

Stoneleigh & Ashow *News*



July/August 2026



“The Heart of Stoneleigh” defibrillator in the phone box on The Green and at Stoneleigh Village Hall



Co-ordinator: 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!

Stoneleigh Community Orchard

Pete Freeman

As the next edition of *Stoneleigh & Ashow News* occurs in September, it is good to reflect over the summer months on memories of the recent Spring Festival. The well-known idiom that “a picture paints a thousand words” is captured brilliantly through the photographic lens of Leighton Joskey whose pictures form the gallery on page 4.

For the sake of brevity and the fact that activities in the orchard should largely quieten down over the summer months then build to a busy autumn harvest as the apple crop ripens, this article will largely centre on these images. That said, there are several things to report on, not least the fact that we intend to hold a launch event for Stoneleigh Brandy in late September at East Chase Farm distillery, and we will advertise this event once the directors have agreed dates, pricing and, of course, priority, given our limited stock which is estimated at 75 50cl bottles. We naturally aim to give priority to Friends of the orchard.

Given the success of the Spring Festival, both as an event and for cider sales, September will also see Stoneleigh Community Orchard taking account of its finances. Then, as in previous years, we will be making donations to community groups and causes. The costs to Stoneleigh Community Orchard CIC of putting on the Spring Festival is just over £2000. Due to the hard work of many, this cost is offset, and this year, once income from the event was

taken into account, the bottom-line cost was £604.34. The event is the orchard's way of giving back to the community an enjoyable day and to generate cider sales. Once cider sales are complete for this year, then the profit after costs (meadow and equipment maintenance etc.) is either reinvested into the CIC or distributed through donations into the community.

Orchard Friends' subscriptions and yearly renewals for 2026 will cost £10 and can be sent to Pete Freeman as Chairman or to Richard Hancox as Treasurer. Cheques should be made payable to Stoneleigh Village Community Orchard. Alternatively, why not become a long-term Friend and set up a direct debit?

Contact:

Pete Freeman (Chairman)

5 Church Lane, Stoneleigh

petefreeman773@gmail.com

Richard Hancox (Treasurer)

richard.hancox@highwaysengland.co.uk



Voluntary Contributions from Residents

Bill Crofts, S&A News Treasurer

If you value the **receipt of a paper copy** through your door, and you require information on making a donation to S&A News, please consider the following options.

1. QR Code

Make a payment directly from your chosen bank account. Please remember to **clear the reference box on the payment page** and **add your name as the reference** so I know who you are.



2. BACS or Cheque

Alternatively, please email me at sanewsletter30@gmail.com. I will then send over bank details for a BACS transfer or my address, should you wish to send me a cheque.

Spring Festival

Images courtesy of Leighton Joskey





Warwickshire Singers

ECHOES OF TRADITION

World folk and choral music

Musical Director: Jim Bate

Accompanist: David King

Soprano: Evelyn Byford

Baritone: Gianpiero Greatorex

Percussionist: James Jackson

Sunday | 5th July 2026 | 3pm

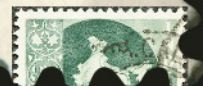
The Old Shire Hall

5-9 Northgate St., Warwick CV34 4SP



Tickets £15
Under 18s & Students £5

Available at ticketsource.co.uk/warwickshire-singers
or on the door (subject to availability)



Registered Charity Number: 1203626

Stoneleigh WI

Nora Blagburn

Ladies, are you free on the afternoon of Monday 6th July? If so, why not come along to our meeting at 2.00pm, when Sheila Woolf will be our guest speaker on nineteenth and twentieth century artists?

Stoneleigh WI meets on the first Monday of the month at Stoneleigh Village Hall at 2.00pm, when there is usually a guest speaker followed by tea, biscuits, chat, raffle and books to borrow. (Please note that there is no August meeting.) We also meet up at different venues for coffee and lunches. Do come and join us.

For further information, contact our secretary Chris Ward on 024 7645 9664 or visit www.thewi.org.uk and sign up to the WI's monthly newsletter which includes WI stories, campaign highlights, recipes and a sneak peek of WI Life magazine and more. Anyone is welcome to subscribe, regardless of whether you are a WI member.

Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir

Pat Wightman

The choir is going full steam ahead for their summer concert, **Songs for a Summer Evening with Delicious Desserts**. This promises to be an evening of beautiful music followed by a selection of delicious desserts made by the choir members. The concert will take place on Saturday 25th July at 7.00pm at Stoneleigh Village Hall, and tickets are now on sale for £12 (under-12s £6) and are available from any choir member or by calling 07817 899097. See also page 11. Don't delay – last year was a complete sell-out!

Do you enjoy singing? The choir guarantees a very warm welcome to new members. Not sure? Why not come along to one of our Thursday afternoon meetings (1.30pm to 3.00pm, Stoneleigh Village Hall) and see if you would like to join us? There are no auditions and there is no need to read music.

More information can be found at www.stoneleighladieschoir.org.uk or email Sharron McEldowney at secretary@stoneleighladieschoir.org.uk

Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir

Philip Jones on behalf of Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir

The Summer Serenade on Sunday 12th July in the Walled Garden at Stoneleigh Abbey (with the kind permission of the residents) is now sold out. The choir are delighted with the response the concert has received. We do have a waiting list so, if you wish to be added to this, please let me know.

On Friday 12th June, some of the choir and their friends and partners took part in a skittles match against Bad Vibrations (a mixed choir from Kenilworth) at the Kenilworth Sports and Social Club. It was a very enjoyable evening, excellently organised by Ian Robertson, a member of Bad Vibrations, and the food was delicious. I'm delighted to announce that the winning team was from SMVC. We look forward to a return match in the future.

On Saturday 13th June, the choir sang at the Lions Grand Show in the Abbey Fields in Kenilworth. It was a very enjoyable occasion and the audience appreciated our varied programme.

Future Events

Saturday 17th October 2026: Joint concert with Bad Vibrations, Stoneleigh Church

Any monies raised will be shared between Ashow and Stoneleigh Churches. On the night, there will be a collection for the Kenilworth Food Bank. (Please note the change of date for this event.)

Wednesday 9th December 2026: Christmas Concert, St Francis of Assisi RC Church, Kenilworth

Details of the above events will appear in future issues of the Stoneleigh and Ashow News.

Interested in joining the choir? Come to a Wednesday rehearsal at 7.30pm in Stoneleigh Village Hall or contact Philip Jones by calling 01926 853511/07910 240453, emailing kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk or visiting www.stoneleighmalevoicechoir.co.uk.

Film Night



Friday 3rd July 2026
Stoneleigh Village Hall

Meet 6.30pm onwards for a 7.00pm showing

Entry: £5.00
(to cover room hire and refreshments)

Hamnet is an acclaimed historical novel by Maggie O'Farrell that imagines the life and death of William Shakespeare's only son, Hamnet, who died in 1596 at the age of 11. Hamnet's parents are at the centre of this story, showing their profound grief and how this loss inspired the play, Hamlet.

Stars Jessie Buckley (BAFTA and Oscar winner for the role), Paul Mescal and Emily Watson

**To reserve a place and a pastry, text or call Jane on 07535 514127
by Wednesday 1st July**

Just leave a message and I will put you on the list!
(Please note the new price and contact number)

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

Stoneleigh History Society

Sheila Woolf

By the time you read this, the Society will have met for the last time until September. Our talk in June was the second in which Lisa Reay and Sheila Woolf shared their researches into the stories of those buried in our churchyard. We now look forward to our autumn talks, beginning with Douglas Faulconbridge speaking on “64 years from Source to Mouth” – his journey from his birthplace at one end of the River Sowe to his present residence in Stoneleigh, at the other end! More details will be given in the September issue of the *Stoneleigh & Ashow News*.

Readers will note a short piece on page 17 of this magazine celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the closure of Stoneleigh School. By a pleasant coincidence, the History Society was recently delighted to have received the gift of the school’s handbell – perhaps some of you will have heard it ring to call an end to playtime! The same generous donor gave us, some time ago, a teacher’s desk dating from Georgian times, and we also have a child’s chair from the school, and several school book prizes. It is good to have these physical reminders of a building which was such an integral part of the Stoneleigh community. All can be seen in our display space in the Leigh Chapel of the church, along with many other fascinating exhibits and records.



Over the summer we shall be exhibiting some of the stories told to us by our members – beginning with Shirley Ball’s story about her late husband David’s military experiences on Christmas Island, where nuclear testing was carried out. Do go along and have a look, or visit our [website www.stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk). News of forthcoming activity is also posted on our Facebook page.

Stoneleigh History Society

Pentecostal Doves

Kate Jones

On Saturday 23rd May, the Bishop of Coventry, Right Reverend Sophie Jelley, led a confirmation service at Stoneleigh Church, when six candidates from our four parishes were confirmed. As part of the service, Bishop Sophie blessed over 2000 small origami doves (which were later distributed to the parishes of Ashow, Stoneleigh, Baginton, Bubbenhall and Leek Wootton). It was the idea of Naomi Cox (a member of Ashow Church) to make and distribute the doves. There was a prayer request card attached to each of these doves, and there is a box in each church where, if wished, these cards can be posted. Four larger doves were also made and displayed in our churches. We are grateful to everyone who helped to make these doves – various church members, Bubbenhall's Rainbows and Bubbenhall's Women's Craft Group. Naomi and her team are grateful to the diocese for providing a grant to cover the cost of the materials.



Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir
presents

Songs for a Summer Evening
with delicious desserts

Stoneleigh Village Hall

Saturday 25th July 2026

7.00pm

(doors open 6.30pm)

Tickets £12 (under-12s £6)
from any choir member or call 07817 899097

Raffle

Bring your own drinks and glasses





Summer
Sunday Lunch

19th July, 13:00

at Ashow Village Club

A two-course Sunday Lunch

with Coronation chicken and strawberries & cream!

A vegetarian option will be available.

Tickets £20 for adults and £8.00 for children under 12 years.

To reserve your place, please contact Kate at
kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk / 07910240453,

Jackie: stoneleighchurch@hotmail.com

or Anne at 07724 234479



*This is a fundraising event
for the local church.*

All Are Welcome!

Dame Alice Leigh's Almshouse

RESIDENTIAL HOUSING VACANCY

The Green, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire CV8 3DP

Charity ref: 215675

Honorary Patron: Lord Leigh



The Dame Alice Leigh's Almshouse is a charity providing housing accommodation in ten sandstone cottages in the centre of Stoneleigh, a quiet rural village in Warwickshire. **A residence in this sixteenth century almshouse is now available.**

On the ground floor of each home, there is a hall leading to a sittingroom, with kitchen, utility room and cloakroom with washbasin and toilet. The hall and dog-leg staircase lead to the bedroom and shower room. Cottages are equipped with cooker, fridge, washing machine, emergency-assistance call unit, carpets, electric storage heaters, smoke and heat detectors and a hot water heater. Outside, there is a small private patio connected to large communal gardens where there is a useful storage building with dedicated space for each resident.

The Dame Alice Leigh Charity repairs and maintains the fabric and services to the building, as well as the outbuildings and communal gardens.

Applicants must be needy, of retirement age or above, capable of independent living and have a genuine need of almshouse housing. Preference is given to residents who live in, or have connections with, the parish of Stoneleigh or county of Warwickshire. However, trustees welcome applications from other qualifying persons.

Please contact Bev Davis, Clerk to the Trustees, for further information (07790 064329 or bevd20@hotmail.com).

Village Organisations

The following people have kindly agreed to be the contacts and provide information about the organisations listed. Please contact Lucy Morris if there are any changes so that alterations can be notified in subsequent editions of the News.

Organisation	Contact name	Contact details
St Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh & The Assumption of Our Lady, Ashow: Priest in Charge	Reverend Petrică Bistran	07572 193260 revpbistran@gmail.com
Parish Administrator	Jackie Cubitt	024 7641 5506 stoneleighchurch@hotmail.com
Safeguarding Officer	Dr Elizabeth Penlington	024 7641 9707 elizabethpenlington@talktalk.net
Stoneleigh Church Churchwardens	Gordon Gatward Paddy Bryniarska Deputy: John Woodward Deputy: Richard Ashley	024 7622 7726 gordon.gatward@ruserve.co.uk 07947 472297 / adam-windsor@aol.com 024 7641 8272 jwoodward55@btinternet.com 07708 097187
Ashow Church Churchwardens	Kate Jones Anne Gregory Deputy: Peter Shrimpton	01926 853511 kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk 01926 713066 024 7509 6477
Stoneleigh & Ashow Parish Council	Chair: Richard Hancox Clerk: Helen Denton-Stacey	024 7669 3819 clrrichardhancox@gmail.com stoneleighashowparishcouncil@gmail.com
Stoneleigh & Ashow News	Lucy Morris	07976 427450 sanewsletter30@gmail.com
Stoneleigh Neighbourhood Watch	Tony Hanselman	024 7641 5060 / 07702 870072 t.ha1@gmail.com
Stoneleigh Village Club	SVC Committee	024 7641 4440 stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com or SVC Facebook page

Organisation	Contact name	Contact details
Stoneleigh Bell Ringers	Bob Taylor	024 7650 3712 bob-bob49@hotmail.co.uk
Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir	Pat Wightman	07817 899097 patw1965@btinternet.com
Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir	Chair: Phil Jones Conductor: Judy Hadfield	01926 853511 / 07910 240453 kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk 024 7641 4616
Stoneleigh Village Hall & Playing Fields (inc Stoneleigh Football & Cricket Clubs)	Bookings: Joe Ball Committee: Lynne Fletcher (see below)	024 7641 1315
Stoneleigh Village Hall Committee	Lynne Fletcher	024 7641 7544 / 07745 776404 lynnefletcher@gmail.com
Stoneleigh Handbell Ringers	Lynne Fletcher	024 7641 7544 / 07745 776404 lynnefletcher@gmail.com
Stoneleigh United Charities	John Astle	01926 674688 j.astle.sajpc@gmail.com
Stoneleigh Meadows Society	Mike Bacon	07872 060100 streaky7@icloud.com
Leigh Educational Foundation	James Johnson	07831 816638 admin@leigheducationalfoundation.org.uk
Dame Alice Leigh's Almshouses	Clerk to the Trustees: Bev Davis	07790 064329 bevvd20@hotmail.com
Stoneleigh WI	Chris Ward	024 7645 9664 chris.ward@virginmedia.com
Stoneleigh Community Orchard	Pete Freeman	07791 303764 petefreeman773@gmail.com
Stoneleigh Tennis Club	Pete Fletcher	07854 018397
Stoneleigh History Society	Sheila Woolf	07767 320969 shewoolf@hotmail.co.uk
Stoneleigh Action Group (against HS2)	Martin Smith	architect_smith@yahoo.co.uk
Ashow Neighbourhood Watch	Dulcie Swanston	07730 234032 ashownw@gmail.com
Ashow Village Club	Tony Gregory	07724 234456
Ashow Village Assembly	Chair: Stephen Edwards Secretary: Diane Gray	ashowvillageemails@gmail.com

Stoneleigh Village Club



COFFEE MORNING **Thursday** **July 9th and 23rd**

10:00am - 11:30am

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

£1 donation



Stoneleigh School - 50 Years since Closure!

Sheila Woolf

This summer, we remember the day when Stoneleigh village underwent a massive change: 50 years ago, on 23rd July 1976, the school closed its doors for the last time. For several years, it had seemed sadly inevitable that the school would not be able to continue as there were too few children, and in 1974 there was a public meeting to discuss future plans. The end came gradually, with the Headmaster, Mr Black, noting in the school logbook at the end of summer term 1975:

“As well as losing the usual 11+ leavers we also lost the third-year juniors so that they might get two years’ “middle school” education under the authority’s reorganisation plan.”

The building itself began to deteriorate, with broken windows and light fittings – it didn’t seem worthwhile to carry out repairs. A great storm in January 1976 damaged the building badly, removing hip tiles from the roof. In February 1976, a third of the school’s pupils were away ill with mumps!

By June, everyone was beginning to feel the sadness of losing such an important part of village life. The vicar, Reverend Neville Beamer, wrote an article in the June *Stoneleigh & Ashow News* called “The Curtain Falls”. On 11th July, there was a thanksgiving service at church, when the vicar spoke more about the loss of the school. The late David Thorley recorded Reverend Beamer’s sermon, which gives us an important insight into this moment in our collective history. After giving thanks for all those who had been associated with the school in its more than two-hundred-year existence, he wondered what would become of the building: might it be somewhere to host village organisations, art classes, holiday homes for city folk? After an open day on 13th July, with an exhibition and performances by the children, the school closed on 23rd July, about 230 years since first opening.

Many Warwickshire villages were losing their schools at the same time – Baginton and Offchurch among them. Leek Wootton held on by a thread, their vicar commenting that such closures were “against the interests of the community life of the village... such a move can only lead to a deterioration

in the quality of village life, and speed the process of converting English villages of character into commuter dormitories.”

How different things must have seemed when the new term began. Not only were children travelling out of the village, but “the village seems dead” wrote the vicar in the October magazine, regretting that children’s voices were no longer to be heard in the playground.

The building was finally sold ten years later in 1986, paving the way for smart new housing and apartments. Stoneleigh is very different now, but far from dead (in my opinion)!

My book, “Back to School”, a history of the school, sold out very quickly after publication in 2019, but a small booklet giving a shorter version is available in the Leigh Chapel for just £3.



The last school photograph, July 1976

Picture courtesy of Sue Scott née Wrist

*Back row, l-r: Mrs Palmer, Mrs Malone, Mr Black, Mrs Clarke,
Mrs Lovell, Miss Thorley*

*Middle row, l-r: Andrew Wrist, Hailey Kenningdale, Shelley Powell,
Susan Beecham, Jackie Glover, Ian Allison, John ?, Jill Ball, Lorna Nicholson*

*Front row, l-r: Scott Simpson, Sandra Wrist, Martin Wrist, Anne Ball,
Adrian Shaw, Wendy Bayliss, Michael Shaw*



The school under demolition. Picture courtesy of Shirley Ball.

HS2 Update

Martin Smith for the Stoneleigh Action Group

In thinking of road closures associated with HS2, we also have to factor in other events. Warwickshire County Council have already advised residents of the weekend closure of the road over the A46 at selected weekends:

- Friday 26th June and Monday 29th June
- Friday 3rd July and Monday 6th July
- Saturday 25th July and Sunday 26th July

This means, taken with the closure of Dalehouse Lane, further disruption for journeys to the village coming from the west.

WCC were also considering the proposal to close Crewe Lane to through traffic, and have, we hope, delayed this until either the spine road through the new housing estate (Crewe Lane to Stansfield Grove) or Dalehouse Lane re-open. The speed limit will be applied, however, which seems sensible on what is an unsatisfactory road now that traffic volume has been increased. As ever look out for road closures from HS2.



Book Corner

The mobile library will be at Stoneleigh Village Hall from 2.20pm to 2.45pm on the following Mondays in 2026:

- 29th June 2026 • 27th July 2026 •
- 24th August 2026 • 21st September 2026 • 19th October 2026 •
- 16th November 2026 • 14th December 2026 •

<https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/MobileLibraries/locations/344>

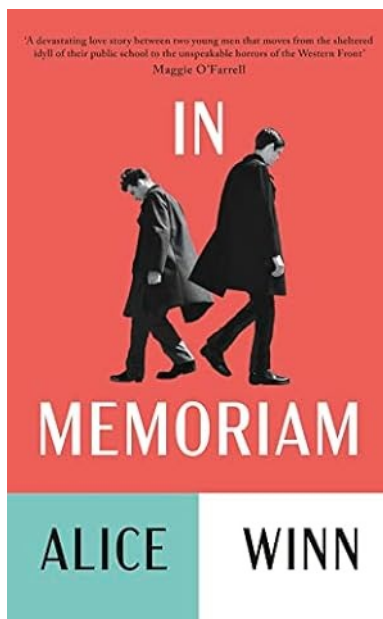
mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk

01926 851031

The library is fitted with a lift and has a selection of books, including large print, spoken word, and books for young children.

This month's recommended read is *In Memoriam* by Alice Winn. In this haunting debut novel, two young men fall in love amid the chaos of World War I. Set in 1914, it follows Henry Gaunt and Sidney Ellwood, students at a prestigious boarding school. The war seems far away until it becomes a brutal reality, shattering their dreams and revealing the depths of their feelings.

If you'd like to recommend a book you've enjoyed recently, do please email snewsletter30@gmail.com so that we can share your recommendation with readers in future editions of the News.



Stoneleigh Village Club



Opening hours

Monday – Thursday 7.00pm – 11.00pm

Friday 4.00pm – 11.00pm

Saturday 2.00pm – 11.00pm

Sunday 12.00pm – 10.30pm

Whilst we navigate this on/off summer, we've seen a great response to the new Club membership year. We are grateful to all who have renewed, and wish all our new members a very warm welcome!

Everybody is welcome, of course, to the annual Duck Race on Saturday 18th July. The fun starts at 1.00pm, and the ducks will be unleashed at 3.00pm. There will be lots of stalls, games, food and drink, as well as entertainment to make this a fantastic day for all the family. We are busy with the final preparations for this great community event, but we do desperately need volunteers to help out on the day, especially with the parking. If you, or perhaps one of your family, can help out, we would be extremely grateful; contact us at stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com if you can help. I'm sure we can offer thanks in the shape of a free trip to the BBQ!

To help fill the countdown to the Duck Race, FIFA have kindly agreed to put on a football tournament in the meantime. The Club is ready to show all the England games (our Celtic cousins are welcome also, though that was a tight vote in the committee meeting) on the evenings of Wednesday 17th, Tuesday 23rd and Saturday 27th June – further dates to (hopefully) follow. For those of you who took part in the World Cup sweepstake, your selected team is now on display. I am open to offers if anyone wants to swap their team with my 'in-form' Algerian outfit...

Lastly, from an events perspective, our Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 26th June at 7.00pm. The Club will only be open to current members at this time.

www.facebook.com/stoneleighvillageclub

stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com

Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire CV8 3DH

Please do attend the AGM if you are able; it is your chance to hear directly on the progress, challenges and financial status of the Club, and to ask any questions you may have. We will also be electing a new committee for the year ahead. We would love to have some new people step up and bring their ideas to the table.

As we said in our last article, we have many members who are very generous with their contributions and time each month, helping to make the Club what it is. In the spotlight this time is Will from Baginton Nurseries (who provides our beautiful hanging baskets), Tim (who is single-handedly feeding the Duck Race visitors) and Pauline (for providing the essential items such as tables and chairs which magically appear at such events). Thank you all – you are very much appreciated.

We also say goodbye to Jo this month, whose last day will be on the same day as the AGM. (Jo gets my vote for Chair!) We will all miss seeing her on the other side of the bar, but our loss will be the teaching profession's gain, and I'm sure you will all wish her well with her new job. Cheers, Jo!

See you at the Club!

Your SVC Committee 2025/2026

PS For the CAMRA-curious amongst us, the Old Hooky is now back on tap alongside the Mild until the end of June, when the much-anticipated Haymaker will be introduced!

Three Lions, One Hope

Rev Petrică Bistran

The Football World Cup is underway and, with it, comes a fresh outbreak of that most Christian of virtues: hope. Is this finally the year? Will the lads add another star to their shirt? After all, 60 years is a long time to wander in the footballing wilderness. Whether you're a devoted fan or someone who only discovers the offside rule every four years, it's hard to deny the power of football. In fact, I'm not sure there is much else that brings people together quite like sunshine, good food and a major football tournament. Throw in a barbecue and you're very close to recreating heaven on Earth.

What fascinates me most about football isn't the tactics or the transfer fees, it's the power of belief. Every tournament begins with hope. Fans who spent the previous season complaining about their team suddenly become convinced that glory is just around the corner. Somehow, against all evidence, optimism triumphs over experience.

As Christians, we know something about hope. The word *religion* comes from the Latin *religare* (not to be confused with *relegate!*), meaning "to bind together" or "to tie fast". At its heart, faith is about relationship: being bound to God and to one another. And, in a curious way, football does something similar.

Go to a stadium and you'll witness scenes that look remarkably familiar to anyone who attends church (perhaps a slightly more charismatic church than ours!). There is mighty singing. There is spontaneous standing up and sitting down. There are moments of collective confession ("We should never have passed the ball there!"). There are prayers offered in desperation. There are even occasional miracles. Most importantly, there is community. Thousands of people from different backgrounds gather around a shared story, a shared dream, and the belief that something wonderful might happen. For 90 minutes, strangers become friends. Neighbours become family. People belong.



Of course, football's promises are temporary. One team lifts the trophy and, before long, everyone starts worrying about next season. The Christian hope is different. It does not rest on a referee's decision, a penalty shoot-out, or whether England can finally bring football home. It rests in the God who never changes, whose love never fails, and who invites everyone on to His team.

So enjoy the football. Cheer loudly. Celebrate the goals. Survive the penalties. But remember: some hopes last for a season. God's hope lasts forever, beyond every trophy, every victory, and every heartbreak. And if England do win it all, it will still be only a glimpse – a small foretaste – of the greater joy that God has prepared for us.

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JOIN US FOR GUILDFEST 2026!

**A FAMILY-FRIENDLY SUMMER FESTIVAL AT
MARTIN WHEELER FIELDS**

Live music from 3pm-9pm, local stalls, great food and a licensed bar.

Bring your picnic blankets, camping chairs and the family!



4TH JULY 2026

**MARTIN WHEELER FIELDS,
SAMARITAN WAY, CV8 3EE**



Follow our Facebook for all the updates!

Parking: £5 per vehicle | martinwheelerfields.uk

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you're
facing
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to listen

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Price list sent out every week

Pick up at field on Saturday

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millpiecegardens@gmail.com



<https://www.instagram.com/millpiecegardens/>



**The United Benefice of
The Assumption of our Lady, Ashow
and
St Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh**



Contacts

Priest in Charge:

Reverend Petrică Bistran 07572 193260

revpbistran@gmail.com

Churchwardens – Ashow:

Kate Jones 01926 853511

Anne Gregory 01926 713066

Deputy Warden: Peter Shrimpton 024 7509 6477

Churchwardens – Stoneleigh:

Gordon Gatward 07776 211276 Paddy Bryniarska 07947 472297

Deputy Wardens: Richard Ashley 07708 097187

John Woodward 024 7641 8272

Or please contact the Parish Administrator:

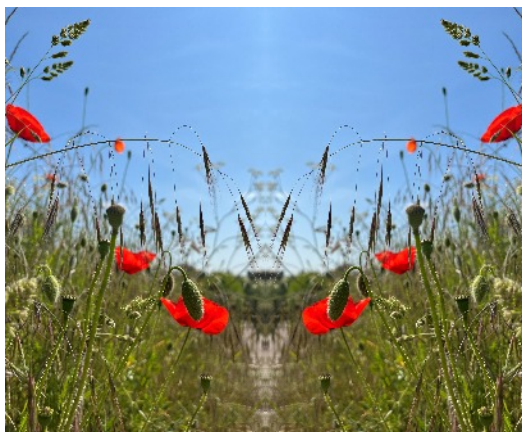
Jackie Cubbitt 024 7641 5506

stoneleighchurch@hotmail.com

Office hours: Wednesday 9.00am – 12.00pm, Thursday 9.00am – 1.00pm

Ashow: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12954/>

Stoneleigh: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12964/>



This edition of **Stoneleigh and Ashow News** was compiled by **Lucy Morris**, who would like to thank all contributors
The online colour version can be viewed on the Stoneleigh village Facebook page and on the **Stoneleigh History Society** website (www.stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk)

The September 2026 edition will be compiled by **Mike & Bernice Evans**
sanewsletter30@gmail.com
Copy deadline: 16th August 2026

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 ad that you would like. Please provide your artwork if you have it ready.
- The editions in which you would like your advertisement published.

Once artwork has been received and size/dates agreed, you will be invoiced based on your request. Please note that, in order 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 July & August 2026

July 2026

Sunday 5 th	10.00am	United Holy Communion Service – Bubbenhall
Sunday 12 th	9.30am	Holy Communion Service – Ashow
	11.00am	Morning Praise Service – Stoneleigh
Sunday 19 th	9.30am	Celtic Service – Ashow
	11.00am	Celtic Holy Communion Service – Stoneleigh
Wednesday 26 th	9.30am	Village Service – Ashow
	11.00am	Holy Communion Service – Stoneleigh

August 2026

Sunday 2 nd	10.00am	United Holy Communion Service – Baginton
Sunday 9 th	9.30am	Holy Communion Service – Ashow
	11.00am	Morning Praise Service – Stoneleigh
Sunday 16 th	9.30am	Celtic Service – Ashow
	11.00am	Celtic Holy Communion Service – Stoneleigh
Sunday 23 rd	9.30am	Village Service – Ashow
	11.00am	Holy Communion Service – Stoneleigh
Sunday 30 th	9.30am	Holy Communion Service – Ashow
	11.00am	Holy Communion Service – Stoneleigh

