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June 2024



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TemeTalk

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A community going forward with God

July 2024

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

Designed and typeset by
Sandra Griffiths
Telephone 01568 750665
ronsmum@icloud.com

Printed by
Orphans Press, Leominster

Editor:

Sandra Griffiths
Grey Gables, St Michaels
Tenbury Wells WR15 8TW
Telephone 07482 482629
ronsmum@icloud.com

Distribution:

Alison and Keith Tompsett
(Stoke Bliss & Kyre)
Averil Opperman
(The Hanleys, Eastham and Rochford)
Sue Softly (Stanford)

Priest-in-charge

Rev'd Julia Curtis
Telephone 01886 853286
revjuliacurtis@gmail.com

Parish website

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

I have just had a week off and spent it at home, a 'staycation'. As I spent the days enjoying working and relaxing in the garden, I got to thinking about how much warmer it was this time last year and the holiday season that is ahead of us.

Our summer holidays and winter ones too take us off to far flung places in search of new adventures, quaint places, relaxing views and perhaps the opportunity to share in local customs. We plan and research and having decided on the destination we do a little itinerary of what we want to do and see, what to pack, the books to read and maybe even a map. We head off searching for something that will delight and sustain us until our next holiday.

Our journey of faith can be like that. We plan and think we know where we are headed. We set out seeking to find what will sustain and fulfil us. We think we know where we are going but then God opens our eyes and we begin to see things differently. We discover something amazing, something that jolts and surprises us.

This is what happened to me; I was pootling along working in wildlife conservation and looking forward to retirement. Then five years ago I got confirmed. During Covid lockdowns, I spent a year doing the Bishops' certificate course. I thought that was probably enough for any new Christian to cope with. However, it turned out that God's plan was a little different to mine.

The next stage on the journey saw me on discernment for Licensed Lay Ministry (Reader) training. One year into this and I get another diversion on the journey as Worcester Diocese launches its 'Auxiliary Pathway to Ordination'.

What an adventure! One never quite knows where the path of life will lead us. So as you set off on your holidays this year, may it be a fulfilling and sustaining time and may you be blessed to see God in action in the world and in your lives.

Rev'd Jen Jones

This month's cover picture is of donkeys at last year's Eastham Fête
Photograph by Sandra Griffiths

TemeTalk deadline 18th July



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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

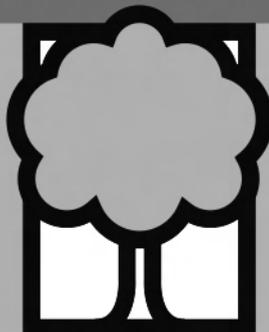
Eastham – Helen Matravers, 07580 158673

Hanley – Judy Bayliss, 01886 853813

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Parish news

From the Registers

Baptisms

We welcome to our church family **Thomas William Adams** and **Hayden Michael Gilbert** whose christenings were held on 19th May at St Peter and St Paul church, Eastham.

Marriage

Congratulations to **Stennard and Kate Harrison** who were married at St Mary's, Stanford on Saturday 25th May.

We wish them every happiness and a long and happy marriage.

Deanery service

The Summer United Deanery Service of Holy Communion will be at Hartlebury Castle on Sunday 7th July at 10am. The service will be held outdoors (with the Great Hall reserved in case of wet weather) so remember to bring your own chairs. The main celebrant will be Archdeacon Mark Badger, together with our two newest priests in the Deanery, Rev'd Jen Jones and Rev'd James Homer. Jen and James are due to be ordained at Worcester Cathedral on Saturday 29th June.

There is free parking on site and the Castle will be open for toilet facilities. Afterwards, if you wish to stay, you can picnic in the grounds or make use of the refreshment facilities at Hayley's Kitchen. If you plan to stay for lunch please book ahead separately with the Kitchen restaurant. If you can't be present in person we hope to be able to livestream the service on our facebook page.

The collection on the day has a children's theme and will be for Acorns Children's Hospice and UNICEF.

Teme Valley Tots

The group meets weekly in Rochford Village Hall on Fridays from 10.30am to 12 noon. Our last meeting will be on 19th July and then we will take a break for the summer. It is with a mixture of sadness and pride that we wave goodbye to those of our group who will be heading off to full time nursery or school in September. It has been a delight to watch you grow and develop in your time with the group.

Iona inspired services

There will be no service in July – with lots of wonderful local events to support. The steering group will meet on 23rd July and are planning for more services later this year. Details to follow.

Annual churchwardens' admission service

Our churchwardens, Edward, Celia, Ann and Alexandra, will be admitted to their office for the year by Archdeacon Mark at Great Malvern Priory on Thursday 11th July at 7.30pm. You are most welcome to go along and support them. We wish them many blessings as they serve our communities and God's Church in the coming weeks and months.

Rev'd Julia

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Rochford 49 Club

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

Wednesday winners

22nd May	No 13	Sheila Palmer
29th May	No 4	Alison Champion
5th June	No 28	Not sold
12th June	No 5	Not sold

Saturday winners

25th May	No 13	Robin Dean
1st June	No 9	Not sold
8th June	No 59	Not sold
15th June	No 22	Gill Smith

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 August issue is 18th July

Teme Valley Tote

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

£50 – **Lily-Anna Hjihouse** of Lindridge (No 173)
£30 – **Rosemary Brookes** of Stanford (No 598)
£20 – **David Evington** of Stanford (No 462)

You can still take part in this year's series of monthly draws if you contact Robin Dean on 01886 853295 or email robin.c.dean@gmail.com.

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Rochford News

Rochford Garden Party

The Rochford Garden Party in the beautiful garden at Rochford House was a great afternoon. Very special thanks to our hosts Simon and Victoria Thornley and to Ann for all her work in preparing a wonderful afternoon tea. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event and all those who helped to make the afternoon so enjoyable.

Rochford Fête

Rochford fête, flower festival and fun dog show will be held on Sunday 14th July. The flower festival will be in the church and the fête will be held 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.

This is a quintessential village event with stalls and games, cream teas, a cake stall, grand draw, tombola and, to end the day, a duck race down the river.

It is always an enjoyable afternoon with a range of stalls and competitions 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.

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

Live music is back!

Live music with supper is back in Rochford village hall on 21st September. We are pleased to have another local covers band with a wide repertoire of well-known songs from across the decades. Get the date in your diary.



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Neighbourhood lunch

Dates for sit down and takeaway neighbourhood lunches are 25th June, 30th July, 27th August, 24th September, 29th October and 26th November. Everyone is welcome. 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.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 5th October – the ever popular Big Breakfast

Sunday 13th October – Harvest Festival: church service at 5pm and harvest supper at 6.30pm

Friday November 8th – Rochford Quiz

Saturday 30th November – Musical evening

Church flower rota

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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Friday 26th July

Friday 30th August

Bar opens at 7, supper served at 8pm

Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

Supper £5 (optional), dessert £2.50 (optional)

Reserve your meal with Julia on

sbkvilleagehall@gmail.com or 01885 410368



The next neighbourhood lunch will be on

Thursday 11th July

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Eastham Jottings

Church flowers and cleaning

July – Judith Hobson
August – Mel Cumming

Eastham Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 3rd July at 10.30am at Eastham Memorial Hall. Come along and have a cup of coffee, win a raffle prize and have a catch up. There is no special activity for July – we are having a rest. For August we will be collecting goodies for the fête – bottles for the tombola and anything else in advance.

Wednesday 3rd July – Stella and Tony Wood

Bingo

Thanks to everyone who came, helped and donated at the Bingo Night on 8th June. Over £460 was sent to Birmingham Children's Hospital, a great result.

New pictures for the Memorial Hall

Entries are invited for pictures of Eastham to be judged in the summer with the winners being made into canvasses to decorate the hall. Get snapping. More to follow.

Race Night

Come along to Eastham Memorial Hall on Saturday 6th July at 6 for 6.30pm and support a night at the races. The races will run on the big screen – just like being at Ludlow or Worcester but a lot cheaper! Good fun in convivial surroundings. Snacks and a cash bar. Contact Tammy on 07747 638976 by phone or text to book a place. Proceeds to Eastham Memorial Hall.

Sidney Michael Wyse



We would like to introduce Sidney Michael Wyse to Eastham. Sidney was born on 24th May 2024 at 00.17 weighing 7lb 6oz. Mother and baby are doing well, and big sister Caitlin is very proud. Although she wanted a sister she wouldn't change Sidney for the world now.

Michael Wyse, Kirsty Mebrius & Caitlin Wyse

The bells are ringing ...



The Eastham church bells were rung on 6th June, the 80th anniversary of D-Day. Hearty thanks to the ringers, Julie Hartridge, David Jenkins, Paul Bradley, Ian Matravers and Matty Matravers. Over 40 people enjoyed a drop of bubbly and cucumber sandwiches, listened to the bells and remembered the anniversary.

A 20-year old Jim Froggatt explains his part on the day on page 174 of the Eastham Millenium book – he would have been 100 on 15th April.

The next bell ringing at Eastham will be on 18th August at around midday when the Lilleshall Bell-ringers will ring a quarter peal (roughly 45 minutes) in memory of the Wyld family – Ron, Gordon and Donna. Thanks to Julie Hartridge.

Pub Night

Eastham Pub Night will be on Friday 19th July at 7pm at Eastham Memorial Hall. Make a date to catch up with others and get updates on the fête. Watch out for the usual banner.

Fête, Produce Show and raffle

You should have your produce show schedule by now. If not, or to find out about helping or donating, please contact us on easthamfete@gmail.com.

The raffle for cash prizes 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 from and return books and takings to Celia Adams (01584 781258) – plenty to sell, make sure you have your quota.

Storage area extension

Work starts during July on the extension at the Memorial Hall. All activities will continue as usual and as booked whilst the work proceeds.

Celia Adams

Hanley Happenings

Open Gardens

Hanley Open Gardens has sadly been cancelled but will be back in June next year!

Charity Plant Sale

Margie Thornycroft would like to thank everyone who helped with the plant sale which raised £670 for Cure Leukaemia. Special thanks must go to Anna and David Fletcher for opening their gorgeous garden.

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 when you want to play. You never know, we may have tennis weather soon!



Art course

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D-Day Anniversary

Thanks to committee members and handymen for making the hall look so welcoming. (Did anyone spot the new windows?) The newly acquired field was well prepared and provided car parking space and plenty of room for the children to chase around and the dogs to greet each other. I'm particularly pleased that not one bit of rubbish was left.

The fish & chips didn't disappoint, not forgetting the mushy peas! You really missed a treat if you weren't there. The bar was well stocked with Spilsbury beer and cider and Sarah had clearly been busy baking!

The celebrations culminated with the lighting of a beacon, timed to partner with many others around the country. Many thanks to Jason and Ed Yarnold for giving permission to hold the event on their farm.

Art class

The woodland bluebell theme of the recent art class was a big success enjoyed by everyone who attended. Jim's amazing work was on display at the D-Day Anniversary too.

Songs of Praise and Strawberry Teas

On Sunday 28th July at 4pm at Hanley Childe church. Please join us at our beautiful church for songs of praise and scones with strawberries and cream – and bring the children too!

Save the date!

10th August – Dog Show and Summer Family Barbecue

30th August – Relaxation evening

28th September – Macmillan coffee day at Tally Ho Cottage, 10am to 4pm.

Bric-a-brac table and garage sale. Donations welcome.

Carole Gardner

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.

Stanford • Stanford • Stanford

Services in Stanford

Sunday 7th July

Deanery combined communion and hymns at Hartlebury Castle at 10am
Choral Evensong at 4pm

Sunday 4th August

Holy Communion at 10am

Church flowers

July – Neenie Tangye

August – Sarah Burgoyne

Church cleaning

Thanks to Helen Nicol for cleaning and dynamic duo Kate and Pauline who blitzed the church before the June wedding! Thanks also to Andy and Tom Blogg for tidying up the front area and car park.

Relishing Rurals

Our evensong service on 2nd June was blessed with our special Teme Valley Churches choir conducted by Chloe Kenrick. They look forward to singing more beautiful choral works accompanied by the organ. We were served a lovely tea with refreshments by Andy Nicol, and Alexandra helped with some cakes too.

Coronation Orchard

We are in the latter stages of designing the format of the reference board for the Coronation Orchard. If you require a name change from the one given at the time of purchasing your tree please contact David Smith at david@dandjsmith.co.uk by 4th July.

Churchwarden

At the Area Church Committee AGM on 2nd May, Robin Dean stepped down as churchwarden after many successful years. We wish him a happy retirement from this role and we know he will continue to be very active across the parish.

Alexandra Winnington was approved as the new churchwarden.

Churchyard Working Party

Saturday 7th September, 10am to 12 noon

Everyone welcome – many hands make light work!

Refreshments provided

Further information from

Alexandra Nicol on 07986 156210

Wedding bells



On Saturday 25th May the wedding took place at St Mary's church of Stennard Harrison and Kate Walton. It was a lovely day. Rev'd Julia Curtis officiated and the church was beautifully decorated with lovely flowers. There was fabulous singing by the Teme Valley Churches Choir led by Chloe Kenrick and accompanied by Milada on the organ. The bells could be heard courtesy of the Martley Bell Ringers which added to this lovely occasion. The sun shone on the happy couple and we wish them every happiness for their future.

Dates for your diary

21st September: *A Profound Secret – Rev'd David Melville, the Shelsleys & the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood.* Interesting talks, arts and crafts activities for children and refreshments from 10.30am to 4.30pm and an evening talk at Harborough Bank.

28th September: Community Gathering from 6.30 to 8.30 pm at St Mary's church.

6th October: Harvest Service at 11am at St Mary's Harvest Lunch at 12.30am at Stanford Village Hall – please contact Alexandra Winnington to book on 07891 346783.

Tenbury Food Bank

Please keep your donations coming to the box in the lobby.

Hello

Just a few words from your new churchwarden. My first week was a busy one, assisting with the holy communion service, the Ascension Day service on 9th May and the Thy Kingdom Come service on 11th May. I learnt a lot about my new role in a week! I hope to hear from you about new ideas and anything you would like to see happening in Stanford.

Alexandra Winnington

Harvey Merrick

Harvey died on 5th April. He was born at Powke House, Stoke Bliss in February 1940 and attended Kyre School. In 1950 his parents moved to Upper Villa in Hanley Childe, and soon afterwards Harvey was taken very ill and admitted to Birmingham Children's Hospital where doctors decided to remove his spleen. He slowly got better although he had a year off school. He returned to Tenbury Secondary School and stayed on for an extra year to catch up.

When he left school he worked for Dan Slater and then for Mr Barber at Underley Farm. As a keen churchgoer he soon took on the role of Sunday School teacher and would help at services if a vicar was not available.

He was a keen collector. Initially he collected coins and then when rock'n'roll came on the scene

he collected a lot of records and managed to get a ticket to see The Beatles at The Bridge in Tenbury.

When his father died he worked part time at his job and farmed at Upper Villa.

With passing time his mother's health deteriorated so they moved into Tenbury. Following his mother's death he retired but kept his hand in at Mawley Town farm until he was attacked by a bull which led to his full retirement.

His help at the village hall and at garden fêtes was invaluable, he just quietly got on with what was needed.

An episode of shingles left him partially disabled and needing home care. At the beginning of April he became very ill and died shortly afterwards.

Ed Yarnold



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Put the date in your diary
NOW for the

56th Eastham Fête and Flower Show

on Sunday 18th 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 18th August, 12 noon to 5pm

On the trains at Kyre

in aid of the St Michael's Hospice Conquer the Camino Campaign 2024



Audrey Thacker from Wolferlow is helping to raise money for this year's St Michael's Hospice Conquer the Camino Campaign. On 11th May she held a Train Day at The Hyde in Stoke Bliss. Here's Audrey's story:

We had a the most perfect afternoon on the little trains at Kyre, in glorious sunshine with apple blossoms at their best. It really was a beautiful day. Very grateful thanks to the Darnley family for allowing me to have this opportunity, to all the railway boys for all the hard work they put in to make the day possible, to my friends for making cakes and helping with the teas, a very good tombola

and book stall – well done everyone. For all who came along to support us, I hope you had a lovely time and thank you for giving so generously. We made £1,088, truly an amazing amount.

Another successful fundraiser was Norman Wanstall's Oscar Talk which Tina Edwards kindly held at her home. It's always a treat to listen to Norman reminiscing about his fascinating career on the James Bond films. He won

the first Oscar for a James Bond film at the 1964 Academy Awards in the category of Best Sound Editing for the film Goldfinger. His talk raised a further £150.

In October I'm joining 19 fellow trekkers on the final 100km of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela (the way of St James) in northern Spain. So far this year's campaign has raised a total of £31,616. If you would like to track how well we continue to do, please visit the St Michael's Just Giving page, <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/caminoway24>.

Audrey Thacker

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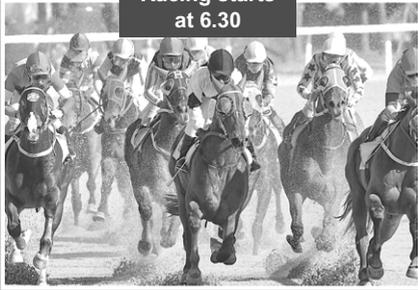
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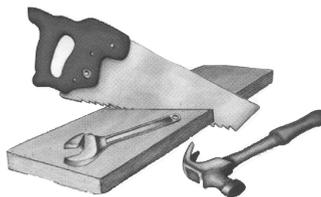
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A perfect day for perfect gardens



Roses – roses were everywhere, bright white ones, decadent red ones, full blown deep orange ones – and hollyhocks, foxgloves, dahlias, every kind of cottage garden plant you can imagine in every

colour, bursting exuberantly out of beds and shrubberies, dropping their petals on manicured lawns and wild flower meadows. Magic woodland walks, hidden burbling streams, ponds, shady bowers to sit and admire the view, views over the beautiful Teme valley – and, most amazing after so much rain, glorious warm sunshine all day.

Stoke Bliss Open Gardens on 16th June was a perfect day and the four gardens were an inspiration. It was good to see so many people visiting them and enjoying them during the afternoon – many thanks to the hosts who had worked so hard to make their gardens stunningly beautiful.

Very many thanks too to everyone who helped in the organisation, who made posters and flyers, planned the tickets, made delicious cakes and scones and endless pots of tea, sold plants – and of course to everyone who came to support the event.

The final total was a magnificent £823 which will be shared between the village hall and local churches.



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<p>LIVE MUSIC Miles Hunt (from <i>The Wonder Stuff</i>) Fri 5 Jul, 8pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">24 - 27 JULY 2024</p> <h3 style="text-align: center;">REGAL FAMILY THEATRE FESTIVAL</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Four days of thrilling live shows and interactive workshops for kids and families of all ages!</p>	<p>WORKSHOP SeedHeart Thu 25 Jul, 12.30pm</p>
<p>LIVE MUSIC Beach Boyz Tribute Band Thu 11 Jul, 7.30pm</p>	<p>WORKSHOP The Paper Puppets Wed 24 Jul, 11am & 2pm</p>	<p>Vamos Mask Workshop Fri 26 Jul, 11am & 2pm</p>
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Ludlow Rotary Club Fun Dog Day

At 10am on Sunday 28th July the gates of Stokesay Court will open for a fun-packed day for dogs and their owners and admirers at the start of another Ludlow Dog Day. For the event's tenth anniversary year, Ludlow Rotary Club will be welcoming back inspirational displays and helpful training tutorials which dog owners can try at home as well as holding a wide range of fun dog competitions and activities.



past favourites such as the *Paws for Thought Display Team* and *Bliss Gate Dog Obedience Team* alongside *All Positive Dog Services* with hoopers, loose lead and learn a trick and scenting training.

As well as the doggy events, there will be plenty of stalls to enjoy, selling dog and country related goods or pampering to human needs such as food stalls, the drinks bar and the popular tea tent.

Held in the beautiful grounds of Stokesay Court, approximately six miles north of Ludlow and just off the A49, the day is all about fun for the whole family, particularly our furry friends. Dogs can take part in over 21 competitions, from the scruffiest mutt and waggiest tail to the cutest puppy.

There are *have-a-go* events including dog agility, flyball, and hoopers, while gun dogs will be able to demonstrate their ability to retrieve ... or not!

Demonstrations throughout the day include

Money raised in past years has enabled Ludlow Rotary to distribute over £140,000 amongst a wide range of charities and community organisations. The club plans to use this year's event to support Ludlow Rotary Cares, the club's community grants scheme, as well as other deserving causes.

For more information on this opportunity to enjoy a wonderful day in a glorious setting while supporting numerous community and charitable needs, see www.ludlowdogday.org.uk.



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Stanford History Group presents The History of Some Interesting Things

A warm welcome awaits you at the Stanford History Group which meets on Monday evenings in autumn for two hours 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 over 48 people attending across the 10 lectures, but there’s plenty of parking!

This year we have another interesting program of 10 lectures in five subject areas – you can come for any one or all. We have expert lecturers from Birmingham and Worcester Universities.

Stoke Bliss Ploughing Match

This year’s Stoke Bliss Ploughing Match will be held on Saturday 21st September at Grain Farm, Linley Green WR6 5RQ.

For the ploughing schedule contact Ann Basford, stokeblissploughing@gmail.com. The home-craft schedule including cookery, preserves, drink, art, handicraft, photography, floral art and children’s competitions, can be requested at homecraftstokeblissploughing@gmail.com.

The day is an opportunity to watch skilled ploughmen at work with tractors and hopefully horses whilst taking in the beautiful views our local countryside has to offer.

- History of the Levant and its peoples
- Women’s suffrage
- History and development in cancer and vaccinations
- The different economic outcomes for several under-developed countries
- Racism in the USA

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

Simon Marriott, 01886 853412

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. Last session on 16th July before the summer break.
- Yoga, ring Zoe on 07962 981456 or see www.zedyoga.co.uk. Wednesdays at 10am. No classes in July – back in September.
- Zumba Gold, Lucia on 07709 301030, lu.500@live.co.uk. Wednesdays at 12 noon, just turn up. Continues through the summer.
- Kung Fu, Adam on 07720 643524, for youngsters on Saturdays at 9.30am. Continues through the summer.



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Deadline 18th July

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My first love

Today, 18th June, the TemeTalk deadline, is also Paul McCartney's birthday. He's 82. This date is a fact which has lived in my head since 1962, when they released their first record and I fell in love. I was 13. Paul was the one I fell in love with – I thought John looked a bit dangerous, although I came to love him too, later.

At my school you had to choose between the Beatles and the Rolling Stones. My friends and I all liked the Beatles. We thought the girls who liked the Stones were a bit rough.

When I was 14 I went to Guernsey with my mum for a holiday and she bought tickets for us to see the Beatles at the Candie Gardens on 8th August. I remember being in the venue surrounded by screaming girls, but I was struck dumb, totally inhibited and embarrassed by my mother who was sitting next to me. They sang *She Loves You* and *Twist and Shout* and I swooned (silently) with happiness.

Afterwards I queued at the stage door and got their autographs, which I've kept ever since in my underwear drawer. The Boss would like me to sell them, but although I was there and I saw them, I still have a nagging feeling that the signatures might be fakes and my disappointment 61 years later would be too much to bear.

I loved Paul for many years. I wanted to marry him, of course, but if I couldn't have him I thought Jane Asher would do. I wasn't sure about

Linda but she did make him happy. I think I fell out of love with him when he married Heather Mills and started dyeing his hair. But I

still have a tiny place in my heart for him. I hope he's happy now with some woman called Nancy.

John Lennon's birthday is also lodged in my head. The first time I visited my son David in Manhattan, in 2005, he took me to a bar and the man sitting next to me was telling anyone who would listen that it was John Lennon's birthday. "No it isn't," I told him. "It's tomorrow, 9th October."

The following day David took us to Strawberry Fields, the little bit of Central Park dedicated to John, just across the road from the Dakota Building where he was shot dead in 1980. It was full of people singing, playing guitars and remembering him on his birthday. It was strangely moving.

My favourite Beatles film is *A Hard Day's Night*. When it came to my local cinema in 1964 I went to see it every day for a week, on my own and secretly.

SG

*... the girls who liked
the Stones were a bit rough*



Richard Haines

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Teme Valley Wildlife

On the way to visit some neighbours last month, I noticed an attractive plant with white flowers spilling out onto the side of the lane. I bent down for a closer look, thinking that it might be a cultivated form of wild comfrey, when I was startled to see a group of large hairy black caterpillars munching their way through the leaves. Like the plant, the caterpillars, which sported bright yellow stripes and white dots, were unfamiliar to me. Thankfully, my neighbours knew what they were. They had been seeing them in their own garden, first as tiny specimens in the winter, increasing in size over the spring, then pupating and finally emerging as scarlet tiger moths. These colourful insects have become increasingly common and are on the wing during the day in June and July.

The tiger moth famously gave its name to a pioneer biplane, but which of the different varieties gave rise to the comparison I do not know. In the West Midlands six different tiger moth species have been recorded but four are rare. The ruby tiger and scarlet tiger moths are the two most



likely to be seen. The former is largely red in colour whilst the latter is more striking, having black forewings with white and cream spots and red underwings with black spots. I shall be on the lookout for a glimpse of one of these handsome creatures.

The scarlet tiger moth has only been present in the Midlands for fifty years. It was first noted in the Wye valley and then recorded in the Malvern Hills in

1973. It has gradually moved north and west where it seeks out comfrey, green alkanet, hemp-agrimony and nettle as its caterpillar food plant. I don't grow the first three, but my numerous nettles will, I hope, be enough of an attraction.

Wild comfrey is a tallish perennial plant which has roughly oval hairy leaves and strings of purple, pink or cream flowers. It likes to grow in damp places and was once used medicinally for healing broken bones. It became very popular during the 1970s when organic gardening first became popular and latter-day Bob Flowerdews sang its praises as a natural fertilizer. Clumps of

Continued on page 24

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Continued from page 23

the leaves soaked in water can be turned into a useful liquid feed for use in the garden. Perhaps the rise of comfrey-growing has helped to spread the scarlet tiger.

Other plants handy to attract moths to your garden are rosebay willowherb and fuchsia for the elephant hawk-moth, foxgloves for the fox-

glove pug, verbascums for the mullein moth and marjoram and mint for the small purple and gold moth. Don't forget, though, that they will make holes in your plants.

On a different subject altogether, I took part in a walk around Little Hereford in the middle of May and a participant from Yorkshire spotted a red squirrel. These animals are more common there, so hopefully this was a genuine sighting. Do keep your eyes peeled in case this lovely mammal has returned to valley.

The next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group is at 7.30pm on Thursday 11th July at Stoke Bliss and Kyre village hall. We welcome Phil Playford for a talk on bats. Phil has previously led an excellent bat walk around Ludlow which was much enjoyed by our members. Everyone is very welcome and 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, 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 twvg@outlook.com.

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What's on in Teme Valley South

July

- 3rd Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
6th Saturday Race Night, Eastham Memorial Hall, 6pm
7th Sunday United Deanery Service of Holy Communion, Hartlebury Castle, 10am
11th Thursday Annual churchwardens' admission service, Great Malvern Priory, 7.30pm
14th Sunday Rochford Fête, Flower Festival and Fun Dog Show, 2.30pm
18th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm
19th Friday Pub Night, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7pm
26th Friday Social & Pub Night, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 7pm
28th Sunday Songs of Praise and Strawberry Teas, Hanley Childe Church, 4pm
30th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

August

- 7th Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
8th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm
10th Saturday Dog Show, Hanley Village Hall, 3.30pm and Summer Barbecue, 5.30pm
Train Day, The Hyde, Stoke Bliss, 2pm
18th Sunday Eastham Fête and Produce Show, 12 noon
27th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm
30th Friday Social & Pub Night, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 7pm
Relaxation Evening, Hanley Village Hall, 6.30pm

September

- 4th Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
7th Saturday Churchyard working party, st Mary's, Stanford, 10am
12th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm
21st Saturday Live music in Rochford
A Profound Secret – Rev'd David Melville, the Shelsleys & the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, Harborough Bank, Stanford, 10.30am
Stoke Bliss Ploughing Match, Grain Farm, Linley Green
24th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm
28th Saturday Macmillan Coffee Day, Tally Ho Cottage, Hanley, 10am
Community Gathering, St Mary's Church, Stanford, 6.30pm

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

Deadline for the August issue of TemeTalk is 18th July

Don't forget – the sooner you send in your copy, the more likely it is to be included

Services

July/August 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

Services Schedule

Sunday 7th July

10.00am	Hartlebury Castle	Deanery Combined Communion
4.00pm	Stanford	Choral Evensong

Sunday 14th July

10.00am	Kyre	Holy Communion
2.30pm	Rochford	Fête, Flower Festival and Fun Dog Show to be held in the church and nearby field

Sunday 21st July

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

Sunday 28th July

10.00am	Rochford	Baptism and Holy Communion
4.00pm	Hanley Childe	Family Songs of Praise and Strawberry Tea

Sunday 4th August

10.00am	Stanford	Holy Communion and Hymns
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