

HOURS

MONDAY CLOSED

TUESDAY 5PM - 10:30PM

WEDNESDAY 5PM - 10:30PM

THURSDAY 5PM - 10:30PM

FRIDAY 5PM - 11:30PM

SATURDAY 5PM - 11:30PM

SUNDAY 5PM - 10:30PM

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Welcome to Stoney Middleton Well Dressing 2025

It has been a busy time as ever getting ready for Well Dressing, and we are extremely grateful for the wide range of people who have already been involved in making this happen. But there is still plenty to get involved with:

How about creating your own **Scarecrow?** The theme this year is **Insects, Spiders and Creepy Crawlies.** Judging will take place on the morning of the opening – **Saturday 26**th **July.**

The Boat Race takes place on Sunday 27th July at 4.00pm. You can build your boat at the stall on Saturday and Sunday, or at home.

Petalling will take place from **Monday 21st** to **Friday 25th July.** Do come and help be part of the village heritage, even if you can only spare a little bit of time.

There are lots of other things to take part in – see the Events pages for more details. We also need help setting up and taking down:

Wednesday 16th July, 6.30pm – erect marquees at the Church

Tuesday 22nd July, 6.30pm – erect bunting around the Nook

Friday 25th July, evening, when ready, erect the frames – lots of muscle required!

Saturday 26th July in the morning – set up in the Nook

Monday 4th August, 6.30pm – dismantle the Wells

Tuesday 5th August, 6.30pm – take down bunting

Looking to the future, Andy Hibbert, who has been running the Heavy Gang for the last nine years has decided it is time to stop. We are really grateful for all his hard work and commitment over the years. So we will need someone to:

Organize and oversee the Heavy Gang Maintain the frames and do other bits of carpentry and DIY work.

This could be one or two people – could you help next year with this?

We hope that once again this will be a memorable and enjoyable village event and look forward to seeing you there.



A warm welcome to this year's Well Dressing here in Stoney Middleton, one of the most charming Peak District villages. If this is your first or 21st visit, whether you have come from near or far, I am sure that you will enjoy the activities during the week that the local community have worked so hard to put on for you.

Of course today at this opening event, we are gathered to celebrate the Blessing of the Wells, and to give thanks for the wonderful gift that water is to both us as a society and to the natural world. Please do take time to visit each Well, and admire the creativity and skills of the puddlers and petallers who have decorated them so superbly; the hours, days and weeks that have gone into their creation is testament to the determination of the Stoney Middleton community to keep alive the traditions of well dressing that have been handed down through the generations.

Although tourism is now a feature of many of our villages, 'Stoney' proudly maintains its tradition as a working community, complete with village school, pub, butcher, bootmaker, fish and chip shop. hairdresser, eateries and other small businesses – not forgetting St Martin's Church and the Wesleyan Reform Chapel; Whilst still welcoming visitors who can explore its many quaint nooks and crannies off the busy main road. There is even now a new Heritage Centre, which brings to life in sounds, words and pictures the village's rich geological and industrial past, as well as that of some of its more celebrated (and notorious!) characters.

As Stoney Middleton's local Derbyshire Dales Councillor, it is a great privilege to be asked to open the 2025 Well Dressing Week. So please, enjoy your time here amongst us and take home happy and lasting memories.

St Martin's Church

Saturday 26th July 2.00pm Opening Ceremony

Sunday 27th July 10.30am A joint outdoor service with the

Chapel in St Martin's Churchyard ... an informal service for half an hour to which all ages are warmly welcome.

For more information contact Michael Wright on 07752 155308

Everyone is welcome to all events at both churches

Wesleyan Reform Church

Saturday 26th July 2pm—5pm Display—'We plough the fields...'

Sunday 27thJuly 2pm—5pm Display

Monday 28th July 2pm—5pm Display

Sunday 3rd August 10.30am Family Service with Communion

For more information please contact Beth Ely on 01433 631887 or 07811649454

Si Homfray

Si Homfray is an artist, designer, adventurer and author. He runs Park Designs, based in Hathersage in the Peak District. He's also designed our well dressings this year.



He runs a small friendly gallery displaying thoughtful, contemporary and colourful artworks. The shop offers various ranges of design led giftware, soft furnishings and ceramics, focused on quality products, sustainable local manufacturing and strong ideas that resonate with customers.



Park Designs was set up, after a lifetime living in the Peak District, as an outlet for Si Homfray's artistic expressions of the National Park. His many travels and varied physical activities in the

Park combined with a curiosity to find new ways of presenting and sharing information are leading to themes around wellbeing and the natural world and how our immersion works effectively to create personal growth and inner calm.

Si is driven by the need to constantly improve while ensuring accuracy and detail are correct. His work often starts with long lists of everything encountered, such as wildlife, flowers, leaves or local villages, and these indexes become the basis for pattern, and textures used in larger more literal representations, often displaying many levels of complexity, rhythm and colour.

Actively seeking conversations with gallery visitors, seizing every opportunity to listen, is helping ensure that the product development process stays relevant and fresh. The few designs that make it from paper patterns, visuals and mock ups are then used for product manufacture.



Si is constantly questioning and looking at the detail of everything. Sketching, noting and storing patterns with librarian passion every day, he organizes and files project material for the future tirelessly, knowing that when the right questions are asked and the ideas tie together material can be more easily accessed and the work will hopefully yield something fresh from the energy of a new project.

Using this detailed process and being able to quickly liberate strong source material for design expansions, Si is planning on a long life to come exploring greater expressions on wellbeing and the timeless themes of nature, the outdoors and our relationships with it.



William Lennon & Co.

English Bootmakers since 1899



In the heart of the village of Stoney Middleton, there's a well kept secret....

The Old Corn Mill, situated between the busy A623 and The Bank has been 'home' to William Lennon & Co Ltd since 1904, when my Great Grandfather first moved into the building with his boot-making business that he had established in 1897.

In 1887, orphan William Lennon (aged 14) was brought from Chorlton, Lancs to the village to become an apprentice boot-maker. He lived with the family of Joseph Heginbotham and learnt the trade of repairing boots for the limestone quarry men and workers in the lime-kilns. Mason Bros. & Lennon was formed once William had learnt the trade, and then became William Lennon & Company.



Surviving the two World wars, and the infamous 2 year boot-makers strike, the business is still going strong today, over 128 years on. A fourth generation family business now run by myself and cousin Dan, we still use the patterns, machines, and techniques that have been handed down through the generations.

We are the only boot-makers left in the world using brass screwing wire to attach the leather uppers to the sole of the boot, having 3 of the remaining 4 machines in the world capable of doing this.

Some may call our boot styles old-fashioned or vintage, but why change anything when the demand is still very much alive for strong, rugged leather boots. Our leather boots have no modern materials or gimmicks, and keep your feet warm in winter and cool in summer.

We produce Replica military B5 WWI and WWII Ammunition boots using the original wooden lasts. We also produce traditional hob-nailed boots that are capable of serious 'off-roading'!

It is amazing to think that William Lennon boots are now worn all over the world, from Fiji to Alaska, and have featured in many TV productions and films over the years.

We offer a custom made service - Our customers can make an appointment to visit the factory here in Stoney Middleton and see the styles, then choose which leather they would like so they can have their own unique pair of boots or shoes created for them.





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Stoney Middleton



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- A self-contained family garden cabin suite, perfect for privacy and tranquillity
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We are open seven days a week:

- Weekdays from 3:00 PM
- Weekends from 12:00 noon
- Food is served daily please visit our website for current menus and serving times.

Contact us:

The Moon Inn, High Street, Stoney Middleton, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S32 4TL Telephone: 01433 630203

> Email: joinus@themooninn.com Website: www.themooninn.com"

EVENTS - 2025

This is your pull out guide to what's on and when...

Saturday 26th July

11.00am The Well Dressing Shop open in the Church (cash only)

Judging the **Scarecrow Competition**. The theme is: **Insects**, **Spiders and Creepy Crawlies** Register your entry at: scarecrow@stoneymiddletonwelldressing.org.uk

11.30am Face Painting and other Stalls (including one for boat building)

Giant Jigsaw: Everyone is invited to join in with 'piecing the puzzle'. You can also buy a raffle ticket to win it.

From 12 noon Barbeque

12.45pm Chris Marley, Circus Entertainer in the Nook.

1.00pm The Tea Tent is open in the Churchyard (cash only)

1.30pm The Tideswell Band will be playing in the Nook.

2.00pm Opening Ceremony and
Blessing of the Wells with
Cllr Peter O'Brien and Mrs
Beth Ely

2.00 - 5.00pm Display at the Chapel - 'We plough the fields'

2.30pm Chris Marley, Circus Entertainer

3.00pm The Tideswell Band

3.30pm Chris Marley, Circus Entertainer

4.00pm The Ball Race starts. It costs £1 to buy a ball number, available at various places around the village beforehand and on the day.



The entertainment continues, so stay around!

Sunday 27th July

10.30am Outdoor Service in the grounds of St Martin's Church. This is a joint service with the Chapel and all are welcome.

11.00am The Well Dressing Shop is open in the Church (cash only)

11:00am - 4:00pm The Tea Tent is open in the Churchyard (cash only)



2.00 to 5.00pm Display at the Chapel

2.00pm Scratch Choir in the Nook. All ages and voices welcome; no need to be an

expert or be able to read music.

3.00pm The Tideswell Band will be playing in the Nook

4.00pm It's **Boat Race** time! There will be a table for boat building available during the afternoon. Bring your homemade boats to the brook to enter. There are races for children and adults.

5.00pm Family Bingo! Get together with family and friends and come down to **The Marquee** in St Martin's Churchyard.

Monday 28th July

11.00am The Well Dressing Shop is open in the Church (cash only)

11:00am - 4:00pm The Tea Tent is open in the Churchyard (cash only)

2.00 to 5.00pm Display at the Chapel

7:00pm Quiz Night at The Marquee in the Churchyard.
Organise your team or come and join one on the night. Bring your own drinks and snacks.



Tuesday 29th July

11.00am The Well Dressing Shop is open in the Church (cash only)

11.00am - 4.00pm The Tea Tent is open in the Churchyard (cash only)

Wednesday 30th July

11.00am The Well Dressing Shop is open in the Church (cash only)

11.00am - 4.00pm The Tea Tent is open in the Churchyard (cash only)

6.00pm onwards 10% off when dining in The Curry Cottage

Please note that this offer is not for the take-away menu.

Booking is a must for this popular event. Tel:01433 630300

Thursday 31st July

11.00am The Well Dressing Shop is open in the Church (cash only)

11.00am - 4.00pm The Tea Tent is open in the Churchyard (cash only)

It's Stoney Middleton Fell Race Day!

6.00pm Fell Race Registration on the playing field To pre-register go to:

https://stoneymiddleton.niftyentries.com/Stoney-Middleton-Fell-Race1

7.30pm The Fell Race Starts on the playing field



9.00pm The Fell Race Award Ceremony on the playing field There will be refreshments during the evening

Friday 1st August

11.00am The Well Dressing Shop is open in the Church (cash only)

11.00am - 4.00pm The Tea Tent is open in the Churchyard (cash only)

6.30 to 7.30pm Walking Treasure Hunt Collect your entry sheet 6.15 - 6.30pm at The Moon Inn - £2. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

8.00pm Pie and Peas at The Moon Inn

Meat Pie & Peas with Gravy £10.95

Veggie Pie & Peas with Gravy £8.95

Chips £2.50 or Mash £1.50. Book online at:

https://eu-submit.jotform.com/251596620282055

If you don't want to book electronically -

Contact Nick Ladd on nick.ladd57@gmail.com

Bookings must be made and payment received by Saturday 26th July at the latest. We will need a minimum of 15 orders for this to go ahead.

Saturday 2nd August

11.00am The Well Dressing Shop is open in the Church (cash only)

11.00am - 4.00pm The Tea Tent is open in the Churchyard (cash only)

Monday 4th August

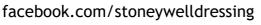
6.30pm Dismantling the Wells. Please come and help us to take down the wells and tidy up. Many

hands make light work. Thank you. We will also be taking down the bunting on **Tuesday 5th August at 6.30pm**.

www.stoneymiddletonwelldressing.org









the cupola

The Cupola Visitor Centre and Kitchen provides an exhibition area which tells the history of Stoney Middleton, including the fascinating story of well dressing. We are open every day, and welcome locals and visitors alike to come and see our displays.

We also offer freshly cooked food from our grill and wood fired pizza oven, and are fully licensed.



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A Beginners Guide to Well Dressing

With many new people moving into our village we hope you will be inspired to get involved - it's a great way to meet new people and join the village community.

There is no definitive history of Well Dressing but most likely it originates from a pagan celebration, with communities thanking the gods for their water supply, particularly after a drought or pandemic such as the Black Death. Nowadays Well Dressing is mostly associated with Derbyshire but has also appeared in neighbouring counties and as far south as Kent. The Well Dressing that we are familiar with started in Buxton and Youlgreave around 1840.

We use large wooden frames to which clay is applied and then covered in petals and other materials. The clay is 'puddled' (sieved and soaked) weeks before, along with the frames so that they can remain moist over the whole of Well Dressing week. The design is transferred onto the clay by pricking out then marking these lines with



wool. The picture is then filled in with natural materials, predominantly flower petals, hence the term 'petalling'. A key task is sourcing the materials from local gardens, foraging and purchasing from shops.

The petalling process starts on Monday prior to erecting the frames on Friday evening ready for the opening day

celebrations on Saturday. In Stoney we have a proud history of residents and their families and friends coming together to make the Well Dressing. We estimate that last year it took over 1600 hours of our combined efforts to produce the main well. The petalling tent is open all day and in the evening so that people can come after work / school, even if it is only for an hour or so. We are lucky to have many experienced 'petallers' and we welcome newcomers to come along and learn the process and be proud to point out their own contribution!

You can find out more at www.welldressing.com and www.welldr

We will be selling the book **Stoney Middleton Well Dressing 1936-2021,** compiled and written by Dave Thorpe, in the Well Dressing Shop.

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Chris Marley

This year we welcome **Chris Marley**, international juggler and entertainer, as part of our entertainments on Saturday 26th; Here's a little about him.

"It started as a hobby, and then it got out of hand . . ."

Chris first learnt to juggle after a visit to a circus in his hometown. Now, he's a Guinness World Record Breaker. Chris's career has taken him across the UK and beyond, performing for audiences both small and large at corporate events, cabarets, cruise ships, galas, private parties, and more.

During this time, he has juggled balls, knives, axes, mattress covers, mobile phones, defrosted fish fingers, and many other items. He attributes his juggling skills to being 6'3". "If you drop something, it's a long way to bend to fetch it..." You can find out more about Chris Marley by visiting his website www.chrismarleyjuggling.co.uk







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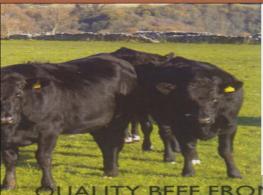


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UALITY BEEF FROM OUR OWN FARM

A History of Well Dressing in Stoney Middleton by David Thorpe — Price £4.95

The Well Dressing Tea-tent Cookery Book - Price £5

This book is also available in the tea-tent.

Both books are available at the well dressing shop and various businesses around the village. All proceeds to go to Stoney Middleton Well Dressing Charities.

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The Devil's Bird, screaming and scything through the sky

This year the design for the Bath House Well features swifts.



The swift (apus apus) is a summer migrant to the UK. They fly 3,400 miles twice yearly; a total of up to 2 million miles over their lifetime, to and from Africa, returning to the same nest site each April. They are our fastest bird in level flight, reaching speeds of 70mph. A group of swifts is called a scream; a reference to its screaming cry.

Swifts never land except to nest. They eat, drink, sleep, preen and even mate on the wing. They sleep by ascending to 10,000 feet and shutting off half their brain

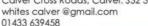
They are distinguished from swallows by their swept back, boomerang shaped wings, and short, forked tails.

Swifts are on the red list of conservation concern. The highest density of breeding swifts locally is in Rowsley: The Grouse and Claret pub has at least 21 nests on its building.

We can help swifts by joining a local swift group such as derbyshireswiftconservation.co.uk or sheffieldswiftnetwork.org and thinking about putting up swift nest boxes or swift bricks. Let's try and help save this iconic, beautiful, mysterious, record breaker of a bird.

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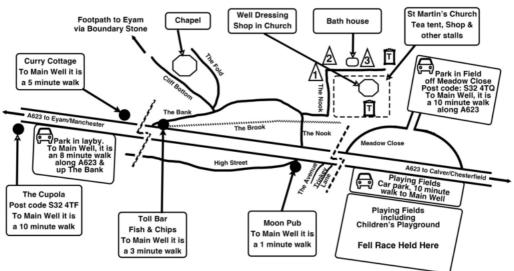


Open Monday - Sunday 7am-7pm 24 Hour Pay at the pump Available



Well Dressing Map - Not to Scale!!





There is limited parking in the village so please use one of the marked car parks.

A big **Thankyou** from the Well Dressing Committee to all who have helped in planning and preparing for our Well Dressing this year - whether it be designing, puddling, providing the flowers, petalling or shifting.

Thanks also to everyone who helped with organising and running the entertainments.

Also, thanks to the Horticultural Society for weeding the public areas and providing plants.

Thank you to all those working for the smooth running of the week.

The Editor would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this publication with editorial, advertisements, comments, pictures and ideas. And special thanks to everyone at Printworks for doing such an excellent job of printing our Well Dressing programme.

The front cover shows the Main Well from 2024, designed by Joy Mason.

www.stoneymiddletonwelldressing.org



