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August 2025

Summer fun!

A fête • A garden party • Trains
and all your parish news



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A community going forward with God

August 2025

Published by the churches of the
Teme Valley South Group
and delivered free to every household

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www.temevalleysouth.org.uk

Items for inclusion should be
sent to Sandra Griffiths
by the 18th of the preceding month
and will be included subject to space

Dear Readers

As I write this I am indoors, curtains drawn, fan on and attempting to stay cool in the third heat-wave of 2025.

We are now in the midst of the holiday season and many of us will be taking a summer break from work, spending time with family and friends. The children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are now enjoying well deserved rest from school, college and university studies.

In our church calendar we are in a period called "ordinary time". There are two periods of ordinary time in the year and these are the periods that are not major seasons like Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter.

They are times for spiritual growth, times to focus on the mystery of Christ. A time for deepening our prayer life and an opportunity for discerning the next steps in our lives and on our journey of faith.

The Latin word *ordinalis* means "showing order, denoting an order of succession". The seasons mark out the year and this is especially noticeable in the beautiful rural area in which we live.

August is the time for celebration. We see the golden fields full of ripening cereal crops and celebrate the Christian festival of Lammas using a loaf of bread made from the grain of the first harvest of wheat. Apples, pears and plums are ripening, summer fêtes are taking place and the nights are warm, filled with the sounds of creation and the smell of barbecues.

So these times are not "ordinary times" in a mundane way and neither does the term "ordinary" imply dullness or routine. The colour we use in church and the priest stole is green, symbolizing growth and new life.

So may I encourage you in this ordinary time to take a moment to give thanks for the not so ordinary times in our lives and celebrate these amazing yet simple gifts we have been given.

May you all manage to keep cool.

Rev'd Jen

This month's cover picture

Last August Michael Gardner of Hanley Broadheath, his son Adam and his grandson Alex with Percy the dog did the Coast to Coast Walk from St Bees in Cumbria to Robin Hoods Bay in Yorkshire. Michael took this picture of Alex and Percy at Ennerdale Water.



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Rochford: Ann Prosser 01584 781317

Stoke Bliss & Kyre: Jeremy Wyatt 07720 056671

Trevor Matthew

Hanleys: Ed Yarnold 07930 882728

Stanford: Alexandra Winnington 07891 346783

Pastoral Team

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Village Hall Bookings

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Janet Powell, 01885 410598

stokeblisskyrevillagehall@gmail.com

Rochford – Ann Prosser, 01584 781317

Eastham –

bookings@easthammemorialhall.org.uk

Hanley – Sarah Geggie, 07796 170949

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Stanford – Catherine Mawby, 07831 303792



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Parish news

From the Registers

Wedding

Congratulations to Alexandra and Alexander who were married at All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp on Saturday 12th July.

Funeral

The funeral of Jennifer Margery Farmer (Jenny), sister of Celia Adams, was held on Friday 27th June. A private cremation was followed by a thanksgiving service at St Kenelm's Church, Clifton-upon-Teme.

The funeral of Lindy Stevenson was held on 8th July at St Mary's Church, Stanford.

We continue to hold their families in our thoughts and prayers.

Confirmation

I have received a few enquiries about confirmation, so if you wish to take this next step on your Christian journey do get in touch with me. We will run a few (maximum of four) preparation sessions locally. We hope to hold a service in our Muddy Boots mission area or you may like to join with the next Cathedral confirmation service.

Teme Valley Tots

Our tots group is taking a well-deserved summer break during August. A massive thank you to all who work so hard to make these sessions so enjoyable. Our prayers and good wishes go with those who are moving on to school or nursery. We will miss you!

We start meeting again on 5th September from 10.30am to 12 noon. For more information about our tots group do contact Tina via email on tinaslord@gmail.com.

Rev'd Julia

Soul Space

We are continuing to explore and develop a time of fellowship after the Stoke Bliss & Kyre neighbourhood lunch each month

Those attending share ten minutes in fellowship as we sing a hymn, listen to a short passage of scripture and share a prayer. All are welcome

Soul Space – food for the soul

For further information please contact Rev'd Jen Jones at tvscurate@gmail.com



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Rochford 49 Club

*Congratulations to this month's
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Wednesday winners

25th June	No 41	Not sold
2nd July	No 57	Not sold
9th July	No 57	Not sold
16th July	No 56	Not sold

Saturday winners

21st June	No 15	Not sold
28th June	No 4	Not sold
5th July	No 15	Not sold
12th July	No 14	Not sold

As you can see from the numbers of tickets not sold, there are still plenty of numbers available – why not join in? It's just £1 per draw, plus you get two chances each week to win £25!

Remember, you must be in it to win it!
Ring Norma Goodall on
07974 809242

Teme Valley Tote

June's prize draw, the fourth in this series, was decided when Rev'd Jen Jones rolled the dice on 2nd July to select the set of random numbers and the starting point. Prizewinners are:

£50 – **Mrs Nicky Webb (for Louisa)** of Eastham (No 260)

£30 – **Ms Phoebe Evans** of Stoke Bliss (No 757)

£20 – **Mrs Anne Gore** of Eastham (No 210)

If you have any queries about the Tote, please contact Robin Dean on 01886 853295 or robin.c.dean@gmail.com – he is still looking for someone to take over its running!

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August in Rochford

August is a quieter month in Rochford as we take a break from community events and let Ann recover! The village hall ceiling is being painted thanks to a charitable donation from a local trust fund, so that will brighten up the hall. Teme Tots is on summer vacation but will resume in September, together with other community events for the autumn (see the dates for your diary below).

If you have any ideas for something that you think people will enjoy, please let us know. If you would like to arrange a community event that would be even better.

Neighbourhood lunch

Ann doesn't get much of a rest! Dates for sit down and takeaway neighbourhood lunches are 26th August, 30th September, 28th October and 25th November. Everyone is welcome and booking for lunches is essential. Takeaways should be collected between 12.30 and 1pm. Please book with Ann on 01584 781317 at least the previous week.

Dates for your diary

12th October – Harvest service and supper

21st November – Rochford quiz night and supper

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Rochford Fête and Flower Festival

Rochford Fête on Sunday 13th July was a tremendous team effort. It was a very hot afternoon and we decided to move the site to take advantage of shade from the plum trees in the orchard and the recently trimmed yew trees (thanks Lee) in the churchyard which provided a wonderful shady area for Ann's cream teas. The church is air conditioned (yes, it really is!) which was a great relief from the heat of the afternoon.

The Flower Festival in the church was magnificent; many thanks to Jennifer Gledhill who again coordinated it and provided help and guidance to less experienced flower arrangers. The flower arrangers produced some wonderful song title themed arrangements and despite my surreptitiously playing the songs during the afternoon, the highest score was 10 out of 12 in the quiz. Georgina added a beautiful arch garland over the porch and Amy arranged vases of flowers in the entrance to the pews.

The weather was a bit hot for dogs and so entries in the dog show were down on last year. Around 130 people came along and enjoyed a wide range of stalls and games, ending with the duck race down the river! Many thanks to Robert Barlow (who once again dressed up in a duck costume to sell the ducks) and Lee and helpers who encouraged the ducks and captured them all after the race!

Many thanks to the many people who helped make this a very successful community event. All the stall holders and everyone who made cakes and gave draw prizes and donations and all those helping setup and put away – we couldn't do it without you.

Also thanks to everyone who came along and supported us. The afternoon, which raised over £1,800, would be nothing without you! Overall, a tremendous community effort, and so good to get together with friends and neighbours.

Church flower rota

August – Ann Prosser, thank you.

Contacts

Ann on 01584 781317, Andrew on 07809 658484 or through the parish WhatsApp group.

Andrew Barbé

TemeTalk deadline 18th August
ronsmum@icloud.com

Stoke Bliss and Kyre

Relaxing summer days

There are two dates to look out for in August. The ever-popular Train Day is at The Hyde on Saturday 9th August from 2 to 5pm.

The first annual Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Garden Party will be on Sunday 24th August at Sweet Green, Stoke Bliss from 2 to 5pm. There is ample parking and visitors are asked to bring along a savoury or sweet to share on the pot luck table. There will be a cash bar, cream teas and music.

Church roof restoration update

The tender process has taken longer than anticipated, with further bat surveys required. These are now all complete and the tenders should be sent out shortly.

Once feedback from contractors is received, we will have a better understanding of the financial scope of the project and can start applying for financial support and fundraising.

Social Night Summer Barbecue

Friday 29th August

Bar opens at 6, food served at 7pm

Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

The next Social Night – Friday 26th September

Social night

The village hall social night and barbecue is on Friday 29th August, with the bar open from 6pm and food served at 7pm. As usual feel free to pop in for a drink, but if you would like a meal book with Julia Berry at sbkvillagehall@gmail.com.

Churchyard tidy sessions

Thanks to all our volunteers whose hard work has kept Saint Peter's churchyard in a much better state this year. The next tidy-up sessions are on Friday 8th August and Saturday 13th September from 10am to 12.30pm. Everyone is welcome, with coffee and cakes to reward your efforts. Text or call Jeremy on 07720 056671.

Bat watch evening

Come and learn about our local bats at the bat watch evening at Saint Peter's churchyard. The biggest, the smallest and the loudest: find out what makes bats so special and listen to the bat detector as they fly past. Free event, children welcome. Friday 12th September, 7.30 to 8.30pm. Voluntary donations to the roof fund.

Keeping you informed

Stay up to date with village news and events via the community group on Facebook. Search "Stoke Bliss & Kyre Community" to join. If you are not already on the SBK email list, contact Julia Berry at sbkvillagehall@gmail.com to join.



Meadow Meanders with Maggie Kingston

Each month you are invited to "Walk and Wonder" around Hollow Meadow, Stoke Bliss

Explore the meadow then enjoy
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Sunday 3rd and Wednesday 20th August

Sunday 7th and Wednesday 24th September
7 to 8pm, all welcome

Parking limited so share if you can

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Thursday 14th August

Thursday 11th September

at Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

12.30pm welcome, lunch served at 1pm

Two courses plus refreshments

To book call 07396 813137

or sbklunch@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you

Eastham Jottings

Church flowers and cleaning

August – Mel Cumming
September – Alyson Brookes

Eastham Coffee Morning

Please come to the coffee morning on **Thursday 7th August** at 10.30am at Eastham Memorial Hall and enjoy a coffee and a chat. Bring along your contributions for the fête: bric-a-bac, books, bottles. Get more raffle tickets. The rota is:

7th August – Gill Deacon and Tony Huggan
4th September – Ann and Tony Simpson
2nd October – Macmillan, joint

Bells ring out

The bells will ring at St Peter and St Paul's, Eastham on VJ Day, Friday 15th August at 6.30pm. Come along and ring or have a go on the Ella-combe. Refreshments for everyone.

On fête day, Sunday 17th August, Julie Hartridge (née Wylde) and a group of bellringers from Lilleshall near Telford will ring a quarter peal (that's roughly 45 minutes) for the fête. They will start at about 1pm and finish with a good cuppa at the fête!

Pub Night

The next pub night will be on Friday 15th August from 7pm at Eastham Memorial Hall. After the bell ringing for VJ Day at the church, come along and help early preparations for the fête. Everyone welcome, look out for the usual banner.

Eastham Fête

Our fête is fast approaching so please remember we need as much help as possible to put the site up on Saturday 16th August. We also need books, plants, bric-a-brac, cakes for the tea tent and for the cake stall, bottles and other prizes for the tombola and silent auction. We need help on the day to run stalls and attractions.

If you would like to be involved – it doesn't have to be all day, a couple of hours would be great – or if you want to drop off a donation, please contact us on easthamfete@gmail.com or just turn up on Saturday 16th and we will find you something to help with.

Finally, don't worry if it's been a poor growing season, everyone is in the same boat with vegetables and flowers this year. Please enter your produce and help build a great display.

Please leave all donations (not cakes) in the back of the church.

Raffle tickets for cash prizes

Raffle tickets are some of the best money earners at Eastham Fête and you can't win if you don't get a ticket – the more you buy, the better your chance! Please collect and return books and takings to Celia Adams (01584 781258) – there are lots to be sold so make sure you have your quota.

Cups won at last year's fête

Can last year's cup winners please return their cups to David Clarke as soon as possible.



Filling Station

There is no meeting in August so the next meeting is on Thursday 18th September. Everyone is welcome. For more details please contact Kate on kateharley6@gmail.com.

Eastham neighbours WhatsApp group

New to Eastham or not in the group? Get local updates from sheep on the road to what's going on in the village. Contact Celia Adams, 01584 781258 or easthamcourt@icloud.com.

Lamberts family grocers

The mobile shop calls at Eastham Memorial Hall every Wednesday at around 10.30am. Mike carries Ashleys Bakery, Wyre Pie etc. If Mike is not there when you expect him or you want an exact time that week, please ring Celia Adams on 01584 781258.

Yoga in Eastham

This autumn, we'll be celebrating four years of Zed Yoga classes in the refurbished hall, a perfect spot for Yoga: clean, quiet, light and warm in the winter. Term begins on 10th September – why not come and join us?

Our well-established group always welcomes new members when there's a space free. If you're a beginner and wondering whether Yoga would suit you, why not register for our Welcome to Yoga event? To book a place please email info@zedyoga.co.uk or phone Zoe on 07962 981456.

Celia Adams

See page 12 for Activities at Eastham Memorial Hall and page 25 for more information about Eastham Fête and the Fun Dog Show.

TemerTalk deadline 18th August

Hanley Happenings

Christine Dalton

Chris Dalton died in Tenbury Hospital on 6th July aged 77, following a year of treatment and surgery.

A relative newcomer to Bell Lane, Chris soon demonstrated to us her quilting skills developed whilst living in Brussels. We will all remember the display she put on at Hanley House. Her talks to local Women's Institutes fascinated her audiences. Her only error was in thinking she would ever be able to teach me how to quilt! I will miss her.

Chris's funeral will be held at Wyre Forest Crematorium at 11.30am on Tuesday 5th August. After the funeral, everyone is invited to Hanley House to celebrate Chris's life.

Carole Gardner

Anyone for tennis?

If you are interested in a game of tennis at Town Farm, Margie is happy for the courts to be used. Just give her a ring on 07796 081857 to check that they are available. You never know, we may have tennis weather soon! A donation would be much appreciated and passed on to charity.

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Hanley House needs more hands!

We need another pair of hands here at Hanley House. With eight rooms, private parties and three small children, there's lots to do! Flexible hours are required depending on the nature of the work that week.

The role includes housekeeping, helping Anna to cook for private parties and breakfast service on Saturdays.

For more information and details of pay etc please call Hanley House on 07901 605640.

Hanley House, Bell Lane, Hanley Broadheath

Table tennis at Hanley

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Services in Stanford

Sunday 3rd August

Holy Communion with hymns at 10am

Sunday 7th September

Holy Communion with hymns at 10am

Flowers for August

Helen Nicol

Many thanks to Mary Holloway who has been wonderful playing the organ for the last few months.

Volante Strings

The concert on 4th July was wonderful. The audience of 32 enjoyed a superb programme of music. The drinks were donated by Sir Anthony and Helen Nicol, Sue Softly and Alexandra provided the canapés which were much enjoyed. It was lovely to be outside. Proceeds were shared between Volante Strings and St Mary's Church.



Jazz Evensong

On 6th July we had an unusual Jazz Evensong directed by Chloe Kenrick and sung by the Teme Valley South Church Choir. It was very refreshing and certainly created a different service, beautifully sung by the choir and accompanied by Sam Caskie on keyboard. We are very grateful to our choir for all the variety they bring to our services.

Lunch at Stanford village hall

A two-course carvery at Stanford village hall on Sunday 7th September at 12.30 for 1pm. £16 per head. To book please call Tina on 07896 167777 or Sue on 07929 479865.

Churchyard working party

Andy Nicol organised a very good churchyard working party on 12th July, many thanks to all who turned up. We set to work clearing the grass up – thanks to Rob Wilks for cutting it and to Kate Cornthwaite. Thanks to Helen for delicious cakes and tea/coffee.

Thanks to Judy McLeish for polishing some of the plaques inside the church.

It was such a hot day and everyone coped so well. Our next churchyard working party will be on Saturday 20th September from 10am to noon to tidy up before the winter. Please come and join us if you can spare an hour or two.



Andy Nicol with the huge pile of grass that was raked up by everyone at the churchyard working party

Mill Farm news

Sarah Grey of Playground Studios at Mill Farm Country Retail has won the title of Best Pilates/Yoga Studio in Worcestershire and Gloucestershire at the Muddy Stiletto Awards held at Sudeley Castle.

We hope to hear more about Playground Studios next month when Sarah is back from a well-earned holiday.

Alexandra Winnington

Rock Bridge Club

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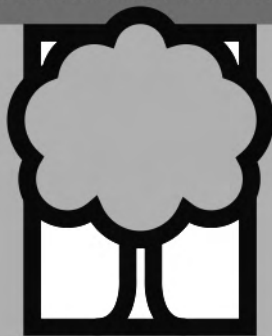
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Alpaca facts

Two alpacas live in the field next to our house. They belong to our neighbour but I love to watch them bending elegantly down to graze or stretching up their long necks for the tastiest leaves in the hedge. They look up curiously as I pass and give me a haughty stare.

They share the field with a flock of sheep and, at the moment, some skittish lambs. In their native South America they are sometimes kept as herd guardians, to protect other livestock from predators, but I don't know how effective these two would be against a marauding fox or badger.



Alpacas (lama pacos) are South American camelids, smaller than llamas with a slender body, small head and large pointed ears. They are known for their soft, luxurious fleece. They are gentle and sociable and relatively easy to handle so are often kept as pets or for trekking.

They are generally very trainable and respond to rewards, like food. They can usually be petted without getting agitated, especially if you avoid stroking the head or neck.

Alpacas have been domesticated for thousands of years and are native to the Andes in South America, specifically Peru, Chile, Bolivia and Ecuador. They are ruminants, like cows and sheep and don't have upper front teeth so they are gentle grazers. They communicate in various ways, including humming, clucking and grumbling. They also spit to show dominance when distressed or agitated, and can spit up to ten feet if they need to, so look out! When they are interested, they tend to sniff their surroundings and watch closely or stand quietly and stare.

Don't miss these delightful animals at Eastham Fête on 17th August.

SG

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The Filling Station

We do not meet in August so our next meeting will be on Thursday 18th September at Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.15 for a 7.30pm start when Tim Coles will be speaking to us. Tim was formerly pastor of Elim Church in Ludlow and then minister of two Methodist churches in the Dudley area.

We look forward to your joining us for these evenings of fellowship, worship, teaching and refreshments. If you are not on our mailing list and would like further information please contact me on kate.harley6@gmail.com.

Activities at Eastham Memorial Hall

- Pilates, on holiday until 9th September, then Tuesdays at 1 and 2.15pm. Contact Sue on 07974 343609, sue579@icloud.com for details or a taster session.
- Yoga, no classes until 10th September then every Wednesday at 10am (term time). Ring Zoe on 07962 981456 or see www.zedyoga.co.uk.
- Zumba Gold, Lucia on 07709 301030, lu.500@live.co.uk. Wednesdays at 12 noon, just turn up. This will be the only class running

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What's on at The Regal in August

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Fri 1st	11.00am	Jungle Trouble (U)
Fri 1st	5.00pm	Karate Kid Legends (12A)
Sat 2nd	11.00am	Lilo and Stitch (U)
Tue 12th	1.00pm	Elio (PG)
Wed 13th	1.00pm	Goldbeak (PG)
Thu 14th	1.00pm	Elio (PG)
Fri 15th	12 noon	Smurfs (U)
Fri 15th	7.00pm	Superman (12A)
Sat 16th	12 noon	Elio (PG)
Sat 16th	6.00pm	Superman (12A)
Tue 19th	1.00pm	The Bad Guys 2 (U)
Wed 20th	5.00pm	The Bad Guys 2 (U)
Thu 21st	12 noon	Smurfs (U)
Thu 21st	7.00pm	Superman (12A)
Sat 23rd	11.00am	Children's Saturday Cinema Club: CBeebies Musical: The Great Ice Cream Hunt
Thu 28th	7.00pm	Superman (12A)
Fri 29th	1.00pm	Freakier Friday (PG)
Fri 29th	5.00pm	Freakier Friday (PG)
Sat 30th	5.00pm	Freakier Friday (PG)
Sat 30th	7.00pm	André Rieu's 2025 Maastricht Concert: Waltz the Night Away!

Holiday Club

Mon 11th-	9.30am	Regal Summer School
Thu 14th		

Live Music

Fri 22nd	7.30pm	Gracie Beverley
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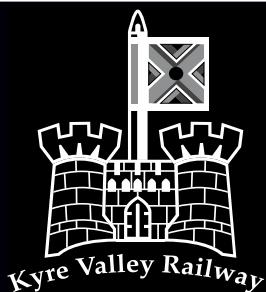
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Please note this is the *last* day for contributions – the sooner you send your items to the editor, the more chance there is that they will be included

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Thousands flock to first Regal Family Festival

Over 4,000 people attended the first-ever Regal Family Festival on Sunday 6th July on the Burge in Tenbury Wells. It was a vibrant summer celebration designed especially for families to enjoy.

The festival offered an array of entertainment and activities, including circus skills workshops, interactive percussion sessions with Tenbury Town Band and an enchanting bubble display from the Bubble Man and Bubble Faerie of Rainbow Gecko. There were energetic performances by Ludwig Arts, previewing their upcoming production of Matilda at the Regal, and the amazing DanceFest. Meanwhile, local food favourites like Spilsbury and Jones' bar and pizza oven, Mike's pork rolls and the Wagyu Burger Truck's gourmet burgers kept everyone well-fuelled

throughout the day.

Many local businesses and charities gave the Regal Family Festival invaluable support, including Tenbury Transport Trust, who ran a popular bubble stall. The festival also featured a visit from Tenbury Fire Service, whose spectacular fire engine proved a highlight for younger guests. Twit Twoo Falconry brought stunning birds of prey for families to admire, while Reptomania offered brave festival-goers a chance to get close to fascinating reptiles.

Opening the festival, Tenbury town mayor Robert Perrin welcomed visitors and praised the Regal for its commitment to community events.

Kimberly Grenfell, Regal Theatre director, said: "The warmth and enthusiasm from our local community has been overwhelming. Seeing so many families come together to celebrate, play and enjoy themselves made all the hard work worthwhile."

The Regal extends its sincere thanks to Sutton Spas for providing the marquee free of charge, to Tenbury Town Council for use of the Burge, and to all the staff and volunteers whose dedication made the event possible.

Following this outstanding success, the Regal is happy to announce that the Regal Family Festival will return in 2026 with even more to enjoy!

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 <p>Night In The Canyon 12 September 2025 · Live on Stage</p>	 <p>Harvest - A Celebration of Neil Young 13 September 2025 · Live on Stage</p>	 <p>Lionel: The Music of Lionel Richie 18 September 2025 · Live on Stage</p>
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Stanford History Group presents Some History of Empire, Immigration and Vagrancy

A warm welcome awaits you at the Stanford History Group which meets on Monday evenings for two hours in autumn at Sapey Village Hall. We are a diverse group with an interest in understanding the past, to better appreciate today and how we got here! Our lectures have been very well attended – last year we averaged nearly 40 people attending across the ten lectures, but there's plenty of parking!

This year we have another interesting program of ten lectures, in six topical and controversial subject areas. You can come for any one or all. We have expert lecturers from Birmingham and Worcester Universities.

- History of Canada, its nationalism and anti-Americanism

- 150 years of UK vagrancy and homelessness
- Was it an English empire or did the other British nations contribute?
- Have immigrants ever been welcome into the USA?
- What makes a sovereign state and how do they die?
- French colonialism and decolonialism

Do come and join us – there's coffee, biscuits and discussion too! We start on Monday 29th September at 7.30pm. £10 per lecture or £60 for the ten lecture course, payable at the door, or by bank transfer.

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There must be a word for that ...

As the King *didn't* say to the Queen, and the Queen *didn't* say to the Dairymaid, and the Dairymaid *didn't* say to the Alderney*, I do like a little bit of bread to my butter. The bread should be toasted, dark brown but nearly cold so the butter doesn't melt, and the butter should be spread really thickly and right to the edges.

There should be a word for that. And the other day I was delighted to find that there is: *tandsmør*, a Danish word that translates as "tooth butter". It describes bread buttered so thickly that when you bite into it, you leave tooth marks. And if you don't leave tooth marks, you just don't have enough butter.

Of course, what the King actually said was "I do like a little bit of butter to my bread". But "a little bit of butter" really won't do!

The French are very good at finding words for things too. There must be a word for when you

only think of a clever or witty response when it's too late, and of course there is – *esprit d'escalier*. And another French term is *presque vue*; related to *déjà vue*, which we all know, *presque vue* means that moment when something is on the tip of your tongue but the word just escapes you. Something that happens more and more often as you get older!

I love words and the word for that is *logophilia*, but I especially love the words that you come across when you're doing a cryptic crossword and you work out the only word, however unlikely, that fits the clues and then you find that it really exists! And the word for that must be *serendipity*, a lovely word which means the fact of finding interesting or valuable things by chance.

SG

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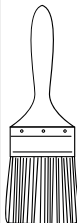
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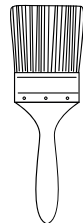


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John Tovey's Ice Box Pudding



This is a special occasion pud so don't raise your hands in horror at the ingredients! It is well worth it and feeds 20 or more. Split the mixture into smaller moulds/loaf tins if you don't want to use it all at once: it keeps well in the freezer.

Ingredients

6 eggs, separated
225g (8 oz) castor sugar, sieved
1 litre (1.5 pints) double cream
Flavour of your choice (see below)
Approx 300g plain biscuit crumbs

Method

Whisk the egg yolks at high speed and gradually add spoonfuls of castor sugar. Then whisk in your flavour.

Whip the double cream (don't over whip) and bring the two mixtures together in a large bowl using a long-handled spoon.

Beat the egg whites until stiff then fold into the mixture, adding one-third first and then two-thirds.

Crush the biscuits with a rolling pin or in a food processor and line your moulds/tins. Pour in the mixture, top with crumbs and freeze for 12 hours. Thaw for 10 minutes before serving.

Flavours

Coffee: add 2 tablespoons of very strong coffee to the basic mixture.

Lemon or orange: add finely grated rind and strained juice of 2 lemons or 2 oranges to the basic mixture.

Invent your own flavours! Add Cointreau over the orange before serving; and Baileys over the coffee!

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Who's sorry now?



My newspaper recently carried the obituary of Concetta Rosa Maria Franconero who died on 17th July at the age of 87. Older readers may know her better as Connie Francis. She was a huge American pop star in the late 1950s but her style of singing was overtaken by more lively performers like Elvis Presley and later by the Beatles and the whole revolution of social mores in the 1960s.

Her songs, like "Who's sorry now?" and "Lipstick on your collar", no longer suited modern tastes. Her era of teenage innocence was firmly kicked into touch by 1965.

I also read that the voting age in England is to be lowered to 16 for the next election, which set me thinking about the history of voting in the UK.

Parliamentarians have been chosen by votes in one form or another since Magna Carta in the 1200s but nearly two hundred years ago, in 1832, Earl Grey (the famous tea man) expanded the franchise to about 600,000 people – men (not women) over the age of 21 who were also freeholders.

In 1867 and 1884 more people were added to the franchise to vote, but still men only. In 1918 women could vote for the first time, but they had to own a property so by no means all of them were included. Finally in 1928 further reform gave the vote to all men and women over the age of 21. The Peoples Act of 1969 reduced the voting age to 18.

I don't doubt that today's teenagers are much more worldly wise than their predecessors in the 1950s although they may be more open to influencers on social media or even, God forbid, "fake news". I don't suppose they are more or less wise than the rest of the population regarding their political insights.

A sign in a local dentist's waiting room says "Employ a teenager while they still know everything". Churchill is alleged to have said, "Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others".

So we will wait and see if these additional voters make for better government.

Or will we all be singing "Who's sorry now?"

Brian Griffiths

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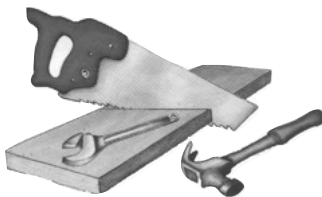
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Teme Valley Wildlife

Nash church is a fourteenth century church with a square stone tower, chancel and nave. It is currently raising money for essential repairs and as part of its fundraising activities invited the Teme Valley Wildlife Group to help advertise its treasures. The treasures in question were not those inside, but those lying in the green space surrounding the building. Volunteers from the group met in the churchyard in the morning where they conducted a variety of wildlife surveys, then in the afternoon shared their findings with nature-loving parishioners.



Nash lies to the north of Burford and was once a chapel of the church there. It is situated half-way up to the Clee Hill, but originally had no burial ground, so the current churchyard is considerably younger than the stones of the church. The ground was provided by a local landowner when the church finally became the centre of a parish of its own.

Like many churchyards, the grass around the church is designated as "unimproved grassland".

This means that it has not had chemical fertilisers, weedkillers or pesticides applied to it. Grassland allowed to grow until haymaking time, then cut and subsequently mown or grazed, allows a wide variety of plants and grasses to flourish and to create a high-nourishment hay crop. Grasses within such systems are finer and shorter than

unmanaged grassland in waste places, and flowers can flourish and set seed, which leads to a wide variety of plants all growing harmoniously together. Such habitats attract insects, which in turn attract birds, bats and small mammals.

Members of the group surveyed plants, grasses and trees, birds, moths and butterflies and general insects. Generously fortified with hot drinks and home-made biscuits they set about producing lists of what they had identified. I particularly enjoyed seeing lady's bedstraw, hoary plantain and quaking grass in the sward and we found healthy-looking elm in the hedge surround-

Continued on page 24

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Continued from page 23

ing the churchyard. No plant was particularly rare, but the group of flowering plants and grasses taken together represents an increasingly rare type of habitat, one which is of great natural value.

The Group's most exciting find was a small red bullet-shaped beetle which proved to be rather unusual. The red-horned Cardinal Click Beetle gets its name from being as red as the robes of a traditional church cardinal, and from making an audible "click" when flinging itself into the air to avoid predators. I think it highly appropriate that our rarest find bears a "holy" name.

The next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th August at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall. We welcome Emma Brown whose talk is called

"Hedgehog education and rescue with Prickles and Paws". Members and friends are welcome, it is just £3 on the door.

Stephanie Mcroft

For up-to-date information on what wildlife is being seen in the area, or to give us your sightings or comments, please visit our Facebook page. Our programme of events, bird survey and archive photographs are available on our website www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk We normally hold meetings on the second Thursday of the month. All are welcome. Contact us by email at tvwg@outlook.com.

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TemeTalk deadline 18th August
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Last call for Eastham Fête!



Come along to Eastham fête on 17th August and bring your family and friends – both two- and four-legged ones – there will be plenty of things to do and see, things to buy and bargains to be had, prizes to win and stories to be shared.

Marvel at the prize fruit and vegetables and the beautiful flowers in the produce tent.

Relax in the tea room and catch up with friends and neighbours while trying some tasty cake.

We want you to enjoy yourself at this free entry event. There will be alpacas, owls, ponies and sheep to look at, a train ride and a model train, craft stalls and traditional games as well as plants, books and bric-a-brac and if none of this interests you there is a barbecue and beer tent.

This year's fête in and around the Memorial Hall at Eastham will be held on 17th August from 12 noon till 5pm. Hope to see you there!

Eastham Fête Fun Dog Show

Is your dog glum? Why not take one of eight chances to turn his day around and enter him in the Fun Dog Show to be held as part of Eastham Fête on Sunday 17th August at Eastham Memorial Hall?

Classes are

1. Cutest puppy (up to 12 months)
2. Prettiest bitch
3. Most handsome dog
4. Most obedient
5. Golden oldie (over 9 years)
6. Waggiest tail
7. Dog who can retrieve best
8. Best in show wins a prize



Entries from 12 noon, £2 per entry

Rosettes awarded up to 6th place

Contact easthamfete@gmail.com

All dogs must be kept on a lead and under control during the fête and dog show.

Please clean up after your dog.

Children under 14 must be supervised and assisted by an adult.



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What's on in Teme Valley South

August

7th	Thursday	Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
8th	Friday	Tidy-up session, St Peter's churchyard Stoke Bliss, 10am
9th	Saturday	Train Day, Kyre Valley Railway at the Hyde, Stoke Bliss, 2pm
14th	Thursday	Stoke Bliss & Kyre Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre VH, 12.30pm
15th	Friday	VJ Day bells rung at St Peter and St Paul's, Eastham, 6.30pm Pub Night, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7pm
17th	Sunday	57th Eastham Fête and Produce Show, 12 noon
24th	Sunday	Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Garden Party, Sweet Green, Stoke Bliss, 2pm
26th	Tuesday	Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm
29th	Friday	Social Night Summer Barbecue, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 6 for 7pm

September

4th	Thursday	Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
7th	Sunday	Vintage Tractor Breakfast, Hanley Village Hall, 9am Lunch at Stanford Village Hall, 12.30 for 1pm
11th	Thursday	Stoke Bliss & Kyre Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre VH, 12.30pm
12th	Friday	Bat Watch Evening, St Peter's church Stoke Bliss, 7.30pm
13th	Saturday	Tidy-up session, St Peter's churchyard Stoke Bliss, 10am
20th	Saturday	Ploughing Match, Hayes Farm, St Michaels WR15 8TL, 10am Churchyard working party, St Mary's Stanford, 10am
29th	Monday	Stanford History Group, Sapey Village Hall, 7.30pm
16th	Friday	Social Night and Bingo, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 7 for 8pm
30th	Tuesday	Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

October

2nd	Thursday	Eastham Macmillan Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
6th	Monday	Stanford History Group, Sapey Village Hall, 7.30pm
11th	Saturday	Race Night, Hanley Village Hall, 6.30pm
12th	Sunday	Rochford harvest service and supper
13th	Monday	Stanford History Group, Sapey Village Hall, 7.30pm
20th	Monday	Stanford History Group, Sapey Village Hall, 7.30pm
27th	Monday	Stanford History Group, Sapey Village Hall, 7.30pm
28th	Tuesday	Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm
31st	Friday	Social Night, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 7 for 8pm

**Send items for inclusion to Sandra Griffiths by 18th of the previous month
telephone 07482 482629 or email ronsmum@icloud.com**

Services

August/September 2025

Daily prayer continues at 9am and 7pm on Zoom, contact Rev'd Julia if you would like to join us. The blessings group meets regularly and is co-ordinated by Richard Skerrett, who can be contacted on 01886 853099 for more details.

The Church of England has a pre-recorded weekly on-line service which can be found by searching 'Church of England Weekly Services' or accessed on their website www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online/weekly-online-services

Services Schedule

Sunday 3rd August

10.00am	Stanford	Holy Communion and Hymns
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Sunday 10th August

9.30am	Stoke Bliss	Holy Communion
11.00am	Hanley William	Holy Communion/Morning Prayer
4.00pm	Hanley Village Hall	Iona Service: Lammas Celebration

Sunday 17th August

10.00am	Eastham	All Age Worship and Holy Communion
2.00pm		Walking Church

Sunday 24th August

10.00am	Rochford	All Age Worship and Holy Communion
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Sunday 31st August

9.30am	Hanley Village Hall	Café Church
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Wednesday 3rd September

10.00am to 12.30pm	Harpley	Quiet Garden
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Sunday 7th September

10.00am	Rochford	Holy Communion with Hymns
4.00pm	Rochford	Choral Evensong for Creationtide

Deadline for the next issue of TemeTalk is 18th August
ronsmum@icloud.com or 07482482629

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