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July 2025



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# TemeTalk

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*A community going forward with God*

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## July 2025

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Teme Valley South Group  
*and delivered free to every household*

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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

### In the garden of Creation: finding God in the smallest things

The other day, while scrolling through a video, I stumbled on a conversation between some big names in physics. They were pondering a theory that there might only be one electron in the whole universe, flitting back and forth through time, creating the illusion of countless electrons. It's a playful, almost fantastical idea – but it got me thinking.

If science is prepared to ask such big, bewildering questions, how much more should we as Christians be ready to marvel at a universe that speaks of its Creator?

The psalmist wrote, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 19:1). When we consider even one electron, let alone the vast galaxies and the laws that hold them together, we glimpse the creativity and order of the God who spoke light into being.

Some scientists, including a priest named Georges Lemaître, suggested the Big Bang – the explosive beginning of our universe – might echo "Let there be light" from Genesis. Even Pope Pius XII hinted at this, though many today keep science and faith in their own lanes. But as Christians, we know that truth is never in conflict with the One who made truth itself.

And maybe, as Neil deGrasse Tyson put it, we can stand in our garden and look at the stars and think: we're not just small and insignificant – we're part of those stars. We carry the same stardust, the same elements, the same creative breath of God.

The universe is vast, yet Scripture reminds us that "even the very hairs of your head are all numbered" (Luke 12:7). That's a truth more profound than any theory.

So, as summer unfolds, let's walk through July with eyes wide open to wonder.

*Pete Thorp*

This month's cover photograph is of  
Poppy Broome of Martley  
having fun on a vintage tractor at  
last year's Eastham Fête

The tractor is a 1959 Massey Ferguson  
FE35 Vineyard belonging to John Griffiths

*Photograph by Sandra Griffiths*

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## Teme Valley South Contacts

**Priest-in-charge:** Julia Curtis 01886 853286

**Assistant Curate:** Jen Jones 07749 977821

**LLM Reader:** Pete Thorp 07917 783159

**Retired clergy:** Robert Barlow, Sally Jones

**Churchwardens**

**Eastham:** Celia Adams 01584 781258

**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**

Ann Prosser 01584 781317

Jenny Barbé 01584 781298

Mel Williams 01584 781284

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Rev'd Julia  
01886 853286

## Village Hall Bookings

**Stoke Bliss & Kyre**

Janet Powell, 01885 410598

[stokeblisskyrevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:stokeblisskyrevillagehall@gmail.com)

**Rochford** – Ann Prosser, 01584 781317

**Eastham** –

[bookings@easthammemorialhall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@easthammemorialhall.org.uk)

**Hanley** – Sarah Geggie, 07796 170949

[hanleyvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:hanleyvillagehall@outlook.com)

**Stanford** – Catherine Mawby, 07831 303792

## Harriett Baldwin MP

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call her constituency office on 01684 585 165.

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# Parish news

## From the Registers

### Weddings

Congratulations to Joshua and Tessa who were married at St Michaels, Rochford on Saturday 31st May and to Giorgio and Maya from New York whose wedding was blessed at St Peter and St Paul, Eastham on 7th June.

### Funerals

Frederick Anthony Pyatt (Tony) was buried on Thursday 22nd May at St Peter and St Paul, Eastham.

Our thoughts and condolences are with his family and friends at this sad time. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

---

## Needing some peace?

Rt Rev'd Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London writes:

"Quiet gardens are places where we can bring our questions, struggles, tiredness and our longings.

There is something about those spaces which holds us, calms us and often helps us to see things in a new light. I give thanks for the Quiet Garden Trust and the vital work of ensuring that such places are available to as many people as possible in as many places as can be found.

Gardens are tools of transformation and healing.

May we cherish the gift."

Harpley Church has joined the Trust this year. Already there have been two mornings with more to come this year where the church and the churchyard have been used for quiet reflection. Our next morning will be on Friday 4th July from 10am to 12.30pm with lots of refreshments and a warm welcome around the fire pit. You are welcome to stay for as long as you need.

To find out more you can visit the website [info@quietgarden.org](mailto:info@quietgarden.org). Or visit Harpley church and read more about the trust from the display there: Harpley Village, Lower Sapey, Worcester WR6 6HG.

I have been a trustee for many years and had a Quiet Garden for over 10 years and seen many folk come tired and leave feeling refreshed. No weeding required, just come and be. People of no faith and all faiths are welcome.

*Jill Smith*

## Tem Valley Tots

Our Tots group continues to meet on Fridays from 10.30 to 12 noon at Rochford village hall. We are meeting up to and including 18th July when the summer holidays start. A massive thank you to all who work so hard to make these sessions so enjoyable. For more information about our tots group do contact Tina via email on [tinaslord@gmail.com](mailto:tinaslord@gmail.com).

## Confirmation

I have received a few enquiries about confirmation, so if there is anyone else wishing to take this next step on their 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.

*Rev'd Julia*

## TemTalk

[ronsmum@icloud.com](mailto:ronsmum@icloud.com) or 07482 482629

Deadline for the August issue is

**18th July**

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## Rochford 49 Club

*Congratulations to this month's  
£25 winners!*

### Wednesday winners

21st May	No 2	Not sold
28th May	No 13	Not sold
4th June	No 31	Rosemary Ayres
11th June	No 39	Not sold
18th June	No 59	Not sold

### Saturday winners

24th May	No 4	Not sold
31st May	No 52	Not sold
7th June	No 56	Not sold
14th June	No 46	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**

**TemeTalk deadline 18th July**

**ronsmum@icloud.com • 07482 482629**

## Teme Valley Tote

Thank you to all co-ordinators and subscribers. This year we have 466 subscribers. We can take more if you wish to join – contact Robin Dean or your local co-ordinator.

**June's** prize draw, the third in this series, was decided when Rev'd Julia Curtis rolled the dice on 4th June to select the set of random numbers and the starting point. Prizewinners are:

£50 – **Mr P Collings** of Knighton (No 646)

£30 – **Mr & Mrs Brian Roberts** of Lindridge (No 166)

£20 – **Michael Gwilt** of Stoke Bliss (No 862)

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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# Rochford News

July is a busy month in Rochford with our two major fundraising events taking place. Thank you to everyone involved in the village fête and open gardens this month and we hope everyone will support these two events and bring friends and family along to enjoy what's on offer.

It is lovely to have Rochford church used for weddings. Congratulations to Tess Champion and Jos Lovegrove-Fielden who got married on 31st May. The church was beautifully decorated and full of wedding guests who generously gave nearly £500 to the church collection. Many thanks to everyone involved in preparing the church and churchyard for this lovely wedding; there will be another wedding here on 26th July.

## Open Gardens

On Sunday 27th July from noon to 5pm Rochford will again be opening some of its lovely gardens. There will be light lunches and cream teas, beautiful views and many different styles and designs of garden. Come and spend a relaxing afternoon for just £5 per head, tickets and maps available from the village hall. Please get in touch if you can help with refreshments etc on the day.

## Rochford Fête

Rochford Fête, Flower Festival and Fun Dog Show is on Sunday 13th July. The flower festival will be in the church and the fête will be on the riverside field next to the church, by kind permission of Dr Lear and the Adams family.

The flower festival will provide a lovely addition to the afternoon and an opportunity to decorate our beautiful old church. The theme is 'song titles', so do come and look around and see if you can guess the songs. The fête is a quintessential village event with stalls and games, cream teas, cake stall, grand draw, tombola and a duck race down the river to finish the afternoon.

It is always an enjoyable afternoon where you can relax and catch up with friends and neighbours over a cream tea. Bring your dog along and take part in the fun dog show. This year we are having a 'flower from your garden' competition, so pick a bloom and enter the competition on the day.

Please let us know if you have any ideas or if you can help with this event. Please contact Ann if you can provide any donations for the cake stall, tombola, white elephant, plant and book stalls.

## Neighbourhood lunch

Dates for sit down and takeaway neighbourhood lunches are 29th July, 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.

## Thank you

to Mark Bridge who has strimmed the steps at the church, where ashes are interred, for the last 30 years. He has now stepped down from the job. Ian Chell will take over as he also mows and maintains the churchyard but if you would like to take this on, please get in touch.

## Dates for your diary

12th October – Harvest service and supper

21st November – Rochford quiz night and supper

## Church flower rota

July – Chris and Amy Jones, thank you.

## Contacts

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

*Andrew Barbé*



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# Stoke Bliss and Kyre

## A busy summer ahead

The village hall barbecue was a great afternoon in near perfect weather and there is still more to look forward to with a busy summer ahead, so here are some dates for your diary.

On Saturday 19th July at 11am there will be a pet/animal blessing at Saint Peter's, Stoke Bliss, with a charity collection in aid of the Hillside Animal Shelter, who recently rehomed Liam, the "Birmingham bull".

After a very successful concert a few years ago we welcome back The Pax Singers for another fine live performance on Saturday 26th July at 7.30pm at Stoke Bliss & Kyre village hall. Bar opens from 7pm, with the performance at 7.30pm. Free parking on site.

Booking is recommended for this popular concert. Tickets cost £10. Contact Julia Berry at sbkvilleagehall@gmail.com. All proceeds split between the hall and the church.

To round off the summer, save the date now for the Stoke Bliss & Kyre village garden party on Sunday 24th August at Sweet Green. Look out for more details in TemeTalk and SBK social media.

## Pub night

Pub night in July is on Friday 25th. As usual, do come for a drink but if you want a meal as well, book on the usual email address.



## Meadow Meanders with Maggie Kingston

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

A time to explore the meadow then join together to reflect on the experience with a drink of apple juice

**Orchids are now popping up in the meadow!**

**Sunday 6th and Wednesday 16th July  
Sunday 3rd and Wednesday 20th August  
7 to 8pm, all welcome**

*Parking limited so share if you can*  
For more information ring **01885 410431**  
email **hollowmeadow23@gmail.com**

## July churchyard tidy-up session

The next tidy-up session at St Peter's is on Saturday 12th July from 10am to 12.30pm. Everyone is welcome, with coffee and cakes to reward your efforts. Text or call Jeremy on 07720 056671

## Monthly services at Saint Peter's

We are pleased to confirm that the TVS ministry team is now able to provide a fixed date for Holy Communion at Saint Peter's, Stoke Bliss on the second Sunday of every month during 2025 at 9.30am.

## Keeping you informed

Stay up to date with village news and events for Stoke Bliss & Kyre 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 sbkvilleagehall@gmail.com to join.

## Remember Train Day

Saturday 9th August from 2 until 5pm.

## Social & Pub Night

Friday 25th July

Bar opens at 6, food served at 7pm

Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

*The next Social & Pub Night – Friday 29th Aug*

**sbkvilleagehall@gmail.com**



Thursday 10th July

Thursday 14th August

at Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall  
**12.30pm welcome, lunch served at 1pm**

Two courses plus refreshments

To book: 07396 813137

or sbklunch@gmail.com

**We look forward to seeing you**



# Eastham Jottings

## Church flowers and cleaning

July – Judith Hobson

August – Mel Cumming

We need more helpers please. There is a vacancy on the rota for May 2026. You don't have to be a great flower arranger and it doesn't take long. Please ring Celia Adams on 01584 781258 or email easthamcourt@icloud.com.

## Eastham Coffee Morning

Please come to the coffee morning on **Thursday 3rd July** at 10.30am at Eastham Memorial Hall and enjoy a coffee and a chat and win a raffle prize. There will be a bring & buy stall and anything left over will go to the fête.

The rota is:

Thursday 3rd July – c/o Blakehouse Park

## Tony Pyatt, late of Coldenhale Farm

Tony's funeral was on 22nd May at Eastham church. Tony had lived in Eastham for over 70 years, having moved here originally in 1952. He was a great lover of the countryside, a great supporter of the Clifton Hunt and had been a leading light in the Riverside Fête for many years in the past, with his wife Margaret organising the gymkhana. Tony loved his dogs and horses and shod many local horses and ponies in the village over the years.

After the funeral a lovely tea was served at Eastham Memorial Hall. Thanks for the £202 donated to Eastham church at the funeral.

## Wedding bells in Eastham

Congratulations to Diana Clarke's grandson and granddaughter-in-law Giorgio and Maya whose recent marriage in Manhattan was blessed in Eastham church on 7th June. Giorgio was christened in Eastham church in April 1998.

The wedding was followed by a stupendous wedding reception at Eastham Memorial Hall decked out at its best. 150 peonies from Gateley Farm, Leinthall Earls were a wonderful base for the amazing flower arrangements that filled the church and the Memorial Hall. Guests arrived from three continents so there was a truly international theme.

## Pub Night

The next pub night will be on Friday 18th July at 7pm at Eastham Memorial Hall. Come along for a drink and a catch up, everyone is welcome. Watch out for the usual banner.

## VJ Day

The bells will be rung at St Peter and St Paul's, Eastham on Friday 15th August at 6.30pm. Due to the pressure on bell ringers and preparations for the fête we may be marking the day by using the Ellacombe again. If you are a bell ringer, new to the area or just wanting to learn how to ring the bells, please contact Celia Adams on 01584 781258.

## Bells ring out for the fête

We are delighted that Julia Hartridge (née Wylde) will be bringing a group of bell ringers from Lille-shall to ring a quarter peal (roughly 45 minutes) for the fête. They will start ringing at about 1pm, then enjoy a good cuppa at the fête!

## 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.

## TemeTalk distribution

Thanks to everyone who has stepped up to deliver TemeTalk around the village, if you think you could manage the section from Marsh End to the boundary on New Road, please get in touch – it's only once a month. Please contact Celia Adams on 01584 781258 or easthamcourt@icloud.com.

*Celia Adams*

Eastham Jottings continue on page 13



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# Hanley Happenings

## 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 the appropriate charity.

## Hanley Open Gardens

Margie would like to thank everybody who helped and was involved in the open gardens on 24th May. We had a steady stream of visitors. Thanks for all the hard work in the gardens and the delicious food served at the village hall. It was a good team effort and we were lucky with the weather. We made £800 for Cure Leukaemia so very many thanks to you all.

## Table tennis at Hanley

If you would like to join in the fun come along to Hanley Village Hall on Monday evenings at 7pm.  
Bats and balls are provided.  
Your first taster session is free, then it's just £3 per evening

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[www.andrewjelleyopticians.co.uk](http://www.andrewjelleyopticians.co.uk)

## Strawberry cream teas and songs of praise

Come along to Hanley Village Hall on Sunday 27th July from 2 to 4pm for Songs of Praise with delicious strawberry cream teas.

Everyone is welcome at this community event, including friendly dogs. Cash only. For more information email [hanleychurches.treasurer@outlook.com](mailto:hanleychurches.treasurer@outlook.com) or call 07796 170949.

## HANLEY VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE

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# Stanford • Stanford • Stanford

## Services in Stanford

### Sunday 6th July

Holy Communion with hymns at 10am  
Jazz Evensong with TVSCC at 4pm

### Sunday 3rd August

Holy Communion with hymns at 10am

## Flowers for July

Neenie Tangye

## Volante Strings Music for a Summer's Evening

Volante Strings will be playing at St Mary's Church on Friday 4th July at 7.30pm. Drinks and canapés will be served outside, weather permitting, enjoying the view up the Teme valley. This promises to be a lovely concert so do book – tickets £20, children free. Please call Alexandra Winnington, 07891 346783, or Megan Webb, 07977 191051, to give an idea of numbers for catering.

## Churchyard Working Party

Saturday 12th July, 10am to 12 noon

Everyone welcome –  
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Tea and coffee provided

*Last year's event was well attended and  
the churchyard is in great need of a tidy up!*

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## Jazz Evensong

The jazz evensong on 6th July at 4pm will be something different with jazz style singing from TVSCC. If you would like to sing with the choir, a donation of £5 towards running costs would be very much appreciated.

## 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 079294 798665.

## Tenbury food bank

There will be a collection on Sunday 6th July and the box will be in the church entrance porch if you wish to donate.

## Village hall news

Jeff's Shed Bar is available to book for events in the village hall.

## Mill Farm news

Baileys Farm Shop is under new management and is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday and from 9.30am to 1pm on Sunday.

*Alexandra Winnington*

## Local Handyman & Property Maintenance

Ring Ash  
07534 809814



[asqservicesteme@gmail.com](mailto:asqservicesteme@gmail.com)

## Rock Bridge Club

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Put the date in your diary  
NOW for the

## 57th Eastham Fête and Flower Show

on Sunday 17th August at 12 noon  
*A fabulous afternoon of family fun!*

That time has come around again, so sort out those unwanted books and bric-a-brac, pamper your plants and practise your baking. We have plenty of challenge cups waiting for a new home!

See the schedule for classes and please contact us on 01584 781505 or easthamfete@gmail.com if you have not had a copy or if you would like to help out on the day.

Starting at 12 noon, the annual fête will be held in and around Eastham Memorial Hall where there will be

**Walking with alpacas**  
**Archery**  
**Fun dog show**

as well as teas and plants for sale, the well-supported produce show and many other stalls and attractions not forgetting the popular tombola (donations please!).

So why not make a day of it?

There will be

**Barbecue food  
and a bar**

and other food stalls and plenty of activities to keep the whole family entertained. With parking and entry free it's a great way to have an affordable afternoon.

This year we have more tents than ever so even if the weather is bad you can come along and stay dry – and the Chase Brass Band is back again.

Preparations start the day before when we will be putting up tents and marking out the site. If you have time and are feeling strong please come along and help. We'll be on site from morning until it's all done.

The fête raises funds for the Memorial Hall and the church each year and is Eastham's biggest fundraising event, so come along, have fun and at the same time support the village, meet up with old friends and make some new ones.

*We hope to see you there!*

**Don't forget – Sunday 17th August, 12 noon to 5pm**



## The Filling Station

Our next meeting is on Thursday 17th July at Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.15 for a 7.30pm start. Our speaker will be Dave Kelly who is a church planter and leader, and we look forward to the message he will bring to us.

We do not meet in August but on Thursday 18th September 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.

## Iona Worship

You are invited to join us at  
**Hanley Village Hall, WR15 8QU**  
for a warm welcome and light refreshments

**Services are at 4pm**  
**13th July – for the summertime**  
**10th August – Lammas**  
**14th September – Harvest**  
**9th November – Remembrance**

Please email Rev'd Jen Jones at  
tvscurate@gmail.com for more information



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07866 511488 or [louisegibbs11@gmail.com](mailto:louisegibbs11@gmail.com)***

## Soul Space

Last month after the Stoke Bliss & Kyre  
neighbourhood lunch we invited people to  
attend our first Soul Space gathering.

Those attending shared ten minutes in  
fellowship as we sang a hymn, listened to a  
short passage of scripture and shared a prayer.

Together we will continue to explore and  
develop this time of fellowship after  
the lunch each month.

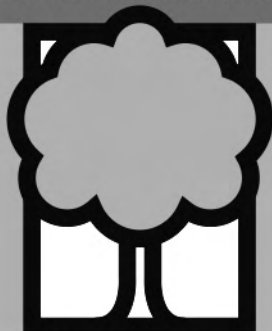
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## More Eastham Jottings

### Eastham Fête raffle tickets

The raffle is one of the best money earners at the 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.

### Eastham Fête donations

Once again we are asking for help and support. We need all the usual stuff any time from now onwards: bottles for the tombola and quality items for other stalls such as books, plants, and items for the bric-a-brac. If you donations either take them to the stall organisers or leave in the back of Eastham church for collection.

### 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 carried Ashleys Bakery, Wyre Pie etc.

*Celia Adams*



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BRASS BAND
FUN DOG  
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Grainger – Mock Morris

Grieg – Elegiac Melodies

Boyce – Symphony in B Flat



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# Rochford Open Gardens

**Sunday 27th July  
12 noon to 5pm**

Visit a beautiful collection of gardens  
spread throughout the village  
some with light lunches or cream teas

*A great way to spend  
a summer's afternoon*

Please collect your map and entry  
programmes from the village hall  
before you visit the gardens

**Just £5 per head, children free**



## Rochford Fête, Flower Festival and Fun Dog Show

A quintessential village event with  
a wonderful array of flowers in the church

**Cream teas ★ Cake Stall ★ Grand Draw  
Tombola ★ Stalls ★ Games  
Duck race**

**Dog Show open to all**

**Sunday 13th July, 2.30pm**

*at Rochford riverside field and  
in Rochford church*

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follies, a Grade II listed Jacobean barn,  
a ruin and a Norman dovecote

**Open daily 10am to 5pm**

*Suggested donation of £3.50*

Dogs are welcome in the Park  
and allowed off leads if kept under control  
*No cycles allowed in the grounds*

**Kyre Park, Tenbury Wells WR15 8RW**

## What's on at The Regal in July

### Broadcast

Thu 3rd 7.00pm National Theatre Live: A Streetcar Named Desire

### Festival

Sun 6th 11.00am Regal Family Festival

### Film

Thu 10th 1.00pm Jane Austen Wrecked My Life (15)

Thu 10th 7.00pm Jane Austen Wrecked My Life (15)

Mon 21st 1.00pm Lilo and Stitch (U)

Wed 23rd 1.00pm How to Train Your Dragon (PG)

Thu 31st 7.00pm FI @ The Movie

### Live Music

Fri 4th 7.00pm Worcester Cathedral Choir in Concert – A European Roadtrip!

Fri 11th 8.00pm Definitely Maybe: Oasis Tribute

Sat 12th 7.30pm Dire Streets

Sat 25th 8.00pm Miles Hunt of The Wonder Stuff

Sat 26th 7.30pm The Nashville Sounds Experience

Mon 14th 7.30pm Regal Community Choir and Choral Diversity Choir present A Summer Concert

### Live Theatre

Sun 13th 6.00pm Once Upon a Fairy Tale: A Journey Through Light and Dark

Thu 17th 7.00pm Matilda the Musical JR

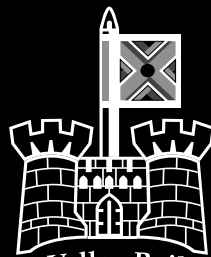
Fri 18th 7.00pm Matilda the Musical JR

Sat 19th 2.00pm Matilda the Musical JR

Sat 19th 7.00pm Matilda the Musical JR

Box office 01584 811442

[www.regaltenbury.co.uk](http://www.regaltenbury.co.uk)



Kyre Valley Railway

# Train Day

at Kyre Valley Railway,  
The Hyde, Stoke Bliss

By kind permission of Lord and Lady Darnley

**Saturday 9th August**

**2pm - 5pm**

Entrance £5 per adult, under sevens free,  
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## A chance encounter at the seaside

Last week we found ourselves in Weston-super-Mare, as you do, on our way from somewhere to somewhere else and with a couple of hours to spare to look at the sea.

We walked along the promenade; the sun was shining, the sea was sparkling with little wavelets breaking on the shore, whipped up by the breeze. The beach was empty, acres of flat golden sand just waiting to be played on. Further along it was busier, with groups of schoolchildren enjoying a day out with organised games on the beach. The town was getting ready for the summer season. There were buckets and spades, little windmills that spin in the breeze when they're stuck in the top of a sandcastle, rock and candy floss and ice creams.

We stopped for coffee and sat in the sunshine watching some children having donkey rides and then started back towards the car.

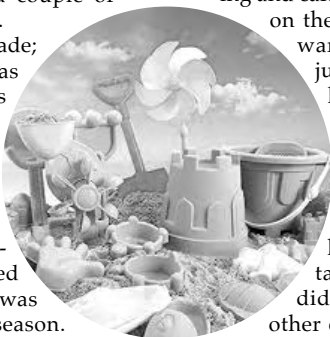
As we got towards the quiet end of the promenade we saw a fire-engine on the beach and some men whizzing about on a hovercraft. Quiet day at the fire station, we said, so they've just come down to the beach for a little play.

Just before we reached the car we met a

young man, pleasant looking, jeans and t-shirt. He said good morning and we said good morning and carried on walking but he remarked on the weather – quite windy, not as warm as it might be, the Boss's jumper looked more sensible than his t-shirt – and then asked us where we were from. Worcester-shire, we replied, and he said he was from Wales, which we could see in the distance over the Bristol Channel. And then he said he was making a habit of talking to strangers because he didn't think people talked to each other enough. We said we were sorry we didn't have more time – we had to be home for lunch, otherwise we would have stopped to talk to him for longer.

But it made us think as we drove away. Was he right? Do we not talk to each other enough? Can you just go up to people in the street and start a conversation? How hard is it to do that? Maybe waiting for a bus or queuing in the post office or sitting in the dentist's waiting room? Would people welcome him or view him with suspicion? What do you think?

SG



# REGAL HIGHLIGHTS

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## FOR JULY AT THE REGAL

\*programme as of 03/06/2025

<p><b>LIVE MUSIC</b></p> <p><b>Worcester Cathedral Choir in Concert – A European Roadtrip!</b> 4 July 2025 • Family • Live on Stage</p>	<p><b>FESTIVAL</b></p> <p><b>Regal Family Festival</b> 6 July 2025 • FREE EVENT • Music, entertainment, stalls, crafts &amp; more!</p>	<p><b>LIVE MUSIC</b></p> <p><b>Definitely Mightbe – Oasis Tribute</b> 11 July 2025 • Live on Stage</p>
<p><b>LIVE MUSIC</b></p> <p><b>Dire Streets</b> 12 July 2025 • Live on Stage</p>	<p><b>LIVE THEATRE</b></p> <p><b>Once Upon a Fairy Tale: A Journey Through Light and Dark</b> 13 July 2025 • Family • Live on Stage</p>	<p><b>LIVE MUSIC</b></p> <p><b>Regal Community Choir and Choral Diversity Choir – Present</b> <b>Regal Community Choir and Choral Diversity Choir – A Summer Concert</b> 14 July 2025 • Live on Stage</p>
<p><b>LIVE THEATRE</b></p> <p><b>Ludwig Theatre Arts – Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical JR.</b> 17–19 July 2025 • Live on Stage</p>	<p><b>LIVE MUSIC</b></p> <p><b>Miles Hunt of The Wonder Stuff (Acoustic)</b> 25 July 2025 • Live on Stage</p>	<p><b>LIVE MUSIC</b></p> <p><b>The Nashville Sounds Experience</b> 26 July 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 sub-

ject 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.

*simon@adamswoodfarm.co.uk*  
01886 853412

*<https://stanfordhistorygroup.com>*

### Activities at Eastham Memorial Hall

- Pilates, Tuesdays at 1 and 2.15pm. Contact Sue on 07974 343609, [sue579@icloud.com](mailto:sue579@icloud.com) for details or a taster session. Last class on 15th July, autumn terms begins 9th September.
- Yoga, ring Zoe on 07962 981456 or see [www.zedyoga.co.uk](http://www.zedyoga.co.uk). Wednesdays at 10am in term time. Last session 2nd July, autumn term begins 10th September.
- Zumba Gold, Lucia on 07709 301030, [lu.500@live.co.uk](mailto:lu.500@live.co.uk). Wednesdays at 12 noon, just turn up. This will be the only class running through the summer, so please support!

**Deadline for the August issue of**

**TemeTalk**

**is 18th July**

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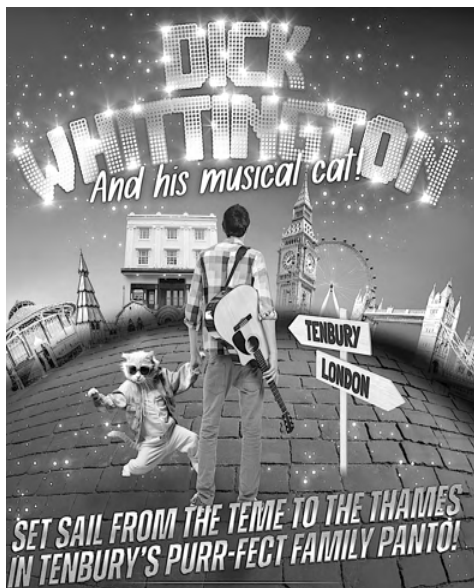
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# Don't miss the Regal's Christmas Cracker of a Pantomime



The Regal Theatre's Christmas Cracker of a panto returns for 2025 ... running from Thursday 11th to Wednesday 31st December.

Directed by Chris Garner, with musical direction by Richard Fox and written by acclaimed pantomime writer Andrew Pollard, this year's festive production is **Dick Whittington and His Musical Cat** – the purr-fect adventure from Teme to Thames paved with gold!

Our Tenbury lad, Dick Whittington, is down on his luck! He's heard the streets of London are paved with gold and so takes a one-way tractor ride to find fame and fortune. But will it all go to plan? Sea-shanty on down to another magical Christmas Panto at the Regal with hiss-terical script and toe-tapping mew-sical numbers. Join Dick and his mew-sical cat for this rollicking rags to riches adventure!

Tickets start from just £13.50 and are on sale now. Book early to avoid disappointment!


Tickets from [www.regaltenbury.co.uk](http://www.regaltenbury.co.uk)  
and from the Regal Box Office




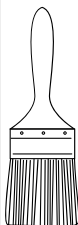
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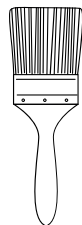
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# TemeTalk

Deadline 18th July  
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# Fings ain't what they used to be ...

Television advertisements used to be cosy affairs, chimpanzees in flowery dresses sitting round a table drinking PG Tips, "Now hands that do dishes can be soft as your face with mild green Fairy Liquid", "Murray Mints, Murray Mints, the too good to hurry mints", "Beanz meanz Heinz", "Ah! Bisto" with the Bisto kids, not to mention the Oxo family – hands up if you remember any of those?

And don't forget the Gold Blend couple with their evolving romantic storyline, or Lorraine Chase's Cam-pari ads with the unforgettable line: "Were you truly wafted here from paradise?" "No, Luton Airport."

In the olden days women did the cooking and the washing up and children were polite and helpful. But now there are ads for dishwasher tablets, washing powder, washing up liquid, floor mops and dusters where men are doing the work and the children are spilling food down their tops and eating with their fingers.

And something strange has happened to TV ads lately. They seem to be obsessed with smells.

There are ads for smells that need to be eradicated, like body odour. Have you seen the one where a man

has sprayed on a special deodorant for his "down below" bits and as he squeezes past a woman in the cinema she is so entranced by the fragrance that she follows him with her nose nearly touching his bottom.

Seriously? And there's also a deodorant that you

can spray into your pants or your shirt or wherever you might smell. What happened to actually washing?

Ah! washing. Not only do you need washing powder, you also need fabric conditioner to make your washing smell fragrant and "scent boosters" to make your washing smell even more fragrant. So you're buying a product that does nothing except make an existing smell more smelly!

Of course your house smells too. Dogs, dirty trainers, dirty washing ... there's no end to the smells that need to be covered up by scented sprays that make your home acceptable to

you and your visitors. Has no-one heard of cleaning the house and opening the windows?

In the world of advertising, fings definitely ain't what they used to be. I won't mention the strange new Andrex ads but *please* bring back the Andrex puppy!

SG



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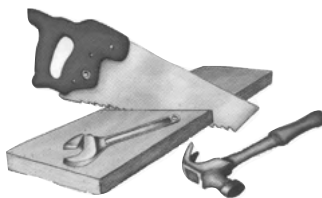
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# Teme Valley Wildlife

I have lived in the Teme valley for over thirty years now, but I don't think I've ever seen it blossom so beautifully as it has in 2025. Dry warm weather chased away grey skies and frequent rain, since when we have been lucky to see the sun nearly every day. A lack of frost and rain encouraged plants, both in the garden and in the wider landscape, to put on a tremendous spring display. Blackthorn, as usual, was first to bloom, tiny white star flowers bursting from thin black twigs on shrubby bushes and low trees. Then fruit blossom took over. Damson, cherry, apple and pear all seemed to come out together this year. My pear trees were utterly laden, leaving barely a leaf in sight. Next came the creamy spires of horse chestnut flowers, then an avalanche of hawthorn whose blossom was draped over nearly every hedge.

Not to be outdone, garden flowers then came in on the act, exhibiting perfect wisteria and exuberant clematis. Before a music concert on a warm evening in Much Marcle, I enjoyed the extraordi-



*Cherry blossom in Overbury churchyard*

nary sight of a blue wisteria which had been trained straight upwards to an unusually tall height, presumably on some kind of support which was completely hidden by flowers. It looked marvellous, but what made it special was that a vigorous pale pink Clematis montana had twisted itself high up through it. Concert goers

were drawn to look up in wonder as they spotted it on their way past.

Well, what exactly is blossom? Technically, it is a cluster of flowers blooming on any plant, but it tends to be a term associated with trees which bear fruit. It is celebrated here in Worcestershire by the Vale of Evesham Blossom Trail, a route that has been promoted for over forty years to attract visitors to a region famous for its many orchards. The trail winds around Pershore and Evesham, vaguely following the route of the River Avon. Fruit and vegetable growing began in the vale in the eighth century under the monks of Evesham

*Continued on page 24*

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*Continued from page 23*

Abbey, but its peak came in the late nineteenth century when the arrival of the railways allowed the area's produce to be sent out over long distances.

After the discovery of the Pershore Yellow Egg plum in Tiddesley Wood and the development of the Purple Pershore plum, plum growing boomed around Pershore, where jam and processing factories were set up to preserve the produce. Sadly, imported fruit and railway closures ended the boom and only a quarter of the vale's orchards remain today. Nevertheless, it is possible to enjoy the region on foot, by bike or by car and to follow a variety of trails through orchards to witness the area's unique landscape.

The original eight-mile blossom trail has been extended over the years and is now a 55-mile driving tour. This year the trail is promoted using a photo of an open-topped Morgan sports car driv-

ing past a blossom-filled orchard; what's not to like? Here's Worcestershire at its best!

The next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th July at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall. We welcome Geoff Chall whose talk is called "Shropshire and Beyond". 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](http://www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk) We normally hold meetings on the second Thursday of the month. All are welcome. Contact us by email at [twwg@outlook.com](mailto:twwg@outlook.com)*



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# Vive le Tour de France!

My July sporting calendar used to consist mainly of test match cricket and the second week of Wimbledon. But now I have a new favourite.

I watch daily coverage of my new super hero set against glorious countryside with aerial shots of thousands of fans actually there watching his performance.

Yes, it's time for the daily spectacle of the Tour de France. Three weeks of racing with only a couple of days off. Most days they ride more than 100 miles and there are also a couple of time trials where riders set off alone to cover shorter distances at higher speeds. Time trials bring clarity to the importance of slipstreaming where by staying just behind another rider there is a marginal gain: you use less energy and can accelerate to win the race in its final stages.

This seems not to affect my super hero. He just waits for the steep mountain climbs and then sets off at pace and none of the more than a

hundred other professional riders can keep up with him. And he does it over and over again.

The steep mountain passes in the Alps, the Pyrenees and the Massif Central bring huge crowds lining the roadsides and brilliant photog-

raphy of the stunning scenery. Near summit finishes the crowds line the roadsides and press forward leaving just a narrow corridor for the riders and the cameramen on their motorbikes to weave through.

My super hero is Tadej Pogačar. He is 26 years old, from Slovenia. He rides with a smile on his face and seems to defy gravity

by riding up mountains faster than anyone else on the planet.

He has won the Tour three times already as well as the Giro d'Italia and many other races.

The Tour de France is on ITV4 from 5th to 27th July. Don't miss it!

*From our Sports Correspondent*





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# What's on in Teme Valley South

## July

3rd	Thursday	Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
4th	Friday	Volante Strings Concert, St Mary's Stanford, 7.30pm
6th	Sunday	Jazz Evensong with TVSCC, St Mary's Stanford, 4pm
10th	Thursday	Stoke Bliss & Kyre Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre VH, 12.30pm
12th	Saturday	Churchyard working party, St Mary's Stanford, 10am Churchyard tidy-up, St Peter's Stoke Bliss, 10am
13th	Sunday	Rochford Fête and Flower Festival, 2.30pm
17th	Thursday	The Filling Station, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7.15 for 7.30pm
18th	Friday	Pub Night, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7pm
19th	Saturday	Pet/animal blessing, St Peter's Stoke Bliss, 11am
25th	Friday	Pub Night, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 6pm
26th	Saturday	The Pax Singers, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 7.30pm
27th	Sunday	Rochford Open Gardens, 12 noon Songs of Praise and cream teas, Hanley Village Hall, 2pm
29th	Tuesday	Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

## August

7th	Thursday	Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
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
17th	Sunday	57th Eastham Fête and Produce Show, 12 noon
24th	Sunday	Village garden party, Sweet Green, Stoke Bliss
26th	Tuesday	Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

## September

4th	Thursday	Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
7th	Sunday	Lunch at Stanford Village Hall, 12.30 for 1pm
11th	Thursday	Stoke Bliss & Kyre Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre VH, 12.30pm
20th	Saturday	Ploughing Match, Hayes Farm, St Michaels WR15 8TL, 10am
30th	Tuesday	Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

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

# Services

## July/August 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](http://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online/weekly-online-services)

### Services Schedule

#### Sunday 6th July

10.00am	Stanford	Holy Communion with hymns
4.00pm	Stanford	Come and Sing Jazz Evensong

#### Sunday 13th July

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

#### Saturday 19th July

11.00am	Stoke Bliss	Animal and Pet Blessing Service
4.00pm		Welly Church

#### Sunday 20th July

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

#### Sunday 27th July

10.00am	Rochford	All Age and Holy Communion
2.00pm	Hanley Village Hall	Songs of Praise and Strawberry Teas

#### Sunday 3rd August

10.00am	Stanford	Holy Communion and Hymns
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