

The Stonesfield Slate

Issue No 495 September 2019



Dates for your diary – September

1	Wychwood Fair	Cornbury Park	11am–5pm
1	Treasure Box Family Walk	St James' Centre	2.30pm
2	Monday Coffee	St James' Centre	10–11.30am
4	FoSL meeting	The White Horse	6.30–7.45pm
4,11,18,25	Country Dancing	Village Hall	8–10pm
5, 12,19,26	Book Break	Stonesfield Library	12.30–2pm
5	Bingo	SSSC	Eyes down 7.30pm
8	Afternoon Tea	Combe Reading Room	2.30–5pm
9,16,23,30	Monday Coffee	St James' Centre	8.45–11.30am
9	Gardening Club	St James' Centre	7.30pm
11	Reading Awards Ceremony	Village Hall	3.30–4.30pm
11	WOC Choir	St James' Centre	7.30pm
12	Over 60's Club	Village Hall	2pm
22	Sponsored Walk	SSSC	9am
27	Macmillan Coffee Morning	SSSC	9am

Publishers

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Editor for this issue

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Editor for October

Lynda Parkinson

Printer

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**The deadline for copy
and advertisements
for the next issue is
15 September**

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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*Children enjoying making
rockets and robots at the
Stonesfield Library on 1
August*



Photo: Debbie Wilson

Notices

Reg Ives

Paula, Nicki and families would like to thank everyone for the cards, messages of sympathy, love and support received following Reg's death and during his illness.

Reg was a larger-than-life character in and around Stonesfield for over 50 years and will be greatly missed.

New Slate publisher(s) sought – urgently!

We have had no response to our plea for someone to take over as publisher of the *Slate*. We propose to give up at the end of the year and if someone does not come forward in the meantime, the *Slate* will cease publication with the December/January issue.

It would be very sad to see the demise of a village magazine that has been in existence since 1976. So please get in touch if you think you may be able to take it on or if you know of another likely candidate.

There is, of course, no reason why the format should be preserved. The new publisher – or publishers – may well have ideas for a complete revamp.

Simon and Jenny Haviland (01993 891614 or sj@sjhaviland.co.uk)

Afternoon Tea at Combe Reading Room

Following on from the success of the

Combe Village cream teas in August, we are holding another tea event in the garden of the Reading Room on 8 September, this time in aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

We will be serving homemade cakes, cream scones, and hot drinks. We will also be selling handmade gifts, cards, and will be holding a raffle. Our top prizes include tickets to Blenheim, a luxury hamper, and a meal at the Duke of Marlborough pub.

Cystic Fibrosis is an inherited condition which causes the mucus in the sufferer's body to be thicker and stickier than usual, and this causes damage to the internal organs, particularly the lungs and digestive system.

The Cystic Fibrosis Trust is dedicated to finding a cure for this life-limiting condition.

If you are not able to be there on 8 September, but would like to support us, please contact Libby on 07958 595668 to purchase raffle tickets, £5 for a book.

Expert Antiques 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.

On Friday 27 September, he will be at North Leigh Turner Hall from 2pm to 7pm to provide expert valuations of your own special antique treasures.

Fee: £2 per item, up to two items per person. 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 1 listed church building.

Steve Legg (01993 881612)

Monday Coffee

What better way to start your week than with a free coffee or tea (and homemade biscuits) every Monday morning in the St James' Centre. We are there from 8.45 to 11.30am in term-time, and then from 10 to 11.30am throughout the year, except for Bank Holiday Mondays. This is a lovely opportunity for mums, having dropped children off at school, to have time for a chat before getting stuck into the week, and a good place for everyone throughout the morning to meet friends and to make new ones. We'll look forward to seeing you there!

Also, if anyone would like to join our group of helpers, please come along any Monday morning to find out more.

Judd's Garage junction

Following the last serious accident at the Judd's junction, there was quite a lot of concern regarding the danger of the junction documented on Nextdoor Stonesfield. Following my email voicing my concern to our local MP, this is the latest response. Dismay. What next Stonesfield?

Linda Bull

Dear Linda,

We have now received the following update from Oxfordshire County Council:

'Thank you for passing on your constituent's concerns regarding the Judd's junction following the recent accident here.

I would like to assure you and your constituent that we do monitor all reported incidents and where appropriate and possible plan to undertake suitable improvements if resources allow.

We have looked at this location and apart from this accident there have been three recorded slight injury collisions at the B4437/A44 junction in the last 5 years.

We have looked at the layout and condition of the junction and can confirm that it is in good order, with good visibility. Previous concerns raised at this junction have been in relation to the presence and condition of the lining. The lining has been refreshed in recent years and now includes the right turn arrow for south bound traffic turning right off the A44 and into the B4437.

We have also checked that all direction information signing is in place on the A44. My team have confirmed that there are 2 advance direction signs on each approach and a flag sign opposite the junction. We also consider the presence of vegetation which may be in the vicinity of the junctions as part of our regular safety inspections and, if it becomes an issue, it is cut back as necessary

With the above said, we need to ensure we prioritise our available funds to address the worst sites in the County, and in this particular case the information we have does not suggest significant works are required at this location. That said I would like to

reassure you that we will continue to monitor this and other locations and address issues appropriately to ensure the ongoing safety of all road users.'

I do hope that this goes some way to address your concerns and that you find this information useful.

If there is anything further I can do please do not hesitate to contact me.

With very best wishes, Tom (Tom Sheppard, Parliamentary Caseworker, Office of Robert Courts MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. 020 7219 7061 www.robertcourts.co.uk)

Stockey Woods

A group of Stonesfield residents got together in 2016 to discuss the possibility of registering Stockey Woods as a village green. In law 'village green' is used to describe any land over which the inhabitants of a particular locality hold customary rights.

We were concerned because Blenheim Estates had deposited a statement with the County Council which brought to an end any period of recreational use of the woods 'as of right', i.e. without force, secrecy or permission. There were only a few months left to apply for village green registration, which we felt was needed to be sure of securing the right for people to enjoy the woods in perpetuity.

To establish a customary right, it was necessary to show how local people had used the woods for recreation (not simply walking the public footpath) for at least twenty years. We collected over seventy evidence questionnaires testifying how villagers and village organisations have

enjoyed using the woods for many different activities for decades. The earliest evidence dated from 1940.

An application to register Stockey Woods as a village green was submitted to the County Council in late 2016. In July this year, our application came to the top of the pile and the Council publicised it by placing notices at the entrance to the woods and in the local press. There is a six-week period for objections to be made. If there are any objections, the council may organise a hearing or inquiry in order to reach a final decision.

Thank you people of Stonesfield for submitting and collecting so much evidence. Let's hope we are successful.

Tricia Astle

The Body Shop

Do you love The Body Shop? Do you love discounts? If yes, then let me introduce myself, I'm Lucy Martin and with my daughter, Poppy, we are your new Body Shop consultants in the village! I have catalogues which contain a wide range of products from skin care, hair care, makeup, male treats, and gifts for everyone!

If you would you like a catalogue, please send me a text with your name and address and I will post one through your door. I also have a Facebook group - 'Be pampered with Poppy and Lu'.

Lucy Martin (07752 653000)

Stonesfield Village Hall News

What a lovely long summer holiday, with Reading Challenges set by the Library, and numerous family events including

St James's Church, Stonesfield

WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS and Harvest celebrations

EVERYONE – new residents and not-so-new – is warmly invited to tea! on Saturday 5 October between 3.30 and 5pm in the St James' Centre.

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

Sunday 6 October 11am – a special service for all ages!

Gifts of money for Send-a-Cow, or goods for the Foodbank, will be gratefully received at the service



barbeques, music nights, and sporting fixtures taking place at the Sports and Social Club and playing field.

We would like to say a big thank you to all the regular clubs that have continued throughout the holidays, and also a big welcome back to those who run in term time.

If you are looking for a new activity, we currently have some lovely groups at the Village Hall, including: Pickleball, Taekwondo, Zumba, Folk Dancing, Baby and Toddler Group, and Pilates.

Maybe you have ideas of starting a new group of your own, or holding an event or party and need some additional space. For all enquiries and information, please do get in touch.

Jacqueline Carthew, Secretary & Booking Clerk for Stonesfield Village Hall (01993 898919 or stonesfieldvh@gmail.com; facebook.com/stonesfieldvillagehall; stonesfield.info/stonesfield-life/venues/village-hall.php)

Stonesfield Community Trust

In the June edition of the *Slate*, we

appealed on behalf of the residents of the Cross and Glovers Yard, affected by damage and obstruction caused by bad parking. Sadly this has continued, with another resident finding damage done to their wall, and numerous complaints from those trapped within Glovers Yard. We are aware that this is a busy area for people accessing Pre-School and the church grounds, however, we appeal to people to please be considerate to those who live in the area.

Also, as a new academic year starts, we would like to remind all parents that there is no on street parking on the High Street near the school.

Thank you all in advance for your consideration to your community.

Jacqueline Carthew, Property Manager, Stonesfield Community Trust (jacquelinecarthew@gmail.com or 07896 847722)

West Oxfordshire Community Choir

West Oxfordshire Community Choir is opening its doors to new members this

September. WOC Choir has been running since 2013 and is open to all West Oxfordshire residents with an interest in singing. The group does not learn from sheet music, so music reading ability is not required. Previous singing experience is not a requirement either, as the choir welcomes singers of all abilities. The choir sing an eclectic repertoire of songs from artists such as The Beatles, Coldplay, and Stevie Wonder, as well as much loved show tunes and easy listening classics.

Weekly rehearsals take place on Wednesdays, 7.30–9.30pm at St James' Centre, High Street, and run during term times only. Fees are paid in advance on a termly basis with weekly rehearsals being charged at £6 per week. (Please note: terms range from 10 to 13 weeks.)

WOC Choir's director and founder, Laura Rudge, is a vocal coach and singing teacher with many years of experience working within the field. Rehearsals always include a gentle physical and vocal warm up which gives the choir members a chance to exercise their vocal chords and shake off their stresses and strains from the day, before the full singing begins.

If you have been thinking of joining a choir or are looking for a friendly bunch of local singers to join, why not come along to WOC Choir's launch night on Wednesday 11 September at 7.30pm (launch nights are free for new participants) and see if WOC Choir is for you. For further information, please get in touch.

Laura wocchoir@yahoo.co.uk or Dave (07814 142658)

Blenheim Palace

Fight against food waste

Blenheim Palace is joining the fight against food waste with the help of a new app. Launched in Copenhagen in June 2016, 'Too Good To Go' is the world's largest food-waste fighting app, connecting businesses with unsold food to local consumers who purchase, collect, and eat it.

Searcys, Blenheim's catering partners, will be offering 'magic bags' filled with £12 worth of food for just £4 at the end of each day. The bags, which can be purchased at any time via the app, can then be collected from 4pm. All the food is fresh, just not bought by customers that day, so is all too good to go! This reduces the accumulation of food waste on each of the 364 days Blenheim is open.

Nearly 90% of ingredients used by Searcys in the cafés are sourced within a 25-mile radius of the palace, supporting local producers and growers

For more information contact: Melodie Manners melodie@flamingo-marketing.co.uk or (01637 873379 or 07815 709548)

800 annual passes to local schools

Blenheim Palace is making more than 800 free annual passes available to local school pupils and their families as part of its Associate Schools Scheme. The scheme, which includes 25 nursery, primary, and secondary schools, aims to provide increased support to local schools, working with them to create exciting and valuable experiences for students and their families.

Niamh O'Sullivan

Politics & local affairs

From our County Councillor

Co-location of police at Woodstock Fire Station

The local police team will now share facilities with the Fire Brigade at the Fire station. This sort of co-location makes sense and is something I am working on across all areas of the public sector in Oxfordshire.

Charging points

The electric car revolution is set to continue in Oxfordshire, thanks to a successful county council bid for a slice of a £37m government fund. Oxfordshire is set to host two major initiatives to provide more charging points for electric vehicles (EVs) across the county.

Park and Charge will see up to 300 chargers installed in residential 'charging hubs' using car parks located in residential areas where properties don't have their own off-street parking.

Cllr Ian Hudspeth (07956 270318; Ian.hudspeth@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Bell tower clean

On 15 August a small team of ringers cleaned, tidied and attended to coating the bell frame wheels, comprising Jenny Haviland, Anne Pounds, Lindsey Thornton, Jeffrey Thomas and Jack Peppiatt.

The stairs from the ground floor to the ringing chamber, the ringing chamber and the clock room above were all thoroughly swept and vacuumed and cobwebs and general detritus removed. Window glass was cleaned and extraneous material removed and disposed of. The bellwheels were coated with wood preservative.

Your village bells are in good order!

Jack Peppiatt



The bells seen from above

Photo: Jack Peppiatt

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

Rocket and Robot Storytime

Nine children enjoyed the morning of 1 August making rockets, robots, aliens, dream-catchers, and all manner of things that might be whirling round in space. We began with stories, then everyone got going with egg boxes, toilet rolls, coloured cardboard, shiny paper, stars, sequins, etc.

The results were spectacular (see photo on front page), and much fun was had by all.

National Summer Reading Challenge

Calling all children! Have you read your six books and qualified for a gold medal? It's not too late to join this annual eight-week challenge to read six books – but hurry!

The theme this year is Space Chase. Children aged three to 11 are invited to sign up and get a Space Chase folder.

As you read six books of your choice you will receive stickers, a game sheet, a bookmark, a wristband, and finally a certificate and gold medal.

FoSL (Friends of Stonesfield Library) will again host an Awards Ceremony on Wednesday 11 September in the Village Hall from 3.30 to 4.30pm. We invite everyone who has completed the challenge to come and be presented with their certificate and medal, and celebrate with cakes, biscuits, soft drinks, and plenty of creative activities. In the tradition of the last five years, we will finish with a group photograph.

The Adult Reading Challenge also runs until mid-September. There are free tickets to be won for Blenheim Palace, The Cotswold Wildlife Park, Crocodile World, Cogges Farm, and many others. More details are available at the Library.

Are you interested in helping to keep the Library open? It's the smallest of the 43 public libraries in Oxfordshire, and therefore the most at risk. Come to the Friends' next meeting on 4 September at the White Horse, from 6.30–7.45pm, to find out what we do.

There are about 20 regular volunteers, which means we each do one session a month, occasionally two. If we can keep the numbers up with some new recruits, then the duties are light for us all. Look forward to seeing you.

Val Phillips (01993 891455)

The Oxfordshire Museum Exhibition

An Earthly Paradise: William Morris & The Thames. 14 September – 10 November

This exhibition illustrates the rich and little-known story of William Morris's deep connections to the Thames. We bring together a unique selection of works, with loans from the V&A, The William Morris Gallery, British Library, and many more. Highlights include Morris's Thames series of textiles alongside his original hand-drawn designs, a signed copy of *News from Nowhere*, and his personal fishing tackle and spectacles. Materials from the Morris & Co. workshop illustrate the production process, while socialist pamphlets that Morris penned and published, demonstrate his deep commitment to socialism in later life.

In partnership with River & Rowing Museum, Henley on Thames

Lectures:

21 Sept: *An Earthly Paradise; William Morris & The Thames*

19 Oct: *The Wardle Family*

9 Nov: *William Morris: A life in 10 Objects*

Tickets £8 available from the Museum

Those were the days – Reminiscence sessions

A monthly group for people to meet, reminisce about the past, bring photos and objects and share memories. Meet on the first Friday of each month, 2 to 3.30pm, £1 per person. Tea and coffee will be served.

Friday 6 September: *Made in Oxfordshire* – celebrate things that have put

Oxfordshire on the map! What does Oxfordshire say to you?

For further information phone: 01865 300639

Friends of The Oxfordshire Museum: monthly lecture

4 September at 7.30pm: Nick Milea from The Bodleian Library talks on *Talking maps; Cartographic conversations from the Boleian's current exhibition*

2 October: Stephen Barker talks on *Saints, Soldiers and Sinners; Civil wars in Oxfordshire 1642–1651*

Lectures are free for Friends or £4 for visitors

Open-air cinema at The Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock

A Star is Born (15), Friday 6 September. Doors open at 6.30pm, film starts at 8pm. For tickets and more information visit: <https://www.seetickets.com/event/star-is-born-15-/the-oxfordshire-museum/1418501>

Full details of all events are available on (<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/oxfords-hiremuseum> or 01993 814106)

The Woodstock Bookshop

On Saturday 21 September at 7pm Patrick Gale and David Constantine will be reading from and discussing their stories from *Refugee Tales III* upstairs in Woodstock Town Hall. All profits from the evening will go to Refugee Resource in Oxford. The book is the third in a series from Comma Press, sharing the stories of people who have been detained while seeking asylum in Britain. The UK is the only country in Europe that

detains people indefinitely under immigration rules and the stories give some of those people a voice. Other writers featuring in this volume are Monica Ali, Ian Sansom, Gillian Slovo, and Roma Tearne.

Poet and translator David Constantine is also launching his new short story collection, *The Dressing-Up Box*. His previous collection, *Tea at the Midland*, won the Frank O'Connor short story award and the title story won the BBC Short Story Award. The film *45 Years* was based on his story *In Another Country*. He has recently translated Brecht's poems.

Patrick Gale's latest novel, *Take Nothing With You*, came out last year. He has come to speak here several times over the past few years, most recently when he talked about his novel *A Place Called Winter*.

Tickets £8, to include wine, from The Woodstock Bookshop.

Advance notice! Dates for this year's Woodstock Poetry Festival are 15–17 November – details are now on our website:
<http://www.woodstockbookshop.co.uk/>

Rachel Phipps (01993 812760)

Community Education at the Marlborough School, Woodstock

Our new 2019–20 programme is now available! See the Marlborough School

website for full details of courses and workshops, starting between September 2019 and July 2020, with latest availability as places fill up. Brochures have been delivered to many local homes over the summer. If you didn't receive one, please download a copy from the website or phone the office and we will send you one.

We offer daytime, evening, and weekend courses during school term time. We have new subjects on blogging and improving your website, knitting, dressmaking, vegan cookery, using natural dyes, holiday Spanish, herbs for health, and photography.

Our established courses and workshops continue, including art, craft, and sewing, guitar and singing, cookery and languages, wellbeing courses such as massage, Reiki, and Mindful Menopause. There are sports and exercise classes in badminton, archery, Pilates, tai chi, yoga, and Zumba Gold.

The office re-opens for phone bookings from Wednesday 4 September and you can always enrol by email or post. We look forward to welcoming all our students – new and existing – to Marlborough School Community Education for the new term.

comed.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk
www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/commed or
(01993 813592)



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
FoSS

Clubs & societies

Stonesfield Gardening Club

The members of the Gardening Club do not have a meeting in August so nothing to report here. However, we kick off the autumn with a talk on 'Gardening Under Cover' by Chris Day at 7.30pm on Monday 9 September at St James' Centre. This will cover greenhouses, cloches, cold frames, etc., so should be a useful refresher of what we can do over the colder months with a little assistance.

Diane Bates (diane@bateshome.co.uk; <http://stonesfieldgardening.info>)

Stonesfield Folk Dance Club

By the time you read this we will have returned from our summer holidays and be thinking about fuel for the winter. How about switching off the heating on Wednesdays and join us at the Village Hall to generate new friendships and new skills by learning to keep alive our Folk Dance Heritage?

We have recently had an influx of new members and have been meeting with them 20 minutes or so before 8pm to run through the basics that are outlined in the book *Elements of English Country Dance*. The new members have all been given a copy of the book and have found this, linked with the early start, very helpful. The end result is that new members will quickly learn the basics and enjoy the dances, so do come along and join us.

We continue to have live music each

week and different callers, which makes for an enjoyable evening all for the ridiculously low cost of £2.50.

For further information see www.stonesfieldfolkdance.danceorg.uk, or visit Facebook.

Stewart Nicholls (01295 730271 or stewart.nicholls@virgin.net)

Scout Group

This summer's Duck Race was as popular as ever, and it was fantastic to see so many families joining in the fun. All ducks are now counted, sorted and rested, ready for next year's race. Thank you to everyone who helped run and support this event – we raised over £2,500 for our new hut fund. Special thanks go to Shirley and John Hounsell-Mee for securing such fabulous raffle prizes and sponsors, and to Aldi at Chipping Norton for their generous donation.

In early July, our Beaver colony camped at Youlbury, taking part in various adventurous activities, while also working on their camp-craft skills.

The Scout troop joined in the weekend, providing the campfire entertainment and completing their survival badge, which involved building and sleeping in shelters, and cooking 'foraged' food over fires without utensils.

In June, Cubs went to county Cub World, where they took part in all kinds of water-sports and adventurous activities

with Cubs from around the county, and Scouts also enjoyed their own county AquaCamp.

This summer we say thank you and goodbye to Paul Orsi, who has been co-leading the Cub pack for three years.

The biggest thank you and farewell, however, goes to Ali 'Apple'-ton, who started out in Beavers many moons ago, and in recent years has been our Group Scout Leader, supporting us from behind the scenes on all kind of matters.

As always, we are always keen to see new people volunteering, whether hands-on in the sections, or with fresh ideas on the Executive committee or fundraising. If you can spare any time or skills, we would love to hear from you at info@stonesfield-scouts.org.uk

1st Stonesfield Scout Group

Stonesfield Sports and Social Club

The Big Push

A sponsored walk is to be held on Sunday 22 September starting at 10am from the Social Club. Its aim is to help raise £5,000 towards treatment for Shania Phipps, who suffers from a rare metabolic bone disease (Hypophosphatasia), which affects 1 in 100,000 people. We will be serving bacon rolls and coffee from 9am. To read more of Shania's story and the need to raise funds on her Justgiving page, go to: www.justgiving.com/funding/shanias-mobility or visit the club.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We invite you to the Social Club on 27 September, when we will be hosting a

Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning – serving bacon butties and coffee from 9am, followed by cakes and coffee from 11am to 5pm.

The Sports and Social Club are looking for additional players to form a second Crib team. We play on Monday nights and need at least 8 players to form a team. If you are interested, please contact Ben Tomlin on 07506 032438 or just call in at the club.

Brian Clarke

Stonesfield over 60's Club

It was good to see so many of us back again and also to welcome the Woodentops, who provided the entertainment. They played and sang some well-known old favourites and we were encouraged to join in. Time flies when you are having fun and soon it was time for our Tea Party.

We were able to gather round one large table and once again we were celebrating a Diamond Wedding Anniversary. We enjoyed scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam, lovely cakes, and English strawberries. Thank you ladies, you do make a good cuppa.

Having enjoyed tea, Julie congratulated Alan and Avis on their anniversary and handed them cards and tokens from the club members. We are most grateful for this kindness. Thank you so much.

Next, we moved on to special birthdays and wished Judy a very happy 80th in a few days' time, and she also received a card and token from us all.

Our next meeting is on 12 September and we will take names for October's

Autumn/Harvest lunch. Hope to see you next month.

Avis

North Leigh History Society

On 3 September, there will be a talk by

Carol Anderson entitled 'The Stonesfield Embroidery'. We meet in the Turner Hall, Church Road, North Leigh, OX29 6TX at 7.30pm. Visitors £4, members are free. For further details, please get in touch.

Diana Power (01993 882301)

Sport

Stonesfield Cricket Club

As the season goes into the last few weeks, both 1st & 2nd XIs have hit top form. Since a heavy home defeat vs Chipping Norton, our first team have reeled off 3 straight wins (vs Wolvercote, Oxenford & Marsh Gibbon) to climb to 6th in Division 1. In the latest win, George Redknap was simply heroic having had to go to A&E for stitches in a gashed lip, and returned to find the team struggling 7 wickets down. He strapped his pads on and strode out to hit a match winning 14 not out. Legend!

The 2nd XI have won 6 of the last 7

league games, and must win their last 4 matches to win Division 7 league trophy – for their first honours in many years. We recently defeated the league leaders Chipping Norton 2nds on their own patch with a sensational run chase, reaching 207 for 6 to win with 3 balls left. The lads will need all the support they can get in the last month.

We've still been putting faith in young players. For example, 13 year-old Aston Walker made his debut in a men's friendly match recently, and took his first senior wicket – well done young man!

Stewart Moss (07866 278685)



We have a fully extended childcare provision running from Pre-School. Here is what is currently available:

Breakfast Club

Monday–Thursday, 8–8.50am (£5.50 per session)
Cereal, toast and fruit juice included

Pre-School Sessions

9am–3pm daily for children aged 2–4 years (£16.00 per session)

After School Club

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 3.15–6pm (£16.00 per session)

If you would like registration forms for any of the above, please contact our administrator, Mrs Zena Rozee (tel. 01993 898012 or email: stonesfieldpsad@outlook.com)

STONESFIELD VOLUNTARY TRANSPORT SCHEME

arranges car transport to doctors' and dentists' surgeries in Woodstock, Charlbury, Long Hanborough and Witney, and to Water Eaton Park & Ride (for buses to JR, Nuffield and Churchill Hospitals)

If you need a lift for a medical visit in SEPTEMBER please ring Viv Kendall (891803) or Nigel Collier (891372).

Every effort will be made to find a volunteer driver for you, but please give as much notice as you can. This is a free service, but donations to costs are welcomed.

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

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 was able to help out with the Intercontinental Church Society again this year (ICS). I wasn't going to offer this year, but they phoned to say that they had been let down through illness and could I do a chaplaincy in Cavallino near Venice again. They wanted me for three weeks, but I could only offer two. They said that would be OK and on 16 July we set off for Marco Polo Airport and Cavallino.

The chaplaincy went well, apart from a torrential thunderstorm that developed over Saturday afternoon on the second week, and continued into Sunday morning. The road outside, where we stayed, was transformed into 'little Venice' with the water coming up to just below the knee.

Sadly, the Lutheran Chaplain's service in the morning only had one attendee, who

waded through the floods to attend. By 6.30pm, the time of our service, it had more or less dried up and we managed around 40 attendees. They were Lithuanians, Austrians, Irish, Polish, German, Italian, and, of course, English.

The sermon was an easy subject to pick after the rains; I chose 'Being a good neighbour' which, of course, brought into play the story of the Good Samaritan. I even suggested that living under separate national flags did not stop us being good neighbours, just in case we do eventually leave the EU!

The exchange rate, of course, took a bit of a battering, as far as the pound was concerned, so things were quite expensive. Venice was more of a crush than former years and again the prices seem to increase year on year.

Monetary considerations apart though, the chaplaincy was well worth the effort

with people seeming to be appreciative of our English-speaking services and pastoral services throughout the two weeks. However, as always, it was good to be back in Stonesfield and Combe and to check up what everyone had been getting up to.

It's always the case, isn't it, that travelling is a terrific adventure, but getting home is also always looked forward to.

This year the lawns were still actually green on our return. I remember last year when the grass was just a 'brown fuzz' after the summer break. Unfortunately, the weeds grow whatever the weather so some maintenance was required. I wanted the Rectory to be in good shape for our get together on 31 August. That

said, of course, it's friendship and our relationships that count, rather than the lawn and material things around us. Which brings me full circle in being a good neighbour, it is being a good friend that really counts.

I hope that all your loved ones and friends have had a good summer and have kept safe over the summer break, if indeed you and they managed one.

Hope to see you all soon, if not at our many church services, then around our communities of Combe and Stonesfield. As always, if I see you around, Don't Forget To Wave — or as I normally put it D.F.T.W.

Rev Roy

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday 1 September [Eleventh Sunday after Trinity]

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

Sunday 8 September [Twelfth Sunday after Trinity]

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

Sunday 15 September [Thirteenth 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 22 September [Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity]

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

Sunday 29 September [Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity]

8am Stonesfield Holy Communion [BCP/said]
10am Combe Longa United Benefice Communion [CW/sung]

Sunday 6 October [Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity]

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

Mid-week Communion Service [said]

Wednesdays 9.30am at Stonesfield; everyone is most welcome

Stonesfield Methodist Church

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Sun 1 11am Revd Hilary Ewing
Holy Communion
Sun 8 11am Ian Gray
Sun 15 11am David Sarbutts
Sun 22 11am Jude Levermore
Sun 29 11am Revd Jason Cooke

Action!

The problem wall crack inside the main Church building is soon to be diagnosed. Scaffolding is to be erected and a small area of the roof opened for inspection. This is likely to lead on to other checks, which may well determine the safety and future of the Church.

At times like this, asking for God's help becomes more urgent, and I for one am up front with the asking. Sometimes the simple words of a hymn can help us to look at God's bigger picture and a favourite of mine at the moment is John Glynn's *I watch the sun rise*. It's simply beautiful!

Services continue here –come and join one soon. Sundays at 11am.

Thanks

On a Saturday in August, the Church was transformed into a busy tearoom. Friends old and new came along, and shared a blessed and happy afternoon together. Thank you to everyone who gave kind support, help, and donations. Please come again next year – all being well!

Kathleen Albért (01993 891733)

Roman Catholic Worship

Hospitality

The Gospels give us considerable insights into the culture of 1st century Judea, and one of the salient features which emerges is the importance of hospitality. It was considered essential that households offered food and shelter to all who asked it. We see in the Book of Genesis (18:1–10) Abraham sitting by his tent when he sees three strangers:

As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My Lord', he said, 'I

beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further.'

Abraham was showing us the importance of welcome, even when inconvenient. In this passage, Abraham is giving us insights into how we should welcome Christ into our lives: with willing warmth and openness of heart.

This is reiterated in Luke's Gospel (10:38–42) in that famous story of Mary and Martha. Martha was following the rules of hospitality ensuring that Jesus and his followers had water, food, and comfort, but it was Mary who sat and listened to Jesus' message. One of the messages from that passage is that our welcome to God through Jesus Christ, is not just about the outward forms of conventional activity, but a genuine willingness to listen to the message: 'Be still and know that I am God.' Psalm 46:10.

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 or telephone (01608 642703).

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

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SUMMER'S END

With the School holidays almost over and the nights drawing in it'll be starting to feel very autumnal

At the pub our Quiz Nights and Folk Nights are continuing to be a great success so thank you to everyone who supports us. We also enjoyed a lovely night of Guinguette music, so much so that we will try to make it a regular event.

Watch this space for news of upcoming events during the Autumn. We'll have our Halloween Party, which is always great fun, and we'll start doing our Pie & a Pint Nights to warm you up during the colder nights.

Bar opening hours

Wed–Thursday	5pm–Close
Friday	12noon–3pm 5pm–Close
Saturday	12noon–3pm 6pm–Close
Sunday	12noon–4pm

Food served

Wed–Thursday	6pm–9pm
Friday	12noon–2.30pm 6pm–9pm
Saturday	12noon–2.30pm 6pm–9pm
Sunday	12noon–3pm

Children are always welcome and WE NOW OFFER A CHILDREN'S MENU.
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