

Stoke Orchard & Tredington Newsletter



April 2025



EASTER

...full of hope, and promise, and new life...

We are well and truly into Lent now, and just in case you wondered: yes, my Lent practices are going well! I took up 'doing some form of exercise every day' and 'reading the Apocrypha,' and gave up snacking in between meals. So far so good. Have you taken or given anything up?

More and more flowers are coming up, and the blossoms are showing off their splendour too. Nature is slowly coming to its zenith - not long now before everything will be green and colourful and growing! It's not all that different from our Lent preparations, which are leading to the highlight of Easter, the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the light of the world that could not be extinguished even through death. Easter is full of hope, and promise, and new life. Whatever we may think of chocolate eggs in colourful wrappings, they are inviting, delicious, and signs of new life. But as with most things, it isn't handed to us on a plate. The week before Easter is Holy Week, and we travel from the high of Maundy Thursday and the Eucharist of the Last Supper (service at Deerhurst at 7.30pm if you're curious!), to the low of Good Friday (activities in Tredington, a walk in Apperley, and service at Forthampton), to the quiet waiting of Holy Saturday, and finally to the glory of Easter Day (plenty of services! Please check the service rota to see what's on where).

I can't help but think that all these highs and lows resemble daily life, and coming together to reflect on these events is a great way to find support and hope. We can do this. We can get through whatever life throws at us. We have a great example in Jesus Christ, and we only need take one step at a time. Everyone is welcome at any service or event, or contact a member of the ministry team if you'd like to know more!

Peace and Easter blessings of new life to you all,

Ilse



Stoke Orchard & Tredington Parish Council



Parish Councillors from May 16th 2024 are:-

Cllr Alan Macdonald (Chairman) • Councillor Sue Shorrock (Vice chair),
Cllr Andrew Troughton • Cllr James Gilder • Cllr Tim Jukes
Cllr Graham Ferguson • Cllr George Fairbairn

Contact Details – through the Clerk:

Mrs Michelle Hinde – Email: clerk@stokeorchardandtredington-pc.gov.uk
Minutes of Past Meetings are to be found on the Parish Council Website.

Notice of Stoke Orchard and Tredington Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday May 7th, 2025 at 7pm at the Community Centre, Stoke Orchard and will be held according to standard Parish Council Meeting regulations. The Council will continue the Clerks special Powers Facility invoked for Covid Regulations for the foreseeable future.

www.stokeorchardandtredington.org.uk



Dear Resident,

The year is motoring on; I can't believe it's April already! It's a time of anticipation and hope for long and balmy summer's days, and hols to come. Colour is beginning to blaze in the garden and the drone of lawnmowers adds to the sleepy background on sunny weekend days too. Ah, so poetic!

- The presentation was held at the hall on 6th March by the prospective developer for up to 100 houses on the empty land in Stoke Orchard between the solar panels and Zura Drive/the pump track area on the Orchard Estate. I do hope you managed to get down and add your thoughts and comments to them on the day. I also hope they will take these on board and incorporate them in the planning application that will surely follow. I have requested a summary of resident's concerns and comments from them, so that the Council can use these to consider our response in due course. Further to this presentation, please do inform the Council if you have any other pertinent & consequential issues you'd like us to consider.
- Three quotes have been sourced for the electric vehicle point at the hall. The next task is to try and apply for a grant. If successful, this will be a convenient and handy spot for a top up and will provide a helpful additional income for the hall. Not only that, but the power will also come ultra-sustainably from the solar panels on the community centre roof!
- As you will know from a recent statement we released, the Orchard Stores sadly closed its doors for good on Sunday 30th March. Our small team of volunteers, assisted by our lovely staff have battled to keep it going for some years, with the much-appreciated support of our community. However, to run a business such as this takes an inordinate amount of time, care and effort, and increasingly it was taking up most of our spare time. We are currently exploring the possibility that a private owner may reopen in the near future and ensure

a more secure and improved outlook for this valuable community service. However, until this has been legally agreed, nothing is assured as of yet. We hope to be able to provide more information in the next newsletter. We are looking at ways in which we might be able to offer teas and coffees from the hall, and perhaps a basic bread, milk, eggs and newspaper service too. Watch this space and on the Residents Facebook page for more information.

- As you have seen also, work on Roseleigh has begun. The PC will carefully monitor the progress here too.
- Cllrs Shorrock and Gilder have been busy at the chapel plot on Banady Lane. They have treated the area in an effort to get rid of the prolific weeds and several varieties of trees have been planted, namely Ashmead's Kernel and Spartan apples, Comice and Conference pears, Czar and Opal plums, a Medlar and a Sunburst cherry, none of which will grow very large. With regular watering, we hope these will establish themselves and even provide the odd refreshment for the community!

Have a good month all!





Church services - April

Sunday 6th April 10am • Morning Worship at Tredington

Sunday 13th April 9.30am • Holy Communion at Stoke Orchard. APCM at Apperley Village Hall at 5pm - with soup, bread, cake, and drinks!

Thursday 17th April 7.30pm • Maundy Thursday service at Deerhurst

Good Friday 18th April • 10am activities followed by 11am service at Tredington, 1pm walk between Apperley and Deerhurst, 2pm Hour at the cross at Forthampton

Sunday 20th April 9.30am • Easter Communion at Tredington

Sunday 27th April 9.30am • Holy Communion at Stoke Orchard

Vicar	Revd Ilse Ferwerda	01452 780880	apperleypriest@gmail.com
Assistant Priest	Rev. Kay Mundy	01452 780634	therevkaymundy@gmail.com
Vicar in Charge	Revd Ilse Ferwerda	01452 780880	apperleypriest@gmail.com
Church Warden	Tessa Mills	01684 216563	
Reader and Young People's Church	Mrs Vivienne Troughton, Tredington	01684 293540	
Tredington Primary School	Head Mrs Emily Watton	01684 293617	Head.TPS.glatrust.org.uk
Tredington Church Hall/ Village Hall	Frank Jukes	01684 292143	tredingtonvillagehall@gmail.com
Stoke Orchard Community Centre Bookings	Nikki Clegg	01242 680941	info@stokeorchard.org

Recycling & Waste Collection Dates for April 2025 - Stoke Orchard & Tredington

BLUE	Thursday 3rd	Thursday 17th	Thursday 1st May
GREEN	Thursday 10th	Friday 25th	Friday 9th May



REQUEST FOR HELP AND DONATIONS

TRUSSELL TRUST TEWKESBURY shopping list for food bank. As we are able to shop at places like Bookers, a monetary donation would be much appreciated right now. BACS details are as follows: Tewkesbury Foodbank, sort code 30-91-87, account no 52870560

Meet Your Neighbour

Matt Magovern

I was born in 1978 in Gloucester, parents' names Sam & Daphne who are sadly no longer with us. Yes, I know you may be surprised by my year of birth, possibly thinking I was older, but I did have a very hard paper round!

The majority of my childhood was spent living in Badgeworth and I went to Churchdown Village Infants & Junior schools followed by Chosen Hill school. My closest friends and I all started school together at 4 years old and we're still best friends now and I'm very lucky to have this. I decided against sixth form despite being capable and went to the old Gloscat to study 'Leisure and Tourism' in a bid to achieve my main goal and open my own travel agents. When growing up I

was fortunate enough to visit lots of the world including a 'round the world' trip to Singapore / Australia and Canada and my love for travelling and exploring new places is still strong to this day. However, the Gloscat course and environment wasn't for me (perhaps fortunately with the Covid events of 5 years ago, not ideal for travel agents!) and I accidentally fell into the world of print at 16 years old, taking a job as a trainee at the Rank Xerox copy centre on the Lower High Street in Cheltenham, next to the bowling green.

This was my first full time job after previously having a car washing 'business' on weekends aged 13 in Badgeworth for my neighbours and then working as a breakfast waiter aged 15 at the Golden Valley Hotel. The best thing about that job, apart from the money of course, was the hash browns and bacon after the shift!! At Rank Xerox I met Ade, still a great friend to this day and funnily enough, lives on the Pennycress estate now! We had good times and lots of fun at work and out of work, going in to town (mainly for curry and drinks) and also watching Cheltenham Town FC all over the country.

Aged 21 I decided to start a business called 'Finishing Matters' which mainly offered a binding service to printers on evenings and weekends. This took off and I took the plunge to go full time around 2 years later. Eventually, once the business was established and strong enough, I managed to get previously mentioned Ade on board and once more we had lots of good times. Finishing Matters eventually sold out to In2print who were located in Kingsditch previously but are now near



the Old Spot. At this point I was lucky enough to pursue my love of flying and took flying lessons at Glos Airport in 2 and 4 seater aircraft. I had around 15 hours training and was at the point of going 'solo' when I found out my daughter Florence was on the way. Of course, my financial priorities changed, and the flying has been put on hold for now...one day I'll get there!!

After leaving In2print I joined Jon and his team at Typecraft with a view to taking over when he retired. We were based in Cheltenham back then, Knapp Lane, ironically not far from the Bowling green once more! We are now based on Terry Booth's engineering site not far from Stoke Orchard so my daily commute is rather easy I must say! Something else I need to add is that if anyone reading this ever needed printing, no matter how large or small an order, then Typecraft can help!! Lots of signs you see dotted around the area will have been produced by us and we try to help out the community where possible too with freebies and heavy discounts. Every little helps as they say!

Earlier I mentioned Cheltenham Town FC. For my sins I have followed them for around 35 years. Lots of incredible highs and of course, plenty of lows too but Whaddon Road is my happy place where I can go and forget any strains and stresses, chat with friends, have a pint or two and escape! Admittedly, lots of the old away days are quite a blur due quantities of alcohol consumed but travelling the country watching your local team was so much fun. In recent years, Typecraft have been a partner of the club, and we printed the programmes for many years until they decided to stop producing them all together this season.

My other place of solace other than home of course would be the Gloucester Old Spot, conveniently placed for both work 'meetings' and also near home too - we're very lucky to have such a great pub on our doorstep.

Last but absolutely not least I should mention the lovely village of Stoke Orchard. Distant relatives of my family have lived here and also in Tredington all their lives and my Gran (Marion Newman of Manor Farm, Hatherley, which has all been developed in to houses now) often spoke of them. My older siblings used to visit family in Stoke Orchard when younger also approx. 45 years ago so the connection has been there for many years.

Stoke Orchard is where my wonderful wife, Sara, and I became best friends after our own marital 'issues' and we were both totally adamant that we'd never get in to a relationship again. Why on earth would anyone do that?!! As the saying goes, never say never - we have been married since the start of last year and have 5 amazing children between us who we are extremely proud of, 1 boy and 4 girls ranging in age from 19 - 7 so plenty to keep us occupied! The final member of the family is Stanley our sausage dog who patrols the estate on a regular basis!

We love living in Stoke Orchard with the village and community feel but so conveniently located for Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury.

That's my little insight over, hopefully it's been interesting! See you around.

Cheers, Matt

Tredington & Stoke Orchard News for April 2025



TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD WI next meet on **Tuesday, April 8th** in Tredington Village Hall at 7,30pm. Ged Cassell will be talking to us about "The Butterflies of Gloucestershire." We are always very pleased to welcome visitors & new members.

This March, the WI members had a fun evening making origami flowers. After much moaning and groaning with caffeine and chocolate biscuits, there was an array of beautiful multi-coloured flowers made. Big thank you to Vikki for her patience.

Ladies, if you have a skill, **"We need you"**. Come along and meet us and tell us about your skill as we are all eager to learn new things. Better still, become a member of our WI club.

Meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in Tredington Village Hall.

Try before you buy! You can be a visitor for two months before you decide if you would like to join us. We all look forward to meeting new members.



TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD GARDENING CLUB are meeting in Tredington Village Hall on **Monday, April 28th** at 7.30pm, to hear a talk by Diana White on "My Life as a Garden Designer". **Please note date is later than usual because of Easter.**

In May we begin our Summer visits. The first is on Tuesday, May 27th at Forthampton Court (pictured above). If you would like to come please contact Bob Stockwell, as we will have car share & numbers are needed for the visit.



Stoke Orchard Community Centre



It's a busy time at the community centre and spring is in the air!
Are you looking to improve your health and wellbeing? Did you know we
have a variety of amazing classes that take place each week...

*Zumba • Tai Chi • Yoga and Pilates • Chilli Dance • Kettles
Sweaty Mamas • Rehabilitation Pilates, great if you are
recovering from an injury or illness*

Check out the noticeboard for more details.....

What's on at the hall?

Saturday 26th April is Quiz Night!!

Cath Pollard is cycling 1000 Miles from Land's End to John O'Groats this summer, Lets help support her towards her goal to raise £1000 for Maggie's Charity. Some of you might know Cath as she taught at Tredington School for many years. Teams of up to 6 people - £12 a team. Register your team by contacting cathpollard.lejog.2025@gmail.com



MAGGIE'S

Everyone's home of cancer care

**We have some great plans for the hall, and would love to hear of
any idea's you would love to see us provide for the community...**

Film afternoon for the Kids, Afternoon Teas, knit and natter??

Friday @3pm Socials for all the family will be coming up soon!

ARE YOU PLANNING A PARTY?

The hall is very busy with bookings for Parties,
please do book ahead to get that date! Don't forget,
residents of Stoke Orchard and Tredington receive a
discounted rate on all bookings.



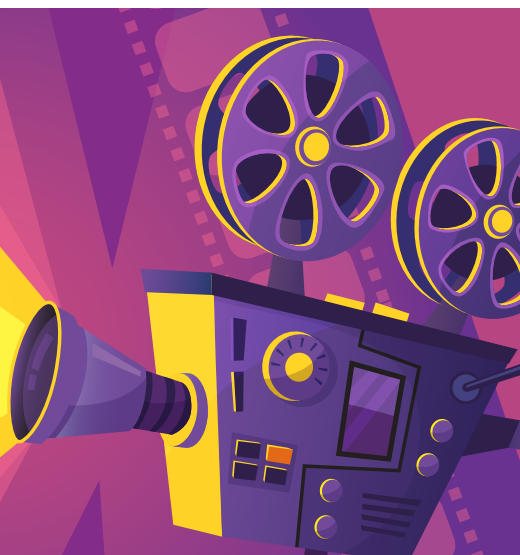


HAVING A COMMUNITY IS HAVING A SUPPORT NETWORK

ERIKA HELSTROM

TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD FILM CLUB

TREDINGTON VILLAGE HALL



On the first Monday of the month at 7.15pm in Tredington Village Hall, we will show a film, one shown in the fairly recent or more distant past, to which all are welcome. Bring your own (garden or other comfortable) chair if you want, a hot drink is included, all for a suggested donation of £3 per person.

If you want to know what film is showing, please email villagefilmclub@gmail.com. Or you can just turn up and be surprised!

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