

Stoke Orchard and Tredington Newsletter



February 1st - Safe Again!!

February 2024



Monthly Message

January 2024



A few days ago I spotted the first snowdrops along Court Drive in Apperley, and if you go to Stoke Orchard or Deerhurst you will find plenty of snowdrops in the churchyards there! They are gorgeous little flowers, and they always give me a feeling of hope early on in the year.



We may still be in the depths of winter, but these snowdrops are a sign of things happening and of things to come. For everyone in this benefice and in Tewkesbury, I hope that doesn't include more rain and floods...

What is happening soon, actually halfway through this month, is the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is on the 14th February (yes, it coincides with Valentine's Day this year!) and there will be a special service at Apperley at 7pm, to which everyone is welcome. Lent is the start of the most solemn time of the church year, and invites us to take time to reflect on how we are doing following the way of Christ, and consider

ways that will help bring us closer to him.

For me, this will coincide with the start of some time off. 2023 has not been an easy year, and I am taking some time off to rest, re-balance, and refresh. A very Lenten thing to do, and no doubt Easter will be all the more joyful for it!

What will your Lent look like? How will you prepare for Easter? And what is happening around you, and how do they point to things to come?

Feel free to share and let us know if you want!

Peace and blessings to you all,

Ilse

Church Services for February 2024

- Sunday 4th February 10am Benefice Communion at Chaceley
- Sunday 11th February 9.30am Holy Communion at Stoke Orchard
- Wednesday 14th February 7pm Ash Wednesday service at Apperley
- Sunday 18th February 9.30am Holy Communion at Tredington
- Sunday 25th February 9.30am Holy Communion at Stoke Orchard.

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 FROM TREDINGTON FOR FEBRUARY 2024

Tredington & Stoke Orchard WI next meet on **Tuesday, February 13^t** at 7.30pm in Tredington Village Hall. Kate Peake will be speaking to us on “Views of the Cotswolds”. We are always pleased to welcome visitors and new members.

Tredington & Stoke Orchard Gardening Club will be meeting on **Monday, February 19th** in Tredington Village Hall. Our speaker is Ian Sadler who will be telling us about “Easydendrons (Beautiful Rhododendrons etc”). Visitors are very welcome.

THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE are pleased to announce the purchase of a wide screen Smart television on a moveable stand for use in Tredington Village Hall. There will be a small extra charge for its use. We hope in the near future to have a film club, so watch this space.

The next **WHIST DRIVE** will be on **Friday, March 1st at 7pm** in Tredington Village Hall. **Tickets at £ 9 are available from Paddy on 01684 294053** . The ticket will include the usual light savoury finger food and tea/coffee. If you wish, please bring your own drink.

Tredington Sandbaggers. The January meeting of the Sandbaggers took 14 members by T bus to Tewkesbury for a hearty breakfast at Wetherspoons (The Hop Pole). Much enjoyed by all. **Picture to follow.**



Stoke Orchard and Tredington Parish Council Community Speed Watch



On 4th and 11th January, members of the CSW team braved the cold weather to conduct the first speed monitoring sessions of 2024. On the first occasion, the team were joined by two PSCOs Ben Tylour and trainee Cody Dokic.

The results (7% and 8% travelling above 35 mph) suggest that the CSW activity continues to make an impact on driver behaviour. Please help us to reduce speeding in the villages by driving within the speed limit which slows other drivers.

Remember that Rural Lanes are not Motorways.

Drive within Stopping Distance of what is in view.





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.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday February 6th 2024 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,

January is an odd month after all the furore of Christmas and the New Year. Being a Scot though, I have “Burns night” on 25th January to look forward to. I can never say I’m going to do ‘dry January’, as that would be a slur on the bard’s name!

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

- The Roseleigh development is still with Tewkesbury Borough Council’s planning department, and the pc were asked to submit our further response to their updated application. This is now on TBC’s planning portal.
- We had a meeting with Cotswold Oak Ltd on 10th Jan to ascertain the physical position of both the sewerage pipes under the PC land and with the pavement they are going to lay. We had raised some concerns about the road crossing on the junction. We have asked if it’s possible to delineate the crossing to make it safer, as Highways have agreed it’s position. The undergrowth being cut down will be replanted and I asked if they would supply a ‘community Christmas tree’, that we could plant somewhere!

- We welcome back our parish clerk after her maternity leave (Congratulations)! Our appreciative thanks go to Ms Jules Owen for holding the fort. A staffing meeting with Shelley was held to discuss the most efficient way forward for us all.
- Nothing yet on the Land by the Chapel. I am waiting to hear from our solicitor on progress.
- The pump track had a full 'ecologist visit on the 16th Jan, in order to satisfy farther requests from the planning department. We await the ecologists report, and I can submit it.
- The Junction 10 team have completed farther surveys we requested, and we are trying to arrange a meeting of all bodies concerned – Highways, Borough & County Councils, police and ourselves to try to get the best mitigatory package as a result of this scheme.
- The enclosure for the bee hives was built – thanks go to James Gilder, Gordon Webber, Richard Chatham & Paul Hazell for their help. Two bee hives have now been homed within and come spring and summer, do look out for the most local honey you will ever taste, which will be on sale in the Orchard Stores.
- We've been having to do our sums (headache inducing), to come up with a realistic budget with which to service the Parish. This will form part of the precept we all have to pay to TBC. With the increases in everything across the board over the last year, this is proving challenging, but we will try to be savvy & parsimonious.
- Highways came and tidied up the stretch of hedging opposite Waterloo Farm. However, the ditch wasn't cleared properly, and the fence was damaged. We are harrying Highways to make good and clear. The bridle path aptly called 'Watery Lane', abutting the Orchard Estate leading to the pumping station, has also been pinned down to a Highways responsibility, and has now been raised as a clearing/pruning job. Lots more but no more space!

Have a great Month all!

Richard's Ramblings 2024

What a Tip!

Well over 50 years ago, Dad came back from a Parish Council meeting and told us that the County Council were planning on opening a Landfill Site on the far side of the Airfield at Stoke Orchard. The Parish Council fought against it but the County Council won the day—not too surprising. The expected life of the Tip as we know it was 26 years. When the 26 years was up it was only half full and also in places parts were being re-opened to put more fresh rubbish on top of old, as the earlier had settled, started to decay and produce methane. Three giant generators were installed, powered by the methane, to produce electricity for the National Grid—and they still do to this day.



The management of the Wingmoor Farm Landfill Area is in a total different league from the early days. At one time pools of leachate threaten to turn the Swilgate bright green, but when one remembers the Cess Pit overflow down the old Mill run alongside Fiddington Lane, it would not have been the first time!! However, in my Council career I sat on the Coal Board Liaison Committee and the Wingmoor Farm liaison Committee and believe you me, things have changed dramatically on for the better.

Last Monday I joined a group of friends to tour the new EFW (Electricity from Waste) unit at Morton Valence, alongside J12 on the M5 and on the old Gloster Aircraft Factory site. What a strange coincidence with Stoke Orchard—two satellite airfield Factories from the days of Gloster Aircraft bonded once more by waste!

RAF Morton Valence was, like RAF Stoke Orchard, built in 1939 and was originally designated a back up for RAF Staverton. However, there were great similarities with RAF Stoke Orchard as the Gloster Aircraft company extended its use to Moreton Valence at the same time it built Sheds 39 and 40 at Stoke.



Similarities continue as initially it was also the home of an Elementary Flying School and later the home of 83 Glider Squadron RAF after the RAF had taken over the training of pilots for the Glider Pilots Regiment from the Army Flying Corp.

Whilst Gloster assembled the Hurricane and Typhoon at Stoke Orchard, they used Moreton Valence - due to the extended concrete runway for testing the Gloster EE588 or better known to us as the Gloster Meteor, the first jet engine aircraft flown by the Allies in WWII. The Gloster Javelin was to follow and assembly was at Moreton Valence. The test pilot for the Javelin, one Bill Waterton, who is remembered by us in Stoke Orchard in Waterton Close, once said about the Javelin after it became uncontrollable as it neared the speed of sound, this aircraft will kill somebody one day!! We also other Test Pilots - Zurakowski - better known as "Zura", the man who invented the aerial cartwheel and Eric "Greenwood" The Gloster chief test pilot who was the first person to exceed 600 MPH in Meteor! That long runway, it is the straight section of the M5 south of Junction 12!

I digress, well that is part of my Ramblings, you all know that. I want to take you inside this amazing building and give you some idea of what it does and how it works. The size and capacity of this unit is mind blowing but like the fight our Parish Council put up, this EFW unit was not universally welcomed when it was first suggested. I want to take you inside and give you an idea not only of the capacity of this unit but also the scientific level of safety controls on the management and more importantly the safety of the emissions of this 21st century Leviathan.



The rubbish arrives by lorry, some are local refuse wagons that have collected locally, but much like the rubbish from our area, is tipped locally at a waste transfer station and then arrives in 25 tonne loads in articulated lorries. Before we go any further, let me explain that the unit is working 24/7, 49 weeks a year. (except for any emergency repairs. Maintenance.)



The other three weeks of the year, it is cooled for essential maintenance and overhauls. Therefore, whilst waste vehicles only tip standard day working hours—8.00am—5.00pm the plant continues to burn and produce electricity 24 hours a day.

All vehicles are weighed **1**. on the way in and out to get the weight of the rubbish imported. The lorries now tip in area **2** where the rubbish drops into the waste bunker—area **3**. in this area two fully automated grabs mix up to 3000 tonnes of waste 24/7 and load the furnace from the top. The furnace **4** has air blowers top and bottom, a bit like an old forge furnace and maintains the



temperature around 1000 degrees centigrade to ensure all dangerous material and gases are totally incinerated. The furnace is on a slope and the material is encouraged down the slope by a series of flaps which activate automatically to

maintain the flow. The Boiler sits on top of the Furnace. And is heated by the flue gases which pass over the and under the furnace.

The system works in a very similar way to any of the wonderful Stanier or Churchward (Castle Class) steam locos that ran on the GWR and LMS railway lines just 1200 yards away as they raced each other to see who could claim the platform at Gloucester Station first. I mention Sir William Stanier as he went to Wycliffe College in Stonehouse, well so did we as a family!! The fire heats the air which run the flues that heat the water in the boiler,**4** and then through the superheater tubes

and the steam at over 400 degrees powers the pistons or in this the case the turbine that runs Elin the generator **5** (gennies always have ladies names!) Elin produces the electricity to the run the whole unit and enough besides to power the equivalent of 25,000 homes.



So, what about the dirty gases and the waste from the fire. That takes me back to my earlier comment about scientific controls. The superheated steam is cooled and condensed and returns to the boiler to be heated again. The Flue gases go through a series of cleaning systems where lime and activated carbon are used reduce the acidity and filter out dangerous toxins, (the sort of things you smell when plastic is burned,) then the cleaned gases are filtered to remove any solid particles and, exit via the chimney stack! The spent lime and carbon filters are safely removed to hazardous waste tip out of County!

So what about the burned residue, Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) which comes from the combustion grate and comprises inert aggregates, ceramics, glass, clinker, and some metals. The IBA is cooled using collected water from the site, before being processed to recover the metals, and then graded as a construction aggregate. The metals, are removed for recycling, except for the occasional lucky find which is kept upstairs in Reception as a sort of museum which include all sorts of matter from a sewing machine to horse shoe!!

The equipment in here is designed to burn our waste that at one time ended up in a continuous stream of lorries tipping at Wingmoor Farm. The annual capacity is 190,000 tons of waste. Each year in this County we produce some 130,000 tonnes of domestic un-recyclable waste so the extra capacity is made up with local commercial waste.

I admit I could Ramble about this forever, it was a fascinating trip and I admit that the EFW is a big leap forward from the Tip!!

Editor, Grateful thanks to all The staff at Urbaser for their input, supplying the photos and to Melanie for taking us round the site.

Please Note—"Pictures numbers 1-4 - ©Copyright Urbaser Ltd, 2019"

Stoke Orchard and Tredington Flood Warden's Report.

The recent high rainfall and subsequent flooding in the Severn-vaile and other parts of the Country has naturally raised concerns about flooding in our own Parish. The difference has been this time was that in 2007 ,we had the high rainfall and our flooding was Pluvial (rainfall). The last few weeks, the flooding has been Fluvial (River Levels). We could see the river levels rise on the gauges from Shrewsbury on the Severn and Warwick/Stratford on the Avon. While these level gauges gave those liable to river flooding some time to prepare, flooding in one's property is always devastating.

For the last two years, we have had the benefit of our own River level gauges on the Dean at Stoke Orchard and on the Swilgate at Tredington Bridge which have been extremely useful in recording the horrendous speed of storm water from the Cleeve and Cheltenham areas. Prompted by our own gauges, we now have a new Environment Agency Gauge on the Swilgate at Tredington which is available for all to check. So how do you find the levels on the web.!



For the Tredington E. A. Gauge copy and paste the link.

<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/9563>

For the Swilgate/Wymans Brook at Windyridge road in Cheltenham copy and paste the link—

<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/2200>

The levels in Cheltenham will arrive in Tredington around 90 minute later. I use it to warn of impending flooding or to confirm we are safe.

For river levels in the surrounding area—copy and Paste

<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/river-and-sea-levels?q=GL20%207BW>

To sign up for a flood alert for flooding in your area contact Floodline

<https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>

Or call 0345 988 1188



♥HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY♥

STOKE ORCHARD COMMUNITY CENTRE

With lighter mornings and evenings, it brings a sense of new beginnings. Why not join one of the classes that we have here at the hall or start your own? Please contact booking@stokeorchard.org to find out more or look on the website www.stokeorchard.org for classes. The hall benefits from a large airy, light main hall which is perfect for parties, christenings and family gatherings. We also benefit from a fantastic children's park with picnic benches on the patio area.

**You can grab yourself a hot drink and snack from
The Orchard Store and Amy's Coffee Shop!**

**"Valentine's Day" is just around the corner and
we have some sweet treats for your loved ones!**

Please keep using the shop, we are a Community Shop that can only survive with your custom! Over the winter months the shop opening hours are:

Monday – Thursday 9am to 6.30pm

Friday 9am – 7pm

Saturday 8.30am – 5pm Sunday 9am – 12.30pm

Please let the staff know if you would like us to stock a product .The Shop is run on a very tight budget but we will try and accommodate your requests. If you ever fancy working in the shop as a volunteer, please contact info@stokeorchard.org or speak to a staff member.



Stoke Orchard Community Centre

February 24 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	SWEATYMAMA 1.00pm - 3.00pm www.sweatymam.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		
Thursday		Chi Chi 6.00pm to 7.00pm jess.thesugarshack@gmail.com	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	
Saturday	Zumba 10-11am michele.darnell@btinternet.com		
Sunday	Kettlercise 09:00-10:00am tredtraining@outlook.com		

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 **February 2024** Stoke Orchard and

Tredington. **Blue - Thursday 8th Thursday 22nd**

Green Thursday 1st Thursday 15th Thursday 29th

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.

No Flowers until Easter.

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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