

Stoke Orchard & Tredington Newsletter



August 2026

Beacons of hope and peace to past, present and future generations

I'm writing this in the middle of a heatwave and today, July 11th, the winter barley harvest is starting on our farm. It was an early start 5am finishing at 2pm to miss the heat of the day. Farmers are used to coping with whatever nature and our ever-changing climate brings. In spite of this and of mechanisation and large-scale farming, generations of farmers have accepted the things they cannot change and have shown patience and resilience. Hopefully, by the time you read this article, we will have had rain, and the harvest will be safely gathered in.

Many of you will have noticed that, over this last year, Tredington Court has undergone major works. The last large-scale work on the front of the house was in the late 17th century. Like many in Tredington, this house has stood for centuries, surviving wars, plagues, monarchs, parliaments and the general upheavals of life, continuing to stand as monuments to the past whilst embracing change and future generations.

The two village churches, St. John the Baptist (Tredington) and St. James (Stoke Orchard) have stood for about a thousand years as beacons of hope and peace to past, present and future generations. All the important events in life have been celebrated there. Baptisms, weddings, funerals, Harvest Festivals, Christmas and Easter. It is a pattern that has carried on for centuries as with the rhythm of nature that surrounds them. These churches continue to be at the heart of village life and, even though congregations have dwindled somewhat, there is a faithful contingent regularly meeting and it is comforting to know that our churches remain open for prayer, worship and as a place of sanctuary for locals and visitors alike. As with the rhythm of the seasons in the villages, families come and go. We have been greatly encouraged recently by a young family joining our congregation and also, a lovely twenty-year-old music student who has recently played the organ in both churches. All this new life and movement has raised both our spirits and our singing. We look forward to more wonderful organ playing until our student returns to university. And, as ever, we stay hopeful about the future and trust in God to be with us on the journey.

Whilst we cannot live in the past, there are certain values which are always important in life, such as, listening and praying for wisdom and discernment. Throughout the Bible, with its 'warts and all' account of Jewish history and the history of Christianity up to 100AD or thereabouts, we read how God, through the prophets, was always calling His people to be guided by Him.

Proverbs 3 verses 5 & 6 say: 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.'

When God told King Solomon to ask for anything, Solomon asked for God's wisdom. Wisdom, in turn, leads to discernment. In our time, where the media and society encourage us to explore and stand on our own 'truth', we would be wise to seek THE truth, to pray for wisdom, to listen and to practice discernment in all areas of our lives. It is also worth noting, that the habit of daily 'prayer' is a feature of most faiths. Indeed, over my 53 years at Tredington Court, prayer for wisdom and discernment has been central to my life on the farm and, like many of us, I continue to work on my listening skills!

V. Troughton

**Church
Services
- August**

Sunday 2nd August 9.30am • Tredington MW
Sunday 9th August 9.30am • Stoke Orchard HC
Sunday 16th August 9.30am • Tredington HC
Sunday 23rd August 9.30am • Stoke Orchard HC
Friday 28th - Sunday 30th August • Deerhurst Flower Festival



Stoke Orchard & Tredington Parish Council



Parish Councillors from May 16th 2025 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 September 2nd, 2026 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,

Hope all is well in your world Here's the usual summary of what we have been up to this month. 😊

- The M5 Junction 10 mitigation scheme due to be implemented on Stoke Road in August has now been postponed. This included build-outs, more signage and a 20mph zone throughout the village. Other issues that the Council had spent years negotiating have also been discounted, much to our chagrin. The scheme was designed to combat the possible substantial increase in through traffic when the main works begin in October. We have been informed that our part of the scheme will now be implemented in late October during the half term holidays. We are working hard, not just to ascertain the reasons for the postponement, but also why the shelving of useful community improvements we thought had been agreed are now not going to go ahead.
- The three dead trees at the end of Mill Lane will be felled and chipped up presently. We are looking at other areas around the Parish and assessing the need to remove any others.
- The community centre has new doors. The safety and security of the hall has been improved, and the convenience for our guests and hirers is much improved too. We'll replace the carpet in the entrance foyer too.
- We've had reports of children climbing up the fence surrounding the MUGA. Could parents please dissuade their kids from doing this please, as this is not allowed, and we would not want any accidents.



- Both the land by the chapel at Banady Lane and the pear tree land on the Pennycress estate were beginning to look very overgrown. Our contractors van had broken down so he couldn't bring the machinery he needed. Thanks to Nikki, both areas were given a good scalping and now look much better. We have instructed TFN, who maintain the POS on the Orchard estate to begin a regular programme of maintenance in both these areas, which should be an improvement. The chippings currently there will be removed and we hope that by regular cutting, the horsetails may be eradicated eventually.
- The Council looked at buying the land up for auction by Court Farm, with a view to our desperate need for playing pitches. Sadly, this proved not to be viable. However, if there are any kind landowners out there who regard the long-term wellbeing of the villages as important, we would love to hear from you. Imagine the legacy you could leave!

Have a good month all !! 😊

Recycling & Waste Collection Dates for August 2026 - Stoke Orchard & Tredington

BLUE	Friday 6th	Thursday 20th	Friday 4th Sept
GREEN	Thursday 13th	Thursday 27th	Thursday 10th Sept

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



HELP NEEDED FOR ST JAMES

For generations, St James's has stood at heart of Stoke Orchard. Whether it is marking life's milestones, offering a quiet space for reflection, or hosting community gatherings, this historic building has always been there for us. But its so much more: Unique medieval wall paintings adorn the walls which may be damaged if we cannot repair the roof.

The passage of time and severe weather have taken a toll on our beloved church

Our roof is in urgent need of repair! Leaks and degrading materials threaten not only the structural integrity of the roof of this beautiful building but also the priceless wall paintings and of course the safe use of the space for community events.

The total cost will be around £200,000 to completely restore the roof of the nave. This isn't just about fixing tiles and timbers; it is about safeguarding a community asset for future generations. Once the roof is secure, we can ensure the building remains dry, and available for everyone to use.

How You Can Help? We cannot do this without you. We are calling on local residents, history enthusiasts, friends of Stoke Orchard and those who just love old churches to come together. Your contribution – whether large or small – will directly fund the skilled labour needed to repair the roof.

Please consider donating today – this QR code takes you to an initial GoFundMe page – and will help us preserve a vital piece of village's history.



Thank You from Tredington and Stoke Orchard PCC

SUMMER

Activity Sheet

Have fun and enjoy your summer!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find the summer words?

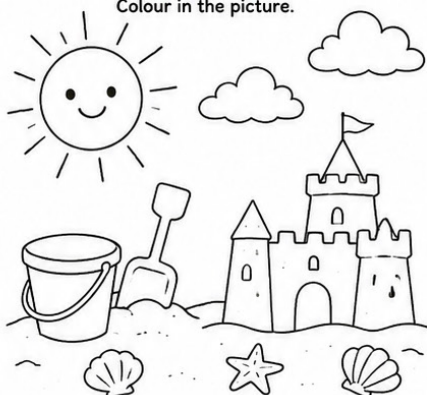


S	U	N	S	H	I	N	E
B	E	A	C	H	I	C	E
S	U	M	M	E	R	W	A
V	A	C	A	T	I	O	N
S	W	I	M	P	O	O	L
I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M
S	A	N	D	C	A	S	T
F	U	N	H	O	L	I	D

SUNSHINE
BEACH
SUMMER
VACATION
SWIM
POOL
ICE CREAM
SANDCASTLE
FUN
HOLIDAY

COLOUR ME!

Colour in the picture.



I SPY...

How many of each can you find?



= ____
 = ____
 = ____
 = ____
 = ____
 = ____

DRAW YOUR PERFECT SUMMER DAY!

What would you do?



SUMMER JOKES!

Q: Why did the ice cream go to the beach?

A: Because it wanted to **chill out!**

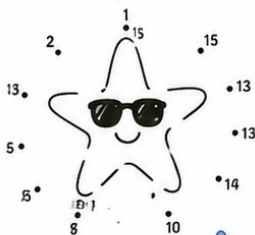
Q: What do you call a snowman in the summer?

A: A **puddle!**



CONNECT THE DOTS

What will you discover?



SUMMER CHECKLIST

Tick off the things you would love to do!

- ☐ Go to the beach
- ☐ Eat ice cream
- ☐ Have a picnic
- ☐ Swim in a pool
- ☐ Watch the sunset
- ☐ Build a sandcastle
- ☐ Read a book outside
- ☐ Have fun!



POETS CORNER – THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

The summer holidays have come at last,
A season made for moments that fly by fast.
Long golden mornings, bright blue skies,
With endless wonder in children's eyes.

The laughter echoes through the park,
From sunrise light to evening dark.
Ice creams melting in tiny hands,
Footprints scattered across warm sands.

Gardens bloom in every hue,
With buzzing bees and skies so blue.
Picnics shared beneath the trees,
Kites that dance upon the breeze.

Bikes race down familiar lanes,
Followed by the welcome rain,
Then sunshine breaks through clouds once more,
Inviting everyone outdoors.

No school bells ringing through the day,
Just time to dream, explore and play.
To build, imagine, laugh and roam,
Finding adventure close to home.

For summer isn't measured by
The places seen or miles gone by.
It's found in simple, joyful things—
The happiness each new day brings.

So treasure every sunny hour,
Each rainbow, raindrop, tree and flower.
For memories made beneath the sun
Will warm our hearts when summer's done.



Ride on Time and Trainmaster Special!



Thursday 20th August

Stoke Orchard Community Centre

1.30pm to 2.30pm

2.45pm to 3.45pm

www.rideontimehire.com/oxon-cotswolds





Stoke Orchard Community Centre



The new doors have been installed and they look great! Entry to the hall is now via push button entry and the button is on the pillar next to the phone box. When the hall is open entry is non restricted, when the hall is closed the entry button will not work unless you are a hirer or have prearrange access arrangements such as a code/QR code, as with most things you get a few teething problems as you get used to new thing/ change but the doors are now providing the upmost safety for its users.

Meeting room The meeting room has seen a huge change and is now a room that can be more flexible to an array of activities. We are hoping to have weekly events, coffee mornings, craft group and make it a room the community can use, we would love any ideas and help spread the word of what we are hoping to do.

Goodbye and hello! In July we were sad to see **Chill Dance Academy** leave the community centre, Chloe has built her business over the years and finally opened her own studio in Cheltenham. We wish her all the very best and look forward to them popping back from time to time for competition practices.

We have welcomed **All star Liners**, whom every Wednesday 6-7pm provide a great line dancing class, open to all. No booking just turn up £6 per person

Don't forget we also have an array of other classes, please see the timetable for events.

Car Park We have many events due to take place and just a reminder the carpark is for patrons only and we please ask for residents to refrain from using it.



COMMUNITY CLASSES

MONDAY 	BARRE PILATES ZOOM 7-00PM £4
TUESDAY 	KETTLES 6:30PM £6.50 PILATES 7-20PM £6.50
WEDNESDAY 	BODY CONDITIONING ZOOM 6:30AM £4
SUNDAY 	HIT DOUBLE KETTLES 9:00AM £5.50 HIT BODY WEIGHT 9:25AM £5.50

ONLINE ON DEMAND FITNESS CLASSES

INCLUDING

STRENGTH

CARDIO

STRETCH

CORE

PILATES

WEEKLY ONLINE TIMETABLE RELEASED
DO IT LIVE OR ACCESS TO BACKLOG OF CLASSES FOR 30 DAYS

STOKE ORCHARD COMMUNITY CENTRE

£30
ONLINE A MONTH
ALL FITNESS LEVELS WELCOME

£50
COMMUNITY CLASSES & ONLINE
SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

£50
COMMUNITY CLASSES & ONLINE
STRONGER TOGETHER

TURN UP. WORK HARD. FEEL GOOD.

07857 908874

CONTACT DETAILS TO BOOK
INSTA FACEBOOK

TREDTRAINING@OUTLOOK.COM

MONDAY

ZUMBA 9.30-10.30am

Michele.darnell@btinternet.com

COMING SOON! TAEKWONDO

Classes from September

TUESDAY

18TH AUGUST

U3A ART APPRECIATION 2-4pm

PILATES BY CHARLOTTE

9.30-10.30am

Pilatesbycharlotte@gmail.com

TRED TRAINING Kettles 6.30pm

Hog Pilates 7.20pm

tredtraining@outlook.com

WEDNESDAY

STOKE ORCHARD BABY AND

TODDLER GROUP 9.30-11am

(5th and 19th Aug)

LINE DANCING CLASS 7pm

£6pp, No need to book, just turn up!

All Star Liners

THURSDAY

6TH AUGUST

U3A SCIENCE GROUP 2-4pm

20TH AUGUST RIDE ON TIME/

TRAIN MASTER PLAY SESSION 1-4pm

cotswolds@rideontimehire.com

FRIDAY

GRAVITY FITNESS - PILATES

9.30-10.30am • *gravityfitness@live.co.uk*

GRAVITY FITNESS - BOOTCAMP

12.30-1.15pm • *gravityfitness@live.co.uk*

SATURDAY

5TH SEPTEMBER

COMMUNITY DAY - Stoke Orchard

Community Centre

SUNDAY

TRED TRAINING Kettle Bell HIIT 9am

Body Weight HIIT 9.30am

tredtraining@outlook.com

Save the date!

Community litter picking event

Sunday 13th September • 9.30 am

Meet at the community centre



FREE FAMILY EVENTS

Contact Hannah to find out more on 07983 705354
or info@tewkesburynaturereserve.org.uk



NATURE GUARDIANS

BUG HUNT

21st July 3pm - 4.30pm

RIVER RANGERS

23rd July 10 - 11.30am

TNR IN THE ABBEY GROUNDS ON 27TH JULY CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

10am - 1pm

BIRD WALK

1pm - 2.30pm

BOOK
ONLINE

DROP
IN

BRILLIANT BEETLES & SMASHING SEED BOMBS

@ DEREK GRAHAM MEMORIAL GARDENS
28th July 10.30am - 12pm

FAMILY VOLUNTEERING THE GREAT SEED HARVEST

30th July 10am - 11.30am

DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES

4th August 2pm - 3.30pm

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

12th August 10am - 11.30am

GRASSHOPPERS & CRICKETS

19th August 3.30pm - 5pm

ART IN NATURE

20th August 10am - 11.30am



RIVER RANGERS (X2)

25th August at 10am and 2pm

HAF WITH TNR

BOOK ON THE FAMILY HUBS WEBSITE

August 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

TNR @ THE LIBRARY

Drop in and join us 10am - 1pm
on July 20th, 29th and
August 5th, 10th and 19th



Booking required
via EventBrite.

Thanks to funding from:



COMMUNITY
FUND



Tredington & Stoke Orchard News for August 2026

TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD WI next meet at **11am on Friday August 28th at Nature in Art for coffee & chat**. There is a charge if people want to go round the exhibitions.

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TREDINGTON & STOKE ORCHARD GARDENING CLUB held a very successful fund raising Strawberry tea in York Barn, Tredington, when about fifty people enjoyed home made scones, cake & strawberries & cream, as well as a raffle. We raised £502 which will help to pay for good speakers next year!

Our next meeting is on, **Monday September 21st at 7.30pm in Tredington Village Hall**. **There is no meeting in August.**

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TREDINGTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE The first **Afternoon Tea ,Cake & Whist** of the Autumn will take place on **Thursday September 17th from 2-4pm in Tredington Village Hall**. After this we will meet on the second Thursday of the month. Names in due course to Paddy on 01684 294053.

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SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY
5TH SEPTEMBER

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION DAY

STOKE ORCHARD COMMUNITY CENTRE

1-6PM

LOTS OF FUN AND GAMES!

BAR OPEN!

www.severnvalenvintageclub.co.uk

SEVERN VALE VINTAGE CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

Fiddington Nr Tewkesbury GL20 7BJ

8th & 9th August 2026

JUST SOME OF THE ATTRACTIONS

1. STATIC WORKING ENGINE DISPLAY
2. LIVE WOODSMAN & CARVING DISPLAYS
3. STEAM TRACTION ENGINES
4. MINATURE STEAM ENGINES & SCALE MODELS
5. CLASSIC & VINTAGE CARS
6. VINTAGE MOTOR BIKES
7. CLASSIC TRACTORS
8. FARM & HARVESTING DEMONSTRATIONS
9. ARENA DISPLAYS & PARADES

AT OUR SHOW GROUND IN FIDDINGTON Nr Tewkesbury GL20 7BJ

≡ **GET INVOLVED!** ≡

TWO FUN COMPETITIONS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 26

FOR THE BAKERS..

**THE GREAT
VILLAGE
BAKE OFF**

≡ ——— ♡ ——— ≡
WHO CAN CREATE THE BEST
Victoria Sponge Cake

**PRIZES
FOR THE
WINNER!**



&

FOR THE CHILDREN..

WHO CAN BE THE MOST
INVENTIVE
AND
★ DECORATE THE BEST ★
WELLY BOOTS!



**PRIZES
FOR THE
WINNER!**



ALL ENTRIES TO BE TAKEN TO
STOKE ORCHARD COMMUNITY CENTRE
FOR 12N ON THE DAY



PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS!

Let's celebrate creativity, community and lots of fun!



Years gone by...



Hay Harvest in Tredington, 1930.

WATERMELON & FETA SALAD

SERVES 4-6

- 6 cups seedless watermelon, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 cup feta cheese, crumbled
- ½ English cucumber, sliced or diced (optional but delicious)
- ¼ small red onion, very thinly sliced
- ¼ cup fresh mint leaves, torn
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice (or lemon juice)
- Freshly ground black pepper



METHOD

1. In a large bowl, combine the watermelon, cucumber, red onion, and mint.
2. Drizzle with the olive oil and lime juice. Toss gently.
3. Sprinkle the crumbled feta over the top.
4. Finish with freshly ground black pepper and a small pinch of flaky sea salt if needed.

5. Serve immediately, or chill for 15-30 minutes before serving.

Optional Add-ins

- Sliced avocado
- Fresh basil instead of mint
- Toasted pistachios or pumpkin seeds for crunch
- A drizzle of balsamic glaze for a sweet-tangy finish

STOKE ORCHARD YOUTH FC — GLOUCESTERSHIRE FA

I'm delighted to share some fantastic news with the community: Stoke Orchard Youth FC has won the Gloucestershire FA 2026 Grassroots Club of the Year.

This is an outstanding achievement for our village. The Gloucestershire FA oversees a huge and diverse football community stretching from South Bristol all the way up to Tewkesbury. Hundreds of clubs of all sizes compete across multiple leagues, age groups and formats. To be chosen as Club of the Year across such a wide and competitive landscape is something truly special.

For those who may not follow football closely, this award is not about winning matches or league positions. The Gloucestershire FA judges clubs on how they serve their communities and how they use football to improve lives. Their criteria include:

- How the club is making football better and more accessible for more children
- What the club does, and why it stands out
- How the club makes a difference to others' lives and health and wellbeing
- Where the club has had a positive impact in its community
- Whether the club has overcome obstacles or created new opportunities

Stoke Orchard Youth FC excelled across all these areas.

Today, SOYFC supports around 120 children, with around 20 of them coming directly from Stoke Orchard, Tredington and Elmstone Hardwicke villages. These children take part in weekly training, match day competition and community events, proudly representing their village across the county. Many joined with no previous football experience, and some had previously faced barriers to accessing sport. The club's inclusive ethos ensures every child has a place to belong.

As County winners, SOYFC will now automatically go forward to the National



GRASSROOTS CLUB OF THE YEAR 2026



Left: Stoke Orchard FC Trophy and certificate.

Above: Club Chair, Treasurer and Coaches John and David before the ceremony.

FA Grassroots Awards, representing Gloucestershire at national level later this year. This means our small village club will stand alongside some of the most inspiring community football projects in the country.

This recognition reflects the exceptional dedication shown by our managers, coaches, volunteers, parents and players. Every training session set up in the rain, every match day organised, every lift given, every kit washed, every encouraging word offered, all of it has contributed to this moment. It is a celebration of what a community can achieve when people come together with purpose.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the club in any way. This award belongs to all of us and it is something the whole village can be proud of.

GRAVITY FITNESS

THE FITNESS ATTIC

REFORMER INTRO OFFER

THE FITNESS ATTIC

MEMBERS 2X CLASSES £25

NON MEMBERS 2X CLASSES £30

Our classes are welcoming for beginners, led by patient and experienced instructors.

Reformer Timetable

MONDAY
9.30 - 10.20am Mixed Ability
10.30 - 11.20am Beginners
12.30 - 1.20pm Mixed Ability

TUESDAY
6.15 - 7.05pm Mixed Ability

WEDNESDAY
5.00 - 5.50pm Mixed Ability
6.00 - 6.50pm Beginners
7.00 - 7.50pm Mixed Ability

THURSDAY
9.30 - 10.20am Beginners
10.30 - 11.20am Mixed Ability

FRIDAY
7.00 - 7.50pm Mixed Ability

SATURDAY
9.00 - 9.50am Mixed Ability

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