEST THANKSGIVING**

Back in 1843 a Cornish vicar thought that it would be good for the community to gather at the end of the Harvest to thank God for "all good gifts around us" and he created the first Harvest Thanksgiving Service. In this past year we have been very conscious of the work of the Somerset Farming Community particularly those affected by the floods so it is especially appropriate to remember with thanksgiving all that is provided for us, and those who work to make that provision.

This year's Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's will be at 6.30pm on September 28. This non-communion service will be the only worship at St Mary's on that day and all the community are welcome, particularly those involved with farming and others who work on the land (including allotment holders!).

## **STOKE ACTIVE WALKERS**

*Tuesday, 2 September*

Today's walk will take us along Bowey, then down across Shelves to Matts Lane. We will then follow the footpath to Broadmead Lane and across the field to Manor Farm in Chiselborough, take the footpath up past Chiselborough Church to the Cats Head pub and then up to the Middle Chinnock road, turn left back towards Chiselborough and follow the footpath to the right along the back of the houses to pick up the Odcombe road. Turn left into Chiselborough and back through Manor Farm and across the fields 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.

### **COMMUNITY HELP**

The staff from Co-op are volunteering to help with community events so if you would like some assistance with setting up, manning stalls or handing out teas etc. then please contact Denise on 01935 824355 or 07707056340.

### **ACORN POP-IN PROGRAMME**

#### September

4th Mayor of Yeovil  
11th Cream Tea - Weymouth  
18th Boccia Session  
25<sup>th</sup> John's Quiz /Trade Table

Visitors are welcome to any of the above. Contact: Jennifer Kerr 01935 882609

### **CHARITY SHOP REDECORATION**

The time is drawing near for our shop redecoration. Just a couple of reminders for everyone; The shop will be having a £1 a bag sale on Saturday 30, Monday 1 and Tuesday 2; the shop will then close. We will still be delighted to accept any donations during the closure so please call Maria on 824064 to arrange a collection (it is likely you will get the machine, but please leave a message; we will get back to you). The Shop will re-open on Monday, 22 September at 9am. Our Birthday Party will be on Saturday, 4 October and we hope you will join us for the fun!  
The Stoke Charity Shop

### **MOBILE LIBRARY**

Due to the summer holidays, there will be no August visit by the Mobile Library. Please note that the schedule for next autumn has been changed. The van will visit the Memorial Hall Car Park every four weeks on Thursdays from 11.25 to 11.45 a.m. and on the following dates;

11 September, 9 October, 6 November and 4 December.

If you haven't used the mobile library before, do give it a try!

### **LITTLE FISHES PLAY GROUP**

We start again on Thursday, 11 September between 10am to midday in the Methodist Church Hall, West Street, Stoke sub Hamdon. The group is for children from birth to four years together with their parents or carers. You are all welcome to this friendly, well established group. We have a good selection of toys, craft, and singing, stories and games. We ask for a contribution of £1.50 to cover the cost of heating throughout the year.

### **SUPER SUNDAY**

Super Sunday Family Service led by Charles Freebury on 20 September between 3pm and 5pm at the Methodist Church Hall, West Street, Stoke sub Hamdon. Bible stories, crafts and food with tea for the children. Crafts suitable for all ages. Bring along the whole family!

### **A FASHION SHOW WITH A DIFFERENCE!**

Stoke Charity Shop and All About Hats are working in partnership on a Fashion Show to be held at Stoke Working Men's Club on Saturday, 18 October at 7pm. The entrance ticket is £3.50 which includes nibbles and a glass of wine are on sale from the Charity Shop or

Rosemary (All About Hats) on 07817182779. Clothes will be on sale and the hats are there as a promotion for All About Hats (Hat Hire Company). All proceeds from the evening will go to Stoke Charity Shop

### **STOKE HEALTH WALKS AND EVERY STEP COUNTS WALKS**

These led walks are continuing through the autumn and winter months, so come along and improve your fitness and flexibility levels and enjoy the social aspect at the end of the walks in the Lighthouse Café.

Every Step Counts Walks start at 9.45am and these are mainly flat gentle walks lasting for 30 to 40 minutes. The Health Walks begin at 10.30am and are more challenging, ascending Ham Hill occasionally or waling to Norton and Chiselborough and back. These walks last approximately 90 minutes. The walks are free and open to anyone. Both walks start and end at the Lighthouse Café. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. Please contact Penny on 01935 822208 or Mark on 07974103275 if you would like more information.

### **SOMERSET SIGHT VISIT**

This is a reminder for those with sight problems that the Somerset Sight van is in the Memorial Hall car park from 10.30am to 3.30pm on Thursday, 4 September. You may like to check out some of the very useful practical aides which are on offer.

### **OAK TREE HOUSE**

The residents of Oak Tree House Retirement Living Scheme on Norton Road will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning with a raffle and table top sale on Thursday, 25 September starting at 10am. Everyone is welcome.

### **ST MARGARET'S SHOP MANAGER GETS A SHOCK!**

Not long after Donna Avery was appointed as the new Manager for the St Margaret's shop in Stoke sub Hamdon, she arrived to find one of the large front windows had been smashed. Donna says "I was shocked and saddened to discover the damage which resulted in a hefty repair bill and loss of revenue for two days, as all of the profits from the shop supports St Margaret's nursing care in the local community. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking our customers and donors who have continued to support us with their custom and good quality donations".

Donna has some great offers planned which include buy one get one half price and some items for as little as £1. Check out the shop regularly so as not to miss out on a bargain. Donna is currently recruiting for shop volunteers, call her today on 01935 825785. Giving your time will help to provide more nursing care for local patients and their families.

### **YEOVIL CHAMBER CHOIR**

Yeovil Chamber Choir is keen to recruit some additional singers – in all voices. Under the baton of our inspirational Music Director, Judy Martin, we relish the challenge of learning new works and performing them in concerts at least three times a year. Our rehearsals restart on 10 September for performances on 29 & 30 November of works by a wide range of composers from Britten to Tallis, Byrd to Chilcott. For further information or to apply for an audition please contact our Secretary, T: 01935 425383 or E: yeovilchamberchoir@hotmail.co.uk

### **DIARY OF EVENTS:**

**September**

1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Clearance Sale – Charity Shop
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Stoke Active Walkers
4 <sup>th</sup>	Somerset Sight
11 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile Library
11 <sup>th</sup>	Little Fishes
15 <sup>th</sup>	Village Artists – New Term Starts
20 <sup>th</sup>	Festival Concert – Stoke Band
20 <sup>th</sup>	Super Sunday Family Service – Methodist Church
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Charity Shop re-opens
25 <sup>th</sup>	Macmillan Coffee Morning
28 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Thanksgiving Service – St Mary's
30 <sup>th</sup>	Village Artists Demonstration

**October**

8 <sup>th</sup>	Route 60
9 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile Library
18 <sup>th</sup>	Village Artists Exhibition
18 <sup>th</sup>	Fashion Show

**November**

6 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile Library
8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>	WWI Commemorative Weekend and Exhibition