

# TemerTalk



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April 2024

## In this issue

Trace's last film, plant sale, quiz, spring walk, Kyre Park shrubbery and all your parish news

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# TemeTalk

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*A community going forward with God*

**April 2024**

Published by the churches of the  
Teme Valley South Group  
*and delivered free to every household*

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Items for inclusion should be  
sent to Sandra Griffiths  
by the 18th of the preceding month  
and will be included subject to space

*Dear Readers*

This month I have the delights of Jury Service. From previous experience I anticipate it will mean lots of hanging about waiting to see how defendants plead and if a jury is needed. Then, if a jury is needed, listening carefully to what is being said, considering what is and isn't believable, and thinking about the implications of what I've heard (ie if X happened what does that mean about Y?) before coming to a conclusion.

In many ways in this Easter season that is the task that faces us all. During Holy Week and on Easter Day we have remembered the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. But what's the evidence? Are the gospel writers, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John reliable witnesses? Can Paul in his letters when he writes about the risen Jesus appearing to "over five hundred people" (1 Corinthians 15) be trusted? Would they make their stories up? If the stories were untrue, would they have written them the way they did? Are the manuscripts reliable? Are there any other possible explanations? Is there any external evidence to corroborate or undermine their accounts?

For me, the evidence of the gospel writers together with other contemporary historical sources all point to Jesus having lived, having been executed by the Romans and having been raised from death to life. For me, no other explanation fits better with the available evidence. And that leads me to the conclusion that everything Jesus said about Himself has to be taken seriously, His claim that, "He who has seen me has seen the Father", His claim that "In my Father's house are many rooms" (both John 14) ...

But what about you? Have you looked at the evidence? What do you make of it and what conclusions do you come to?

Best wishes,

*Robert*

## Yoga class

at Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall  
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Please contact Karen on 07789 913425

## TemeTalk deadline 18th April



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## Teme Valley South Contacts

**Priest-in-charge:** Julia Curtis 01886 853286

**Assistant Curate:** Jen Jones 07749 977821

**LLM Reader:** Pete Thorp 07917 783159

**Retired clergy:** Robert Barlow, Sally Jones

### Churchwardens

**Eastham:** Celia Adams 01584 781258

**Rochford:** Ann Prosser 01584 781317

**Stoke Bliss & Kyre:**

**Hanleys:** Ed Yarnold 07930 882728

**Stanford:** Robin Dean 01886 853295

### Pastoral Team

**Stanford:** Lesley Dean 01886 853295

**Hanleys:**

**Stoke Bliss:**

**Rochford:** Ann Prosser 01584 781317

Jenny Barbé 01584 781298

**Eastham:** Mel Williams 01584 781284

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Sue Softly

## Village Hall Bookings

### Stoke Bliss & Kyre

Janet Powell, 01885 410598

[stokeblisskyrevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:stokeblisskyrevillagehall@gmail.com)

**Rochford** – Ann Prosser, 01584 781317

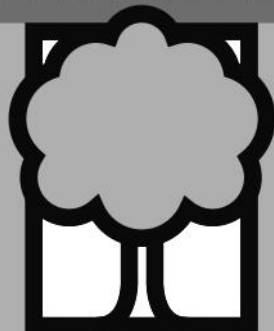
**Eastham** – Helen Matravers, 07580 158673

**Hanley** – Judy Bayliss, 01886 853813

**Stanford** – Catherine Mawby, 07831 303792

[stanfordwithorletonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:stanfordwithorletonvillagehall@gmail.com)

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# Parish news

## From the Registers

### Funeral

*Our sympathy and prayers are with the family and friends of*

**Juanita Mary Jones**, Thanksgiving Service at St Michael's Church, Rochford on Saturday 9th March.

**Gladys and Peter Moseley**, burial of ashes together at St Peter and St Paul Church Garden of Remembrance, Eastham on 22nd March.

*May the souls of the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

## Teme Valley Tots

Our sessions start again after the Easter break in Rochford village hall on 12th April. They run weekly on Fridays from 10.30am to 12 noon, all most welcome.

## Confirmation

We are hoping to have a confirmation service at a church in the rural mission area this summer. If you are interested in taking this step or if you have any children (usually 10 years and older) who would like to be confirmed do get in touch with Rev'd Julia in person on 01886 853286 or by email at [revjuliacurtis9@gmail.com](mailto:revjuliacurtis9@gmail.com) to find out more.

## Iona inspired services

We loved our pilgrimage to Iona last September and wanted to bring a little of Iona to the Teme Valley. So you are invited to join us at Hanley village hall, WR15 8QU, for the first of our Iona style services on 14th April at 4pm where you will find a warm welcome. These services involve a pattern of prayer, singing and imaginative engagement with scripture that reflects our life together as community as we celebrate God's presence in our lives. Do give them a try.

## Annual meeting of the parish of Teme Valley South

The annual meeting of parishioners, at Rochford Village Hall on Saturday 18th May at 9.30am, is open to anyone who lives in Teme Valley South. The main item of business is election of churchwardens (a maximum of two can be nominated from each parish church). This is followed by the annual church meeting, which is open to anyone on the electoral roll and the meeting receives the annual accounts and reports of what has been happening in our churches over the past year.

*Rev'd Julia*

Many thanks to Sarah Breen for this month's cover photograph of lambs in Eastham



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## Rochford 49 Club

*Congratulations to this month's  
£25 winners!*

### Wednesday winners

21st February	No 55	Not sold
28th February	No 51	Not sold
6th March	No 28	Not sold
13th March	No 48	Ann Prosser

### Saturday winners

24th February	No 28	Bernard Reece
2nd March	No 6	Treena Jones
9th March	No 43	Not sold
16th March	No 51	Not sold

There are still plenty of numbers available – why not join in? It's just £1 per draw and the profits are split between Rochford church and the village hall – plus you get two chances each week to win £25!

Remember, you must be in it to win it!  
Ring Gill Smith on  
**07815 030050**

### TemeTalk

deadline for the May issue 18th April  
[ronsmum@icloud.com](mailto:ronsmum@icloud.com)

## Teme Valley Tote

March's draw, the twelfth in this series, was decided when Rev'd Julia Curtis rolled the dice on 2nd March to select the set of random numbers. Prizewinners are:

£50 – **Helen Kyle** of Stoke Bliss (No 816)  
£30 – **Alan Micklethwaite** of Stoke Bliss  
(No 768)  
£20 – **Mr G Buckingham-Bawden** of Knighton  
(No 696)

You should now be saving up your £10s for the new series that starts in April. Full details on page 21. If you have any queries please contact Robin Dean on 01886 853295 or email [robin.c.dean@gmail.com](mailto:robin.c.dean@gmail.com).

## The Filling Station

Our next meeting is on Thursday 18th April at Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.15 for a 7.30pm start, when Kevin Sadler, a retired minister, will be speaking to us. We look forward to hearing his message to us.

We look forward to your joining us for this evening of fellowship, worship, teaching and refreshments. If you are not on our mailing list and would like further information or details about our meetings please contact me on [kate.harley6@gmail.com](mailto:kate.harley6@gmail.com).

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## Lambing café church

Lambing café church at Parsonage Farm was very successful despite a rather wet afternoon. It was appropriately held on Mothering Sunday, as ensuring ewes mother their lambs is the key to successful lambing; one ewe obliged at the end of the session and gave birth to twins. Children were able to see, stroke and help bottle feed lambs and took home sheep-based activity bags; mothers all went home with lovely posies of flowers created by Tina Lord. The afternoon ended with drinks and cakes. Thanks to everyone involved especially those providing and serving refreshments and flowers.

## Rochford church services

There will be Choral Evensong on 5th May at 4pm with the TVS choir. This newly formed choir delivers a beautiful choral service which is a really different experience and well worth listening to. The service will be followed by time to chat over tea and cake.

## Church flower rota

April – Easter lilies, Jennifer Gledhill  
Thanks to everyone who gave donations for Easter lilies in memory of loved ones. It's a beautiful display.

## Neighbourhood lunch

Dates for sit down and takeaway neighbourhood lunches are 30th April, 28th May, 25th June, 30th July and 27th August. Everyone is welcome. Booking for lunches is essential and takeaways should be collected between 12.30 and 1pm. Please book with Ann on 01584 781317 at least the previous week.

## Rochford Open Gardens

We have decided to rest the Open Gardens this year, as it's a lot of work for host gardeners, but we hope to bring it back soon. We are considering a garden party this year. Again, any help or suggestions warmly received.

## Dates for your diary

**Sunday 14th July** – Rochford Village Fête, venue yet to be agreed. Offers of help or ideas for the fête would be greatly appreciated.

**Friday November 8th** – Rochford Quiz

## Contacts

Ann on 01584 781317

Andrew on 07809 658484 or through the parish WhatsApp group

*Andrew Barbé*



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# Stoke Bliss and Kyre

## Village Spring Walk

Saturday 6th April

This year's walk will be a gently undulating route between Kyre and the Hanleys of approximately four miles with beautiful views, to be followed by soup and cake at Stoke Bliss & Kyre village hall. Meet at the village hall car park at 12.45 for a 1pm start.

Due to the time of year and levels of rainfall experienced in recent weeks we strongly recommend that walkers wear either wellies or walking boots.

The all inclusive price is £10. If you wish to join us for food only at approximately 3pm the price will be £8. Dogs are welcome on the walk but unfortunately they cannot join us for lunch in the hall.

Can you please book your place with Julia at sbkvillagehall@gmail.com or phone 01885 410368 stating any dietary requirements.

## Social & Pub Night

Friday 26th April

Bar opens at 7, supper served at 8pm  
Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

Supper £5 (optional), dessert £2.50 (optional)

Reserve your meal with Julia on

sbkvillagehall@gmail.com or 01885 410368

## Neighbourhood Lunch

Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

Thursday 11th April

Thursday 9th May

Welcome at 12.30pm

Telephone 01885 410641 or email  
lunchkasb@aol.com if you would like to come

## Summer Barbecue

Saturday 1st June at 4pm

at Stoke Bliss & Kyre  
Village Hall

Reserve your place with Julia  
on sbkvillagehall@gmail.com  
or 01885 410368



## Guardians of Hollow Meadow CIC



Thanks to everyone who has supported and encouraged us to form the CIC to secure the future of local wildlife site Hollow Meadow. Without you it would not have been possible.

We have now planted nine fruit trees (four apple, two pear, two cherry and one plum). Thanks to the volunteers, Jim, Simon, Maggie and John and to Wade Muggleton who supplied the trees and guards through the Coronation Orchard project. He stayed to help with the planting and celebratory cake afterwards!

If you would like to visit please arrange a time with Maggie. Now that the snowdrops have finished and most of the flat area of hay meadow is soggy, as most fields are, we need to keep compaction from footfall to a minimum! The next to flower will be the wild garlic along the stream edge, then as spring comes it will all change daily as flowers and blossom emerge.

To find out more contact Maggie on 01885 410431 or email hollowmeadow23@gmail.com and give a few days notice or alternative dates when you would like to come.

## A History of Kyre Park Shrubbery

by Martin Rickard

When I wrote the History of Kyre Manor and Church I hoped that Martin would be able to provide information on the gardens that surround the house in time to be included. Time went on and I finished the book but Martin has now provided that information and more about the surrounding times as the shrubbery garden was developed. It rivals the Kyre book in size!

So read the description by Martin and come to the launch at Kyre Park to give a good welcome to another local author whose book is definitely worth waiting for – it makes a fascinating read.

Maggie Kingston

See page 11 for details of Martin's book



# Eastham Jottings

## Church flowers and cleaning

April – Diana Clarke  
May – Tammy Starling

## Eastham Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 3rd April at 10.30am at Eastham Memorial Hall. This month is “Mini Sewing Repair Shop”. If you need to have a button sewn on or a rip in your trousers repaired, bring it along. Our “expert” will be on hand to help. Last month was “seed swap” month which generated much activity. A few seeds are left for swap or sale this month.

Come along and have a cup of coffee, win a raffle prize and have a catch up. Let us have your ideas for themes for future months.

The rota is:

Wednesday 3rd April – Josie Ward  
Wednesday 1st May – Diana Clarke

## Eastham Pub Night

Friday 19th April at 7 pm at Eastham Memorial Hall. Make a date for this informal get together. Watch out for the usual banner. Thanks to Simon Neary for March – a fun time was had by all. Next month – Friday 17th May at 7pm,

## Church and churchyard spring clean

A final reminder for this month’s spring tidy up of the churchyard on Saturday 27th April from 10am to 12.30pm, followed by hot dogs at lunchtime. At the same time we will be tidying up the inside of the church for the summer months. Please bring along garden utensils, dusters, and mops. Everyone welcome!

## Eastham freestyle litter pick

A merry band of pickers set off from Eastham Memorial Hall (and some from home) on Saturday 16th March to litter pick on the roads of Eastham. All spick and span now! Well done everyone for the litter pick and the fantastic refreshments afterwards.

## Teme Valley Tote

Get your £10 cash in for the tote which renews in April of each year. Not familiar or forgotten? Please ring Celia on 01584 781258 or email easthamcourt@icloud.com. Thanks as ever to Robin Dean for all the work he does keeping this running – it’s a great fund raiser for the church.

## New pictures for the Memorial Hall

Entries are invited for pictures of Eastham to be judged in the summer with the winners being made into canvasses to decorate the hall. Get snapping. More to follow.

## Quiz time

Turn up from 6.30pm for a great Eastham quiz night for just £5 with chilli and spuds at half time also £5. There will be a cash bar and teams can be up to six – if you want to join a team on the night that should be fine. Ring 01584 781920 (leave a message if no answer) or email admin@eastham-memorialhall.org.uk to book your team and food (optional). Please book as soon as possible so numbers can be firmed up.

## Craft Fair

at Eastham Memorial Hall on Sunday 12th May from 10am to 3pm.

## Eastham Memorial Hall AGM

on Tuesday 21st May at 7pm. This public meeting is open to all Eastham residents. and there will be a Zoom/ Teams link for those not able to attend in person. Please contact Celia Adams in advance for the link details. The accounts will be posted on the website in advance of the AGM when Barbara Selkirk ACMA has completed the independent examination.

Villagers wishing to join as trustees should contact Mike Palfrey (07976 854267) or Celia Adams (01584 781258) or email admin@easthammemorialhall.org.uk for an information pack. Nominations are required by 6th May (14 days in advance of the AGM).

Please come along, cash bar afterwards.

## Eastham Parish Council Annual Meeting

on Tuesday 28th May at 7.30pm.

## Hall committees’ open evening

There will be a follow-up meeting open to all Hereford and Worcester hall committees and trustees at Pencombe Village Hall on Thursday 9th May at 7pm. Richard Timney of Community First will be updating on new initiatives. To register for the meeting email palcph@gmail.com or ring Celia Adams on 01584 781258.

*Celia Adams*

*See more Eastham Jottings on page 10*

# Hanley Happenings

## Can you help?

We are looking for support in applying for grants to improve the village hall. There are several grants we want to apply for, to carry out essential works required to improve our energy efficiency.

We need someone experienced in writing applications to assist the committee to make these applications a success. If you can help, please get in touch with Sarah Geggie on 07796 170949 or email [hanleyvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:hanleyvillagehall@outlook.com).

## Hanley Open Gardens

Register your garden now for Hanley Open Gardens on Saturday 18th May from 11am to 4pm. Phone Margie on 07796 081857.

Donations of raffle prizes, cakes and plants gratefully received.

## Save the date!

17th May – Relaxation Evening (see page 13)

6th June – D-Day Beacon event

18th August – Pop-up Waffle Van

21st September – Pakory Shakory Indian Pop-up Takeaway and Bar

5th October – Alfie's Kitchen Pop-up Takeaway and Bar

## TemTalk deadline 18th April



HANLEY HOUSE

## GREEK FRIDAY

17TH MAY - £25.75

Open from 7pm with food served from 7.30pm

### Starter

Spring greens spanakopita

### Main

Pork souvlaki served with tzatziki,  
Greek salad and flatbreads

Vegan main: vegetable souvlaki served  
with houmous, Greek salad and flatbreads

### Sweet treat

Greek honey cake

Reserve at [www.hanleyhouse.co.uk](http://www.hanleyhouse.co.uk)

## Zumba

A four-week taster event starts on Wednesday 16th April from 6.30 to 7.30pm at Hanley Village Hall. The first session is free, then just £6 for the remaining sessions. No need to book – just turn up.



## Art course

Hanley Village Hall

Four sessions on Wednesdays in May  
from 7 to 8.30pm

Theme: Country garden

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Book with Sarah on 07796 170949



## Table tennis at Hanley

If you would like to join in the fun come along to Hanley Village Hall on Monday evenings at 7pm.

Bats and balls are provided

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## Services in Stanford

### Sunday 7th April

Holy Communion with hymns at 10am

Choral Evensong at 4pm

### Sunday 5th May

Holy Communion with hymns at 10am

Choral Evensong will be at **Rochford** at 4pm

### Thursday 9th May

Ascension Day Service at 7.30pm

## AGM of ACC

All parishioners on the civil electoral roll are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Stanford with Orleton Area Church Committee at 7pm on Thursday 2nd May – put the date in your diary and try to attend. As an added incentive refreshments will be served!

## APCM

Don't forget the Teme Valley South Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) at Rochford Village Hall at 9.30am on 18th May – this is your opportunity to hear about all the activities being undertaken in Teme Valley South.

## Future events

We have several events in mind for the spring including a wine tasting. If you have any other ideas for events, please let me know.

## Teme Valley Tote

A new series starts in April – full details are on page 21.

## Whist drives

Stanford with Orleton village hall whist drives will be back in the autumn.

## Payaz debit/credit card reader

We have had a Payaz debit/credit card reader since January on a trial basis near the font. Use has so far been disappointing. Please use it to make donations to St Mary's at any time the church is open – not just during services. We would welcome any comments you may have about it. You are still able to put cash donations in the collection box beside the visitors' book.

## Tenbury Food Bank

The box in the lobby at St Mary's continues to be used – thank you for all who have contributed – please keep your donations coming.

## Stanford with Orleton Recoupement Fund

The Diocese holds this restricted fund for the maintenance of Stanford church as a result of the sale of the chapel in Orleton a number of years ago. There is about £25,000 in accumulated dividends and currently the annual dividend is about £2,000. This money can only be spent on the maintenance of the church – we still need money for the day to day running of the church as I indicated last month, but this fund will mean that we are able to do repairs and upkeep without worrying. For instance we need new lights (which I described last month), the track needs repair and there is some need for re-pointing as a result of the Quinquennial Report. The triptych on the altar needs some renovation – this would also be covered.

## St Mary's church

St Mary's is now open every day from dawn to dusk. The front door will be open (please do not shut) and the main door will be closed but unlocked. Please visit and sign the visitors book and leave any donations you wish in cash or by using the Payaz Card Reader. We are getting visitors from all over the world who are delighted to have the church open and comment on its beauty.

## Volunteers please – again

We still need volunteers for the area church committee Robin (01886 853295) is happy to explain what is involved and you are welcome to attend one of our meetings, so that you can see what it is like. We still need people to organise and assist. Perhaps you would like to take over the writing of this page each month?

Robin is particularly looking for a churchwarden to assist him and take over – dare you volunteer? While it would be great to have a volunteer from Stanford, you can come from anywhere in Teme Valley South. You should be confirmed!

*Robin Dean*

**The deadline for the next issue of TemeTalk is 18th April**

**ronsmum@icloud.com**

**01568 750665**

# More Eastham Jottings

## Eastham Fête

The fête will be held opposite the Memorial Hall in what has now been jokingly renamed "the fête field" on 18th August starting at 12 noon. Preparations have now started in earnest.

The event is set to be fun filled and to involve as much of the village as possible to raise funds for other parts of village life which run throughout the year. This is impossible without the goodwill, generosity and help of those who have kept the fête going for so long – this will be the 56th year.

If you would like to get involved and are not already on our list, please contact us (Celia, Beryl, Jane, David) at easthamfete@gmail.com or 01584 781505. There are plenty of tasks for anyone who would like to help, as little as an hour's commitment can really help the day go smoothly.

Come along on 18th August, bring your family and friends and dogs, spend your money and enjoy the free attractions, you will be helping to keep the fête going.

Produce show schedules will be delivered with next month's TemeTalk to residents of Eastham and those who have taken part in the produce show in the past. If you would like a copy please let us know.

Put the date in your diary and keep your fingers crossed for good weather on the day. There will be monthly bulletins on what is happening.

## Craft Fair

Sunday 12th May from 10am to 3pm at Eastham Memorial Hall. To book a stall phone 01584 781920 or email admin@easthammemorialhall.org.uk.

*Celia Adams*



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# A history of Kyre Park Shrubbery

A new book by Martin Rickard examining the fascinating history of the shrubbery at Kyre Park will be launched at **Kyre Park on Saturday 6th April from 2 to 4.30pm** with the kind permission of the owner, Mrs Gwyn Jones.

The current grounds of Kyre Park were designed during the second half of the eighteenth century. The flat area to the south and west of the house was designed from 1750 to 1760, whilst the valley to the north west was designed from approximately 1780 to 1790. The landscape of Kyre is a remarkable survivor. Since 1790 no hard landscaping has been changed. There have been some recent, superficial additions, repairs and frequent tidying but nothing to change the general landscape apart from the recent addition of a modern folly tower. In the late-Elizabethan era (circa 1600) there was a formal garden to the south of the house, but that was destroyed in 1760 to make way for contemporary improvements. Earlier still, in 1300 when the moated castle was built, it is likely that while vegetables were grown, there was no ornamental garden.

Several issues concerning the history of the site have long been problematic. Firstly, who destroyed the castle? How and when did they do it? Some evidence suggests it might have been Lancastrian soldiers during the Wars of the Roses.

Secondly, who designed the garden in 1760?



*Kyre Park in 1773 by Nathaniel Kent. 4 is the river, shorter than now. Also note no lakes in the valley running top to bottom at the right, they came later.*

The family always thought it was by Capability Brown but in the absence of written proof, modern thinking disputes this, accusing the family of attaching Brown's involvement as a 'vanity factor'. To have a landscape by Brown was very desirable in the eighteenth century, as it still is today. This issue is closely examined in the book.

One other puzzle has proved extremely difficult to solve. How did the main drive reach the front door? After looking at many options, no realistic solution has yet been put forward. Hopefully raising the issue here might bring some new ideas.

Proof that no expense was spared during the eighteenth century is demonstrated by the fact that the Pytts engaged Nathaniel Kent to produce a terrier of the whole 5,601 acres of the estate during 1772, 1773 and 1774. Kent was the foremost surveyor of country estates. Fortunately the survey included the shrubbery. Every field was mapped and measured with such accuracy that hedges which have survived are still recognisable.

The garden has been open to the public for many years but it is hoped that this book will mean that it is looked at differently and will awaken new interest in the history of Kyre Park. A full account of the tour of the garden is included.

Copies of the book will be on sale at only £10 each on launch day and thereafter at £12 each.

For more information contact Martin Rickard at [h.m.rickard@btinternet.com](mailto:h.m.rickard@btinternet.com).

*Profits will go to St Mary's Church, Kyre and/or St Peter's Church, Stoke Bliss.*

## Kyre Park Garden



The Park consists of five lakes, waterfalls, follies, a Grade II listed Jacobean barn, a ruin and a Norman dovecote

**Open daily 10am to 5pm**

*Suggested donation of £3.50*

Dogs are welcome in the Park  
and allowed off leads if kept under control  
*No cycles allowed in the grounds*

Kyre Park, Tenbury Wells WR15 8RW

## Wild garlic soup



Wild garlic is just beginning to appear in hedgerows and woodland. Enjoy this deliciously light soup during its short growing season, it tastes like spring in a bowl!

### Ingredients

40 g butter  
1 medium onion (chopped)  
3 medium potatoes (peeled and diced)  
1.5 litre vegetable stock  
300 g wild garlic leaf  
100 ml double cream  
salt and pepper

### Method

Melt the butter over a medium heat and add the onions, sauté until soft. Add the vegetable stock and potatoes to the pan and simmer gently until the potatoes are cooked.

Add the wild garlic to the pan and allow to wilt for a couple of minutes, then blitz the soup until smooth.

Stir through the cream, season to taste and serve.

## Mel is back in London



Mel Williams returns to London to show her recent paintings of trees, birds and mistletoe inspired by working in an ancient apple orchard in Worcestershire.

The exhibition runs from Tuesday 30th April to Saturday 4th May, 10.30am to 5.30pm, at 54 The Gallery, Shepherd Market, London W1J 7QX. It would be wonderful to see you there.

**TemerTalk deadline 18th April**  
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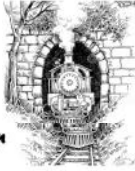


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## *Stoke Bliss Spring Walk*

**Saturday 6th April**

**Meet at village hall car park  
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Walk and lunch £10, lunch only £8**

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## Trace's last film at Hanley Village Hall

The first film shown at Hanley Village Hall, supported by the charity Arts Alive, was on 27th April 2012. Paddy Harding had introduced Tracy Stuart-Allen to the committee of Rural Reels, as until then Arts Alive had been in Herefordshire only. As Rural Reels was in Worcestershire, a separate charity was created. Grants successfully gained and equipment purchased (including our own full size screen and cabling), rural cinema was created.

Trace will be showing her last film, *The Great Escaper* starring Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson (in her last film), on Saturday 6th April. The film will lead nicely to the D-Day celebrations when a beacon will be lit at Court Farm, Hanley Childe to

coincide with other beacons throughout the country.

Over the years many hours have been spent by our technician Robin and his wife Lesley, by Sue and her husband Bern, who have cooked, cleaned, washed up and been front of house during the excellent dinner with cinema evenings, by Mandy at Clifton who keeps all the portable cinema equipment and by Norman Wanstall (please google him) with his unwavering support for films he has watched twice.

*The Great Escaper* will be shown at 7.30, £5 in cash on the door please. If you would like to celebrate beforehand, please come at 6.30 with your own alcohol and finger food to share.

Trace hopes the evening will be a success. She would like to thank all loyal supporters of the films (having shown some complete howlers as she learned that critics and the public are not always on the same page). Thanks for your patience, for your discomfort whilst sitting on the village hall chairs and a big thank you for supporting our village hall.

And finally many, many thanks to Trace for making all this happen over the last 12 years.

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# Films at Hanley Village Hall



Saturday 6th April, 6.30pm

## The Great Escaper

In the summer of 2014 octogenarian Bernie Jordan staged a "great escape" from his care home to join fellow war veterans on a beach in Normandy commemorating their fallen comrades.

Stars Michael Caine, Glenda Jackson, Danielle Vitalis  
Director Oliver Parker

Please bring food to share and your own booze.

Food at 6.30, film only at 7.30

£5 per person, no need to book

*This is Glenda Jackson's last film, and Trace's last film at Hanley Village Hall – see page 16*



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## Surprising food in the middle of nowhere

The Boss is a south Shropshire man born and bred, but even he had never heard of some of the places we went through in search of lunch one Thursday in early March. Following Dorothy the satnav (named for my mother-in-law who always knew the way, even when she didn't) we went to Ludlow, turned right and headed for the hills. We went up the Corvedale, through the Haytons and Peaton, and eventually arrived at The Tally Ho Inn in the tiny hamlet of Bouldon.



Chef Mark Harris focuses on locally sourced pub food. The ever-changing seasonal menu features freshly prepared, sustainable produce – Mortimer Forest venison, Bridgnorth beef, Shropshire chicken. Even the fish is sourced directly off the day boats from Cornish harbours and finds its way to the Tally Ho within 24 hours of being in the water, so it's as fresh as can be!

We were quite literally in the middle of nowhere, and the pub looked deserted. It was only as we got out of the car that the Boss told me he had tried to telephone before we left home but there was no reply.

But we pushed open the door and there was Sarah to welcome us and show us to a table and we soon had drinks and a delicious starter of warm homemade focaccia with herb butter and a whole slow roasted garlic and a bowl of olives.

The Tally Ho Inn was recommended by our nephew James, a young man about London town who knows a thing or two about fine dining, so we were expecting something a bit special – and we weren't disappointed.

When we had had our fill of focaccia, garlic and olives, the Boss enjoyed a pork schnitzel with roasted hispi cabbage, a fried egg and Dijon mustard and cider sauce; my crispy cod fishcake with warm tartare sauce and crab mayonnaise came with a big bowl of huge hand-cut chips and was delicious. The Boss had a scrummy dessert of deep fried bread and butter pudding with raspberry ripple ice cream.

Mark and Sarah have recently renovated the Tally Ho Inn, which has been a busy country pub for many generations. Now it's warm, welcoming and full of rural charm, everything a country pub should be, with an exceptional menu too.

SG

*The Tally Ho Inn  
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# Star of The Chase comes to the Regal



The Regal is thrilled to announce an exciting evening with Jenny Ryan, dream-crushing brain-box The Vixen on the hit ITV quiz The Chase. Jenny invites you to her show *Out Of The Box*, an evening of song, storytelling and even some showbiz secrets, on Saturday 5th October at 7.30pm.

Join Jenny on a journey through her life and times via some of her favourite tunes, sung live with the powerful voice which blew the judges away on X Factor Celebrity.

Tickets are on sale now at £25 each, or why not treat yourself to a Meet and Greet package for just 50 – one premium seated ticket, exclusive pre-show meet and greet with Jenny Ryan and a photo opportunity.

For more information and to purchase tickets visit [www.regaltenbury.co.uk](http://www.regaltenbury.co.uk) or contact the box office at 01584 811442 (open Monday to Friday 10am to 12 noon and Saturday 10am to 1pm).

## There's no such thing as the poo fairy

We are so lucky to live in this beautiful place,  
But the dog poo on our lanes and verges  
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Let a car pass and step on the verge  
Into the dog poo, which is a scourge.

It is so easy to pick it up  
Not leave for our feet to get covered in muck.

Be responsible and abide by the law  
Pick your dog's poo up off the floor

Put it in a bag and take it home  
Please leave the place clean for others to roam.

*Diane Pagett*

## Films at The Regal Tenbury

6th April 7.00pm Luca  
11th April 7.00pm Throwback Thursdays night  
The Breakfast Club (15)  
12th April 7.00pm Vindication Swim (PG)  
13th April 7.00pm Madame Web (12A)  
25th April 7.00pm Throwback Thursdays night  
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# Fox crib team climbs up the table

As the Bromyard Crib League season draws to a close, The Fox crib team finishes second from bottom, an improvement on last season when we were at the bottom of the table.

Going into the last game we were sixth but just needed to beat the Cricket Club to leap to the dizzy heights of fifth. Unfortunately that wasn't to be, but we still finished well ahead of bottom team The Lion at Clifton. At the end of the season we had played 14 games, won five, drawn two and lost seven.

Our second season at The Fox has seen strong performances from John Delahay and his partner Cliff, John and Jill Collison and Rob Wilkes who, with his partner John Tether, narrowly lost in the semi-finals of the Doubles Cup. Thelma and Louise had an almost clean sheet of wins, sadly not always supported by the rest of the team. We have been guided, scolded and praised by skipper Brian Griffiths who often coaches from the bench.



Proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets gives us a sum of about £90 to donate to charity.

We would like to thank Sharon and John for making us so welcome at The Fox. We especially enjoy Sharon's fantastic post-match sandwiches and chips.

The average age of our team is hovering about 70 and we would love to welcome some younger players. We practise at The Fox every Wednesday evening during the off-season so if you are interested in learning to play crib, please come and join us.

SG

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## Activities at Eastham Memorial Hall

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- Yoga, ring Zoe on 07962 981456 or see [www.zedyoga.co.uk](http://www.zedyoga.co.uk). Wednesdays at 10am. Taster sessions available.
- Zumba Gold, Lucia on 07709 301030, [lu.500@live.co.uk](mailto:lu.500@live.co.uk). Wednesdays at 12 noon, just turn up.
- Kung Fu, Adam on 07720 643524, for youngsters on Saturdays at 9.30am.

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# The Tale of Little Red Foxy Hood



Once upon a time there was a little red fox named Fling. She lived with her Mum. One day Fling's Mum said "Take this basket of food to Grandma. She is sick. And don't go near the River Teme where there is an escaped crocodile."

"Okay," said Fling. "I promise".

But Fling soon forgot her Mum's wise words and walked near the river. Tim the crocodile, as everybody knew, liked to eat anyone who came near him. But Fling was very brave and said "I have a stick and I am not afraid to hurt you."

So Tim left and went to find Grandma. When Tim got to Grandma's house, Fling's Grandma ran into her closet and slammed the door. Tim said "You can hide; it's more fun for me if you hide..."

Soon Fling arrived and said to Tim, "What

green skin you have."

Tim replied, "I have green skin because I am sick."

Fling said, "What a big nose you have."

Tim said, "I am getting sicker, my dear."

"What big teeth you have."

"Better to eat you with."

Aaaahhhh! Fling quickly grabbed a bottle of hot sauce and threw it in Tim's mouth.

"Hot, hot!" he choked and ran back to the Teme. Far away in the river Tim finally washed off the hot sauce. Now he is too scared to eat people. He sticks to fish instead.

*Millie Opperman, aged 7*



## Teme Valley Tote

A new series of the Teme Valley Tote starts in April. The last series paid out £1,200 to lucky winners and just over £3,300 was distributed to the parishes of Teme Valley North and Teme Valley South.

Once again the price of each subscription is £10 – for this you will be entered in each of 12 monthly draws with the possibility of winning £50, £30 or £20 each month.

Your local Teme Valley South co-ordinators are:

Eastham – Celia Adams

Stanford – Alexandra Winnington

Stoke Bliss and Kyre – Margaret Yarnold

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*Robin Dean, Teme Valley Tote Organiser*

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# Memories of Nita Jones

*Part of the eulogy given by Nita's husband Chris at her thanksgiving service on 9th March*

On 9th March we said a sad farewell to Nita Jones with a thanksgiving service at Rochford Church to celebrate her life.

Nita was born on 23rd January 1947 at her grandparents' farm at Hanley William during a very bad winter storm. In fact, she was not able to return home to Ashfield in Rochford for about six weeks due to the depth of the snow.

She was brought up in a farming family and lived at Ashfield with loving parents, with the family farm at Broomy Fields, Hanley. She was the oldest of three, growing up with her sisters Margaret and Linda, surrounded by loving grandparents and many friends at the farm.

Nita was an active member of Sunday school and was in the local church choir for many years. She attended Tenbury Infants, Junior and High School and was helped by two special teachers, also from Rochford, Mike and Jean Harrison. On leaving school, she studied catering at Worcester Technical College and throughout her life she worked in many areas of catering, until finally settling into her last and happiest job at the BBC station at Wooferton. In later years, Nita started cooking meals for older friends and customers in a small friendly way.

Nita fell in love and married Chris, the "boy next door", at Rochford church in 1976. Following the sudden death of Chris's father, Tom Jones, they decided to build their new home, The Old Blacksmiths Shop, in the garden of Chris's family home and have lived there ever since. Their daughter Amy was born in August 1982, fol-

lowed in June 1984 by Tom – another Tom Jones in the family.

Family life was idyllic, with two children and grandparents living nearby and their small hobby farm at Ashfield with cows, horses, donkeys and tractors for Tom. Home was an open house for family and friends and Nita was always able to put on a great spread of food without any trouble. Amy and Tom remember the fabulous roasts she made with all the family around on Sundays.

She enjoyed helping with many school and club activities and committees, supporting Amy and Tom at Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts and the Teme Valley Band. She enjoyed many family holidays in Devon, Cornwall and Wales, including most recently with Tom, Treena and her beloved grandchildren. She was so proud of her children and grandchildren.

Nita loved cars and the freedom they gave, starting with a Mini and a Morris 1000, then saving up and buying her beloved Triumph Vitesse. Whenever Tom brought home a nice new car she was always keen to check it out and have a ride.

Nita had a lovely life with her family that she loved so dearly, making many special memories. God bless you, Nita.

*Home was an open house for family and friends ...*

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# Teme Valley Wildlife



*St Bartholomew's Old Church, Lower Sapey*

Constant rain, intermittent flooding and treacherously slippery footpaths have curtailed my walking plans this winter. A country ramble in low sun on a bright, crisp day is usually a joy, distant views being enhanced by the lack of leafy foliage, but lately such opportunities have been few and far between. On a slightly less damp day than most, I ventured out on a circular walk which started at Leysters church and ended with an excellent all-day breakfast at The Fountain Inn. The route took in some quiet lanes and passed another church along the way. I couldn't resist a quick look inside and was rewarded with a copy of a free magazine

called Beautiful Burial Grounds produced by the charity Caring for God's Acre.

I have written about this organisation before, as guardians of churchyard plants and animals, but I was interested to read that they sometimes turn their attention to church inhabitants too. Bats in belfries are a not uncommon sight but an article highlighting the problems they can cause if they get into the main body of the church caught my eye. Large numbers of smelly bat droppings and small numbers of volunteer church cleaners had led to considerable problems for numerous churches across the country. The fact that bats are a protected species means that methods to relocate them require expert help.

This is where Caring for God's Acre came to the rescue. In partnership with other organisations such as the Church of England, Natural England, Historic England, the Bat Conservation Trust and The Churches Conservation Trust, National Lottery money was sought to fund a bats in churches project to make bespoke plans for individual churches so that their bats could be housed in roofs, false ceilings or belfries and prevented from entering working spaces.

The project brought the unexpected benefit of

*Continued on page 24*

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Continued from page 23

bringing more people into contact with their local churches as they involved themselves in bat recording. Around 700 other churches were surveyed to see if they had bat residents too. One village church even organised a "Beer and Bats" evening in partnership with their village pub. By helping bats, the churches were able to

engage with the wider community, particularly children, so perhaps it is a shame that the project has now come to an end.

Locally, I know that special help has been given to a bat colony living in St Bartholomew's Old Church at Lower Sapey. This Norman building is in an idyllic location and is now under the guardianship of The Churches Conservation Trust. When it was restored some years ago, a letterbox opening was put into the east window to allow the flittermouse residents of this rarely used church to get in and out. The church welcomes visitors and is open daily.

The next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 11th April

at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall. We welcome Bob Watson who will be talking about types of fungi which live in harmony with trees. Everyone is most welcome and it is just £3 on the door or £25 for the year.

*Stephanie Mcroft*

*For up-to-date information on what wildlife is being seen in the area, or to give us your sightings or comments, visit our Facebook page. Our programme of events, bird survey and archive photographs are available on our website [www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk](http://www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk) We normally hold meetings on the second Thursday of the month. All are welcome. Contact us by email at [twwg@outlook.com](mailto:twwg@outlook.com).*



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# What's on in Teme Valley South

## April

- 3rd Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am  
6th Saturday Spring Walk, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.45pm  
Film night at Hanley Village Hall, *The Great Escaper*, 6.30pm  
7th Sunday Stoke Bliss Village Spring Walk, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.45pm  
11th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm  
14th Sunday Iona Worship, Hanley Village Hall, 4pm  
18th Thursday The Filling Station, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7.15pm  
19th Friday Eastham Pub Night, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7pm  
20th Saturday Quiz, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7pm  
27th Saturday Church and churchyard spring clean, Eastham, 10am  
Plant and Produce Sale, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 2.30pm  
26th Friday Social and Pub Night, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 7pm  
30th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

## May

- 1st Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am  
2nd Thursday AGM of Stanford with Orleton Area Church Committee, 7pm  
9th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm  
Hall Committees' Open Evening, Pencombe Village Hall, 7pm  
11th Saturday Kyre Valley Railway, 2 to 5pm  
12th Sunday Iona Worship, Hanley Village Hall, 4pm  
Craft Fair, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10am  
17th Friday Relaxation Evening, Hanley Village Hall, 6.30pm  
Eastham Pub Night, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7pm  
18th Saturday Teme Valley South APCM, Rochford Village Hall, 9.30am  
Hanley Open Gardens, 11am  
21st Tuesday Eastham Memorial Hall AGM, 7pm  
28th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm  
Eastham Parish Council Annual Meeting, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7.30pm

## June

- 1st Saturday Summer Barbecue, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 4pm  
5th Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am  
25th Tuesday Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

**Send items for inclusion to Sandra Griffiths by 18th of the previous month  
telephone 01568 750665 or email [ronsmum@icloud.com](mailto:ronsmum@icloud.com)**

**Deadline for the May issue of TemeTalk is 18th April**

**Please note this is the *last* day for contributions – the sooner you send your items to the editor, the more chance there is that they will be included**

# Services

## April/May 2024

Daily prayer continues at 9am and 7pm on Zoom, contact Rev Julia if you would like to join us. The blessings group meets regularly and is co-ordinated by Richard Skerrett who can be contacted on 01886 853099 for details.

The Church of England has a pre-recorded weekly on-line service which can be found by searching 'Church of England Weekly Services' or accessed on their website [www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online/weekly-online-services](http://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online/weekly-online-services)

### Services Schedule

#### Sunday 7th April

10.00am	Stanford	Holy Communion and Hymns
4.00pm	Stanford	Choral Evensong

#### Sunday 14th April

10.00am	Stoke Bliss	Holy Communion
4.00pm	Hanley Village Hall	Iona Service

#### Sunday 21st April

10.00am	Eastham	All Age Worship and Holy Communion
2.00pm		Walking Church

#### Sunday 28th April

10.00am	Rochford	All Age Worship and Holy Communion
4.00pm	Hanley Childe	Evening Service

#### Sunday 5th May

10.00am	Stanford	Holy Communion with Hymns
4.00pm	Rochford	Evensong



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