

Stoke Orchard and Tredington Newsletter



Merry Christmas.

December 2023



Monthly Message

December 2023



As the days get shorter, finding sources of light becomes ever more important.

December is the darkest month of the year - until the shortest day on the 21st of the month. After that, the day will imperceptibly begin to lengthen again, by just a few minutes each day.

In the meantime, we lighten the darkness by putting on lights or candles, and many of us decorate the house with even more lights as Christmas decorations. Towns and villages decorate their streets and gardens with lights, and so even – and perhaps especially - in the darkest month, there are lights all around us. And to add to that, in our churches we prepare to celebrate again the birth of Jesus, also called the Light of the World.

If you come along to a carol services, you will probably hear a reading from the start of the Gospel of John, and verse 5 says: “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.”

No darkness is so dark that the light cannot overcome it, and nothing in the world is so bad that Jesus, the Light of the World, cannot bring peace, healing, and/or reconciliation. This does not mean that everyone will live happily ever after, because that sort of ending is reserved for fairy tales for a good reason, but it does mean there is a source of hope and light that we can rely on and hang on to for strength and support in the darker months and the darker and more difficult times of life.

The churches will be beautifully decorated thanks to our many talented flower arrangers, who contribute to making the churches even more special places, and if you come to one of the carol or Christmas

services or just walk in for a moment of prayer or quiet reflection, you can breathe in the sense of peace and light that is there. Christmas-time offers the chance to come together to welcome again the source of light, Jesus, in our midst. That light came to shine for all, and it continues to shine to this day. Come and celebrate and experience the joy of knowing and learning about Jesus, the Light of the World, at any of the services and events, everyone is welcome!

Peace and blessings to you all,

Ilse

- Sunday 3rd December 9.30am Morning Worship at Tredington
- Sunday 10th December 9.30am Holy Communion at Stoke Orchard
- Friday 15th December 7pm Carol service at Tredington
- Sunday 17th December 9.30am Holy Communion at Tredington
- Sunday 24th December 9.30am Holy Communion at Stoke Orchard -
- 4pm Christingle at Stoke Orchard -
- 11.30pm Midnight Mass at Tredington
- Monday 25th December 10am Christmas family service at Tredington
- Sunday 31st December 10am Benefice communion at Apperley.

Request for help and Donations. Please.-

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

The Tredington News Pages

NEWS FOR DECEMBER FROM TREDINGTON

TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD WI'S Christmas meeting is on **Tuesday, December 12th at 7.30pm** in Tredington Village Hall when we will have a social evening. Will everyone please bring a small plate of finger food to share.

TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD GARDENING CLUB **do not meet in December**, so our next meeting will be on Monday, January 15th at 7.30pm in Tredington Village Hall when our speaker will be Richard Chatham with "Gardens revisited - A Photographic snapshot". This will include previous visits our club has made. Visitors & retired members are very welcome this will be a lovely trip down memory lane.

GRANNY STAGG'S MINCE PIE DAY raising money for Cancer Research UK will take place on **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND FROM 10:30AM – 3PM** There will be a tombola, A children's tombola, books & puzzles & a raffle. Teas & Coffees, cakes & Mince pies. This will take place at Tim & Lyn Staggs house – The Walnuts, Southend



Stoke Orchard and Tredington Parish Council Community Speed Watch



Speed monitoring by CSW from March 2023 to October 2023

Tredington Village Hall - 10 sessions

Tredington, Mill Farm - 2 sessions.

Tredington School - 2 sessions.

S.O. Armstrong Road - 3 sessions.

S.O. Waterloo Farm - 3 sessions.

20 sessions in total



As you know, CSW speed data is forwarded to Gloucestershire Constabulary who will issue advisory letters about the impact of speeding.

GC Speedwatch support team response:

*'The number of letters sent is 158 since 01/03/2023. There were 145 first letters sent and only 13 second letters which suggests quite a good level of compliance after the initial letter, much better than we are seeing elsewhere. There are a number of variables here **but the general position is that the group has had a positive effect on quite a number of drivers**'.*

Overview of local Police Community Speedwatch data

'The van site at Stoke Orchard has been visited 7 times with 75 offences detected;

The trucam site Stoke Rd, Tredington visited 12 times with 98 offences detected;

The trucam at Stoke Rd/Armstrong Rd visited 7 times with 24 offences detected;

The trucam at Waterloo Farm visited 1 time and 0 offences detected'.

Please remember: *When a car crashes, it's the amount of kinetic energy that the car has which determines the force of impact. Kinetic energy is the energy of motion. Small increases in speed lead to much higher increases in kinetic energy.*



STOKE ORCHARD & TREDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors from May 16th 2023 are:-

Cllr Alan Macdonald (Chairman) Cllr Andrew Troughton, Cllr James Gilder,
Cllr Tim Jukes, Cllr Graham Ferguson, Cllr. Sue Shorrocks, Cllr George Fairbairn

Contact Details – through the Clerk - Mrs Jules Owen

S.O and T P.C. phone:-07763 250303 email – clerk@sotpc.co.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 Tuesday December 5th at 7.00pm. 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,

Cracking on into Winter and the year has galloped by. My wee shop in Bishops Cleeve has gone crazy busy, as it usually does this time of year. This coming year will be year 29 in the village. I never thought back in 1995, I'd still be doing it but it still seems like yesterday!

So, what has been going on this month...

- The Roseleigh development has again been occupying every waking hour for us. Harper Crewe came back on the 8th of November with a farther presentation. In this they detailed several changes to their planning application, not least of which was the addition of 12 bungalows. The LEAP was also moved, and other changes included highway and landscape improvements. We are deep in negotiations with them & TBC regarding 106 monies & Community Infrastructure Levy payments, so that (if the development goes ahead), we achieve the best possible result for our community. The official response from the PC has been submitted and we detailed our concerns, mainly around several highways issues, which have also been flagged up by Highways themselves.

- As part of the Highways issues above, we have also met with the head of the Junction 10 M5 team, to discuss their mitigatory suggestions for Stoke Road, given the farther increase in through traffic this is likely to produce. These include 20mph zones, build outs, rumble strips, VAS speed cameras & extra pavement. However, we have focused on trying to persuade them of the need for average speed cameras, and it may be possible to get these on a trial basis.
- The land by the chapel is still in the legal stage. You may have noticed it being cleared ready for handover. I was hoping to plant a few more fruit trees and wildflowers there, and I have a bench to install there too, so that it can be a community space to sit and watch the world go by. However, if anyone comes up with a better suggestion, I'd be happy to go with that.
- Cotswold Oak Ltd, who are building the development next to Manor Farm, wish to perform remedial sewage work across the village green at the end of Swan Lane. As part of the negotiation there, they have agreed to provide a pavement across the green to link up with Swan Lane, and to donate a nice new village noticeboard.
- The pump track planning application is nearing fruition, I hope! I'd like to thank our previous chair Mr Chatham for his hours of work trying to satisfy the planners requests for maps, diagrams and flood reassurances. We also had to complete a noise assessment and await the report on this too.
- The new backboards have now been installed at the MUGA, along with new metal hoop nets. A new tennis net has been purchased and we are looking at a secure storage unit we could put onsite so that all the equipment can be stored more conveniently.

There's so much more but I can't fit it on the page!

Have a great Month all!

Richard's Ramblings - A little Nostalgia.

Tewkesbury "The Good Old Days" exhibited some early photos of Stoke Orchard this week from the Cheltenham Chronicle and Gloucestershire Graphic, March 15th 1904. The Chronicle heading was that Stoke Orchard was a hamlet of Bishops Cleeve, but enjoys the privileges of a Township, having its own authority and supporting its own poor. It goes on to say that it is situated six miles from Cheltenham and is in the Vale on Flat ground. The photographs were submitted by Michael Walsh who now



lives in Vancouver, Canada. His father, Paddy Walsh, was my father and grandfather's groom from their days at Grange Farm, Bredon.

Pic. 1 is named as the Chapel of Ease, attached to Bishops Cleeve and is a very ancient building in the Norman Style.

Pic. 2 - A corner of the Hamlet showing

some half timbered Cottages. Did you recognise it? it is the Old Forge (now Old Forge Cottages) and Duckstone House with Dean Lane in the middle.

Pic 3 shows Green Farm - referred to as a quaint old Half Timbered House with snow lying in the garden. That is where



the

entrance to Archers Lane is situated.

Pic 4. The one house that hasn't changed much is Manor Farm, below, probably the oldest house in the



Manor of Downing which was attached to Tewkesbury Abbey in olden times. It was recorded that the Hounds often met at Manor Farm.



So to balance things up, here are a few old views of Tredington.



Whilst we may know this as Church Cottage, the buildings behind housed the old Forge and as a youngster I remember the old forge fire with the fan to blow the coals red hot was still up in the one corner. The chimney from it can be seen in the picture.

This old Barn stood opposite Apple Tree Cottage. The gateway for Tredington House Farm can be seen in the distance at the top of the village. When the barn was removed, Basil Barke at Cartref used some of the stone to build the wall at the front of his garden



This is an old view of the interior of



the Church with the magnificent Jacobean Pulpit and the traditional Choir stalls in the chancel. The old Harmonium was at that time in the Chancel so the Organist could conduct the Choir which we had as recently as the

1950's

Finally the Old Manor that stood opposite the Church, The story goes it was sold and dismantled stone by stone and shipped to America where it was rebuilt in its finery!



Tredington and Stoke Orchard

Neighbourhood Watch

Be Prepared for the Darker Evenings—



W

**Window
locks**



I

**Indoor lights
on timer switches**



D

**Double or deadbolts
fitted to doors**



E

**Exterior lights
on a sensor**

Burglars look for opportunities where the rewards outweigh the risks. They want to find empty-looking homes, where they can't be seen by neighbours and where they can get in and out quickly.

Take away their opportunities by installing the 'WIDE' combination of security devices and by carrying out the following actions:



Is your back gate your weak spot?

Stop access to your back garden. It is really important. Install strong fences and gates and make sure they are kept locked. Make it difficult for burglars to climb over them by adding trellis and spiky plants. Burglars enjoy the privacy of a back garden as it allows them to spend the time they need to get into your home often by smashing patio doors.



Install CCTV or digital doorbells

Install external CCTV or digital doorbells. Burglars don't want to be seen and these devices can capture evidence we can circulate amongst our officers and the public.



Can your neighbours see your entrances and exits?

Increase the visibility of the entrances and exits of your home. Cut back and remove any plants, bushes and high fencing that block your neighbour's view of your home. Burglars do not want to be seen as they may get caught.



Mark your property with forensic marking liquids

Use forensic marking liquids to increase the likelihood of getting your belongings back. These liquids act like DNA evidence and can be used to link recovered property back to you. Popular brands include SmartWater, SelectaDNA and ImmoDot. You may be able to purchase these kits from us directly at a discount as well as through your local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.



Check if valuables are on show

Check what valuables can be seen from the outside of your home. If there are items that may look tempting to a burglar remove them from view and make sure they are marked with a registered forensic marking liquid.



Wheelie bins, tools and heavy garden objects

Wheelie bins left out the front offer burglars help to get over your fences. Tools and heavy objects left out help them smash or force their way in. Put them away.

Stoke Orchard and Tredington Neighbourhood Watch.

Could you give a few hours a month to help your
Community?—we need another Co-ordinator



Sadly the most prevalent threat today are Scams on the Computer, on the phone or even on the doorstep. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is, it sounds suspicious just say NO! We can all be victims, sadly many of us have been, so be aware and use the following websites for advice and support.

If you have any information regarding any of these crimes, please contact the police by calling 101. You can also report information online at <http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about>

You can also report any information anonymously to Crimestoppers by calling 0800555111 or online at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information>



Miscanthus Flowers

Over the past few years I have received countless enquiries as to what is growing in the field behind the wooden bungalow on Stoke Road next to the railway line. It is



Miscanthus or Elephant Grass, used for animal bedding, biofuel or in some places soil improver. There are many garden types of the plant which flower every year, but for the first time since it was planted, this year the field burst into colour in September and made quite a spectacular sight.

**POST YOUR LETTER TO
FATHER CHRISTMAS AT
THE ORCHARD STORE**

**GUARANTEED A REPLY FROM THE MAN
HIMSELF!**



£1.00 PER LETTER

**PLEASE ENSURE THE LETTER INCLUDES THE NAME AND
ADDRESS OF THE CHILD WANTING A REPLY**

(you will receive the original letter back and no details will be kept)

LAST POSTING DATE 21ST DECEMBER 2023



Stoke Orchard Community Centre

December 23 Class timetable

Please see below our class timetable. Please contact the classes directly on the email provided.

Monday	Zumba 09:30-10:30am michele.darnell@btinternet.com			Yoga 7pm – 8:00pm info@greentreeyoga.co.uk
Tuesday	Pilates 09:30-10:30am pilatesbycharlotte@gmail.com			Kettlercise 6:30pm-7.15pm Pilates 7.30-8.00pm tredtraining@outlook.com
Wednesday	Stoke Orchard Toddlers 9.30am - 11-00am Last Session Before Xmas - Dec. 13th			
Thursday			U3A Science 2.00pm to 4.00pm December 7th	Hatha Yoga 7.30-8.45pm sadiehawson@gmail.com
Friday	Pilates 09:30-10:30am GravityFitness@live.co.uk	DIDIRUGBY 10.30am to 11.30am keith.smith@didirugby.com	CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT SWITCH ON 2ND DECEMBER 6PM-8PM	PUB NIGHT DEC 22nd
Saturday	Zumba 10–11am michele.darnell@btinternet.com			
Sunday	Kettlercise 09:00-10:00am tredtraining@outlook.com			Christmas Eve Drinks 5.00pm - 6.00pm.

Christmas at

STOKE ORCHARD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Upcoming Events

2nd Dec. CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT SWITCH-ON 6PM-8PM

22nd Dec. CHRISTMAS JUMPER PUB NIGHT

24TH Dec.– CHRISTMAS EVE DRINKS

This follows the church service 5pm – 6pm

For the first time Father Christmas has a post box here! He is waiting for your letter! Last posting

date – 21st December!

Christmas Shop opening times

Closed from 4.30pm Christmas Eve

Open again on the 27th December from 9am

Closed from 4.30pm New Years Eve and open again on the 2nd January 2024

Want to book the hall? please email booking@stokeorchard.org

The Orchard Store and Amy's Coffee Shop

We have many lovely goodies for you to purchase for Christmas from crackers, to chocolate to lovely gifts!

As we head towards the end of 2023, everyone from the Management Committee and volunteers would like to say a Massive Thank You for all your support over the last year. Running the building comes with its challenges and may goodness we have had a few this year but we are very much looking forward to 2024! The Community Centre cannot exist without the merry band of volunteers that help run this place. A VERY LARGE THANK YOU! If you would like to take part please email info@stokeorchard.org

Please see the list of Church Services on Tredington News Pages.

Vicar	Revd Ilse Ferwerda	01452 780880	apperleypriest@gmail.com
Assistant Priest	Rev. Kay Mundy	01452 780634	therevkaymundy@gmail.com
Priest in Charge	Revd Ilse Ferwerda	01452 780880	apperleypriest@gmail.com
Church Warden	Tessa Mills	01684 216563	
Hon Associate Minister	Rev. Tom Curtis, Stonehills Tewkesbury,	01684 295298	
Reader - and Young People's Church	Mrs Vivienne Troughton Tredington, Tewkesbury	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	Helen MacDonald	07437 533 132	info@stokeorchard.org

Recycling and Waste Collection Dates for **December** Stoke Orchard and Tredington. **Blue - Thursday 14th** **Friday 29th**
Green Thursday 7th **Thursday 21st**

FLOWER Volunteers are needed to help with flowers and decorating Stoke Orchard Church, especially at Christmas, Easter and Harvest. No skill is required - just a love of flowers! Please contact Tessa Mills (Churchwarden) if you can help. Thanks! Tessa's contact number: 01452 780434

Tredington Flower Rota.

December 3rd and the 10th Julie Stagg

November 17th and 24th Vivienne Troughton

T.Bus Timetable—

Please note times shown are at Stoke Orchard. - Times at Tredington will differ by approx 3 minutes
Tewkesbury to Bishops Cleeve

Stoke Orchard, nr The Orchard	07:59	09:16	10:26	11:37	12:46	13:57	15:09	16:29	17:41	18:51
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Bishops Cleeve to Tewkesbury

Stoke Orchard, by St James's Church	07:14	08:39	09:49	10:59	12:09	13:19	14:29	15:44	17:04	18:14
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