

Read all about
the Town Council and
Community's
Summer of Fun
inside!



FULLERS SLADE/GALLEY HILL/STONY STRATFORD TOWN

TOWN CRIER

AUTUMN 2021



Fabulous Football
with the MK Dons!



Getting Crafty with MK Play Association



Jumping for Joy!

STONY STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL NEWS



Temporary Relocation of Council Office to York House Centre

The offices will temporarily be moving to:

York House Centre on London Road, Stony Stratford, MK11 1JQ. We hope to return to 5-7 Church Street by Christmas. The office will be open to the public Tuesday to Friday, 10am-3pm. On Mondays the office is contactable by phone or email. tel: 01908 566726, email: office@stonystratford.gov.uk website: www.stonystratford.gov.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/StonyStratfordTownCouncil



Changes to Staffing

We will be very sad to see Karen Hiser, Deputy Town Clerk leave in December due to personal circumstances. Karen has been a super Deputy and has taken on the landscaping and allotments mantle with unflinching professionalism and good humour!

We will also be sorry to see Ummara Qureshi (Temporary Environment & Planning Officer) leave at the end of September due to relocation. In her short time at the Council, Ummara has been a real asset and we wish her luck for the future.

Vacancies at Stony Stratford Town Council

We will shortly be recruiting for the following part-time roles:
Deputy Town Clerk (19 hours per week)
Environment, Finance and Planning Officer (temporary role in the first instance, 8 hours per week)
 Please look out for details on the noticeboards and website.

5-7 Church Street Refurbishment Update

We are delighted to confirm that following the final round of tenders, Bespoke Construction Ltd (based in Telford) were appointed to undertake the refurbishment works at a cost of £247,068. It is hoped that work will start mid-end of September.



Summary of Latest Planning Decisions in Stony Stratford

Application Ref	Address and Description	SSTC	MKC	Date
21/01784/FUL	1 Ousebank Way: Single storey porch extension, demolition of existing conservatory and construction of replacement single storey rear extension.	No comment	Permitted	04/08/2021
21/01895/FUL	27 Clarence Road: Single storey extension.	No comment	Permitted	16/08/2021
21/01950/FUL	104 Clarence Road: Demolition of existing lean-to structure and erection of new single storey rear lean-to extension.	No comment	Permitted	04/08/2021

Welcome to newly co-opted Councillor Alex Kidd



A warm welcome to Cllr Alex Kidd of Willow Lane, Stony Stratford who was co-opted at the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 20th July 2021.

Cllr Kidd outlined 'Having recently moved to Stony Stratford I decided that I would like to become more involved in the community. As an experienced parish councillor within Milton Keynes I feel that I

have something to offer to the council going forward. I am keen to become involved in all aspects of the council's work as we work together to keep Stony Stratford special.'

Cllr Kidd will be joining Finance & HR Committee and the Neighbourhood Plan and S106 Initiatives Group.

Temporary Expansion of Stony Stratford High Street Footway

Milton Keynes Council have confirmed that the temporary expansion of the footway (due to the global pandemic) will be removed by the end of the financial year. This should include reinstatement of the lost parking spaces.

Grants Awarded

We are delighted to have awarded the following grants from the 2021 Grant Budget:

York House Centre Lantern Project 2021 - £220

Fullers Slade Residents' Association 'Lark in the Park' community event - £550

Neighbourhood Plan Initiatives: Redway Linkage to the Western Expansion Area at H1 Ridgeway

Council agreed to write a letter of support for a scheme to MKC.

Flooding 2020

Our thoughts are with the residents who are still experiencing hardship following the December floods. We are continuing to work with Milton Keynes Council and the Environment Agency.

Lynne Compton, PSLCC, Cert HE, Clerk to the Council



Stony Stratford Farmers Market



The ever-popular Farmers Market is held on the last Friday of every month in Market Square, Stony Stratford, from 9am-2pm. Small local businesses offer you everything from fruit and veg to traditional Swedish delicacies, cakes, poultry, crayfish and meat products, decorative goods, jams, sauces and delicatessen delights. The next markets are **22nd October, 26th November and 24th December.**



Festive Christmas Farmers Market



Once again, our festive Christmas Market will be held on Christmas Eve. There will be seasonal music and activities and lots of Christmas goodies. Plus, many products will be available to pre-order, so you can just collect them on the day. Please watch our Facebook page for updates, or pop along to an earlier market and ask the stall holders.

Allotments

The Council allotments are located at Wolverton Road and Boundary Crescent. We currently have a waiting list, but don't let that put you off - the list can move quickly. If you are interested in having an allotment, please see our website for more information or contact the Deputy Town Clerk - dtc@stonystratford.gov.uk.



Photo courtesy of Julie Watson

Apple Day Cancellation

Unfortunately, Apple Day is once again cancelled this year. Uncertainties due to Covid-19 have made planning difficult, and so the decision was made to wait until next year, when we hope to bring you an amazing Apple Day 2022!

Children's Summer Play Sessions

The Town Council is immensely pleased to have offered play and sports sessions almost every day during the summer! There were the much-loved Milton Keynes Play Association sessions, which were held at Wolverton Rocket Park and Spider Park, Fullers Slade. We also saw the marvellous MK Dons return for a second year to coach fun-filled football, kwik cricket and tag rugby sessions for children aged 7-12. These were once again graciously hosted by the Stony Stratford Football Club at their site. On top of this, there were two new providers this year: Youth Network MK created fabulous traditional and not-so traditional activities at York House, including human bingo and sack-racing, and Milton Keynes Basketball Association provided a series of coached basketball sessions aimed at slightly older children aged 10-18 years, which took place in the ball court at Rocket Park.

If you came to any of our summer activities, we hope you enjoyed them as much as we did! **Take a look at the photos on the front cover and below to see what fun we had!**



Landscaping: how are we doing?

In April we welcomed a new landscape contractor, Millstream Estate Services Ltd. The contractor has been working hard all spring and summer to keep grass cut and vegetation manageable, and the Town Council office has received quite a number of compliments from parishioners. As would be expected with a new contractor, there have also been small areas that were missed and were reported to the Town Council by residents. Happily, these reports have lessened now that the contractor has become more familiar with our parish.

Karen Hiser, Deputy Town Clerk

Calling All Creatives...

Annual Christmas Drawing Competition

Call to young artists to draw a Christmas picture for Essentially Local. Get your brightly coloured felt pens or paint out, take an A4 sheet of paper and let your imagination run away with you. The cheerier and Christmassy the better! Send or drop your entries to The Stony Sweet Shop **by 5pm, Friday 15 October.**

Winning pictures will appear on the cover of the Essentially Local November-December edition, with others throughout the magazine. They'll also be celebrating the children's pictures on their social media feeds. Winners will be awarded certificates and prizes.

The team are planning an exhibition as in previous years, hopefully pandemic free! The fantastic Stony Stratford Library usually holds the exhibition on Essentially Local's behalf. As it is currently being refurbished, confirmation of the venue will take place closer to the time.

The competition is open to anyone aged from 4-12 years of age. The important stuff including details about your entry, the winners and prizes can be found at essentiallylocal.co.uk, however if you have more questions give Essentially Local a call 01908 380777.



Anyone for Lanterns?



As Covid-19 restrictions are lifting, the Stony Stratford Lantern Project gang are keen to run the project 'as normal' for our community this year, but we're not able to confirm the way forward just yet. Once it has been decided if this year's Switch-On Day event will go ahead, we will be ready to announce our plans for the workshops and parade.

Last year's 'at home' project was a great success which saw over 400 lantern kits sold and hundreds of families making their lanterns at home and decorating their windows for everyone to enjoy, but we'd rather return to the true community spirit of lantern making together if we are able to. Any workshops and events will

adhere to the relevant government guidelines, of course.

Please join our Facebook Group - Stony Stratford Lantern Project - to keep up to date with latest project information:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/161331770478>

There WILL be Lantern Making in 2021 - we'll let you know the details as soon as we can ...

Fiona Trinder
Chair - Stony Stratford Lantern Project



Your Stony Success Stories!

Stony Story Quest Triumphs!

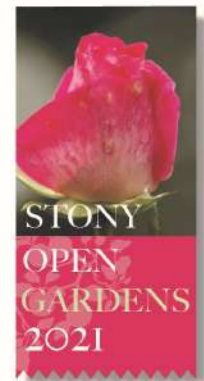
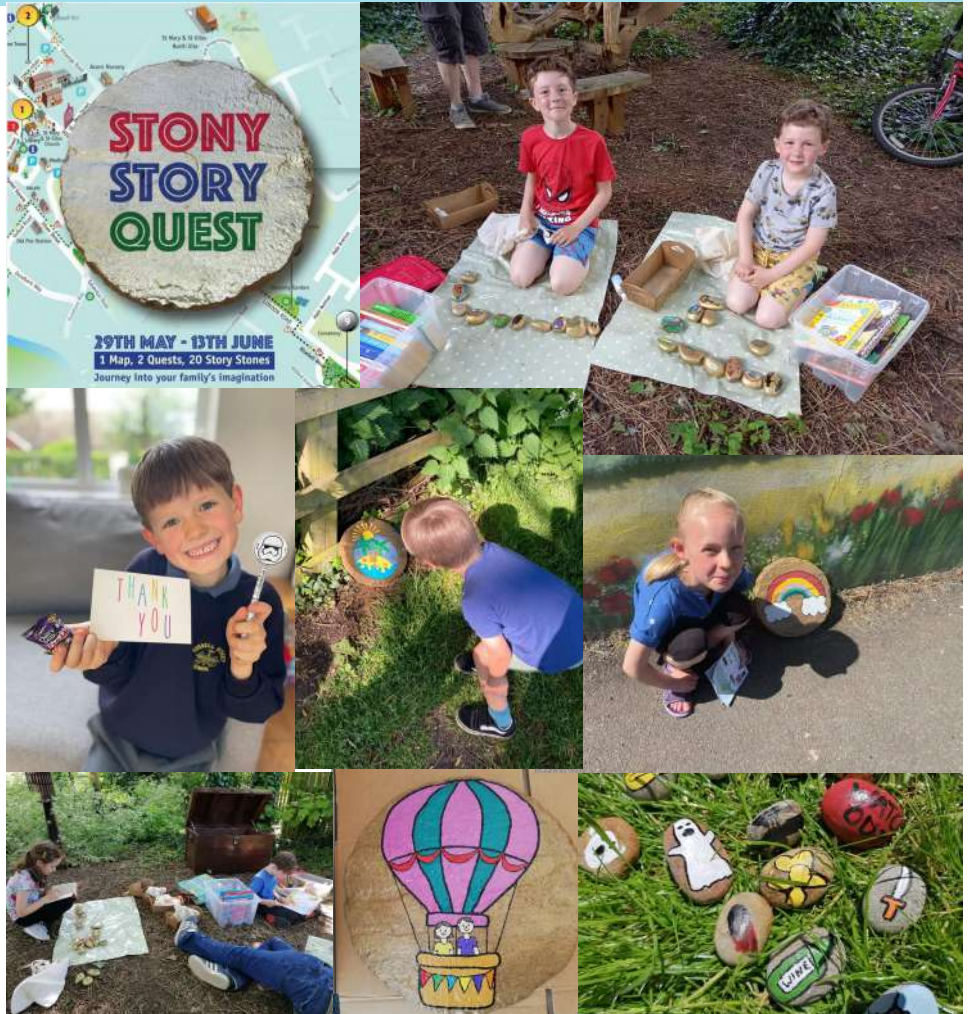
Stony Story Quest invited you to 'Journey into your Family's Imagination!' by using a free map, created by Mason Edwards, to find hand-painted gold stones, painted by the ladies of 'Crafting for Change'. Creating stories as they went, children were also invited to leave their own painted stones along the route.

Despite several of the stones being taken or vandalised, the adventures continued. Children were delighted to discover a secret story-telling area and treasure chest at the end of the Quest, guarded by Quercus, and could claim a chocolate treat at the end of their adventure.

The story stones have now found a permanent home in the orchard at Russell Street School, where children will use them, alongside bags of miniature story stones, to enhance their imaginative story telling and writing.

The Quest Chest remains at Hayes, housing books for children to enjoy, and the organisers intend to provide miniature story stones for Stony's many cafes. Watch this space!

Sasha Austin, Stony Story Quest



Stony Open Gardens raise over £3,000 for Willen this year! 

As Stony Open Gardens could not be held this year, we decided to raise funds for Willen Hospice by other means. In July, in partnership with the parents and staff of St Mary and St Giles School, a successful Summer Fete took place. We also ran a double raffle with Willen Lottery, a Treasure Hunt Quiz, a stall at Made in Stony, and Stony Stratford Theatre Society collected for Willen at their event on Horsefair Green. All these fund-raising efforts raised £3,060 - a much needed boost to Willen Hospice funds.

Our thanks are due to everyone who supported Willen Hospice by donating, buying and participating. They all helped to make this Fundraising marathon such a success.

Next year we hope that Stony Open Gardens will go ahead on the 25th and 26th June 2022.

Stony Stratford In Bloom: Stony Stratford Still Blooming!



Normally at this time Stony Stratford in Bloom (SSIB) would have had the Britain in Bloom judges to visit the town. But this is a very different year! We're being digitally judged in the Regional and National Finals Britain in Bloom competitions instead. We were invited to enter the town for different awards that reflect our community gardening achievements, and to send as evidence written accounts of our activities, as well as 9 photographs, and a video for each award.

The National Finals Awards we entered were Nourishing the Community, which we illustrated through our vegetable growing at York House Community Gardens; Cultivating the Community, where we focused on our initiatives to encourage young people to grow (which we cover elsewhere); and finally, Nature Friendly Gardening, where we highlighted Mary Robinson's North end pond and wildlife project, and the heritage trees SSIB volunteers have planted and maintain on the North end triangle.

Regional Awards we've entered are similar, with an additional one, Pride of Place, where we show-cased the beautiful perennial beds that we've created and maintain around the parish and the joint operations with the Business Association to ensure the streets are lined with colourful baskets and planters.

In our submission of digital evidence we were hugely grateful to Jonathan Taylor, who offered his time and expertise to provide three videos to go with our different entries; and also hugely grateful

to Misia Kibble, who offered to do the video reflecting our commitment to encouraging young people to grow. We found it quite difficult to squeeze into the space allowed all that we've been doing in the course of the year! At York House Community Gardens the seeds and seedlings we sowed and planted in the spring have flourished, allowing us to supply the King's Foodbank in Wolverton with two or three large boxes of vegetables each week since the beginning of July – with mounds of potatoes, courgettes, lettuce, tomatoes, onions and beans providing healthy food for those in need. Children and parents at SMSG have also been harvesting vegetables grown at the school to add to the Foodbank donation – and parents have joined SSIB volunteers in a watering rota for the school polytunnel over the summer so the tomatoes don't languish and die! We've needed frequent work parties at York House to keep the rampaging bindweed and brambles at bay and have been delighted to welcome Ethan, another Duke of Edinburgh volunteer, to our ranks to help us here.

In the video taken at the North end pond and wildlife area Mary Robinson was able to point out the wide variety of wild flowers that she has sown and the pond and bird life she has encouraged - which have so much ecological value. She also showed what a peaceful place this is; a haven which has been especially cherished during the pandemic by old and young. We showed evidence too of the maintenance of the heritage trees throughout the year, and the patch of ox-eye daisies, cornflowers and poppies we sowed this year on the North end triangle

of grass, much loved by bees and other insects!

Once again this year SSIB chose drought-resistant, vibrant red, pink and white geraniums for the summer planters and the Business Association baskets were similar, but with additional orange begonias. Passers-by have been warm in their praise of the flowers in the planters and SSBA baskets that light up the High St. As was the case last year, SSIB volunteers and residents have helped with the watering to ease the load of the watering contractor.

The town's Pride of Place is reflected too in the numerous It's Your Neighbourhood (IYN) groups. The Horsefair Green Memorial Gardens planted and maintained by the residents group have been looking very attractive, as has the new bed and barrier baskets planted by the Galley Hill IYN group and watered by Raj and staff from the Galley Hill shop. Fundraising to maintain the perennial beds during the pandemic has been more difficult this year, but the plant sale and raffle at York House was a tremendous success – we made the astounding sum of £1,200!

Looking Ahead > Plans for 10 blossom trees in Ostler's Lane, sponsored by Ron and Eileen Cox and Jane Wood. >We'll keep you posted on how we do in the National Finals and Regional Awards! New SSIB volunteers warmly welcomed!
Email Judith.deveson@gmail.com
Phone 07985671379
www.stonyinbloom.wixsite.com/stonyinbloom
facebook.com/stonyinbloom

Judy Deveson, Chair, SSIB



Encouraging Young People to Grow

Vegetables sown and planted at SMSG School have flourished, with the result that the pupils at the Breakfast Club and SSIB volunteers have been able to harvest lots of lettuces, potatoes, beans, courgettes, tomatoes and onions to donate to the King's Foodbank in Wolverton.

In June, Stony in Bloom, Stony Open Gardens and SMSG School combined in the organisation of a hugely successful fete to fundraise for Willen Hospice. With a plant sale, cake sale and competition, children's planting activity and children's games it raised the amazing total of over £1,000.

At the Fullers Slade 'Lark in the Park'

organised by Jill Dyer and the Fullers Slade Residents Association, Stony in Bloom volunteers helped children to sow mustard seed in little trays, plant geraniums, succulents and daisies in pots, and draw on their creative talents to make little miniature gardens. The children loved it, and were proud to take home what they'd planted and sown!



Stony Stratford Sunflower Competition 2021



Stony Stratford in Bloom

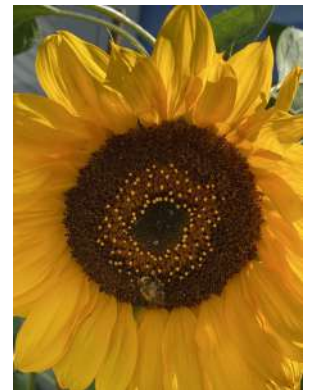
Last year, in response to the turbulent time during the first wave of the pandemic Stony Stratford in Bloom launched the Summer Smiles Project. Local children and residents who were isolating, or regarded as vulnerable received seedlings to grow their own sunflowers at home. Following on from the project's success, SSIB launched the Stony Stratford Sunflower competition in Spring this year. The competition was open everyone across the town and surrounding area to see

who could grow the tallest sunflower and widest sunflower head. There were specific categories for the local schools, with the closing date for entries of the 3rd September.

SSIB provided 600 school children with sunflower kits to take part in the competition with help from the generous support of SSIB members, and Ron and Eileen.

By the time this edition of the Town Crier is published the winners of the sunflower competition will have been announced.

We hope the competition and the growing of sunflowers has spread some cheer across the local area. Who knows, the Stony Stratford Sunflower Competition may well become an annual event!



Kate Shaw, Stony Stratford in Bloom



Budding Young Competitors

From left to right:

Maisie proudly standing next to her sunflower.

Alfie giving a thumbs up for his giant sunflower.

Olivia has enjoyed watching her sunflowers grow.

Focus on Fullers Slade



Fullers Slade Residents Association

Fullers Slade residents visited Wolverton-On-Sea on 8th August. This was part of an event in Spider Park,

Fullers Slade. The event, called Lark in the Park, involved deck-chairs hired from Wolverton & Greenleys Town Council giving a seaside feel. MK Play Association brought along a play sandpit and rubber ducks. For refreshments there were scones, jam and clotted cream, cake or waffles, plus an ice cream van. The event also had plenty of entertainment for those who didn't want to sit down in the park. Energie Fitness led a rounders match and

exercise session. Stony Stratford in Bloom offered flower potting, seeding and the creation of miniature gardens. A craft stall showcased some artwork created by Helen in Fullers Slade, plus there was an old fashioned jumble sale.

Everyone had fun, including DJ Luke who had missed playing his music in public during lockdown and like all of us was pleased to be out in the fresh air of the park. It was great to see that Fullers Slade still has a thriving community spirit despite the hardships of the last year and those that continue. Thanks go to SSTC for providing a generous grant towards our Lark in the Park.

Jill Dyer, Fullers Slade Residents Association

Lark in the Park



From left to right, top to bottom:



DJ Luke



The Jamming Session



The Jamming Party



FSRA Chair and Town Councillor Bianca with Teresa at the waffle stall

FSRA Event Co-ordinator Jill with the SSIB seeding and potting experts



FULLERS SLADE ESTATE RENEWAL

The renewal of Fullers Slade is gathering pace and plans are forming on how the estate can look in the future, taking forward Option 3 which was the preferred option at ballot in November 2019. We now have the Fullers Slade Estate Renewal Forum (FSERF) established, representing the community and overseeing key themes such as community safety, the environment, housing, health and wellbeing and jobs and skills.

The FSERF is working in partnership with Milton Keynes Council and wants to engage more with the community to hear their views and represent them. The FSERF is made up of residents and others including councillors, local business representatives and Milton Keynes officers.

Sub-groups looking at housing, communication and the community have been set up. The FSERF is keen for more residents from Fullers Slade to get involved and join these sub-groups, it's a great way to find out what is happening as well as helping shape how the estate develops. We'd also welcome feedback from residents on what is important to you for the renewal of Fullers Slade. If you'd like to find out more, or aren't sure how much time you can commit, get in touch as we can help and have a chat. The FSERF has a new dedicated email: FullersSladeERF@milton-keynes.gov.uk. If you have any questions or issues you would like to let us know about, feel free to get in touch.

Your Community Engagement Officer at Milton Keynes Council is Sasha Childs, you can contact Sasha at: Sasha.Childs@milton-keynes.gov.uk or on 07557 318943.



Galley Hill Days

Blooming Good



Residents on Galley Hill, led by Anu Chundur and Janet Randall decided to take steps to brighten up a couple of parts of the estate, near the shops and the nearby underpass, which looked a bit drab. They did this by planting and

maintaining a range of colourful flowers for residents to enjoy. They followed this up by planting some flower beds in other parts of the estate which they also thought were looking a bit plain. Three examples of their handiwork are shown here.



Cleaning up on Galley Hill



As things get almost back to normal, unfortunately for some people this appears to include going back to littering. The Galley Hill Residents Association has been handing out litter pickers to residents for the last nine months and many residents have been picking up the litter and putting

this on their rubbish bags to help keep the estate tidy. With gatherings allowed again the GHRA is also back to arranging organised litter picks. The first one on the estate in July resulted in residents collecting a small haul in less than an hour. They hope to return to doing this every two months from now on.

The kettle's on again!

After over a year of being forced to meet online, the Galley Hill Residents Association has resumed its normal Tuesday coffee mornings. Open to all who happen to be in the area of the Small Meeting Place between 10am and 12 noon on a Tuesday, they are back to providing a choice of teas, coffees and biscuits. There is also a weekly quiz and a book swap, as well as a chance to meet others in the area for a chat. With Paul Randall and Roy Adams regularly behind the counter it is an opportunity to have your tea or coffee made for you by one of the town councillors!



Striking Gold!

It is not only Olympians and Paralympians that have gained gold recently: both of the Residents Associations in the Town Council area (Galley Hill Residents Association and Fullers Slade Residents Association) have been awarded gold status by Milton Keynes Council resident engagement team for the second year running. Gold is the highest level of award that can be given and reflects the hard work that everyone in both associations do to keep residents engaged and provide activities on the estates. The awards also reflect well on residents who attend activities and participate in events.



Roy Adams, GHRA



York House Yo-Yos

Yo-Yos is a traditional stay and play group for babies, toddlers and pre-school aged children and

their carers, based at York House. During the past turbulent year and a half, Yo-Yos has continued to welcome families to the group when regulations have allowed us to open, providing the vital opportunity for children to play together and parents to meet.

Costing just £2.50 per family Yo-Yos runs each Monday morning, 9.30-11.30am during term-time, and is organised by parents. The group offers a great range of toys, play equipment and a craft activity in a fun and welcoming environment. When the weather allows the group moves outdoors, making use of the fantastic outdoor space at York House. Now that restrictions have eased we hope to once again offer a snack for children, along with a much needed cup of coffee for the grown-ups. We look forward to

welcoming you and your little ones to Yo-Yos. For more information you can find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/YHYOYOS, or email yhyoyo@gmail.com.



Celebrating Literature & The Arts

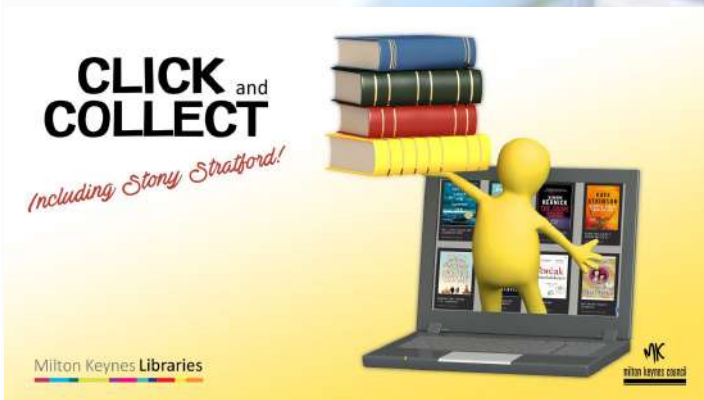


Friends of Stony Stratford Library

As you will know the rebuilding and refurbishment of the Library at 5-7 Church Street is now underway and is likely to be completed during December this year. The members of the committee of Friends of Stony Stratford Library (FOSSL) are working

closely with the Town Council and Milton Keynes Library services to ensure that what is planned and delivered meets the needs of all Library users in the town and surrounding areas. We are also represented on the Events Working Group of the Town Council which is planning to celebrate the official opening once all the work is completed.

In the meantime while Stony Stratford Library is closed for refurbishment, volunteers from FOSSL are providing a collection and return point at York House, London Road, Stony Stratford MK11 1JQ on Tuesdays between 10am and 12 noon (the service commenced on Tuesday 7th September 2021).



drinks and home made cakes afterwards, it is clear that for many the ongoing concerns about the Covid infection rate and personal safety are still high on the agenda. Hopefully when the Library reopens and we are able to use the events space, there will be new audio visual equipment that enables us to broadcast live talks to those members who feel safer watching online. It will be a very exciting and challenging time, with lots to learn no doubt!

By the time you read this edition of the Town Crier, we will have watched **Ellie Broad**, of **MK Parks Trust** talking to us on 8th September about the project to restore the ornamental water gardens at Great Linford Manor. Many of you will have seen the work at Great Linford over the last year. It has been a huge project with Lottery Funding and will have a great impact on the area.

We have two further talks programmed for the rest of this year: On **Tuesday 26th October**, **Anthony Spira**, the **Director of MK Gallery** will be talking to us about the Gallery in Milton Keynes and about the forthcoming exhibition of works by the great British artist **Laura Knight**. This is very exciting as it will be the largest exhibition of her work since 1965, when she staged the first ever solo show by a woman at the Royal Academy. On **Thursday November 18th**, **Ruth Cribb** who is a trustee of the **Ditchling Foundation** will talk to us about their work and the links to William Morris and the Kelmscot Press which celebrates its 150th anniversary this autumn.

So as you can see the pandemic hasn't stopped us. The enthusiasm for the Library, its staff and all its users remains very strong in our ethos and we look forward with excitement to a beautifully refurbished Library building and a great future programme of varied and inclusive activities.

Anyone reading this who is not already on our email list, please drop me a line at fossilmk@gmail.com and I will happily send you the link to the Zoom presentations and details of all our future activities.

Kathy Luff, Friends of Stony Stratford library (FOSSL)

Stony Stratford Art Society

As we approach this autumn it is hoped that we are, at last, able to return to a life where we can be together and enjoy the glorious colours of this season. We have kept in touch one way or another with friends, been active, done the gardening, now is the time to start our arts and crafts. Stony Stratford Art Society will resume club meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 2pm until 4pm at York House; the Clubs first meeting will be the 14th September.

During the lock down you may have taken the opportunity to try new techniques in your art and crafts. I have tried to improve my sketching, especially on quickly capturing a particular scene, be it town or country to use alongside photographs to get a different perspective on the subject. Perhaps you haven't painted or crafted for some years. I had done very little painting until I joined the Stony Stratford Art Society and found the members so welcoming, supportive and helpful with advice and techniques, whether you are a beginner or an experienced art and crafter, all abilities and age groups are welcome. We continue to have a stall at Odells Market (the last one was Saturday the 11th September this year) and thank them for their ongoing support. As usual we will continue to support other events where possible this season.

- ◆ Browse the library catalogue and reserve your books online using your account login details as normal.
- ◆ Reservation charges will show on your library account but do not need to be paid. These charges will be waived at the point that books are issued to your library card.
- ◆ You can place 6 reservations at any one time.
- ◆ When you are asked where to collect your books from, select the option that says 'Stony Stratford Library' but remember to collect them from York House.
- ◆ Items will be issued to your library card before being sent to York House, so you may find titles shown on your account that you haven't received yet. Please don't worry.
- ◆ You will be emailed or phoned to say when your books are ready for collection and you will have two weeks to collect your items, before they are returned to stock.
- ◆ Books will remain on your account until they arrive at Central Library for processing. You will not incur any fines.
- ◆ Books can be returned to York House on Tuesdays 10am-12pm.

For many years we have run a very successful programme of Schools Liaison and School Reading Volunteers and it is intended to restart these schemes in September with the start of the new school year. Our enthusiastic volunteers will once again be working with local junior schools to assist with reading skills and also to provide an introduction to the Library through events and visits.

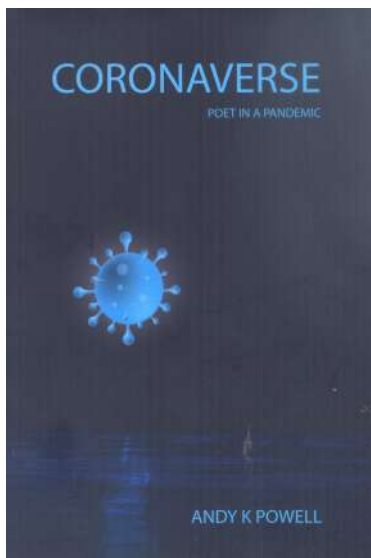
In view of the building work we made the decision to continue our popular programme of talks via Zoom until the end of the year. We recently took a poll of our members and although 'live' events are popular and most people look forward to being able to join with others to experience our talks - not to mention the

Our 2021 annual membership is £28 plus £1 attendance fee for each session where tea, coffee and biscuits are available. Our pattern of meetings at York House is the 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoon of each month from 2-4pm. We are looking forward to seeing existing members and new members in September. *Further information is available from the Club Secretary on telephone 01296 730196.*

Esme Hopson, Secretary, Stony Stratford Art Society

The Bardic Council of Stony Stratford

Coronaverse



The Bard of Stony Stratford Andy Powell has not allowed himself to be silenced by a pandemic! His usual civic Bardic commitments have all but disappeared. However, Bard Andy has recorded the progress of the pandemic in his new book Coronaverse - a poet in a pandemic. It records in poems, words, and photography Andy's reactions to Covid-19 and the changes it's made to all of us. The Bardic Council of Stony Stratford is pleased to support Bard Andy in his poetic endeavours, but the

inspiration and work has been entirely his. Here are some comments:

"Andy's great humour and love for the world around him infuses every slice of his compelling and charming poetry. Every expression is a warm-hearted treat" (Danni Antagonist - Past Bard)

"You don't have to look far beyond your own backyard to find a better fellow Bard. He makes doing what we do look simple when others find it hard. A people's poet." (Dean Jones - Bard of Buckingham)

Bravo Bard Powell. All Hail the Bard! (x3). Now available in all good hardware stores (£7).

The Annual Bardic Trials 2022



Bard Andy Powell

Yes, it has been a long time hasn't it? January 2020 to be precise, when you appointed the 10th Bard of Stony Stratford Andy Powell. Then the pandemic intervened. The Bardic Council doubled the Bard's usual term of A Year and a Day, but the time has come... to talk of many things: of he's and she's - and lyrical wax - of intents and metal voting rings. Yes, it is indeed time to begin our search for the next Bard of Stony Stratford (11th).

Can you write and sing your own songs, rap, make people laugh, create and tell a story, or write poetry? If you have one of these skills we would like to hear from you. Most of all we need Bardic candidates who care about Stony Stratford. You'll be creating material and performing at civic events. Please check out our website: www.bardofstony@weebly.com for information about being Bard and full application details.

Do you hanker after wearing a long flowing cloak and carrying a 2 metre pencil? Then it could be you! Of course you'll have to compete for it, and win the Bardhood in open competition before the good people of Stony Stratford on January 21st 2022 at York House. You'll need to be 18 years of age (if you are under 18 we will be looking for Junior and Youth Bards next Summer) and live within a day's walk of Stony (about 12 miles). There's also a Bardic Oath which you'll need to uphold (dragons are not involved) and you'll be in for a busy time. You'll get support from the Bardic Council and there are ten past Bards to ask for advice. In fact you can't throw a stick on the High Street without hitting a Bard. Becoming Bard won't make you rich, except in friendship, but we can guarantee a memorable year. We shall also need an audience to cheer on the candidates and to vote for their choice. **Please come to York House Centre on Friday 21st January 2022 7.30pm - 11pm (doors 7.15pm). It's free!**

The Bardic Council, Terrie Howey - Chair

Stony Play Readers – Third Anniversary

Stony Play Readers held its first meeting on 2nd August 2018 with a reading of An Inspector Calls by J. B. Priestley. So, the group recently celebrated its third anniversary with a garden party at Joe Laredo and Clare George's house at which members read poems and play extracts, including a lively performance by Chris Coppock and Emma Luckhurst of part of A Midsummer Night's Dream.



This was the first time members of the group had got together in person since March 2020 and the initial COVID lockdown. Undeterred, the group started reading plays via Zoom from May 2020 and has continued to do so every month until this July. Lockdown plays have included Toad of Toad Hall by A. A. Milne and Pygmalion by G. B. Shaw and Act 1 of a new play Gazumped by Joe and Clare, which is still to be completed. During lockdown SPR presented a Zoom reprise for Stony Words 2021 of 'The Butcher and Mrs Bennet' by member Mike Dore, which the group first performed live for Stony Words in January 2020. Group members also contributed to the successful Zoom Burns Night, also for Stony Words 2021.

With our usual venue, Stony Stratford Library, closed for refurbishment until at least December 2021, the group will either continue meeting online, which has the advantage of being able to read electronic versions of plays, or if the weather allows meet in members' gardens.

New members are welcome. *If you are interested contact: robin.roy5619@gmail.com.*

Robin Roy, SPR Co-ordinator

Focus on your Local Community Groups



Stony Nightingales

Stony Nightingales WI have been very fortunate to facilitate some very interesting and entertaining

Zoom meetings over the earlier part of this year. Our last Zoom meeting was held in June where we had an enjoyable evening with our speaker Rachel Baker, from Liquid Art. She gave us a short talk on how she started this business and about her other venture specialising in pet portraits. A very talented lady. She led a step-by-step demonstration of a wild flowers painting that we all joined in with, which was quite inspiring and brought out our artistic talents!

In July, we finally got back to an actual face to face meeting, and meet outside behind York House for a wonderful evening of music and Fitsteps (a dance themed fitness regime). It was a warm, summery evening and we all had a lovely time dancing around and enjoyed being together again.



August brought another outdoor meeting - a social evening for our members to chat and have a catch up; a quiz was thrown in for a bit of fun and we were successful in dodging the inclement weather. Our next outdoor meeting is in September with a Paramedic coming to give us a talk about the Ambulance Service and what he does.

October sees us back to Zoom meetings with Dean Powell joining us. He is a journalist and the Director of the Welsh Music Guild, so we look forward to his talk. We have decided to go back to Zoom meetings over the winter, due to the uncertainty of the continuing pandemic. It is unfortunate though as not all our members have access to laptops or the like, but we hope to encourage "buddying up" with our WI ladies to enable those who cannot join in to view our Zoom meetings with their friends who can access it.

For further information about Stony Nightingales WI, please find us on Facebook at Stony Nightingales WI or our website www.stonynightingaleswi.co.uk.

Julie Clothier, President, Stony Nightingales WI

Stony Redcaps

This year Stony Redcaps is 40 years old! To mark the event, current and former members of the side met at the Millfield for a birthday picnic. Although the weather had been wet earlier in the day, the rain held off for the afternoon. One of

our members baked a birthday cake and another wrote an ode to commemorate the event. We intend to hold a bigger event in 2022, so lookout for more information next year.

Stony Redcaps is a group of ladies who perform garland dances and traditional dances from the Isle of Man. We also develop our own dances from time to time - and this year we have



been working on a new dance - the Lockdown Dance. This dance will be added to our repertoire and we hope to be able to showcase it at Stony Lights.

Sometimes we are invited to dance at national and international festivals. Unfortunately the COVID restrictions have prevented us performing at a festival in Kent and another in the South of France this year and we hope that the easing of restrictions will allow us to dance out more in the future.

Two representatives from the side are taking part in the 70th Anniversary celebrations of the Manx Folk Dance Society in September. We are looking forward, not only to meeting our friends on the Isle of Man, but also those who are coming from across the world for the event.

Stony Redcaps has been lucky to be able to keep going over the last year, despite COVID and we are hoping that more ladies would like to join our group and have fun while learning our dances. We practice every Monday evening (apart from Bank Holidays) between 8pm and 10pm in the Greek Church Hall in London Road. We are also actively looking for musicians who would like to play for us at practices and our dance outs.

If you would like to find out more we can be contacted by email: newenq@stonyredcaps.dance or through our website www.stonyredcaps.dance.

Pam Arthur, Stony Redcaps

Stony Stratford Lions Club

Milton Keynes (Stony Stratford) Lions Club was formed in 1975 and is celebrating over 40 years of service to local, national and international communities. Originally based in Stony Stratford its area extends to the whole of North Milton Keynes. Our

Club is part of the world's largest network of voluntary service organisations, Lions Clubs International, which celebrated its centenary in 2017. There are 1.4 million members in over 170 countries and we support people in need at home and abroad. When money is donated to areas of need it is given directly to the closest Lions Club, not some anonymous government agency.

Whilst fundraising in lockdown has been difficult, we have organised online cat and dog shows and continued to meet online. During lockdown we have supported local groups such as Supershoes (providing support for children with cancer and based in Wolverton), MK Carers and Willen Hospice. We have entered into a collaboration with 1st Wolverton Scouts to assist them with funding for major refurbishments to their Headquarters. 1st Wolverton Scouts are one of the oldest troops in the country, and the world, being formed in 1907.

Our members routinely take part in parish litter picks and assisting at various Covid-19 vaccination clinics. We organise a Food Cupboard and lead Health Walks. We are getting back into routine with our catering van by attending the Party in the Park in Bancroft Park on the 21st August. With other Lions Clubs in Milton Keynes, we are creating a respite room for cancer patients and their families in MK Hospital.

We meet with a meal twice a month at Abbey Hill Golf Centre. The first Wednesday is a social evening with partners and friends and on the third Wednesday we meet to decide how we are going to raise funds and help the community. As life is slowly returning to normal, our President, Lion Mark, is anxious we attract new members. Here he is receiving the chain of office from the outgoing President. *Please look at our website www.stonylions.org.uk, or contact Lion Mark on 07956 401196.*



Brian Kite, Milton Keynes (Stony Stratford) Lions Club

Alan becomes Rotary's new President for 2021/22

Rotary From July 1st Alan Swann has taken over from Stuart Clarke as President of Wolverton & Stony Stratford Rotary Club.

In receiving the chain of office from Stuart, Alan was particularly optimistic about the coming year. *"The last 18 months have been a tremendously difficult time for so many people with the severe limitations imposed by the Corona-virus pandemic, and our club has been no exception with members being able to only meet online. I must thank Stuart for steering the club through what has been a most restrictive and disruptive year. With the relaxation of regulations on July*

19th, when we started to finally emerge from the pandemic I know that my fellow Rotarians have really welcomed the opportunity of getting back together again at our regular Cock Hotel meetings, not



only to refresh friendships but to resume planning our fundraising activities and to continue helping the local community and supporting international humanitarian good causes". To find out more about Rotary, visit our website - www.wolvertonandstonystratfordrotaryclub.co.uk, or find us on Facebook.

**Mike Thomas, PR & Communications Officer
Wolverton & Stony Stratford Rotary Club**



Stony Stratford Women's Institute

We have, at last, been able to meet face to face. We held our August Garden Meeting at York House with all the necessary Covid restrictions in place. The weather stayed warm and dry, in spite of some threatening clouds at midday. The committee served us with strawberry cream scones and cups of tea. Our thanks for all their hard work and planning - it was lovely to see so many of our members again after so long.



It was good to meet in the garden at York House because it gave members a chance to look at the WI's own plot where our two gardeners, Brenda and Hazel, have been growing beans, courgettes and rhubarb, some of which were available for members to take home and some of the surplus has been passed to Stony Stratford in Bloom to add to their donations to the Food Bank. The apple tree, planted by Brenda's husband a while ago, is full of fruit ready to be harvested in the near future.

Our next meeting is planned for Tuesday 7th September, so hopefully, we shall be able to meet safely. Most of the speakers who were booked for last year are willing to come again, so once things have settled down, we should have a full programme.

County events include a Garden Party at Waddesden and a Parade of WI banners around Aylesbury Town, as well as various virtual meetings on Zoom. The National Annual Meeting in June was on a virtual platform, with Jay Blades of the Repair Shop answering questions and talking about his life. An interesting conversation, but it would have been good to see him in person. Still we must be glad that with computers, iPads and mobile phones, we are able to hold meetings at all, something we would not have been able to do a few years ago.

We look forward to seeing our members again in York House, London Road at 2.15pm on the first Tuesday of every month, and, of course, visitors are always welcome, give us a ring or email, or just come along. Contact Janet Baxter (01908 313677) or Gill Williams (01908 563684) or e-mail Gill.williams@fsmc.co.uk for further details.

Gill Williams, Stony Stratford WI

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

Friday, 1st October

EatStreet

5-10pm, York House Centre, London Rd, Stony Stratford, MK11 1JQ

Return of this immensely popular food and drink event, bringing you the finest in gourmet, restaurant-quality streetfood.

Eatstreet is a treat for the taste-buds. The menu changes every month, but six or seven vendors bring you all manner of high-quality streetfood, from the gourmet toasted cheese sandwiches of the Good Times Cafe, Caribbean hot-stuff, spicy Punjabi delicacies, Chinese dumplings, unbelievable Mexican tacos, Greek souvlaki, barbecued ribs, gourmet pizzas and burgers etc. As always, there will be a real ale bar (& wine/soft-drinks). Entry is free! Check www.facebook.com/EatStreetMK.

Friday, 1st October



The Song Loft: Performers Night

7.30 for 8pm, York House Centre, London Rd, Stony Stratford

£5 on the door. Bottle bar.

Saturday, 2nd October

Bearcats Blues Band BIG BLUES NIGHT

8.30-11.00pm, York House Centre

The Bearcats Blues Band are back in town playing the music of the blues legends. Swinging rhythm & blues, gutbucket barrel-house blues and foot tappin' boogie woogie. Check them out at <https://www.facebook.com/TheBearcatsBluesBand>. Support 'live' music. After a year or more of lockdown get on down to York House. Enjoy yourselves and blow away those blues with The Bearcats Blues Band. See ya there 'cat's fans – let's make it a good one.

Tickets £5.00 from York House Centre or on-line <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/519752>. Doors open at 7.30pm and York House's charming and efficient bar staff will sell you real ale, cider, lager, wines and soft drinks at the cash-only bar. All proceeds from the bar go to York House Centre. Take a look at the York House website: www.york-house.org.uk.



Saturday, 2nd October

Made In Stony Early Christmas Shopping Event
10am-4pm, York House Centre

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...This is the first of two shopping events in the run up to Christmas.

Both events will have over 22 stalls packed with handcrafted unique art, crafts and produce for you to buy directly from the artisan. Perfect for Christmas gifts for your loved ones. Please see our Facebook page for details:

<https://www.facebook.com/MadeinStony>.

'Made in Stony' is a not-for-profit membership association, run by volunteers, to support artisans of Stony Stratford. We organise opportunities for our members to sell their handcrafted goods at a minimal cost. We also invite 'guest' artisans from the local area to our events too.



Saturday, 2nd October

Music For All @ St Mary & St Giles: Time for a Coffee Break in The Parish Hall

10am-12 noon, Parish Hall, St Mary & St Giles Church

For further information about all of the Music For All events see <http://www.musicforallmsg.org>.

Monday, 4th October

Music For All @ SMSG: Monthly organ recital with David Warner, 12:45-1:30pm

Organ recital with optional soup & roll (£4) 12-12:30pm.

York House Arts for All 2021

One World: TOGETHER



FREE Family Arts Workshop

with artists **Michelle Buckland & Angela Carel**

Saturday 09 October 2021

10am until 4pm (drop-in)

@ York House Centre, London Road, Stony Stratford, MK11 1JQ

This workshop is FREE (including all materials)

Suitable for all ages and abilities

A 'Volunteer Cafe' will run all day

Let's explore our world and enjoy being back together...

This project is generously supported by funding from:



Stony Stratford Town Council



York House Centre
Local Giving Fund

This event will adhere to the relevant government guidelines for Covid-19, which may be subject to change.

Like our Facebook page for up-to-date information:

<https://www.facebook.com/York-House-Arts-for-All-148355338534830>

Saturday, 9th October

Music For All @ SMSG: ORGAN FESTIVAL, 7:30pm

Silent Movie, 1925 Phantom of the Opera, accompanied by Donald MacKenzie.

Saturday, 9th October

Palmerston

8.30-11pm, York House Centre

Superb songs mainly composed by Alan Rondeau, and a guaranteed evening of quality music and entertainment. Don't

hang about – they usually sell out! Tickets: from www.wegotickets.com and York House Centre. Cash-only bar.



Sunday, 10th October

Music For All @ SMSG: ORGAN FESTIVAL, 3pm

Audience Requests Organ Concert by Jonathan Kingston.

Friday, 15th October

**Craig Joiner @The Song Loft
8-11pm, York House Centre**

The Song Loft presents: Craig Joiner. "This a self-produced album beautifully put together... let's hope there's another one on the way soon" - Shire Folk. Despite having been a professional musician for over 25 years and having written songs that have been recorded by the likes of Heart, Bonnie Tyler, Eddie Money and Steps, and had his songs used in major Hollywood movies such as 'A Nightmare on Elm Street', '102 Dalmatians' and 'Jack Reacher', this is the first ever Craig Joiner solo album.

Craig's incredible journey began back in 1987 when his band Romeo's Daughter were signed to Jive Records and released their debut album a year later. Over the years their infectious music attracted the highest calibre of established artists. Following the demise of the band, Craig began writing library music for TV and radio where he was equally successful, having his music played on programmes such as 'Friends', 'Cold Feet' and Disney. He is currently signed to Universal and Zone Music where he continues this line of work. As a session player Craig also has an impressive list of names he has recorded for. Tickets £8.80 from Wegottickets or £9.00 on the door. Bottle bar. <https://www.wegottickets.com/event/519051>.

Saturday, 16th October

Music For All @ SMSG: Choral Concert by Polymnia Choir

Thursday, 21st October

**Music For All @ SMSG: Third Thursday @ Twelve-Thirty
Lunchtime Concert, 12.30pm**

NOVEMBER

Friday, 5th November

EatStreet

5-10pm, York House Centre

Return of this immensely popular food and drink event, bringing you the finest in gourmet, restaurant-quality streetfood. Check www.facebook.com/EatStreetMK.

Saturday, 6th November

Music For All @ SMSG: Coffee Break

10am-12 noon, Parish Hall, St Mary & St Giles Church

Thursday, 18th November

**Music For All @ SMSG: Third Thursday @ Twelve-Thirty
Lunchtime Concert, 12.30pm**

Friday, 19th November

**Dave Ellis & Boo Howard @The Song Loft
8-11pm, York House
Centre**

"The detail in the arrangements, and the sheer quality of the vocals and musicianship are of a knock-your-socks off calibre. This is a master craftsman and craftswoman at work." RnR

Tickets £8.00 on sale at

<https://www.wegottickets.com/event/519055>. Bottle bar.



Saturday, 27th November

**Music For All @ SMSG: Stalls and music in the Church for
Christmas Lights Switch-on Fun Day**

Saturday, 27th November

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON FUN DAY!!

Full details for 2021 are still under consideration - please visit: <http://www.stonylights.org> for the latest information.

DECEMBER

Saturday, 4th & Sunday, 5th December

**ACT OUT & ACT UP Pantomime: A Christmas Carol
5.30pm (4th) & 2.30pm (5th), York House Centre**

ACT OUT & ACT UP, York House's resident youth drama group, will be bringing another annual pantomime to the stage in the main hall on the 4th & 5th December 2021. This year we present our version of Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" with a little help from the Grimms Bothers (our annual panto narrators) and a cast of characters from other Dickens' tales. There will be chills and thrills, laughs and moans, but ultimately festive cheer and good will.



See www.voacinema.co.uk for details

Saturday, 4th December

**Music For All @ SMSG: Coffee
Break in The Parish Hall**

10am-12noon, Parish Hall, SMSG

Saturday 11th December

**Made In Stony
Christmas Shopping
Event
10am to 4pm, York
House Centre**

Please see: <https://www.facebook.com/MadeinStony>.

Saturday, 11th December

**Music For All @ SMSG: Milton
Keynes Youth Choir Concert
3-5pm**

VINTAGE OPEN AIR CINE-BAR
PRESENTS

**30TH OCTOBER
HALLOWEEN
ZOMBIE BAR CRAWL**

YORK HOUSE, STONY STRATFORD

LIVE FIRE PERFORMERS
INDOOR & OUTDOOR BAR
SILENT HORROR FILM BONANZA
PLAYING THE CLASSICS

Sunday, 12th December

Music For All @ SMSG: Big Sing Carol Express, 3-4pm

Saturday, 18th December

Music For All @ SMSG: MK Chorale Christmas Concert, 5pm

Saturday, 19th December

Music For All @ SMSG: Nine Lessons and Carols, 6pm (tbc)

JANUARY

Saturday, 1st January 2022

Vintage Stony

9.30am-2pm, Market Square, Stony Stratford

Classic Stony has also been confirmed for Sunday 5th June 2022, from 9.30am to 4pm.



Saturday, 29th January 2022

Stony Storytellers: Naughty Japanese Badgers

7.30-10.30pm York House Centre

The hibernation is over! It's StonyWords 2022. Stony Storytellers in association with York House comes roaring back with an evening of storytelling for adults. One of the great professional storytellers of the UK Sarah Rundle brings her brilliantly irreverent Naughty Japanese Badgers show to Stony

Stratford. Now Japanese badgers are VERY NAUGHTY. They tip over bins, they shapeshift, and the things they do are, frankly, unspeakable. It will, of course, all be done in the best possible taste! Ben Haggarty (one of the giants of world storytelling) describes Sarah Rundle's storytelling as "... truly magical ... it sparkles with a particularly glorious humour."



The first half of the evening will be 10-15 minute stories

from the Stony Storytellers (including Terrie Howey & Stephen Hobbs). After the interval it'll be over to Sarah for her one hour Naughty Japanese Badgers show. This evening is for adults only (18+) and it is called... you've guessed it.... Naughty Japanese Badgers and Other Stories. Saturday 29th January 2022 will be an evening to remember. Doors 7pm. Showtime 7.30pm - 10.30pm. Join us in celebrating National Storytelling Week (29/1/22 - 5/2/22).

York House's cash-only bar will serve you alcoholic and soft drinks. Proceeds from the bar will go to York House's projects. The profit on ticket sales will be split equally between Act Out/Up and MK Food Bank. Tickets (£8 +10% booking fee) from www.wegotickets.com. Further information from Stephen Hobbs (Hobbscrazybooks@aol.com) or the York House Centre website (www.york-house.org.uk). Arigato (thanks).

Town Council Meetings

Full Council

When: 16 November 2021, 18 January 2022 & 15 March 2022

Who goes: All councillors, Lynne Compton (Town Clerk), & Karen Hiser (Deputy Town Clerk)

Planning

When: 28 September 2021, 26 October 2021, 23 November 2021, 14 December 2021, 25 January 2022, 22 February 2022, 22 March 2022 & 26 April 2022

Who goes: Cllr Roy Adams, Cllr Paul Bartlett, Cllr Bianca Bendig-Ceesay, Cllr Simon Cherrill, Cllr Paul Randall, Cllr Tom Welch & Town Clerk Lynne Compton

Projects

When: 5 October 2021, 2 November 2021, 7 December 2021, 11 January 2022, 1 February 2022, 1 March 2022 & 5 April 2022

Who goes: Cllr Paul Bartlett, Cllr Bianca Bendig-Ceesay, Cllr Hannah O'Neill, Cllr Paul Randall, Cllr Keith Tilley, Cllr Tom Welch, Cllr Charlie Wilson-Marklew & DTC Karen Hiser

Finance & HR

When: 20 October 2021, 21 December 2021, 15 February 2022 & 19 April 2022

Who goes: Cllr Roy Adams, Cllr Bianca Bendig-Ceesay, Cllr Alex Kidd, Cllr Keith Tilley, Cllr Tom Welch, Cllr Charlie Wilson-Marklew & Town Clerk Lynne Compton

Property Development

When: 14 December 2021 & 8 March 2022

Who goes: Cllr Roy Adams, Cllr Simon Cherrill, Cllr Keith Tilley, 3 outside representatives & Town Clerk

The Town Council and its committees use different meeting venues in the parish. Please check the venue on the Meeting Notice, which can be found on the noticeboards at Budgens, outside SMSG School in Galley Hill, on Slade Lane in Fullers Slade and the office. You can also go to www.stonystratford.gov.uk/Town Council Meetings to view the Meeting Notice and papers.



A Final Word From Our Chair....

Letter of Thanks to Volunteers during the Coronavirus Pandemic and December Flooding from Stony Stratford Town Council

'We thank you all for the help and support you have provided over recent months to Stony Stratford, Fullers Slade and Galley Hill.'

The contribution volunteers have made to support their local communities has been extraordinary – and we wanted to let you know these efforts are recognised and appreciated.

The commitment and dedication volunteers have shown to help local people and communities is something that the Town Council, and others, will be forever grateful for.

More than 400+ volunteers have been actively involved in delivering food, picking up medicine, or checking in on people, and your efforts have proved to be invaluable.

These have been unprecedented times, and thanks to the determination and selfless acts of local volunteers, our collective response to the coronavirus pandemic and flooding is something we as a community can be very proud of.

I'm sure that many of you will remain active in your communities in the future, but for now I thank you once again and wish you all the very best'.

**Cllr Keith Tilley,
Chair,
Stony Stratford Town Council**

