

STONELEIGH AND ASHOW NEWS



NOVEMBER 2025



“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

Martin Smith 07958 955629

Mary Taylor 07890 535506

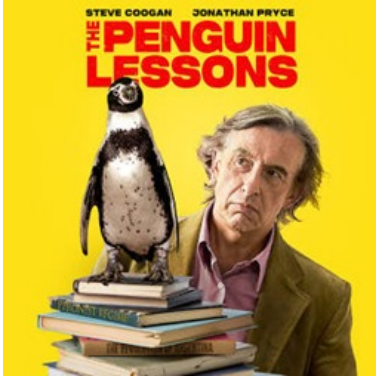
Remember: Always ring 999 first!



**** A second defibrillator can be found in the Village Hall ****

Film Night

December's film will be:
The Penguin Lessons



The Penguin Lessons is based on a true story from the memoir of Tom Michell, a British teacher who rescued an oil-covered penguin from a beach in Uruguay in the 1970s. He named the penguin Juan Salvador and smuggled it, across the border to Argentina, to his boarding school, where the bird became a popular and beloved figure among the students

and staff. The story also touches upon the difficult political climate in Argentina during that time, which took place in Argentina in 1976.

Stars: Steve Coogan and Jonathan Price

**Friday December 5th 2025 in
Stoneleigh Village Hall
Meet 6.45pm for a 7pm showing**

*Please can you bring a cup and plate.
Coffee, tea and pastries will be served in the interval.*

Entry price £4.00, to cover refreshments and room hire.

*To reserve a place and a pastry call Jane on 01926 858315
by Wednesday December 3rd*



Stoneleigh Community Orchard Update

It was with some relief that storm “Amy”, the first named storm of the autumn came and went without significant damage to the orchard. This was largely due to the diligence of our apple picking team in taking the weight off heavily laden tree branches.

I am encouraged to report that the picking team has recently broadened to include more people from outside the village, specifically John Elton and Peter Johnstone from Kenilworth and Cubbington respectively as well as David and Kim Sibley from Leamington and Elaine James from Coventry. I would also like to thank our regular team members Paul Britten, Mike Evans and Melanie Braly who joined board members Quentin Compton-Bishop, John Churchley, Amanda Freeman and myself to complete the picking of 2025. October 7th, also witnessed the completion of cider pressing which was achieved at a rapid pace considering the manual nature of the task and the quantity pressed (1700 litres of cider and 50 litres of perry).

Thanks are also extended to Bev Davis, the Almshouses’ clerk for allowing us to harvest cooking apples from their gardens. Cooking apples have a sharp taste to them which complements the bitter and sweet tastes provided by other varieties from the orchard and are useful in the blending process. Particularly when our orchard sharp varieties under produce as has been the case this year. I also observed that the apple trees of the Almshouses are fine old specimens that are most probably Bramleys of indeterminate age and complement the historic setting perfectly. They therefore need to be preserved and cherished going forward.

With regards to Stoneleigh cider, I can report that as this article is being written, John and myself are collecting further bottles from the Pershore bottling plant. This should cover demand over the late autumn and winter months. Do let me know at the email address below if you would like to purchase any bottled Stoneleigh cider. The price remains £3.50 per bottle and £40 for a case of 12.

Orchard Friends' subscriptions and yearly renewals for 2025 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
Petefreeman773@gmail.com*

*Richard Hancox (Treasurer) Hancox,
Richard.Hancox@nationalhighways.co.uk*

Parking outside The Stoneleigh Almshouses.

The Trustees to the Almshouses are concerned about parking outside the Almshouses. It is accepted that parking spaces may be at a premium in the village but we would ask that those more able-bodied members of the community would consider parking away from these spots.

There have been times when access to the ramped and marked out areas has been blocked by cars, resulting in some of our residents who do have mobility issues being unable to get down to the road.

We have also had occasions when ambulance crews have had difficulties getting residents in and out of their vehicles.

We would really appreciate your consideration.

Thank you.

The Trustees to the Dame Alice Leigh Almshouses.



Sheila Shines at Warwick Words Festival

Thankfully Storm Amy did not deter people from turning out to see Sheila Woolf at the Warwick Words Festival. On Sunday 5 October, the Court House Ballroom on Jury Street in Warwick was full as Sheila delivered a captivating talk about Jane Austen and the historic links between the Austen family, Stoneleigh and the Leighs. Sheila's ongoing research recently uncovered an additional connection to the village of Ashow.

The Warwick Words Festival spans a whole week, playing host to both renowned and local authors who are invited to explore historical themes, whether drawn from fact or fiction. Sheila found herself in esteemed company, sharing the programme with celebrated figures such as Tracy Borman, Sarah Dunant, Max Hastings and Alison Weir.



Lisa Reay



www.facebook.com/stoneleighvillageclub
stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com

The nights are certainly colder now and the SVC log burner and flue have recently been swept and serviced ready for some cosy nights in the club. SVC membership is growing and now exceeds 200. Remember to leave a message at the bar if you have not yet received your membership card.

The committee have all remained fully occupied in their various roles and the club continues to be busy.

The SVC Club Steward vacancy has been advertised and has generated some pleasing interest. Interviews are arranged for early November and we will let you know as soon as we are able to confirm a successful applicant.

As always, keep an eye on the information board outside the club for further event details / last minute changes.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October

Friday 31st Halloween evening.

Bring the children for a spooky experience! Starts at 5pm with the Halloween walk at 6.30pm.

November

Saturday 8th - Bonfire in the Meadow.

Saturday 15th - Come and support a quiz for the Meadow society

Saturday 22nd - Race Night

Saturday 29th - 'Eyes down' for BINGO!

December

Saturday 13th - Quizmaster Steve's Quiz night

Wednesday 17th - Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir and Ladies Choir
7pm outside the club and inside later for a warm and a drink!

Friday 20th - A visit from Santa 5pm onwards.

Sunday 21st - Ladies choir followed by mulled wine and cake in the club.

Wednesday 24th - Christmas Eve, music and mince pies.

Wednesday 31st - See the New Year in with friends, neighbours and family dancing to the music of the 'Fab Beatles', back by popular demand.

Look out for the posters promoting upcoming events and we look forward to seeing you soon at the club!

Your SVC committee.

Poppy Appeal 2025

This year's British Legion's poppy appeal will take place between October 23 and November 11. In Stoneleigh and Ashow there will be house-to-house collections. Local businesses and schools will also be supporting the appeal.

Please give generously as all the monies collected will go towards helping serving and past members of our armed forces and their families. It is a sobering thought that since the 2nd World War ended there has not been a day when there hasn't been a conflict, battle or war somewhere in the world.

*'At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.'*



Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir



CHRISTMAS CONCERT



St Francis of Assisi RC Church

Warwick Road

Kenilworth

CV8 1HL

10th December 2025

7.00pm

Tickets £15

to include Mince pies and Mulled Wine

Contact Phil Jones on 01926 853511

Mob: 07910 240453

Email: kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk





Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir



It is with great sadness that we learnt of the death, at the beginning of October, of one of our former members, Alan Cole. He would have been 99 on the 17th November. Alan was for many years a stalwart of the choir and enjoyed taking part in our concerts and shows. We offer our condolences to Alan's family.

The choir, after a busy October, is now rehearsing for Christmas.

Future events:

Wednesday December 10th Carol Concert at St Francis of Assisi R C Church, Kenilworth. For further details see the poster in this issue.

Wednesday December 17th We will be singing carols with the Ladies Choir at 7 pm outside Stoneleigh Village Club or inside if the weather is inclement. Please come and join us for what should be a joyous evening.

Saturday December 20th We will be singing at the Lions Carol Concert in Kenilworth Castle, which starts at 6pm.

Sunday December 21st The choir will be taking part in Stoneleigh Church Carol Service.

If anyone is interested in joining the choir, either come along to of our rehearsals at Stoneleigh Village hall on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm or contact Philip Jones on 01926 853511, 07910240453 or email kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk for further details.

Philip Jones

Stoneleigh Village Club



COFFEE MORNING

**Thursday
November 13th**

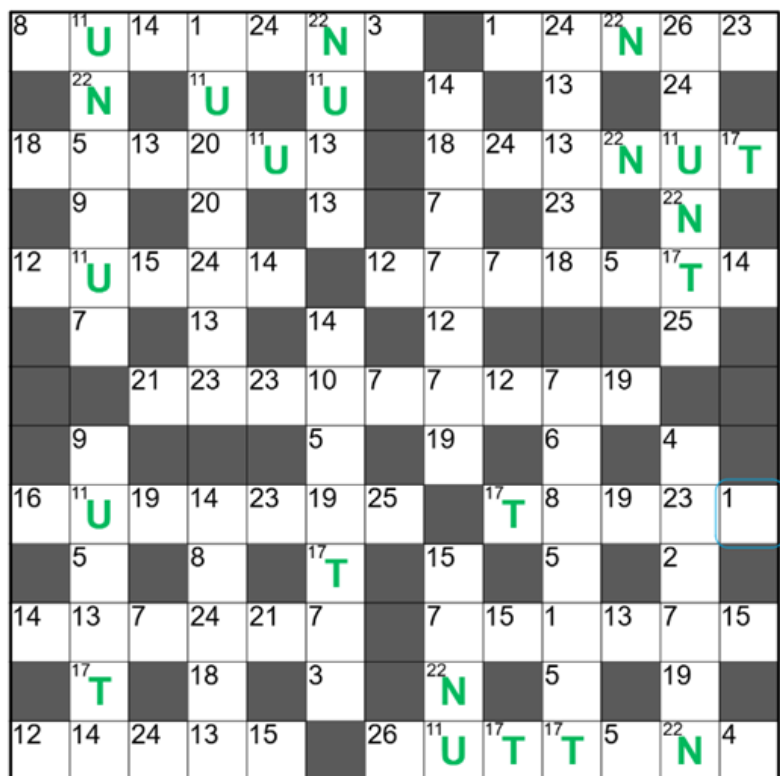
10:00am - 11:30am

*Come along, enjoy a hot drink
and catch up with friends.
Everyone is welcome!*

£1 donation



CODEWORD



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

How To Play Codewords

Codewords are crosswords with no clues! Instead, every letter of the alphabet has been replaced by a number, the same number representing the same letter throughout the puzzle.

All you have to do is decide which letter is represented by which number!

To start you off, three letters have been revealed, which means you should have enough information to start guessing words and discovering other letters.

Answers on page 21



Stoneleigh Ladies Choir

The hall may not yet be 'decked with boughs of holly' but on Thursday afternoons it resounds with Christmas music in preparation for our Charity Concert on Thursday 11 December starting at 1.30pm. This year we are supporting two local charities for the visually impaired, Warwickshire Vision and The Vision Hub.

In addition to the concert, the choir is doing something completely new. We are joining with the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir to sing carols in the community to which you are all invited. Together we propose to sing well-known carols outside the Stoneleigh Village Club for about half an hour from 7pm on the evening of Wednesday 17 December.

We hope that residents of Stoneleigh and surrounding areas will come and join us. Afterwards we are invited into the club for refreshments. Please come along and help make this a success. This could become an annual event.

In addition to the above, the choir will be making its annual visit to Waverley Day Care Centre on Thursday 4 December. Always a fun afternoon. They will also be singing at Stoneleigh Church on Sunday 21 December as part of the carol service.

The ladies of the choir made many delicious cakes for a recent afternoon tea and raised a pleasing £205 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Information and contact details may be found on our website
www.stoneleIGHLadieschoir.org.

Pat Wightman



COFFEE MORNING



Stoneleigh Church

Saturday 29th November

10.30am – 12.30pm

Raffle Cake Stall Christmas Table

To raise funds for the Church Christmas Flowers.

All donations gratefully received!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

*Please do come along and join us
on Friday 19th December at 10am
to decorate the Church for Christmas.*



Parish Council News

Meetings

At our October meeting:

HS2 Update

Cllr Hancox advised that the 4113 will be closed for 4 weeks from 5th January and again in March to complete the other side of the road. Sara Louise will present to the November meeting the next steps. Dalehouse Lane will also be closed for 14 months from 15th January. Cllr Hancox will collate a report for Cllr P Redford to present at the SAG meeting.

Birmingham Road Closure Update

Cllr Edwards advised there will be no closure, WCC will use HS2 funds to add speed calming measures including speed cushions, bollards and other schemes. Item to be changed to Birmingham Road Traffic Improvement Measures. Cllr Edwards to investigate further.

To view the full details of these updates and other meetings, including upcoming planning applications, recent crime reports, and Neighbourhood Plan development details, please visit the Parish Council website at <https://www.stoneleighshowparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 13 November**
at **Stoneleigh Village Hall** at 7pm.

Helen Denton- Stacey, Parish Clerk
PO Box 11198, Lutterworth, LE17 9FX

Teams4u Stretton Shoebox Appeal



As some are just getting started on their Christmas preparations, we are very nearly done! Our boxes will be leaving Stretton any day now to start their journey to Eastern Europe.

Any leftover Halloween sweets are very welcome to complete the last of our boxes e.g. Haribos/Maoams/Swizzles (not chocolate please) and BBE Mar 26.

We need funds to transport our boxes - £3.50 gets a box to a child.
We welcome any contributions towards transport costs - perhaps you could forgo a coffee or donate in lieu of Christmas cards this year?
Cash can be left in the village, or donations made online with Teams4u The Charity www.teams4u.com/donate2
(Please choose Shoebox and add Stretton in the comments).

Please contact us by phone or text for drop off points in the village

Pam – 07526 337437 / Joanna - 07906 398752
Facebook page - search for “Teams4u Stretton”



Christmas Card Delivery Service

***covering Kenilworth, Leek Wootton,
Hill Wootton, Stoneleigh & Ashow***

Collections from mid-November at

Kenilworth Books – Talisman Square

GDT Automobiles – Oaks Precinct

Leyes Lane Pharmacy – Leyes Lane

Steve Crowe Butchers – Whitemoor Rd

Pittaway Thompson Estate Agency – Old High St

+

All Saints Church, Leek Wootton

Stoneleigh Village Club

Ashaw Village Club

Last collection Friday 19th December

Stall in Talisman Square

Saturdays 6th, 13th & 20th December

9am – 3pm

**ONLY
40P
PER
CARD**

Delivery from Sunday 21st December



Stoneleigh History Society

We have something rather different for our November meeting. Chris Kirby of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Museum in Warwick, is coming to tell us the extraordinary story of “Hannah Snell, an 18th century female icon”. Amazingly, Hannah disguised herself as a man and signed up to the Warwickshire Sixth of Foot, going on to fight in the Jacobite Rebellion of 1745. This will no doubt be a most intriguing and astonishing story. Do join us on Tuesday November 25th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome, and for a small donation of £3 you get tea and biscuits too!



If you receive this magazine quickly enough you might just be in time to attend our October meeting, on Tuesday 28th. Sue Crofts, our hard-working secretary and treasurer, will be speaking about “*North Lodge - The House and its inhabitants from 1841-2025*”. How a lodge on the edge of the Stoneleigh Deer Park evolved from being a two-cottage home for workers on the Stoneleigh Estate, to a booking office for the golf course and finally, a comfortable family home.”

Sheila Woolf



HS2 update

As all residents will have seen, works continue on the project. The Ashow Road overbridge is open but there may be some disruption in the future to make minor alignments. There are anticipated road closures on the B4113 (the road past the NAEC main gate) which will most likely take place early next year. This road is likely to be closed in two phases, initially east of the main gate (so no access from Stoneleigh) and then west (from Westhill Road) so look out for more information.

Also expected in 2026 will be the long-term closure of Dalehouse Lane to complete the overbridge and road realignment. This will be something like 14 months.

Looking at the bigger picture, it is still not clear when the line will become operational after the announcement by the Secretary of State for Transport, Heidi Alexander, to conduct further reviews and look for cost savings. So frustrating for residents!

*Martin Smith
for the Stoneleigh Action Group.*



Stoneleigh WI

A very interesting meeting in October. The speaker gave us a display of various craft items that she makes, explaining how they were done.

October has been a month of meeting for coffee and lunches.

The November meeting is on Monday 3rd at 2pm. The speaker is Anne Harrison, and it's entitled "Call me Auntie". Ann was abandoned as a young child and brought up in the care system. All are welcome to come and join us for a cup of tea and a chat.

Liz Sykes

**Whatever
you're
facing
We're here
to listen**

Call free day
or night on

116 123

Email

jo@samaritans.org

Write to us

Freepost

SAMARITANS LETTERS

SAMARITANS

samaritans.org/coventry

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CODEWORD ANSWERS

H	U	S	B	A	N	D		B	A	N	J	O
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W	I	L	F	U	L		W	A	L	N	U	T
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Mobile Library



About the service

The mobile library is fitted with a lift and has:

- A selection of books, including large print
 - Spoken word
- Books for young children

Contact the Mobile Library Service

- Email: mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk
 - Telephone: 01926 851031
 - [Contact Libraries](#)

The Mobile library will be at the following places on:
10 November 2025 08 December 2025

- Wren Day Nursery, Stoneleigh Park from 13:40 to 14:10
 - Stoneleigh Village Hall from 14:20 to 14:45

This edition of Stoneleigh and Ashow News was compiled by Sarah Ballinger, who would like to thank all contributors.

The online colour version can be viewed on the Stoneleigh Village Facebook page and on [Stoneleigh History Society](#) website.

The December 2025/January 2026 edition will be compiled by

Lucy Morris (sanewsletter30@gmail.com).

Copy deadline:16th November 2025

Placing an advertisement in Stoneleigh & Ashow News

Our page format size is A5.

Rates **per annum (10 editions)** are:

Full page (13 x 19cm) £100

Half page (13 x 9.5cm) £50

Quarter page (portrait or landscape)
(6.5 x 9.5cm or 13 x 5cm) £25

Rates for advertising in a single edition are:

Full page (1 edition + £10 each extra edition) £20

Half page (1 edition + £5 each extra edition) £10

Quarter page (1 edition + £5 each extra edition) £10

How to create your advertisement

To place an advertisement, or for general enquiries, please email the Treasurer, **Bill Crofts** at sanewsletter30@gmail.com.

Please state:

- The size of the ad you would like to place. Please provide your artwork if you have it ready.
- The editions in which you would like your advertisement to be published.

Once artwork has been received and size/dates agreed, you will be invoiced based on your request. Please note that, to have each edition ready for printing, we need to complete the above by the 16th of the month prior to your first requested edition, e.g. 16th August to publish in the September edition. We are happy to provide help with any advertisement requests



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



SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday 2	11.00 am United Holy Communion at Bubbenhall 7.00 pm Commemoration of the Faithful Departed at Stoneleigh
Sunday 9	9.30 am Remembrance Day Service at Ashow 10.50 am Remembrance Day Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 16	9.30 am Celtic Service at Ashow 11.00 am Celtic Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 23	9.30 am Village Service at Ashow 11.00 am Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 30	11.00 am Advent Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh 4.00 pm Advent Service at Ashow

Priest in Charge: Reverend Petrica Bistran 07572193260

email: revpbistran@gmail.com

Churchwardens:

Ashow: Kate Jones 01926 853511 and Anne Gregory 01926 713066

Deputy Warden: Peter Shrimpton 02475 096477

Stoneleigh: Gordon Gatward 07776 211276 and

Ashley Toogood 07771 888618

Deputy Wardens: Richard Ashley 07708 097187, John Woodward 02476

418272 and Paddy Bryniarska 07947472297

Or please contact the Parish Administrator,

Jackie Cubitt, 02476 415506 email: stoneleighchurch@hotmail.com

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

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12964 for Stoneleigh

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12954 for Ashow