

# TemerTalk

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April 2023

ROCHFORD | EASTHAM | THE HANLEYS | STOKE BLISS & KYRE | STANFORD



## In this issue

**Celebrating Easter and preparing for the Coronation  
and all your parish news**

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# TemeTalk

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*A community going forward with God*

## April 2023

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

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### Parish website

[www.temevalleysouth.org.uk](http://www.temevalleysouth.org.uk)

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 year Easter day falls on 9th April and it is such a time of joy and celebration in the calendar. We recall the events of the first Easter and wonder at the tomb which contained death, now empty as Jesus is resurrected. Resurrection is rooted in *resurgere* which means to rise again. What does it mean today? Is it still relevant 2,000 years after the historical man Jesus walked the earth? I firmly believe it is and it is all around us if we stop to look. Let me explain ...

Spring is arriving and bare earth bursts into life. Plants and bulbs push their way from the dark earth, which has held them dormant through the winter, towards the light. That's resurrection.

Today, many of our communities are coming to life again as we move towards a year after the last covid restrictions were lifted. That's resurrection.

Whilst we have had many funerals in the parish this past year, each one proclaims that death is not the final word. I remember comments on one occasion, 'that service really brought her to life ... it was as if she was sitting there with us'. That's resurrection.

And finally, the Easter dawn service, when a chorus of bird song fills the Teme Valley. Creation literally sings the Father's song. We take a flame from the outdoor fire back into St Mary's church and the space is flooded with candle light. That's resurrection.

All of these things fill me with hope and joy for what is ahead of us, both here and in eternity. Promising that one day all things will be resurrected through the power of the events of that first Easter day.

Wishing you all a joyful and hope-filled Easter. Look out for resurrection all around!

*Rev'd Julia*

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## Teme Valley South Contacts

Priest-in-charge: Julia Curtis 01886 853286  
Associate Priest: Sally Jones 01584 819435  
Reader: Pete Thorp 07917 783159

### Churchwardens

Eastham: Celia Adams 01584 781258  
Rochford: Ann Prosser 01584 781317  
Stoke Bliss & Kyre: Jen Jones 07749 977821  
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  
01584 881342

## Village Hall Bookings

### Stoke Bliss & Kyre

Janet Powell, 01885 410598

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

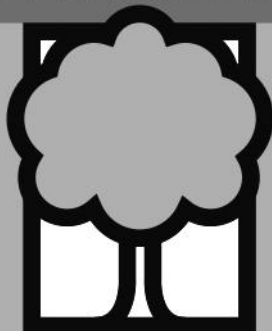
Rochford – Ann Prosser, 01584 781317

Eastham – Helen Matravers, 07580 158673

Hanley – Judy Bayliss, 01886 853813

Stanford – Robin Dean, 01886 853295

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# Parish news

## From the Registers

We continue to pray for the recently departed and for their families and friends.

A thanksgiving service for Joseph William Heeley was at St Peter & St Paul, Eastham on Tuesday 7th March at 12 noon followed by burial in the churchyard.

Interment of ashes for Brian John Ward was at All Saints, Hanley William on 25th February, and for David Clifford Arthur Powell at St Michaels, Rochford on 23rd March.

Reunited with relatives and held in God's love. May they rest in peace.

## Easter celebrations

As you will see from the service schedule, Easter is a busy time in our churches, but it is also a very moving time. The Palm Sunday service (2nd April) is at Stanford at 10am and palm crosses will be blessed and given out. On Good Friday don't miss the free children's craft activities happening in Rochford village hall from 10am to 12noon. No booking necessary. There will be self-guided stations of the cross in Kyre Church all that day. We will celebrate Easter Day with the usual dawn service at Stanford (5.45am) and then Easter Day services in the other churches at 10am, with communion bread blessed at dawn.



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E: stayathome-homesupport@live.com



## Teme Valley Tots

We will be taking a break for Easter. The Easter craft activities morning is open to all on Good Friday (7th April from 10am to 12 noon) and then we resume our weekly Fridays at Rochford village hall, 1 to 2.30pm, on 21st April. It is a very friendly group with significant support for the little ones at play, coordinated by an early years' teacher. All helpers are fully DBS checked. The group is free, including a hot drink for adults and a snack for all. Do come along and try us.

## Prayers for King Charles III

As the country prepares for the Coronation a free booklet of short Daily Prayers will be available from our churches. We will give them out at our Easter services and spare copies will be in the church buildings. The prayers are focused around aspects of the service and also pick up on some of the characteristics we might hope for in our new monarch. Do look out for them and take a copy. There are a few large print booklets should you wish for one, do please ask Rev'd Julia.

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place at Rochford Village Hall at 7pm on 3rd May. All are welcome to attend the annual meeting of parishioners at which we elect churchwardens serving our churches for the coming year. Following that there will be the Annual Church Meeting for anyone on the combined electoral roll of all the churches of Teme Valley South.

If you would like to join the roll do get in touch.

## Coronation Service for TVS

Advance notice that we will celebrate the Coronation with a service at Stanford Church for the whole parish at 10am on Sunday 7th May. Do come along and join us as we mark this momentous occasion and pray for our new King.

This will not involve Holy Communion, but for those who would like to receive there is an additional 8.30am said service.

*Rev'd Julia*

This month's front cover photograph is by Stephanie Mocroft, who writes about lapwings on page 23. Stephanie says she was unable to find a picture of a lapwing but they have been seen on the farm in this picture

# Rochford 49 Club

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

## Wednesday winners

Feb 1st	No 34	Phil Bull
Feb 8th	No 55	not sold
Feb 15th	No 14	Dan Taylor
Feb 22nd	No 9	Jennifer Gledhill
March 1st	No 35	Garry Burns
March 8th	No 22	not sold
March 15th	No 36	not sold

## Saturday winners

Feb 4th	No 56	not sold
Feb 11th	No 50	not sold
Feb 18th	No 29	Rosemary Ayres
Feb 25th	No 35	not sold
March 4th	No 7	Jon Adams
March 11th	No 49	Norma Goodall
March 18th	No 58	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**

# Teme Valley Tote

March's prize draw of the Tote (the twelfth and final in this series) was decided when Rev'd Julia Curtis rolled the dice on 1st March to select the set of random numbers. Prizewinners are:

£50 – **Jenny Hughes** of Stanford (No 476)

£30 – **Angela Yarnold-Wright** of Lindridge  
(No 118)

£20 – **Michael Gwilt** of Stoke Bliss (No 868)

We will be starting a new series in April - full details on page 12. 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 20th April at Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.15 for a 7.30pm start when Dave Kelly, a church planter and leader, will be speaking 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 please contact me on [kate.harley6@gmail.com](mailto:kate.harley6@gmail.com)

**Deadline 18th April**

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## Lambing Café Church

Lambing Café Church at Parsonage Farm was very successful and well attended. 32 adults and 13 children came along and got up close and personal with ewes and lambs, finishing off with drinks and cakes. It was lovely to see members of the tots group and other children who came along to see, stroke and help bottle feed lambs and took home sheep based activity bags. Thanks to everyone involved especially those providing and serving refreshments

## Neighbourhood lunch

Dates for sit down and takeaway neighbourhood lunches are 25th April, 30th May, 27th June and 25th July. Everyone is welcome and booking for lunches is essential. Takeaways should be collected between 12.30 and 1pm. Please book with Ann on 01584 781317 at least the previous week. And please come along if you can help.

## The Coronation Big Lunch

To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles we are planning to join in with the national Coronation Big Lunch on Sunday 7th May at 12.30 for 1pm. It will be a big bring and share lunch at the village hall, or maybe outside if the weather is good. Please let us know if you would like to join in and also if you are willing to bring along some food to share and we will coordinate it so that we don't end up with 10 bowls of coleslaw!

## Charles Scarecrow Competition

Following the very successful scarecrow competition for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we have decided to have a Charles themed scarecrow competition. Please join in and be imaginative and make a scarecrow of any Charles or Charlie you can think of.

If you have any other ideas of how we might celebrate the Coronation please let us know, we need new ideas!

## Church spring clean

On Saturday 8th April at 2pm. Many hands make light work so please come along if you can help and get the church ready for Easter.

**Deadline 18th April**  
**ronsmum@btconnect.com**  
**or 01568 750665**

## Easter Communion Service

Our Easter Communion Service is on Sunday 9th April 9th at 10am at the church. All welcome. If you would like to make a donation for the Easter lilies please get in touch with Jennifer Gledhill or Ann.

## Dates for your diary

Sunday 16th July – Rochford Fête – the venue is yet to be agreed. Offers of help or ideas for the fête would be greatly appreciated  
Saturday 30th September – The Big Breakfast  
Friday 10th November – Rochford Quiz

## Rochford Open Gardens

On Sunday 4th June 4th from 12 noon to 5pm Rochford will again be opening some of its lovely gardens. There will be refreshments and plants for sale, beautiful views and different styles and designs. Come and spend a relaxing afternoon in our early summer gardens. Maps and tickets will be available from the village hall.

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

## Display at Kyre Church

Friday 7th April, 10am to 4pm

**Good Friday  
Gethsemane of Despair  
to Resurrection of Hope  
Easter Sunday**

## Social & Pub Night

Friday 28th April

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

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

## Neighbourhood Lunch

Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

Thursday 13th April

Thursday 11th May

Welcome at 12.30pm

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



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## Stoke Bliss ceiling and roof repairs

Thanks to everyone who has attended meetings and come up with ideas. Several are being followed up by the people who suggested them and our ongoing fundraiser, roof tile sponsorship, is moving forward. Details should be ready for the May issue of TemeTalk.

Especial thanks to all who organised and supported the PAX concert.

If you are visiting by car, walking or cycling in the area do call into Stoke Bliss church where refreshments are available. An update on the fundraising progress will be on display soon.

Stoke Bliss history books are still available – get yours now!

Maggie Kingston

## Summer Barbecue

Saturday 3rd June at 4pm

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# Eastham Jottings

## Church flowers and cleaning

April – Diana Clarke  
May – Tammy Starling

## Eastham Coffee Morning

This month's coffee morning is on Wednesday 5th April at 10.30am at Eastham Memorial Hall.

The rota for April and May is  
Wednesday 5th April – Chris Kelland  
Wednesday 3rd May – Alison Neary

Remember to call in for a coffee, chat, raffle tickets on the first Wednesday of each month.

## Teme Valley Tote

Final call for payments for Eastham – £10 is due on 1st April for the next 12 draws for prizes of £50, £30 or £20 per month. Please pay in cash, as in previous years, or ring Celia for bank details on 01584 781258, easthamcourt@icloud.com. Thanks to Robin for organising the tote every year.

## Spring clean of churchyard and church

Please come and help with the spring tidy up of the churchyard from 10am to 12.30pm on Saturday 29th April, followed by a barbecue. At the same time we'll be tidying up the inside of the church for the summer, please bring dusters and mops. Everyone is welcome, any age!

## Coronation Big Lunch

For our Coronation celebration in Eastham on Sunday 7th May we have Blue Moon booked to serve up with pork baps, tea, coffee and a cash bar. It's open to all – join us for a right royal party from 12 noon onwards. To reserve a place call Beryl on 07969 243558.

## Filling Station

The next meeting is at the Memorial Hall on 20th April. Deepest condolences to everyone on the recent death of Martina Bacon who was always present in the early days of moving this group to Eastham. She will be sadly missed by all.

## Local elections

Voting takes place on Thursday 4th May and the Memorial Hall will be the local polling station.

## Eastham litter pick

Thanks to everyone who turned up for the litter pick on 18th March – a great job was done tidying up the roads in Eastham.

## Eastham Riverside Fête 2023

Save the date now! Sunday 20th August starting at 12 noon. Seems a long way off but planning has started for what will hopefully be a fun-packed afternoon for all the family.

A core part of the day is the long running produce show, now one of the very few in the area, and this year we are hoping for more entries than every. It's all for fun and small prizes but the joy is in seeing your produce or handicraft win against your neighbours and maybe take a cup home with you.

For families in Eastham the schedule is included in this magazine and we've made it as bright as possible so you don't lose it – it's packed with classes for growing, baking and handicrafts for adults and children.

You don't have to live in Eastham to take part and if you would like a schedule so you can show us how to do it properly, please get in touch (easthamfete@gmail.com or 01584 781505).

## Eastham Pub Night

This month's pub night is on Friday 21st April at 7pm at Eastham Memorial Hall. Make a date for this informal get together – everyone welcome. Look out for the usual banner.

The next pub night will be on Friday 19th May.

## Zumba Gold, Pilates and Yoga and Kung Fu at Eastham Memorial Hall

- Pilates, Sue on 07974 343609, sue579@icloud.com. Tuesdays at 1pm and 2.15pm. No classes during the Easter holidays.
- Yoga on Wednesday mornings, suitable for adults of all ages. Call Zoe on 07962 981456, info@zedyoga.co.uk. No classes during the Easter holidays.
- Zumba Gold, Lucia on 07709 301030, lu.500@live.co.uk, Wednesdays at 1pm. No classes during the Easter holidays.
- Kung Fu, Adam on 07720 643524, for youngsters on Saturdays at 9.30am.

## Eastham's annual pumpkin competition

If you want to be in with a chance of winning top prize in Eastham's annual pumpkin competition (and not let the glory go to Rochford!) then you will need to plant the seed during April or May and keep the plants well watered.

*Celia Adams*

# Hanley Happenings

## Hanley Happenings

Last month Ed and I put out this plea:

*Are you able to offer a couple of hours each month and have a heart for these Hanley communities?*

We are delighted therefore that Carole Gardner got in touch and offered to be the link point for our Hanley Happenings page and we are looking forward to her contributions as the year unfolds. Thank you Carole!

*Rev'd Julia*

Many of you must know me, or if not me, my dogs. First there was Digger, who sadly passed away in 2022 having walked many miles around the Hanleys. Now there is Percy, currently six months old, a golden retriever with giant paws!

I've lived in the community for 34 years and have seen many changes. Most excitingly new faces and families have come to live here and they must be brimming with ideas for things they would like to see or experience. If you have any activities planned or wish to share any thoughts on future community actions please send an email or pop in to see me at Tally Ho Cottage, not hard to find and I'm always ready to share a cuppa.

*Carole Gardner*

*01886853654 or carole.gardner@ymail.com*

## Beacon, Barbecue and Booze

On a Saturday evening in June, at Top Horse Pasture on Ed Yarnold's farm (where the last beacon was for the Platinum Jubilee). The evening will start at 6pm and there will be children's games and entertainment for adults and children.

If the weather isn't kind the venue may be changed to the village hall without lighting the beacon.

## Our village needs you

Our village hall committee desperately needs new members. If you have recently moved into the parish this could be an excellent way of meeting new neighbours and making friends. The meetings are held at The Fox every two or three months on a Tuesday evening. Why not come along and meet chairman Ed Yarnold? And volunteer to help with fund raising for the hall. The committee is hoping to increase funds to start the extension to the kitchen and make it a disabled friendly venue.

## Litter pick

Come along to a litter pick in our lanes on Sunday 16th April at 2pm. There should be less traffic on Sunday and you will be rewarded with hot soup and a roll at the village hall afterwards. High viz, litter pickers and bags are provided and lifts will be arranged to the furthest points so that you can walk back in pairs and collect litter as you go.

## A new name for the Tally Ho

Tom and Anna Purchase have announced that the new name for the Tally Ho is to be Hanley House.

In changing from a pub to bed and breakfast they hope to have brought new life to the building and the community. Three of the eight bedrooms will be open in late spring and the event space will be available for hire shortly afterwards.

Tom and Anna are very excited by their new venture and already feel part of the Hanleys. Local tradespeople have worked extremely hard to help them keep on target for a spring opening – they thank them all.

To keep up with the latest information follow Hanley House on Instagram@Hanleyhouse\_bnb.

## Peter Thorneycroft

A celebration of Peter's life will be held at Town Farm on Saturday 22nd April at 12 noon. If you would like to come, please RSVP to hollythorneycroft@hotmail.com.

Margie Thorneycroft is organising an open gardens for the Hanleys on the second Saturday in June to raise funds for Lymphoma Support. More details next month, but please let Margie know if you would like to be involved.

## Films at Hanley Village Hall

*The World's Fastest Indian* starring Anthony Hopkins will now be shown on Saturday 13th May. See page 13.

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# Stanford • Stanford • Stanford

## Services in Stanford

### Sunday 2nd April, Palm Sunday

Holy Communion with hymns at 10am  
Praise service at 4pm

### Thursday 6th April, Maundy Thursday

Stripping of altars service at 6.30pm

### Sunday 9th April, Easter Day

Dawn service with Holy Communion at 5.45am followed by full English breakfast in Stanford Village Hall at about 6.30am (£10 per head). Please book breakfast with Robin on 01886 853295 before 6th April.

### Sunday 7th May

Said Holy Communion at 8.30am  
TVS Parish Coronation Celebration Service at 10am  
Praise Service at 4pm

## Teme Valley Tote

A new series starts this month – full details on page 12. Alexandra is collecting from those of you in Stanford who do not have a standing order. New subscribers are always welcome, please contact Robin on 01886 853295 if you are a new subscriber or if you would like to set up a standing order.

## Stanford Area Church Committee AGM

Cate has agreed to host this meeting at Cavendish House, Stanford Park on 5th April at 6pm. It is an opportunity for anyone in Stanford to nominate the area church committee, our parochial church council representatives and our churchwarden(s). Please come, especially if you are on the church's electoral roll.

## Stanford Coronation Orchard

It has been decided to plant an orchard below the village hall on Sunday 7th May (the day after the Coronation) at 2pm. The trees will be fruit trees (apple, cherry, plum and pear).

In order to take part you need to buy a tree for £25 – for this you get a tree to plant, and wine and cheese refreshments after the planting for all members of your family.

If you would like to participate, please phone David Lane on 01886 853677. While there are 50 trees available, you should reserve yours by a cash payment of £25 as soon as possible.

**TemeTalk deadline 18th April**  
ronsmum@btconnect.com

## Supporting Tenbury Food Bank

The box in the lobby of St Mary's church continues to be used. Thank you to all who have contributed, please keep your donations coming.

## 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! We are getting visitors from all over the world and locally, 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 and/or the village hall 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.

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*

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## April – the cruellest month?

I've always liked April. My birthday is in April, so that's a good start. And I love spring flowers and longer evenings when March winds give way to soft twilights.

Some of the greatest poetry describes April perfectly.

*All in the April evening,  
April airs are abroad  
The sheep with their little lambs,  
Passed me by on the road*

That's part of a lovely song by Hugh S Robertson, but my favourite snippet of poetry about April is the beginning of *The Waste Land* by T S Eliot:

*April is the cruellest month, breeding  
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing  
Memory and desire, stirring  
Dull roots with spring rain.*

Maybe Chaucer had it right when he began the Prologue to the *Canterbury Tales* with this description of April:


*Whan that Aprille with his shoures soote,  
The droghte of March hath perced to the roote,  
And bathed every veyne in swich licour  
Of which vertu engendred is the flour*

*(When in April the sweet showers fall  
That pierce March's drought to the root and all  
And bathe every vein in liquor that has power  
To generate therein and sire the flower)*

Or perhaps this sums the month up best:

*The April rain, the April rain,  
Comes slanting down in fitful showers,  
Then from the furrow shoots the grain,  
And banks are fledged with nestling flowers*

SG

 <p><b>*Wellbeing*</b> At Caspian Wood we are passionate about making people feel good! Our family activities, Wellbeing retreats, Equine Therapy &amp; Family Glamping breaks are all on your doorstep to enjoy! Getting out in nature is scientifically proven to improve your mental health. *Reconnect-Relax-Revive*</p>	<h3>Wellbeing at Caspian Wood</h3> <p>Woodland Walk and Talk Total Time Out Therapy Self Healing Journey Creative therapy Equine Therapy, grooming and equine facilitated learning Children's wellbeing and family support</p>	<h2>Easter Eggstravaganza</h2> <p>on Easter Monday, 2 to 4pm Book at Wellbeing at Caspian Wood</p> <p>Find us on Facebook – Wellbeing at Caspian Wood Caspian Wood Lakeside Glamping or contact Nicky on 07487 868952</p>
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# Welcome to Caspian Wood

I'm Nicky, and my husband Jason and daughters Elsa and Pippa and I would like to send you all a very warm welcome from Caspian Wood!

## Glamping at Caspian Wood

Our family-run smallholding, with its woodland and freshwater lake, is the perfect place to unwind and relax. We have many rescued animals here including ponies, chickens, ducks and rabbits.

Our secluded peaceful glamping site has three fully equipped types of accommodation, the Treehouse, the Lakehouse and the Shepherd Hut.

## Wellbeing@Caspian Wood is now open

We believe that Caspian Wood has a special magic to soothe your soul and improve your wellbeing.

Spending time in nature improves your mental health, reduces stress and anxiety and increases self esteem and confidence. We offer many activities to help you escape the pressures of everyday life and take time out to rest, restore and revive.

With my 15 years' experience working with children and with my love of animals and nature, I can now share my passion to help children and families to enjoy nature's greatest therapy and classroom in my woodland.

Our Family Fun Days run throughout the summer and start with our **Easter Eggstravaganza on Monday 10th April** from 2 to 4pm, £12 per child. Booking in advance is essential.

## Wellbeing and fun for children

Home education sessions, children's birthday parties and equine therapy are available to book and can be tailored to meet your or your child's needs. Come and groom our Shetland Cheeky or



meet Willow and Rose for some time out, even enjoy afternoon tea and mindfulness with the ponies. We also offer equine-facilitated learning for children and families who may need help and support. It's a fun way to empower you or your children to improve wellbeing.

We offer woodland nature-based and ecofriendly children's parties for all ages, including themed activities and crafts, cooking on the fire-pit and ecofriendly party bags. Catering and refreshments, cake and party games can all be accommodated.

## Woodland Wellbeing for adults

- Walk and talk, total time out and group self healing journey sessions. Come and work through any worries you have in a safe, non judgemental and supportive space.
- Creative therapy activities. Come and get creative! Spend time out in nature, relax with like-minded people and enjoy making something to take home. Great for your wellbeing.
- Crystal, colour and reiki therapy sessions. Great for improved wellbeing and working through any worries and stresses you may have or just to enjoy.
- Wellbeing retreats. Full day or overnight stays from £125 per person, including yoga, mindfulness, massage, creative therapy and afternoon tea. Overnight guests enjoy a barbecue and Pimms evening with relaxation to finish.

*For further details of all our activities including dates and costs contact Nicky Burt on 07487 868952 or email nburt251@gmail.com. Find us on Facebook at Wellbeing @ Caspian Wood or Caspian Wood Lakeside Glamping.*

*Caspian Wood is on the Highwood road at Eastham. The glamping site is open now.*



## Kingfishers on the Teme



You'll remember Andrew Holmes' stunning photograph of a kingfisher which was on the front cover of last month's TemeTalk. Here's another of his photographs, of a kingfisher with the fish it has just caught.

Thanks to Mike and Celia Adams, some high tech cameras and many hours of patience, Andrew was able to use a private stretch of the river Teme to make a film about kingfishers (his favourite UK bird) during the pandemic – a big undertaking as he had never done anything like it before! The result is a breathtakingly beautiful film of kingfishers diving for fish in the river. He also discovered a wealth of other nature on the banks of the Teme.

To watch Andrew's delightful film go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=t9hyqnxYWJg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t9hyqnxYWJg).

## A new series of Teme Valley Tote starts in April

The last series paid out £1,200 to lucky winners and just over £3,100 was distributed to the parishes of Teme Valley North and Teme Valley South.

Again this year 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 or £30 or £20 each month.

Your local co-ordinators are:

Eastham – Celia Adams

Stanford – Alexandra Winnington

Stoke Bliss and Kyre – Margaret Yarnold

If you have internet banking, you can subscribe by bank giro credit – the account name is North Teme Group of Churches Tote Account – sort code

20-39-64, account number 30947539. Please give your name and district as the reference and email me at [robin.c.dean@gmail.com](mailto:robin.c.dean@gmail.com).

If you currently pay by standing order you will automatically be entered. If there is any problem, I will contact you when these come in on 1st April. If you wish to pay by standing order I can send you the form.

Or you can send a cheque made payable to Teme Valley Tote to me (Robin Dean) at Rectory Cottage, Stanford Bridge, Worcester, WR6 6ST.

If you have any queries about the Tote, please contact me on 01886 853295 or email [robin.c.dean@gmail.com](mailto:robin.c.dean@gmail.com)

*Robin Dean*

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## TEME VALLEY COMMUNITY CORONATION RAMBLE

**Monday 8th May**

Meet and registration at 10am  
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Fun royal theme – dressing up welcomed  
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Start at 10.30am

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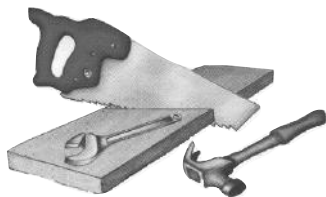
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## King Charles Coronation

# Bring and Share Tea Party

at

**Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall**

**Sunday 7th May**

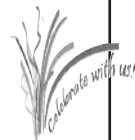
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All are welcome – bring a plate of food  
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2.30 to 4.30pm

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## Eastham's Coronation Celebration

Sunday 7th May, 12 noon to 4pm

Eastham will be celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III on the Millenium Green

The marquee will be up and decorated so come along and join in the fun during the afternoon

Enjoy the refreshments, the bar, the company and the live band

To help with catering numbers, please let us know if you are coming

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or Liann on 07950 524173

or email [liannseramail@gmail.com](mailto:liannseramail@gmail.com)



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# Easter Bingo



**Sunday 2nd April  
Eastham Memorial Hall**

Doors open at 6pm  
Eyes down at 6.30pm

Prizes for line, full house  
and bonus round

Adults and children welcome

Bar will be open to buy drinks

For more information  
contact Jenna on 07502 228878



# Afternoon Tea with the Easter Bunny

at



**Eastham Memorial Hall**

**Saturday 1st April**

**1 to 4pm**



Come and join the Easter Bunny for  
afternoon tea courtesy of  
Leah's Bespoke Cakes  
followed by lots of fun activities

Games ★ Easter Egg Hunt

★ Easter Egg from the Easter Bunny ★

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# Films at Hanley Village Hall



**Saturday 1st April, 7.30pm**

## The Duke

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*"A ridiculously charming British comedy"*

**Stars Jim Broadbent, Helen Mirren  
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**£5 per person, please bring your own drink**



**Saturday 13th May, 7.30pm**

## The World's Fastest Indian

The story of New Zealander Burt Munro, who spent years rebuilding a 1920 Indian motorcycle which helped him set the land speed world record at Utah's Bonneville Salt Flats in 1967.

**Stars Anthony Hopkins, Diane Ladd, Iain Rea  
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**Meal at 6pm £15 per person, bring your own drink  
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Deadline for the May issue  
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Eastham Memorial Hall  
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# Olivia's Red Nose Cake Sale

Olivia Evington raised £180 for Comic Relief as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award on 11th March at Bailey's Farm Shop, Mill Farm, Stanford Bridge by selling home made cakes.

Well done to Olivia!

Olivia is currently completing her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. She has been working hard

in Stanford helping with several local projects including organising tea and cakes for the recent Stanford walking church, cleaning Stanford village hall and delivering TemeTalk.

Thanks to all who have supported her but most importantly thanks to Olivia for all she has done for our community.



Olivia Evington and friend (above left) and Olivia's dad David Evington and Clem Softly wear their red noses with pride at Olivia's home made cake sale for Comic Relief

## REGAL APRIL EVENTS\*

TENBURY WELLS \*programme as of 15/03/23

<p><b>Puss in Boots 2 (PG)</b> 1st, 3rd &amp; 4th April (2 PM) Puss in Boots discovers that his passion for adventure has taken its toll when he learns that he has burnt through eight of his nine lives.</p> <p><b>Epic Tails (U)</b> 7th, 10th &amp; 11th April (2 PM) EPIC TAILS tells the story of super smart mouse Pattie and her feline friend Sam, as they embark upon an exciting adventure of paw-some proportions through Ancient Greece.</p> <p><b>Gary Delaney: Gary in Punderland</b> 8th April (8 pm - 9.50 pm) <span style="float: right; font-size: x-small;">LAST TICKETS REMAINING</span> One of the most sought after joke writers in the country and longstanding Mock the Week special guest, Gary has been through the laughing glass and he's ready to bring you a brand new show with hit after hit of the kind of one-liners only a master could craft.</p> <p><b>ROH Ballet: Cinderella</b> 12th April (7.15 PM) A timeless reworking of Charles Perrault's famous rags-to-riches story returns, showcasing the choreographer's deft musicality and the beauty of Prokofiev's transcendent score.</p> <p><b>Beatles Fest Tenbury</b> 14th - 16th April A townwide festival celebrating 60 years since the Fab Four came to Tenbury!</p>	<p><b>Family Film</b></p> <p><b>Live Comedy</b></p> <p><b>Live Broadcast</b></p> <p><b>Festival</b></p>
<p><b>NT Live: Good</b> 20th April (7 PM) David Tennant (Doctor Who) makes a much-anticipated return to the West End in a blistering reimagining of one of Britain's most powerful, political plays.</p> <p><b>65 (12A)</b> 21st, 22nd &amp; 24th April (7 PM) After a catastrophic crash on an unknown planet, pilot Mills quickly discovers he's actually stranded on Earth -- 65 million years ago.</p> <p><b>ROH Opera: The Marriage of Figaro</b> 27th April (18.45 PM) Servants Figaro and Susanna are filled with excitement on their wedding day, but there's a hitch: their employer, the Count Almaviva, has dishonourable intentions of his own towards the bride-to-be.</p> <p><b>A Good Person (15)</b> 28th April, 2nd &amp; 4th May (7 PM) Allison (Florence Pugh) played by forms an unlikely friendship with her would-be father-in-law (Morgan Freeman) that gives her a fighting chance to put her life back together and move forward.</p> <p><b>Whole Lotta Shakin' - The Shakin' Stevens Story</b> 28th April (7.30 PM) Starring Rebel Dean (West End, London Palladium, That'll be the Day!) with full live 5 piece band and projections.</p>	<p><b>Live Broadcast</b></p> <p><b>Film</b></p> <p><b>Live Broadcast</b></p> <p><b>Film</b></p> <p><b>Live Music</b></p>

For more info: [www.regaltenbury.co.uk](http://www.regaltenbury.co.uk) @RegalTenbury

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# Locals bring the community together to save their pub



*Some of the members of the working party with their roadside support banner outside The Bell at Pensax*

Residents of Pensax and the surrounding area have formed a working group to save their local pub, The Bell at Pensax, from permanent closure. The traditional country inn closed its doors in October 2022 having served the local community for over 180 years. Pensax has lost its primary school and village

hall in recent years, leaving the pub as the only community venue.

Having achieved Asset of Community Value status for the pub in December 2022 the group now plans to sell shares and purchase The Bell through a Community Benefit Society. Anyone aged 16 or over can go to [www.savethebellatpensax.co.uk](http://www.savethebellatpensax.co.uk) and pledge their intention to invest between £250 and £25,000.

The Bell is well known for its excellent selection of real ales, warm welcome and beer garden with fantastic views.

Following a packed open meeting on 1st March at Abberley Village Hall, Toby Wise, chair of the working group said: "We were overwhelmed by the support from everyone. This is our one chance to buy The Bell and run it for the community. Our thanks to Mark Haslam from The Brewers Arms community pub in West Malvern, and to Nick Comley from Community First in Herefordshire and Worcestershire, for their ongoing support and advice".

Shares will be £250 and each individual can pledge to buy a minimum of one share (£250) up to a maximum of 100 shares (£25,000).

To find out more, make a pledge or register for future progress updates, please visit [www.savethebellatpensax.co.uk](http://www.savethebellatpensax.co.uk). Let's keep the village of Pensax on the map!



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# Teme Valley Wildlife

The subject for this month's article occurred to me earlier in the year, when I unexpectedly spotted several lapwings flying across the lane leading to my home. I had never seen a lapwing in the village before, but our local farmer had recently watched a flock of twenty-five or so feeding in his fields.

When I was a child living in south Derbyshire I regularly saw flocks of many thousands of birds near to my home. Our house lay on the flood-plain of the River Dove and in winter the broad flat fields surrounding us were frequently waterlogged. Huge flocks of lapwings arrived, turning the sky almost black – an amazing spectacle as they wheeled down together onto the damp ground.

Lapwings are said to be friends of the farmer because they eat pests known to damage crops. Waterlogged ground causes wireworms and leather-jackets and other insect larvae to come to the surface where they offer an easy meal. In drier conditions the birds sometimes stamp their feet to bring up their prey. Standing twelve inches high, their smart black and white colouring and large curving crests really stand out. Light falling on their black feathers reflects a beautiful green metallic hue. Alternative names include plover, derived from the Latin for rain, and pee-wit, suggested by their call, whilst an old Worcestershire name is "Old Maid".

Lapwings are known for a flapping style of flight and for putting on aerobic territorial and mating displays. Sometimes seeming to drop suddenly out of the sky, the male lands in his territory and makes a scrape in the soil to encourage a female to choose a nest site. She lines the scrape with dry grass and lays four well-camouflaged eggs. Such a nest is at high risk from predators but lapwings rise up to mob crows if they feel at threat. Lapwing chicks leave the nest amazingly quickly, as soon as the last hatched chick has dried. They develop very rapidly, being covered with fine down and able to feed themselves three days from hatching. The female bird protects her chicks and leads them to safety, sometimes pretending to have a broken wing to draw predators away.

Legends became attached to the birds, probably because they can make eerie calls well into the night. Seven lapwings calling together were dubbed "The Seven Whistlers" and thought to

warn of misfortune. The birds themselves had the misfortune to be desirable as food. Their eggs were considered a delicacy and the adults ended up in pies. In 1926 a Lapwing Act was passed to try and protect them. Having nested from March to May in northerly locations on moorland, coastland marsh and damp, rushy fields they begin to flock in July and head south to warmer estuaries and coastal farmlands. To see them was a real privilege, I hope they'll come again.

The next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group will take place at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall on Thursday 13th April at 7.30pm. We welcome back local beetle expert Will Watson whose talk is about the beetles to be found in Herefordshire ponds. Everyone is most welcome and it is just £2 on the door.

*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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## 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. Your first taster session is free, then it's just £3 per evening.

## Art classes at Hanley

Art classes are on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8.30 pm at Hanley Village Hall. Please contact Ange Jordan on 07830 914430 if you would like to come



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**TemeTalk**  
Please send items for inclusion to  
[ronsmum@btconnect.com](mailto:ronsmum@btconnect.com) or call 01568 750665  
by 18th April for the May issue

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**If you would like to become part of this amazing organisation as a volunteer  
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## Farm Community Network

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# What's on in Teme Valley South

## April

- 1st Saturday Film Night at Hanley Village Hall, *The Duke*, 7.30pm  
Afternoon Tea with the Easter Bunny, Eastham Memorial Hall, 1pm
- 2nd Sunday Easter Bingo, Eastham Memorial Hall, 6pm  
Afternoon Tea with the Easter Bunny, Eastham Memorial Hall, 1pm
- 5th Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am  
Stanford Area Church Committee AGM, Cavendish House, Stanford, 6pm
- 7th Friday Display at Kyre Church, 10am to 4pm
- 8th Saturday Church spring clean, Rochford Church, 2pm
- 13th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm
- 14th-16th Beatles Fest Tenbury
- 15th Saturday Plant and Produce Sale, Cream Teas, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 16th Sunday Litter pick, Hanley, 2pm
- 20th Thursday The Filling Station, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7.15pm
- 21st Friday Eastham Pub Night, Eastham Memorial Hall, 7pm
- 25th Tuesday Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm
- 28th Friday Social/Pub Night, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 7pm
- 29th Saturday Spring clean of Eastham church and churchyard, 10am

## May

- 3rd Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Rochford Village Hall, 7pm  
followed by Annual Church Meeting
- 7th Sunday Coronation Big Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm  
Coronation Celebration Lunch, Eastham Memorial Hall, 12 noon  
Stanford Coronation Orchard planting, Stanford Village Hall, 2pm  
Coronation Bring and Share Tea Party, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 3pm
- 8th Monday Teme Valley Community Coronation Ramble, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10am
- 11th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm
- 13th Saturday Murder on the Catwalk, Eastham Memorial Hall, 6.30pm  
Film Night at Hanley Village Hall, *The World's Fastest Indian*, 7.30pm
- 30th Tuesday Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

## June

- 3rd Saturday Summer Barbecue, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 4pm
- 4th Sunday Rochford Open Gardens, 12 noon to 5pm
- 7th Wednesday Eastham Coffee Morning, Eastham Memorial Hall, 10.30am
- 8th Thursday Neighbourhood Lunch, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall, 12.30pm
- 27th Tuesday Rochford Neighbourhood Lunch, Rochford Village Hall, 12.30pm

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

# Services

## April/May 2023

We are continuing with prayer online daily via Zoom so do email Rev'd Julia if you would like to join us. If you have a prayer request to be included, please ring or email Rev'd Julia or your local pastoral team member – see Teme Valley South Contacts on page 2.

The Blessings Group meets fortnightly 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 2nd April

10.00am           Stanford  
4.00pm            Stanford

#### Palm Sunday

Holy Communion and hymns  
Praise Service

#### Thursday 6th April

6.30pm            Stanford

#### Maundy Thursday

Service for Maundy Thursday ending with stripping of the altar

#### Friday 7th April

10am to 12 noon   Rochford  
10am to 4pm       Kyre

#### Good Friday

Activity morning for children in the Village Hall  
Stations of the Cross

#### Sunday 9th April

5.45am            Stanford  
10.00am           Eastham  
10.00am           Rochford  
10.00am           Stoke Bliss  
10.00am           Hanley William

#### Easter Day

Dawn Service and Holy Communion  
Holy Communion  
Holy Communion  
Holy Communion  
Holy Communion

#### Sunday 16th April

10.00am           Eastham  
2.00pm

All Age Worship and Holy Communion  
Walking Church

#### Sunday 23rd April

10.00am           Rochford  
4.00pm            Hanley Childe

All Age Worship and Holy Communion  
Evening Service

#### Sunday 30th April

9.30am            Hanley

Café Church at Hanley Village Hall

#### Saturday 6th May

#### Coronation of King Charles III

#### Sunday 7th May

8.30am            Stanford  
10.00am           Stanford  
4.00pm            Stanford

Holy Communion  
Coronation Service with Hymns for Teme Valley South  
Praise Service

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