

# Stoke Orchard & Tredington Newsletter



*May 2025*



# *The birth of a new day...*

Lent was all about preparing for Easter, and now Easter has passed – the high day of the Christian faith is over. The Easter holidays, for those who had them, are also over, and life carries on. Back to normal then, for all of us?

The church calls this time in the church year ‘ordinary time.’ It may indeed seem that all just floats along, no high days or holidays in the near future, but surely the effects of the high day that is Easter are anything but ordinary, and anything but temporary. The promise of new life remains, every single day, whether it’s a high day or holiday or very ordinary day.

What does new life mean to you? You could take it very literally: new life is seen at birth – and this could be the birth of a child, or an animal (lots of lambs gambolling around as I write this!), or even the appearance of blossoms, spring flowers, new green leaves, and all else that begins to grow. I see examples of that in my front garden: my lettuces, leek, garlic, and onion are doing well, but my tomato plant needs a bit more indoor care and nurturing before I expose it to the great outdoors. Those examples are all very obvious and fairly dramatic expressions of new life. But what about the day to day chances of new life? We could make just one tiny adjustment that would change our life – if not straight away, then surely over time, as we keep reinforcing that tiny adjustment until it becomes part of our ‘new’ life. For example: if we take up a prayer or meditation practice, we need to set aside five or ten minutes a day until our practice becomes a habit (apparently it takes at least three weeks to integrate new habits, so keep persevering, repetition is key!), and then suddenly we have a ‘new life’ which includes prayer or meditation, and the effects of that can and will be felt and noted by ourself and others.

But by far the easiest way to witness new life is the birth of a new day. New mornings are presented to us every single day, and with that, chances to do the same as always or do something different.

How will you use this daily chance of new life?

Peace and 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](mailto: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](http://www.stokeorchardandtredington.org.uk)

Dear Resident,

Thank goodness for some nice weather! There's nothing nicer than sitting in the garden in the evening sunshine with a wee tippie of what you fancy. Quite makes life in the current national and global state, almost bearable!

- As you might have seen, our community telephone box arrived back from the Unicorn Restorations in Sussex. It was a bit of a sweaty palm moment when the lorry was winching it into place outside the community centre, as it weighs nearly two-thirds of a ton! One slip, eek! However, the lorry driver from Doug Gobey was brilliant and all was well. I think you'll agree that it has been restored beautifully; even the handmade leather hinges are a work of art, and the paint is the original shade used back in the 1930's when the box was new. As you know the Council managed to get a grant (with the massive help of Gordon Webber), so the cost of the renovation of a great community asset has been minimal. In the next few weeks, we will have the defib installed inside it.
- The chapel plot at Banady Lane has been planted up and Cllr Sue has been tending and watering the baby trees. Measures have also been taken to try to eradicate the invasion of unwanted pest plants. We will ask our gardening contractor to come and tidy it somewhat, and in the near future we hope to get the area 'scraped' so that we can sow some wildflowers. On the road opposite, the stile leading into the footpath across the fields (bet you didn't know there was one there!), has been kindly cleared by Bill & Terry Holden. Thank you!
- I know our community shop has been sorely missed, as many residents have been asking. It's so apparent sometimes that we don't miss something till it's gone. I forgot an ingredient the other day, and it was such a b\*ll-ache to have to drive elsewhere to get it. However, progress to provide a new (and better)

community shop is ongoing – the solicitors are finalising the lease for, hopefully, the new tenants, the doorways leading from the shop to the hall have been bricked up (the new tenants are going to create a new entrance and fire exit), arrangements have been made for sub-metering of utilities, and much work has been done by volunteers to wind-up the old business. If all goes well, there will be a short period of building work and prep, and we will once again have great convenience shop on our doorstep. Meantime, Nikki has arranged to do several ‘pop-up’ shop days, with ice cream for the hot days and teas & coffees from our urns. Watch out for the A-board announcing these.

- As you have seen also, work on Roseleigh has forged rapidly ahead. We are arranging a meeting with the site manager at which we can familiarise ourselves with his plans and establish a comms route whereby we can present any concerns and monitor their adherence to their development application.
- The BuildBackBetter grant for the planned heritage boards has been awarded. We now need to find some time to plan and commission these! Any help would be much appreciated!

*Have a good month all!*

## Church services – May

Sunday 4th May 10am • Morning Worship at Tredington

Sunday 11th May 10am • Benefice Communion at Stoke Orchard,  
with guest preacher Alison Webster

Sunday 18th May 9.30am • Holy Communion at Tredington

Sunday 25th May 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



# IN HONOUR & RESPECT

# VE DAY

## 80TH ANNIVERSARY

### MAY 8TH 2025

I like a few others on here, like to have a wander around small churchyards, and examine the wartime gravestones; often the most unusual ones are in Churches where you would never expect them.

Today I was taking my grandson cycling. On the way out I pointed to a very small church and said I had attended a friend's funeral there some years ago. Oddly later in our journey he asked about the church. I explained that it was very old and contained some early wall paintings. Perhaps if we had time, we could stop off on the return journey. We changed our route to visit it. Unfortunately, the church was locked, but a wander around the churchyard revealed four CWGC graves so we stopped for a look and to take a picture of them.



The church is well worth a visit when open and is not far from Tewkesbury Abbey. Parts of the village and the adjoining villages are medieval, and the road heads towards Winchcombe itself dating far back in time (Hailes Abbey).

Nearby used to be the coal research establishment, now a housing estate. However, before that it was a shadow factory for the Gloster aircraft company.

Further along the road is the site of the old Stoke Orchard airfield, later used by Smiths industries for aircraft testing, but originally a training airfield for No 10 Elementary flying school, using Tiger Moths, then becoming No 3 Glider training school. The Horsa Gliders, used in D-day and at Arnhem, were built locally by many furniture companies, so perhaps they were assembled here. Now it is home to a gun club and a recycling depot, although alongside the railway line, piquet posts and bunkers are still evident, and a property on the other side of the line was once the home of Amy Johnson who flew from the Airfield at Staverton.



**VE DAY**<sup>®</sup>  
80TH ANNIVERSARY  
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION  
8 MAY 2025

However, after taking some picture of the grave stones I did a little research here goes:

**Charles Eric Petre** 1322016 R.A.F. (V.R.) Son of Charles William and Lillian Beatrice Petre of Dagenham Essex.

Died 31.08.43 DM404 Master II, 3 GTS, Crashed performing aerobatics, Apperley.

Now this Gentleman was quite a surprise, his age first of all! However, he was also connected to the Glider Training School



**Lt-Col Charles Ronald Fryer** 48339 M.C. and Bar (pictured left).

The Kings own Royal Rifle Corps.

CDG 2 Army glider Pilot  
Sec Army Air Corp Killed  
14th July 1944 54 years  
of age.

The Son of Charles. S.  
Fryer. and Mary Fryer.

I wondered about the M.C., and it seems he had a distinguished career in the Great war and was either mad as a box of frogs or brave as a lion!

A little more about him here:

M.C. London Gazette 16 September 1918:

*'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. This officer was in command of a raiding party that penetrated the enemy's first line and support trench with great success, doing much damage, causing many casualties, and capturing four prisoners and a machine-gun. All our wounded were brought back, and Captain Fryer, who was carrying one of them, was the last to leave the enemy's line. The complete success of this raid was largely due to the very careful manner in which he had previously trained his party and the fine courage and ability with which he led his men.'*

Bar to M.C. London Gazette 15 February 1919.

Charles Ronald Fryer's obituary appeared in The King's Royal Rifle Corps Chronicle in 1944:

Lieutenant-Colonel Fryer was born in 1888, the son of and Mrs. C. Fryer. On leaving



Nottingham High School he went to South Africa, where he was farming when the 1914-18 War broke out. He was soon home and enlisted in the Regiment and joined the 6th Battalion. He was soon granted a commission and found himself in France with the 2nd Battalion in 1915. He was wounded in the Battle of Loos. Convalescing at home, he joined the Royal Flying Corps, but in course of training was crashed by another pilot and injured. He rejoined the 2nd Battalion in France and by 1918 was a highly efficient Company Commander. He carried out a very successful raid with his Company in front of Noeux les Mines and received the M.C. for his gallantry on that occasion. After this he became Adjutant of the Battalion, and in that capacity was with the Battalion in all the fighting which led to the Armistice. He particularly distinguished himself on 4th November 1918, when doing a personal reconnaissance for his commanding officer. He and his orderly, Rifleman Procter, a fine member of the Rhodesian platoon, completely eliminated an enemy post which tried to hold them up. For this and his other services he received a Bar to his M.C.

After the Armistice he volunteered for service in India, where he became Adjutant of an Indian battalion. He went to Mesopotamia, where he was on the H.Q. Staff during the Arab rebellion. He then volunteered as an instructor to the Persian army, and for his services there received a Persian decoration.

Many first-class temporary officers joined the Regiment 1914-18, but none had a greater love for the Regiment or absorbed its traditions better than Fryer. He made a great success as Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion and his Commanding Officer placed absolute confidence in him.

After the Armistice Captain Fryer returned to civil life and lived at East Fulham, where he became a Borough Councillor and Private Secretary to Sir K. Vaughan-Morgan, M.P., and took an active part in local affairs. Early in 1939 he became Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion, Queen Victoria's Rifles when that Battalion was raised, and when war started, he became Adjutant to the Training Battalion. In January 1941 he was appointed Staff Captain at Southampton. The following June he was A.D.C. to Lieutenant-General Eastwood at Northern Command. After two other Staff appointments he joined the Para troops in May 1942 and became an instructor in glider pilot training and was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1943 he was Second in Command of the Parachute Battalion Depot for nine months, but in November that year he returned to command his former Glider Pilot Section. He then applied for a Pilot Flying Course to completely fit himself for his job. At the age of 54, this was a considerable achievement, and he was on the point of attaining his desire when a crash landing ended his life.

An accompanying medal roll extract in respect of the recipient's General Service Medal 1918-62, confirms his entitlement to the 'Iraq' clasp for services as a Captain in the 2nd Battalion, 119th Infantry, I.A., while his MIC reveals that the same award was returned to the issuing authority in May 1925; so, too that he was entitled to emblems in respect of a mention in despatches.

Sold with the recipient's original Army Council condolence slip in the name of 'Major C. R. Fryer', complete with original addressed card forwarding. The former notes entitlement to two campaign awards, and given Fryer does not appear to have gone overseas, these would have been the Defence and War Medals - the addition of the above described 1939-45 Star therefore remains unverified.

Also sold with a file of research and a copy of The King's Royal Rifle Corps Chronicle, 1944, in which appears the above cited obituary notice.

Papers in respect of the recipient's military career are held in the Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives at King's College, London.

**Corporal Wallace Charles Palmer** 10546720.

1st glider pilot Regiment, Army Air Corps, Son of Walter Charles and Emily Lily Palmer of South Chingford Essex.

Died: 04.09.42, Hotspur II, 3 GTS, Crashed after being released from tow, Boddington.

(Boddington wasn't an RAF base but had no airfield it was simply a comms base and is about 1 mile from Stoke Orchard).

If you will note the much older grave surround, the cemetery records reveal that it was paid for by a relative, so when in disrepair the CWGC replaced the headstone. This relative could have been his poor wife, as he was killed within weeks of their wedding. An older resident of the village remembers his wife attending the 1st anniversary of his death at the churchyard in her wedding dress.



**Flight Lt Henry Hollingdrake** 77472

R.A.F. (V.R.) Son of Sir Henry Hollingdrake of St Albans Herts

Tiger Moth N6858 (Cat A) Hollindrake, struck by Tiger Moth T7045.

**VE DAY**  
80TH ANNIVERSARY  
MAY 8TH 2025



# Tredington & Stoke Orchard News for May 2025

**TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD WI** next meet on **Tuesday, May 13th** when the WI resolutions will be discussed & this will be followed by In House entertainment. Visitors & new members are always welcome.

The April meeting of WI had an amazing talk on Butterflies by a very enthusiastic gentleman who showed us an array of butterflies native to Gloucestershire. Who knew we had so many.

The colours were simply beautiful, he also told us where to find them! So wellies on and off we go!

Certainly made us think about what to grow in our gardens to attract them. Not too sure about the stinging nettles.

We also welcomed a new member who has joined us. So a big welcome to June.


Vote of thanks was given by Vivienne then coffee and biscuits all round.



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**TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD GARDENING CLUB** begin their summer programme of visits on **Tuesday, May 27th** with an afternoon tour of **Forthampton Court Gardens**. We will meet at the venue at 2pm. If any member needs or wants to car share please contact Bob Stockwell on 07967701454 in advance.

Recycling & Waste Collection Dates for May 2025 - Stoke Orchard & Tredington			
BLUE	Thursday 1st	Thursday 15th	Friday 30th
GREEN	Friday 9th	Thursday 22nd	Thursday 5th June



**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



# Stoke Orchard Community Centre



## May 2025 Class Timetable

Please contact the class instructors for more details.

<b>Mon</b>	<b>ZUMBA</b> 9.30 – 10.30AM michelle.darnell@ btinternet.com	<b>SWEATY MAMA</b> 10.45AM – 12.30PM www.sweatymama.com		<b>TAI CHI</b> 6 – 7PM www.msdtai.chi. co.uk	<b>GREEN TREE YOGA</b> 7 – 8PM info@greentreeyoga. co.uk
<b>Tues</b>	<b>PILATES BY CHARLOTTE</b> 9.30 – 10.30AM pilatesbycharlotte@ gmail.com	<b>CHILL DANCE</b> 4.30 – 5.25PM Contact Chloe 07972 350896	<b>U3A ART APPRECIATION</b> 20/5/25 2 – 4PM	<b>CHILL DANCE</b> 8PM Contact Chloe 07972 350896	<b>TRED TRAINING KETTLE RCISE</b> 6.30PM <b>PILATES</b> 7.20PM tredtraining@ outlook.com
<b>Weds</b>	<b>STOKE ORCHARD BABY &amp; TODDLER GROUP</b> 9.30 – 11.00AM				<b>PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</b> 7/5/25 7PM
<b>Thur</b>			<b>U3A SCIENCE</b> 15/5/25 2 – 4PM	<b>CHILL DANCE</b> 5.45PM Contact Chloe 07972 350896	
<b>Fri</b>	<b>GRAVITY FITNESS - PILATES</b> 9.30 – 10.30AM gravityfitness@ live.co.uk				
<b>Sat</b>	<b>ALTER FIT THERAPY PILATES</b> 9 – 10AM margotalterfit@gmail.com				
<b>Sun</b>	<b>TRED TRAINING KETTLE BELL HIIT</b> 9AM <b>BODY WEIGHT HIIT</b> 9.30AM tredtraining@outlook.com				

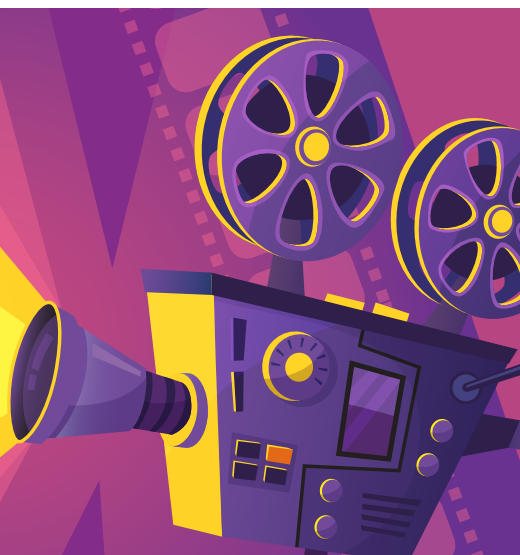


# HAVING A COMMUNITY IS HAVING A SUPPORT NETWORK

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](mailto:villagefilmclub@gmail.com). Or you can just turn up and be surprised!

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