

## **CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND ORGANISATIONS IN STOKE FLEMING**

In addition to organisations giving individual reports at the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018, information has been received from the following clubs, societies and organisations which are available to parishioners.

**ORGANISATION**    **STOKE FLEMING CHARITABLE LADIES**  
**STOKE FLEMING COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**STOKE FLEMING CRAFT CLUB**  
**STOKE FLEMING HORTICULTURAL AND SPORTS SOCIETY**  
**STOKE FLEMING LIBRARY**  
**STOKE FLEMING VILLAGE HALL**  
**STOKE FLEMING PARISH CHURCH**  
**STOKE FLEMING YOUTH CLUB**  
**DARTMOUTH ACADEMY**  
**DARTMOUTH CLUB DE PETANQUE**  
**FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S CHURCH**  
**PROBUS CLUB**  
**MOTHERS' UNION**  
**START BAY PERFORMERS**  
**THE STOKE FLEMING MAGAZINE**

### **STOKE FLEMING CHARITABLE LADIES**

Stoke Fleming Charitable Ladies meet at 2.30pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (except August and December) in Stoke Fleming Village Hall to organise local fundraising events and to socialise.

Three fundraising events each year are held in the Village Hall - Spring, Summer and Christmas - with the charity to support being decided by members prior to each event.

Since forming in June 2016, they have raised over £1,700 to help a number of charities. These include Children's Hospice South West, Rowcroft Hospice, Dartmouth Caring and the Friends of Stoke Fleming Primary School.

Their Summer Fair on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July is expected to raise funds towards a Community Landing Site in the Parish for Devon Air Ambulance to land a helicopter in an emergency at night.

Additionally, the Charitable Ladies support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, co-ordinated by Gill and Mike Jordan, which raises around £3,000 each year from the villages of Stoke Fleming, Strete and Blackawton. During the summer months, the group also organise a rota for providing flowers at the War Memorial in the Churchyard which ensures that it is suitably decorated.

New members from Stoke Fleming and surrounding areas are most welcome to join the group. Contact Sue Tweed (Secretary) on 01803 770730 or [tweed833@btinternet.com](mailto:tweed833@btinternet.com) for more information.

## **STOKE FLEMING COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Full report attached to Annual Parish Meeting Minutes*

### **STOKE FLEMING CRAFT CLUB**

The Craft Club was founded in October 2010 by 4 friends. It exists to promote a variety of needlecraft and other skills amongst members, and to provide a social afternoon for like-minded people in the parish.

Meetings are held in the Village Hall on the first Friday of the month, except August. The membership fee is £5 annually, plus £1 for each meeting attended during the year. Current membership stands at 21. Meetings are held from 2 -4pm to work on personal projects, to share in a special project afternoon or occasionally to have a demonstration, followed by some 'hands-on'. There is also time for that important cup of tea!

The Club also looks out into the community, running a Handicraft Materials Stall at Stoke Fleming Show helping towards the Show funds, and taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival. Club members work together making items to decorate a tree. In 2017 the tree was decorated with many and various owls all with a Christmas stocking. The Club also holds a 50/50 sale of items in December each year of items brought by members. A donation is then sent to charity. In 2017 this was sent to Dartmouth Caring.

### **STOKE FLEMING HORTICULTURAL AND SPORTS SOCIETY**

The Society is the longest established club or society in the village having been founded in 1875. We are now more commonly known as the 'Hort & Sport' and are, of course, most well-known for the Annual Show held on August Bank Holiday Monday. 2017 was the 142<sup>nd</sup> Annual Show and we are justly proud of our longevity. That said, we are indeed moving with the times and try to reflect this in the annual schedule which now includes models from recycled materials, photography classes including 'selfies' and current homecraft classes including savoury muffins as well as the traditional favourites.

Fund raising events are held throughout the year which include a fun quiz evening in January or February, a Plant Sale and Coffee Morning held in early May and then an Autumn Coffee Morning held in October.

Show Day itself is a real mix of modern and traditional both inside the marquee and hall and outside. In 2017, we introduced a Fizz Bar for the first time, which proved very popular! Helped enormously by the glorious sunshine on the day no doubt. We were delighted to see novice growers and crafters not only winning prizes but silverware too. If you want to discover the joy of 'knowing your onions' or take those first steps towards a new hobby why not start now? We look forward to seeing your efforts at our 2018 Show, so look out for a schedule from late June. There are 187 classes to choose from and a glittering array of silverware to be awarded. We look forward to seeing you on Show Day or at any of our events.

For further information please contact the Show Secretary, Mrs Shirley Ruddlesden, on 01803 770468.

### **STOKE FLEMING LIBRARY**

Libraries Unlimited has just passed their second Birthday.

The new lease signed by Stoke Fleming Village Hall Trustees and Libraries Unlimited has a further 3 years to run.

The Friends of Stoke Fleming Library hold a coffee morning every Tuesday from 10.30-11.45 in the Hall Foyer.

Wi-Fi is available free of charge, as well as 2 public PCs.

The new printer also does photocopying in B&W and colour.  
Free digital magazines can be downloaded at home using rb digital.  
We had approximately a dozen children take part in last year's Summer Reading Challenge - which was Animal Agent - read the books and catch the crooks!  
We have had a new library computer system called Sparks installed across the county which is still presenting a bit of a challenge getting past its teething problems, but we're getting there.  
We look forward to welcoming new members at the Library.

### **STOKE FLEMING VILLAGE HALL**

The Village Hall has had a successful year with bookings slightly up from last year. There is a wide variety of activities and societies using it from the village and the wider community. It is also a popular venue for wedding receptions and parties.

One of the reasons for its success is that it offers good facilities and is always well maintained. For this we have to thank the trustees who work hard to keep it that way. The hall has now been built for nearly 20 years and some of the fittings are wearing out and have had to be replaced. The lighting in the kitchen has been renewed and the outside walls have been repainted. We are anticipating that the boiler will soon need replacing. Other items have been purchased in order that the hall remains an attractive place to hire. These include an electric projection screen in the Main Hall and a warm air hand drier in the men's toilet. A significant part of our expenditure is on garden maintenance. We are responsible for the grounds around the hall and for Old Hall Gardens and it is important that these are kept tidy and attractive. Every year the hire costs are carefully considered and set according to a formula which compares our projected income and expenditure. We stick closely to this so that we are always able to cover our costs but not make a profit.

Barry Morris retired this year from his position as Chairman and as trustees we would like to thank him for the service he has given.

We hope that the village will go on supporting the hall so that we can have this excellent facility for many years to come.

### **STOKE FLEMING PARISH CHURCH**

*Full report attached to Annual Parish Meeting Minutes*

### **STOKE FLEMING YOUTH CLUB**

The Summer term in 2017 was well attended at the Youth Club, and we enjoyed taking part in the Scarecrow Festival as well as having an end of term party at Dartmouth Outdoor Pool. Most evenings were run by Jo Skeates, a parent of a club member and Amanda Gascoigne with the support of one of a few volunteer parents.

The club opened for a couple of weeks in September 2017, and then events overtook us somewhat. Jo and her family moved to Paignton over the summer and Amanda's baby arrived a little earlier than expected. We initially closed the club for the winter term, and have since been working with Tom Coulthard, the local Youth and Community Worker at Space Devon to find a new way of opening the club. He has been running engagement sessions with parents and young people to discuss how the club should be run in the future. The ownership of the building has been established by Beers Solicitors, and pending a final piece of paperwork should be finalised by the end of the month. We hope to reopen the club before the school summer holidays, and in the meantime the costs of the building are being covered by occasional event hire

### **DARTMOUTH ACADEMY**

*Full report attached to Annual Parish Meeting Minutes*

### **DARTMOUTH CLUB DE PETANQUE**

We've had another excellent year playing on our superb terrain at the edge of the Stoke Fleming Playing Field. We play as a Club at 10:30 am on Wednesdays and Sundays when we are always ready to welcome new players. Club members (who pay just £30 a year) have access to the equipment and can play at any time. Pétanque is a year-round open-air game, tolerant of all skill levels allowing complete beginners to partner more accomplished players in harmony.

We usually play "friendly" games with partners and opponents chosen by a "throw-in" prior to the games. We did, however, have a Club Competition for a trophy given to us by the Quimperlé Pétanque Club in Finistère, Brittany. The "Quimperlé Man" was won by Avril Dowsing, the best player on the day.

During 2017 we made a number of minor enhancements to the terrain including sanding and wood preserving the surrounding fence and gate – so our playing environment is now even more glorious!

### **FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S CHURCH**

During 2017 FOSP raised funds to provide the lion's share of the cost of the work to renovate the four stained glass windows on the south side of the church, these being the ones in most urgent need of repair. The work comprised restoration of the crumbling stonework where the iron supports embedded in the stone had corroded. Two of the windows were removed to the Heritage Glass workshops in Newton Abbot, where they were cleaned, the lead-work replaced, and the windows reassembled. The remaining windows were cleaned in situ, and the wire protective mesh was removed which has improved the look from both inside and out. The major fundraising event in 2017 was a themed evening "Persia Past to Iran Present" held in the Village Hall. The evening was built around a fascinating talk by our own Peter Barker about his recent visit to Iran illustrated with his beautiful photographs, followed by a banquet Iranian mezzes provided by Edmund Davari, a professional Iranian restaurateur from Plymouth, who was aided by a large team of helpers. The evening concluded with a demonstration of Iranian dance with enthusiastic participation by many of the diners. Some 130 people attended both from the Village and further afield, and about £3,000 was raised for FOSP funds.

What was particularly pleasing was that as well as our speaker, the guests from afar could see how Stoke Fleming punches above its weight; both the excellent wines as well as the brilliant sound system came from within our village; Peter and anyone else who spoke sounded absolutely terrific through Isonify's mikes, and the music was enhanced so delicately it was not surprising that people could not restrain themselves from getting up to dance! So, thank you Jonathan, and Ben, and also Hugh Heywood who generously donated his time to run the bar.

FOSP were also represented, as usual, at the Christmas Tree Festival; the title of our tree? Windows!

### **MOTHERS' UNION**

We started the year with our Reports and Accounts followed by Holy Communion. This was followed in February by our annual lunch at the Stoke Lodge Hotel.

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, we held a Lady Day service at St Peter's Church when our friends from other groups joined us.

In April, we held our meeting in the Church with a small bring and buy table to boost our funds, this was a members' afternoon.

In May, we had a very interesting talk with slides about Ethiopia given by Peter Barker followed the next month by a demonstration flower arranging by Jenny Harris. July was a talk by Caroline Luff about Fasts and Feasts. In September, we went to Dodbrook for a talk and in October we had a Deanery meeting at the hall with a talk by Nichola Johnson. November was an interesting talk by Carolyn Williams from Rowcroft and December our usual tea and Carols in St Peter's. So ended another eventful and interesting year.

## **PROBUS**

### **Who we are**

Probus is an organisation with a simple aim: To enable people who are retired, semi-retired or coming up to retirement to get together regularly on an informal basis. Age is not a deciding factor for membership although the bulk of the present membership is over 60. Members tend to have a background in national and local business (including farming), the arts and a wide variety of professional activities in the private and public sectors. We are non-political and a not-for-profit club. Probus, an abbreviation of 'professional and business', is an international organisation. However, each local club has considerable autonomy and independence.

Our keynote is friendliness and new members are made very welcome.

### **What we do**

We meet twice a month. On the second Wednesday we meet for coffee, followed by a talk and lunch (which members pay for). On the fourth Wednesday we meet for coffee and then a talk. In both cases we have guest speakers who present on a wide range of interesting and informative subjects, often with an amusing slant! This is usually followed by a lively discussion on points of interest to the members. Our meetings are held at the Stoke Lodge Hotel in the village. Attendance at meetings tends to exceed 50% of the membership.

Here are some typical examples of talks in 2017:

'How to tell when Politicians lie'  
'Underwater Treasure'  
'Owls and hawks'  
'Eddystone Lighthouse'  
'Beyond the Syringe'  
'Old newton Abbot'  
'Smuggling Organisations'  
'Canine Partners'  
'Barbary Pirates'  
'Concept of Luck'  
'Ethiopia'  
'Treasure the Silver Pit'  
'War Artist'  
'Dartmouth'  
'The Colour of Birds'

We arrange occasional outings to diverse places of interest within roughly a 30 mile radius. In Spring 2017 we went, mostly accompanied by our wives/partners, to Castle Drogo. There we saw the restoration work being carried out for the National Trust, as well as having a superb lunch together.

We also held an Autumn Dinner, to which wives and partners were invited, again at the Stoke Lodge Hotel.

The Club presently has 33 members, roughly 36% from Stoke Fleming, 36% from Strete, 21% from Dartmouth and 7% from other locations.

We are looking to expand and seek new members. The present annual subscription is £20.

#### Present officers

The following may be contacted for further details:

Secretary: Graham Lewis at [grahamglewis@hotmail.com](mailto:grahamglewis@hotmail.com) 712248

Chairman: Colin Campbell at [campbelldartmouth@yahoo.com](mailto:campbelldartmouth@yahoo.com) 833438

Treasurer: Graham Tweed at [tweed833@btinternet.com](mailto:tweed833@btinternet.com) Tel 770730

Website: [www.stokeflemingprobus.wixsite.com/stokeflemingprobus](http://www.stokeflemingprobus.wixsite.com/stokeflemingprobus)

#### **START BAY PERFORMERS**

We have had two performances during the last twelve months. The first one in June, was an evening of two one act plays, Two Fat Men by Gillian Plowman and The Last Bread Pudding by Nick Warburton. These were both comedies and thoroughly enjoyed by the audiences. A meal was included which added to the evening out. Our second production was more ambitious than the plays we usually present and it was a challenge that we took on with some trepidation but with a lot of enthusiasm. The play was Time of my Life by Alan Ayckbourn. We worked hard at it and were rewarded by many very complimentary comments from the audience. For this one we served light refreshments during the interval.

As always, the audience only see a fraction of the hard work that goes on. Our backstage crew were flat out making a complicated plot run smoothly. For this to continue to happen we always need new and more members who want to be part of a friendly fun group. We meet most Monday evenings in the Village Hall at 19.00

#### **THE STOKE FLEMING MAGAZINE**

The Stoke Fleming Magazine has now been in existence for well over 25 years. It is free standing, independent, non-profitmaking and run entirely by parishioners. Its constitution states it shall be delivered to all permanently resident households in the parish. Everyone from the editor, publisher and business/advertising manager to the band of well over 20 doorstep deliverers is a volunteer. The major cost involved is printing by our excellent printers in Salisbury to whom it is emailed. As the number of households in Stoke Fleming has increased so have the production costs. These are funded in 3 ways: by a voluntary annual collection from all parish households in early summer, by advertising revenue and by grants from the various organisations and societies using its pages. It exists to disseminate information for the benefit of the whole community of Stoke Fleming parish, to entertain and to inform. It is published 11 times a year, usually at the end of every month, but with 2 x 6 week editions covering December, January and February.

The Editor is Mrs Joan Mason who can be contacted at [ed.mag@stokeflemingdevon.co.uk](mailto:ed.mag@stokeflemingdevon.co.uk)

Compiled May 2018

Judy Talbot

Parish Clerk

Stoke Fleming Parish Council