

## Chair's Update

At our last meeting councillors were pleased to continue their support for the Hamdon Community Arts Project by making a grant of £500 towards survey costs for the former URC church. We are delighted to hear that that ongoing negotiations between HCAP and the URC Synod appear to be going in the right direction in trying to find a way to retain the building for community use. We continue to wish them all success and our support.

We were also pleased to hear that to commemorate Remembrance Day named red poppies will be placed on lampposts around the village during October and November. These poppies will commemorate those brave men of Stoke who went to war and never returned to their families and will be placed in the street in which they lived. A wonderful idea and thoughtful idea and our thanks to those who are organising it.

We were delighted to co-opt in a new parish councillor at our last meeting – Bill Southcombe, who has just moved in to Hoods in North Street. Bill who was brought up in Tintinhull is part of Stoke's well known gloving family. Bill has had a long successful career in the RAF both here and abroad before he retired to the Mendips. He tells us that his great uncles had lived at Hoods for 50 years, and so feels that he is moving back to his roots. He has a lot of useful skills and experience and is very warmly welcomed.

Planning - The following applications have been received in the past month: -

### **18/02011/FUL 23 East Stoke, Stoke Sub Hamdon, TA14 6RQ**

The erection of single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory/extension. The Parish Council has requested a site visit by SSDC planners.

The following applications are permitted with conditions: -

### **18/01571/FUL Whitegates, West Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6QG**

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 storey and single storey rear

### **18/02533/TPO 8 Brocks Mount, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6PJ**

Application to fell 1 no. Horse Chestnut tree known as T10 in SSDC Tree Preservation Order (STHA 1) 1998.

There has been some concern regarding the name 'Montacute Gardens' which is shown on the boards around the development in Great Field Lane. This is a temporary marketing name given by Blue Cedar Homes. The street name which was approved by SSDC in October 2017 is 'Westmead Close'.

*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 ROLL OF HONOUR

L. Cpl.	Frank Boon	Pte.	George Ralph
Pte	Albert Bowden	L.Sgt	Harold Rice
Lieut (M.C.)	Horace Brooks	Mjr.	Sydney Domville Rowland R.A.M.C
Pte	Bert Clarke	Pte.	Gilbert Shoemark
Cpl (M.M.)	George Denman	Pte.	James Shoemark
Pte	Walter Drew	Pte	Fred Sparks
Pte.	William Eglon	Pte	John Stagg
Pte	Benjamin Gaylard	Pte	Edward Taylor
Pte	Henry Ernest Gifford	Pte	Frederick Taylor
Pte	Edward Gilman	Pte.	Reginald Terrell
Rfl (M.M.).	Cyril Gold	L.Sgt	Archibald Thorne
Pte.	Walter Gomm	Pte	James Thorne
Pte.	Hubert Grinter	Corp.	Albert Trotman
Pte.	Joseph Gummer	Pte.	Earnest Trotman
Gnr.	William Hann	Pte	Fred Trott
Pte.	Charles Hawkins	Pte.	Gilbert Trott
Pte.	John Hayward	Pte	Percy Trott

A.M.	Fred Helliard	Sgt.	Harry Turner
Pte.	Courtney Isaacs	Pte	Frank Welch
L.Cpl	Austain Keetch	Pte	Ewart Whitley
Spr	Tom Lang	L.Cpl	Ewart Palmer
Pte	William Male	A.B.	George Palmer
Pte	Albert Minchinton	Pte.	George Ralph
Pte.	George Minchington	L.Sgt	Harold Rice
L.Cpl	Ewart Palmer	Pte	Percy Wines
A.B.	George Palmer	Pte	Albert Wilkinson

### **WWI COMMEMORATIVE WEEKEND**

A commemorative weekend is being held in Stoke Working Men's Club on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November with the History Group hosting an exhibition of Stoke sub Hamdon during WWI. The exhibition will be open from 12pm till late on Saturday and 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.

After the Remembrance Service on Ham Hill on the Sunday tea, coffee and cakes 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. All proceeds are going to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

If you miss the commemorative weekend, the exhibition is on all week so please do come along.

### **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 British Legion and a Horace Brooks exhibition tent.

### **STOKE ACTIVE WALKERS**

*Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

Today, we begin our walk by going along Bowey and then Norton Path and down over Jack O'Beard. From there we will go along Broadmead Lane, across the playing field and follow the footpath which will take us past Chiselborough Church. We will go past the Cat Head and then follow the road towards Middle Chinnock, turn left back towards Chiselborough and take the footpath to the right, through the woods. We will follow the road back into Chiselborough, back through Manor Farm and follow the footpath 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.

### **VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP**

The Village Artists are holding a workshop with Jo Hamilton on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November between 10am – 4pm in the Memorial Hall, Stoke sub Hamdon. Come along and create a painting using acrylic paint and a palette knife!! £20 for members, £25 for non-members. All are welcome. For details and booking please contact Diana on the number below

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 £20 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.

### **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

### **CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE**

Stoke sub Hamdon Memorial Hall Committee will be holding its Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday, 17 November 2018 from 10.30 am to 4.00 pm in the Memorial Hall. There will be many stalls selling a variety of different items. Entry is free. Lunches and refreshments will be served so why not join us. *Please contact Denise on 01935 827793 for further information.*

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

The Trust is pleased to report that a number of projects planned for this year are now fully or nearly fully funded. These funds come from a variety of sources including our own activities, the Parish Council, SSDC, S106 contributions from developments in the village and other grant providers:

- Floodlights for the football training area – full funding of £25,543 has now been raised, three contractors have been contacted and asked to bid and we hope to have this project completed by the end of the year.
- Project to improve drainage on the new football pitch – full funding of £5,544 has now been raised. This contract has been let and the work will be carried out next April.
- Porch improvement project for the football changing rooms – full funding of £7,122 has now been raised, the purchase order has been issued and it is hoped that work will be completed by the end of the year.
- The Adventure Play Area and Outdoor Gym Project – we have raised £86,310, which is 75% of what is required. We hope to have the balance raised by the end of the year and to be able to launch the project early in 2019.

May Fayre

It seems like a very long time ago, but we have finally been able to reconcile all the accounts for this year's May Fayre and are very pleased to report that it was our most successful to date, undoubtedly helped by the weather, and a profit of £8,440.59 was made. A grant of £2,000 was given to the Stoke sub Hamdon Working Men's Club towards refurbishment of their facilities.

### Charity Shop

Fundraising events: We raised a combined total of more than £1,000 from our jumble sale and the pre-winter fashion event in September. A big thank you to the volunteers, to everyone who donated goods and to all those who came along to snap up a bargain, as well as our event hosts: Stoke Working Men's Club and HCAP.

Volunteers: Do you have a couple hours a week to spare? Would you like to help in the shop or at our fundraising events? Pop into see us or contact Penny Trapnell – 01935 822208, [pennyatrapnell@aol.com](mailto:pennyatrapnell@aol.com) – to find out more about how to get involved.

Grants: If you're looking for extra funding towards a local sports, recreation or educational project, we might be able to help. Contact Jane Baker – 01935 825585, [jeb3101@aol.com](mailto:jeb3101@aol.com) – for more information and a grant application form.

### **MASSIVE JUMBLE SALE**

A massive jumble sale will be held on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November at Norton Village Hall. Doors open at 11am; admission 50p. All usual stalls, but much much more. Come and pick up a bargain. Everyone welcome. More information contact Jennie Harris on 01935 881718

### **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

Come along to our Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> November held by the Friends of Norton School at Norton Village Hall. From 2 – 4pm. Free entry. Lots of seasonal stalls, crafts, teas, cuddly toys, raffle, games and much more. Everyone welcome.

### **TRIANGLE TRUST**

The Triangle Trust will be holding it's Christmas Bazaar at the Memorial Hall, Stoke sub Hamdon on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Free entry. Usual stalls, seasonal, crafts, books, cakes, refreshments and a draw. Also, a very special visitor giving free gifts to the children. Come and support the Triangle Trust. Supporting Hamdon Medical Centre. More information from Jennie Harris 01935 881718.

### **ORGANIC RHYTHM – AFRICAN DRUMMING EVENING CLASS FOR ADULTS**

Do come along to Sharon Stone's new regular monthly drum class which is held on the third Wednesday of each month. It's a fun, friendly and relaxed class, teaching African Djembe rhythms in a group setting. The rhythms are sometimes accompanied by other interesting African percussion instruments such as dun duns (dundunba, sangban & kenkeni); bell and shekere, adding depth to the experience. There is also the opportunity to lean and sing a traditional African song or two.

As well as an effective stress release, evidence has shown that drumming in a group can increase alpha brainwaves, those associated with euphoria and feeling good!

The class runs from 6.30 -8.30pm with a refreshment break halfway through. All classes include tea/coffee and drum hire if required and cost £10 per class. Absolute beginners and those with some experience are all welcome. We meet at the Lighthouse Café, All Saints Hall, West Street TA14 6PU. Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November will be the last drumming date of the year (no class in December). Contact Sharon Stone now to book your place and to reserve a drum. 07966613724; [sharondrumming@icloud.com](mailto:sharondrumming@icloud.com); [www.organicrhythm.co.uk](http://www.organicrhythm.co.uk); [www.facebook.com/organicrhythmdrumming](http://www.facebook.com/organicrhythmdrumming)

### **HAMDON COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT**

A concert of traditional and contemporary folk music presented by Trio Arquebus will be held on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm at the Hamdon Community Arts Project in North Street. Tickets are £8 and will include finger food. Refreshments will be served at the interval. To

book your tickets please phone the box office on 01935 824064 between 9am and 5pm (this is an answering machine; please leave a message and we will get back to you).

### **HAM HILL COUNTRY PARK – VOLUNTEER RANGER ‘TASTER EXPERIENCE MORNING’ – WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER AT 10AM**

You are invited to attend one of our new Taster Experience Mornings on Ham Hill so that you can have 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 enjoy 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; the last 2018 date falling on November 28th with a 10.00a.m. start at the Ham Hill Ranger Centre, TA14 6RW. Just turn up at 9.45 a.m. or contact Paul the Ranger on 07973 887129 for more information.

As a Volunteer Ranger team member, you can choose to attend the regular Wednesday sessions as frequently (or infrequently) as you like; for a full day, half day or just 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 offer your support 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.

### **STOKE BAND NEWS**

Following the concert at the Working Men's Club on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November, a small number of the band will be joining the service on Ham Hill to accompany the hymns. In the afternoon the band will be at the British Legion Service in Ilminster.

Christmas is coming fast, and our Christmas Concert will be on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December at the Memorial Hall, tickets will be £6 and Christmas puddings and pies will be served as usual.

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December, we will once again be playing carols outside at the Prince of Wales but this year from 3:00pm until 5:00pm. Please come and sing along with us. This is an event for all the family to enjoy. As usual and weather permitting we will be around Stoke on Christmas Eve.

### **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.

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

## DIARY OF EVENTS:

### NOVEMBER

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ham Hill Bonfire
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jumble Sale - Norton
6 <sup>th</sup>	Stoke Active Walkers
10 <sup>th</sup>	Village Artists Group Workshop
10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup>	WWI Commemorative Exhibition
12 <sup>th</sup>	Every Step Counts
17 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial Hall Christmas Craft Fayre
17 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Bazaar – Norton
18 <sup>th</sup>	HCAP – Trio Arquebus
21 <sup>st</sup>	African Djembe Drumming Evening
24 <sup>th</sup>	Triangle Trust's Christmas Bazaar
26 <sup>th</sup>	Every Step Counts
28 <sup>th</sup>	Ham Hill 'Taster Experience Morning'

### DECEMBER

8 <sup>th</sup>	Stoke Band - Christmas Concert
10 <sup>th</sup>	Every Step Counts
15 <sup>th</sup>	Stoke Band - Carols on the Hill at Prince of Wales
17 <sup>th</sup>	Every Step Counts