

# TemerTalk

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September 2024



## In this issue

**Ploughing Match • Quiz • Live Music • Eastham Fête Results  
and all your parish news**

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# TemeTalk

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*A community going forward with God*

## September 2024

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

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revjuliacurtis@gmail.com

### Parish website

[www.temevalleysouth.org.uk](http://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

The fifth of September is the anniversary of the death in 1997 of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. It would take a book, not this short piece, to fully explore her life. Born in 1910 to an Albanian family in Skopje she responded to a call to enter a religious community.

As a teacher in a convent in Calcutta, she heard a further call to leave the convent and serve the poorest people. She lived the life of a beggar and from that set up a hospice for the poor of all faiths. Muslims were read the Quran, Hindus received water from the Ganges, and Catholics received extreme unction. "A beautiful death", she said, "is for people who lived like animals to die like angels—loved and wanted."

Her work blossomed. She brokered a cease fire between Palestinian fighters and the Israeli army and rescued 37 children. She worked with famine relief in Ethiopia and radiation victims at Chernobyl. She visited Northern Ireland at the time of the "Troubles". The list could go on. She was awarded the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize – but refused the associated ceremonial banquet asking that the cost go to the poor in India.

Few of us will lead a life like that. But we can draw inspiration from hers. At the Nobel Lecture, when asked "What can we do to promote World Peace?" she responded, "Go home and love your family". She expanded that by saying, "When I pick up a person from the street, hungry, I give him a plate of rice, a piece of bread, I have satisfied. I have removed that hunger. But a person that is shut out, that feels unwanted, unloved, terrified, the person that has been thrown out from society – that poverty is so hurtful and so much, and I find that very difficult."

May she be an example to us,

*Robert*

Thanks to Stephanie Mcroft for this month's cover photograph of a black-and-yellow longhorn beetle – see her article on page 23

**TemeTalk deadline 18th August**  
ronsmum@icloud.com or 07482 482629



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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:**

**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:** Sue Softly  
01584 881342

## Village Hall Bookings

#### Stoke Bliss & Kyre

Janet Powell, 01885 410598

stokeblisskyrevillagehall@gmail.com

**Rochford** – Ann Prosser, 01584 781317

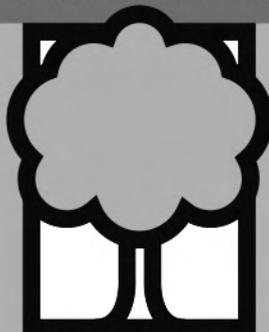
**Eastham** – Helen Matravers, 07580 158673

**Hanley** – Judy Bayliss, 01886 853813

**Stanford** – Catherine Mawby, 07831 303792

stanfordwithorletonvillagehall@gmail.com

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# Parish news

## From the Registers

### Baptism

We welcome to our church family Amelie Josephine Knott whose christening was held on 28th July at St Michael's, Rochford.

### Marriage

Congratulations to Claire and Thomas Parker who were married at St Mary's, Stanford-on-Teme on Saturday 20th July.

*We wish them every happiness. May their marriage be lifelong and life affirming.*

### Funeral

Our sympathy and prayers are with the family and friends of Phillip Bernard Ryder whose ashes were interred in the garden of remembrance at St Peter and St Paul, Eastham.

*Held in God's love. May he rest in peace.*

## Iona Inspired Services

We loved our pilgrimage to Iona last September and wanted to bring a little of Iona to the Teme Valley. Our next in the series of Iona services begins at 4pm on 8th September and will be harvest themed. These services involve a pattern of prayer, singing and imaginative engagement with scripture that reflects our life together as community as we celebrate God's presence in our lives. So, you are invited to join us at Hanley Broadheath Village Hall, WR15 8QU. Do give them a try.

## Teme Valley Tots

We will be back on Friday 6th September from 10.30 to 12 noon at Rochford Village Hall. For more information contact Tina on [tinaslord@gmail.com](mailto:tinaslord@gmail.com).

## The Filling Station

Our next meeting is on Thursday 19th September at Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.15 for a 7.30pm start, when Tim Coles will be speaking to us. Tim was previously minister of two Methodist churches in the Dudley area and former pastor of Elim Church in Ludlow.

We look forward to your joining us for this evening of fellowship, worship, teaching and refreshments. If you are not on our mailing list and would like further information or details about our meetings please contact me on [kate.harley6@gmail.com](mailto:kate.harley6@gmail.com).

## Administrator

As we move into the autumn, we would love to have some parish administrative help again, so if you have skills with Word, Excel and emails and a few hours each week to spare, please get in touch with Rev'd Julia on [revjuliacurtis@gmail.com](mailto:revjuliacurtis@gmail.com). With any email please send a recent CV.

*Rev'd Julia*

## Just three evenings ...

Teme Valley South Churches invite you to "just three evenings", thinking about reasons to believe, or not. Each evening will start with a light supper followed by some input and conversation about the topic.

### First evening, Tuesday 17th September

Reasons to believe God exists

### Second evening, Wednesday 18th September

Reasons to believe God doesn't exist

### Third evening, Thursday 19th September

So what? What differences do our beliefs make to our lives?

### 7 to 9pm at Rochford Village Hall

*No charge, but donations accepted*

Please book with Ann, 01584 781317 or [annprosser45@gmail.com](mailto:annprosser45@gmail.com), or Robert, 07947 600627 or [rhyeslane@gmail.com](mailto:rhyeslane@gmail.com).

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## Rochford 49 Club

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

### Wednesday winners

24th July	No 46	Carolyn O'Hagan
31st July	No 37	Not sold
7th August	No 58	Not sold
14th August	No 27	Not sold

### Saturday winners

20th July	No 44	Dan Taylor
27th July	No 58	Not sold
3rd August	No 7	Jon Adams
10th August	No 12	Jennifer Gledhill
17th August	No 49	Norma Goodall

There are still plenty of numbers available – why not join in? It's just £1 per draw and the profits are split between Rochford church and the village hall – plus you get two chances each week to win £25!

Remember, you must be in it to win it!  
Ring Gill Smith on  
**07815 030050**

**Deadline for the next issue is 18th September**

## Teme Valley Tote

August's draw, the fifth in this series, was decided when Rev'd Julia Curtis rolled the dice on 2nd August to select the set of random numbers. Prizewinners are:

- £50 – **Jayne Cooke** of Stockton (No 404)
- £30 – **Margaret Booton** of Pensax (No 396)
- £20 – **Mel Cumming** of Eastham (No 241)

You can still take part in this year's series of monthly draws by contacting Robin Dean at [robin.c.dean@gmail.com](mailto:robin.c.dean@gmail.com) or call 01886 853295.

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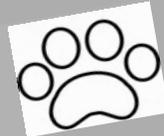
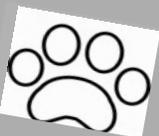
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# Rochford News

Harvest is well under way and the nights are drawing in, often accompanied by misty mornings. Hop picking will be carried out this month so please be patient with tractors and trailers on the Lower Rochford road. Within our community it's time for reflection, celebration and coming together to enjoy each other's company as we prepare for the mellow fruitfulness of autumn.

## **Choral Evensong**

On Sunday 1st September at 4pm at Rochford church we are very lucky to once again have a Choral Evensong with the TVS choir. Under the enthusiastic directorship of Rochford girl Chloe Kenrick, the talented choir delivers a beautiful service, a really different experience and well worth hearing. All are welcome. The service is followed by time to chat over tea and cake.

## **Neighbourhood lunch**

Dates for sit down and takeaway neighbourhood lunches are 24th September, 29th October and 26th November. Christmas lunch with raffle will be on 17th December. Everyone is welcome. The raffle for a free lunch is being reintroduced. Booking for lunches is essential and takeaways should be collected between 12.30 and 1pm. As food prices are rising the price of lunch is increased to just £7. Please book with Ann on 01584 781317 at least the previous week.

## **Live Music is back!**

Live music with supper is back in Rochford Village Hall. On Saturday 21st September at 7.30 we are pleased to welcome The Scratch Band, who will play a great selection of well-known rock and blues songs from across the decades, including Eddie Cochran, the Stones, the Everly Brothers, the Small Faces, Eric Clapton, Stealers Wheel, Free, the Eagles, the Beatles, Fleetwood Mac and many others. An absolute bargain at just £12.50 to include one of Ann's delicious baked potatoes. Licensed bar applied for. Bring your dancing shoes and enjoy a great evening of popular music. Please book your tickets with Ann or Andrew.

## **Church clean**

We will be cleaning the church and decorating for harvest on Saturday 12th October at 2.30pm. Please come along and help prepare our lovely church for harvest.

## **Harvest Festival and supper**

The church service is on Sunday 13th October at 5pm followed by supper at the village hall at 6.30pm. All are welcome to either or both – if you can't come to the service, just come for supper (just £12). Please book supper with Ann. Any donations of harvest produce and non-perishables (tins, packets etc) will be much appreciated and will be given to Tenbury food bank to support local people in need.

## **Tote Tots**

Tote Tots will be back in Rochford village hall on Friday 6th September from 10.30 to 12 noon. This is a great community activity and we look forward to welcoming tots old and new with mums, dads or grandparents. Please contact Tina on [tinaslord@gmail.com](mailto:tinaslord@gmail.com) if you have a little one who would like to come along.

## **The Big Breakfast**

The Big Breakfast at Rochford is on Saturday 5th October at 9.30 am. All are welcome so come along and enjoy one of Ann's breakfasts, fruit juice, cereal, full English (with vegetarian option), toast, tea and coffee. Please book with Ann to avoid disappointment, we were sold out last year!

## **Dates for your diary**

**Friday November 8th** – Rochford Quiz with fish and chip supper, £12 per person

**Saturday 30th November** – Musical evening in the church with light refreshments, £10

**Sunday 22nd December** – village Christmas lunch followed by carol service.

## **Church flower rota**

Tina Lord, thank you.

## **Contacts**

Ann on 01584 781317

Andrew on 07809 658484 or through the parish WhatsApp group

If you would like to be added to the parish WhatsApp group to keep you up to date with all the village happenings, please send me your mobile number.

*Andrew Barbé*

# Stoke Bliss and Kyre

## Social & Pub Night

Friday 27th September

Bar opens at 7, food served at 8pm

Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

Please book food in advance at SBKVillageHall@gmail.com

The next Social & Pub night will be on  
25th October



Thursday 12th September

Thursday 10th October

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

## Stoke Bliss and Kyre Treasurer

We find ourselves in need of a treasurer for our two lovely historic churches of St Peter, Stoke Bliss and St Mary, Kyre Wyard.

After many years of devoted service Maggie Downes would like to step down and for someone new to take up the role. Maggie has been our treasurer for the past nine years and we will be sad to see her go. However, we take this opportunity to offer her our heartfelt gratitude and thanks for sharing her gifts with us and for her years of loyal service.

So we are looking for someone who can spare a few hours each month to oversee the church accounts and attend quarterly area church committee meetings.

For more information please contact Rev'd Jen on 07749 977821 or at tvscurate@gmail.com.

## Sponsor the front cover

For details of how to sponsor the front cover of TemeTalk email ronsmum@icloud.com

## Village Hall News

A reminder that we return to the usual time for Social & Pub Night in September. This will be on Friday 27th September, with food being served at 8pm and the bar open beforehand at 7pm. You are most welcome to pop in just for a drink (or two) or to have a meal. Please remember to book food in advance at SBKVillageHall@gmail.com.

We hope to hold another quiz night very soon so put Saturday 12th October into your diary and look for more details next month.

## Stoke Bliss and Kyre Churchwarden

We find ourselves in need of a church warden for our two lovely historic churches of St Peter, Stoke Bliss and St Mary, Kyre Wyard. Our previous churchwarden, Jen Jones, has been ordained and this means she can no longer fill this role.

Jen, who lives in Kyre, is still supporting us with the roof and ceiling repairs project for St Peter, Stoke Bliss, by writing grant applications and supporting fundraising events.

So we are looking for someone who can spare a few hours each month with supporting the general running of things – support before and at Sunday worship, baptisms, weddings and funerals, organising general tidying up days, filling in the monthly maintenance log book, attending quarterly area church committee meetings.

For more information please contact Rev'd Jen on 07749 977821 or at tvscurate@gmail.com.



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# Eastham Jottings

## Church flowers and cleaning

September – Alyson Brookes

October – Rhiannon Chapman

Thanks to those who have volunteered for the spare months. There is always room for more!

## 56th Eastham Riverside Fête

Thanks to everyone who helped with the 2024 fête, either providing items to sell, joining in with the Produce Show or supporting in many other ways. We hope that you had a great time, ate too much, found a bargain and won a prize. Hopefully you met up with old friends and had a good chat. Massive thanks to all those who made it happen, far too many to mention but it wouldn't happen without you. Well done on another successful year, see you all again next time.

## Bell ringing

Thanks to the Lilleshall Bellringers who rang a quarter peal on fête day in memory of the Wylde family – Ron, Gordon and Donna. Many thanks to Julie Hartridge for all her arrangements.

## Eastham Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on Wednesday 4th September at 10.30am at Eastham Memorial Hall. Come along and have a cup of coffee, win a raffle prize and have a catch up. The rota is:

### Wednesday 4th September

Ann and Tony Simpson

### Wednesday 2nd October

Macmillan Coffee Morning - joint effort

At our September coffee morning we will be welcoming Air Ambulance who will be receiving a cheque for recent collections. We will also welcome Jacqui Barker of Age UK who will be talking about grants Age UK has available towards energy bills. This funding will run out soon so Jacqui wants an opportunity to bring everyone up to date.

## Autumn cleaning

Please come along on Saturday 19th October for the autumn clean of the churchyard and church interior from 10am to 1pm. Come at any time with gardening tools to tackle the churchyard. All are welcome whatever your skills. The church interior includes finishing the flower arrangements for the Harvest Festival.

Barbecue, tea and cakes throughout. Everyone welcome.

## Pub Night

Eastham Pub Night will be on Friday 20th September at 7pm at Eastham Memorial Hall. Make a date to catch up with others and look out for the usual banner.

*Celia Adams*

## Activities at Eastham Memorial Hall

- Pilates, Tuesdays 1pm and 2.15pm. Contact Sue on 07974 343609, sue579@icloud.com for details or a taster session. New term starts on Tuesday 10th September.
- Yoga, ring Zoe on 07962 981456 or see [www.zedyoga.co.uk](http://www.zedyoga.co.uk). Wednesdays at 10am. New term starts on Wednesday 11th September.
- Zumba Gold, Lucia on 07709 301030, lu.500@live.co.uk. Wednesdays at 12 noon, just turn up.
- Kung Fu, Adam on 07720 643524, for youngsters on Saturdays at 9.30am. Available on request.

## Stop press – all the winners!

The results of this year's Eastham Fête Produce Show and Fun Dog Show are on page 10.

**Marika Harding**  
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# Hanley Happenings

## Dog Show and Summer Barbecue

Many thanks to everyone who attended. The sun was out and everyone really enjoyed themselves. Prizes were kindly donated by Sarah at the Pet Station in Tenbury. The barbecue was by Knightwick Butchers and the bar by Spilsbury's – it was great to see the community supporting the event!

## Macmillan Coffee Day

Come along to the Macmillan coffee day at Tally Ho Cottage on Saturday 28th September from 10am to 4pm. Bric-a-brac table, cake stall and garage sale. Donations welcome.

## Relaxation Evening

The Relaxation Evening is now on 5th September at 6.30pm at Hanley Village Hall. Feeling stressed or want some time to yourself? Lynney is running a relaxation, meditation and sound bath evening to wash your stresses away. Please book direct at [www.sacredsoundandyooga.co.uk](http://www.sacredsoundandyooga.co.uk) or message Lynney on 07748 579887.

## Film Club

Films at Hanley Village Hall will start again in September. Our first film is *A Haunting in Venice*. Please bring food to share. Drinks available to buy.

## Curry and Quiz Night

Will your team win the prize or the wooden spoon? Fun for all the family! Come along to Hanley Village Hall on Saturday 21st September at 6.30pm. Quiz entry £2.50 per person for teams of six or under. Pop-up bar. Pakory Shakory will be serving their delicious curries (takeaway available).

## Race Night

Place your bets on Saturday 5th October at Hanley Village Hall. Will your horse win? Alfie's Kitchen will be serving delicious food (takeaway available). Pop-up bar. Bring plenty of cash for your bets!

*Carole Gardner*



## Art course



**Hanley Village Hall**

on Wednesday evenings in September  
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# Stanford • Stanford • Stanford

Whilst summer was slow to come we were eventually blessed with some lovely hot weather. It was so nice to be outside in the beautiful countryside. Two months after the shortest day, we will soon be approaching autumn! How quickly the time has gone.

## Services in Stanford

### Sunday 1st September

Holy Communion at 10am

### Sunday 6th October

Harvest Festival with choir at 11am followed by

Harvest Lunch at Stanford Village Hall at 12.30pm. Book with Alexandra on 07891 346783.

## Church flowers

Flowers for September will be a joint effort from Kate Harrison and Alexandra Winnington – neither of us is a florist!

## Refreshments

Thanks to Andy Nicol who brought and served tea, coffee and biscuits which gave us a chance toingle after August's communion service.

## St Mary's churchyard

The grass cutting has taken place and there will be a working party to tidy up (see below). Sadly some sheep got in and have broken some vases and eaten foliage and flowers around some of the graves. This matter is being addressed and apologies to those who were affected by it. Please contact Alexandra on 07891 346783 so that we can arrange for the vases to be replaced.

## Community Gathering

Cecelia, Ange and Alexandra would love to see as many of you as can come to the community gathering on 28th September from 6.30 to 8.30 pm at St Mary's church, where we will be serving refreshments. Please ring Cecelia on 07974 227945 or Alexandra on 07891 346783 to let us know you are coming for catering purposes. No tickets required.

## Churchyard Working Party

Saturday 7th September, 10am to 12 noon

Everyone welcome – many hands make light work!

Refreshments provided

Further information from  
Andy Nicol on 07986 156210

## A Profound Secret

*A Profound Secret – Rev'd David Melville, the Shelsleys & the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood*

This event is on 21st September from 10.30am to 4.30pm at All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp. Speakers include Professor Ann McLamon, Master of Hatfield College, Durham University and Dr Serena Trowbridge, Chairman of the Pre-Raphaelite Society. Josceline Dimbleby, author of *A Profound Secret*, talks about her ancestors in a filmed interview. Arts and crafts activities for children, hog roast, waffle van, prosecco tent, coffee and tea and outdoor games. Adults £10, children £4. Contact Alexandra Winnington, 07891 346783 or alexandra.winnington@gmail.com.

## News from Mill Farm Country Retail

The Den at Mill Farm has increased its opening hours. The new times are Tuesday to Saturday from 9.30am to 4pm and Sunday from 10am to 1pm. The kitchen closes 30 minutes before closing time, and the Den is closed on Mondays.

Alexandra Winnington

# ARTANNA

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## Deadline 18th September

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.

# Eastham Fête, 18th August 2024

## Produce and Handicraft Show Winners

### Perpetual Awards

<b>Eastham Parish Cup</b> – for the most points in Class A	Tina Lord
<b>C Buckingham-Bawden</b> – for the winner in Class A Nos 1-5	Tina Lord
<b>Lilly Lanman Memorial Rose Bowl</b> – for the best display of roses in Class A No 11	Not awarded
<b>Miss F Morris Cup</b> – for the most points in Class B	Anna Fletcher
<b>Eastham Men's Club Cup</b> – for the most points in Class C	Colin Lord
<b>George Hipkiss Memorial Cup</b> – for the most points in the bean classes Nos 24, 25, 45	Andrew Barbé
<b>Mr B Leason Memorial Cup</b> – for the most points in the onion classes Nos 38, 40, 46	Colin Lord
<b>Mr Moseley Cup</b> – for the most points in Class D	Barbara Wylde
<b>Eastham Parish Cup</b> – for the most points in Class E	Celia Dean
<b>Molly Yarnold Cup</b> – for the most points in Class F, children 6-10 years old	To be confirmed
<b>Nora Edwards Memorial Cup</b> – for the best exhibit in show	Mrs Worsley
<b>Mr C Norman MBE Memorial Cup</b> – for the best container of sweet peas, Class A No 7	Anna Fletcher
<b>Mr &amp; Mrs Downes Cup</b> – for the heaviest crop of potatoes in the children's competition	Not awarded

### Fun Dog Show Winners

<b>Best in Show – Champion</b>	<b>Finn</b>
<b>Best in Show – Reserve</b>	<b>Lily</b>
<b>Cutest puppy</b>	<b>Amber</b>
<b>Prettiest bitch</b>	<b>Frankie</b>
<b>Most handsome dog</b>	<b>Finn</b>
<b>Most obedient dog</b>	<b>Finn</b>
<b>Golden oldie (over 9 years)</b>	<b>Buster</b>
<b>Best cross breed</b>	<b>Desmo</b>
<b>Best retriever</b>	<b>Lily</b>
<b>Best young handler (under 14)</b>	<b>Bailey</b>

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## Where leopards tread – sketchbook explorations in Africa

Local artist Shelly Perkins has just returned from the most incredible ten days in South Luangwa National Park. For some this will be an unheard of destination but for all safari enthusiasts it is a name that sends a frisson of excitement down the spine. Shelly writes ...

“This location isn’t known as the valley of the leopard for nothing, it is home to what some say is the highest naturally occurring population of leopard on the planet. I was fortunate to be leading a painting safari to this untouched corner of Africa and as always its reputation didn’t disappoint. On our first morning we followed a young female leopard on her morning patrols. We followed her for about half an hour as she went about her scent marking and boundary checks, stopping for her morning fresh ablutions along the way – if you haven’t smelt fresh leopard poo then honestly you haven’t lived!



“With near daily sightings of these enigmatic big cats we were spoiled and it was no surprise that our sketchbooks were filling with spotty creatures as well as exotic birds, mighty elephants and evocative African landscape scenes. As always I left a piece of my heart on that great continent and until my return I shall have to be content with my sketchbook and photographic memories of one of my favourite places on earth.”



If you’d like to see what Shelly gets up to on her adventures she’ll have her African sketchbooks and photography as well as a whole host of art-work from other destinations, both near and far, at her open studio in Hanley Broadheath for Herefordshire art week. She’ll be joined by the silver jeweller Sarah Kinnersley at her home as they open their doors for the nine days of the event from **7th to 15th September**. Refreshments will be offered each day from 11am to 5pm.

New for this year, Lynette Merrick of Upper Sapey will be opening her studio and showcasing her sculpture work, as will Melanie Williams of Eastham with her dynamic paintings. The mother/daughter duo Willow With Roots will also be showing their work on the Netherwood Estate.

You can find them all by following the pink signs which will be seen throughout the villages directing guests to their doors! No booking is necessary, don’t be shy, come and say hello and join them for a cuppa! They all look forward to welcoming you to view their work.

To find out more visit [www.h-art.org.uk](http://www.h-art.org.uk) or call



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## The Arts Society Teme Valley

If you are new to the area and/or newly retired and wondering how to connect to the benefits of living in the middle of nowhere, I offer you my sympathy. This used to be me. My husband joined a male investment club. One of the wives mentioned lectures from the Arts Society. My ears pricked up.

The monthly lectures are on any arts related topic. They are given by knowledgeable and enthusiastic people so they are entertaining as well as informative. They are in Ludlow Assembly rooms on the third Wednesday of the month from September to June. The lecture starts at 2.15pm and refreshments afterwards lead to easy conversational opportunities with congenial people.

The Arts Society Teme Valley leaflet for the season 2024-2025 contains quotations from members. "Stimulating lectures, you never know what you may learn. A great way to make new friends" and "You always have excellent speakers. I have always enjoyed every lecture".

Annual membership is £50 or £95 for couples. Visitors are welcome paying £8 on the door. Members receive the excellent quarterly Arts Society magazine. The Arts Society is a national organisation of which Arts Society Teme Valley is a member.

For more information look at [www.theartsocietytemevalley.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietytemevalley.org.uk) or telephone 07801178846.

*Ann Marriott*

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## What's on at The Regal in September

### Broadcast

Tuesday 10th 7.00pm The Marriage of Figaro:  
The Royal Opera  
Friday 13th 7.00pm Prima Facie:  
National Theatre Live

### Films

Thursday 12th 7.00pm The Shawshank  
Redemption (15)  
Friday 20th 7.00pm Beetlejuice Beetlejuice  
**Live**  
Saturday 14th 7.30pm King Pleasure and the  
Biscuit Band  
Saturday 21st 7.00pm The Killerz  
Friday 27th 7.30pm Lionel: The Music of  
Lionel Richie  
Saturday 28th 7.30pm Counterfeit 70s

### Workshops

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# Coast to Coast

Michael Gardner from Hanley Broadheath, his son Adam, his grandson Alex and Percy the giant golden retriever are walking the Coast to Coast Path from St Bees in Cumbria to Robin Hoods Bay in North Yorkshire, raising funds for a mental health charity. This is their story ...

*Tuesday 13th August, 7am:* And so the adventure begins. True to form the Gardner gang running late, having great difficulty in getting out of bed! Car all packed, Percy raring to go, first stop St Bees. Hoping to arrive at Ennerdale Bridge in under eight hours,

What a day, torrential rain and a gale force wind resulting in a surfeit of bad language! Percy loved it.

*Day 2:* a full English and a much more positive outlook, Percy liked the hotel and wanted to stay! A long but enjoyable section, wonderful views of the Lake District. Today the weather was kind and despite an intermittent phone signal good navigation saw them negotiate Honister Pass and arrive at the Royal Oak in time for a pint. Made good time to the end of the day and a hot shower at the Troutbeck Inn

*Day 3:* Rosthwaite to Patterdale, the longest section of the trip. Sadly this had to be postponed due to thick mist, torrential downpours and high winds. It would have been dangerous so they deferred for a day meaning a later arrival home but

they occupied themselves with a visit to the Lakes motor museum and a local hostelry!

*Day 4:* A glorious day for walking so off they go. Percy blots his copybook at one of the many charitable kiosks on the route where cakes and drinks are provided for walkers. He noticed it as they walked past, obviously thought about it, then turned around, cleared a three foot wall and stole a cake before he could be stopped. By the time Michael had him under control the cake was almost gone. Payment has been made and Percy has been penalised!

*Day 5:* Finished with no major episodes.

£988 raised, well done the Gardner boys!

Carole Gardner



Three happy boys (Michael, Alex and Adam) at the end of the walk - but where's Percy?

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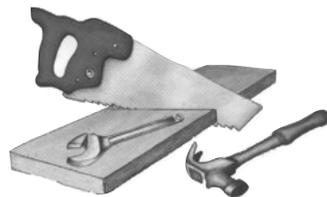
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\*programme as of 12/08/2024



BROADCAST



**The Royal Opera: The Marriage of Figaro, Tue 10 Sep, 6.30pm**

THROWBACK THURSDAYS



**The Shawshank Redemption (15), Thu 12 Sep, 7pm**

BROADCAST



**National Theatre Live: Prima Facie, Fri 13 Sep, 7pm**

LIVE MUSIC



**King Pleasure and the Biscuit Boys, Sat 14 Sep, 7.30pm**

FILM



**Beetlejuice Beetlejuice (Age tbc), 20, 23, 24, 26 Sep, 7pm**

LIVE MUSIC



**The Killers, Sat 21 Sep, 7pm**

LIVE MUSIC



**Lionel: The Music of Lionel Richie, Fri 27 Sep, 7.30pm**

LIVE MUSIC



**Counterfeit 70s, Sat 28 Sep, 7.30pm**

LIVE SHOW



**Jenny 'The Vixen' Ryan: Out Of The Box, Sat 5 Oct, 7.30pm**

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# Surely some mistake?

Our son in America sent his dad a birthday card via Moonpig. Instead of "Dear Dad" the dedication, which he had written himself, read "Dear Dad, have a lovely day".

I think he was much more upset about it than his dad was!

On the same day we went car shopping to a dealer in Leominster. Waiting for the salesman we spotted a very nicely typed and framed sign offering, among other things, "Unlimited puncher repairs".

SG

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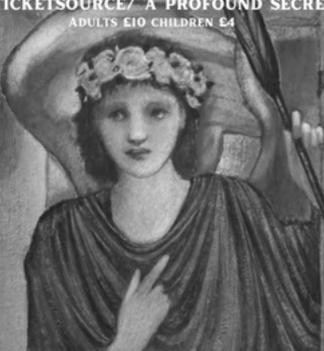
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Stanford History Group meets on Monday evenings in autumn at Sapey Village Hall.

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Do come and join us – there's coffee, biscuits and discussion too! We start on 30th September at 7.30pm, £60 for the ten lecture course or £10 per lecture, all payable at the door.

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## A special treat for a special lady

This is the story of a very special treat for a very special Rochford lady, Jean Harrison, and her two lucky assistants, Jenny and me. It all started at last year's Rochford Christmas lunch when Jean sat next to Jenny's cousin Paul Spensley and the conversation turned to their shared love of music, Jean having been a longstanding performer with Tenbury Operatic Society. Paul asked her if she had ever been to Glyndebourne. She said "no", but it was something she would love to have done. And so Paul secured tickets for the three of us to see Carmen at Glyndebourne on 5th August.

Tickets arrived with the instructions to wear 'flouncy and bouncy'. Luckily it was a beautiful day and after a good journey we arrived at Glyndebourne, changed into our glad rags and headed to one of the picnic marquees. Paul had booked a table in case the weather was unkind. He and his family arrived and snacks were unpacked along with various bottles: olives, cheese, biscuits, grapes, crab canapés were magicked out of hamper and cold boxes. Our box of Pringles didn't



*Paul Spensley (in white jacket) with his family and (left to right) Jenny, Jane and Jean*

quite make the grade! The bell rang and we strolled through the beautiful gardens. The sights were amazing and so were the outfits, all the men in dinner jackets and the women in beautiful dresses.

The theatre is huge but very light and modern and our seats were excellent. In the box behind us was a family of several children and two adults. It was Jacob Rees-Mogg and his brood, the boys all in dinner jackets.

So Carmen began, a magnificent modern production. It was wonderful to see how much it meant to Jean. After an hour there was a short interval and we went back outside. Who should be close by but Dame Harriet Baldwin, and of course Jean introduced herself! They had a pleasant conversation – Dame Harriet was quite surprised to see people from Rochford.

At the next interval it was picnic time. Fantastic picnics appeared and champagne corks popped. Our picnic was slightly different and reduced Jenny and me to hysterical giggles.

We returned to the theatre for the last part of the performance. It really was a stunning production, everything about it was mesmerising including the group of children in the cast. Will they be the next generation of magnificent opera singers?

Jenny and I were so lucky to be included in this very special experience and we can never thank Paul enough. It was wonderful to hear Jean's parting remark to Paul: "I can't thank you enough, it's been one of the best days of my life". Quite something from a 94 year old!

*Jane Bull*



*Richard Haines*



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# Teme Valley Wildlife

Ideas for these articles are often sparked by wildlife encountered in my garden or on walks around the county. This month I shall include some garden beetles and a flower I noticed on a Worcestershire ramble. I am not an expert on insects, so when I was intrigued when I saw a large brown beetle sitting on the side of my wooden summerhouse. It was three centimetres long and sported a further two centimetres of antennae, making five centimetres in all. So it was not difficult to spot and, yes, I used a ruler.

A quick photo and expert identification from my more knowledgeable TVWG colleagues confirmed it to be a variable longhorn beetle – named for variability in its colour. More importantly, it was unlikely to start boring holes in my summerhouse so my mind was put at rest. Such beetles are common across Europe and feed on elm, oak and maple. They are ungainly fliers and are frequently found sitting on shrubs along woodland edges. They are on the wing between May and July and



*Tansy-leaved phacelia*

their larvae develop in the wood of diseased deciduous trees.

Not content with one type of longhorn beetle, I soon spotted a second. Perhaps the dearth of butterflies and bees this year has made them more noticeable. The second insect was much smaller and considerably less intimidating, although it did come in the warning colours of black and yellow. Unimaginatively

named, yes, you guessed it, the black-and-yellow longhorn beetle, this rather handsome creature was foraging on the flowers of my garden Astrantia. Nearby were lots of much smaller soldier beetles in reddish-brown so this striped variety really stood out. Beetles often visit flowers, but they are not particularly helpful as pollinators because they tend to trample about and can do more harm than good.

Flowers helpful to pollinators are greatly valued these days and my next sighting was of a flower found blooming in a pollinator-attracting

*Continued on page 24*



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Continued from page 23

field edge strip which had been deliberately sown between a crop and a footpath. Farmers have been encouraged to put them in, and the one I spotted was a sea of colour. Purple knapweed, white oxeye daisies and yellow meadow rue had grown quite tall and in amongst them I spotted a mauve softly hairy plant. Stumped for a name, I checked later

and found it to be tansy-leaved phacelia, also called scorpionweed, and to hail from Mexico. It flowers from May to September and is included in pollinator seed-mixes because it produces abundant nectar and pollen. It can also be used as a cover crop or a green manure.

It seems a little odd to add non-native wild-flower seeds to the mixes designed to attract native pollinators, even though we plant non-native plants in our gardens for the same purpose. Scorpionweed has been grown in the UK since 1832, but would it be better to grow true native seeds so that they might spread and recolonise areas from which they have been lost? What do you think?

The next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group is at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th September at Stoke Bliss and Kyre village hall. We welcome James Hitchcock whose talk is about the nature reserves of Radnorshire Wildlife Trust. Everyone is most welcome and it is just £3 on the door.

*Stephanie Mcroft*

*For up-to-date information on wildlife seen in our area, or to give sightings or comments please visit our Facebook page. Our programme of events, bird survey and archive photographs are set out at the website [www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk](http://www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk) We normally hold meetings on the second Thursday of the month. A warm welcome awaits. Contact us by email at [twwg@outlook.com](mailto:twwg@outlook.com)*

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# What's on in Teme Valley South

## September

- 4th Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am  
5th Thursday Relaxation Evening, Hanley Village Hall, 6.30pm  
7th Saturday Churchyard working party, st Mary's, Stanford, 10am  
Film Night at Hanley Village Hall, *A Haunting in Venice*, 7pm  
12th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm  
21st Saturday Live music with the Scratch Band, Rochford Village Hall, 7.30pm  
Curry and Quiz Night, Hanley Village Hall, 6.30pm  
*A Profound Secret – Rev'd David Melville, the Shelsleys & the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood*, All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp, 10.30am  
Stoke Bliss Ploughing Match, Grain Farm, Linley Green, 10am  
24th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm  
27th Friday Social & Pub Night, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 7pm  
28th Saturday Macmillan Coffee Day, Tally Ho Cottage, Hanley, 10am  
Community Gathering, St Mary's Church, Stanford, 6.30pm

## October

- 2nd Wednesday Eastham Macmillan Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am  
5th Saturday The Big Breakfast, Rochford Village Hall, 9.30am  
Race Night, Hanley Village Hall, 6.30pm  
6th Sunday Harvest service, St Mary's Stanford, 11am followed by lunch at 12.30  
10th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm  
12th Saturday Church clean, Rochford church, 2.30pm  
13th Sunday Harvest Festival, Rochford Church, 5pm, followed by supper at 6.30pm  
19th Saturday Autumn clean, Eastham church and churchyard, 10am  
26th Friday Film Night at Hanley Village Hall  
29th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

## November

- 6th Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am  
8th Friday Rochford Quiz with fish and chip supper, Rochford Village Hall  
14th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm  
26th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm  
30th Saturday Musical evening in Rochford church

**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)**

**Deadline for the October issue of TemeTalk is 18th September**

# Services

## September/October 2024

Daily prayer continues at 9am and 7pm on Zoom, contact Rev 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 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 1st September

10.00am	Stanford	Holy Communion with Hymns
4.00pm	Rochford	Choral Evensong

#### Sunday 8th September

10.00am	Hanley William	Holy Communion
4.00pm	Hanley Village Hall	Iona Harvest Service

#### Sunday 15th September

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

#### Sunday 22nd September

10.00am	Rochford	All Age Worship and Holy Communion
4.00pm	Kyre	Celtic Evening Prayer

#### Sunday 29th September

9.30am	Hanley Village Hall	Café Church
4.00pm	Worcester Cathedral	Farewell Service for Bishop John

#### Sunday 6th October

8.30am	Stanford	Said Holy Communion
11.00am	Stanford	Harvest Festival Service and Lunch
6.30pm	Worcester Cathedral	Diocesan Harvest Service



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