

November 2013

Newsletter

Stockton on the Forest Village Hall Management Committee



Banner created by 1st Stockton on the Forest Brownies

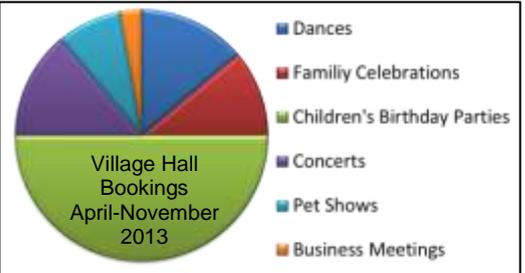
We celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Village Hall in style with a **70S NIGHT**. Everyone had gone to great effort to find their **70S GROOVE** with some amazing outfits. Competition was fierce during the beetle drive, with broken pencils as the pace picked up. Josh Benson treated us to a fantastic magic show, we enjoyed a **70S STYLE SUPPER** provided by Karen and her team from the Highwayman Café and then danced the night away to our favourite **70S TUNES**. A fab time was had by all. If you missed it, you missed out!



joshbmagic@hotmail.co.uk



But what else has been happening? The summer had lots of private bookings at the Village Hall but September got busy for the community again with the Greenfingers Festival of Gardening packed with competition entries and displays. The car boot & table top sale was a quiet affair but teas and cake raised some much needed funds for the village hall. The Toddler Group's new safety gate has now been installed meaning the smallest members of our community can enjoy their garden and outdoor play without the risk of getting out into the road.



For Village Hall information and bookings contact Vicky Gilbert on 400409

In this issue: Around Stockton pages 1-3, Gardening pages 4-5, Kids pages 6-8, Hobbies pages 9-10, Sport page 11 and Our Supporters page 12.

The next issue will be in April. Submissions to sofnews@sky.com by 9th March 2014 please.



Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity Church is alive and well. We hold regular services on Wednesday and Sunday mornings and this year we have been thrilled to have seven weddings and one blessing of marriage in the church....."who says church weddings are old fashioned?".

We welcomed into the church through baptism five young children, Dylan Thomas Stanley and Amelia Charlotte Stanley, Henry John Heppel, George Mallinson and Grace Ella Piper.

This month we hope to erect a new noticeboard outside the church to inform what is happening in and around Holy Trinity and the wider benefice. The old churchyard next to the church is being turned into a wild flower meadow with grass paths to walk along. The newer churchyard with the 'Garden of Remembrance' has been weeded, rotivated and completely grass seeded so it's easier on the eye and easier for maintenance. There are 4 new wooden benches around the 'Garden' given in memory of loved ones so feel free to have a few peaceful minutes away from your normal duties.... I can assure you, it can be refreshing.

We, as a church body, continue to run social/fund raising events. The annual Summer Garden party was held at 'Hazelbush House' in glorious weather and was enjoyed by all. The 'Foresters' Folk group entertained us in the village hall in October raising £955.

Every 2nd Saturday of the month there is a coffee morning in church from 10-12, the next on 9th November with the Christmas Coffee morning being held in the Old part Of Stockton Hall where there will be stalls, Christmas raffle and Santa!!

Feel free to join us in any of the services or events, you will be given a warm welcome.

Church dates for your diary

Christmas Fayre at Stockton Hall Hospital Saturday 7th December 10.00am-12noon

Christingle Service Sunday 8th December at 4.00pm

WI Christmas Carol Service Monday 9th December at 2.00pm

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols Sunday 15th December 6.00pm

School Christmas Service Friday 20th December 11.00am

Crib Service Tuesday 24th December at 4.00pm
Midnight Service at 11.30pm

Stockton-on-the-Forest and Hopgrove Communications and Community Strategy Committee

In August we were given a substantial grant by City of York Council through the Ward Fund in order to set up a community website.

In September www.stocktonontheforest.org.uk went LIVE! It's there to see now, just type the name into your internet browser.

But we need your help to fill it with information and we need a logo (see enclosed flyer about the logo competition). What we want is to tell the world, and each other, what's going on here in Stockton. In the first instance a directory but later we hope to have events details, email contact and adverts from local businesses.

At the end of September a letter was sent out to all the main groups and organisations in the village asking them to submit details of what they do and who to contact, this is being collated for upload later in the year. We hope to launch in January 2014.

If you'd like to get involved or to find out more contact Karen – SFHCS Committee Chairperson on (01904) 870759 or at sofnews@sky.com.



Stockton on the Forest Surgery

Monday 8.00am to 12.15pm
Tuesday 2.00pm to 5.45pm
Wed – Fri 8.00am to 12.15pm

Tel: (01904) 724600



Mobile Library

Every two weeks on a Wednesday.
13th and 27th November 2013

Hopgrove Lane South 9.55am
Stone Riggs 11.05am
School/Fox Inn 11.50am
Village Hall 12.40pm
Westfield House 12.55pm

Tel: (01904) 552655



Stockton on the Forest Women's Institute

It's nearly the end of another most interesting and varied year but before we finish guess what – some of our members have become a dart team!! Our President, Barbara Hardisty, has entered us into a local W.I. League and we are going to uphold the name of Stockton-on-Forest to the best of our ability!! (I think we will need some of the inspiration mentioned on our logo!) Wish us luck – we will need it.



Apart from this we are looking forward to our Christmas party at the Golf Club in December and then next year – who knows?! If you are interested in becoming a member of the W.I. we meet every second Wednesday evening in the long room of the village hall at 7.30pm. Best thing to do would be just to come along – you would be more than welcome or ring any member.

Jill Hawkins (a member of many years!)



www.snappyork.co.uk

Total raised so far this year from your rubbish...

£183.53

A huge thank you to everyone who has been collecting clean aluminium foil and drinks cans. Please keep going. Collection points at the Village Hall, Holy Trinity Church and Hopgrove Lane South or call Karen on 870759 for more details.

Stockton and Hopgrove Luncheon Group



Meets at the Golf Club once a month

Good Food, Good Company

Wednesday 27th November 2013
 Wednesday 18th December 2013
 Wednesday 22nd January 2014
 Wednesday 19th February 2014
 Wednesday 19th March 2014

Just come along from noon.

For more details contact Pam Brighton

Tel: 400445

The Village Stores

52 The Village, Stockton. Proprietor: Tom Loose

Opening Times

Mon-Fri: 7.30am - 5.30pm

Sat: 7.30am - 12.30pm

Sun: 8.00am - 12.30pm

*Groceries, household goods,
daily newspapers, magazines,
cards, fresh bread and cakes,
sweets and chocolates.*

Tel:
400287

Stockton Senior Citizens

Why not come along and join a group of Young Seniors Citizens. We meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Village Hall. There are very good outings every month, the last was a run into the Dales and then on to Murgatroyd's for a fish and chip afternoon tea.

We get some very interesting speakers and also some good music acts, singing from musicals and also ballads. We have a full programme in place for 2014.



Contact Ann Steel on 400124 if you would be interesting in joining, you would be made very welcome.

Dean's Garden Centre

The Garden Centre at York was opened by Ken and Margaret Dean over 44 years ago, in December 1968, and has continued to grow and prosper ever since. A second Garden Centre was opened at Scarborough in 1986. Over the last twelve years over £146,000 has been raised for the Dean's Garden Centre staff nominated Charity of the Year, of which almost a quarter has been pledged by the partners of the business to add to the amount raised by staff members, suppliers and customers.

Fundraising is going well at Dean's Garden Centre, York, for their staff nominated Charity of the Year, which for 2013 is **York Against Cancer**. Up to the 1st October the customers and staff have raised the fantastic amount of £7,613.01. This has been achieved by holding various events including a walking treasure hunt around York, a monthly prize grid, motorbike evening and beetle drive.

There are further fundraising events scheduled for later in the year including Richard Dean's back waxing challenge in October and also a Christmas demonstration event at the Garden Centre on Wednesday 27th November.

If anyone would like to support this worthwhile charity there are collecting tins and a wishing well around the Garden Centre for your donations.

Our Scarborough branch is collecting for Yorkshire Cancer Research.

Dean's Garden Centre

Helping you to make your garden grow for over 40 years

**Stockton-on-the-Forest
York**

Tel: 01904 400141

www.deansgardencentre.co.uk

E-mail: enquiries@deansgardencentre.co.uk

New season ornamental & fruit trees now in stock

*Soft fruit, roses & hedging plants
due late October*

Good range of winter flowering shrubs

**Christmas department now open
Coffee shop open daily until 4.30pm**

Also at:
Seamer Road, Scarborough
Tel: 01723 361814



GREENFINGERS

Stockton on the Forest Gardening Club

The Gardening Club meets in the Long Room at the Village Hall on the first Monday in the month from September to June/July. It is a popular and flourishing club, more than a third of its enthusiastic members coming from outside the village. We invite professional speakers to most meetings, often with delightful and informative slides and many also bring a selection of plants - I have a healthy and unusual collection myself, culled at little cost over the years from various meetings. In the summer months we organise visits instead of inviting speakers in.

In September we have our **FESTIVAL OF GARDENING** in the Village Hall, to which we invite villagers to contribute their own home grown flowers, fruit and vegetables. Entrance is free and there are displays of interest to all gardeners and garden lovers. We invite adults and children to compete for flower and foliage arranging, marrow growing, group displays, craft work etc. And the refreshments are to die for. We have also instigated an activity room for the children - complete with a snail racing. Other village groups take part - the School, the Brownies, the Toddlers' Group, the W.I. the History Group etc. and Dean's Garden Centre always produces a wonderful display and contributes to the prizes.



Membership of the club costs an annual subscription of £10. Your membership ticket entitles you to a 10% discount at a number of local nurseries - including Dean's Garden Centre and Castle Howard Plant Centre. You very soon recoup that £10! But one-off visitors are also welcomed to individual talks, at a cost of £2 per visit. Do come and join us - members range from novices to experienced gardeners and all are friendly and enthusiastic. Whatever your interests and level of expertise, you will be very welcome. For more details contact Pat Jennings on 400327.

Where can you get
Quality Plants,
Advice & Friendly Service?



Christmas Trees

Available from 1st December

Holly Wreaths

bespoke and individually made

Fruit trees, Trees and Hedging

**Lots of plant ideas for your
winter & spring garden**

Chris Small *BSc Hort.*
Proprietor

Hopgrove Lane South YO32 9TG
Tel: 01904 421153

Email: orchardnurseries@aol.com



Your **Local Post Office** is within "Orchard Nurseries" on Hopgrove Lane South

Opening hours:

**Tuesday and Thursday mornings from
9.00am to 1.00pm**

Chris will be delighted to serve you with all
your post office requirements.

Tel: (01904) 421153

*BY REQUEST... A return visit of the SALE of high
quality women's wear at reduced prices*

Saturday 16th November 10.30am - 4.30pm

Sunday 17th November 10.30am - 3.30pm

Stockton Village Hall

Out of Vile
MADE IN ENGLAND

Free Admission

Labels you love

SAHARA *Prices you'll LOVE*

Adini
NOA
NOA

nigelthegardener



Nigel moved to the village in 1963 as a young child when his Dad was appointed Signalmans at Stockton on the Forest. He found his love for gardening at the age of 5 when he was given his own patch of garden at Station Cottage to grow potatoes and vegetables.

After school he found himself working in an office for BT where he stayed for 31 years! During this time he continued to garden as a hobby, volunteering at Helmsley Walled Garden for 7 years. Later he took day release from BT to attend courses at Askham Bryan College ranging from greenhouse maintenance to pruning fruit trees and cultivating herbs. On leaving BT Nigel decided to take up gardening full time and gained both City and Guilds and RHS qualifications.

Nigel has been actively involved in the village all his adult life and has sat on numerous committees. His current commitments are with Hempland Allotment Association, York Organic Gardens Association, Stockton & Hopgrove Cricket Club and of course the Greenfinger's Gardening Club. Back in 1998 he and a few others decided to start a gardening club. They booked the village hall and put out a few chairs hoping someone might come, 32 people turned up that first night! During the following year Nigel gave the monthly talks, plant demonstrations and quizzes but now Greenfinger's has regular outside speakers and visits for its 50+ members. Nigel is the President and Treasurer.

In 2003 Nigel decided to make his love of gardening a full time job and became '**nigelthegardener**'. He describes himself as an "old fashioned, hands on gardener, friendly, reliable and trustworthy" and concentrates on plants rather than hard landscaping. He likes to use his hands rather than gadgets and avoids chemicals wherever possible, he's happy to do the 'little jobs' too, this makes him very popular with the older members of our community.

Nigel confessed that his own garden is a bit of a mess but after a hard day's work he likes to relax at his home in Heworth with Pam and indulge in his hobby of collecting wooden antiques, old kitchen and gardening tools and Bakelite.

Nigel Collinson

Tel: 01904 423206

Mob: 07917 844235

Email: nigelthegardener@hotmail.com



MICHAEL RICHMOND

Chartered Certified Accountant
ACCA BA(Hons.) MAAT

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 07765 176596

MICHAEL @ MCGLINCHEYS.CO.UK

Stockton-on-the-Forest TODDLER GROUP

What a busy start to the new term! Whilst we were sad to say goodbye to Eleanor and Cameron, as they went onto bigger things (school), three of our mums have given birth to three brand new members for our Toddler Group! We have also welcomed two new friends and their mums as well.

This September we have all helped to produce a display for the Gardening Festival - a 'Toddler Garden for the Royal Baby' complete with jewel-encrusted slides, swings and prams as well as a tree decorated with crowns.



Over the Summer months we had lots of fun planting seeds, watering and picking strawberries in our Toddler Garden. We have enjoyed harvesting pumpkins, courgettes, squashes, marrows and beans and also painted pumpkins and sunflowers to display at the Church Harvest Festival.

Our Toddler Group is run by parents on Thursday mornings, 9.30-11.30. We play with a wide variety of large and small toys, enjoy crafts, gardening, dressing up and song time, and eat a healthy snack whilst our carers have a cup of tea and a chat. All parents help with the running of the group, such as setting up, washing up and tidying away, and it costs approx. £3 per week. We are also involved with other Village groups such as providing displays for the Garden Festival, Harvest Festival, Christmas Tree Festival and Easter. We also visit the Reception Class at Stockton School once a term, as part of the SOFEY (Stockton on the Forest Early Years) Partnership.

With all our new members, we are currently full. However, if you are from the village, look after a child under 5 years old, and would like to join us when we have a space available, please ring Jane Ward on 01904 401762 with your contact details.

STOCKTON ON THE FOREST DAY NURSERY

We have been very busy at Stockton on the Forest Day Nursery, enjoying the summer weather, planting our own vegetables in our nursery garden and helping them to grow. We grew some amazing broccoli in our nature club.

Due to the very warm weather we explored the movement of water, using lots of different resources to experiment with, investigated how water flows, changing its colour, blowing bubbles and looking at the colours in the rainbow. This was great fun.



We visited Rowntree Park in York during the Summer break, going on a squirrel hunt, exploring the different physical play equipment, enjoying a picnic and big ice-cream..... yummy!!!.



Now that Autumn is around the corner and all our fruit and veg has been picked, we are moving on to a cookery club, enabling the children to experiment with different textures and create varied recipes. 'Stretch and Grow' also visit us monthly so the children can enjoy a physical movement session learning about how our body moves.

The Nursery also offers wrap-around-care for Stockton on the Forest Primary school, including Breakfast club (7.30 - 8.50am) Afterschool care (3.10 - 6.00pm) and out of term time a Holiday Club. We are able to offer Crèche places when booked in advance and children all enjoy freshly cooked meals daily, lots of stimulating activities, age relevant, and lots of fun. If you would like more information about the Nursery please contact Carla on 01904 400698.



Friendly Nursery for children 0-5 years
Varied sessions and crèche facility
Breakfast, Afterschool and Holiday Clubs for children 5-8 years
Nature Club Thursday afternoons
Open 51 weeks a year
07.30-18.30

Call Carla on 400698
stocktondaynursery@live.co.uk



School News

Here at Stockton on the Forest Primary School we very much live by our motto

“Happy, healthy, learning for life and caring for all.”

We believe that happy children and staff is the key to the success of our school community and we hope that we achieve this through our varied academic programmes, numerous visitors to school and trips away from school.

One such trip is our regular Enterprise link with Dean’s Garden Centre. Small groups of children walk to Dean’s from school and spend the afternoon helping with jobs and mixing with our local community. We aim to instil the values of community and voluntary work, to enable our children to be valuable members of their local community.

At Stockton on the Forest Primary School we are very proud of the variety of sports played and the number of events that our children are keen to enter.

Earlier on in the year, during snow and icy cold, our Year 3 children put on a stunning display in the York Schools Cross Country Event, running 1200m. Following this event, Milli and Lauren qualified for the North Yorkshire competition and travelled to Catterick for the day, to represent York. Well done!

More recently, children in years 3 and 4 participated in a tri-golf tournament, along with children from other schools in York. The Head Professional at York Golf Club was particularly impressed by several of our children, who showed natural talent. Congratulations to all the children - Charley, Jared, George, William, Grace, Erin, Milli, Lauren, Joseph and Ben.

Oaks class, our oldest children will shortly head off for their residential trip, accompanied by Mrs Seavers and Mrs Rooney. This is always a fun time with the children overcoming challenges that they hadn’t thought possible. Sometimes it is the adults overcoming their fears and showing that we can all learn whatever age we might be!

As we approach the Christmas season the younger members of our school are frantically practising for their play and a chance to shine in front of parents, grandparents and friends. Please come and join us and also at our Carol Service to round off the term.

Dates for your diary

Christmas Fair – Friday 29th November 3.15 – 5.00pm

Infants Nativity Play – Monday 16th December 2pm and 5.30pm

Christmas Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church – Friday 20th

December 11.00am

www.yorkla.org/stocktonforest



The Stockton on the Forest Cub pack has enjoyed many exciting activities this Summer, including a camp at Redmire, kayaking at Bishopthorpe, cooking and games at Snowball Plantation and more recently, a very interesting tour of the York Minster stonemasons yard and a talk with the Rev. Nick Bird from Holy Trinity Church. In the Hut we are currently working towards numerous badges including the Science and Athlete badges and the Sixers are on course to receive their Silver Award badges at a ceremony in the Guildhall.

While the pack currently has a healthy number of children we could do much more if we had another Adult to help organise some of the activities. If you think that you could spare a few hours a week to assist then please contact Mark Fuller for an 'informal' and 'no obligation' chat.

We meet on Tuesday evenings between 6:45 and 8:15pm and welcome both Boys and Girls aged between 8 and 10 ½. If you would like more information about us then please contact Mark Fuller on 07770 796109.

Stockton on the Forest Primary School

Christmas Fair

Friday
29th November 2013
3.15 - 5.00pm

See Santa in his
Rocking Rudolph
Sleigh!

Grand Prize Raffle,
Tombolas, Cake stall,
Seasonal games and stalls
and Refreshments

Brownies



1ST STOCKTON-ON-THE-FOREST BROWNIES

Once again we have had a very busy schedule. During the spring term we took part in the Sainsbury's Active Kids challenge. We undertook lots of different sporting challenges, learnt about healthy foods and made our own fruit salad faces. We also took part in the district brownie swimming gala where the girls did really well.

After all that exercise we slowed things down a bit and took some time out to do our communicator badges. We made Morse code bracelets, sent messages using semaphore and with the help of Mrs Nash learnt some sign language. We also had a go at decoding secret messages and learnt about the importance of body language.

Girl guiding has just adopted a new version of the promise that the girls take when they become a brownie. The new words include 'to serve the queen and my community'. We served our community in June by working very hard to provide a wonderful banner for the village hall 40th birthday party. We hope you liked it (see front page).

During the summer term we started to plan our 'commonwealth gardens' for the village gardening festival and planted some flowers to include on the display. We also took advantage of the lovely weather by going up to the school field to play with the parachute and have a game of beanbag rounders.

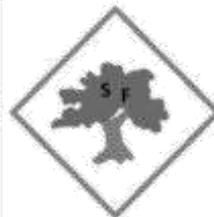
To finish off our summer term we went to see some of our fellow brownies in the school play followed by a wonderful French themed evening at the village hall. We dressed in red, white and blue and learnt how to play Petanque. We also enjoyed a French themed supper and tried lots of different cheeses that some of us hadn't had before. We are very grateful to the members of the Petanque club that gave up their time to host the evening.

Our new term has already got off to a hectic start. We spent the first couple of weeks perfecting our commonwealth gardens for the gardening festival and welcoming some more new brownie friends to our pack. We also had a very exciting trip to Flamingo Land to celebrate 100 years of guiding in North Yorkshire. A wonderful time was had by all.



If there are any girls between the ages of 7 and 11, who would like to join brownies please contact us to discuss availability of places: Liz Bates on 400408; Jane Palmer on 400386; or Kath Brooks on 400128. Or register your interest at

www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved.aspx



Stockton-on-the-Forest Scout Troop

In the last twelve months, we have been busy building up our experience as a Troop and Leadership team. We've completed a whole series of challenges culminating in the completion of our Fitness, Creative and Outdoor challenge badges. These are three of the eight core challenges we aim to complete over several years.

A recent county-level challenge has charged the entire troop to gain additional media exposure, for which we gain points for every piece of involvement. Publication in this newsletter scores us some points and there are more to come.

I asked my Scouts to identify a favourite moment in the Scouting movement. Harris loved the race around Snowball Plantation on the carriage trollies; Zac was a fan of shooting air rifles; Harry enjoyed kayaking with Cubs, and Stefan loved helping out Beavers. For Ed, our outdoor challenge camp proved a highlight as it did for Tony who bivvied (sleeping in a waterproof sleeping bag without a tent covering you) on his first ever Scout camp. Doug is looking forward "to an awesome camp" - no worries, we can deliver that. Charlie's first aid expertise made those learning sessions a highlight in the last year.

Don't just take my word for it, listen to my Young Leaders. Ed and Lewis are older ex-Scouts who stay along to help me out as part of the Leadership team. Bearing in mind I hadn't told them to write this, they are "looking forward to all of the cool camps and activities" because "Scouts is a great experience, it's fun, exciting, the leaders are fun and you learn a lot in Scouts that could help you later in life".

I hope to further our involvement in the local community and would always welcome suggestions on how this can be achieved. For the benefit of those that haven't met me before, my name is Adam Parker, I am the Scout Leader here. I'm 25, a professional archaeologist and have been involved in Scouts for over three years now.

If you have a project that requires help or enthusiasm from young people aged 10 and a half to 14, or have someone who would like to get involved, we love challenges and variety, so bring it on! We can be found at the Scout hut on Thursdays at 6:45-8:45pm.



The Local History Group meets quarterly in the Village Hall on a Thursday at 7.30pm. The next meeting will be on 21st November when Robert Palmer will speak on the local soils and geology.

In the current year we have had two speakers to date. In March, Chris Dowell gave us a fascinating evening on 'Georgian Gentry in York', showing us details of a fine array of costumes of that period. This was followed in June by an intriguing talk on 'Oliver Cromwell's Head', tracing its movements over the years. The speaker was Russell Marwood of the York Archaeological Trust and his contribution was much appreciated.

In the summer the group made an interesting visit to the Merchant Adventurers' Hall in York. Lauren Marshall gave us a warm welcome and, after a DVD show, took us on a comprehensive guided tour around the building. The event was well attended and enjoyed by everyone.

The group is always happy to welcome new members (annual subscription £10) and anyone interested should contact our Secretary, Steve Burton on 01904 400066.

Malcolm Jennings (Chairman)

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FAX: (01904) 631452 Mobile Telephone: 07860 425393
EMAIL: lockfix@aol.com WEB: www.lockfix.uk.com

YORK ELECTRONIC ORGAN & KEYBOARD SOCIETY



The Society meets at The Village Hall, Stockton-on-the-Forest, on the 2nd Thursday in every month throughout the year. A different artiste is booked for each concert during the year; therefore audiences can hear a variety of instruments and music. German and Dutch artistes have entertained us, and many of the British artistes we engage also play abroad - as far afield as the USA, Australia and New Zealand!

The Committee works hard to give members and visitors alike an enjoyable musical experience, in a friendly and warm atmosphere. Concerts start at 7.30PM (2 x 1hour performances with an interval in between).

Admission charges: members £5, visitors £7.

Children of school age, accompanied by an adult, pay half price.

Light refreshments during the interval are included in the ticket price.

Come along and join us, make new friends, and above all enjoy a great evening's entertainment.

CALENDAR 2013/14

14th November	JAMES SARGEANT
12th December	JOHN BOWDLER (of Blackpool Tower fame)
9th January	ELIZABETH HARRISON
13th February	RYAN EDWARDS
13th March	PHIL BROWN
10th April	HOWARD BEAUMONT

For further information contact;

John Longhawn (Concert Secretary) 01904 448178, or
Pat Sadler (Treasurer) 01904 412858.

THE GRAPEVINE



Monthly news, updates, events and local adverts for what's happening in Stockton on the Forest, Warthill, Holtby and Dunnington why not pick up a copy from the village shop, it's only 25p.

If you would like to submit some local news, an article or an advert please email the editor editor-vcross@btconnect.com for other enquiries or for subscriptions and deliveries please call (01904) 489817.



THE STOCKTON FORESTERS

We've all seen pictures of the puffin bird -
Colourful, comical, quite absurd.
And there's a warm coat that's full of stuffin'
The manufacturer decided to call 'a puffin'.
Well do please ignore each daft item,
'Cos our play's not about either of them.
Mrs. Puffin is indeed colourful and small,
But she's not a bird or a coat at all.
She's a sort of busy-bodying psychic
Who others' fate she decides to unpick.
You see, she has these fateful dreams
That show life's not always as it seems.
Jacqueline and Victor are about to be wed.
They're happy enough, and it has to be said
Their fathers' firms plan to amalgamate,
So what disruption can she promulgate?
What has she seen in these dreams of her's
That foretells this partnership must disperse?
Is she really credible? Is she, heck!
Irate Stephen refuses to check
His plans, until, lo and behold,
She displays foreknowledge even more bold.
Sister Pamela's sweet and quite reserved -
But is her wallflower stance really deserved?
And what about Roger, the visiting Yank?
Is his presence another life changing prank,
Or is there a higher meaning here?
The families are a-tremble with confusion and fear.
While Nicholas thinks the whole thing hilarious,
The rest of the group are feeling precarious -
Henry's up-tight wife, Ethel, faints away,
'Till Mrs. Puffin returns - can she save the day?
Come and give this psychic mix a whirl:
You'll find Mrs. Puffin quite a girl!
Put the date in your diaries so you'll remember
The last three days of this November.
Book tickets early so you don't lose our
From Robert, our friendly ticket tout.

Pat Jennings

The Stockton Foresters are presenting the comedy 'Goodnight Mrs. Puffin' by Arthur Lovegrove in the Village Hall, Stockton on the Forest on **Thursday 28, Friday 29 and Saturday 30 November at 7.30pm.**

Tickets £7.50, including light refreshments from Robert Palmer (01904) 400386. Wine & juice bar available. Unreserved seating.

THE STOCKTON FORESTERS DRAMA GROUP

Incredibly, the Stockton Foresters first began over seventy five years ago, and we still meet every Tuesday in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. We produce a show - usually, but not always, a play - twice a year, in late May and late November. This November we shall be presenting 'Goodnight Mrs. Puffin' by Arthur Lovegrove. However, we're not totally hung up on comedy: our repertoire has included classics, such as Hobson's Choice, Blythe Spirit and When We are Married etc., and we've also tackled plays by Terry Pratchett, Ray Cooney and local playwrights. We occasionally put on a musical or a musical play or a review. Whatever we choose, it's usually a sell-out and hugely enjoyed as much by us as by the viewing public.

We welcome new members, whether or not they wish to tread the boards. Indeed, the backstage and behind the scene workers are indispensable and highly valued. Set builders, wardrobe organisers, props providers, electricians, media manipulators..... all would find a welcome. Delightfully, we now have a younger membership, injecting new blood into the group, but we would love to attract more participants of either sex - though preferably not as superannuated as I am - the enthusiasm in the group is catching and we do lead a lively and active social life as well as a make-believe one. The pub calls every Tuesday at 10 o'clock and we have at least two parties a year besides the after-show knees-ups and occasional group visits to other shows.

Although the coming play has been cast, new members would be most welcome to join us - we can use as many hands as possible back stage - there promises to be as much frantic activity off-stage as on - and we always need a good team front of house. The feeling of camaraderie is great fun. Come for a taster - you won't regret it.

Pat Jennings (400327)



Our opening hours are:

Monday to Saturday 7.00am - 4.30pm

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Stockton & Hopgrove Cricket Club

After a drier sunnier season both teams made an excellent start. The first team were the early pace setters in division 1 but three defeats on the trot saw them finish in fourth place. 18 year old Matt Durkin won the league's batting average and leading run scorer (950 runs) with a club record innings of 173 not out. The first team also missed out on the league's premier cup losing in the final to Bishopthorpe.

The 2nd team moved up to division 4 and finished in a very good 4th place and this could see them promoted again. Rich Horsman also won the division's batting award for the second year running.

The Wednesday night team finished bottom of division 1 in the Foss league. After moving up to the top division for the first time this was a step up in class too far and will look forward to playing in a division that they can compete in.

We are on the look out for new players for the 2014 season anybody interested ring club chairman **Rich Kerrison 01904 400541 or 07986619125.**

We also are looking for a new shirt sponsor for next season and ball sponsors as well. Ball sponsorship costs £20! This will get shown on the day and be put on our Facebook page. Please contact Rich Kerrison on 07986619125.



Fox Inn, Stockton-on-the-Forest

After an unkind winter the weather has been great during the summer and we have had some very successful days' play.

Our venue is very popular as it is in the centre of the Northern Region which stretches from coast to coast. Several of our members played for the region in the regional finals and helped it regain a place in division one.

Closer to home we were not very good in the local league with the first team coming 4th and the second team coming 9th.

The competitions are very friendly and most of our members took part, from Ryan who is 18 to Dick who is 91.

We are always looking for new members and during the winter play on our terrains behind the village hall on **Monday and Thursday from 7.00 pm.** Come along you will be sure of a warm welcome and we can lend you boules and give tuition.

For more information contact **Barbara Hardisty on 400018** or just turn up.

Forest Park Golf Club has 27 holes of golf over 2 courses. The 9 hole West Course and The 18 hole Old Foss Course.

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We have a limited number of memberships available, including full - 7 day, midweek - 5 day, 9 hole West Course only membership. There are also a limited number of junior memberships available (age 8 to 21yrs).

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