

November 2014

Newsletter

Stockton on the Forest Village and Hopgrove



FLUSHED!

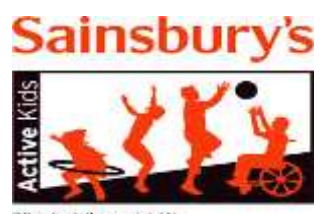
It is always a sad occasion when someone we know and respect dies. In the summer the Village Hall received a legacy from the passing of a local resident and this gives us the opportunity to use the money they gave, in their memory, for the benefit of the whole community. Plans are being drawn up to put in a new toilet between the Kitchen and the Long Room at the Village Hall for anyone using the far side of the building, to save having to walk through another function in the main hall. We hope you approve of the management committee's decision on how to spend the money on your behalf.



Despite the thick fog Stockton and Hopgrove residents came out in force to wave and cheer as the runners came through the village. Did you spot anyone you know?



York Light Orchestra YLO
Presents 'A Festive' **ENCORE**
A concert of music for everyone
Thursday 4th December 7.30pm
Tickets £5
Wine Bar, soft drinks and raffle
Tickets from Karen 870759 or Jill 400442



Stockton on the Forest Primary School and 1st Stockton Brownies would like to say a huge

THANK YOU

to everyone who collected the Sainsbury's Active kids Vouchers for them. As a village we collected a massive 10,779 for the school who bought a zigzag tunnel, a basketball ring and net, a deep space planetarium with projector and a whole box full of balls, bean bags and games; and a further 5,000 for the Brownies who are having Jazz Dancing Lessons.



The school are now collecting for **Morrison's Let's Grow**. If you have any spare vouchers there are collection boxes at Stockton Primary School, Stockton Village Hall and Holy Trinity Church. They are also collecting Nestle Box Tops for Books. If you eat Nestle Cereal please save the tokens and put them in the above collection boxes. Thank you.

In this issue: Around Stockton pages 1-3, Gardening page 4, Local Interest page 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 8th March 2015 please.

Stockton on the Forest Parish Council News

We are a small group of volunteers, living locally who meet monthly to discuss and act upon issues affecting our parish. We have limited finances which are used to service assets such as the play area and in some circumstances issue grants towards things that benefit the community.

So what have we done recently?

The **Play Area** is inspected regularly (a ROSPA requirement) by the Parish Councillors, who check the equipment and clear litter to make the area inviting and safe for children & parents. In May the goal mouth area was fitted with a new astro-turf surface, a great improvement to the usability of the goals.



This year we have consulted on quite a large number of **Planning Applications**; from smaller home extensions, to new houses being built, to business expansions. The application for a wind farm at Murton has been withdrawn.

If you want to keep up to date with local planning applications there is an excellent link to the CYC planning site via the village website at www.stocktonontheforest.org.uk

We monitor CYC **grass cutting** operation around village and highlight **road deficiencies** (potholes, manhole covers etc). We have highlighted the poor condition of the road surface through the village and excessive speeding of traffic in parts of the village especially along Hopgrove Lane South.

We periodically walk all the **footpaths** in the parish to ensure they are in good repair, signs are clear and vegetation is kept in check. Please pass any comments on to the Parish Council via the clerk.



All the village **salt bins** are full ready for this winter but we will now have to pay to have them refilled so **please don't waste it**.

Yorkshire Marathon; we made suggestions and comments to the organisers regarding improvements and most if not all have been noted and should have been implemented.

Grants have been given to the Scouts to help them repair the hut and to the Church towards the upkeep of the churchyard.



We are hoping to have a **defibrillator** available to the community for emergency use, fitted on the outside of the surgery available 24/7.

People wishing to attend a **Parish Council meeting** are most welcome. Meetings are normally held on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm at The Village Hall. Agendas can be seen on the notice boards around the village and on the parish council pages of the village website, it's also the place to see what's going on, who's doing what and when. The content of the website is built on input from the community. Please use it.

Any comments about our parish can be made to the Parish Clerk via email: fiona@thebyre.me.uk or talk to your Parish Councillors.

Holy Trinity Church



It's all go at Holy Trinity Church, we hope you'll be able to join us for the weekly Sunday and Wednesday morning Church services, our social events and fundraising activities.

FUN FUN FUN

Since the last edition of the village newsletter we have held two very successful events for the children.

Our *EASTER EGG HUNT* was highly competitive, including puzzles, jigsaws and drawings, although every one received something in the end. (Pat Jennings was squashed in the belfry because so many wanted to join in the activities.)



Then the *HARVEST CELEBRATION* was very popular with a Scarecrow trail outside, while inside the activities were moved to the chancel where you could make bird feeders, complete a range of puzzles or join John Hall with snail racing which held the youngsters attention. While all this was going on, Catherine and Kath were purveying coffee and scones to the parents.

If you haven't been to one of our monthly **COFFEE MORNINGS**, (held on the 2nd Saturday) or to one of the children's events, you don't know what you're missing. Come along, you'd be made very welcome.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

9th Nov	10.30am	Remembrance Service
6th Dec	10am - 12	Christmas Coffee Morning at Stockton Hall with stalls and activities.
7th Dec	10.30am	Christingle Service
12 th Dec	7.30pm	A Christmas Concert by the York Musical Theatre Society
15th Dec	5.30pm	Carol singing at Stockton Hall (meet at the Security Lodge)

explore SUPPORTED BY YORK

MOBILE LIBRARY

Every two weeks on a Wednesday
12 & 16 November, 10 & 24 December

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 Surgery

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

Tel: (01904) 724600

Stockton and Hopgrove Luncheon Group



Meets at the Golf Club once a month
Good Food, Good Company

We meet once a month at the Forest Park Golf Club. Originally it was the continuation of the 'Good Neighbours' whereby we delivered meals to people's homes and did odd jobs and helped in any way we could. This became no longer necessary but we are trying to carry on by having a nice meal and a happy social afternoon. It is not just for pensioners, there is no age barrier and you don't have to reside in Stockton or nearby. At present we have a two course meal for £6.50 but for dietary reasons another choice from the menu could be purchased. No need to book just come along.

Wednesday 26th November 2014

Wednesday 17th December 2014

Wednesday 28th January 2015

Wednesday 25th February 2015

Wednesday 18th March 2015

For more information see Pam Brighton or Maureen Sutcliffe or tel: 400445

Stockton Senior Citizens

Here we are coming to another year end. There have been some good speakers and also one or two very funny people to entertain us. We have had some good days out going to some very interesting places and still have a few more to come, up to December.

Three of our ladies have had very special birthdays this year and have had parties to celebrate at our meetings.



We meet **every 3rd Tuesday at 2pm** in the Long Room at the Village Hall for a good afternoon and have trips out on 15th November to The Metro, and 13th December to Bury Market where you can get some lovely bargains. If you are interested please come and join our happy band of ladies and gents. Membership is only £10 for the year. For more details contact **Ann Steel on 400124**, you would be made very welcome.



Stockton on the Forest Women's Institute

What a lovely evening we all had in August sitting in a large tent on Barbara's back lawn enjoying great food and yes, drink too! September unfortunately was the one month I missed this year due to holidays. November brings our A.G.M - not too onerous I can assure you as we always enjoy a quiz afterwards usually organised by one of the committee. Great fun. We have to use our brains sometimes!! In December we will all once again be enjoying our Christmas dinner at the Golf Club. It does not seem long since we were there last year!

Unfortunately very recently we attended the funeral of one of our longstanding members, Edna Game. She was a member for over 40 years and always took part in the pantomimes, verse speaking competitions and even sent in stories whenever there was a writing competition. She had not been able to attend for some months as she moved to Haxby and we really miss her and her "votes of thanks".

One bit of good news though - THE DARTS HAVE STARTED UP AGAIN and we are now competing. The first game was at Snainton and the result was not what we hoped for but they were champions last year!! It was a long way to go but we will be doing some more travelling when we visit Pickering. At least the fourth team in our group is based at Sand Hutton and we will be playing in the Fox Inn.

Here on the left is Barbara Hardisty, our President, together some of our W.I. members and friends enjoying a delicious tea at "Goddards" during the summer months.



Next year's programme has not been completed yet but I am assured that once again we will be enjoying a fantastic selection of varied and interesting speakers including once again Tony Cleaver - always very entertaining!

We welcome all new members, both young and old. We meet on the second Wednesday evening of every month in the long room of the village hall at 7.30 pm where you will find a very friendly bunch of ladies and be able to enjoy a really good cup of tea before you go home.

Jill Hawkins (a longstanding member)

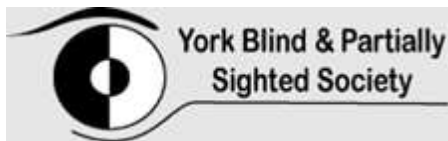
Dean's Garden Centre

Fundraising is going well at Dean's Garden Centre York, for their staff nominated Charity of the Year, which for 2014 is York Blind and Partially Sighted Society.

Up to the 30th September the customers and staff have raised the fantastic amount of £8,768.68.

This has been achieved by holding various events including a monthly prize grid. The motorbike evening in July was a huge success and a team from Dean's ran in the Jane Tomlinson 10k in York in August raising a further £1410.00! Well done to everyone who ran. The latest event was a fabulous concert by Kirkbymoorside Town Brass Band which raised £695.55 for YBPSS (along with a further £570 for the band).

There are further fundraising events scheduled for later in the year including a Christmas demonstration at the Garden Centre on Wednesday 19th 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 the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

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Tel: 01723 361814



GREENFINGERS

Stockton on the Forest Gardening Club

'Greenfingers' meets in the Village Hall at 7.15pm **every first Monday** in the month (apart from January and August). We enjoy a variety of speakers on every horticultural subject from growing cabbages to caring for exotic orchids, from bee keeping to water gardens. The talks are usually accompanied by brilliant slide shows and often the speaker will bring along a selection of plants as well – I have a flourishing magnolia shrub bought some years ago as a cutting for 50p! In addition, we arrange a couple of group visits in the summer to horticultural centres of interest (we once went as far as Highgrove!)

We also mount a biennial Festival of Gardening, previously in September but next year moving to July, to which all and sundry are invited to create or enjoy displays and competitions and contribute their own vegetable and floral produce. We even offer an activity room for the children which has proved enormously popular.

The annual subscription is £10, and £1 per session attended, although anyone may attend individual talks for a charge of £2. Membership includes a monthly newsletter and your membership card entitles you to 10% discount at various garden centres, including Dean's and Castle Howard Plant Centre. We have a very healthy membership, made up of both experienced and novice gardeners, but most of all friendly and helpful folk.

Our **November** speaker will talk on 'Wildlife in the Garden', followed by our Annual General Meeting in December – very brief! – a quiz night and bring and share buffet. Why not pop along to next month's talk for a taster – you may become hooked.

If you would like more information, please contact Pat Jennings on 400327

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The Fish Van – a wide selection of
quality fresh fish. Visits Hopgrove
every Tuesday at 11am.

Creating A Welcome

We have been thinking, at Holy Trinity Church, how our building can be used to best serve the wider community, and also the church family that meets regularly for worship and fellowship. We really want to be able to welcome people in, and to use the space in the best way possible.

The church is only used for worship a couple of hours a week, but there is the possibility of increasingly using it for concerts, coffee mornings, mums (or dads) and toddler groups, a village meeting space and for church social events - we have all sorts of ideas! At the moment there is very little flexible and open space within the building, making many activities impossible (even weddings and baptisms are cramped).

So the Church Council are exploring the possibility of creating a modest amount of space at the back of the church (preventing the weekly bottleneck), and making slightly more space available at the front of the church. At the same time we are looking at restoring the missing pews half way down the nave, whilst also replacing the eclectic furniture that has gathered over the years with something more considered and attractive.

The aim is to create a more beautiful and flexible space into which the church family can welcome everyone.

You are welcome to contribute your own ideas.

Nick Bird - Rector

Tel: 489349

Email: frnick.bird@btinternet.com

An interview with.....

Nick Bentley



I've loved computers from an early age. As a teenager I really wanted a ZX Spectrum but my parents wouldn't buy one, so I read everything I could about them while I saved up enough money to buy one for myself and I was hooked.

I've worked in the IT business for nearly 25 years. I started out with the NHS and then moved into the private sector working for a large company but 5 years ago was made redundant and set out on my own as 'bentleys of york'.

I'm a Yorkshire man born and bred and I've lived in Stockton for 20 years with my family. I've been involved with the community as a PTA member and Parent Governor while my son was at Stockton Primary School, helping out with the village Carnival running stalls and now as backstage and technical support for the Foresters Drama Group.

My most recent community project though has made use of my IT skills and my village knowledge working with Karen Nash and the Parish Council to design and build the Stockton on the Forest and Hopgrove Community Website. It was very satisfying to use my skills to create something that is of benefit to the whole community.

But I'm not just websites and new tech, I'm a rare breed, covering most aspects of computing; hardware, software, old and new, everything from designing, installing and providing training for a new computer to fault finding and repairing old ones, I love it all. I buy to order so you get exactly what you want and need. For village customers I don't charge call out or travelling expenses so your first 30 minutes of consultation is only £15. So whatever your IT requirements just give me a call.

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www.bentleysofyork.co.uk



Stockton-on-the-Forest TODDLER GROUP

What a busy start to the new term at Toddler Group! Whilst we were sad to say goodbye to Tommy, Jack, Len and Sylvie, we have been happy to welcome some new friends and their mums, keeping us at 18 regular members.

This term we have all enjoyed helping to produce a display for the Harvest Festival in church - a 'Glittering Fruit Tree' complete with sparkly apples, pears, plums and oranges as well as printing apple trees with our hands and fingers.

Over the summer we had lots of fun planting seeds, watering up and picking strawberries in our Toddler Garden. We have enjoyed harvesting pumpkins, courgettes, squashes, marrows and beans. We were very pleased with the size of our pumpkin this year!



Over the next few weeks we are looking forward to making some Christmassy themed crafts, visiting the Reception Class at Stockton Primary School, and having a visit from Father Christmas!

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. £4 per week. If you are from the village and would like to join us when we have a space available, please ring Jane Ward on 01904 401762 with your contact details.



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

Opening hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays
from 9.00am to 1.00pm

Chris will be delighted to serve you with all your post office requirements. Tel: (01904) 421153

STOCKTON ON THE FOREST DAY NURSERY

The summer was very busy for us at Stockton on the Forest Day Nursery. As we said goodbye to the graduating pre-schoolers we enjoyed a visit from the Fun Bus and a bouncy castle!



The children in pre-school have since enjoyed harvesting the vegetables in our garden and even building a scarecrow for the Harvest Festival. We have also been very keen to learn about being healthy.

In our baby and toddler unit we have been busy exploring our senses in the newly created sensory area and also exploring lots of messy play.



The Woodpecker Club has grown in numbers and working in partnership with surrounding villages has now created wrap around care for 5-11 year olds. We are working closely with the school to create a club with different activities depending on the day including a loom band creation club and a weekly wildlife club. Children have also been given reward books to celebrate their achievements.

For more information about the Nursery or the Woodpecker Club ring and speak to one of the team on (01904) 400698.



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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.”

Who can believe that since our last article we have now said a fond farewell to our much loved Year Six children, who continue their learning journey, leaving us for secondary school? We wish them well.

Of course, we also welcomed our new, little Reception Children, who have already become fully fledged members of our school family. Hello to; Nathan, Isla, Alfie, George, Elsie-Mai, Ethan, Connie, Freddie, and Niall. Together with the Year one children they make up the newly renamed “Pine Class”.

In fact, all the classes have new names this year, the names of trees, reflecting the fact that we are a Forest School.



Pine (R & Y1)



Willow (Y2 & Y3)



Hazel (Y4 & Y5)



Oaks (Y6)

No sooner were we all back to school than it was time for the Year Six children to leave for their residential trip to the Robinwood Outdoor Centre in Todmorden, accompanied by Mrs Rooney and Mrs Mills.

Here, the children are encouraged to “have a go” at various activities including climbing, archery, the trapeze and also the dreaded Piranha Pool!



With the emphasis this year on teamwork, all of our children proved to be fantastic team members. Well done!

We recently held a whole school poetry week which was brilliant and led to some superb work from all children, which can be seen on display around school. We were extremely fortunate to welcome Mr Craig Bradley, known nationally as “That Poetry Bloke”, having studied English at university and completed a MA in Twentieth Century Literature; Craig is now a freelance writer, poet and performer. The children really enjoyed his innovative and highly entertaining approach to messing about with words and ideas. It was a wonderful way to finish our poetry week, thank you Craig!

As always it promises to be a very busy term so here are some dates for your diaries.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Thursday 6 th November | 10.00am SOFEY Art Event |
| Friday 5 th December | Christmas Fair 3.30 – 5.30pm |
| Tuesday 9 th December | 5pm Infant Nativity Play |
| Wednesday 10 th December | 2pm Infant Nativity Play |
| Friday 19 th December | School Christmas Service 11am at Holy Trinity Church |

Stockton on the Forest Primary School

Christmas Fair

Friday
5th December 2014
3.15 - 5.00pm

Grand Prize Raffle – *Fantastic family days out, hampers, vouchers, and more to be won.*

Also Cakes, Games, Stalls and Refreshments

Can you help?

At Stockton on the Forest Primary School we have a vacancy for a **Mid-day Supervisor** to cover our lunchtimes Monday to Friday.

Are you a kind, caring and supportive person who likes to work as part of a team? If so, you could be the person that we need to join our small but friendly staff. We are looking for someone who is kind, approachable and committed to ensuring the well-being of all our children during their lunchtime break.

If this sounds like you, then please contact us for further details and an application pack email: stocktonontheforest.primary@york.gov.uk or phone 400366 or send a large SAE to the Headteacher, Stockton on the Forest Primary School, The Village, Stockton on the Forest, York, YO32 9UP.

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

Brownies

1ST STOCKTON-ON-THE-FOREST BROWNIES

In the last newsletter we told you about some of the 9 challenges we had set ourselves to earn our 100th birthday challenge badges. The good news is we all made it and had a fantastic time doing so.

Following our team building and dragon boat racing earlier in the year we continued our badge by learning to climb at the 'Go Outdoors' store and going on some Brownie adventures.



Our first trip was to the Bradley Wood Activity Centre where we did some more climbing, had a go at crate stacking, abseiled, crawled through an artificial cave, went on a nature walk, learnt some archery and had a campfire. It was a long day but we all had a brilliant time.

A few weeks later we found ourselves out in the woods again to enjoy another campfire and activity evening with our friends from other brownie packs in the district. It was a lovely warm evening and we all had good fun toasting marshmallows, singing, and completing different woodland challenges. Another highlight of our year was the creation of the wonderful Tour de France banner that was displayed on the city walls during the TDF festivities.



A professional artist came to our unit and helped us turn our ideas into a spectacular piece of artwork. We were all very proud to see it hanging on the city walls.

After all that hard work we needed a bit of pampering so just before the summer holiday representatives from the LUSH cosmetics company kindly came to our meeting to show us how to make bath bombs and soap dough creatures. We had lots of fun making the products and the scout hut had never smelt so nice. We are now in the middle of another busy term and by the time you read this we should all have completed our crime prevention badges and be starting to turn our hands (and feet!) to Jazz dancing, provided through the Sainsbury's Active Kids voucher scheme.

Our pack is currently very full and a waiting list is now in operation. If you would like to register a child to join Brownies please visit

http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved/volunteer/register_your_interest.aspx

Girls can be registered as they approach their 7th birthday and we will contact you when a place becomes available.

Liz Bates, Jane Palmer, Kath Brooks and Maggie Wilson

STOCKTON-ON-THE-FOREST SCOUT TROOP



Before the summer holidays the Scouts travelled to Thornthwaite for a weekend of Survival Skills activities. The Scouts were responsible for cooking all of their own meals over an open fire, built shelters in which they slept overnight and made the most of living in the woods for a few nights. For the younger ones a highlight of the year was a family camp held in July at Snowball Plantation where we enjoyed both blazing sunshine and torrential rain. There was a lot to do including archery, camp gadgets, fire lighting, giant water slides and the traditional camp fire. The Cubs weren't quite as lucky at the County Cub Camp at Pateley Bridge but it takes more than a weekend of thunderstorms to dampen the spirits of a Stockton-on-the-Forest Cub!



The Scouts are now working towards their Global and Community Challenge badges and **we need your help**. Recently, the Scouts HQ announced that 11 of the 12 people who have walked on the moon were all former Scouts! This got us thinking what have our own members gone on to do? We'd very much like to hear about ex-Scouts, Cubs or Beavers (or adult helpers!) who used to attend sessions in York (and especially in SOTF) in the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s or 90s! We'd like to create a display of some of our former members in the Scout Hut to show the range and experience of ex-Scouts.

The information we'd like is: 1) Name and age, 2) Years active with SOTF Scout Groups, 3) What you do for a living now and 4) Favourite memory of Scouting; and any photographs. Please email to anp5@hotmail.co.uk thank you

The group is run by a team of committed volunteers led by Group and Beaver Leader Kath Shapcott. Mark Fuller looks after the Cubs and Adam Parker keeps the Scouts entertained. Together with the other leaders and ancillary volunteers we are about to embark on a series of fundraising activities to help with essential maintenance work on our Hut. If anybody in the village can spare a few hours a week to help us then please get in touch, we would be very grateful.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are open to both girls and boys between the ages of 6 and 14. If you would like to find out more then give Kath a call on 07736 940402.



In August we commemorated the outbreak of WWI with a display of information gathered by John Strong, on those remembered on the War Memorial in the Churchyard.

We were also able to show some of the artefacts owned by Gary Hancock, including a uniform which is shown above on our special model "Uncle Percy" with Terry Briggs, founding member of our group.

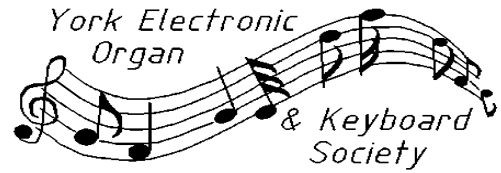
Gary Hancock and Joy Moseley recently visited the Willows Class at Stockton on the Forest Primary School to show various pieces of WWI equipment to the children who have been learning about life in the trenches.

Our next meeting is to be held in the Long Room of the Village Hall on Thursday 20th November, 2014 at 7.30pm. This will be our AGM, but the formalities will be swiftly over as we welcome our Guest Speaker, Mr. David Rymer talking about "A Funeral Director's Lot."

As always, we welcome our members, and any guests or prospective members to join us. Traditionally, the AGM is a festive event, with seasonal refreshments.

We are always keen to hear from people who have memories, photographs or any information about Stockton on the Forest and the Hopgrove.

Please contact Steve Burton (Secretary) 01904 400066 or Joy Moseley (01904 400309).



The YORK ELECTRONIC ORGAN AND KEYBOARD SOCIETY continues to provide excellent evenings of musical entertainment on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7.30pm at the village hall. If you have attended already you will know what a wide variety of music is provided by the professional artistes that grace your stage. If not, can I encourage you to "give it a go". If you like listening to music of whatever style you won't be disappointed; the modern instruments can be a big band one moment, a brass band next, or an orchestra or whatever.

For our December evening we will welcome the return of Chiho Sunamoto; a lady from Japan who has lived in this country for a number of years. Chiho plays the latest top of the range, state of the art, all singing, all dancing electronic Yamaha Organs and Clavinova that sound one minute like the Berlin Philharmonic and the next like Deep Purple. She also sings like an angel and has a smile that would melt Mount Fuji.

In the New Year we will have 2 "local" guys (Tony Stace and Andrew Nix) who lace their performances with loads of fun. In April don't miss coming to hear Claudia Hirschfeld who was born and lives in Germany near Cologne. She is a world renowned professional organist and keyboard player: a veritable Superstar on her instrument, who has not only performed successfully in Europe, but also in North and South America too. Most recently she caused a sensation in the UAE (Dubai and Abu Dhabi) as well as China (Shanghai). Do make a date to be enthralled by this Queen of the Organ.

Whoever the artiste you'll find a warm welcome here and feel at home with others who just enjoy listening to good live music. For more information see our website <http://www.organfax.co.uk/clubs/york/>



CEILIDH?

Did you join us in April for the village Ceilidh? Do you fancy another Village Dance in February or March next year? If yes, let me know when would be a good time (any clashes of dates?) and I'll organise it. Contact sofnews@sky.com or tel: 870759.

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THE STOCKTON FORESTERS

You would think Arthur, a young and wealthy Lord,
 Would easily be able to afford
 To marry his sweetheart, the lovely Sybil,
 And her mother would approve without a quibble.
 But, because on his character she's not sold,
 He agrees to have his fortune told.
 Mr. Podgers assures strict Lady Julia
 That, happily, there's absolutely nothing peculiar,
 But secretly he's told, before marrying the daughter,
 Arthur must indulge in a little slaughter.
 A pleasant young man, full of joy and charm,
 He's reluctant to cause unnecessary harm,
 So, with the help of Baines, his loyal Man,
 And Nellie, the maid, Baines' also-ran,
 He prepares a poisonous distillation
 For a usefully superfluous old relation.
 But jolly Clementina slips from under
 And sadly their clever plan falls asunder.
 Another plan's needed, Arthur insists,
 Helped by one of those professional anarchists.
 But is there another elderly relation
 Who would scarcely be missed by a grieving nation?
 What about that senile, doddering old Dean?
 Or Lady Windermere, society's queen?
 Winkelhoff's all for bang and boom
 To seal the chosen victim's doom.
 But the best laid plans of mice and men
 Gang oft a-gley, as we all ken.
 Booms there are and bang after bang,
 But they culminate only in prang after prang.
 If you'd like to know how it all turns out,
 Contact Rob, our friendly ticket tout.
 Put the date in your diary so you'll remember:
 The 27th, 28th and 29th November.
 The play's called "Lord Arthur Saville's Crime",
 So join us for a hilarious time.

Pat Jennings



The Stockton Foresters are presenting "Lord Arthur Saville's Crime" by Constance Cox, based on a short story by Oscar Wilde (by special arrangement with Samuel French, Ltd.) on Thursday 27th, Friday 28th and Saturday 29th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Stockton on the Forest.
 Tickets at £7.50 (including light refreshments) from Robert Palmer (01904) 400386.
 Unreserved seating. Wine and juice bar.
 NB The play includes LOUD BANGS!

THE STOCKTON FORESTERS DRAMA GROUP

'All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players', said the Bard, so come on fellow actors and join our drama group.

Incredibly, the Stockton Foresters first began over 75 years ago as a morale boosting exercise by the village W.I. during the Second World War. It was so successful that it continued, with a varied repertoire, until the 60s when an influx of new families into the village transformed it into a village group.

We have been joined recently by some younger members, who have breathed new life into the group, but we welcome new members of either sex, **especially younger men**. The enthusiasm of 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 evening at 10 o'clock and we have at least two parties a year as well as the 'after show' knees-ups.

We produce shows twice a year – mid-May and the end of November. Although the coming play has been cast, prospective members would be very welcome to join us any Tuesday evening from 7.30pm in the Village Hall to witness our inadvertent prat falls and daft mistakes, as well as the finished performance in November. If you felt like lending a hand back stage or front of house as well that would be a bonus! The feeling of camaraderie is great fun. Come for a taster – you won't regret it.

Or contact **Pat Jennings on 400327** for further details (one of our oldest members – literally – who has now hopped off the boards and happily acts as secretary-cum-bottle washer!)

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Festive Fayre three-course menu – Something a bit special, between 24 November and 31 December (except Christmas Day and Boxing Day), Monday to Saturday. **Just £13.49 per person (£6.49 for kids).**

It's never too early to start thinking about how you want to spend Christmas Day and Boxing Day – and a proper roast dinner has to be part of the plan. **Our Christmas dinner is only £43.99 per person, while our Boxing Day feast is only £16.99.**

However, be warned – our dedication to the perfect roast makes us popular. So booking in advance is a must.

**Call (01904) 424542 or
 email: hopgrove@tobycarvey.co.uk**





Stockton & Hopgrove Cricket Club

Players needed urgently

The evening league team reached a final but we're well beaten by a strong Woodhouse Grange team. In the Foss evening league they finished in the top half of the table.

The club is now looking for new players for the 2015 season! If they don't recruit some more players the second team will have to fold. We have no players from the village playing at the moment. There must be some budding cricketers out there. We are a very friendly club and always have a good laugh. So if there is anyone that would like to join us please contact Rich Kerrison (01904) 400541 / 07986619125. This year's annual dinner will be held on 22nd November at the Ship Inn in Strensall.



The summer season has now ended and Fox 1 were unlucky to lose the York District Summer League by 1 game and 1 point. Fox 2 players enjoyed their games but had mixed results.

Our Wednesday melees have been popular again and we have had good attendances at our Sunday open competitions especially the charity pairs when £152 was sent to York Against Cancer.

We still play throughout the winter, weather permitting and all are welcome to join us on Mondays and Thursdays starting at 7.00pm.

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



Charity pairs competition



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We currently have a **special membership offer** available including full - 7 day, midweek - 5 day, 9 hole West Course only and intermediate membership. There are also a limited number of **junior memberships** available.

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