Halloween 2020

Halloween in Stinchcombe

In Stinchcombe things were very, very, scary and eerie this Halloween. All along the Street, little figures flitted from doorstep to doorstep. These costumed waifs quickly moved like vampire bats after blood or wolves after sheep. Scared adults could only stay safe behind closed doors and hang offerings to these pagan elves at the end of their drives.

Halloween in Stinchcombe 2020

Stinchcombe Village Spirit

On the gloomy evening when the UK Government announced a second National Lockdown, (as predicted here on 28th) the Stinchcombe Village Spirit shone through as people joined in the Halloween spirit and merriment. Enjoying the night together on the Village WhatsApp Group.

Speed Watch Update

Serious Accident

On 24th October there was a serious accident on Taits Hill Rd that put two people in hospital. Our sympathies go out to the victims and their families. The accident highlights road safety concerns in Stinchcombe. Here is an update on progress since the recent article in Enews.

Feedback from the Survey

Thank you to the people that complete the speeding survey. Especially to the dozen who asked to go on the mailing list.

All but one of you were worried about speeding on one or more roads. Everyone was in favour of having a new Speed Watch Group.

Many respondents made additional comments.

- Most say speeding is prevalent with many motorists ignoring limits.
- Long-term residents felt the problem had got worse over the years.
- Some think drivers may simply be unaware of their speed.
- Several residents of Taits Hill Rd feel
    - unsafe pulling out of their own drive,
    - cutting their hedge or grass verge or
    - crossing the road.
    - One worried about children walking to the bus stop.

Veterans of previous speed monitoring initiatives consider that support from the Police was inadequate. They are frustrated that all their hard work came to nothing … apart from a strip of red tarmac according to one.

Suggestions included

- Speed cameras,
- Vehicle activated signs that display your speed,
- ’20 is Plenty’ signs
- Traffic calming measures in the residential areas and
- Awareness raising.

First Meeting of the Speed Watch Group

Everyone on the mailing list and the Parish Council were invited to a virtual meeting on 28th October. Eight people attended and had a productive session.

We will be registering a new group with Community Speed Watch very soon. There is already a volunteer to train as Co-ordinator. We are getting up to speed (pardon the pun) on several topics, including sources of funding and the Auto SpeedWatch system.

Our next virtual meeting will be at 7pm on Thursday 19th November. It's not too late to join in – email Kath Husdon for an invitation.

Widening the Net

Not everyone gets Enews so the survey will be repeated in the Stinchcombe News. Sorry if you've already seen it, but we need to reach as many people as we can. Keeping this sort of group going relies on having enough active members.

Stone Age to Corinium

Stinchcombe History Society

Due to the Covid issue, History Societies around the county have had to cancel all their planned history talks this year. This includes the Stinchcombe History Society.

Some societies are now trialing history talks via Zoom. We have been contacted by Cam & Dursley Society who are trying this Zoom method. They have invited Stinchombe History Society to take part .

Stone Age to Corinium

Dursley and Cam Society Zoom talk will be on Tuesday 10th November 2020 at 7:30. The subject of the talk from the Corinium Museum, in Cirencester, entitled "Stone Age to Corinium". This is a talk on the Archaeology of the Cotswolds and will cover from prehistory to early Roman times, it covers the Cotswolds in general with the exception of the Oxfordshire part of the Cotswolds. The talk will be around 45 minutes with some time afterwards for questions.

The Corinium Museum has embarked on an exciting £1.87 million project – "Stone Age to Corinium: Discover the Archaeology of the Cotswolds" and has been successful in securing support from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

No cost involved, you just need to register your interest by email. A link will be sent to you for the Zoom meeting. If anyone would like to join us on the evening, they can lodge their interest by emailing and we will then send a link to join the meeting.

Over 1m Cases by 5th November?

Are we now following France?

Having just looked at the confirmed covid cases for the UK and France I note that we seem to be around 10 days behind France. Today (October 28th) we have 917K cases and France passed this number on October 21st. Does this mean we shall pass the 1m in 3 days and be in Lockdown in 10 days?

Today France is talking about a total lockdown according to the news. Time to go out and buy toilet paper and flour again?

Bengad Stud

The Ponies that have been a part of our village.

We will all be familiar with the lovely Bengad ponies that we have walked past, enjoyed as foals, mares, geldings, stallions and generally much admired on the hills in Stinchcombe.

The Bengad Stud

The Bengad Welsh Pony Stud started by Mrs Doris Gadsden in the 1960s began its life at Piers Court. It then moved to Southend Farm and latterly to Wick Lane. Laura Hutchins and Di Talboys who used to work with Mrs Gadsden, have bred, looked after and loved these ponies for many years. At their height there were hundreds of ponies on the hills, but now the last 3 youngsters have gone to a new home in order to be shown and brought on as children's ponies.



Laura in 2004

The last 3 – Lily (Bengad Lily of the Nile), Poppy (Bengad Desert Poppy), and Lizzie (Bengad Lisianthus) have moved locally to Benhill Performance Ponies. Below is a picture of these lovely ponies just before they left Stinchcombe – it feels a bit like the end of an incredibly happy, successful era, but the Bengad name and genes will live on both nationally and internationally.



Welsh Ponies at Bengad Stud

Laura also sends a big thank you to all the kind people who sent the ‘Hello Laura’ booklet and photos in May of this year. She is still getting enormous enjoyment out of it.

Julie Thomas

Spring 2019

Pictures of Spring 2019 taken by Stinchcombe People

COVID Testing at the Rugby Club

Covid Testing Unit

The mobile testing unit will be back at the Stinchcombe Rugby Club according to the Gloucestershire County Council website tomorrow Wed 28th October. Also Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd November.



Anyone **with symptoms of Covid-19** can have a test BUT you must book a test in advance

Anyone **with symptoms of Covid-19** can have a test. You must book a test in advance. Please do not turn up to one of the locations without booking anyone without a booking risks being turned away.

To book a test

To book a test or for more information on testing, go to the NHS website or call 119.

Permanent unit

Gloucester RTS
Hempsted Meadows, David Hook Way, Gloucester, GL2 5LE