

Unfortunately, after 8 years dedicated help we are losing our volunteer who delivers the newsletters each month to the High Street. The Parish Council would like to say a huge 'thank you' for everything they have done, and their help has been invaluable and very much appreciated.

If there is anyone who is willing to take over the 'High Street' round please contact the Sarah Moore, Parish Clerk – contact details are at the back of this newsletter.

### **Chair's Update**

At our meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September, Councillors were pleased to make a grant of up to £500 towards the Saturday evening's buffet for the WWI Commemorative Celebrations on the 10<sup>th</sup> /11<sup>th</sup> November at the Stoke Working Men's Club. A really important weekend in the calendar for Stoke, honouring so many of our men, young and not so young, who gave their lives on our behalf and we hope as many residents will attend the exhibition and the entertainment on the Saturday evening. Our thanks to the History Group for the sterling work they do in keeping these village memories alive, and to the Club for hosting it. The weekend's proceeds, as always, will go to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November, the annual Remembrance Service by the War Memorial at the top of Ham Hill will take place where wreaths will be laid by the Parish Council, the British Legion and armed services and many of our village organisations and groups. It is always a very moving experience and I do urge you to attend and pay your respects to all those who have died in world conflicts over the decades. We owe them a great debt of gratitude.

Youth Centre – We are pleased to report that contracts have now been exchanged on the purchase of the Methodist Church by the council. Completion and transfer of title will take place once the Charity Commission Order on Undervalue has been received, probably at the end of October. The Youth Centre Working Group made up of councillors and residents will shortly re-convene to help set up the Centre over the next few months.

Traffic issues in the village - We have had several complaints about traffic issues in the village over the past few months – at the junction of Matts Lane with West Street, and speeding in the High Street, West Street and North Street. Please be reassured that all of these have been reported for remedial action where possible to Highways at County Council, as they are the responsible authority for signage, speed bumps, yellow lines etc. It is disappointing that no action has been taken by them, but we will continue to complain on your behalf.

Tactile Paving - just to remind everyone, it is an offence to park in front of the pink tactile paving in the High Street outside the old Vets. Tactile paving does not need yellow lines. You have been warned!

Planning - The following applications have been received: -

18/01571/FUL – Removal of front porch and rear conservatory. Alterations and the construction of new front porch and canopy, construction of first floor side extension and two story and single storey rear extensions. Widening of existing access and formation of enlarge parking area.

18/02533/TPO – Application to fell no 1 Horse Chestnut tree known as T10 in SSDC Tree Preservation Order (STHA 1) 1998

18/02683/FUL - Conversion and extension of existing barn to form a building

18/0234/REM - Land at West Street, Summerfield Homes. Final design of the development of 27 houses, including 10 affordable houses under Reserved Matters.

Councillors arranged for the plans to be displayed for public inspection on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September in the Memorial Hall and were available to answer any questions raised. About 30 people attended. This application sets out the final design of building materials, drainage and landscape strategy for consideration by District planners.

Parish Council meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Hall.

*Contact details: Barbara Brooks, Chair of the Parish Council*

*Tel: 824432; Email: [chairsshpc@hotmail.com](mailto:chairsshpc@hotmail.com)*

*Tamarisk, High St (opp. Working Men's Club)*

## **WWI COMMEMORATIVE EXHIBITION & REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

It is 100 years since the end of the First World War and the History Group will be hosting a Commemorative Exhibition of Stoke sub Hamdon during WWI in Stoke Working Men's Club starting on 10<sup>th</sup> November. The exhibition will be open from 12pm till late on Saturday and from 12pm till late on Sunday. In conjunction with this, from 6.30pm on the Saturday evening, there will be music by Stoke Silver Band and some young local singers with a free buffet funding by the Parish Council. The exhibition will be on display in the Club until Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November to give everyone the opportunity to view all the exhibits.

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November the annual Remembrance Service will take place around the Monument on Ham Hill at 10.45am, where we will be honouring the servicemen and women who have given their lives for our country and for today's servicemen and women who are currently in action and stationed around the world. You are all welcome to come to this poignant service. There is vehicular access available if required.

After the Remembrance Service refreshments will be served in the Working Men's Club giving everyone an opportunity to look around the exhibition. If you would like to assist with the event on Sunday, please bake a cake for everyone to enjoy. *Jon Moore, Poppy Appeal Organiser*

## **STOKE ACTIVE WALKERS**

*Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018*

Today we will be going to Pitt Pond by kind permission of Jack Parker. We will begin our walk by going across Bowey, then along Norton Path and down Sandy Lane. From there, we will take the road past Tinkers Bubble to Pitt Pond where we will spend time walking around the Pond. We will then follow the footpath back to Batemore Barn and along to the Prince of Wales 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.

## **VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP**

The Village Artists welcome visiting artist Esther Jeans for a demonstration evening on the 10<sup>th</sup> October between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. Ester will be demonstrating painting skies in acrylics. Entry is £5, no booking needed – please come along, all are welcome!

The Village Artists hold several workshop days and demonstration evenings throughout the year so if you would like to join us, are interested in Art or just want to take up a relaxing hobby please feel free to drop in for a chat and a coffee to see what we are all about. We are a small friendly informal group who meet in the Memorial Hall on Monday and Friday mornings between 10am – 12pm, and on Thursday evenings between 7.30 – 9.30pm. You can attend any number of sessions for just £25 per term. Why not call in? All abilities are welcome.

If you are interested you can find out more by visiting our website [www.yeovilarts.co.uk/villageartists/index.html](http://www.yeovilarts.co.uk/villageartists/index.html), or visit our new Facebook page - The Village Artists Group Stoke-sub-Hamdon or just come along for a trial session. For more information please contact Diana on 01935 881647.

## **SECRETARIAL HELP WANTED!**

Can you spare a couple of hours every two months in the evening to take minutes at the Memorial Hall committee meetings? We're a very friendly, forward-looking group and would love you to join us!

If you have 'Word' skills, please contact me on [chairsshpc@hotmail.com](mailto:chairsshpc@hotmail.com)

## **TINY TURRETS**

Welcome to Tiny Turrets Nursery! We are situated on the site of Castle Primary School and cater for children aged 2 to 4 years. We have a purpose-built space attached to the Reception Classroom with a beautifully equipped garden where the children can explore their

environment and participate in outside learning. The Early Years team carefully plan activities based on the interests of the children, ensuring that they have a wonderful time and are well prepared to start school when the time comes. The focus this term is 'My Home and My Family'. The children will be walking around the village, making their own brick houses, baking (and eating) biscuits, learning about our local community and finding out about Autumn - counting conkers, mixing paints to make new colours and celebrating Bonfire Night. If you would like to find out more or apply for a place at the Nursery, please contact the school office on 01935 822342 or email [castle@redstartpartnership.co.uk](mailto:castle@redstartpartnership.co.uk) and we would love the opportunity to show you around.

### **TRIANGLE TRUST**

The Triangle Trust's Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> November in the Memorial Hall. More information to follow next month.

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

Why not come along and join us on our led walks and enjoy seeing the lovely, everchanging countryside around Stoke. You will receive a warm welcome, lively conversation and the opportunity for a cup of tea or lunch at the Lighthouse Café after the walks.

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month and both walks start and end at the Lighthouse Café opposite the Fleur de Lis pub.

'Every Step Counts' walks begin at 9.30am and last approx. 30 to 40 mins, walking on pavements or paths around the village.

Health Walks start at 10.30am and last approx. 90 minutes, walking along tracks, footpaths and occasionally ascending Ham Hill and visiting neighbouring villages.

Just turn up, wearing suitable clothing and shoes for the weather.

If you would like more information, please contact any one of the four trained walk leaders: Mark & Jane 07736032971 Penny 822208 or Anne 826256

### **BROWNIES & GUIDES**

Over the summer holidays the Brownies were set a challenge to do odd jobs here and there for their families and friends to raise the odd 20p to put into a Smarties tube in aid of The Lords Larder. Last night on return to Brownies, we were thrilled to find out we had collectively raised £134.40! (a lot of odd jobs!). Next week the whole unit is going to a supermarket and going to buy the food and a representative from The Lords Larder will be meeting us to explain where the food etc. goes and what they have achieved. This falls nicely within the 1 of new Girlguiding programme themes of "Taking Action" where we try to make a difference to the community we live in.

The rest of the term the Brownies are doing practising skills to gain their Advanced Cookery interest badge with the help of our own village nutritionist Hayley Frances and also activities from the other 5 new Girlguiding themes.

The Guides are still reminiscing from their 4,000 strong Guide camp at Foxlease Training Centre in the New Forest, where despite some torrential rain over the bank holiday weekend, for some has made their summer holidays, doing all the activities laid on and listening to bands in the evenings. At their meetings we are embracing the Theme "Express Myself" with lots of wild ideas. We are attending a display of where fellow Yeovil Guides have recently come back from a Girlguiding trip to Sri Lanka and then preparing for a trip to the SSE arena, Wembley for an exclusive Girlguiding pop concert called the Big Gig. On Remembrance Sunday both units will in attendance.

Full details of our term's plans are available to see in the entrance to the Memorial Hall entrance hall.

### **THE HORACE BROOKS MEMORIAL FOOTBALL MATCH**

*Remembering the last Stoke man to be killed in WW1 – 4<sup>th</sup> November 1918*

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018 - Kick Off 11 a.m. - Stoke sub Hamdon Recreation Ground

As part of the Stoke Commemoration of the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War, players from Stoke Youth FC will be taking part in a **VERY SPECIAL FOOTBALL MATCH** in memory of Horace Brooks.

Horace was a quiet but popular boy and a good footballer, playing for the Stoke Eleven. He joined up in 1914, aged just 20, and won the MC. His family had hoped he would take over the Brooks gloving business in Stoke. It was a terrible blow to them when after four years of fighting, they received this letter from his commanding officer:

*"It is with very deep regret that I write to inform you of the death of your son, Horace William. He was shot through the head by a German machine gunner and killed instantly...It is a great blow to his company which he has commanded during the past three weeks most efficiently...Your son will be missed by the officers as a pal, by the men as a leader and a pal, and by me as a most efficient officer and loyal friend."*

Come along and support the young people who are taking part in this memorial match. There will be refreshments, a collection for the Royal British Legion and a Horace Brooks exhibition tent.

Stoke commemoration of the end of the War continues the following weekend (10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November) with the Remembrance Service on Ham Hill and the WWI events and exhibition in the Working Men's Club.

### **POP IN**

Pop In meet at the Oak Tree House on Thursday afternoons at 2.30pm.

We like to chat over tea and cake and join in games such as board games and Boccia or listen to a speaker from a variety of backgrounds.

We realise that many people are missing out on socialising with us because they need transport. Is there anyone in Stoke sub Hamdon who would have a few hours free on Thursday afternoon to pick up a few older people from the Stoke sub Hamdon area and drive them to and from the group? We will pay 45p a mile for petrol.

If you would be interested, please contact Paul on 07770348767 or Cath on 07968521746.

### **CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE**

Stoke sub Hamdon Memorial Hall Committee will be holding its Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday, 17 November 2018 from 10.30am to 4.00pm in the Memorial Hall. There will be many stalls selling a variety of different items. Entry is free. Please contact Denise on 01935 827793 for further information.

### **STOKE SUB HAMDON SPORTS AND RECREATION TRUST**

Stoke sub Hamdon Sports and Recreation Trust invites you to join them in raising funds for the village with an evening of entertainment provided by the fabulous Liberty Sisters (Vintage Vocal Trio) who will be performing at the Memorial Hall, Stoke sub Hamdon on Saturday, 20 October 2018.

Doors and bar open from 6.30 pm with performance commencing at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15 to include a two-course hot supper – tickets are selling fast! Please call the Box Office on 01935 824784 to book. Feel free to dress in style and come and dance the night away!

### **NEW HOMEBREW CLUB IN STOKE SUB HAMDON**

It's that time of year for thinking about making some Sloe Gin or Blackcurrant Vodka to drink or give away as gifts. Are you starting out a new hobby or interested in sharing your foraged fruits and sampling other people's brew? Be it beer, cider or wine, cordial or spirit, let's start a Homebrew club. All ideas and skill levels welcomed. Contact Kaz for more details 07813 860314

### **NEW... MONTHLY WEDNESDAY EVENING AFRICAN DJEMBE DRUMMING CLASSES IN STOKE**

Organic Rhythm's fun and friendly djembe drum classes will now be running monthly on a Wednesday evening (6.30pm-8.30pm) at Stoke sub Hamdon's Lighthouse Café on these 2018 dates:

Wednesday October 17 & Wednesday November 21.

All classes include tea/coffee and drum hire if required. Adult beginners and those with some experience are all welcome. £10 per class\*. BANG ON!

\*Advanced booking is now required.

Contact Sharon Stone on 07966 613724 for more info, or for details of how to book your place on the above class(es).

[www.facebook.com/organicrhythmdrumming](http://www.facebook.com/organicrhythmdrumming)

[www.organicrhythm.co.uk](http://www.organicrhythm.co.uk)

### **HAM HILL COUNTRY PARK – NEW – VOLUNTEER RANGER ‘TASTER EXPERIENCE MORNING’ – WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 24TH – 10.00 A.M.**

You are invited to one of our new Taster Experience Mornings on Ham Hill to give you the opportunity to decide whether you'd like to become a Volunteer Ranger. You will get the chance to meet and carry out activities with the regular Volunteer Rangers. No experience is necessary, and there is no obligation to join the team. However, if you find you love the experience morning, feel free to stay all day (until around 3.30 p.m.), or even decide to join the team.

These new Taster Experience Mornings will mostly run on the fourth Wednesday of each month, with 2018 dates falling on October 24th and November 28th with a 10.00 a.m. start at the Ham Hill Ranger Centre, TA14 6RW.

Just turn up or contact Paul the Ranger on 07973 887129 for more information.

As a Volunteer Ranger team member, you will get to work the regular Wednesday sessions as frequently as you like; a full day, half day or just for an hour or two. You will be supplied with gloves, tools, training, cups of tea and the odd home-made cake. You will get the chance to carry out a variety of exciting seasonal countryside tasks such as tree planting, coppicing, hedge laying, scrub clearance, dry-stone walling, path clearance, and will likely get to experience a bonfire or two during the cooler months.

Wear some old, weather-appropriate clothes and bring along stout boots or wellies, a packed lunch (if you are staying for lunch), heaps of enthusiasm, and a willingness to help conserve your local wildlife and heritage.

If physical work is not for you and you'd rather support us by helping with events and fundraising for Ham Hill Country Park projects and equipment, or carrying out nature surveys, then joining the Friends of Ham Hill might be perfect for you. Email [hamhillfriends@gmail.com](mailto:hamhillfriends@gmail.com) for more information on FOHH.

### **HAMDON YOUTH GROUP**

Hamdon Youth Group provides a welcoming place for young people to meet in our villages. In STOKE we continue to run two sessions on Monday evenings in the Lighthouse Café, divided into two age groups.

The session from 6.30 -8.00pm is for young people from school years 6-9 and from 8.00 – 9.30pm is for Years 9 and older.

In Norton on Wednesday evenings in the Meeting Room of Norton Village Hall.

Check our Facebook page for latest info: <https://www.facebook.com/hamdonyouthgroup>

For more information please contact Lou Chant on 07402987921 or email [lou.chant@cyp.me](mailto:lou.chant@cyp.me)

### **HAMDON MEDICAL CENTRE**

*'Flu Vaccinations:*

This year's 'flu vaccinations will be BY APPOINTMENT ONLY for patients that are in an 'At Risk' group including all patients aged 65 years and over and those with a chronic disease (such as heart, lung, liver or neurological disease). Patients who have diabetes, a weak immune system, that are pregnant, seriously overweight or are carers are also entitled to a

'flu vaccination together with Health and social care staff who work in registered care/nursing homes and registered domiciliary care providers (care agencies).

To book an appointment please ring 01935 827003 or 01935 827004 between 9.00am and 10.30am or 4.30pm and 5.30pm Monday to Friday.

If you have a pre-booked appointment with a Nurse or Technician from the end of September, you can request to have your 'flu jab at this appointment.

If you are housebound and cannot attend the surgery (friends, relatives and taxis are unable to bring you), please contact the surgery as above.

#### *Patient Participation Group:*

Interested in getting more involved with your local healthcare services? Want to know more about recent and future developments? Find out how at our very first Patient's Participation Group meeting.

Hamdon Medical Centre is launching a brand-new Patient's Participation Group. The inaugural meeting of The Hamdon Medical Centre Patients Participation Group will take place at the surgery on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> of November at 6.30pm at Hamdon Medical Centre.

The aims and objectives of the group is to become the 'Voice of the Patients', developing a stronger relationship between patients and the practice; which is critical to the provision of modern, high-quality General Practice. The formation of its own Patient Participation Group will enable patients to discuss developments and ideas directly with the practice team and will become a valued and official 'patient voice'. The group will build on the previous virtual Patient Reference Group and will meet approximately six times a year.

If you are interested in finding out more about the group, please come along on the 7<sup>th</sup>. For further details, please contact Kerrie Middleton, Practice Manager, Hamdon Medical Centre Tel: 01935 822236, Email: Kerrie.Middleton@nhs.net

### **ST MARYS CHURCH NEWS**

We have a new finger post to help you find St Marys, the Stoke Parish Church, and are most grateful to the landowners and those who donated money for the sign. The church is open every day and holds two services every Sunday.

On Sunday October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm we are holding the Stoke *Harvest Festival*; Stoke Band will play all the traditional Harvest songs, we will be talking to local producers, and celebrating the Harvest. Everyone is warmly invited. Refreshments afterwards.

On Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 6.30pm we are hosting an *All Souls service*. This is a quiet occasion where names are read out and candles are lit in memory of those we have loved and lost. It is open to everyone, and invitation cards are available in the church and from the Lighthouse coffee shop. If you would like us to include the names of your loved ones, please call us/leave a message 01935-824167 or revgurner@btinternet.com

### **DIARY OF EVENTS:**

#### **OCTOBER**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Stoke Active Walkers
8 <sup>th</sup>	Every Step Counts & Healthy Walks
10 <sup>th</sup>	Village Artist Group Acrylic Demonstration
17 <sup>th</sup>	African Djembe Drumming Evening
20 <sup>th</sup>	Sports & Recreation Trust – Liberty Sisters
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Every Step Counts & Healthy Walks
24 <sup>th</sup>	Ham Hill 'Taster Experience Morning'
26 <sup>th</sup>	African Drumming morning

#### **NOVEMBER**

4 <sup>th</sup>	Horace Brooks Memorial Football Match
7 <sup>th</sup>	Patient Participation Group Hamdon Medical Centre
10 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>	WWI Commemorative Exhibition

11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Service – Monument, Ham Hill  
17<sup>th</sup> Christmas Craft Fayre  
21<sup>st</sup> African Djembe Drumming Evening  
24<sup>th</sup> Triangle Trust's Christmas Bazaar  
28<sup>th</sup> Ham Hill 'Taster Experience Morning'

**DECEMBER**

8<sup>th</sup> Christmas Concert  
15<sup>th</sup> Carols on the Hill at Prince of Wales