

# The Stonesfield Slate

Issue No 494 August 2019



## Dates for your diary – August

1	Rocket and Robot storytime	Library	10.30–11.30am
3	Cream Teas	Methodist Church	1–5pm
3	Band Night – CORSAIRS	SSSC	9pm
5,12,19	SJC Cuppa	St James' Centre	10–11.30am
7,14,21,28	Country Dancing	Village Hall	8–10pm
8	Over 60's Club	Village Hall	2pm
11	Parish Councill meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
9,20	Treasure Box	St James' Centre	10.30am–12noon
18	Model Engineering	Combe Mill	10am–5pm
31	Open House Get Together	Rectory	5–8pm

## Dates for your diary – September

1	Treasure Box Family Walk	St James' Centre	2.30pm
1	Wychwood Fair	Cornbury Park	11am–5pm

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**The deadline for copy  
and advertisements  
for the next issue is  
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Please email copy to  
**slate@stonesfield.com**  
or hand it in at the village  
shop (Suriya Express).  
Advertisements to  
**sj@sjhaviland.co.uk**

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*On 31 May, Tony Noble,  
our much-valued  
milkman, finished his  
round for the last time*



Photo: Bob Lawrence

# Notices

## Joyce Pauling

Joyce was and will always be remembered as a large part of Stonesfield life. She will be massively missed, not only by her family but in the village and wider community.

Thank you to everyone who helped enable Joyce to fulfil her wish to spend her 88th year at home. Thank you to the many friends and family who visited daily, the doctor, nurses, paramedics, carers, who all made it possible. Thank you, too, to her Minister, the organist, caterers, flower arrangers and Jerrams, who all did her proud and made a day she would have loved.

Thank you also for the many kind wishes, cards and donations both in the chapel, which will be put to great use, and also at the wake, for cancer research to help those now and in the future.

God Bless you all. Much love from the family.

## Goodbye and good luck to Tony Noble

The village was shocked to learn that Tony was leaving his round after nearly 30 years of sterling service to the village as our milkman.

On Thursday 27 June many people from Stonesfield, Combe and the surrounding villages assembled at the White Horse to say goodbye to Tony and his family, to wish him well and to give him a farewell present.

Tony has been an honest, trustworthy and dedicated person and it was agreed that his customers regarded him as a true friend.

We shall miss his quiet, friendly professionalism. He is training to take up a new career as an asbestos surveyor, in which we all wish him luck.

*Patrick Wilmore*



*Tony Noble and his family at the presentation*

## From Tony Noble

Hi All

I just want to say a huge thank you for your kind messages and gifts after my leaving the milk round after thirty years and to thank many of you for coming to the White Horse at the end of June. It truly made a difficult time more bearable.

I am now training to become an asbestos surveyor with a local company, which to date is going very well.

I hope to see you again and stay in touch.

With best wishes

*Tony Noble (07792 651397;  
tnobledairies.41@gmail.com)*

## Treasure Box

There will be Treasure Box on Friday 9 August and Tuesday 20 August from 10.30am to 12noon in the St James' Centre.

All children (and adults, too) are welcome to come and enjoy the usual mix of crafts, games, stories and songs. The theme is 'Stories of Jesus'.

Please note that children under five must be accompanied by an adult.

There will also be a Treasure Box family walk on Sunday 1 September, starting from the St James' Centre at 2.30pm. Refreshments afterwards.

*Muriel Barrett*

## Bird Aid at the Wychwood Fair on 1 September

Thank you to everyone who has spoken to us about volunteering to help Bird Aid

feed farmland birds this winter. We are delighted. Could you please drop us an email on [judy.anders66@gmail.com](mailto:judy.anders66@gmail.com) so we can get in touch?

The plan is to have a little gathering at The White Horse to talk about the project.

Otherwise, please come and see us at The Wychwood Fair in Cornbury on Sunday 1 September from 11am to 5pm. If you have never been to The Wychwood Fair, it's a wonderfully happy event that embraces the richness and diversity of our local natural world.

*Judy Anders & Genny Early*

## Blenheim Palace

### Ecology project boost for development's biodiversity

The Pye Homes development at Hanborough Gate, which is being built in partnership with Blenheim Estate Homes, features a series of environmental initiatives aimed at boosting the area's biodiversity.

### Marlboroughs in miniature

A stunning collection of 40 miniature portraits spanning more than three centuries of the Marlborough family is now on display at Blenheim Palace for the first time. As well as the Dukes and Duchesses, the miniatures feature portraits of 'Capability' Brown, legendary actor David Garrick, Louis XIV – the first Duke's arch-rival – Mary Queen of Scots and Oliver Cromwell.

## Combe Mill Steaming Sunday 18 August – Model Engineering

On 18 August from 10am until 5pm we will have many visiting exhibitors

showing us the most amazing selection of models. There will be something for everyone to enjoy, both young and old. Miniature traction engine, dioramas, Mamod model steam engines, Corgi models, diecast toys, farms, buses, trains, fairground models and lots of individual items, with some displayed on layouts. Our visiting exhibitors will really enjoy talking to you about their collections and constructions.

As always, our volunteer team will be ready for all your questions about the Mill – catch up with the latest developments. Ask us about volunteering at the Mill.

Enjoy delightful seasonal offerings in the tea room, sitting out on the veranda.

Dogs are welcome.

Keep up to date with events by visiting our website:  
<https://www.combemill.co.uk>.

*Tony Simmons (01993 891851)*

### **'Antiques Roadshow' expert valuation at North Leigh**

Michael Welch is a specialist fine art valuer and auctioneer at Bonhams, with over forty years' experience. He specialises in silverware and has been a presenter on the BBC's 'Antiques Roadshow'.

On Friday 27 September, he will be at the Turner Hall, Church Road, North Leigh (OX29 6TX) from 2pm to 7pm to provide expert valuations of your own special antique treasures. Fee: £2 per person, up to two items. Tea and cakes will be available for £1.50. Call 01993 882301 for further details. The Turner

Hall, Church Road North Leigh OX29 6TX.

The event is in support of the Friends of St Mary's North Leigh, helping to preserve our beautiful Grade I listed church building.

### **Stonesfield Voluntary Transport Scheme**

You may have seen from our regular ad in the *Slate* that a band of volunteer drivers offers lifts to anyone in the village who is in need of transport to get to doctors' or other medical appointments in local villages and towns. This works on goodwill – there is no charge but we welcome a small donation towards our expenses, which goes back to the drivers once a year.

However due to a number of recent changes, we need more drivers, so we don't have to ask the same people over and over again. Could you help? Each driver currently gives a lift about once in one or two months, so it's not onerous, but obviously the more drivers we have, the less often each one will be asked.

Please do contact me if you could spare an hour now and again to help – it is appreciated so very much.

*Viv Kendall (01993 891803)*

### **Ride and Stride 14 September: a good day out for all the family**

On Saturday 14 September the roads of Oxfordshire will see hundreds of cyclists and walkers taking part in Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust's annual sponsored Ride and Stride. Whatever the weather, they visit as many churches as

St James's Church, Stonesfield

## **Open House Get Together**

Everyone warmly invited!

**Saturday 31 August  
 between 5pm and 8pm  
 at The Rectory, Brook Lane**

*For further details see From your Parish Priest on p.16  
 or contact the Rector, the Revd Roy Turner (Tel. 898552)*

they can to raise money to help maintain Oxfordshire's churches of all denominations.

These buildings are focal points in our communities. They connect us with past and future generations, and we all expect them to be there for the major events in our lives, but they receive no government funding and cost a lot to maintain.

The annual Ride and Stride is not just a good way of raising money for a very good cause; it is also good exercise and good fun for all the family. You set your own target, and, just when you think your lungs cannot cope with any more, you reach another church offering refreshments and encouragement and an excuse to stop and have a look round. You do not have to be a churchgoer to take part and enjoy a really good day out.

Nearer the time you will be able to get the sign-up and sponsorship forms in St James's Church and the Methodist Church here in Stonesfield. You will also be able to sign up online at [ohct.org.uk/ride-stride/](http://ohct.org.uk/ride-stride/).

And for children of primary age there will again be a junior version (sign in at St Mary's Church, Charlbury, from 11am). This is a bike rally round the five churches of neighbouring Charlbury. We ask for £3 per child. Some 40 children took part last year and enjoyed it enormously despite the rain. Let's hope for better weather this year!

*Alison Eastwood, with grateful thanks to Simon Haviland, who has organised this in Stonesfield for very many years (stableyardalison@gmail.com or 0787 089 3223)*

### **Village Hall cleaner required**

Cleaning in the hall is generally done three times a week: one full clean over the weekend or early in the week, including the changing rooms and library, plus two light cleans in the week to keep the hall hire-ready. Extra hours will be needed if there is a large function. Times and days will be flexible to fit in around bookings.

Duties include: The main jobs are cleaning

kitchen and toilets, Hoovering and mopping floors. Dusting, windows and doors are done more as a spot clean when they need it and also in the annual deep clean. Also shopping for cleaning supplies, toilet rolls etc. and washing tea towels.

**Maintenance:** Regular checks of the building and reporting any issues to committee, organising repairs and meeting with annual service companies for routine checks. Weekly checks and filling in paperwork for water and fire checks.

Doing a house report for the annual meetings and being in attendance where possible.

If you think you can help, please contact Jacqueline on 01993 898919.

### Stonesfield Players

Thank you to everybody who turned up for the auditions for the Stonesfield Players' pantomime. We had a good response, with all having a good time. However, there are still opportunities to be involved in all aspects of the show. So if you are aged from school year four upwards and feel that you would like to be a part of the show, please get in touch with me to discuss the details.

David Stevenson (01993 891681, [stevenson342@btinternet.com](mailto:stevenson342@btinternet.com))

### The Hobbs Family, Valhalla Church Street

We wish to take this opportunity to thank our good neighbours, friends and

all of the fantastic villagers who have collectively supported our planning applications over recent years. With your support we have achieved all our goals, based on facts, Government planning policy and overwhelming local support. This has often been against the odds / Parish Council and local Uplands Committee representative, clearly demonstrating that rhetoric does not win over facts.

All that is left to say is a huge, sincere thank you to you all, from Derek, Gill and Dan Hobbs.

### New 'Slate' publishers sought

After nearly fifteen years of publishing the *Stonesfield Slate* we have decided it is time to hand over to someone else and we are therefore looking for a successor or successors. We would like to hand over as soon as possible, certainly before the end of the year.

We have an excellent team of editors, who send us the edited digital copy each month. As publishers we make up the pages and place the ads before sending a PDF file to the printer. Some design expertise is desirable. We have been using QuarkXPress, but it's more likely today that you will be using Adobe InDesign.

If anybody is interested in taking over what we have found to be a very interesting and rewarding task, please get in touch with us. We would be happy to answer any questions.

Simon and Jenny Haviland (01993 891614 or [sj@sjhaviland.co.uk](mailto:sj@sjhaviland.co.uk))

## Politics & local affairs

### Stonesfield Parish Council (SPC)

SPC held its latest meeting on 10 July 2019.

Roger File from Blenheim Palace attended the meeting on, and provided a summary of, last year from the Palace viewpoint. A summary of the discussions will be available within the Parish Council minutes. The Parish Council thanked Blenheim for the Countryfile ticket offer being extended to Stonesfield and asked Roger if Blenheim could consider walking passes for Stonesfield residents.

A Wychwood Project Bird Aid representative attended the meeting and presented a report (to be circulated with the minutes). Wychwood Bird Aid is looking to scale up the project and asked if Blenheim would like to work with them (by offering more sites for feeding and for growing more bird seed crop, relaxing hedge row areas etc.). Roger acknowledged that he is sure that Blenheim can help with that.

### Planning

Since the last meeting, the CALA appeal has been dismissed. CALA can go to High Court and appeal if they wish and the SPC will advise if this happens.

Richard Bishop reported that the AONB board is looking at applying for Cotswold National Park status.

### SAFER

There was a traffic survey completed monitoring traffic over a one-week period. The preliminary report is available on the

Parish website (also see next item). Traffic has increased by 5% since the 2016 survey. The first trial was on 10/7/19 to test out the kit. A schedule of surveys is being put together and will be published in due course.

### Next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is on 11 September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. There is no August meeting; any planning and urgent matters will still be addressed by the clerk and councillors. The latest minutes and clerk's reports can be found on the Parish Council website.

Parish Clerk

### Traffic survey results

On 19 June, Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) installed four speed / volume measuring devices on Woodstock Road, Laughton Hill, Combe Road and Longore / Greenfield Road. Each location was at



least 50m within the 30mph zone. The devices recorded traffic volume and speed, in each direction, on a 24-hour basis.

The devices remained in place for seven days. OCC then removed them and provided SAFER with the data. This data is still being analysed but a preliminary

review has provided the following information.

Approximately 14,000 vehicles pass through Stonesfield each week, plus approximately 2,500 local vehicles exiting (and then re-entering) Stonesfield. Over 33,000 vehicles were recorded as either entering or leaving Stonesfield during the seven days. There has been a 5% increase in traffic since the 2016 survey in Woodstock Road. Most through vehicles use Pond Hill rather than Greenfield Road / Longore. Peak traffic flows are 7–8am and 3–6pm; however there is significant flow from 7am to 7pm on all roads.

A third of vehicles (33.8%) were exceeding the 30mph limit on the entry / exit roads to Stonesfield. Also 2,153 vehicles (6.5%) were travelling at over 35mph – speeds sufficient to receive 3 penalty points on a driving licence – including over 300 vehicles that were recorded exceeding 40mph. Longore has the lowest percentage of vehicles exceeding the speed limit, and no vehicle was recorded as exceeding 40mph.

More information on the survey can be found in the news section of the SAFER page on the Parish Council's website: <https://stonesfield.online/safer/>.

If you are interested in helping to make Stonesfield safer for existing families and future generations, information on how you can become involved is also available on the Parish Council's website.

*Paul Bates (SAFER)*

## West Oxfordshire District Council

Recently the local press quoted some figures on the numbers of families

requiring emergency accommodation. Unfortunately, these figures have given completely the wrong impression. Within the numbers in that category of applicants were a number of residents wishing to downsize their homes as family members had left. The true figure for families needing emergency accommodation in West Oxfordshire is nil. There are at present no applicants falling into this category. A number of units in Chipping Norton have come on stream in the last few weeks, catering for the demand.

WODC has learnt that the AONB (area of outstanding natural beauty) Board is seeking National Park Status for the Cotswold designated area. This will be progressed 'at a time of its own choosing' (quote). I will keep you all advised when this happens. National Park status may have an effect on many living within its boundaries.

May I, on behalf of all at District, wish you a very pleasant and relaxing holiday period.

*Richard Bishop (01993 891414; richard.bishop@westoxon.gov.uk)*

## Naming the new garden village

Residents of West Oxfordshire are being invited to put forward ideas to name the new garden village to be built north of the A40 near Eynsham. The development is currently using the working title of Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village.

Anyone wanting to suggest a name should send an email to [naming.competition@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:naming.competition@westoxon.gov.uk), by midnight on 31 August. The winner will receive two adult annual passes for entry to Blenheim Palace.

Further information about the garden village, as well as guidelines for suggesting a name, can be seen on [www.thegardenvillage.org](http://www.thegardenvillage.org).

## From our County Councillor Integrated care system

Oxfordshire is to be part of a new integrated care system also covering Buckinghamshire and Berkshire West, created by the NHS in England to improve health and social care services. The NHS and local authorities in the three areas aim to deliver better health and care services, making sure services are planned and delivered as locally as possible while avoiding duplication and waste of resources.

I recently met with Simon Stevens, Chief Executive of the NHS to discuss what it means for Oxfordshire and in particular our residents. I'm convinced that working in partnership with the NHS we will deliver huge benefits to the health and care system, which will improve the health and wellbeing of Oxfordshire's residents.

## Restricting traffic outside Oxfordshire schools

Oxfordshire County Council is considering launching a School Streets pilot project, aiming to reclaim the roads outside schools from traffic at the start and end of each day. The intention is to reduce air pollution outside the school gates, and also make it easier for children to walk, cycle or scoot to school.

Since the launch of School Streets in the London Borough of Hackney, the proportion of children cycling to seven participating schools has increased by

more than 50 per cent, with traffic outside the school gates reduced by around two-thirds. School Streets projects have also been a success in Solihull and Edinburgh, with traffic flows reduced and plans in place to expand the schemes.

Six Oxfordshire schools have already expressed interest in joining the pilot.

## Highway Repairs

Repairs and improvements on Oxfordshire's roads continue with more than 34,000 potholes repaired over the last year, a 45 per cent increase on the previous year.

*Cllr Ian Hudspeth (07956 270318, [Ian.hudspeth@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Ian.hudspeth@oxfordshire.gov.uk))*

## Letter from our Member of Parliament: TV licences

At the request of Clive Sutton, we are publishing his letter to Robert Courts MP concerning the proposed change to TV licences for the over-75s, together with his reply.

*Hello Robert*

*I have just found out that the BBC is going to cancel TV Licence payment for over 75's. I think this is totally unacceptable and I would appreciate your help in persuading the BBC to re-think this action.*

*Thank you for your help.*

*Clive Sutton, Stonesfield*

*Dear Clive,*

*Thank you for your email regarding free TV licences for those over 75 years of age. I am grateful to you for sharing your concerns, with which I have a great deal of sympathy.*

*As you may be aware, the Government is*

guaranteeing the free TV licence concession for over-75s, which costs £745 million per year, until 2020. Thereafter, the concession is the responsibility of the BBC. This was agreed at the last negotiation of the TV licence fee – which generates some £3.8 billion annually for the BBC (more than ever before, I might add). In addition to which, the BBC makes another £1 billion or so from its commercial activities, including selling programmes to other broadcasters.

When the agreement was reached with the Government that from 2020 the concession should be the BBC's responsibility, the BBC's Director General observed that the cost of the concession was more than matched by the funding settlement it had received. Indeed, the Director General noted that it was a 'strong deal for the BBC' which provided 'financial stability'.

The BBC has now decided not to make the concession to all over-75s after 2020, but instead, to means-test it by confining the free licence to pensioners receiving pension credit.

Frankly, given the generous settlement that the BBC got, and the agreement it made, I think that pensioners and tax-payers are being short-changed. I do not think that tax-payers should be expected to pick up the tab for this once again, and the BBC ought to reconsider its decision.

Whilst it is of course operationally independent, I and a great many colleagues have called for the BBC to think again about this matter, and I will continue to make representations to this effect on behalf of my constituents.

I am very grateful to you for sharing your concerns, which I have of course noted intently.

With very best wishes,

Robert

Robert Courts MP, Member of Parliament for Witney & West Oxfordshire (Tel: 01993 225020; [robert@robertcourts.co.uk](mailto:robert@robertcourts.co.uk); website: [www.robertcourts.co.uk](http://www.robertcourts.co.uk))



Children from the Pre-School visit members of the Lunch Club (see opposite page)

## Education & culture

### Stonesfield Library

Telephone: 01993 898187

Opening Hours:

Monday	2.30–7pm
Tuesday	Closed

Wednesday	10am–12noon
Thursday	2.30–5pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	10am–12noon

Manager: Debbie Wilson  
Stonesfield Library (01993 89818)

### Rocket and Robot Storytime, and Space Chase

Zoom down to Stonesfield Library on Thursday 1 August for a Rocket and Robot storytime, followed by junk modelling for families with children aged 4-8-year olds. It starts at 10.30am and finishes at 11.30am.

Places are limited, so if you are interested in coming please let Stonesfield library know in advance, via [stonesfield.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:stonesfield.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk). Junk will be provided, but if you have any spare junk at home and you think it would be useful, please bring this with you on the day.

Have your children joined in with the Reading Agency's Space Chase Summer Reading Challenge 2019 yet? It's not too late – whoosh down to Stonesfield Library to pick up a Space Chase mission folder and start reading, to help solve the problem of the missing books from the

Moon Library; collecting stickers, a bookmark, a game, and a wristband along the way. If the mission is completed, a certificate and medal will be awarded. There is a simpler version, a mini-challenge, for pre-schoolers.

An Adult Reading Challenge is running at the same time – visit the Library to find out how to take part. Plenty of free entries, free tickets, free restaurant meals are to be won in a Prize Draw.

For more information please visit [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries).

Deborah Wilson (Stonesfield Library Manager, Oxfordshire Libraries, Oxfordshire County Council, 07718 882026 or [debbie.wilson@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.wilson@oxfordshire.gov.uk))

### Stonesfield Pre-School teams up with the Lunch Club – and lots more beside...

Since May, some of our older children (age 3 to 4 years) have been visiting the Lunch Club at St James' Centre every Wednesday morning with two members of staff (Lizzie and Pam). The aim is to build relationships between old and young so they can each benefit from the enthusiasm, knowledge and attitudes of each other. It increases understanding and respect between older and young people, offers a chance to make new friends and tackle isolation, and it's a lot of fun!

We started the venture with no great expectations, as we wanted the

relationships to develop naturally. On our first visit we took playdough, as we knew it would be a great ice-breaker. With our support the children found a member to share their dough. As time went on, the children have become more confident and seek out the person they want to talk to. Sometimes Lunch Club members tell stories or bring something from home to share with the children, like a watch, Russian dolls and even an assortment of irresistible buttons. We always finish our visit with a sing-song.

We have seen how engaged, relaxed and happy everyone appears and there is a real buzz in the room. We are so pleased that two groups in the village are spending time together for the benefit of all involved; it is very special.

Every week we visit the woods at Stockey Bottom, and have also started work on our shared allotment plot in Churchfields. As we are limited for outdoor space, it is nice to have room there to dig and grow things. We have visited the Forest School at Stonesfield School, and had a wonderful time exploring the wild area and learning about what lives and grows in that space.

Our links with Stonesfield School remain strong and the children preparing to move up to the Foundation class at school have been incredibly well prepared by Pam Andrews, our Educational Lead. Mrs Ede and Miss Rivett are familiar faces as they have visited the children at Pre-School, as well as welcoming them for school visits. The difference it makes to the children to

have familiarity with their new school is invaluable.

Among our visitors, Georgie Steel has been providing some very exciting and dramatic storytelling, and our children have thoroughly enjoyed Lucy Martin's Relax Kids games and relaxation. Rekha, one of our parents, has shared Hindu traditions and culture. Some of the children had the chance to dress in beautiful silk saris, and the children made eye-catching rangoli patterns with coloured sand.

However we are in a difficult position as our numbers for September are very low, with some sessions not covering staffing costs – we need more children on our register. We are reluctant to cut sessions and want to provide the most comprehensive childcare possible for our community, but can only do this with your support. Our Committee Co-Chairs have been in post for several years now. We are currently recruiting for new Committee members, with or without an existing connection to the Pre-School. If you are interested, please contact Helen Whitworth on [helen.bedford@gmail.com](mailto:helen.bedford@gmail.com). For session availability, please contact Zena Rozee on [stonesfieldpsad@outlook.com](mailto:stonesfieldpsad@outlook.com); we also offer Breakfast Club from 8–9am and After-School Club from 3.15–6pm Monday–Thursday. To arrange a visit, please contact Lizzie Wharton on 01993 898370 or [stonesfieldps@outlook.com](mailto:stonesfieldps@outlook.com).

*Helen Whitworth and Lizzie Wharton  
(Stonesfield Pre-School  
[www.stonesfieldps@outlook.com](http://www.stonesfieldps@outlook.com))*

## Clubs & societies

### Stonesfield Folk Dance Club

We are all very much involved in our summer programme of dance, both here in Stonesfield and further afield. We are the only club in Oxfordshire that continues to meet throughout the summer and we have live music each Wednesday, with different callers.

Luckily we have had what can only be described as an influx of new members from other local villages, and assume Stonesfield folk are more keen on the more modern style of dancing than keeping the tradition of English country dancing alive! Please prove us wrong, and let's have a few Stonesfield Folk coming to their club on a Wednesday night.

For more information about us see [www.stonesfieldfolkdance.danceorg.uk](http://www.stonesfieldfolkdance.danceorg.uk), or visit Facebook.

*Stewart Nicholls (01295 730271 or  
[stewart.nicholls@virgin.net](mailto:stewart.nicholls@virgin.net))*

### Stonesfield Gardening Club

It has been a busy few weeks for members of the Gardening Club, as several of us opened our gardens to the public on Sunday 30 June, while other members baked cakes, sold plants and provided teas and tickets for the more than 200 people who descended on Stonesfield for the afternoon. We had good weather for it and made a magnificent profit of nearly £1300, so well done to everyone involved! A decision will be taken later in the year as to which local charities will benefit from this.

On Monday 8 July members and their partners visited four of the Open Gardens, finishing with food and drink in the garden of Evenlode – a sociable and thoroughly enjoyable evening.

We will have no meeting in August, so our next meeting will be a talk on Gardening Under Cover by Chris Day at 7.30pm on Monday 9 September, at St James' Centre.

*Diane Bates ([diane@bateshome.co.uk](mailto:diane@bateshome.co.uk)  
<http://stonesfieldgardening.info>)*

### Sports and Social Club

The Sports and Social Club held its first ever Bike Night on Monday 15 July. It was a great success with about 120 bikers turning up, and a great time was had by all.

Many thanks to the members of FoSS who ran the BBQ and to Shepherd's Pie who supplied the music.

*Brian Clarke*

### Stonesfield Over 60's Club

Having enjoyed our Summer Lunch in July, we are now looking forward to our August meeting. At 2pm we will have an entertainment by the Woodentops (not the ones from past Children's TV but a group of Saxophonists), followed by a Tea Party. It will be lovely if you are all able to come.

Look forward to seeing you there.

*Avis*

# Sport

## Stonesfield Cricket Club

To start with, well done England on winning the Cricket World Cup – hopefully most of Stonesfield were glued to their TVs to enjoy the dramatic climax of the final at Lords.

At our own village home of cricket – the Playing Field – the teams have been doing well. The 2nd XI soared to the top of Division 7 North for 4 weeks from late June – the first time in over a decade! Standout performances include Jordan Newman with a magnificent innings of 93, and even yours truly hit 88 in a big victory over Kidlington 3rd. Dan Taylor took 7 wickets for 11 runs v Deddington 2nds. The next tough few games, at Chipping Norton & Middleton Cheney will be likely to decide whether we can finish as champions. Cross your fingers: the team deserve it after a few years of sustained progression.

The 1st XI have been in patchier form, with some terrific wins and disappointing defeats seeing them sit in mid-table of Division 1, and get knocked out of the Airey Cup by Wolvercote. Individual feats include a knock of 80 by Adrian Birkett, and bowling hauls of 6 wickets for 50 by Steve Litten, and 5 for 14 by Sam Hibberd, but more consistency has been needed.

Our relaunched U15 team have enjoyed a brilliant season. With some very competitive fixtures they recorded 3 wins (over Minster Lovell, Chipping Norton & Witney Mills), and lost 4; all generally close matches. The bowling of Rowan Moss, Tris Stringer, George Worsley and Josh Davies was consistently excellent, and Fred Holloway, Rowan and Josh all scored runs consistently. In their final game Tristan Stringer hit 2 runs from the final ball to win the match – very exciting & memorable! The team will continue to practise and run again in 2020 under the guidance of Pete Stringer. Well done boys!

The U13 team has also done really well. The children have trained really hard at the field every Tuesday evening and it's been great to have 4 young ladies taking part, all very promising players – especially with their bowling! We've played 3 matches, which have been challenging as a new team against more experienced players, but the young Stones have acquitted themselves well and are on an upward learning curve! Training continues all summer and it's not too late for new boys & girls to join.

*Stewart Moss (07866 278685)*



## Stonesfield Village Fete

### 12 noon - 4pm

### Saturday 28th September

### Stonesfield Primary School

Fun for all of the village, raising money for many Stonesfield causes and charities, including:

- Live music and demonstrations
- Show tent
- Raffle with fantastic prizes
- Climbing wall, hosted by Stonesfield Scout Group
- Tea Room, BBQ and ice cream
- Bar(s) with Champagne, gin and Pimms!
- Tombolas, bouncy castle and disco dome
- Stall holders

Please support the fete and help raise funds for school, pre-school, scouts, the library and more!

Friends of Stonesfield School



# Church news



## Anglican Worship in the Parishes of Stonesfield with Combe Longa



Rector: The Revd Roy Turner  
The Rectory, Stonesfield, Witney, Oxon, OX29 8PR  
Telephone: 01993 898552 – Email: revroystonesfield@hotmail.co.uk

[www.stonesfieldparishchurch.org](http://www.stonesfieldparishchurch.org)

Stonesfield Churchwardens: Neil Melrose (891566) and Kate Harris (898781)  
Combe Longa Churchwarden: Andrew Hobson (891273)

BCP=Book of Common Prayer: CW=Common Worship

*For pastoral help please contact the Rector*

### From your Parish Priest

I hope you all had a good time at the Manor Summer Party in dear Charlotte Oakeshott's beautiful garden last month. I was on duty in Italy doing a chaplaincy for ICS (Intercontinental Church Society), so I couldn't be with you.

I am sure, however, that the church members who served us, as a community, did everyone proud. Many thanks for all who took part and helped to make the day such a happy one.

Getting together and sharing a time of friendship is so important for the community and I would like to give you another invite. Bev and I would like to invite you down to the Rectory, for an Open House Get Together, on 31 August between 5pm and 8pm for wine and nibbles (and other non-alcoholic beverages).

We will try and provide for all ages. We

have lots of toys that our grandchildren use when they come around to see us, so please bring your children too; singles, couples, families, whoever – you are all welcome. It will be a low key event that is just meant to be a social affair. There will be tea and coffee as well as cold drinks. If you have any special tippie that you prefer, do feel free to bring it along, I won't be offended!

The Rectory is just down Brook Lane on the right-hand side. You will find Brook House and Lodge first then straight on past, down the driveway, you will see the Rectory built from beautiful Cotswold Stone with a double garage in front of you.

Dress is casual and comfortable I want everyone to feel relaxed and ready to 'kick back', as the Americans would say. We will provide garden chairs and canvas chairs but if you have any foldable

beach-type chairs you would like to bring, again you are very welcome to bring them along.

It is remarkable that Bev and I have been in the village now for some ten years and I am sure there are still folks that we have never met. If you are in that category, you are especially welcome.

I believe that places like the Rectory were specifically built to provide a place for people to meet and that's what I intend for our 31 August get together.

So if all you have been able to do in the past is to wave, as my letters always ask

of you, then perhaps the Rectory Open House Get together will provide just the setting to get to know Bev and me better.

Well, I look forward to seeing you all, and hope that your summer so far has been a blessing and hopefully a time of relaxation and recreation for you and your loved ones. Don't forget then, make it a date on 31 August at the Rectory . . . be there or be square! The phrase, I know, dates me a little but never mind, and of course as always D.F.T.W.

God bless,

*Rev Roy*

### SERVICES FOR AUGUST

#### Sunday 4 August [Seventh Sunday after Trinity]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	All Age Worship
11am	Stonesfield	All Age Worship

#### Sunday 11 August [Eighth Sunday after Trinity, St Laurence transferred]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Parish Communion [CW/sung]
11am	Stonesfield	Parish Communion [CW/sung]
7.30pm	Combe Longa	Feast Day Open Air Service on the Green

#### Sunday 18 August [Ninth Sunday after Trinity]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Parish Communion [CW/sung]
11am	Stonesfield	Communion Service for all ages

### Sunday 25 August [Tenth Sunday after Trinity]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	Parish Communion [CW/sung]
11am	Stonesfield	Parish Communion [CW/sung]

### Sunday 2 September [Eleventh Sunday after Trinity]

8am	Stonesfield	Holy Communion [BCP/said]
9.30am	Combe Longa	All Age Worship
11am	Stonesfield	All Age Worship

### Mid-week Communion Service [said]

Wednesdays 9.30am at Stonesfield; everyone is most welcome.

## Stonesfield Methodist Church

### SERVICES FOR AUGUST

Sun 4	11am	Revd Rose Westwood Holy Communion
Sun 11	11am	Andrew Maisey
Sun 18	10.30am	Service at High Street Methodist Church, Witney Revd Richard Donoghue and Naomi Prince No Service at Stonesfield
Sun 25	11am	Robin Gurney

### Remembrance

Very sadly, our much loved and long-serving member, Joyce Pauling, died peacefully on 22 June. She was dedicated to the life of this Church and served it faithfully in every way she could. Her Tombola stalls were famous and her Harvest Supper trifles were not to be missed!

The Service for Joyce, held on 1 July, was a wonderful celebration of the Christian life she had led from beginning to end. She touched so many people with her warmth and friendship, and no doubt continues to do so in her Heavenly home. Memories of Joyce will ever bring a smile – and laughter too!

### Cream Teas

Come and enjoy Cream Teas here on 3 August, from 1 to 5pm. Transport can be arranged.

*Kathleen Albert (891733)*

## Roman Catholic Worship

### We are not alone

It seems that one of the fears most commonly shared in one form or another is being left alone, with no support, comfort, love or contact with friends and family. In his fully human capacity, Jesus fully understood these emotions, and sought to reassure us. In his divine self, as the Son of God he gave us an enduring promise that he would

never leave us alone; he would be with us until the end of time:

*Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'* (Matthew 28:18–20)

*Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'* (Hebrews 13:5)

This is prefigured several times in the Old Testament:

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.* (Joshua 1:9)

Jesus died over 2000 years ago, but he has never left us, never deserted us and never betrayed his promise to us, come what may, he will love us always – we are never alone:

*For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor*

*things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Romans 8:38–39)

## MASS TIMES

### SUNDAYS

**St Teresa's, Charlbury:** 9.15am

**St Kenelm's, Enstone:** 9am, second Sunday of every month

### WEEKDAYS

**St Teresa's, Charlbury:** 9.30am, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, preceded by Morning Prayers at 9.15am

**Confession:** Confessions are at 10am after morning Mass on Saturdays, and on request.

**Father Tony Joyce** can be contacted on [holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com) or telephone (01608 642703).

For parish updates and any further information please see:  
<https://stteresaschurch-charlbury.com>  
or contact Clive Dytter, Chair, Parish Committee: [chair.stteresaschurchcharlbury@gmail.com](mailto:chair.stteresaschurchcharlbury@gmail.com)

*Roman Catholic Community in Stonesfield*

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### FoSL: Friends of Stonesfield Library

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For further details, or to join us, please contact Tony Scott on 01993 891380, [tonyandrachel.scott@virgin.net](mailto:tonyandrachel.scott@virgin.net)

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Due to the problems of queueing last year, we are going to sell beer tokens in advance, so you can buy 3 for £10. We will also be putting alternative drink stations outside (weather permitting), selling bottled beers and soft drinks.

In the meantime, our marquee is now up in the garden, so it's the perfect place to come and enjoy a meal and a few drinks during the lighter evenings.

#### *Bar opening hours*

Wed–Thursday	5pm–Close
Friday	12noon–3pm
	5pm–Close
Saturday	12noon–3pm
	6pm–Close
Sunday	12noon–6pm

#### *Food served*

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