

Stoke Orchard & Tredington Newsletter



March 2025



SPRING IS ON THE way

When I walked into Deerhurst Church today, I was greeted by the cheerful sight of yellow and purple flowers: a beautiful display of daffodils and irises, hinting at spring on the way. But it seems that the weather hasn't got that memo yet: it's been cold and grey for what feels like a long time now. Let's hope that a month from now, we'll see riots of colourful flowers announcing spring, a bit of sunshine, and somewhat warmer days!

By this time, we'll also be in the time of Lent, the 40 days of preparation leading up to Easter. If you are thinking of giving something up in order to experience the need of the presence of God, or of taking something up in order to draw closer to God, then why not come along the Ash Wednesday service at Deerhurst on the 5th March at 7pm? To commit to your giving or taking up, you can receive the sign of the cross on your forehead, and for the signing ash is used - usually made from burning the Palm crosses from the previous year, but I have to admit I've gone for the much easier option of ordering a small jar of ashes ready to be mixed with some oil... You may also want to join one or more sessions of the Lent course - keep an eye out for details!

On the 21st March, spring will officially start. And the month of March is a time of seeing again the rising energy of growth. Not just flowers, but also the leaves on the trees, and let's not forget the grass - the mower will no doubt come out! The days will be longer, and hopefully warmer. It's time for us to come out of our winter hibernation too. Maybe we'll feel motivated to go on that daily walk we've promised ourselves; maybe we'll take great care of and pride in tending to our garden; maybe we'll find the energy to meet up with family and friends outdoors again. I hope and pray that this season of lengthening days will bring warmth and joy to all!

Peace and blessings 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 March 5th, 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

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Dear Resident,

With the beginning of March, it does seem that a herald of promise is in the air for a more benevolent few months. Spring is springing and our winter 'hibernation' is ending. As ever though, the challenges for the council continue to be thrust our way...

- As you may have seen (presentation leaflet copied in this issue), prospective plans for up to 100 houses are being mooted on the empty land in Stoke Orchard between the solar panels and Zura Drive/the pump track area on the Orchard Estate. This, on top of the 126-house development that has already been passed at Roseleigh, does beg the question as to how the dynamics of integrating such an increase into our village population might go. The current national government guidelines for County & Borough Councils are all designed to make it easier for developers to build, especially in 'Service' villages such as Stoke Orchard has been designated. What this means of course is that bl**dy good reasons must be found to convince planning departments that an application is a bad idea. Allied to this, is the need for delicate negotiation to try to secure the best for the Parish, regardless of the outcome. The Council are committed to trying our absolute best for our community. That is our sole aim, and we will examine this plan very carefully, and act appropriately regarding it.
- The Land by the Chapel is now passed over to the Council. A small sum of money has been given to help maintain it over the next few years. As this 'pot' won't last forever, any help from any green-fingered residents, who care about the look of this plot near the entrance to our lovely village, do please feel free to help, as we'd love to make this area look nice. Cllr Shorrock has secured a grant for some native fruit trees, which we plan to plant there, we have a sleeper bench ready to be installed, and we'll grass or wildflower the rest. When the ground gets a bit more firm Cllr Gilder will get in there with his tractor and

we can clear it properly. I'll put out a date and perhaps a small team could help with strimming, cutting etc, including the brook bank.

- As you may have seen, Smartcut have now taken over the maintenance of the open space on the Orchard Estate. I hope their first visit meets your approval. If there is anything pressing you notice needing done (here or anywhere else in the Parish), please do notify us. Also, the barrier to the MUGA car park has been put in and we are researching the best outdoor table tennis table to put there. (Hopefully in time for summer).
- We had a meeting with a company who install EV (electric vehicle) chargers, with a view to putting one in the community centre car park. We hope to apply & get a grant to allow us to do this. It would be a contactless, payable hub to provide an extra service and seems like a really 'green', full-circle way of using the electricity generated by the solar panels on the roof of the hall. Watch this space for progress.
- We're still putting together sites and details of the Heritage board trail we plan around the Parish. We'd like to offer 'ownership' of the research & content for each one to any resident who fancies doing that? Do please contact us if you fancy a little fun project.

Have a good month all!

Church services – March

Sun 2nd March 9.30am • Morning Worship at Tredington

Wed 5th March 7pm • Ash Wednesday service at Deerhurst

Sun 9th March 9.30am • Holy Communion at Stoke Orchard

Sun 16th March 9.30am • Holy Communion at Tredington

Sun 23rd March 9.30am • Holy Communion at Stoke Orchard

Sun 31st March 10am (Mothering Sunday) • Benefice Communion at Forthampton

Vicar	Revd Ilse Ferwerda	01452 780880	apperleypriest@gmail.com
Assistant Priest	Rev. Kay Mundy	01452 780634	therevskaymundy@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

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Residential development: Stoke Orchard



you are invited to attend

**THURSDAY
6 MARCH
4PM - 8PM**

Proposals are being prepared for a residential development of around 100 homes in Stoke Orchard.

They would be situated on the northern edge of the village, on an empty six-hectare site off Stoke Road.

As the plans progress, we are keen to know what you think and you are therefore invited to come and meet the project team and find out more.

**Meeting room,
Stoke Orchard
Community Centre
Armstrong Road,
Stoke Orchard
GL52 7SB**

*If you are unable to attend, the consultation display boards will be available shortly after the event at
<https://www.sfplanning.co.uk/latest-news/>*

TREDINGTON PLAY READING has been suspended until September.

Time and dates will be printed in the August issue.

To be or not to be... on the church electoral roll?

Every six years, all churches completely renew their electoral roll (ER) – and 2025 is the year! It's a bit like a council electoral roll, because if your name is on a church ER you have the right to attend meetings, to vote at meetings, to present your ideas and opinions for consideration, and to stand for church council positions.

Even if you've been on the church ER previously, or have been for many years, you still need to fill in the ER application form again.

If you're not on the church ER, please consider whether this is something you may want to do. If you care for your parish church, live in the parish, are over 16, have been baptised, and consider yourself to be a member of the Church of England, then please fill in the ER form. You will find them in the churches, or you can ask a church member and they can point you in the right direction.

For any questions, please get in touch with the vicar, Revd Ilse Ferwerda, on 01452 780880 or email apperleypriest@gmail.com.

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

BLUE	Thursday 6th	Thursday 20th	Thursday 3rd Apr
GREEN	Thursday 13th	Thursday 27th	Thursday 10th Apr



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

Tredington & Stoke Orchard News for March 2025

TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD WI next meet on **Tuesday March 11th** in Tredington Village hall at 7:30pm. This will be an In House Play Evening. Visitors & new members are always welcome.

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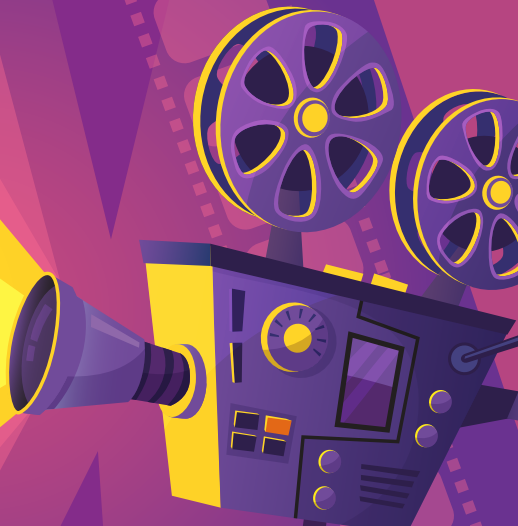
TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD GARDENING CLUB are holding their next meeting on **Monday March 17th** at 7:30pm in Tredington Village Hall. David Cropp will be speaking on "Defensive Gardening at a time of Climate Change". We are always delighted to welcome visitors and new members and this talk sounds very relevant! Do come!

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TREDINGTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE have sadly had to cancel the Whist Drive on March 7th but hope to organise another date in April or May.

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!



I grew up in Greenford, West London and joined the Metropolitan Police straight from sixth form, although an injury cut short this career.

I met Janice, my wife, and we lived in Ruislip, West London, where we raised our children, Jonathan and Charlotte.

Having retrained as an audiologist, I worked in private practice until taking early retirement in 1998.

Moving to Stoke Orchard in 2020, we were delighted by the friendliness of neighbours. We had more people say, 'Hello', to us in the first week than we did in 27 years at the last place!

Although never employed in aviation, aeroplanes have been a life-long passion: Plane spotter as a boy, air cadet as a teenager, glider pilot in my twenties and private pilot ever since, I now spend my time restoring aeroplanes at the Jet Age Museum, Staverton. How, you might ask, does a non-engineer end up doing that?

When I retired, Janice expressed a concern that I might get under her feet. Anxious to avoid this (and still living in London), I started volunteering at the De Havilland Museum, near St. Albans. In addition to talking to visitors, a vacancy became available to look after one of their aircraft and I took it. There I was trained in the ways of aircraft restoration and found a liking for manual work. Naturally, when we moved to Stoke Orchard, I made myself known to the Jet Age Museum.

I found the facilities at Jet Age to be first class, but they didn't have anyone willing and able to take on the task of forming a team, training them as necessary and setting about improving the exhibits. Having volunteered for the role, my embryonic team set to work making extensive fabric repairs to our Hurricane. As I'd had a couple of fabric covered aeroplanes myself in the past, I was able to pass on the ancient skill to younger colleagues, ensuring that this capability continues into the future.

I was keen that my team had something to do when not repairing exhibits, so in 2023 we moved our Meteor NF(T)14 into the workshop and began a full restoration. We still attend to displayed aeroplane repairs when required (for example, we repainted our Vulcan over eleven weeks last year), but the vast majority of our time is spent on the Meteor restoration.

The team now numbers fourteen and includes engineers, military wives, local authority employees and yes, even an ex-cop turned audiologist!

Come and have a look at our museum and our work. Open at weekends, it tells the story of Gloucestershire's contribution to aviation and is free to enter.

My wife Janice and daughter Charlotte also work in the Orchard Stores. Please go and say hello!





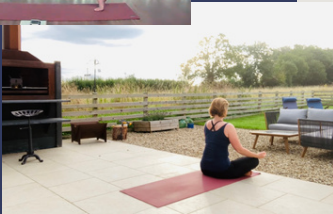
Yoga Classes with Christine

Starting 4 March 2025

TUESDAYS

6-7PM

Tredington Village Hall



I am a dedicated yoga teacher and practitioner with over 20 years of experience and teaching qualifications from the British Wheel of Yoga & Yoga Alliance.

I believe that absolutely anyone can practise yoga. All that's needed is the intention to start and from there, everyone has the chance to bloom. In my classes you can expect to move through graceful, flowing sequences before sinking into deep, restorative relaxation and rest.

Please get in touch if you would like to join one of my classes - your first class is free!

I hope to see you on the mat soon.

Christine



Email: thewildbloomyoga@outlook.com

Phone: 07837 425176

Facebook: @wildbloomyoga

Instagram: christine.wildbloomyoga



Stoke Orchard Community Centre and The Orchard Stores and Amy's Coffee Shop



Another busy month in the Community Centre as Nikki settles in and chases the challenges that present themselves daily. With a building of this size and surprising complexity, getting to 'know' the place takes some time.

I wonder if many of you know for instance, that the BMS (building management system), is the same as the one that ran the presidential White House, and it was only 'retired' from there when it was hacked early in the Noughties. However, Nikki has relished the challenge and has very fresh and innovative ideas to further improve our Community hall.

The Orchard Stores is constantly challenging, and we are having to be so careful in order to try and balance the books. We can only hope that things pick up somewhat in the coming months and ask that you please use us as much as you can.

A massive thank you goes to Jane and Janice (and Charlotte & Darren) for their tireless efforts and help.

Would you like to offer a couple of volunteer hours now and again in the Shop?

Do you like talking to people, getting to know the Community? This is the place for you! Training will be given. Just call in and leave your details and a member of the committee will contact you.

As always, we thank you for your continued custom.

info@stokeorchard.org

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