

Parish news

**Stone, Dinton, Hartwell & Bishopstone with Aston Sandford
Part of Wychert Vale Benefice
February 2019 • 60p (£6.00 pa)**



For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

Luke 2:30-32

Wychert Vale Benefice contacts



The Revd Margot Hodson
Rector of Wychert Vale Benefice



Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves
Associate Rector

Contact address:

Benefice Office, St. Mary's Centre, Station Road, Haddenham,
Aylesbury, Bucks HP17 8AJ Telephone: 01844 291108
Email: rector@wychertvale.org or vicar@haddenhamstmarys.org

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact:
The Parish Administrator at the Benefice Office (address above)
Email: office@wychertvale.org or office@haddenhamstmarys.org

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01296 747689. Email: Treasurer@stonedintonhartwell.com

Aston Sandford Marilynne Morgan (Treasurer)
Email: 4mam.morgan@gmail.com

Front cover: by David Marshall, finalist in SBHPC Photographic Competition 2018

Parish news



The Day is Yours

February seems to be a month of false starts. You sometimes get a few nice days followed by rain and even snow. So far it has been a mild Winter. Famous last words – possibly! Will Spring be late or early?

We know that Easter will be late which means Shrove Tuesday and Lent will be late as well. Possibly Christmas will be late? I jest. This year Easter is 21st April. The latest Easter will be this century will be in 2038 (April 25, 2038). After that, it will next fall on April 25 in the year 2190.

We like calendars and diaries measuring out the year, although the reality of the seasons is different. We want God to be dependable and so He is but not a machine like clockwork. We always have Summer and Winter, sowing and harvest but the details are in God's hands,

*The day is yours, and yours also the night;
you established the sun and moon.
It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth;
you made both summer and winter.*

Psalm 74 verses 16 and 17

News team

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Parish Services and Calendar

February	St John the Baptist Stone	St Peter & Paul Dinton*	Stone Methodist Chapel	St Michael & All Angels Aston Sandford
3rd February 5 before Lent	10.30am All Age Family Service	10.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Worship	6.30pm Benefice Evensong for Candlemas
10th February 4 before Lent	10.30am Holy Communion	6.00pm Parish Evensong	11.00am Worship	
17th February 3 before Lent	10.30am Morning Worship	10.00am Morning Worship	11.00 Holy Communion	11.00am Holy Communion
24th February 2 before Lent	9.00am BCP Matins 10.30am Holy Communion	4.00pm “Messy “ Church	11.00am Café Church	
3rd March Next before Lent	10.30am All Age Family Service	10.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Worship	

YOUR PARISH MAGAZINE NEEDS YOU – CAN YOU HELP?

1. Did you make a New Year Resolution to walk more and get fitter?

We need a volunteer to help deliver the parish magazine at the St John's end of Stone village. David John, one of our team delivering the Parish Magazine, has decided to hand over his round. A big thank you to David for doing this important role.



We need one or more willing volunteers to deliver around 50 copies of the magazine in Stone once a month. If you can help please contact David Pickup by telephoning 01296 748170 or emailing david@pickupandscott.co.uk

2. Like to join the Parish Magazine Editorial Committee? Can you spare a few hours each month?

We have a vacancy for a volunteer to assist with the advertising in the magazine



The role includes the administration of the advertising within the magazine, dealing with current and potential advertisers, preparing and sending invoices, posting/delivering copies of the magazine to advertisers and attending the editorial meetings. We meet once a month, in an evening, for around an hour over coffee and biscuits – the rest of the time we keep in touch via email.

The magazine is a community resource for all the residents of the Parish. Please contact me if you can help or have any queries about either of the above voluntary roles.

David Pickup

Email: david@pickupandscott.co.uk

A Reminder that Subscriptions are Due.



We hope that you enjoy the magazine and will wish to continue this year.

The annual subscription which covers 12 issues costs £6.00

Please make cheques for £6.00 payable to Stone, Dinton & Hartwell PCC
**and return to your distributor or
deliver to 12 Roundhill HP17 8RD**

Please let me know of anyone else who would like to take the magazine

David Pickup 01296 748170
david@pickupandscott.co.uk

Name

Address

.....

Email/telephone (optional)

*Parish News is a community magazine for the residents of **Stone, Dinton, Ford, Upton, Bishopstone, Hartwell and Aston Sandford**. We welcome news, announcements by societies and clubs, and articles on local and other issues. We do not charge for charities or personal notices such as weddings, baptisms or acknowledgments and welcome advertising by local businesses.*

Simply Walk in Stone, Haddenham & Dinton

Come, suited & booted for whatever the weather
For an hour or so walk in the countryside
On Wednesday mornings – throughout the year from:



Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road –**STONE**
Wednesday 13th and 27th February, 13th and 27th March

Bradmoor Farm (rear) car park, Stanbridge Road – **HADDENHAM**
Wednesday 6th February and 6th March

Seven Stars PH, New Road –**DINTON**
Wednesday 20th February and 20th March

We meet in the morning for 10.30
It's friendly, fun and **free**
We sometimes come back a bit dirty
To enjoy a nice cup of coffee or tea!

Walking for Health with Simply Walk

Further dates/details visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/simplywalk
Or call Fiona Broadbent on 01494 475367

STONE VILLAGE HALL

50 Oxford Road, Stone HP17 8PB



This large, well-equipped hall with stage, kitchen and committee room in the centre of Stone is available for single or regular lettings

Suitable for meetings, events, parties and receptions
Disabled access

For information and bookings telephone 01296 748279

The Electoral Roll

What is the Electoral Roll?

The church's Electoral Roll is the register of its voting members; it is a list of those qualified to attend and to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Electoral rolls provide an indication of the real membership and strength of the church.

Renewal of electoral rolls

2019 sees the preparation of new church electoral rolls, which means that everyone must come off the roll and re-join. This takes place only once in every six years.

Why Join?

Enrolment is a way of saying....“I belong”. It is an act of commitment to the Parish and the church, in addition to the practical ways of contributing time, money, skills, etc.

How do you enrol?

If you are currently on the Electoral Roll you will automatically be sent a new form to complete if you wish to re-join. If you are not on the list and would like to join please telephone me on 01296 747671 and I will send or email the form to you. Or contact one of the churchwardens (contact details at front of magazine) or email david@pickupandscott.co.uk
All forms need to be returned by 31st March 2019.

Dee James



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Excellent References
01296 291052



Letter from Aston Sandford

Ewen Cameron Stewart Macpherson
19th January 1942 – 15th August 2018

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Ewen Macpherson was held at St Columba's Church, Pont Street on 14th December 2018. The service was led by the Rev Angus Macleod and the Choir of St Columba's was directed by the organist Benedict Lewis-Smith. Ewen and Laura's elder son James read the lesson, and tributes were given by their younger son George and Ewen's former colleague Simon Borrows. The service was well attended by family, friends and colleagues, not least by a large contingent from Aston Sandford. By kind permission of the family, George's address is set out in full below.

Marilynne A Morgan

"It is wonderful to see so many people here today to celebrate the life of my father, Ewen Macpherson, and I'd like to say a word of thanks to those who have travelled far to be here. I have just flown in from China where I am working with a company that is setting up the Chinese offshoot of a school close to Dad's heart, Fettes College, Guangzhou.

Ewen's life was a remarkably full one both at work and play and I hope I can share a flavour of it with you in this address.

His parents came from Scotland and had both independently moved South in the 1930s, his father Phil to work for Robert Benson, and his mother Bettie as a freelance textile designer and fashion correspondent. At the outbreak of war in 1939 and after a lightning courtship of 7 years they married here in the original St Columba's Church. Phil had already enlisted in the London Scottish Regiment but by 1941 had joined SOE and was posted to Cairo. Bettie in the meantime was sent to Buckinghamshire to find a suitable home away from the bombing of London. With great luck she found the Old Rectory in Aston Sandford where the family have lived ever since.

Ewen was born in 1942 and as a wartime baby rarely saw his father who only returned home fulltime in 1946. His mother was so concerned that Ewen, who was living in a house full of women, would burst into tears on one of his father's rare visits that she made sure every postman, gardener and deliveryman came in to talk to him.

Aston Sandford was an idyllic place to grow up in, far away from war and surrounded by helpful neighbours and green fields. It soon became apparent that Ewen was obsessed with engines: first, motor mowers on the substantial lawns, and then tractors at Manor Farm down the road. Memorably, on his first visit to Whipsnade Zoo, he bypassed the camel, ignored the elephants, and rushed over to a man mowing the grass to ask if he could help.

After attending Summerfields School in Oxford, Dad went to Fettes College in Edinburgh, following in the family tradition. He flourished there under Tom Goldie Scott, the housemaster of Glencorse, taking Latin, French and Ancient History for A level. The headmaster, Ian McIntosh, described him as 'the best headboy he ever worked with'.

Fettes also helped him develop his passions: he was part of the Navy in the Cadet Corps, spending his final summer at Dartmouth Naval College. He assembled an old car from scratch for his Duke of Edinburgh award, and drove it from school up to the family's holiday house at Ardvar in Sutherland. Only recently his brother Roderick divulged that, contrary to school rules, Ewen kept a motor bike hidden with his grandparents at Grange Terrace.

Before going up to Cambridge Dad spent 6 months in Paris at the *Alliance Francaise*. His excellent French, spoken with a strong British accent, would serve him well in later life.

Ewen went up to Cambridge in 1961 to read Law at Queens'. Although choosing not to pursue law as a career, he felt it was the most valuable introduction to working life he had, helping him to pick over the finer details of documents throughout his career. One of my own earliest memories is of him shouting into the telephone, arguing over the position of a comma in the 3i prospectus.

The law did not take up all of Dad's time at Cambridge: cars were now the great obsession, particularly Lea Francis. Many hours were spent in a specially built garage at the Old Rectory, and he and Roderick hunted the country to find abandoned cars to work on. These were driven for many miles, with trips as far afield as the north of Scotland. He even kept his 1920s Lea Francis covertly in a barn outside Cambridge, contrary to the proctors' regulations.

After he left Cambridge, Dad joined Massey Ferguson as a graduate trainee. With his passion for engines, he was in his element: his training included learning every part of a combine harvester and how to put them together again. His role involved regular trips to Africa and the Middle East. There he reviewed Massey Ferguson's Sales Offices and rewrote the spare-parts handbook in English and in French for their French West Africa offices.

By 1968 he was ready for a new challenge. He enrolled at London Business School as part of its third intake. When applying for a position afterwards, he was in two minds whether to take a job for a mining firm or start at Investors in Industry. He would have been an executive at the South African company with a huge salary, but his professor nudged him towards 3i. Three years later the mining company went bust. [Simon Borrows spoke about Ewen's business career later in the service.]

Away from work, every summer Dad would spend time sailing in the Solent. He rented a cottage in Lymington where he kept various sailing boats including his X Class, Sirius.

Ever practical, though, after over ten summers of racing on the Solent, he realised that he was fast approaching 40 and that he would now have to embark on a new project: namely, finding a wife.

As luck would have it, at the engagement party of his younger brother, Strone, to Alexandra Baring, Ewen met her sister, Laura. The attraction was not immediate: Ewen wished he had been in Lymington, Laura in London. They had both been dragged there by their respective parents.

After further due diligence, however, Dad discovered that her cv was impeccable: Laura had spent cold wet holidays on the Isle of Wight in boats, and cold wet holidays in the north of Scotland too. She could even Scottish dance. She was undeterred by Ewen's garage in London which contained not just a car, but a boat and 3 motorcycles. She should have known what was ahead of her!

One year later they were married, and within a few years the crew for their family boating adventures had arrived – two sons, James and George. They had by this time moved out of London to Denham Leys, Quainton [and later to Aston Sandford]. Ewen would spend many happy weekends in the garden. He dedicated himself more to the mowers and the lawns rather than the flower beds, which was probably a good thing as he was lethal with the secateurs. Famously, at the time of the flotation, he was depicted on the front of *Business Week* in his suit, trimming a 3i-shaped hedge into shape.

Although giving up sailing, Dad still yearned for the sea. He bought a Fairey Spearfish, and named her White Orchid. Family holidays were instigated in the north of Scotland, where Ewen had already spent many summers when growing up. They took over an old shepherd's cottage, called Reclu in the hamlet Nedd. James and George would potter in dinghies with outboards around the sea loch, supposedly being supervised by Ewen, even though his head was buried deep in White Orchid's engines.

Ewen always swore he would never buy a property abroad, but one January he spent a week in Nice in beautiful weather. Realising the advantages of boating in the Mediterranean, first he moved White Orchid to Beaulieu sur Mer almost immediately. Then he bought a garage for his car, and finally a flat several years later.

The Cote d'Azur had whetted his appetite for more adventure so he shipped out his beloved Nelson 45, called Blue Venture, to Greece. He proceeded to cruise his way back from there to Beaulieu over the next few summers, taking in the Cyclades, Ithaca, Malta, and Sicily. As crew, Laura, James and George bravely followed in his wake.

While Ewen might have relished the restless wave and the foaming deep, they were more content with the restful peace and a foaming drink once safely in port!

Once back in Beaulieu, using his French, he mastered every technicality of engine, chandlery and *coquillage* vocabulary, but eventually grew tired of arguing with French shipyards and brought Blue Venture back to the UK for three glorious years in Cornwall, based in Falmouth.

After an active summer of boating in Cornwall and the south of France, the health problems began at the start of September last year. One month later he went into hospital where he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer that had spread to the lungs. Never one to duck a challenge, at the age of 75, he started chemo.

With his strength of character and single-mindedness, he questioned every suggested procedure along the way and often chided the oncologist that he couldn't possibly go into hospital that evening because he had some very important phone calls to make in the morning!

Careful not to neglect his passions, he bought a Bentley Arnage to ferry him to the hospital in London and back. There he endured round after round of chemotherapy, while continuing to play the stock-market, speak to colleagues and friends, and tinker with classic cars in between.

At the end even when he was confined to the Princess Grace Hospital, I remember him sitting up in bed reading the papers, checking his emails and taking phone calls. One came through from the mechanic, Carl Ford, who was sorting out a problem with his Derby Bentley. 'Ah, Carl, how are you?... Oh, not so well really.... Now, look, you really must fix that piston on the left side!'

But sadly, two days later, he died. It was 2pm on 15th August 2018.

He was buried in the local church at Aston Sandford next to his parents, in the place he loved, and near the friends and local families he had known all of his life.

Growing up in the post-war years, he knew the sense of keeping costs low, investing for the future, and not letting sentimentality get in the way of decision-making. He had the benefit of the huge expansion of the 80s and skippered the helm of 3i to success. He enjoyed an almost twenty-year retirement boating and playing with cars, but sadly in the end the fuel for the great engine of his own life had run out. He was as one colleague wrote of him: 'intelligent, decisive, and at times intolerant, but that was what made him the excellent businessman he was'. Those who got to know him admired his dry sense of humour, but he may best be remembered by the saying that sat framed at the end of his bed: '*confidence is the companion of success*'.

His friends and family, and especially the City will remember that quiet confidence. It is fitting that on this day, 14th December, the day of his father's birth, and in this place, the church of St Columba, where his parents were married, and both his father and uncle also had their memorial services, that we too commemorate and celebrate his life.



St Michael & All Angels, Aston Sandford

**Sunday 3rd February : St Michael & All Angels, Aston Sandford
will be hosting the Benefice Evensong at 6:30pm to celebrate Candlemas
when the church will be entirely lit by candlelight. All welcome.**

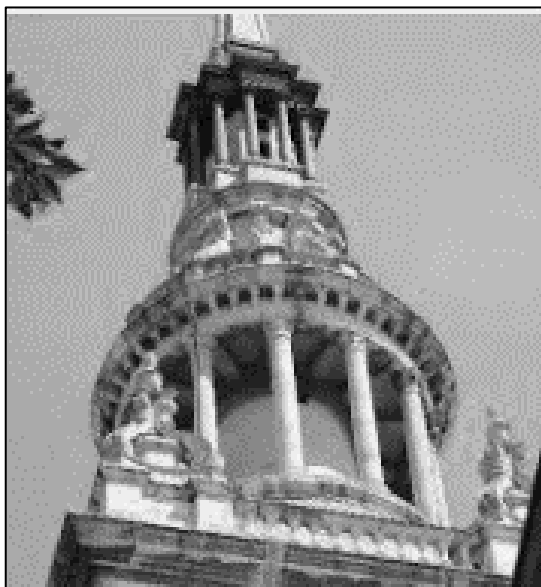
STONE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Meeting at Stone Village Hall, 7.30pm, 19th February 2019

'Oranges & Lemons' – London's churches Colin Oakes

Colin is an old friend, best known to us for the interesting London Walks we have enjoyed with him over the years.

In this talk, "Oranges and Lemons – the Bells of St Clements", Colin will tell us about some of the beautiful churches in the City of London. The Fire of London swept through the city in 1666, destroying many of the mediaeval churches as well as St Paul's Cathedral. Rebuilding took decades for architects headed by Sir Christopher Wren and then Hawksmoor. Many of these late C17 and early C18 churches survive today despite the London Blitz, appearing as if by magic between the feet of skyscrapers or reflected in glittering modern glass.



Annual membership £13 or £20 family Guests welcome £2 admission

For further information ring Carole on 01296 748538 or email carole.e.fryer@btinternet.com

Stone Local History Group Programme 2019

*Meetings are held on 3rd Tuesdays at Stone Village Hall
at 7.30 pm*

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Feb 19 | ORANGES AND LEMONS London's churches
Colin Oakes |
| March 19 | ART OF THE LONDON UNDERGROUND
Mike Grundy |
| April 16 | HEARTS AND MINDS the Story of the Suffragists
Jane Robinson |
| May 21 | HELL UPON WATER – early C19 prison ships
Paul Chamberlain |
| May/June TBA | VISIT TO STRAWBERRY HILL |
| June 18 | SLHG 20th ANNIVERSARY – MICHAEL LUNTS ENTERTAINS |
| July 16 | TUDOR AMERSHAM followed by an August visit TBA
Peter Borrowes |
| Sept 17 | A HISTORY OF AYLESBURY
Julian Hunt |
| SEPT TBA | AUTUMN VISIT TO EYTHROPE GARDENS |
| Oct 15 | THE MYSTERY OF RUDOLF HESS
Tony Eaton |
| Nov 19 | BLOOD, SWEAT, POLITICS and THIEVERY the growth of
American railways
Denis Kelly |
| Dec 10 TBA | AGM, SUPPER AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC
Adrian Broadway |

Annual Subscription £13 single, £20 family, visitors welcome £2.

Please ring Pat Horn on 01296 748297 to join or for more information email
Carole via carole.e.fryer@btinternet.com

February Thoughts

I am thinking of starting a campaign to change the name of February. February seems such an odd month. It is often a dull, wet and cold month and it is so difficult to spell. It has an R in it which seems so unnecessary. It is the Romans' fault. The name comes from the Latin term *februum*, which means *purification*, via the purification ritual *Februa* held on February 15 (full moon) in the old lunar Roman calendar. This links with Candlemas which commemorates the ritual purification of Mary forty days after the birth of her son Jesus. On this day, Christians remember the presentation of Jesus Christ in the Temple. Candlemas used to be called The Wives' Feast.

Other old names for February include the Old English terms Solmonath (mud month) and Kale-monath (named for cabbage). In Finnish, the month is called *helmikuu*, meaning "month of the pearl"; when snow melts on tree branches, it forms droplets, and as these freeze again, they are like pearls of ice. In Polish and Ukrainian, respectively, the month is called *luty*, meaning the month of ice or hard frost. In Macedonian the month is *sechko* meaning month of cutting wood.

It also has Chinese New Year on 5th and Saint Valentine's Day so it is not all cold and wet. So what about calling it "Mud-month" or "Cabbage-month"? I quite like "Pearl-month". Perhaps not, better keep with February and just change the spelling.

What we miss in February is light and Candlemas is about that.

Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' John 8.12

*Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple,
in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
Fein the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.*



February



February Gardening

At last the long dark days of Winter are beginning to lighten but do not be in too much of a hurry to get started.

Winter flowering shrubs can be pruned as they finish flowering. Cut back about a third of old wood which hopefully will get new shoots growing to flower next winter.

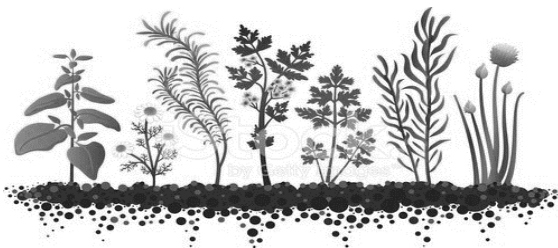


Clematis needs different treatment. The Clematis Montana just needs the old flowering shoots cut off when it has flowered, but the Clematis Jackmanii which flowers much later does need to be cut back to a strong pair of buds about 3 feet above soil level.

Lawns! Lawns will and do need lots of attention as the weather improves, although if we get a similar Summer to last year it may be better to pave the area or use artificial turf. Again, depending on conditions, a start can be made in the vegetable garden towards the end of the month, especially if some protection can be provided. Broad beans, early varieties of peas and carrots, parsnips and radishes can be sown.

Another weather warning. If Candlemas Day be bright and clear there'll be two winters in one year; but if Candlemas Day be thick with rain, Winter is gone and will not come back again. Candlemas Day is 2nd February.

PS



After taking a break in January, bacon will be sizzling again, coffee percolating, and tea brewing at the

Café in the Park

**Jubilee Pavilion
Stone Recreation Ground**

Saturday 2nd February

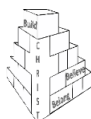
10.00am - 12.00pm



We do not charge for refreshments. We are funded entirely by voluntary donations on the day.

We offer a relaxing place to meet up with friends of all ages, and also the opportunity to make some new ones.

This event is hosted by St John the Baptist Church for the whole community. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME**



Wychert Vale Benefice
www.wychertvale.org



Parish of Stone, Dinton and Hartwell

Churches of: St. John Baptist, STONE; Ss Peter & Paul, DINTON; Assumption of St. Mary the Virgin, HARTWELL

www.stonedintonhartwell.com

NEWS FROM CHAPEL HILL

Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road, Stone, HP17 8PH

Minister - Revd. Keith Edwards

Tel: 01296 423363 : ulysee798@gmail.com

Village contact:

Mrs. Sue Spinks, Clowesbourne, Upton, HP17 8UA

Tel: 01296 748369 : royandsue1@btinternet.com

During this month's services
the following will be remembered in prayer:
3rd – Badger's Rise ; 10th – Beacon Close;
17th - Belle Vue and 24th – Bishopstone Road
Your prayer requests are welcome – anonymous if you wish –
please just leave a note in the Chapel post box

We were delighted to welcome members of the
Parish Church to the Covenant Service
on 20th January to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
It's a great joy to worship together as God's family and
our members are very appreciative of the prayerful, practical
support of all our Church friends

A MEDITATION FOR THE FEAST OF CANDLEMAS



The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light:
light has dawned upon us,
dwellers in a land as dark as death:
for a Child has been born for us, a son given to us.
God is love, and his love was disclosed to us in this:
that He sent His only Son into the world to bring us life.



LOOK OUT

for the WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

NOTICE elsewhere in the Magazine – FRIDAY 1st March

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

[formerly Women's World Day of Prayer]

A women-led, global, ecumenical movement

Friday 1st March at 2 p.m.

Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road



COME – EVERYTHING IS READY!

Everything is ready and the invitation is for everyone – men, women and children of all ages to join this **Day of Prayer**.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organization which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the Service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at a Church near you [see above !] on **FRIDAY MARCH 1st** people will gather to celebrate the Service.

This year the Service has been prepared by the women of **SLOVENIA**, one of the smallest and youngest countries in Europe. They encourage us to reflect on the barriers they have faced since the end of the Second World War when their country was part of Yugoslavia, a Marxist socialist republic. They share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future. At the heart of the Service is an open invitation for all to come to God's table, '**COME, EVERYTHING IS READY!**'

The **Day of Prayer** is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world – through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

Come and be part of this unique world wide experience – everyone is welcome

If you would like to help with the service in any way I shall be very pleased to hear from you –

SUE SPINKS

748369 or royandsue1@btinternet.com

FOURTH TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Meeting in the Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road

The February meeting is on

26th February at 2.30 p.m

when we look forward to welcoming a familiar face:

Mrs. Alison Watkins, as our Speaker.

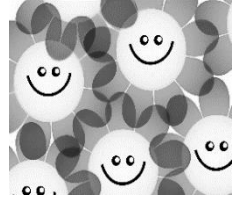


Afterwards enjoy tea and chat as well as
the Bring & Buy and Book Stalls

**However chilly the February day
outside, you'll find warmth and
friendship**

in the Fellowship meeting

**EVERY FOURTH TUESDAY
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**



////////////////////////////////////

STONE THURSDAY CLUB (for the over-60s)

meets at 2 p.m. in the Methodist Chapel

Subs are £2 per meeting

We can't promise *personal* romance at this Valentine's Day (14th February) meeting! Though Judith McArthur will be talking about the love of the Rothschild brothers for the local area - and their legacy of beautiful houses – like Waddesdon Manor - to whet our appetites for the tea, sandwiches and cakes to follow.



Transport available: call Dee on 747671

After the Parties - by Methodist Minister Revd. Keith Edwards

Dear Friends,

As Christmas and New Year celebrations fade in our memories, I find myself contemplating what life after parties is all about. At the beginning of the year what better way to understand life than to start with the beginning of the bible, the book of Genesis, whether you take it literally or allegorically.

As a scientist I love that the universe, is unimaginably large, wondrously complex, and beautifully diverse. So, what does that say about God? What does it say about us? And, how are we to view ourselves and each other in this magnificent creation? Here are seven claims from Genesis I was reading about.

- **First**, God made order out of chaos and nothingness (Genesis 1:2).
- **Second**, God built into creation an ordered rhythm and a day of rest (Genesis 1:5, 8).
- **Third**, God created by the power of his word (Genesis 1:6-7).
- **Fourth**, God made our world for each created thing to fit with its specific space and place to thrive: (Genesis 1:3-5)
- **Fifth**, God filled our world with diversity and all sorts of different kinds of beauty:- sun, moon, clouds, fishes, birds, animals, humans.
- **Sixth**, as God made this wonderful world, he made all things to be good (Genesis 1:12, 18, 21, 25, 31).
- **Seventh**, God made humanity — people as male and female — to be the crown of his creation, made in his image and created to rule and steward all that God created (Genesis 1:26-31).

Here are some questions to ponder:-

1. How did what was created to be good become flawed, broken, and filled with struggle and death?
2. What understandings about our world, and God's intentions for our world, should we take away as principles for living life in our world?
3. What do we learn about the nature of God, from this story of creation?

As you ponder, remember that, as the psalmist said, you are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14) so that you can enjoy your life and embrace its purpose and meaning.

Grace and peace to you, Keith

Quiz (from December issue)

Thanks to everyone who entered the quiz competition in the December issue. We hope you found it interesting. Here are the answers:

1. Dog poo was suggested as a fuel source for street lights.
2. D in Wales, A in France, P in Italy and L in this country all signify learner drivers.
3. A youthquake a significant cultural, political, or social change arising from the actions or influence of young people. Now you know. Extra points if you use that in conversation.
4. The word “she” appears in Tolkien’s *The Hobbit* appears just once. There was a news feature last year about a researcher who counted gender specific words in major works of literature. Extra point if you knew it was Bilbo’s mother.
5. The granite city is Aberdeen
La Serenissima is Venice
La Ville Lumière is Paris
The Big Apple is New York
The Windy City is Chicago
The Smoke is London
6. The “beast from the east” was a weather storm
7. The Windrush was HMT *Empire Windrush*, originally MV *Monte Rosa*, was a passenger liner and cruise ship launched in Germany in 1930. *Empire Windrush* is best remembered today for bringing one of the first large groups of post-war West Indian immigrants to the United Kingdom, carrying 1027 passengers and two stowaways on a voyage from Jamaica to London in 1948.
8. We run short of carbon dioxide in June that threatened beer supplies
9. The Duke of Sussex and Cambridge are the titles of the Prince of Wales’ children.
10. Hops are the herbs used for flavouring beer.
11. Cenotaph means empty tomb.

- 12. You would be sent to Coventry if no-one spoke to you. Some think that during The English Civil Wars of the 1640s, prisoners of war were sent to Coventry, where they were ignored by the local people who did not want them there.
- 13. Where do the weakest go to the wall? Churches in the Middle Ages did not have pews and the elderly sat on the stone benches set around the wall, seen in some churches including Dinton.
- 14. The expressions “over the top” and “gone west” are expressions from the First World War.
- 15. Walsall a lock museum and a leather museum.
- 16. Stanley is the capital of the Falkland Islands.

Carol Singing around the villages

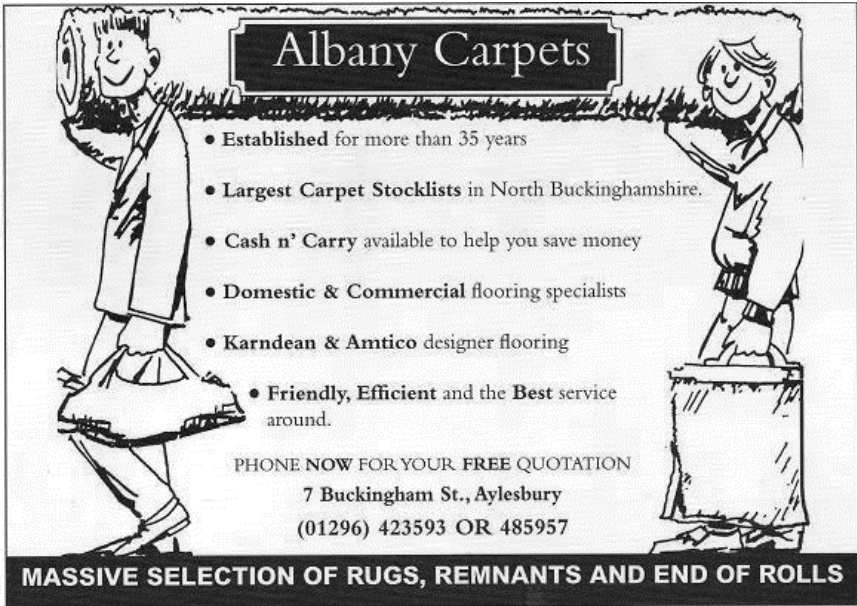
Stone

A group of 14 carol singers met in Churchway, Stone on 19th December and sang around the village streets for 2 hours. A generous £120.00 was raised which has been donated to the Aylesbury Food Bank, who were very grateful. Thank you to all who took part.



Dinton

The Dinton Christmas Eve Carol Singing raised £217.50 for the Florence Nightingale Hospice charity. Well done to the merry singers. Thank you to everyone who supported us on the night.



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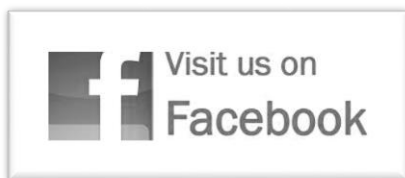
Snowdrop Weekends : 16th/17th & 23rd/24th February

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Stone	www.stonevillage.org.uk
Jubilee Pavilion	www.jubileepavilion.co.uk
Bishopstone	www.bishopstone.info
Dinton PC	www.dinton.org
Dinton News	www.dinton.info
Benefice Website	www.wychertvale.org



A selection of local Facebook pages to follow for local news, stories and events.



Stone, Bishopstone and Hartwell Parish Council

Search Facebook with: @sbhpc



Stone, Buckinghamshire – a local community page

Search Facebook with: @StoneBuckinghamshire



Wychert Vale Benefice

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Stone, Dinton & Hartwell – church news

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