For parents and carers of children 0-4 years

The Mill Children’s Centre has two new toddler groups in the area: Chilcompton Village Hall every Tuesday morning from 10.15-12.00 noon and Ashwick and Oakhill Village Hall every Thursday from 10.00-11.30 am. Both groups run term time only. Why not come along, have a coffee and meet other families?

For further information telephone 01761 233847, choose option 4 and ask for Sian or Bev or, alternatively, just turn up. We look forward to seeing you there!

JULY 2013

10 BAGS 4 VILLAGE HALL
Please drop any clothes, bed linen or curtains etc to Fosseway House (opposite Middlemead) BEFORE 9am for collection. You can start dropping bags off now. All proceeds go to the Village Hall.

AUGUST 2013

25 ST BENEDICTS SUMMER BBQ
Keep the date in your diary - more information about times and so on will follow.

SEPTEMBER 2013

07 CHILCOMPTON FLOWER SHOW
Start growing your produce now to ensure we have lots of entries from Stratton!

08 VILLAGE FUN DAY
12 noon to 4pm. Lots of fun for all the family, Free entry. Quad bikes, beer tent, cream teas, tombola, events in the ring, bouncy castle, trade stalls selling all sorts of goods, coconut shy, crockery smashing - and lots more! We are looking for raffle prizes and donations for stalls - please call Sue on 0780 172 1172 and she will collect anything you can help us with.

STRATTON-ON-THE-FOSSE VILLAGE WEBSITE

Don’t forget that we have a very useful Village Website up and running already, which is constantly being improved and updated. You can find the site at: www.stratton-on-the-fosse.info and it holds news of what’s going on in the village, including copies of the recent newsletters, and lots of other invaluable community information.

If you have news of an event, sporting fixture or something else you would like to go up on the website, please email webmaster Malcolm Daniels at web@branchlines.info.
At our APCM at the end of the month, it was reported that the Electoral Roll – completely revised this year as it is every five years – now stands at 18, down from 31. Despite that, we have been very pleased to welcome some new members during the past year and hope to see our congregation grow to help sustain our church in the years ahead. The church is not just the building of course, although – as has been reported often over the last year or so – we have been busy restoring the Knatchbull Chapel windows, and the second west window has now been removed and is in the workshops. In the picture, you can see the early morning sun streaming through the newly restored east window and casting a kaleidoscope of colours on the wall.

**Church services**
- All Age Service, every third Sunday at 9.45am
- Holy Communion every Sunday at 9.00am, except fourth Sunday
- Evening Prayer every fourth Sunday at 6.30pm
- Mid-week short Communion Service every Tuesday at 12 noon.

**Information:**
- Rector: The Revd. Chris North, 232219, c.north123@btinternet.com
- Curate: The Revd. Stephen Burrow, 235801, s_p_burrow@yahoo.co.uk
- Parish Office: Kate Crossley, 07970 867659, stvigor-stjohn@hotmail.co.uk
- Parish Office opening times: weekdays 12-4pm, except Wednesdays
- [www.achurchnearyou.com/stratton](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/stratton)

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**NEW SERIES: STRATTON WALKS 3**

**WALK 3. Downside Abbey, Rookery Farm, Coalpit Lane (3.8 miles)**

(Grade - 1, Height gain - 307 ft)

Abbreviations are T = turn, H = half, R = right, L = left, K = kissing, RHS = Right Hand Side, LHS = Left Hand Side

1. Grid Reference (GR) ST658510 Stratton on the Fosse Village Hall car park
   From Village Hall TR along main road (A367) and walk approximately 200 yards to take path to R sign posted ‘Downside Abbey and Pastoral Centre’. After about 100 yards R fork through gate to follow waymarked path. Continue along path through 2nd gate into woods keeping to fence and wall on your L. Follow path through another gate then a double gate towards houses, passing a school on the L and reach a road (B3139). Cross road to climb a stone stile opposite and follow tarmac path downhill to another road. TR under the bridge to the road junction.

2. GR ST648516
   T slightly L to cross road by the cenotaph and walk about 50 yards to take waymarked path on RHS next to road sign. A narrow path between houses going downhill. As path opens up it bears L towards a mill building, but before the mill bear R to find the stile on RHS and cross the bridge over the stream. TL along path, pass houses and long field for approximately 500 yds to find waymarked path on L beside an open barn. Follow footpath back across the stream then uphill to stile (large building on L) and follow path to road.

3. GR ST641514
   TR along road and at first junction (Parsonage Lane) cross main road (B3139) to go through gate opposite into field. In field go diagonally R to find stone stile just past half way point in hedge. Climb stile and bear L uphill towards gate. Climb stile to the L of the gate then follow the hedge on the L to reach Coalpit Lane.

4. Grid ref. 634507
   TL along the lane for about 150 yards and climb a stile in the hedge on LHS. With stile behind you go diagonally R to a gate (at the time of walking it opened at the hinge end) then bear L in the direction of the trees in the middle of the field and reach a gate at the end of the R hand hedge. Go through the gate and straight towards Nitts farm to find a stile and bridge to the L of the farm buildings. (Stile may be difficult to see if silage bales are in front of it.) Cross further field to reach a road.

5. GR ST641505
   Go straight across the road and climb a stile to the L of a house. Cross field and go through a K gate. The next field is long, keep to the L hand hedge and reach the road. Cross road and climb the stile (garage on R). Passing the tree, go straight on and cross the stile ahead, ignoring a stile on RHS. Climb a stile in wooden fence opposite to cross a small field with ornamental trees. Climb another stile into larger field. Cross diagonally and climb a stile in the far L corner of the field to reach a path. TR and follow the path on to the lane by the Abbey grounds which will take you back to the road through Stratton on the Fosse (A367). On reaching the road TL and walk back to the entrance of the Village Hall.

**Our thanks to the Mendip Ramblers for this walk. If you would like to know more about the group and its walks, visit www.mendipramblers.co.uk**
PARISH COUNCIL & VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The Local Elections take place on 2nd May. Voting will take place as usual in the Village Hall. The local District Council (Mendip) will be in three parts, and our area is called ‘Mendip Hills’. This should mean that we get better coverage from our Councillor. Our long time County Councillor Gloria Cawood is standing down this May and at the recent Annual Parish Meeting she was thanked for the good service she has given the parish.

Community Garden
If you’ve been down to the Community Garden recently, you’ll notice that we have installed another basket swing in response to requests by villagers. The next project will be the clearing of the ground under the copse of trees to make a picnic area.

Curry & Quiz Night
The Curry & Quiz was a great success and made an amazing £550 towards the tarmac fund. Many thanks to Dave Stock for the wonderful curries.

Village Lottery
Please remember to send in your form for the Village Lottery if you would like to take part this year. The April draw will not be drawn until the middle of May so you still have time to join. Phone Rachel on 233651 if you have mislaid your form.

Chilcompton Flower Show
The Chilcompton Flower Show will be held on Saturday 7th September in Chilcompton Village Hall and is open to all residents of Stratton on the Fosse. Included with this newsletter is the Flower Show leaflet which explains everything about the show and how to enter. The more entrants the better, so get planting now!

Bags for Village Hall
We have two more dates for collections this year Wednesday 10th July and Wednesday 11th December. Why not start clearing out your unwanted clothes and shoes now. We have storage available at Fosseway House (Richard and Barb Jones’s home) opposite the Village Hall and is open to all residents of Stratton on the Fosse. Included with this newsletter is the Flower Show leaflet which explains everything about the show and how to enter. The more entrants the better, so get planting now!

ST BENEDICT’S CHURCH NEWS

There will be no Soup and Cheese lunches until September. There will be a Coffee and Croissant Breakfast after the 8am Mass on Sunday, 12th May.

As from Sunday 28th April, the 6pm evening service will contain a special liturgy for children. This will take place during term time and is designed for children up to the time their First Holy Communion.

The Summer BBQ will take place on Sunday 25th August.

Classified Ads

Little Angels Toddler Group
Meet 1.30 - 3.30pm each Thursday (term time only) in the Village Hall. The cost is £2 per family and we have trikes, scooters, activities and crafts, baby area plus refreshments. Come and meet new friends (grown ups and little ones too!)

Bed and Breakfast
In a quiet, tucked-away corner of Stratton on the Fosse. One double and one twin bedroom. Private bathroom. Tel: 01761 233099 for details.

Acoustic/Electric Guitar Lessons
High level of expertise, patient, very reasonable rates, all levels welcome, home visits. Call Joe Downes on 01761 235572 or 07794 596294.

Local Drummer Available
I am looking for musicians to jam with and form a band. Ideally I’d like to play original music in a jazz, blues style, but don’t mind doing the odd cover song. Give me a call if you are interested. Frank 0792 265 3875.

Free Ads

This free Classified Ad service is only open to Stratton-on-the-Fosse villagers and their families. Please email bartucca@btinternet.com with your announcements and classified ads.

How to advertise

Advertisements: £2.50 for a 6cm wide x 5cm deep box advert, or £1 for a 6cm wide x 2.5cm deep box advert for each newsletter (6 newsletters per year).

How to contact your newsletter

This newsletter is published bi-monthly, the next issue will be July/August 2013

If you have any news or an event you would like to include in the next Village newsletter, simply email bartucca@btinternet.com, or call / text Sue Bartucca on 0780 172 1162. Please include your phone number or email address so we can call you and let you know whether we can use your copy or advertisement.

Editorial and advertising deadline:
For July/August newsletter:
Friday, 21st June 2013

Please note:
The Editor accepts editorial and advertisements in good faith and reserves the right to edit or reject any advertisement or editorial submitted to the newsletter.

Free Ads

This free service is only open to Stratton-on-the-Fosse villagers and their families. Please email bartucca@btinternet.com with your announcements and classified ads.
STRATTON-ON-THE-FOSSE
FAMILY FUN DAY 2013
SUNDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER
12 NOON TO 4PM
AT THE VILLAGE HALL & FOOTBALL FIELD
ALL PROCEEDS TO STRATTON-ON-THE-FOSSE VILLAGE HALL
Cream Teas • BBQ • Quad Bikes • Beer Tent • Bouncy Castle • Cake Stall • Trade Stands • Tug-O-War • Skittles • Tombolas • Raffle • Crockery Smashing • Coconut Shy • Downside Bagpipe band • Ferret Racing • Lucky Dip • And Much Much More!

To book your trade stand (£10 to book now, or £12 on the day), call Sue on 0780 172 1162