

# **STONELEIGH AND ASHOW NEWS**



**NOVEMBER 2020**



## **“The Heart of Stoneleigh Defibrillator”**

In the phone box on The Green

### **Coordinator**

David Ellwood 07785 284482

Text if no reply

### **Trained Volunteers**

John Churchley 07885 496795

Laura Elliot 07738 222969

David Ellwood 07785 284482

Richard Hancox 07596 276829

Ian Huston 07974 237331

Sharron McEldowney 07760 101775

Claire Neale 07557 675842

Lisa Reay 07716 416320

Martin Smith 07958 955629

Mary Taylor 07890 535506

**Remember: Always ring 999 first!**

***\* A second defibrillator can be found in the village Hall \****

## Stoneleigh Community Orchard Update

The harvest of 2020 was completed on Saturday the 4th October well ahead of schedule and the group are pleased to announce that the previous record of 850 litres was broken as we now have some 920 litres pressed, stowed and busily fermenting in the “Cider House” as this article is written.

The gathering of the harvest was set against a backdrop of wedding plans to occur on October 10th at Talland Church in Cornwall between myself and Mandy so time was very much of the essence to get this completed in advance. This was a true team effort and I want to thank the ever dependable John Churchley who assisted and supported throughout, the pickers Quentin & Sally Compton-Bishop and their 4x4 vehicle which was a godsend when moving the crates, plus their brother & sister-in-law Malcolm and Roni who had travelled up from the apple county of Kent to put in a shift. Villagers Sharon McEldowney, Mike & Bernice Evans and the ever present and reliable Elaine James & my fiancée Mandy. Everyone rose to the challenge!

In retrospect the harvest of 2020 was not a straight forward exercise with a couple of trees either sent toppling or damaged following the August storms. These had to be left for the fruit to mature and picked prior to being lifted, towed and tied back vertical! Thanks go to Laura Eliot for the use of her 4x4 vehicle during this exercise for what on occasions began to resemble one of the twelve labours of Hercules ironically and amusingly entitled “The Apples of the Hesperides”.

It is with some relief that the completion of this intense period of work will mark the commencement of a quieter period for the group as well as a time to reflect, discuss and plan the future.

Orchard Friends' subscriptions and yearly renewals for 2021 will cost £10 and can be made to Pete Freeman as Chairman or to Richard Hancox as Treasurer. Cheques should be made payable to Stoneleigh Village Community Orchard, however why not become a long term, friend and set up a direct debit.

Pete Freeman (Chairman), 5 Church Lane, Stoneleigh.

[Pete.Freeman@swift.nhs.uk](mailto:Pete.Freeman@swift.nhs.uk),

Richard Hancox (Treasurer),

[Richard.Hancox@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:Richard.Hancox@highwaysengland.co.uk)



Pete Freeman  
Chairman

*Stoneleigh Village Club*

*Est. 1856*

*[www.facebook.com/stoneleighvillageclub](https://www.facebook.com/stoneleighvillageclub)*



## **Stoneleigh Village Club Update**

### **Current Opening Hours**

**Monday closed**

**Tuesday 6.30pm-9.30pm**

**Wednesday 6.30pm-9.30pm**

**Thursday 6.30pm-9.30pm**

**Friday 4pm-9.30pm**

**Saturday 2pm-9.30pm**

**Sunday 12-6:30pm**

These opening times may be subject to change. Changes will be communicated to club members by email and facebook.

So here we are heading into November. It's great to have the Club open on more weekday evenings and the opening times seem to be working well. We'd like to thank you all for your continued support. We are constantly reviewing our Covid guidelines, in line with government advice and thank you for all following and helping keep everyone safe and our Club open.

On Friday 2nd October we presented our long-standing steward, Jimmy Gavin with an engraved tankard and some restaurant vouchers in recognition of the 20th anniversary of service to the Club.

The pictures below show Jim receiving his tankard and studying the engraving. Our thanks also go to Jim's wife Karen,

they both work tirelessly not only behind the bar but also behind the scenes to make the Club what it is.



In other news, we have erected a gazebo in the garden to provide some undercover additional seating and are looking at options to provide heating and lighting if it gets regularly used.

#### **Face Coverings & Track & Trace Requirements**

- All members and guests are required to wear a face covering on entry to the club and once inside whenever they are not sat down.
- Please remember to track and trace and sanitise on your way

in. We have a “QR” code that can be scanned and also paper slips that should be completed and placed in the box.

- Please wait for the bar person to take your drinks order.
- The “rule of six” currently applies and should be adhered to.
- Smoking is only permitted in the smoking area. Could you please refrain from smoking outside the front of the club and also by the back door.
- Children are very welcome, however they must be supervised by an adult at all times and seated at a table.
- Please do not sit or stand at the bar. Tables, chairs and stools have been positioned for yours and everybody else’s safety.

If we can all stick to the above it would be much appreciated. We are subject to on the spot inspections and if we breach the guidelines we have set up and registered with the local authorities we could be forced to shut.

Although we can’t plan any events yet, we do hope to make up for it as soon as restrictions are lifted.

Stay safe all

***Don’t Forget we have Sky Sports showing all the Latest Sports Fixtures!***

*Adrian*  
Club Secretary

Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire CV8 3DH    02476 414440  
Stoneleigh Village Club Ltd. Registered in England N°. 8560869



Photograph from Coventry Observer

## Judy Oliver MBE

Judy, who lives in Walkers Orchard, has been awarded the MBE for her services with Coventry Primary Schools and Youth Offenders.

She served as a JP in Coventry and Warwickshire for 14 years and currently runs about 70 workshops in schools each year.

These pioneering sessions are aimed at 10 and 11 year olds on the knife and cyber crime, law and court system.

Judy had a life changing injury about 20 years ago which has left her wheelchair bound. She retired from the bench a few years ago but continues to run the workshops.

She was awarded the retired magistrate of the year in 2017. She also sits on a youth referral panel for the Coventry youth offending team.

Judy was very surprised to know that she had been nominated and is quite overwhelmed at receiving such a prestigious award.

Well done Judy – you're a fantastic neighbour – knowing you for so many years – so well deserved.

*Liz Sykes*





## STONELEIGH LADIES CHOIR

The choir meetings via Zoom on Thursday afternoons are proving a great way to keep in touch during these restricted times. Midway through the meeting, the members have a 10-minute break out when there is an opportunity for smaller groups of four people to have a discussion, to share news and to get to know each other a little better.

New music is being learned which will hopefully be performed in the Spring.

The choir had planned a concert for Safeline, a local charity who support victims of abuse during their recovery. Sadly, due to lock down, this had to be cancelled. To compensate for this, the choir has organised a Lucky Number Draw with some amazing prizes donated by Kenilworth businesses. These include meals in local restaurants, beauty treatments such as facials, hair and nails and many beautiful gifts perfect for this time of year.

The members would like to thank these businesses for their generous donations particularly during these difficult times. For a donation of £2.50 per number you can be included in the draw which will take place on 10 December.

The numbers can be obtained from any member of the choir or from Val Baker on [bakersvdn@talktalk.net](mailto:bakersvdn@talktalk.net) or telephone 024 7641 4360. As we go to print, the AGM is scheduled for 22 October which will also be via Zoom.

*Pat Wightman*



## POPPY APPEAL 2020

As was mentioned in last month's magazine, poppies will not be sold on a house to house basis. However, in Stoneleigh and Ashow, poppies will be on sale in the village clubs and the churches when they are open.

If you are able please support this very worthwhile cause.  
We hope you all stay safe and well.

*Kate and Philip Jones*  
Poppy Appeal Co-ordinators

### Stoneleigh Village Hall

The village hall now has a website. <http://stoneleighvillagehall.org.uk/>

This should be used as an integral part of the process for booking the hall.  
The page will be developed further – but you will be aware of the extra responsibilities for the trustees at this time.

We re-opened the hall in September, but with further government restrictions being imposed some events that had been booked had to be cancelled.

If your group falls within the current government guidelines, then the hall can take your booking.

We are also taking bookings for 2021.

*Liz Sykes*

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

### **Meetings**

Because of the current social distancing requirements, Parish Council meetings are being held online, via Zoom. Residents are still welcome to attend (you do not need to have a zoom account to attend), just email the Clerk at [stoneleighshowparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stoneleighshowparishcouncil@gmail.com) to request a link before midday on the day of the meeting. Please also note that all information relating to meetings will be on the website only for now; no information will be posted on the village notice boards.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, November 12th at 7pm.**

To view the full details of this and other meetings, including upcoming planning applications, please visit the Parish Council website:

<http://stoneleighshowparishcouncil.btck.co.uk/CouncilMeetings>

Councillors gave warnings of a rising number of scams identified in the area, including fraudsters claiming to be working with the police, or fake 'missed delivery' cards posted through letterboxes which charge hundreds of pounds if you call the listed number. In all cases residents are encouraged not to reveal personal and financial information, including passwords, or send money, often via bank transfer or gift cards. Trading Standards advice is to put the phone down. It is highly unlikely that you will receive an unsolicited genuine phone call from any company or Government department. If you believe a call to be genuine, phone them back on a publicly listed telephone number.

The meeting also heard updates about HS2 work in the area and regarding the recently revised Stareton junction. For residents concerned about when and where local roadworks are planned, the One Network website (<https://one.network/>) is a very useful online tool which shows most of the local works, including those planned by Warwickshire County Council, HS2 and Highways England.

The Parish Council has yet to hear back from Warwickshire County Council regarding the proposed closure of the Birmingham Road, but Adrian Hart, Transport Planning Manager at Warwickshire County Council, will join the December PC meeting to set out their plans. A specific page has been set up on the Parish Council website to share further information about the road closure as and when we have it.

Minutes of the meeting are available on the Parish Council website. Information about COVID19 is changing quickly, and we are keeping our Facebook page up to date with the latest developments. Don't forget to check out the **Parish Council website** which is regularly updated with local information such as road and traffic issues, HS2 updates and local consultations. It's a great way to find out what is going on locally and get involved. You can find us at:  
<http://stoneleighshowparishcouncil.btck.co.uk/>

You can also keep up to date by joining the Parish Council Facebook page.

Hannah Watts  
Parish Clerk

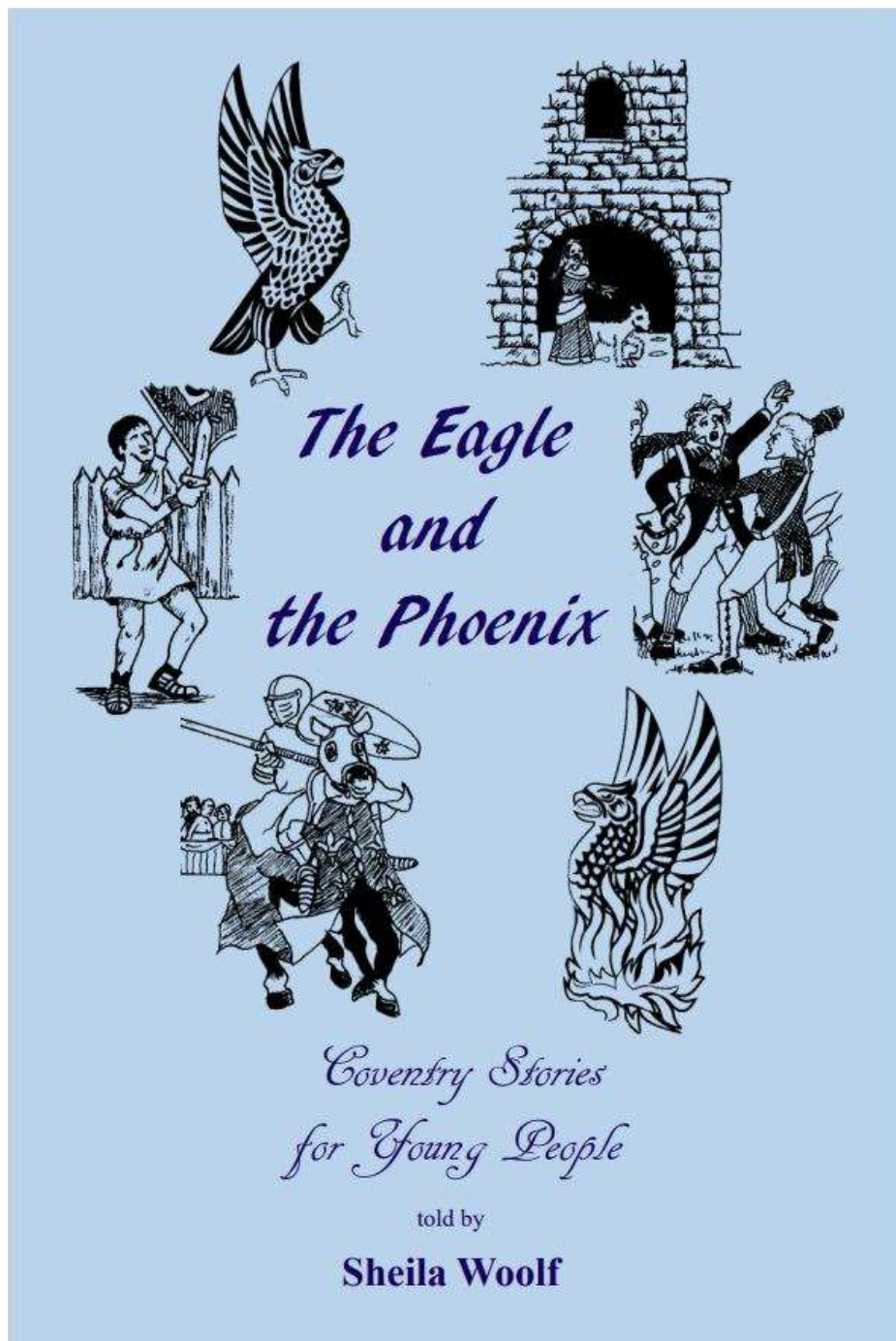
## The Eagle and the Phoenix

Lockdown sometimes has its benefits: when we were all told to “stay at home” in the Spring, Sheila Woolf decided to resume a project which she started many years ago: writing a collection of stories for young people on the history of Coventry. Few schools have time in the curriculum to delve into local history, and consequently many children know little about the stories of the past in the places where they have grown up.

Sheila decided to take episodes in the story of Coventry and re-imagine them as if told by children at the time. A young Roman boy, for example, tells a dramatic tale of a fire at the Lunt Fort in Baginton; a girl witnesses the famous ride of Lady Godiva; other children tell stories of hangings at Gibbet Hill and riots by weavers. The November Blitz is not forgotten...and neither is the Sky Blues’ FA Cup win of 1987!

The collection of nine stories is out now. Called *The Eagle and the Phoenix* - both creatures support the city’s coat of arms, the eagle representing Leofric and the phoenix symbolising Coventry rising from the ashes - it costs £6.95 and will be available on Amazon in the next few weeks as well as in local bookshops or directly from Sheila (contact her on 02476 418759 or email [shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk)) . An ideal Christmas stocking-filler for the grandchildren!

Margaret Wallis





## **WDC PRESS RELEASE**

### **COVID-19 Testing Centre opens in Leamington Spa**

A new testing centre for Warwick District opened its doors on Wednesday 21 October 2020.

The facility which is located on Court Street in South Leamington, will be available to local residents who have booked a COVID-19 test in advance by visiting the [NHS website](#) or calling 119.

The site will take advance appointments both to those arriving on foot or by car and is part of an ongoing drive to improve accessibility for testing in the district.

Those being tested will be required to follow public health measures, including social distancing, not travelling by taxi or public transport, washing their hands thoroughly before and after and wearing a face covering throughout, including travelling to and from the testing unit.

Anyone attending an appointment will be provided with guidance on getting to and from the test site safely. Testing is available for everyone, with additional support for vulnerable groups and people with disabilities.

Warwick District Council's Portfolio Holder for Health and Community Protection Councillor Judy Falp commented;

***"With coronavirus cases on the rise, I am making an urgent plea for anyone with symptoms; a new continuous cough, high-temperature or loss or change in the sense of taste and smell, to get a test to help stop the spread of the virus and protect family and friends around them. This new facility in Leamington Spa is part of the national test and trace initiative and will play a crucial part in managing the virus in our area, preventing lockdowns and saving lives."***

Warwickshire County Council's Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health, Councillor Les Caborn added;

***"The new Covid-19 testing centre in Leamington Spa is an important step forward in increasing the county's capacity to test for the virus. Right now, more than ever it's essential for anyone with symptoms of the virus to get a test as soon as they can and to self-isolate until they get their results."***

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Anyone who tests positive for coronavirus in England will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace to help them track their contacts. This will help people to identify who they may have been in close contact with, protecting others from further transmission.

Close contacts of those testing positive will also hear from NHS Test and Trace, advising them to stay at home for 14 days to prevent them from unknowingly spreading the virus. They will be advised to also book a test if they develop symptoms.

Tests are free and take less than a minute. Results from tests are normally returned within 24-48 hours.

**[Book your test online](#)** or by calling 119.



## Stoneleigh History Society

Last month's Zoom meeting was an interesting presentation given by Peter James on the various visits made by King George VI to Coventry in the 1930s/40s. Some terrific old Pathe Gazette newsreel enlivened the story!

Although Zoom presents its own challenges, especially when showing slides, it seems that our meetings will need to take this format for the foreseeable future. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday October 30 at 7.30 pm. Anyone interested in joining us should contact me for an email link.

*Sheila Woolf*

Chairman Stoneleigh History Society





## HS2 UPDATE

Chaos continues, locally and nationally. Numerous complaints have been registered by communities along the route and there has been considerable media coverage of the desecration of ancient woodlands in particular. HS2 Ltd. has announced that there is already an £800 million overspend on works at Euston (supposedly to be met from 'contingency funds') and that there is a delay to the operation of the line to Birmingham until 2034! In recent months there has been increasing speculation that the total cost will be £150 billion for the completion of all planned phases (although there are rumours that the route north of Birmingham might be scrapped). A new estimate is rumoured to put the cost at £234 billion (before other unforeseen costs materialise) and this is now on the Minister's desk!

Locally, HS2 Ltd. is being chased about various maintenance issues e.g. on-going blocking of drains in Birmingham Road.

'Commonplace' provides regular project news for Warwickshire (and other areas along the route). Bulletins can be mailed to individual email addresses via the HS2 Helpdesk [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk) 08081 434 434. However, announcements about planned work frequently change, causing inconvenience and confusion, as with the recent work on Birmingham Road. The latest notification refers to the closure of Dalehouse Lane, 9 am to 5 pm from 26th October to 1st November.

The following summary has been provided by Anthony Bianco, a Parish Council and StAG member. Residents can see from this just how complex, and extremely frustrating, behind the scenes discussions have been so far, and what challenges lie ahead for us all!

***HS2 Ltd's proposal for a compound on the A46/B4115 and a one way system***

*A brief history.* The site of the compound is now clearly visible. It will be occupied for 5-7 years with a peak population of 500 personnel, 25 portacabins and extensive machinery and materials. 400+ vehicle movements each day are anticipated! This compound has been on the plans for some 6 years during which time the matter of access has been regularly discussed with HS2 Ltd. by the Parish Council, Warwickshire County Council and the contractors but it has since become clear that no action has been taken by HS2 Ltd in order to acquire the land.

The PC asked for clarification that the entrance site would be some 125 metres south of the A46/Stoneleigh Road junction in order to avoid heavy traffic to/from the compound entrance on the B4115. Early in 2020 the PC was told that this was the preferred solution and the target date for work to begin was October 2020. This entrance required a strip of land 350x100 m to be acquired. HS2 Ltd. have since said that 'complex' negotiations have been held and that they are now being 'held to ransom by the land covenant holders' with no mention of their role in the delay.

Meanwhile, in June 2020 HS2 Ltd announced out of the blue an alternative proposal i.e. to make the B4115 one way from the

Chesford Grange corner to the compound entry for 5 years. Unsurprisingly, the PC and all parties, including Jeremy Wright M.P., voiced 100% opposition to this scheme. Watch this space!

Given the situation, a 3 month extension has been granted for negotiation and improvements to the poorly produced '3-5 year aspirational task chart' shown at Jeremy Wright's forum on 16th October. This chart had also failed to overlay Highways England (HWE) other co-ordinated A46 and WCC works and the proposed road review requested by the forum to cover the whole constituency.

#### ***A46 New Junction***

Work should start by the end of November 2020 following delays caused by the problems encountered during the water main remedial work at the bottom of Gibbet Hill. This work is estimated to take 20-24 months with significant traffic disruption anticipated which will affect us all. The WCC team have worked hard to keep this work on stream.

#### ***Village Traffic***

Contractors have already been aware of traffic infringements, thanks to the efforts of the village traffic vehicle watch team who have gathered weekly evidence. This is passed on to Laing Murphy and HS2 Ltd. HS2 work and the junction traffic will inevitably become confused as time goes by.

'No HS2 traffic' signs at crossroads have been requested as have red and white bollards to deter out of village car parking. WCC Cllr Redford is taking this up on our behalf.

Many thanks for this feedback, Anthony.

*Margaret Wallis*

on behalf of Stoneleigh Action Group (against HS2)

P.S.

**TREE FELLING: A RECENT UPSETTING EXPERIENCE IN CREWE LANE**

*(Thanks to Anthony Bianco and Mel Dearing for sharing this)*

For the past year the Parish Council has challenged the need for extensive deforestation which has been proposed by HS2 Ltd. The following is an example of the importance of all of us remaining vigilant.

A distressing experience occurred on Monday 19 October at 8.30 am when five people were observed arriving in Crewe Lane in five cars, plus a wood chipper, which they attempted to hide behind trees. When approached by a single lady on foot, who requested what was happening, they reluctantly answered, after two requests, "we are bat surveying and checking which trees to cut down". Later information stated that a 'bat lady' was in attendance. They were unwilling to provide names or telephone numbers of the employees, but they wore HS2 Ltd. and Laing Murphy (contractors) clothing.

At 10.00 / 10.30 chainsaws and the sounds of tree-cutting were heard in the woods. The owner of the land and a resident of the 'Barnyard' enquired what was going on, but received no answer. However, the felled trees in the road were then hurriedly thrown over the fence into the wood and the persons ran away to their cars and left at some pace. They left an LM employee who stated that the tree cutting was of potential bat roosting sites. He said that an LM manager would return later and explain what was happening, but no one did so. The wood chipping truck also withdrew at some speed, up Crewe Lane in the direction of Kenilworth.

So here we have grown men carrying chain saws being frightened by 60 year old smartly dressed women - cowardly and rude at best!!

It is concerning, too, that 'a bat lady' can order speculative tree cutting.

This whole episode is a farce, vandalism, and a deceitful episode without any prior notification. Residents were left angry and upset.

Councillors and HS2 Ltd have been informed.

J.L.Huthwaite



Property Maintenance Ltd

[jayhuthwaite1@sky.com](mailto:jayhuthwaite1@sky.com)

07921 842217 024 7501 1320

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Roofing - Guttering - Lead - Chimney Repairs  
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This issue was compiled by  
Sarah Ballinger  
who would like to thank all contributors.  
It can also be viewed on the Stoneleigh Village Facebook page

The **December/January 2021** edition will be compiled by  
Lucy Morris  
[lubimorris@gmail.com](mailto:lubimorris@gmail.com)

Copy deadline:  
November 18th 2020  
Advertisements accepted at the  
editor's discretion, subject to magazine policy and available space

## Beware of telephone scams

**We are aware that criminals are trying to exploit the national coronavirus crisis and take advantage of innocent people.**

Fraudsters purporting to be from the police or your bank are targeting elderly and vulnerable people to try and steal money from their accounts. The callers will often seem genuine, offering you the opportunity to call them back to prove their identity.

They establish their trust with you by confirming some of your personal details and will then make up a story in which money in your bank account needs to be transferred or withdrawn.

### The police or your bank will never:

- Contact you out of the blue and ask for your personal details, including your PIN number, password or account details.
- Ask you to transfer money into another account for fraud reasons.
- Ask you to withdraw cash and hand to someone for safe keeping.
- Send someone to your home to collect cash, bank cards, account details or PIN numbers.



[www.warwickshire.police.uk](http://www.warwickshire.police.uk)



warwickshirepolice



@warkspolice



@warwickshirepolice

### Protect yourself

- If you are unsure whether someone on the phone is genuine, hang up and then use a different line to call the organisation they are purporting to be from using a number from the phonebook or internet to verify their identity.
- Don't give out your personal information to anyone over the phone, including your PIN number and bank account or card details.
- If you have given out your personal banking details to someone over the phone or have given someone your card details, contact your bank immediately to cancel your card.

### Where to go for help

- If you receive a call from someone purporting to be a police officer and asking you to withdraw or transfer money, call **Warwickshire Police on 101** – the more intelligence we receive, the more likely we are to catch those responsible.
- If you have been a victim of a telephone scam, please report it to Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040** or via their website:

**<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>**

- For advice on scams, contact Citizens Advice Consumer Service on **0808 223 1133**.

**Always call 999 in an emergency.**

COVID-19  
Advice







## Let us buzz on in! HoneyBee HomeCare

Care Comes Naturally

HoneyBee HomeCare, founded by a resident of Stoneleigh; is a care company that puts emphasis on the word "care".

From our clients, to their family, to our staff: we aim to look after everyone involved with our company at any opportunity we can get.

To ensure that our clients get the best care possible, we start by making sure we are the best care company to work for by treating our staff like family and paying them well!

We give our staff thorough training so they are confident in every aspect of their role in our clients' lives.

Our carers also take pride in getting to know our clients' families and friends as their social life plays a big part in maintaining their care & well-being.

If you're interested or have any further questions, don't hesitate to get in touch!

tel: 01926 428509

E-mail:  
[Jess@honeybeehc.co.uk](mailto:Jess@honeybeehc.co.uk)

web:  
[www.honeybeehc.co.uk](http://www.honeybeehc.co.uk)





THE UNITED BENEFICE OF  
THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY, ASHOW  
and  
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, STONELEIGH



***SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2020***

|             |                                                                                          |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 1st  | 10.30 am United Communion Service at Ashow                                               |
| Sunday 8th  | 10.50 am United Remembrance Day at Stoneleigh                                            |
| Sunday 15th | 10.30 am Holy Communion at Ashow<br>11.00 am Holy Communion at Stoneleigh                |
| Sunday 22nd | 10.30 am Holy Communion Service at Ashow<br>11.00 am Celtic Morning Prayer at Stoneleigh |
| Sunday 29th | 10.30 am Village Service at Ashow<br>11.00 am Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh       |

Please note: - it is hoped that these services will be as planned,  
but all are subject to possible changes in these difficult times!

***From the Registers***

***Funerals***

Thursday 15 October 2020 - Franciszek Marek - Interment at Stoneleigh Church

**Contacts:**

***Churchwardens:***

**Ashow:** Kate Jones 01926 853511

Deputy Wardens: Anne Gregory 01926 717084, Peter Shrimpton 01926 859404

**Stoneleigh:** June Burr 02476 227726 Gordon Gatward 01926 512528

Deputy Warden: Richard Ashley 01926 427729

Or please contact the Parish Administrator,

Jackie Cubitt, 02476 692720 email: [admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk)

Office Hours Wednesday 9.00 am to 12.00, Thursdays 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

**Website:** [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12964](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12964) for Stoneleigh

[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12954](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12954) for Ashow