

ETTINGTON AND FULREADY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

November 2025

As the golden leaves fall and the cold air settles in, November invites us to reflect, reconnect, and be together. In a season often marked by quiet transitions, our village beats with warmth, resilience, and a spirit that refuses to slow down.

This month, we celebrate the power of community, of lending a hand, sharing a story, and caring for one another. Whether it's preparing for winter, supporting local events, or simply greeting someone with a smile, every small act strengthens the heart of our village.

Let's embrace the season not to pause, but as a time to gather strength, spark ideas, and build momentum for the months ahead. Together, we are not just navigating November, we are thriving through it. Here's to a month of purpose, connection, and possibility.

Stay warm and safe. Rennie

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clerk@ettingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Ettington Church Churchwarden, Phil Knight,
07886 126098, phee100@btinternet.com

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Eva Lowe 07975 682775 bookings@ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk

Ettington & Fulready Village Newsletter
Enquiries and/or contributions to Rennie Boreham, the editor:
ettingtonfulready.newsletter@gmail.com

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With thanks to Ettington Parish Council for their continued financial support.

November 2025

Dear Friends,



Christianity has either been well received by the world or very poorly. However, what does it mean to be a “Christian”? I was astounded to discover that there are over the 45000 denominations of Christians globally. Christians who have small or large differences in their interpretation of how to worship and follow the faith. It’s therefore not surprising that people are confused about what we believe, and how we should live our lives as followers of Christ.

I often meet people who say, ‘I’m a bad Christian’ and apologise for not going to church. However, they do have a Christian faith and try to live following the Christian way. Essentially, being a Christian means believing in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and saviour and following Jesus’ ways and teachings. This involves living a life of love, kindness, and generosity towards others, fighting for justice, dignity and inclusion for all and seeking forgiveness for our sins and wrongdoing.

The distinction between a “good” and “bad” Christian is moot in the grand scheme of salvation. Our deeds, while significant, are fruits of our faith, not prerequisites for salvation. It’s often difficult to know where to start to talk about being a Christian. Many people have heard the various stories from the Bible but how do we translate these to our present-day life.

I’ve recently introduced some of our community to a book by Dave Tomlinson “How to be a **bad** Christian - **and a better human being**”. In his book Dave discusses the difference between legalism, religion and simply being a loving follower of Christ. Love is the central theme of his book which tackles delicate issues such as how to show love to the LGBTQ+ community, how to throw away our religious judgments, or how to interpret the bible when we find ‘contradictions’. This book is simply about loving our neighbours like us. It is enriched by stories and testimonies of real people which helps the reader to open his/her mind to a world that needs the love of God more than ever before.

We will be reading this and discussing our reactions to what is said. Dave is a Vicar and in re-read his book I was reminded of an occasion when someone said to Dave “*I’m a bad Christian; I don’t come to church.*” In response Dave said “*No need to apologise. Most people don’t come to church. But if I thought for one moment that God gave a monkey’s fart whether or not you come to church, I’d become an atheist here and now!* He goes on to say... *Don’t get me wrong: I think there are good reasons to be part of a church community, (which he discusses in the book.) But I can’t believe that God divides the world between churchgoers and non-churchgoers, or between people who believe and people who don’t believe. What an absurd idea. Surely God has more sophistication to his judgement than this! Surely God must be more interested in the kind of people we are, the choices we make in life and the way we treat people than in what we do with our Sunday mornings?*”

I have to be honest and say I agree with Dave. Do you? Or do you feel this is heretical? This book does say things that make you think, and you may not agree with. For example, I and many believe

that being part of a church community is an important aspect of Christian life for many, as they support one another and express their faith together.

Come and join us reading and discussing what's written in this book.

1st Tuesday of each month 1.30pm at Ettington church. Starting on **2nd December**.

Or every Tuesday at 6pm - the venue moves around the villages. See the church notice board for information or ring / text me 07769871237.

Rev'd Nicki



LEGO Café

Saturday 22nd November

at Ettington church



2 - 4pm

Use your imagination to create and build with thousands of bricks, mini figures and accessories in this freestyle LEGO session.

Make new friends.

Enjoy delicious Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate and CAKE from our Pop-up Café while others build and you chat.



Fun for all ages!



Adult accompanied children please!

<u>STOURDENE BENEFICE SERVICE ROTA - November 2025</u>			
NOVEMBER 2025	Time	Church	Service Type
Saturday 1st All Souls Day	6pm	ALDERMINSTER	BENEFICE SERVICE
Sunday 2nd	8.30am	Ettington	BCP Communion
	9.30am	Halford	CW Communion
	9.30am	Newbold	Morning Worship
	10am	Alderminster	Morning Worship
	11am	Pillertons	CW Communion
	6pm	Butlers	Evensong
TUESDAY 4th	6pm	ETTINGTON	PRAYER WALK
Wednesday 5th	10am	Newbold	CW Communion
Sunday 9th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	10am	Ettington	Remembrance
	10.45am	Newbold	Remembrance
	10.45am	Halford	Remembrance
	10.45am	Alderminster	Remembrance
	10.45am	Pillertons	Remembrance
	3pm	Butlers Marston	Remembrance
TUESDAY 11th	6pm	ALDERMINSTER	PRAYER WALK
Sunday 16th	8.30am	Pillertons	BCP Communion
	9.30am	Halford	Morning Worship
	9.30am	Alderminster	CW Communion
	11am	Ettington	CW Communion
	9.30am	Butlers Marston	Family Service Stir up Sunday
	11am	Newbold	Morning Worship
TUESDAY 18th	6pm	NEWBOLD	PRAYER WALK
Sunday 23rd	8.30am	Halford	CW Communion
	10am	Ettington	Café Church
	9.30am	Butlers	BCP Communion
	10 am	Alderminster	Morning Prayer
	11am	Newbold	CW Communion
	10.30am	Pillertons	Family Service
TUESDAY 25th	6pm	HALFORD	PRAYER WALK
Sunday 30th	10.30am	NEWBOLD	BENEFICE SERVICE

ETTINGTON CHURCH, PART OF THE STOURDENE GROUP OF CHURCHES

Visit the **Stourdene website** at stourdene.com where you will find contact information for all 6 Stourdene churches and information relating to life events such as baptisms, weddings and funerals.



Contact **Revd Nicki Chatterton**, Rector of Stourdene, on email chat2rev.nicki@gmail.com or call **07769 871237**.

The Bible book club will be at 1.30pm in Ettington church on Tuesday 4th November when we are discussing Numbers from the Old Testament. In December we will be embarking on a variation to our current style when we will discuss a chapter a month of a book provided by Revd Nicky. More to follow on that next time.

The Bible study group continues to meet weekly on a **Wednesday at 7.30pm** in each other's homes and are currently working their way through a study book on Ezekiel.

Newcomers are always very welcome to join these groups. Contact Jane on 07802 348309 or janealisonevans@gmail.com for more information."

♥ A SPECIAL INVITATION TO CELEBRATE LOVE ♥

On **Sunday 16th November at 11.00am** the Rev'd David Jessett will be holding a Renewal of Vows Service together with a Blessing (followed by a shortened service of Holy Communion) in Ettington village church.

It's a chance for couples to celebrate their love and commitment to each other and for all to share in their promise of love.

Everyone will be very welcome, whether you've been together for one year or sixty.

Please do join us to celebrate love with family, friends and neighbours.

The service will be followed by refreshments.

No responsibility can be taken by the editor or Ettington Parochial Church Council, or any individual connected to it, if the advertisers in this newsletter do not meet customer expectations.

Harvest Supper

By Lynda Colleman



We arrived into a candlelit Church and settled down to chat with friends at decorated tables before serving ourselves to the delicious supper which was all cooked beautifully by Steve Lowe. After extra helpings and lots of stories being swapped, Kate Allen took to the stage. Her story is fascinating, over 1300 miles walked, only 5 rest days, one being used to climb Ben Nevis, friends and family joining them at different stages, unbearable midges in parts, cooking provided mainly by the incredible back-up, Jonathan, who was following the route in their camper van. Kate's 2 Springer Spaniels also

walked the distance, enjoying their freedom, but probably not the tics and falling asleep at every rest opportunity!

The walk from Land's End to John O Groats was a very well planned, amazing achievement and raised an incredible amount of over £12,000 for Shipston Home Nursing.

Congratulations to Kate and team.

An entertaining evening enjoyed by all.



SPA CHORALE

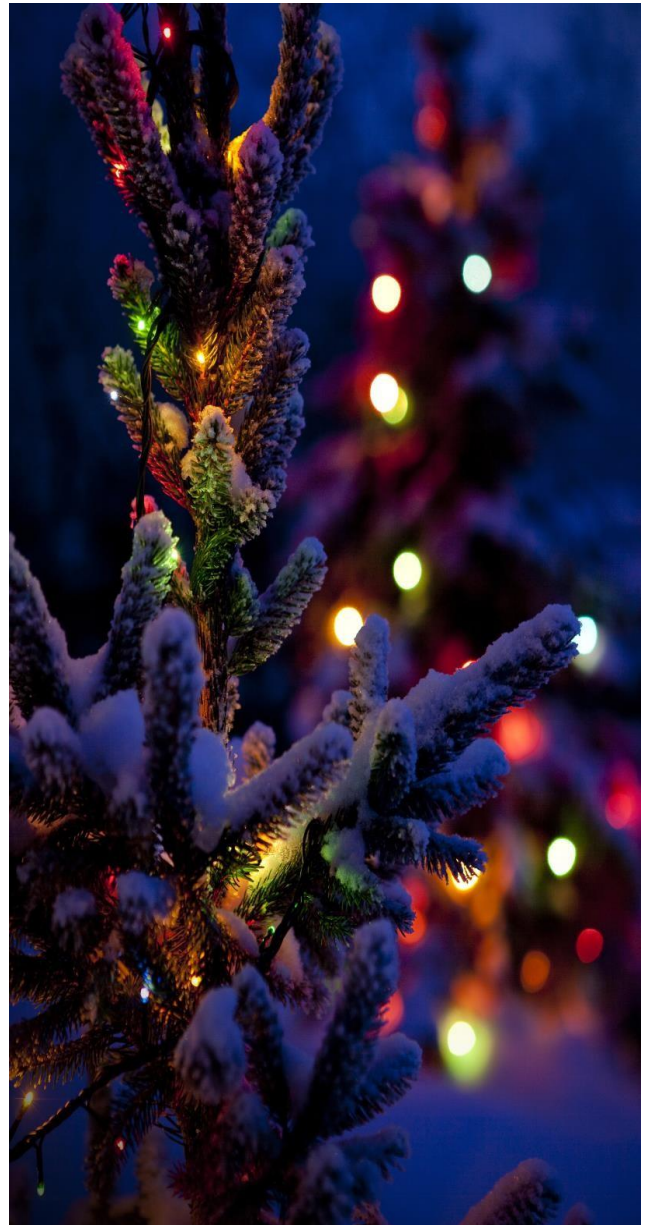
presents

‘HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY CHRISTMAS’

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER

AT

ETTINGTON CHURCH



Musical Director: Kevin Stannard

Spa Chorale will perform a selection of music and prose for Christmas.

Featuring carols, well-loved songs and some yuletide favourites.

Tickets £10 (*including refreshments*) available on the door or from Phil phee100@btinternet.com & Steve ewolnevets@gmail.com.

Come & Join Us

Saturday 6th December at 7.30pm Ettington Church, CV37 7TH

All enquiries to: spachorale2025@gmail.com Follow us: on Facebook

ETTINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Ettington Community Centre is a perfect venue for parties, business meetings, workshops and self-catering christening/baptism parties, weddings and wakes. With three differently sized rooms available, space can be configured flexibly to suit your needs. The centre is served by superfast broadband, which is available throughout the building. Regular classes include:

*Cheeky Chimps Toddler Group *Keep Fit/Zumba/Pilates classes *Ladies' badminton *Mosaic classes *Tai chi classes *Brownies *Monday Club *Snooker Club *Slimming World



For Ettington Community Centre bookings and enquiries, please contact Eva Lowe on 07975 682775 or email booking@ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk.

The management committee usually meets on the **first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm** in the Community Centre Lounge. The committee are constantly searching for both help and people with new, good ideas on how we can organise and promote more events at our excellent, but rather under-utilised building - **it needs your support.**

We'd love to hear from you, so please do contact us, either on 07975 682775 or email secretary@ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk.

We also have a separate events committee which is tasked with creating and running various fundraising events taking place throughout the year. For more information, or to get involved, please visit our website: www.ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk.

Bingo, Breakfast & Brilliant Community Spirit!

By Steve Lowe

What a weekend we had with our latest Village Bingo and Breakfast events on the 3rd and 4th of October - two of Ettington's best-loved community get-togethers!

Friday night bingo once again drew a fantastic crowd to the community centre, with plenty of laughter, a few tense silences, and the occasional triumphant shout of "Bingo!" We played five games with cash prizes ranging from £5 to £50, plus one bonus game where the full house jackpot reached a whopping £95! There was also the ever-popular raffle, packed with classic prizes, and of course, the licensed bar and our much-loved chilli supper - sometimes hot, sometimes mild, sometimes somewhere in between, but always delicious! It was wonderful to see so many new faces join our regulars, and together we raised just over £450 to support the upkeep of our community centre.

No sooner had the bingo cards been packed away than the village breakfast team were up bright and early on Saturday morning, frying, flipping, and brewing for over 100 hungry villagers. The full English-style breakfast (with veggie and meat options) went down a treat - eggs, bacon, sausages, beans, tomatoes, and hash browns, all made with locally sourced meat, free-range eggs, and fairtrade coffee. This time, the breakfast raised just over £400 for our primary school, a brilliant result and a huge credit to the team of volunteers who make it all happen.

Both events are the perfect reminder of what makes Ettington so special - good food, good company, and a good cause at heart. **Our next Festive Bingo and Breakfast weekend will take place on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th December** - so make sure to save the date for some pre-Christmas cheer!



The October meeting of Ettington Parish Council was held on Wednesday October 8th, and was attended by councillors and 24 members of the public. Discussions ranged from vehicle crime and road safety, to planning development pressures and the upkeep of community facilities.

Police Update: Tackling Vehicle Crime

Local officer PC Sid Hammond joined the meeting to brief councillors and residents on recent vehicle thefts in Ettington and surrounding villages. He explained that keyless car thefts remain a growing problem and urged residents to take simple precautions such as using Faraday pouches to block key signals and steering locks as visible deterrents.

Residents also raised the idea of installing Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras to monitor traffic through the village. While police system compatibility remains a hurdle, the council will continue to explore the options with the police and Warwickshire County Council

Road Safety Concerns at the Crossroads

Residents raised concerns about the dangerous staggered crossroads junction, following another serious accident. Suggestions included clearer signage, improved lighting, and reviewing the existing speed limit.

The council will continue to push Warwickshire County Council to take further action, and request another site visit. In the meantime, they will push for the cutting back of overgrown hedges which would make an immediate difference to visibility and the replacement of road traffic signs.

Development Pressures and Community Benefits

Councillors have been made aware that Stratford District Council's ongoing lack of a five-year housing supply leaves local communities with less control over planning decisions.

The council agreed to continue working with SDC and developers to ensure that any new housing delivers tangible benefits under Section 106 agreements, such as investment in local amenities and infrastructure.

Community Facilities: Maintenance and Upgrades

The council reviewed updates on the Community Centre and sports facilities. The need for improved lighting and pitch maintenance was discussed, and the council will be seeking grant funding.

It was agreed that a separate meeting should be held to look specifically at the management and maintenance of the MUGA (multi-use games area), ensuring it remains well used.

Pressure on Community Centre Parking

With increased use of the Community Centre, councillors considered ways to expand parking capacity. One option would create new spaces on grass behind the MUGA, using a plastic and sand base.

Further information and alternative quotes will be gathered before the council applies for grants to support the work.

Keeping the local footpaths clear

The council will be asking Warwickshire County Council to contact residents whose hedges are obstructing pavements, forcing pedestrians into the road. It is each property owner's responsibility to keep hedges on their land trimmed back, ensuring safe and accessible pathways throughout the village.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday 12 November 2025 at 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre.**



CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR

Tuesday 18th November 3.30pm - 7.30pm

Wednesday 19th November 10am - 3pm

Ettington Community Centre
Rogers Lane, Ettington CV37 7SX



Over 25 stalls selling a range of gift ideas including clothing, jewellery, aromatherapy, plants, wreaths, homeware and stocking fillers; plus food stalls selling salmon, oils, vinegars, honey, sauces & spirits!

There will also be a cafe serving drinks, cakes & snacks, and of course our incredible tombola!



Proceeds to Shipston Home Nursing

Providing free end of life care to patients with terminal illnesses and support to their families

In Shipston, Wellesbourne, Kineton and surrounding villages

Registered Charity no 1162586

Tea Dances with music to dance and sing to for all the different charities we support each year take place in **the main hall of the Community Centre every second Wednesday of the month from 2.30pm**. Next session is on **12th November 2025**. There's lovely CD music to sing to, listen to or dance to like Waltzes, Quicksteps, Cha Cha Cha and Rumba. It costs £5 per person which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Further details can be obtained from **Alan and Vivian** on **01789 204989** or by email to ilov2getherdancing@hotmail.com. **Everyone Welcome.**



Mobile Library in Ettington



The van will continue to visit on a **Wednesday** and stops at The Chequers at **11:05-11:25**. The next date is **12th November**. For all enquiries or to renew books, telephone **01926 851031** or renew online at Warwickshire.gov.uk/libraries.

Dial a Ride UBUS Service in Ettington

UBUS dial a ride community transport service operates in Ettington and surrounding villages on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9.30am-2.30pm. Travel locally and into Stratford-upon-Avon to go shopping, visit friends or attend social groups. To register with UBUS or for more information please call **01789 264491** between 8.30am-6pm Monday-Friday. Return journey fare from £6.00.



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Ryepiece Concerts at Holy Trinity -
wonderful music, good food and great company
- just with new surroundings.

On December 5th, the Christmas party will come early as the legendary **Gerry Colvin** and his band will have us laughing, singing and weeping into our beer. The only folk musician with two sheds Gerry will bring some old songs, some new songs and lots of old jokes. Online tickets are available now [here](#).



You, our wonderful audience, is why so many artists want to come and play in Ettington!
We look forward to seeing many of you again in the months ahead at our lovely new home.



Carers4Carers - supporting family carers in our community.

We meet on the fourth **Friday of each month, 10:30am-12 noon** at **Kinton Village Hall**. Enjoy refreshments, friendly chat, and mutual support. Loved ones are welcome, they can join our Companionship Group during the meeting.

Friday 28th November: Christmas Crafting. No artistic skill needed, all materials provided. Just come and enjoy!

For info or help with transport, contact Gillian: 07947893504 or kcarers4carers@gmail.com, www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk

ALDERMINSTER GARDENING CLUB

Our speaker for October meeting was extremely knowledgeable, and very entertaining with his subject of "Mistletoe-Fact and Legend". We now know when and how to plant the berries on a tree to grow some. He also judged a difficult competition on Garden produce, which included several jars of unusual chutneys and jams/jellies. The winner was apricot, ginger and walnut chutney. For our **November meeting on Tuesday 11th**, Lucy Hartley returns, her subject "Nurturing a shared eco system in the garden", members competition: "Winter Colour". Meeting starts at **7.30pm**, visitors are welcome at £3.00 p.p, which includes refreshments. Our meeting on Dec 9th will be a Christmas Meal (6.00 for 6.30p.m) at the Fox at Loxley, we will have the pub to ourselves as they do not normally open for food on a Tuesday. The menu will be available for you to choose at the meeting, with a deposit of £10.00 to secure your place. Cost is £27 for 2 courses and £34 for three. Contact Gill for more information on 01789 621053.



Astronomical Society News

by Adrian Wakeham and Dave Benton

The Stratford-upon-Avon Astronomical Society meets every first and third **Tuesday at 8pm (doors open at 7.30pm) at Alderminster Village Hall**. Everyone is welcome, especially beginners and those wanting to learn more. The first Tuesday is a club night, in November that will be on **4th November** and the speaker on the third **Tuesday 18th November 2025** will be Simon Toogood, from Leicester University, with a talk called "Research on the atmospheres of the giant planets using the James Webb Space Telescope". Please note that the speakers usually start quite promptly at 8pm. Each month one of our members, Adrian Wakeham, writes an article on aspects of astronomical observation.

The Moon's Travels.

This month, we shall follow the moon as it traverses the night sky and how it interacts with the planets of our solar system and the stars.

On the **1st** of November the Moon will be more than half lit and growing in brightness and this is known as a waxing gibbous moon and rises in the SE in the evening. The bright 'star' to the left on the first and the right on the second, is Saturn. With large binoculars or a small telescope, Saturn's rings become visible, as does its largest moon, Titan.

Then on the **5th** we have a so called 'super moon'. All this means is, the moon, which has an elliptical orbit, is at its closet position to earth, making it 14 % larger and 30% brighter, than when it is a full moon at its furthest point, as viewed from earth. There is likely to be plenty of mentions of this in the press, and probably astrologers.

The **6th**, sees the moon to the right of the Pleiades. Uranus will be visible close by. You'll need binoculars or a telescope to see Uranus. It will be 3 moon diameters away from the moon around 7pm.

On the **9th and 10th**, the moon passes through Gemini. It goes below Castor and Pollox, but above Jupiter. Binoculars will make visible some of Jupiter's 4 Galilean moons. With a fairly large telescope the bands and Great Red Spot become visible.

The Leonid meteor shower peaks around November **17th** and the Moon will be out of the way as it is a slim waning crescent. By the **18th and 19th**, the moon won't rise until well after midnight.



Also on the 18th, just before sunrise, in the east, the moon passes by Venus. It will be fairly bright, but close to the horizon. A week or so later, Venus and the moon will be gone, but Mercury will take its place. It won't be as bright but will be visible to the naked eye.

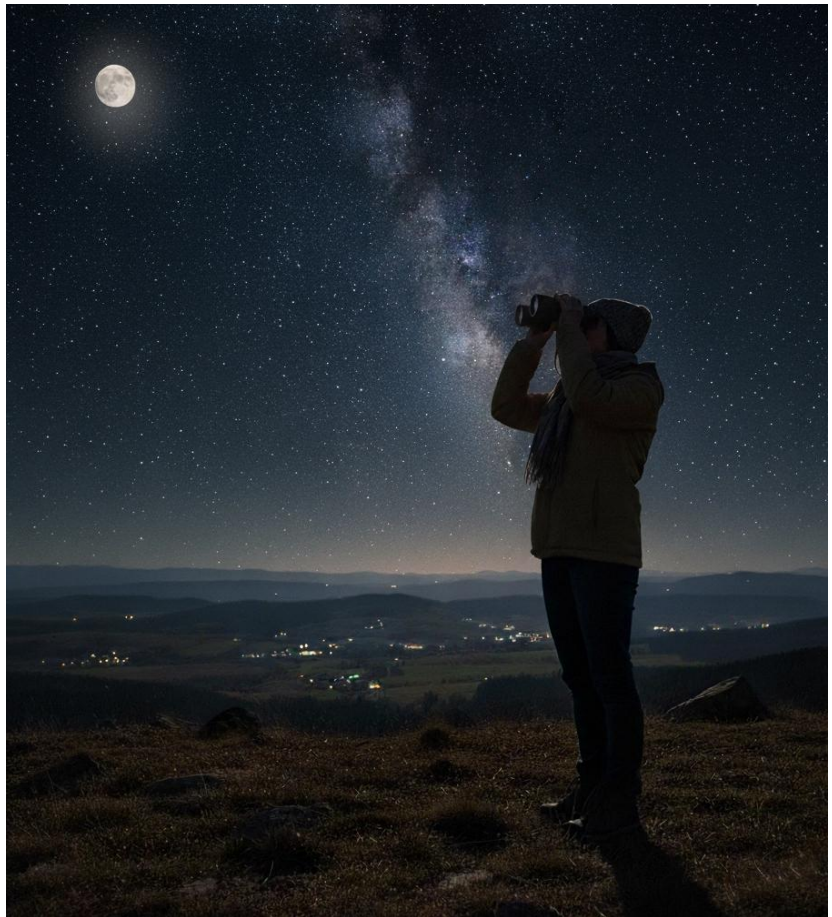
By the 29th, the moon returns to the evening sky and is visiting Saturn again.

Club nights offer more information on what to look out for each month. If it is clear we do some observing just outside the Village Hall, so please join us. There is no charge initially to come along

and find out more, but if you do want to become a member then the fee is just £15 a year and it's free if you are in full time education.

For more details go to the website <http://www.astro.org.uk> or contact the Chair, John Waller john.waller@astro.org.uk or on 07703 192188.

Happy Observing!





November 1st

at ...

The Methodist HALL

Bridge Street CV35 9QP

Everyone Most Welcome

10-12pm

10-12pm

REFRESHMENTS

Tea - Coffee - Cakes & Chat!!

**Let's All Make an even
Bigger Difference in**

2025 !

**Electrical
Items can be
PAT Tested**



Wellesbourne & District Lions Club



Incorporating Wellesbourne & District Lions Club Charity Trust
Registered Charity Number 1061868

Wellesbourne Lions Santa Sleigh provisional dates in December

Full details will be published on our website and Facebook page in December, and updates will be advised on Facebook if weather or unforeseen events affect the routes:

Follow us on: Facebook.com/LionsBFG

Website: Wellesbourne-lions.org.uk

Our sleighs will run from **6pm to 8pm** each evening.

December Routes:

Barford 4th, 5th & 8th

Ettington 9th - 10th

Kineton 11th, 12th & 15th

Wellesbourne 4th & 5th

Wellesbourne 8th - 12th

Wellesbourne 15th - 17th

Hampton Lucy 17th

Lions at the Wellesbourne Village Fayre

Thanks to everyone who supported the Lions BBQ, Tombola and car show.

The day was a “roaring” success for the Lions and great fun was had by all!

Money raised on the day is making a difference locally in many ways including Sponsoring local Girl Guiding initiatives, Wellesbourne in Bloom, Street Fair/ Christmas lights switch on, Prostate Cancer screening event and providing Mobility equipment.



Children's Environmental and Recycling Books

Lions Mary, Rob and President Elaine went to Loxley School recently to present them with a set of books about the environment aimed at young children. The books are written by a mother of 4 children who inspired her to get involved in environmental awareness, in particular Plastic Pollution, Climate Change, Habitat Loss & Litter. You can find out more about the book series, written by Lion Ellie Jackson at:

<https://wildtribeheroes.com/>



Monday-Friday

8:30-16:00

Saturday

9:00-13:30

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Cakes

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6 Banbury rd, Ettington

Email: ettingtongardencafe@gmail.com



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If you would like your child to experience this wonderful Pre-School and they are aged between 2 and 4, then please call us to arrange a visit.

Ettington Pre-School Ltd, Churchill Close, Ettington, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 7SP. Tel: 01789 740919, email info@ettingtonpreschool.co.uk or website www.ettingtonpreschool.co.uk.

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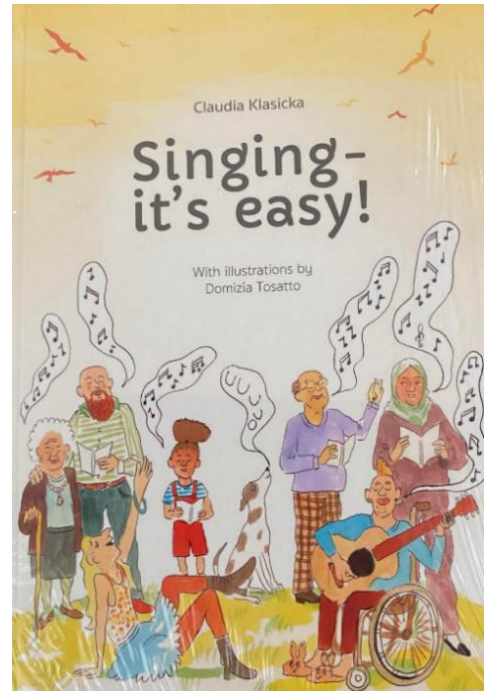
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