

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:****CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Clerk can be contacted at all reasonable hours.

Mrs F Morris  
18 Glebe Drive  
Stottesdon  
Kidderminster  
DY14 8UF

Telephone number: 718453 (answerphone available)

Email - stottesdonpc@btinternet.com

Website: www.shrop.net/stottesdonandsidburypc

**PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

Mrs R Abbiss	718210	Mr B Hamilton-Russell	718577
Mrs H Barratt	718 230	Mrs A Parsons	718047
Mrs J Davies	718093	Mrs D Newsham	718223
Mrs M Shingleton	01299 271186	Mrs R Griffiths	718256
Mrs D Walsh	718527		

**SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLORS:**

Councillor Madge Shingleton	01299 271186
Councillor Gwilym Butler	01584 890458

Stottesdon School	718617
Chorley Family Playgroup	718769
Stottesdon/Sidbury Church	01746 862426 Rev Colin Resch
Chorley Village Hall	07005 850 014 (bookings)
Doctors	712672
District Nurses	711963
Shropshire Council	0345 678 9000 (general enquiries)
Lacon Childe School	01299 270312
Bridgnorth Endowed School	762103
Social Car (Jenny Howes)	718675
WI (Jenny Everingham)	718219
Power Loss Helpline	08457 331331
Mobile Library	01584 813600
Crimestoppers	0900 555111
Rural Stress Network	024 7641 2916
NHS Direct	0845 4647
Shropshire Rural Housing	01743 874848
Severn Trent Water (Emergencies)	0800 7834444
Duck Inn	718267
Fighting Cocks	718270
Shropshire Registration Service	0845 6789016
Police	08457 444888
AB Private Hire Taxi	07876554911 (Cleobury Mortimer)

**Tree Wardens:**

Wade Muggleton (Stottesdon)	718753
Nathan Home (Chorley)	07966365157

# Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council



*Clr Brian Hamilton-Russell presenting  
Clerk Freda Morris with a bouquet of flowers*

*Newsletter  
Summer 2011*



### **Clerk's 25 years service:**

At the Annual Parish Meeting in April Freda Morris was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Chairman, Brian Hamilton-Russell to mark 25 years as Clerk to the Parish Council. Brian thanked Freda for all her work, help and support over the years. Freda thanked Councillors for the flowers and also for their help and support. Freda particularly thanked Councillor Madge Shineton who was Chairman when she became Clerk for her wealth of knowledge much of which has been passed down. Freda also thanked all previous Chairman including Rosemary Abbiss and Brian Hamilton-Russell and Councillors, past and present, for all their help and support

### **Vacancy for a Parish Councillor:**

Sarah Home resigned from the Parish Council in April due to other commitments. Due to Sarah's resignation we now have a vacancy. Chairman thanked Sarah for her help and support during her time as a Parish Councillor.

The qualifications required are as follows:

- Age over 18 and an elector of the Parish. In addition will be qualified if he/she has either:
- During the whole of the 12 months before the day on which he is nominated as a candidate, or the day of the election, resided in the locality or
- Within 3 miles of it or occupied as owner or tenant any land or premises therein or had his principal or only place of work there.

If you are interested please contact the Clerk or a Councillor who will be pleased to explain any further requirements.

### **New Chairman:**

At the Annual Parish Council meeting in May Cllr Rae Griffiths was elected as the new Parish Council Chairman. Outgoing Chairman Brian Hamilton-Russell was thanked by all Councillors and Clerk for his help and support during his 4 years as Chairman.

### **Parish Plan:**

There are many changes taking place which will affect the future of everyone in this area.

During the autumn and early winter months there will be County Consultation on employment, availability of electricity, sewerage and broadband, which will be open to the public. In the meantime your Parish Council will be asking everybody to give their views on a wide range of services that you may need for the future.

There will be a full questionnaire for you to complete in the Autumn newsletter and we also hope to see you at Chorley Show where you will be able to give us your comments and questions.

### **Garden fires:**

Can we please ask that if you intend lighting garden fires and incinerators that you spare a thought for neighbours by checking to see if they have washing out or windows open!

### **From the archives:**

#### **Almshouses 1703:**

This seems to be in the dim and distant past and with no relation whatever to our 'world of today'! I know times change but it's never very clear whether it's for the better! Life now gallops along at such a pace, what with computers and the Internet and goodness knows what else! It seems that you can't do anything quietly on your own, in your own way these days but some person some place else can press a couple of buttons and say "I saw you"!

But, let us go back a short while, back to 1703 when George Rushbury and Richard Rushbury granted to trustees a piece of land in the Parish of Stottesdon, containing one acre. Known by the name of 'Tolleys Acre', in trust 'for the erection of Almshouses, to lodge some of the poor impecunious inhabitants of the said 'Parish'.

The Almshouses were erected on this piece of land, the expense, amounting to £35 (!!) was defrayed from the poor rates and contributions from the parishioners. The houses, which consisted of five distinct dwellings, with a garden to each, were inhabited by, 'The paupers belonging to the Parish'. The Almshouses and gardens now occupy only '2roods 17perches'. The remainder of the land was encroached upon by a man called Williams and his two sons. They later sold this with other property. This piece of land was irrecoverably lost to the Parish. The two sons were later transported and their father settled in Birmingham as a pauper.

("Be sure your sins will find you out", as my grandmother was wont to say!)

#### **Hollow Oak Tree**

In a field along the side of 'Green Lane (almost opposite the Fighting Cock's) is an ancient oak tree, that has a hollow centre.

Mrs. K. Link burned it out in 1885.

I wonder what her vengeance was?

Children have often played in this tree. Sheep and lambs also use it for their shelter in bad weather.

Please note:

Whilst every effort is made to accuracy, Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council cannot in any circumstances accept responsibility for errors or omissions of advice given in this publication. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the views of Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council.

If you would like this newsletter in larger print please contact the Clerk.

### **Friends of Stottesdon Primary School news:**

#### **Bridgnorth Walk**

Well done to Catherine, Matara, Harriet, Maisie, Lucy, Annie Joy, Daisy, Aidan and Matthew T for completing the Bridgnorth Walk. The weather wasn't great to say the least but they soldiered on regardless a big congratulations to you all.

#### **Promise Auction:**

Just to remind you that we are holding another Promise Auction on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at The Fighting Cocks Inn, Stottesdon, 7pm start (approx).**

There will be an auctioneer from Nock Deighton auctioning off various promises/donations.

However we still need more lots so if you can offer anything, no matter how big or small, then please let either Jo Voice, Miranda Kingston or Nicky Long know.

#### **Produce/Plant sale:**

Every Friday afternoon from 3.30pm-4pm until the end of term, there will be a chance for people to offload any extra plants/home grown produce, which would otherwise go to waste. There will also be a chance to buy some of the produce that the children have grown in the school garden. A table will be set up in the playground and there will be an 'Honesty Box' to put any donations in.

#### **Year end accounts:**

Once again the Parish Council is very grateful to Val Hill for carrying out the internal audit of our accounts. These have now been sent off to the external auditors .

#### **Date of Parish Council meetings:**

Future dates are planned for:

July 25th (7pm start)

August 22nd

September 26th

October 24th

November 28th

December 19th

All meetings are held in Chorley Village Hall and commence at 7.30pm . Posters are put on the notice boards in Stottesdon and Chorley. Due to deadlines for Parish Council responses to consultation documents, planning applications etc it is sometimes necessary to alter the dates of the meetings but any changes are noted on the posters.

For various reasons we have had to alter the dates of our last 2 meetings.

All minutes of Parish Council meetings are published on the website once these have been approved.

#### **Dates of next newsletters:**

Please let the Clerk have any information for the next newsletter by September 25th. The deadline is 12 noon! Please keep articles as brief as possible!

### **Gardens Open 2012:**

It may seem odd to talk about an event a year ahead, but planning has to start now because of the increased numbers of people wishing to open their garden for the benefit of various charities. We open under the umbrella of the National Garden Scheme which publishes the list of participating gardens in the Yellow Book in the New Year. As a village opening, we do not have to be too specific as to the number of gardens, but this will affect the opening times and the contents of our own guide.

We have to avoid certain dates next year and fit in between the Diamond Jubilee celebrations (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June) and the Olympics 27<sup>th</sup> July-12<sup>th</sup> August. We also have to ensure that we do not clash with other village events. It will be likely therefore to take place towards the end of June and the beginning of July.

STOTTESDON and CHORLEY gardens have been opening bi-annually for 25 years.

Over this period we seem to have lost many of the Chorley gardens, except for those outside the village. The event has become Stottesdon focussed, mainly because of the location of the gardens now open, the existence of the main car park and the teas. However interest has been expressed by some people from Chorley who wish to participate. It is particularly important that we hear from these folk, so that the infrastructure issues such as parking and signing can be addressed.

It would be helpful, that if anyone would like to consider opening for the FIRST time next year to let us know, so that we could come and see you this year during the same period to enable us to have some idea of how your garden might look. Future plans, changes and developments can be discussed.

What are we looking for? No garden pleases everybody all of the time, but every garden should have something, perhaps only one thing or idea, which will appeal to somebody who can take the idea away and use it. This may be to do with:-

- Layout: a difficult shaped plot, or dictated by a particular problem such as a large area of boggy land.
  - Unusual plants: do you have a Triffid, or a Giant Hogweed or blue roses?
  - Features and structures: these cover everything from unusual buildings, unusual use of materials for practical uses, to mounds and mazes.
  - Specialised knowledge: if you are for example, an authority on petunias, bees or the greater grey slug, then someone will want to meet you.
  - Ornaments: antique stone urns, old implements, a gnome home or talking frogs. Perhaps you display your own sculpture or have a miniature airport.
  - Fowl, fish and animals: these attract comment and attention, except...please no more chickens as the sole attraction.
  - Personal: gardens that express an individual taste, lifestyle or philosophy, perhaps through flowers, vegetables, culture, livestock or layout. They may be tranquil or exuberant, or laid out for a specific disability, Japanese or historic. Anything that is a bit different.
  - We are not looking for perfection. Our visitors do not expect or even like every garden to be manicured. Neither do we expect great horticultural knowledge. This is not a competition, more a celebration of your hard work.
- SIZE. Any size welcome. There are many small gardens, particularly at the front of the house, that can be seen in total by looking over the boundary. These often contain good ideas for small spaces. There is no need for the gardener to be present but they can be included in the list to be looked at. In the past we have had exuberant displays of pots and hanging baskets, gravel gardens or quirky arrangements of artefacts.

For further information please contact:

TINA KING 01746 718543 or DIANE NEWSHAM 01746 718223



### **Speeding vehicles:**

**PLEASE** can we once again ask you to **SLOW DOWN** when driving along our roads - vehicles are driving far too fast! Please remember that there are lots of children in our Parish who are riding their bicycles on the roads. We also have large farm machinery travelling around the parish as well as lorries - many of which fill our narrow roads. Please drive with care and consider other road users.

### **Chorley Family Playgroup, Summer Term 2011:**

We have a few very busy weeks ahead of us. It's holiday season and the focus for this term will be Transport and Holidays. We continue to have 'Dance Feet' work with the children every Tuesday afternoon for music sessions, and there are many other exciting things planned.

We are going to the Safari Park for our Summer Trip which I'm sure will be a fun day for all involved. There is also a Teddy Bear's Picnic and Sport's afternoon arranged for the children – let's hope that the weather will be kind to us!!

Sadly though, a number of our children will be leaving us at the end of term. We would like to wish them well for when they move up to school but hopefully we'll be able to give them a great send off at the Graduation Party planned for the last day of term.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported the Quiz night and our walkers in the Bridgnorth Walk – well done everyone!!!

We are also running Summer Holiday Provision this year between Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 8:00am – 5:30pm. For further information please contact Zoe on 01746 718 769, or visit our website [www.chorleyfamilyplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.chorleyfamilyplaygroup.co.uk)

### **Stottesdon & District WI Quarterly Report:**

This has been a busy three months, five of us attending our Shropshire Federation Annual Council meeting in April in Shrewsbury, where NFWI gave an inspirational talk on WI's involvement in global events such as International Women's Day. Our own Public Affairs Group continues to lead the way in the County, Steff Bryan representing us at WI meetings in Shrewsbury, and lobbying our MP & on topical issues, such clarity in the labelling of food with country of origin.

Our monthly meetings continue to be varied and interesting, John Iles from Unclys Farm hidden away in the Wyre Forest, gave a fascinating talk on his work to restore his cherry orchards, that were a major part of local economy from the growth of railways in the late 1800s until well into the last century.

This month June Emerson from 'Woolly Thinking' in Leominster, demonstrated peg loom weaving. We all had a great evening acquiring this delightful craft, taking home our own colourful creations, incorporating recycled yarns, fabrics and raw fleece.

Our Summer Outing in May took us to the magnificent baroque church at Great Witley, followed by the a browse at the Jinney Ring Craft Centre near Droitwich, and a lunch of local produce.

Links are maintained with Stottesdon and Farlow Schools, and members have been busy this week constructing a splendid scarecrow for the local trail this weekend.

With the 'show season' upon us, we are currently preparing our entry for Burwarton and replenishing stocks of chutneys, jams and cordials to boost funds for the coming year.

### **News from Stottesdon Church**

St Mary's is facing its biggest challenges for a number of years and we need your help. Challenge one – Churchwardens. Diana & Mary have been churchwardens at St Mary's for a number of years – far longer than the normal 3 years term of office – and have decided that now is the time to step aside to allow the opportunity for other people to take on this important role. However, no-one has offered to take their place. With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July, St Mary's Church will no longer have churchwardens – a position which was described by the Archdeacon, Bishop Alistair, as an 'irregular situation and one which can't be allowed to continue. Without churchwardens, there are no legal sequestrators for the parish and the Diocese would consider pastoral reorganisation' (in plain English, the church could close and our parish merged with another). I'm sure that none of us, least of all me, would want to see this happen so if you would like to know more about becoming a Churchwarden (we need two), please call me for a chat (718297). Challenge two – Finance. This probably doesn't surprise you. But what might is the scale of the problem. It costs us about £2,500 each month to keep St Mary's church open with full-time ministerial support. Over the last few years, we have had to draw heavily on our reserves and find that we are now facing the prospect being unable to pay our bills. If this becomes the case, then we could find ourselves facing 'pastoral reorganisation' and being looked after by a priest from another group of parishes.

So how can you help? I'd like to suggest four things you could do. 1. If you believe in the power of prayer, please pray for your Church; 2. Offer your services as a Churchwarden; 3. Give a regular amount by standing order to the work of St Mary's; 4. Get involved in the life of St Mary's and help to make it a focus for community in our village.

Come and join us at the Fun sports and Community Barbecue on the school field at 7pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July. Have a chat with me then and see how you might be able to help out.

### **News from Sidbury Church**

Thank you to all who attended the Sidbury Fete in May. We had a wonderful time and raised in the region of £2000 for the work of Sidbury Church and The Nightingale Nursing Fund. Our regular services continue at 4pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month. You would be very welcome to join us.

### **News from The Rectory**

It is my joy and privilege to invite you, once again, to join us any Friday morning at The Rectory for a free cup of tea or coffee and the chance to talk. No strings, no money – just good coffee and friends.

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

To complement the regular Supporters Group **Film Nights**, the Village Hall Committee is now planning a wide range of events in the coming months. Here is a "taster" for what's in store – more details will be on posters around the parish nearer the date for each event:

Late August – possible **Drum sessions** for kids, towards the end of the school holidays

Mid September – **Fungi Foray** ... spot the poisonous ones! A woodland walk with an expert

Late September – **Quiz Night** ... sharpen the brain cells as the nights draw in again!

9<sup>th</sup> October – **Apple Day** ... at The Fighting Cocks. Turn your fruit into fantastic, fresh juice.

29<sup>th</sup> October – **Music and Supper** – all ticket event featuring "Whalebone" and "Beck Sian"

10<sup>th</sup> December – **Seniors Festive Lunch** – invitations will be going out in the next Newsletter.

January 2012 – **Cheese and Cider Evening** – showcasing some of the best local produce.

February 2012 – **St Valentines Disco/Ball**

### **Nightingale Nursing Fund - Rosemary Abbiss**

Nightingale Nursing Fund provides care in the home when there is a medical crisis. Care is provided by Carers, Nurses or Palliative Care Nurses employed from an agency, with the reason being insurance cover. Owing to the present situation the fund is being called on more which is depleting the funds. There is a need to fund raise. We need willing helpers to enable us to keep this valuable fund running. So if anyone has ideas of fund raising please get in touch. It is a truly local charity that is greatly appreciated by those who receive the help.

12<sup>th</sup> June saw the annual 5-a-side football competitions at Cleobury Mortimer.

Despite a very wet day more teams than usual entered and played with gusto. The final profit has still to be finalised but it looks healthy. It was an excellent day considering the weather. Thank you to all that took part in whatever way.

### **Parish database:**

You may be aware that there have been numerous break-ins/thefts in the Parish over the past few months. The Parish Council would like to set up a data base in order that information can be cascaded down to notify parishioners of any crime in the parish. If you would like to be included please could you pass on your email address to the Clerk.

We have also been made aware that the West Mercia Annual Crime Safety survey began in May and will last for 12 months, A random selection of members of the public living within the force area will be contacted and asked to take part in the survey. The survey is being conducted by Maven Research.

### **Road repairs:**

Thanks to everyone for their patience during the recent road closures to enable road repairs to be carried out. It is appreciated that these do cause an inconvenience but the work has to be carried out. The Parish Council is at present updating the list of repairs needed in the Parish and are working closely with the Shropshire Council so if you have any concerns please speak to the Clerk or a Councillor.

The Parish Council are extremely grateful to Graham Downes and Andy Oliver and their team at Shropshire Council for the work recently carried out in and around the Parish.

### **Dogs:**

It is understood that the problem of dog fouling still persists throughout the Parish and in particular in Bakehouse Lane, Chorley.

Please remember that it is an offence to allow your dog to foul roads, footpaths etc so please clean up after your dog and use the litter bins to dispose of the bagged refuse! Please also ensure that your dogs are not allowed to run around and foul peoples front lawns and gardens.

### **Doctor's Surgery:**

We have been asked to point out that all contact for the Doctors Surgery is to be made via Ditton Priors (712672) as the number to the surgery in Stottesdon is no longer in use. If necessary staff at Ditton Priors will transfer your call to Stottesdon.

### **Salt/grit bins:**

In order to prepare for the winter please let the Clerk know of anywhere in the Parish where salt/grit bins would be useful. Last year salt was taken for personal use and bins were taken from the roadside. Please remember that the salt and bins are provided for use on the roads/footpaths in the parish. The bins are expensive to buy and will not be replaced therefore leaving a potential highway hazard.

## **Special Parish Council Meeting**

There will be specially extended Parish Council meeting  
on  
Monday July 25th at 7pm  
in  
Chorley Village Hall.

The meeting is to explore the possibility of the  
community taking over the running of the village shop.



## Bridgnorth Community Transport



### Who are you?

Youth Club? Mums and Tots? Bowling Club? Church Group? Silver Threads Club? Bowling Club? Three-Legged Chicken Breeders? Why not *start* a monthly 'Out-and-about Club' for people who can't get out and about? We can even help you with that!

It doesn't matter who you are .... You can use our bus!

### Where does your group want to go?

Cinema trip? Youth Weekend? Mums and Tots day at the beach? Shopping Trip to the Market? Go to an away Match (Darts - Football - Cricket - Bowling)? .... Three-legged Chicken Catching?

It doesn't matter where you want to go .... You can use our bus!

### Saturday Shopping Service

The Group operates a shopping service from Cleobury Mortimer to Bridgnorth every Saturday morning. We already pick up passengers at Chorley and could easily divert to Stottesdon village if required. The service would call at Stottesdon at about 9.20am and reaches Bridgnorth at about 9.45. The return journey leaves Bridgnorth High Street at 11.45. If you'd like to come, give us a ring.

### Who are we?

*Bridgnorth Community Transport Group*, is a group of volunteers who, for the past six years have been transporting our member groups all over the country.

### What does it cost?

You need to be a member of the Group and that costs just £3.00 for Individual membership and £10.00 for Group membership

The charge for a *16 seat, wheelchair accessible bus* is only £1.00 per mile for the first hundred miles and 60p per mile thereafter. Do the maths and compare the Community Bus with other means of transport.

### Our Drivers

All our drivers are volunteers, are trained to a nationally recognised standard (MiDAS) and are checked by the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) .... But we need more drivers.

If you are a man or a woman with a driving License with D1 written on it - and if you have some spare time - we'd love to hear from you . We'll train you and you get to go on day trips to some lovely places.

### Want to know more? Want to book the bus? Want to be involved?

Then phone Lila Brown, 01746 768539 or drop in at 16 St John's Street in

Bridgnorth WV15 6AG. Or you can email her at [bridgnorthcombus@btconnect.com](mailto:bridgnorthcombus@btconnect.com)

### CHORLEY SHOW

Please diary the date now, and come along to Chorley Showground on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August

from 11am. With free parking, and free entrance for under-16s, this year's Show promises a really good value day out for all the family – and will raise money for local good causes, including our very own 'Chorley Chicks Challenge' charities, and for *The Village Hall*.

Alongside a return visit by main ring attractions "The Knights of the Damned", there will be a host of things to do and see – ranging from 'have-go-activities' like Archery, Pottery, giant Inflatables, and the Penalty Shoot Out; to demonstrations from the Blacksmith, and by Shropshire Wood Carvers; then there is a stunning "Museum on the Move" display and a chance to experience "The Flying Butresses" at first hand (you'll have to come along to get to know more about this amazing act).

A best ever range of local traders and producers will also be on hand to indulge those who fancy a bit of serious retail therapy; but then again, some may prefer the Hobsons Ales and Robinsons Cider in the Chorley Show Bar, or the mouthwatering home cooking in the Refreshment Marquee – or the succulent meats on our BBQ, and – new this year- handmade pizzas, delicious, slow cooked to order in our wood fired oven ... worth a short queue for!

If the heat in the kitchen gets too much, you'll probably want to miss the reconstruction, on the Showground, of a medieval Iron Bloomery – but otherwise do drop in there and see iron being made in this traditional furnace, of the type use extensively in the woods around Chorley all those years ago. We are grateful to the Four Parishes Heritage Group and to Shropshire Council folk for putting on this "time team"-like activity.

After all that action, perhaps a seat by the main stage will appeal – with the ever-popular "Whalebone" entertaining us, along with local singer-songwriter *Jake Flowers* and friends? Then its off to the *Craft & Produce Marquee* for the exhibits in the WI Competition, and maybe a chance to buy some of their excellent chutney, jam and other goodies? Still got time and energy left? Well then, try entering your dog into the Family *Fun Dog Show* – and then towards the end of the afternoon, there are always the traditional *Childrens' Games!!*

As always, volunteers and helpers are desperately needed to get the Show on the road – before, after and during Show day itself. Call Chris and Clare on 718007 to join the team, for loads of fun – and some hard graft along the way. Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August – please be there!

For more details – including schedules for the Craft and Dog Shows – please have look at our newly updated website [www.chorleyshow.co.uk](http://www.chorleyshow.co.uk) which will be online from early July.