

STONELEIGH AND ASHOW NEWS



NOVEMBER 2026



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 ****

Stoneleigh History Society



Dale House Farm

As I write, we are looking forward to Jill Kashi's talk which we advertised in last month's edition, on the life of historian and writer Mary Dormer Harris of Dale House Farm. Everyone is welcome to come along on Tuesday October 27th at 7.30pm in the village hall. It will be our final Stoneleigh-based talk of the year.

Our November talk takes us outside the village – but not far! Local Warwick expert Trevor Langley will be telling us all about the history of the Warwick Arms Hotel, giving us stories from the days of stagecoaches and mail coaches, but also telling us about the famous guests who have stayed there, including monarchs, national heroes, and stars of stage and screen. Trevor is always entertaining, so, again, visitors will be very welcome to come along, this time to the village hall on Tuesday November 24th at 7.30pm.

Our December meeting will be a members-only Christmas Social, but do look at our website for details of our 2027 programme. Might this be the year you join us?



Sheila Woolf

www.stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk

Stoneleigh Ladies Choir

Pat Wightman

What a fabulous day the choir had on Saturday 3rd October when we played host to the Abertillery Ladies Orpheus Choir for a whole day of singing and a lot of fun. The Welsh choir arrived with their Musical Director (MD), friends and family to a warm welcome with time for coffee and an opportunity to get to know each other. Each of the two MDs had chosen a piece of music for us all to learn after some fun warm-ups. Lunch on the patio - thank goodness for a sunny day - and then more singing. After tea there was a performance of all we had learned to a small but appreciative audience. It was a highly successful day making new friends and sharing a love of singing. So successful, in fact, that we have been invited to Wales for a repeat performance next year!



So now it's back to music for Christmas and preparation for a number of concerts already in place. We will be making our annual appearance at the Waverley Day Centre on 26th November followed by a concert for the Evergreens on 3rd December. Dates for your diary are our own Christmas Concert on 10th December, Community Carols on 16th and the Carol Service on 20th December but more information about these in the next issue.

Film Night

November's film will be:

The Man who Invented Christmas



After the success of *Oliver Twist*, Charles Dickens had several commercial flops. This story, set in 1843, follows a 31-year-old Charles Dickens (Dan Stevens) who, “with writer's block” faces financial problems. With pressure from his family, in particular his father (Jonathan Pryce), Dickens sets himself a tight six-week deadline to write and self-publish a new holiday book, *A Christmas Carol*. Stars: Dan Stevens, Christopher Plummer, Jonathan Pryce, Simon Callow, Miriam Margolyes

***Friday November 20th 2026 in
Stoneleigh Village Hall
Meet 6.30pm onwards for a 7pm showing***

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

Entry price £5.00, to cover refreshments and room hire.
To reserve a place and a pastry, text or call Jane on 07535 514127 by
Wednesday November 18th
Just leave a message and I will put you on the list!

Stoneleigh Community Orchard Update

Pete Freeman

Thank you to all those who attended our Stoneleigh Brandy launch event on 1st October which despite being impacted by an outbreak of seasonal flu, managed to attract a substantial turnout. It was good to observe so many villagers in the audience, which was treated to an entertaining and informative evening in the wonderful surroundings of East Chase Distillery, courtesy of Luke Weetman.



As for Stoneleigh Brandy, this sold well, with about 66 of the available 95 bottles being purchased on the night. Feedback to date has been broadly positive and it is described as a smooth, warm drink ideal for the coming winter nights. As regards the labelling, featuring my freehand drawing adaptation of a Victorian postcard, I was amusingly informed that it could be refined, even

prompting one critic to present me with an AI alternative. I recognise that none of us possess the sharp observational skills and wit of a proper art critic such as Brian Sewell RIP. That said, one could make one's own observations about the relative merits of a soulless, over produced, computer-generated image. Perhaps an import of the horse-drawn cart from John Constable's "The Hay Wain" into the foreground would enhance the suggested alternative? In conclusion, at least the existing bottle design has prompted village discussion and not offended civic dignitaries as was the case when Rembrandt painted "The Night Watch".



Concerning the harvest of 2026, this was completed early, on 29th September, with John Churchley and myself undertaking the final pressing

followed by our playing of Motorhead's "Ace of Spades" at full blast as is our tradition. In truth this year's harvest has been relatively poor, amounting to some 800 litres which is about a half of last year's total. Perhaps we need to restore the Wassail and drive out evil spirits from the orchard? I would like to thank all of those who attended our picking days who, in addition to our directors, included Mike Evans, Kate Beaumont, Sally Davies, Laura Eliot, John Elton, Alie Bacon, Paddy Bryniarska and Martin Smith.

Finally, those readers who wish to acquire Stoneleigh Brandy need to contact Luke at East Chase Distillers directly. Phone Number: 07899 664346 and Email: enquiries@eastchasedistillers.com
Address: East Chase Distillers, Chase Lane, Kenilworth. CV8 1PR.



Orchard Friends' subscriptions and yearly renewals for 2027 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)

Richard.Hancox@nationalhighways.co.uk



***Cover photo by Sarah Ballinger
View of cottages on The Bank, Stoneleigh
taken October 2026***

Stoneleigh Village Club



COFFEE MORNING Thursday November 12th

10:00am - 11:30am

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

£1 donation



Mobile Library Service



The mobile library will stop at:

- Wren Day Nursery, Stoneleigh Park: 1:40–2:10pm
- Stoneleigh Village Hall: 2:20–2:45pm

2026 dates

- Monday 16 November • Monday 14 December

2027 dates are Mondays, except Friday 3 September

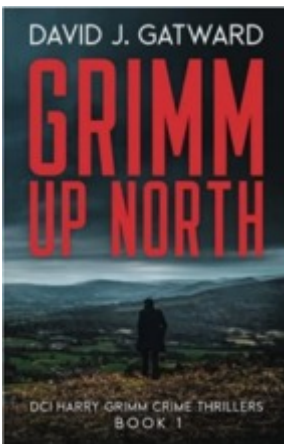
- 18 Jan • 15 Feb • 15 Mar • 12 Apr • 10 May • 7 Jun
- 5 Jul • 2 Aug • 3 Sep • 27 Sep • 25 Oct • 22 Nov • 20 Dec

For more information, email

mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk

or call 01926 851031.

The library has a lift and offers a range of books, including large-print titles, audiobooks, and books for young children.



This month's recommended read is ***Grimm Up North*** by *David J. Gatward*. The novel follows DCI Harry Grimm, a scarred former paratrooper turned detective, as he uncovers dark secrets in the seemingly peaceful North Yorkshire town of Wensleydale.

David J. Gatward is the acclaimed author of the DCI Harry Grimm crime series, which has sold more than 2 million copies worldwide. Read one of his books before his event at Stoneleigh Church on Friday 6th November at 7:30pm.



Stoneleigh WI

Nora Blagburn

Hello Ladies,

Are you free for two hours on the first Monday afternoon of each month? If so why not come along to a Women's Institute meeting?

We have a variety of speakers, chat, tea or coffee and biscuits, books to borrow and always a warm welcome to visitors.

The next meeting is on Monday 2nd November 2pm at Stoneleigh Village Hall. Clare O'Donnell will be talking about Strange, Surprising and Delicious Foods. Sounds intriguing! Why not come and find out?

For more information ring our
Secretary Chris Ward on 02476 459664



Give your unwanted furniture a second life

***Local charity offers free weekly furniture
collections in Stoneleigh & Ashow***

Local homelessness charity Emmaus Coventry & Warwickshire visits Stoneleigh and Ashow every week to collect suitable furniture free of charge.

Donated items are sold through the charity's Coventry shops, giving them another life while raising money to support people rebuilding their lives after homelessness.

The charity can collect clean, complete and working furniture suitable for re-sale, including sofas, wardrobes, tables, chairs, beds and drawers, plus working white goods and home electricals.

Residents can arrange a free collection by visiting
www.emmaus.org.uk/coventry-warwickshire/furniture-collection.

Every donation helps support the charity's work and keeps good-quality furniture in use.



Stoneleigh Village Club

www.facebook.com/stoneleighvillageclub

stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com

Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh,
Warwickshire CV8 3DH

Chairman at SVC Phil Neale

The Committee has been busy this month. We have three events close together: Halloween, Bonfire Night and Remembrance Sunday. For further details of the November events please refer to the adverts on the next two pages.

We are organising a Christmas quiz on the 5th December. Teams of 6 are welcome, please submit your team name by contacting the bar.

A meat raffle is held every two weeks on a Friday at 7pm. Tickets can be bought at the bar up until the evening of the draw. The meat is from Quigleys of Lillington so is top quality and a bargain at £2 pounds a ticket!

We are now offering a reduced club membership of £15 for new members up until renewals in April 2027. Afterwards it will be £20 a year.

Lastly, we now have a new system for our till called Sum-Up with a cash-back option. Ask the bar staff for full details - it even saves you money!

Thanks to all of our members.



Poppy Appeal 2026

Kate and Philip Jones

The Royal British Legion Appeal begins on October 26th.

All monies collected help to support families of serving and ex-service women and men. We owe them all a great deal of gratitude for their service to the nation. Thank you for your generosity to a very worthwhile cause.

Stoneleigh
Village Club

BONFIRE

7th November 2026

Starting at 19.00

Fire being lit at 18 30pm

Firework Display

✧ Donations Welcome ✧



£3.00

extra fillings
50p each

- Chilli
- Chicken Curry
- Cheese
- Beans

≡ Come and enjoy the fun ≡

— Stoneleigh —
Village Club

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8th November 2026

After Church Parade

Everyone Welcome

VETERANS
to receive one
FREE GLASS
PORT



LEST WE FORGET



And Now for Something Completely Different!

Did you know that Myton Hospice has launched its Bed Appeal?

There aren't enough hospice beds in Coventry and Warwickshire to meet demand. Myton has 36 beds but can only afford to keep 25 open.

This is a very sad situation, and in order to help them raise some funds I am going to do something a bit different...NOT running a marathon (because there's no way I could!) or swimming the English Channel...

Each Tuesday from November 3rd until December 8th, I shall be reading aloud the complete works of Jane Austen! I shall be in the Leigh Chapel of Stoneleigh Church, and will begin at 9am each time, aiming to finish at 3pm – six hours each Tuesday for six weeks, totalling 36 hours.

I should be very grateful for any donations towards this venture.



Visitors are welcome to listen to a page or two, or you could always pay NOT to listen!

You can give via my JustGiving page: www.justgiving.com/page/sheila-woolf-2 or via the QR code.

Thanks so much!

Sheila Woolf

Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir

Philip Jones

The choir took part in the Berkswell Music Festival, organised by our Musical Director Kevin Stannard. Eight choirs took part and the audience enjoyed all the singing. The festival started off in the church, before moving on to the village green, then finishing off in the Bear Inn.

Our Christmas Concert will take place on Wednesday December 9th at St Francis RC Church in Kenilworth (please see poster below for further details)

If you are interested in joining the choir, please contact Philip Jones for further details on 07910 240453, email kathryngjones@hotmail.co.uk or come along to one of our rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in Stoneleigh Village Hall.

Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir CHRISTMAS CONCERT



**St Francis of Assisi RC Church
Warwick Road
Kenilworth
CV8 1HL**



9th December 2026, 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





COFFEE MORNING



Stoneleigh Village Hall
Thursday 19th November
10.00am – 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 Saturday 19th December at 10am
to decorate the Church for Christmas.*



you are cordially invited to...

Opera Warwick's Autumn concert

Come and join the students of Warwick University's opera society for a cosy afternoon of music. There will be a wide range of styles and languages performed by our students so something for everyone. We look forward to seeing you there!!

FREE ENTRY
donations
welcome

3PM
Saturday 21st
November

St. Mary's Church
Church Lane
Stoneleigh
CV8 3DN

 @operawarwick

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. Payit™ by NatWest Scan the QR code and 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. Alternatively, use the link below:

<https://paymentrequest.natwestpayit.com/reusable-link/50e33bcd-518d-4b6d-8da5-ffe2cdcad697>

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.

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 the [Stoneleigh History Society](https://stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk/) website (<https://stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk/>).

The **December 2026 and January 2027** edition will be compiled by Lucy Morris
sanewsletter30@gmail.com
Copy deadline: 16th November 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.)

A registered charity

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

If you're going
through a tough
time, you don't have
to face it alone.

Call free day
or night on
116 123

SAMARITANS

samaritans.org/coventry

Do your feet deserve a Christmas treat?



Foot care in the comfort of your own home
Happier Feet Clinic
 call **07935 816 385**
 or email happierfeet4u@yahoo.com

- Nail trimming
- Fungal infection
- Thickened nails
- Diabetic foot care
- Verrucas
- Corns & calluses
- Cracked dry heels
- Athletes foot
- Ingrown toe nails
- General foot care

Happiness Reed : DipFHP | Registered Foot Health Practitioner

MillPiece Gardens



Fresh Veg, Salads, and Fruit
 grown in Bubbenhall
 from May to November



Price list sent out every week
 Pick up at field on Saturday

Join our mailing list- contact us at
millpiecegardens@gmail.com



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

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



SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday 1st	11.00 am United Holy Communion at Bubbenhall 7.00 pm Commemoration of the Faithful Departed at Stoneleigh
Sunday 8th	9.30 am Remembrance Service at Ashow 10.50 am Remembrance Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 15th	9.30 am Celtic Service at Ashow 11.00 am Celtic Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 22nd	9.30 am Village Service at Ashow 11.00 am Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh
Sunday 29th	11.00 am Holy Communion Service at Stoneleigh 4.00 pm Advent Service at Ashow

From the Registers

Funerals

Friday 18th September 12.00 noon – Keith Walker – Interment at Stoneleigh
Thursday 8th October 1.30 pm – Barrie George Jones – Funeral Service at
Canley Crematorium

Priest in Charge: Reverend Petrica Bistran 07572 193260

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

Paddy Bryniarska 07947 472297

Deputy Warden: John Woodward 02476 418272

or please contact the Parish Administrator,

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

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

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

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12954 for Ashow