

Dadford and Stowe Parish **Magazine**

July - August 2021



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This magazine is produced every two months for everyone in Dadford Village and Stowe Parish.

STOWE CHURCH CONTACTS

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DEADLINE FOR THE MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please let Lyn East (lmeast@btinternet.com) have submissions (articles, photographs, ads or news items) by the **15th of the month prior to publication** (February, April, June, August, October & December)

ADVERTISING

If you would like to advertise future events in this magazine then please e-mail
Lyn East

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To see a colour copy of the magazine, or to find out where we are,
visit our website at www.stowechurch.org.uk



Dear Friends,

Some monks have been visiting my garden in their habits of grey, brown and black. They come every day for the seeds and fat balls but now they have found another attraction - an earth bath.

I enlarged a flower bed by cutting a line in the lawn and turning the turves upside down to break up and decompose. The sparrows are having a delightful time because every hollow and dip that has formed is the size of their bodies and there they are, each comfortably settled in its own hummock, wriggling and shuffling, vigorously throwing out spits of dry earth, garrulous and gregarious.

They remind me of the value Jesus placed on sparrows (Luke 12, 6-7 and Matthew 10, 29-31). "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore, you are of more value than many sparrows."

This is such a comforting thought as we live through this time of plague, trusting in the ingenuity and skill, the research and resources of scientists and doctors to keep us unharmed.

If God cares for sparrows so attentively we know He will care for us.

So trust the data, hope for the right decisions and live in the certainty that God values each of us. Whatever happens we cannot drift beyond the love of God.

With best wishes,
Gillian

GM



Parish Council Update

The local elections were held on May 6th, thank you to everyone who took the time to vote. The seven newly elected Stowe Parish Councillors, who will serve for the next four years, are Sue Boulet (chair), Jamie Boulet, Ken Edwards, Hilary Hawkins, Lyn Stanbrook, Steve Williamson and Kim Wood. We have the same clerk as previously, Tony Skeggs. Do get in touch with Tony if you require any information, his email is clerk@stowepc.uk

You will find all the latest information on the Parish Council website www.stowepc.uk including future meeting dates, minutes of previous meetings as well as details on how to contact any of your councillors.

Have you ever thought about growing your own produce? Such a rewarding way to spend your time.

If you are interested in becoming an allotment holder then please get in touch as there are spaces available. You don't need to live in Dadford to have one and we would love to welcome you! Contact Cllr Hilary Hawkins if you would like any further information on taking one on hilaryhawkins@stowepc.uk.

Amendments are being carried out on the existing traffic calming in Dadford late June/early July. There are also ongoing conversations with the MEPC, Warren Whyte and Stowe Parish Council regarding having additions put in at the North Hill end of Dadford. As soon as we have more information on this, we will report it to you but in the meantime please be assured that we are trying our hardest to bring about something being carried out at this end of the village.



Photograph by kind permission of Chris Hawkins

Over the next couple of months there will further improvements happening in Dadford when the remaining street lights will all be upgraded to LED's.

A polite reminder to residents that the village hall car park is for the use of The Old School House and users of the hall only. Signage will be going up shortly.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 21st July 7.30pm at Dadford Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to come along but current guidelines mean you would need to book your space with the clerk in advance as numbers are limited. For up-to-date information nearer the time please check the website.

SB

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Silverstone and Formula 1 have announced there will be a full crowd at this year's British Grand Prix, after the event was included in the UK Government's Event Research Programme.

A statement released on Thursday said: *"We are delighted to confirm that the Formula 1 Pirelli British Grand Prix 2021 has been included in the latest phase of the UK Government's Event Research Programme (ERP) allowing a full capacity crowd for the event between 16th – 18th July."*

What's been happening at St. James and St. John Church of England Primary School...



St. James and St. John School is a one-form entry school located in two villages. Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 children are taught at the infant site in Akeley and Year 3 up to Year 6 are taught at the junior site in Chackmore.

At the time of writing, we have been blessed with a stretch of lovely summery weather. The showers have ended, at least for the moment, and we have a glimpse of what hopefully awaits us all over the summer holidays. In the meantime, the children at both sites have been able to make full use of the field during break and lunch times, as well as for PE sessions and outdoor learning experiences.

With the start of July, we begin to look to the end of another different, challenging at times, but also rewarding school year. Reflecting back, the children should be very proud of all they have accomplished over the course of this academic year. Their resilience and determination is something that the staff has greatly admired. However, although the summer holidays might be around the corner, there are still many events to enjoy and learning opportunities to grasp.

Whilst it has been hard to look forward with too much certainty, there are still many events that will take place at St James and St John this summer, whilst still maintaining current guidelines. Sports Day is an annual event which will take place, albeit in a different format this year, as sport afternoons for our bubbles.



Additional activities have been planned to make it an enjoyable, as well as active, occasion for all the children. As with all our other events this year, photographs will be shared with parents via the school website, newsletter and Facebook page.

We are very pleased to confirm that our planned school visits will still be going ahead. **Key Stage 1** and Foundation Stage classes are looking forward to their joint trip to Woburn Safari Park. **Year 3** are counting down the days until their trip to Legoland, whilst **Year 4** are looking forward to a long day at Everdon, with a rescheduled residential in the autumn term. **Year 6** have an exciting trip to Chessington World of Adventures planned, along with a camp-out towards the end of the school term. Year 6 also have a joint **Year 5/6** production, Leavers' Assembly and Disco to look forward to at the end of term.



Transition mornings will go ahead for most classes, although for our **new Year 3** and Foundation children there have been some changes, due to the restrictions around bubbles.

Unfortunately due to current guidelines, we have had to make changes to a few of the summer events we had planned. The welcome meetings for our new Foundation and Year 3 parents will take place online via TEAMS, as will the planned Parents' evenings. One event to be postponed until the autumn term is the 'Colour Run' organised by the School's Charity representatives in order to raise money for Cancer Research UK. We look forward to completing this in slightly cooler weather!

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to a new school year in September, and wish all our families and friends of St James and St John a relaxing and safe summer.

CG

Stowe Parish Church
congregation and visitors are delighted to 'rest awhile' on the lovely bench gifted to us by the family, friends and former pupils of Peter Farquhar, who worshipped here for many years (as well as teaching in Stowe School) until his untimely death in October 2015.



CHURCH NEWS

Services

Details of services can be found on the back page.

We have now been back in the church building for services for much of June and plan to continue to hold services in the church throughout July and August.

For now, masks must still be worn, social distancing observed and we are not allowed to sing. However, it is a great blessing to be able to worship God together in the church after all this time. *Evensong in the Dadford Cemetery* chapel is more of a challenge as social distancing is not possible. Weather permitting we hope to be able to have the service outside the chapel in July and August.

For the moment the *church remains locked between services* but we very much hope to be able to unlock it soon for some of the week to allow it to be used for private prayer.

For those people who are unable to come to the church, we have begun to film the services and post them on YouTube for people to watch.

We pray that it will not be long before we are all able to return to church and worship God together without restraint but until that moment, do please let us know if we can help you in any way,

Andrew and Kay
Church wardens

Activities

Ladies' Bible study group continue to meet on a Monday afternoon via Zoom during term-times. If you don't already receive the links please get in touch with Kay who will add you to the invitation email.

Other **Bible study groups** meet (via Zoom) every other week. Please contact Kay for the link.

Buckingham Food Bank

- 1) *The Food Bank* opened in 2013
- 2) *It is a charity* run by Buckingham Parish Church and relies solely on donations from the public
- 3) *Donations* are brought to The Centre or the church
- 4) *All donations* are date checked and stored in category and date order
- 5) *People in need of food* are referred by Care Agencies such as Doctors, Health Visitors etc
- 6) *Food parcels* are made up at The Centre and taken to people's homes.

Donations may be taken to The Centre, Verney Close any Tuesday between 10.00am and 12.00noon. The following items are often in demand: Tinned peas, carrots, potatoes, custard, jars of jam and small bags of sugar.



STOWE STARS

Family Services

July 18th

Joshua's decision

Joshua 24, 14 - 28

God chose Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt to the land He promised would be their home. God chose a young man, Joshua, to be Moses' help and companion and to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.

When Joshua neared the end of his life he called the people together. He reminded them of all that God had done for His people over hundreds of years - He had brought Abraham, their founding father, into a new land, He had freed the people from slavery in Egypt and He had led them across the desert to the Promised Land.

Joshua wanted them to remember God's love and provision for them. He wanted them to understand that it was better to serve the Lord who took faithful care of them than false gods whose promises were empty wishes.

Do we have false gods? Do we seek comfort, love and understanding from attractive promises? Do we remember that

only God knows our hopes and fears, our circumstances and problems, and that we can talk to Him at any time, anywhere? Joshua made this resolution which is as worth following today as it was hundreds of years ago:

"Choose you this day whom you will serve. As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

August 15th

A widow's despair

1 Kings 17, 17 - 24

Jesus said (Luke 4, 25) that the drought lasted three years and six months. Elijah lived by the brook Cherith but when that dried up God told him to seek out a widow in Zarephath in Sidon and she would look after him.

The widow, however, was in great need herself. She had only enough flour and oil to bake something for herself and her son and then they expected to die of starvation. Elijah promised that if she shared the food with him the flour and oil would not run out until the drought ended.

Some time later the son died. In her grief and anger she blamed Elijah. Elijah took the child to his room and prayed to God for the child to be restored to life. The Lord heard his voice and the boy revived. "Now I know that the word of the Lord in thy mouth is truth," said the happy mother.

GM



What a pleasant surprise when the post-man called the other day. Instead of the usual circulars, junk mail and of course the bills came an envelope containing a WI certificate award for reaching our 75th birthday!

Quite an achievement and a milestone, one which will hopefully continue to increase. With so many ifs and buts regarding the future restrictions hovering over us, we are still hoping to reconvene on 9th September. What better way to start than with a Birthday Tea, not only for all the WI members' birthdays that have been missed but also to celebrate our 75 years. How things have changed over those years but still the **WI** continues to 'inspire and encourage'.

Dadford WI was formed on 3rd July 1946, Mrs. F. Fricker was President and we even had a pianist, Mrs. Rose Clarke.

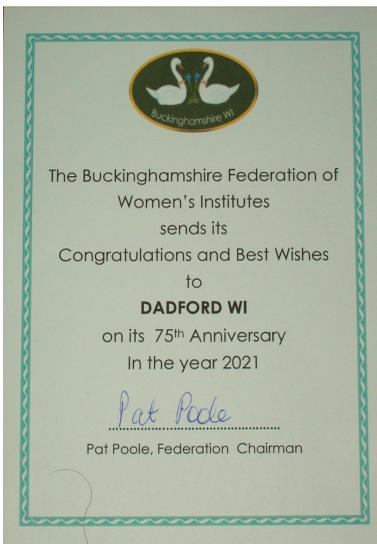
In 1946 a loaf of bread was about 4½d (nearly 3p in today's currency), a daily newspaper 1d, Radio Times 2d and our membership was 2/6d (12.5p).

Early July 1946 saw the births of actor Sylvester Stallone and former US president George W. Bush. The Reverend Wilbert Awdry's well-known book, Thomas the Tank Engine, first put in an appearance.

Two of the first competitions were a handmade apron not costing more than 1/6d and the best sketch of your neighbour! Maybe we should try that one.

It's lovely to look back and reminisce, but keep everything crossed that we will be able to create new memories later in the year.

Look forward to seeing you soon.
Loren.





National Trust Stowe

Is it safe to say summer is here? The weather of the last few weeks has given us hope that it is. Why not make the most of the longer days and come along to enjoy the garden at Stowe? For those seeking tranquillity, take in the summer scents of Sleeping Wood as our roses appear or rest a while on our new benches found in the cooling shade of Lamport Garden.

Current seasonal highlights include the Common spotted orchids which are just beginning to appear and the Philadelphus (see below) which are filling the garden with a wonderful perfume. The orchids haven't been planted, they have occurred naturally over time thanks to the work of the garden and park team maintaining the area for wildflowers. They can be found at the far end of the Grecian Valley as well as elsewhere in our meadows.

A mindful meadow meander

As summer develops through July and August our hay meadows come to life; home to a wide variety of spectacular wildflowers which sway gently in the summer breeze and buzz with wildlife. This year we have created a map to guide our visitors on a 'route to relaxation' through our wildflower meadows. Encouraging people to pause, relax and take in the sounds and scents of nature around them. Spending time in green spaces has

been found to reduce stress, anxiety and depression, and we have lots of wonderful green spaces in which to explore and relax.



©National Trust Images



An area not to miss is the Grecian Valley which is Stowe's oldest hay meadow and an original garden feature. Its damp, almost marsh-like, nature makes it a haven for bio-diversity, attracting a wide variety of grasses, wildflowers, birds, insects, bees and butterflies.

Summer of fun

During the school holidays you can get set, go at Stowe! Get active as you complete our nature-themed play and sport challenges. Can you jump like a frog and stretch up high like a tree? The trail will run from 10 July until the beginning of September so there are plenty of opportunities to get the family away from the screen and out into nature.

The gardens, café and shop at National Trust Stowe are open 7 days a week, 10am-5pm Monday-Friday and 9am-5pm Saturdays and Sundays (shop 10am-5pm). On weekdays you don't need to pre-book your visit. At busier times, like weekends and school holidays, booking is recommended to guarantee entry. We will continue to follow government guidance, please keep an eye on our website for updates. For more information and to book a ticket please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stowe

We've also recently re-opened one of the smaller properties within our portfolio, Claydon House, which has been closed for the last year. Home to the Verney family for over 400 years with splendid eighteenth-century interiors; enjoy the beautiful wood carvings of Luke Lightfoot and explore Florence Nightingale's bedroom from her time at Claydon. Claydon is open on Fridays and Saturdays until the end of September, 11am-3pm.

To finish, here is a lovely photo of the irises on the edge of the Octagon Lake, captured by one of our volunteer photographers recently. **KL**



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David Humphries



Nature Notes

We are blessed with wonderful trees at Stowe, almost like an arboretum. Giving shade in summer and protection in winter these amazing plants provide an everchanging vista of colour as the

seasons change. Such a vital part of our treasured world, trees are their own ecosystem providing homes to numerous species of flora and fauna. They are simply majestic pillars of our natural landscape and whilst appearing robust, we must never take them for granted. Trees face many challenges, coming under daily threat from deforestation, development, pollution, pests and disease.

Whilst Stowe is a haven for trees, they still face challenges. If you are out and about on a walk, here are a few common issues to look out for.



Bleeding canker in horse chestnut tree

Oozing liquid spills from the trunk and side branches. This is caused by several bacteria that attack the tree. The tree reacts by sending out a black liquid on the trunk and side branches. Dark liquid can appear in spring, summer and autumn. It does not necessarily cause the death of the tree, but it is widely known to cause dropping branches.

Image of bleeding canker on a horse chestnut by kind permission of Tom Bach

Leaf Miner on Horse Chestnuts

A pest that was first spotted in Wimbledon in 2002.

A moth that lays its larvae in leaves. The offspring hatch as caterpillars in the summer and make the leaves appear pale green. The insect feeds on the leaves until all appear dry and crispy. This causes leaves to fall early in the autumn.

Despite the pest causing damage to the leaves, the horse chestnut quickly recovers in spring before the moth reappears. Therefore, the pest has not been that severe compared to other pests that infect native trees.



Leaf miner on horse chestnut last year, 2020, late summer

Ash die-back

First appearing in the UK in 2012, Ash die-back originated from Asia and came into this country from saplings imported from Holland. It is a fungal disease that is now widespread in the UK and is common around Stowe. It can be seen in ash trees with large numbers of dead branches. Leaves appear dry and curl up. Overall, the disease makes the tree look unhealthy and will ultimately lead to its demise.

The issue can be seen in local woodlands and the problem is often left because there is currently no treatment for the disease, but the Forestry Commission is looking at plants' resistant to the disease.



Photograph showing a large amount of dead wood and stunted foliage. This is an early sign of Ash die-back.

Many thanks to our guest writer Tom Bach for his very interesting article on some of our common trees. We have noticed the brown patches on horse-chestnut trees in recent years and now know why!

Dadford and Stowe Magazine

If you enjoy reading the magazine and finding out what has been going on in and around the village of Dadford and would like to make a contribution, it is not too late. The annual cost per copy per year is £5, but £10 will enable us to continue the current distribution. Please pass your contribution to one of the church wardens, Kay Murray, or to the person who distributes the magazine to you.

Stowe Parish Church Rotas

Date 2021	Sidesmen	Prayers	Refreshments
July 4th		Gill Smith	Kay Murray
July 11th		Sally Drummond-Hay	Tamara Kimpton
July 18th		Children	Frances Orger
July 25th		Andrew Rudolf	Lyn East
Aug 1st		Kay Murray	Margaret Ryley
Aug 8th		Liturgy	Kay Murray
Aug 15th		Children	Elsbeth Mullineux
Aug 22nd		Tamara Kimpton	Bernadette Matthews
Aug 29th		Sally Drummond-Hay	Tamara Kimpton
Date 2021	Flowers	Cleaning	Prayer-board
July 4th	Gillian Macdonald		Not in use at the moment as the church is locked, apart from the Sunday morning service.
July 11th	Heather Meredith	Frances & Brian Orger	
July 18th	Hilary Hawkins		
July 25th	Ivy Cakebread	Chris and Phillipa Atkinson	
Aug 1st	Loreen Williams		
Aug 8th	Margaret Ryley	Chris Close-Smith & Venice Gordon-C	
Aug 15th	Pat Walton		
Aug 22nd	Rosie Cowdy	Gillian Macdonald	
Aug 29th	Diana Wyatt		

DATE	TIME	SERVICE	THEME	READINGS	LEAD / PREACH
Jul 4th	8:00	Said 1662 Communion			Rev Ron Bundock
	09:45	Morning Prayer	Berea and searching the Scriptures	Acts 17:10-15 2 Timothy 4:1-5	L - Gillian Macdonald P - Andrew Rudolf
Jul 11th	09:45	1662 Communion	Athens and the unknown god	Acts 17:16-34 John 10:7-15	L & P Rev Ron Bundock
Jul 18th	9:45	Family Service	Joshua's decision	Joshua 24:14-28	Kay Murray
Jul 25th	9:45	Common Worship Communion	Corinth - Paul goes to the Gentiles	Acts 18:1-18 John 10:14-21	L&P - Rev Maurice Stanton-Saringer
	18:00	Evensong in Dadford Cemetery Chapel		Psalm 73 Job 13:13 - 14:6 Luke 10:38-42	Gillian Macdonald
Aug 1st	8:00	Said 1662 Communion			????
	9:45	Morning Prayer	Post script - Apollos' help	Acts 18:19-27 2 Timothy 2:14-19	L - Andrew Rudolf P - Keith Croxton
STORMS OF LIFE					
Aug 8th	9:45	1662 Communion	Elijah flees from Jezebel's wrath	1 Kings 19:1-18 John 4:16-26	TBA
Aug 15th	9:45	Family Service	A widow's despair	1 Kings 17:17-24	TBA
Aug 22nd	9:45	Common Worship Communion	All seems lost	Job 1:13-22 Matthew 6:24-34	TBA
	18:00	Evensong in Dadford Cemetery Chapel	A new friend to the rescue	Acts 9:26-31	TBA
Aug 29th	9:45	Mission Morning Prayer	Faith in adversity	Daniel 6:1-16 Matthew 6:5-15	TBA