

# ETTINGTON AND FULREADY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

## February 2026

*As we step into the second month of a new year, February often feels like a pause between beginnings and brighter days ahead. The festive glow has faded, and the long dark winter still lingers, but it is important to remember that this season is always temporary.*

*Our village has already faced its share of challenges, yet we continue to show resilience and determination. Each small success, whether it's a neighbour lending a hand, a local group achieving its goals, or simply waking up each morning ready to keep going, is an achievement worth celebrating. What truly sustains us is our community spirit. Together, we remind one another that even in the coldest months, warmth can be found in shared effort and kindness. As the days slowly lengthen and signs of spring begin to stir, let us carry forward this spirit, knowing that brighter times are on their way.*

*Rennie, The editor*



### USEFUL LOCAL CONTACTS:

**Ettington Parish Council Clerk**, Jane Carter,  
[clerk@ettingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ettingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Ettington Church** Churchwarden, Phil Knight, 07886 126098, [phee100@btinternet.com](mailto:phee100@btinternet.com)

**Ettington Community Centre Bookings**  
Eva Lowe 07975 682775 [bookings@ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk](mailto:bookings@ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk)

**Ettington & Fulready Village Newsletter**  
Enquiries and/or contributions to Rennie Boreham, the editor:  
[ettingtonfulready.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ettingtonfulready.newsletter@gmail.com)

Deadline for contributions for the **March 2026 issue: By WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
Newsletter Produced by: **Ettington Parochial Church Council**  
Newsletter Printed by: Parish Magazine Printing, 01288 341617

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

Dear Friends,

At 8.10 am on 16th November 2025, I tuned into BBC Radio 4 and heard a wonderful poem by Naomi Brehm. Whether you have a Christian faith or not, find it and listen - just to the poem, it's fantastic. It's the opening of a Science and Faith BBC Sounds Sunday Service. A few days later, listening to it again, I was inspired to write this poem. I haven't done this before, and I've been encouraged to share it with you.

## Give me the strength

Picture this.

Landscape touched by the evolution of man.  
Climate change,  
drought, flood and disaster.  
Famine, pollution, exploitation and extinction.  
The earth and its people are groaning.

A world full of hatred, violence and wars.  
Where might is right... and to prove it they  
fight.  
Where those on the margin are pushed aside  
Where to be different is dangerous,  
greed, abuse and politics divide.  
Where is the love and the harmony,  
the relationship with God?  
Is there a God?  
If so what's he doing,  
whilst all this goes on.

Picture this.

A star in the sky  
It shines like no other and beckons us on.  
With intrigue and wonder we follow it -  
where?  
Where will it take us?  
We follow and find...  
not just answers but questions,  
more questions and doubt.  
So much doubt...

Yet belief pushes through  
the action and words of a Jew.  
The son of God, who became man,  
an innocent baby born in a stable - was that  
true or just a fable.  
Picture this.  
A man in his thirties  
who gathers a following  
of people like you, and like me.  
They look for the answer to why am I here,  
what's the purpose and meaning of life.  
And why do some live lives of such terrible  
strife.

Why does bad happen to the good  
and the bad continue to thrive.  
There must be an alternative to why we are  
here.  
The answer comes back,  
- laud and clear if they listen -  
*"There is and it's yours  
follow me and I'll show you the way."*

Who was he?  
This miracle worker,  
who told stories to teach.  
Who gave his life that others might live.  
And died for our sins we are told - the  
sacrifice to give us eternal life.

I want some of that, so what must I do?



Believe - believe what?  
 A virgin birth,  
 a resurrection after death,  
 this Son of God and the Spirit that stays with  
 us now. Is this God really there, did Jesus  
 really exist.  
 History tells us he did,  
 He's no fable.  
 Picture this.  
 An upside-down world  
 where instead of the violence,  
 the war, hatred and greed,  
 instead of me, me...  
 it's mine... or I want,  
 we should look at our world  
 and each other...  
 and realise,...  
 the answer is compromise.

To value each other  
 and rejoice that we're different.  
 To love thy neighbour and forgive.  
 To break the chain of greed,  
 and provide for everyone's need.

For 2000 years we've talked of this world.  
 He taught us this way,...  
 his way  
 and some follow.  
 We try,  
 but fall short... needing help.  
 While others ignore and do their own thing  
 without realising  
 what faith in him can bring.

The love and the comfort  
 when things get too tough.  
 when you think you can't cope  
 and faith isn't enough.

You stop and you pray.  
 You ask for his help.  
 He's there by your side  
 - you call him your guide,  
 your light in the darkness of life.

So,... do I believe in this God from above  
 who came down to the earth  
 to show us the way.  
 To restore the world to the way he intended,  
 where love and forgiveness,  
 generosity and caring  
 replace the greed, and the fear  
 and the violence.

I want to believe, I need to believe,  
 I need the hope that he offers.  
 Without it what is there?  
 Life's empty and hard!

Yes,...  
 I do believe,  
 but...  
 at times when I doubt I pray he forgives me,  
 and gives me the strength to have faith.

*R'vd Nicki*

<b>STOURDENE BENEFICE SERVICE ROTA - February 2026</b>					
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Service Type</b>	<b>Clergy</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>Sunday 1st PRESENTATION OF CHRIST AT THE TEMPLE WHITE</b>	9.30am	Newbold	Morning Worship	NC	Malachi 3:1-4 Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40
	9.30am	Halford	CW Communion	DJ	
	11am	Ettington	CW Communion	DJ	
	11am	Aldermminster	Morning Worship	NC	
	11am	Pillertons	Morning Worship	AGP	
	6pm	Butlers	Evensong Psalm 24:7-10	NC	
<b>Wednesday 4th</b>	10am	Newbold	CW Communion	NC	
<b>Sunday 8th WHITE</b>	8.30am	Pillertons Priors Village Hall	BCP Communion	NC	Genesis 1:1-2:3 Romans 8:18-25 Matthew 6:25-end
	9.30am	Butlers Marston	CW Communion	NC	
	9.30am	Halford	Morning Worship	AGP	
	10am	Ettington	Morning Worship	AGP	
	11am	Aldermminster	CW Communion	NC	
<b>Sunday 15th WHITE</b>	8.30	Ettington	BCP Communion	NC	Exodus 24:12-18 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9
	9.30am	Halford	Morning Worship	NC	
	9.30am	Aldermminster	CW Communion	DJ	
	11am	Pillertons	Morning Worship	NC	
	9.30am	Butlers Marston	Family Service	AGP	
	11am	Newbold	CW Communion	DJ	
<b>Ash Wednesday 18th</b>	6pm	<b>BUTLERS</b>	<b>BENEFICE SERVICE</b>	<b>NC</b>	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
<b>Sunday 22nd LENT 1 PURPLE</b>	8.30am	Halford	CW Communion	NC	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11
	10am	Ettington	Café Church	NC	
	9.30am	Pillertons	CW Communion	DJ	
	11am	Butlers Marston	BCP Communion	DJ	
	10 am	Aldermminster	Morning Worship	AGP	

**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.**

## ETTINGTON CHURCH, PART OF THE STOURDENE GROUP OF CHURCHES

Visit the **Stourdene website** at [stourdene.com](http://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](mailto:chat2rev.nicki@gmail.com) or call **07769 871237**.

### Bible Book Club and Bible Study

The **Bible Book Club** met at Ettington Vicarage on 6<sup>th</sup> January to look at chapter 2 of the Dave Tomlinson book. The next session, which will be held at the vicarage again while the weather is cold, will be on **Tuesday, 3rd February at 1.30 pm**. The **bible study group** has begun a new book called 'Images of the Spirit' and continues to meet every Wednesday evening in each other's homes at 7.30 pm. Newcomers are welcome to join either of these friendly and relaxed groups. Contact Jane Evans at [janealisonevans@gmail.com](mailto:janealisonevans@gmail.com) or 07802 348309.

**LEGO Café**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**

**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!**



# PRAYER talking and WALKING

## Dates and Church Venue

2026

6pm      TUESDAY

Aldermminster	January 6	Newbold-on-Stour	June 30
Newbold-on-Stour	January 13	Halford	July 7
Halford	January 20	Pillerton Hersey	July 14
Pillerton Hersey	January 27	Butler's Marston	July 21
Butler's Marston	February 3	Ettington	July 28
Ettington	February 10	Aldermminster	August 4
Aldermminster	February 17	Newbold-on-Stour	August 11
Newbold-on-Stour	February 24	Halford	August 18
Halford	March 3	Pillerton Hersey	August 25
Pillerton Hersey	March 10	Butler's Marston	September 1
Butler's Marston	March 17	Ettington	September 8
Ettington	March 24	Aldermminster	September 15
Aldermminster	March 31	Newbold-on-Stour	September 22
Newbold-on-Stour	April 7	Halford	September 29
Halford	April 14	Pillerton Hersey	October 6
Pillerton Hersey	April 21	Butler's Marston	October 13
Butler's Marston	April 21	Ettington	October 20
Ettington	May 5	Aldermminster	October 27
Aldermminster	May 12	Newbold-on-Stour	November 3
Newbold-on-Stour	May 19	Halford	November 10
Halford	May 26	Pillerton Hersey	November 17
Pillerton Hersey	June 2	Butler's Marston	November 24
Butler's Marston	June 9	Ettington	December 1
Ettington	June 16	Aldermminster	December 8
Aldermminster	June 23	Newbold-on-Stour	December 15



See church notice board for further details

In church in bad weather

## ETTINGTON MONDAY CLUB

OUR FEBRUARY MEETING WILL BE HELD ON **MONDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2 PM** IN THE SMALL HALL  
AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE. PAUL THOMPSON FROM MIND WILL BE GIVING US AN  
UPLIFTING TALK ON PRACTICAL WAYS TO PROTECT OUR MENTAL WELL-BEING AND BUILD  
RESILIENCE THROUGH LIFE'S CHALLENGES.  
VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US AT A COST OF £3, TO INCLUDE REFRESHMENTS.



**Your family celebrant**

*Supporting you through  
the seasons of your life*

**Services:** *Wedding, commitment, vow  
renewal, naming, funeral, interment.*

**Write my service:** *Your story, your voice,  
I'll write your funeral service in advance.*

E: [annettagann1@gmail.com](mailto:annettagann1@gmail.com)

T: 07415 864429

[www.annettagann.com](http://www.annettagann.com)



**HEDGE CUTTING | LAWN MOWING  
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

*Domestic | Commercial | Parish Councils*

**Fully Insured | Free No Obligation Quote | Local, Family Run Business  
Friendly, Trustworthy & Very Reliable Service**

[allshires.com](http://allshires.com) | 07855 508032 | [allshiresmowing@gmail.com](mailto:allshiresmowing@gmail.com)

## ETTINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE - Use It, Love It, Keep It Going

At the heart of Ettington sits a building that many of us know well but perhaps don't always think about: **Ettington Community Centre**. Built in 2002, it replaced the old village hall that had served the community for decades before it, and it was created for one simple reason - **to give Ettington a place to come together**.

Over the years, the Centre has hosted village breakfasts and bingo, parties and celebrations, concerts and pantomimes, club meetings, exhibitions, fairs and so much more. It's a space for all ages, all interests and all corners of village life - quite simply, a **community hub**.

We're also incredibly proud of how forward-thinking the Centre is when it comes to sustainability. The building has a large array of **solar PV panels** on the roof, generating up to **15kWh** of clean energy. This is supported by a **Tesla Powerwall battery system**, allowing us to store up to **50kWh** of electricity for later use. Heating is provided by an **energy-efficient ground source heat pump**, and we've installed **LED lighting** in the car parks, with plans to upgrade lighting throughout the building. Later this year, we're also planning to install **thermal insulation** to further improve efficiency.

All of this is part of a long-term commitment to make the Community Centre as **green and sustainable as possible for the future** - good for the environment and essential for keeping running costs under control.

However, like any building now over **20 years old**, time is starting to show. Small cracks in the fabric of the building are appearing - completely normal, but not something we can ignore. These issues need to be repaired before they become bigger (and more expensive) problems, and that means raising funds to look after the building properly.

The Centre is managed by a very **small team of volunteers** who give their time, energy and skills to keep everything running - from bookings and maintenance to finances and compliance. They do an amazing job, but they can't do it alone. We would love to welcome more people to help, whether your interest is in **maintenance, fundraising, grant applications, event planning**, or simply lending a hand now and then.

And finally - a heartfelt ask.

The Community Centre exists **for the community**. Its future depends on being **used, supported and valued**. While the hall is busy at times, there are still plenty of quieter slots during the week. More bookings, more events and more involvement all help to keep the Centre viable.

### So please:

- Come along to events
- Support village activities
- Consider hiring the space for your next party or celebration
- Think about volunteering with us
- Spread the word

**In short - use it, or risk losing it.**



If you'd like to get involved or find out more, we'd love to hear from you. Together, we can make sure Ettington Community Centre remains a thriving, welcoming space for many years to come.

Steve Lowe

**Secretary to the Ettington Community Trust**  
[steve.lowe@ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk](mailto:steve.lowe@ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk)

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](mailto:booking@ettingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk).**

**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 2.30 pm**. Next session is on **11<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. 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 [ilov2gethertdancing@hotmail.com](mailto:ilov2gethertdancing@hotmail.com). **Everyone Welcome.**



### **Mobile Library in Ettington**

The van will continue to visit on a **Wednesday** and stop at The Chequers at **11:05-11:25**. The dates are **11<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. For all enquiries or to renew books, telephone **01926 851031** or renew online at [Warwickshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://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 9.30 am-2.30 pm. 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 8.30 am-6 pm Monday-Friday. Return journey fare from £6.00.



## Ryepiece Concerts at Holy Trinity in Ettington

Now the festive season is over, we enter what must be the gloomiest time of year. But fear not, as we have three more great acts lined up at Ryepiece Concerts to lift your spirits.

### Tightrope Moon

First up we have Tightrope Moon on **Friday 6th February**. Cori and Seth entwine violin, viola and vocals in celestial sounds and hypnotic melodies. From gronky re-imaginings of English, Swedish and American tunes to delicate compositions and ethereal improvisations, their spiralling melodies infuse acoustic instruments with eerie experimental electronics. You may recognise Seth



as one half of the duo Filkins' Drift, who played for us in March 2022 before setting off on their epic walk along the Welsh Coastal Path (which was extensively covered on BBC Radio 2,3,4 and 6 Music).

Tickets are on sale at Ettington Village Store or online at [TicketSource.co.uk](https://TicketSource.co.uk) here.



### Skye Consort & Emma Björling

Then on **March 20th** we welcome Skye Consort & Emma Björling for the first time. Renowned musicians from Canada and Sweden who mix trad music from Scandinavia, Ireland and the British Isles, French-Canada, and tunes of their own devising. They find enchanting stories and melodies, then bring them into the 21st century with worldly chamber-folk settings. Voices, fiddle, nyckelharpa, cello, bouzouki, banjo, and percussion riffing on whirling polkas, groovy reels, passionate love songs, breathtaking hymns, and original compositions.

Have a listen on Spotify here. Tickets will be on sale in the shop after the Tightrope Moon concert, or you can buy them online now here.

## **Bird in the Belly**

Last up for this little run we have Bird in the Belly on **Friday 17th April**. This Brighton-based Folk group consists of folk-duo Hickory Signals (Laura Ward and Adam Ronchetti), alt-folk singer-songwriter Ben Webb (Jinnwoo, Green Ribbons), and multi-instrumentalist and producer Tom Pryor. Together they collect little known and forgotten lyrics, poems and stories from around the UK, and set them to their own “hypnotically original compositions” (fRoots). A soulful and hypnotically entrancing collective; haunting and ethereal melodies to both chill and warm your soul.

Their new album may just be out by April, but their back catalogue can be explored [here](#). Again, tickets are on sale [online](#) now and in the shop at the end of March.



If you don't already, please follow us on Instagram [here](#). Any likes, comments or shares really help us reach more people. If you haven't Liked our Facebook page yet you can find it [here](#). Again, liking posts, joining events, etc. all help the algorithms.

***Thank you for your fabulous support in 2025. We look forward to seeing many of you again soon.***

**Transition to retirement**  
**12-session coaching**  
**programme.**  
***Supporting you through***  
***the seasons of your life***

***Plan ahead. Start shaping your retirement experience 1 year, 2 years or 10 years away.***

**E: [annetegann1@gmail.com](mailto:annetegann1@gmail.com)**  
**T: 07415 864429**  
**[www.annetegann.com](http://www.annetegann.com)**

# REPORTS FROM ETTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



## Appointment of a New Councillor

The Parish Council welcomed **Tony Holdsworth**, who has been co-opted as a councillor. One vacancy on the Council remains, and any resident interested in serving is encouraged to contact the Parish Clerk for further information.

## Traffic Speed and 20mph Discussions

County Councillor David Curtis updated councillors on ongoing discussions with Warwickshire Highways regarding the possible introduction of a 20mph speed limit through the village. As part of this work, an advisory 20mph limit around the school, operating during school hours, is being investigated and costed.

Councillors were advised that Warwickshire Highways and the police currently hold differing views on whether a 20mph speed limit should be introduced. Discussions are ongoing with the relevant portfolio holder at Warwickshire County Council, who has visited the parish and observed traffic speeds firsthand. Support has also been requested from the local MP, Manuela Perteghella.

## Banbury Road Crossroads and Local Highway Improvements

A proposed design from Warwickshire Highways for improvements to the staggered crossroads on Banbury Road was considered. Many residents and councillors felt that the scheme did not go far enough and could represent poor value for money. Traffic lights were ruled out due to cost. The option of a roundabout has been discussed with the portfolio holder and formally noted.

The Parish Council agreed to write to the Director of Highways at Warwickshire County Council, the relevant portfolio holder, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and the local MP, seeking their combined support for a more appropriate scheme. The Council also asked for a joined-up approach to improvements along the full stretch from the crossroads through the village.

More locally, requests have been made for the repainting of white and yellow lines around the school, the repainting of the school crossing, and improvements to the chicane outside The Chequers.

## CCTV Update

CCTV remains on the Council's agenda. A response is still awaited from officers at Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

## Budget and Precept for 2025/26

The Council discussed the budget and precept in detail. Increasing financial pressures were noted, including costs associated with repairs and improvements to the Community Centre following the Council's role as trustee, contributions towards highway projects, football field maintenance, and the need to maintain adequate reserves for the playground.

It was agreed that the precept should be set at £95,000. This represents an increase of £36 per annum, 69p per week for a Band D household.

## Extraordinary Meeting: Planning Application at Rookery Lane

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council was held in January to consider planning application **25/02798/FUL** for the construction of four dwelling houses, access improvements, and associated works, including the demolition of the existing dwelling and ancillary buildings at The Dolls House, Rookery Lane.

The Council carefully considered concerns raised by residents. The proposal was assessed against the Neighbourhood Plan, which supports infill housing within the built-up boundary. On this basis, the Council could not object to the application. However, it was agreed that formal comments should be submitted to Stratford-on-Avon District Council, requesting careful consideration of key issues raised by residents, including flooding, the removal of trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders, and the impact on drainage.

## Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of Ettington Parish Council will take place on **Wednesday, 11 February, at 7.30 pm** in the **Community Centre**. All residents are welcome to attend.

## ALDERMINSTER GARDENING CLUB

Speaker in the Village hall, Derek Jarman, his subject: Hayloft and beyond. Meeting starts at 7.30 p.m on TUESDAY 10th, visitors welcome at £3.00 p.p, includes refreshments. Subs of £15.00 are due now for 2026. For more information, ring Gill on 01789 621053 or WhatsApp 07790435870.



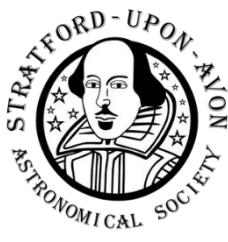
**Carers4Carers** - your local support group for family carers. We usually meet on the **fourth Friday** of the month (except December) from **10:30 to 12 noon at Kineton Village Hall**. Loved ones are welcome too - they can join our Companionship Group during the meeting.

## Friday 27th February - Act on Energy

We know energy costs can be tough, particularly with no gas supply across local areas. Sian Orchard, Act on Energy's

Community Outreach Officer for Stratford District, understands these challenges and is here to help. She can offer clear guidance, explore ways to reduce bills, and support applications for available grants.

For further details about our group or help with transport arrangements to/from our meetings, please contact Gillian on 07947 893504, send an email to [kcarers4carers@gmail.com](mailto:kcarers4carers@gmail.com), or explore our website [www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk](http://www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk)



## 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 February that will be on **3rd February** and the speaker on the third **Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026**, will be Professor Susanne Schwenzer from the Open University, with a talk called "13 years and counting: Curiosity at Gale Crater, Mars". 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 planets this month

Recently, these articles have not mentioned much about the planets and what they have been doing. This is mainly due to many of them being poorly positioned over the summer and autumn for evening viewing. A big issue are clouds and a nearly full moon. The bright moonlight which will drown out the stars and planets. The best time to observe the night sky is when the moon is at first or last quarter or less.

This month, things are improving. Firstly, on **Monday, 16<sup>th</sup>**, Saturn and Neptune are in conjunction with each other. (Visually, they are within a degree of each other.) They are to be found in the west at sunset, below the square of Pegasus. Saturn is yellowy-brown in colour and with binoculars, the rings might be visible. In the same field of view Neptune will be visible, although not easy to see, and you really need a telescope, as might be Titan, Saturn's largest moon..

Jupiter has been improving as the winter draws on, it reached opposition on January 10<sup>th</sup>. This means Earth is positioned directly in between the sun and Jupiter, so in February, it will be at its closest to Earth and will be high and bright, making this one of the best times to observe the gas giant and its moons.

As Mercury continues to rise above the western horizon, it will join Venus (in conjunction). Venus is really easy to spot, being the exceptionally bright 'star' in the west. This will happen on **Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> February**, and on the next day the press will get all excited, as 7 of the 8 planets will be visible as well as a virtually full moon.

Saturn, Neptune, Venus and Mercury will be close to the western horizon, shortly after sunset and will disappear below the horizon within 90 minutes. If you head east, you'll find the Pleiades or seven sisters cluster, where you can see a number of the stars, but with binoculars, you will see many, many more, then slightly south of the Pleiades you will see a green 'star'. This is the planet Uranus.

Continue east, and just below Gemini's Castor and Pollux, will be another bright 'star'. This is Jupiter. With binoculars, you should see some of the 4 Galilean moons. With a telescope you should be able to make out the bands and the great red spot.

So, Jupiter, Saturn, Neptune, Venus, Mercury and Mercury are the six planets mentioned so far, the 7<sup>th</sup> one you can see, if you look down rather than up, is, of course, the Earth, a great and

wonderous place, not to be ignored or abused. The planet missing out on the party is Mars. At the moment it is pretty much behind the sun, (in conjunction with the Sun on 9<sup>th</sup> January). 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](mailto:john.waller@astro.org.uk) or on 07703 192188.

Happy Observing!

Credit to: Vitotechnology.com



## Stratford Beekeepers' Taster Day

Are you interested in Beekeeping but not sure what is involved?

Why not join our **Taster Day** at Luddington Village Hall on  
**Saturday 31 January 2026 10-4 pm.**

An informal and low- cost opportunity to find out more.

Practical demonstrations (*no live bees!*) £25 inc tea and coffee.

For those with serious intentions of becoming beekeepers, but with little or no knowledge of beekeeping, why not join our **Introduction to Beekeeping Course** starting mid February.



Please visit our website for more details: [www.stratfordbeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.stratfordbeekeepers.org.uk)

# REPAIR CAFE

Wellesbourne

## February 7<sup>th</sup>

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 into**

**2026 !**

Electrical  
Items can be  
PAT Tested

**Monday-Friday**

**8:30-16:00**

**Saturday**

**9:00-13:30**

**Coffee  
Cakes  
Paninis**

**6 Banbury rd, Ettington**

**Email: ettingtongardencafe@gmail.com**



**Perfect for:**

**WFH**

**Meetings**

**Relax & Catch up**

**Private Events**

**Plant Sale**



**Ettington Garden Cafe**



Weekly  
Monthly  
or  
One-off clients



by Jo

Est. 1988

Ladies  
Gents  
and  
Children

*For styling  
in the comfort of your own home  
telephone Joanne  
01789 741933 or 07778 569984*



### PURE PERFORMANCE PHYSIOTHERAPY

Physiotherapy | Sports & Remedial Massage |  
Injury Prevention | Sports Injuries | Strength Training

Based in Wellesbourne

07796620081

[www.pureperformancephysio.co.uk](http://www.pureperformancephysio.co.uk)  
[info@pureperformancephysio.co.uk](mailto:info@pureperformancephysio.co.uk)



All aspects of plastering.  
Full renovations and refurbishments.  
Clean, reliable and local service  
based in Ettington.

Tel: 01789 748188 or 7957 645911  
[enquiries@acornplasteringservices.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@acornplasteringservices.co.uk)

Plastering • Skimming • Coving • Tiling  
Painting • Renovation • Refurbishment

## MATHS TUITION

EXPERIENCED MATHS TEACHER  
11+ THROUGH TO GCSE & INTERVENTION SPECIALIST

(online tutorials are available via ZOOM or SKYPE)

*"John helped my daughter exceed her targeted GSCE grade  
and as importantly, improve her confidence and enjoy Maths!"*

*Contact John: 07876 592152 email: [john.eyes@btinternet.com](mailto:john.eyes@btinternet.com)*



WordPress  
Web Design



Fully Managed Search  
Engine Optimisation

- ✓ Full Website Design
- ✓ Website Maintenance
- ✓ Custom Development

How is your website really performing?  
Found for the right keywords?  
We Can Help 



Domain  
Names



Website  
Maintenance



Google  
Workspace



cPanel Web  
Hosting



</encode>

We make the  
web work for  
you

<https://encode.host>  
[hello@encode.host](mailto:hello@encode.host)  
0330 123 4000

# SHINEBRIGHT OVEN CLEANING

You Cook - We Clean



My name is Richard,

I clean ovens.

It is my pleasure  
to make them

SHINE as good as new and BRIGHT  
for you!

Your oven will be virtually like new!

Please contact me for further details:  
07801 442523

We cover Stratford upon, Warwickshire & surrounding areas. *On Facebook*  
[www.shinebrightovencleaning.com](http://www.shinebrightovencleaning.com) Based in Ettington, near Stratford upon Avon

## MeMyBrow&Eye

Transform the way you look and more importantly,  
how you feel with High Definition Brows

More than just eyebrow shaping • Combination of tinting, waxing,  
threading and shaping • Can transform even the unrliest, sparse  
or over-plucked brow into perfect arches • The shape is tailored  
exclusively to suit your personal style • The effects are so good, they  
have even been compared to a mini-facelift • As a branded product,  
every treatment is performed using specially formulated HD products

Call Julia Knight on **07770 418483**  
[www.memybrowandeye.com](http://www.memybrowandeye.com)

## Painting & Decorating

by Keith Harriss

- Fully Insured
- References Available
- Experienced & Professional
- Quality Work at Affordable Prices



Tel: 01789 740842 Mobile: 07814 482699

Email: keith@keithharriss.co.uk Web: keithharriss.co.uk



Jayne Amanda  
Reflexology & Reiki



[www.reflexologywarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.reflexologywarwickshire.co.uk)  
in Ettington  
email: 1jayneamanda@gmail.com

Fully  
Insured

# SMARTSCAPE

HARD LANDSCAPING

*Patios & decking • turfing • garden clearance  
tree work • hedge cutting • driveways  
fencing • seasoned firewood*

Clive Smart

Tel: 01789 459164 Mobile: 07973 850502  
E: clive.smartscape@gmail.com  Find us on facebook



Ofsted said "Children flourish in this extremely caring learning environment. High priority is given to children's emotional well-being. Staff are extremely sensitive towards children's needs. They support children skilfully to develop secure attachments and self-confidence."

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](mailto:info@ettingtonpreschool.co.uk) or website [www.ettingtonpreschool.co.uk](http://www.ettingtonpreschool.co.uk).



travel  
counsellors



EXPERIENCE THE WORLD YOUR WAY

T: 01386 897 830 E: [melissa.coleman@mytc.com](mailto:melissa.coleman@mytc.com)



C13654

# AVON BOILER CARE

For Your Heating & Hot Water Needs



C13654

OIL FIRED BOILER SPECIALISTS



Fully Qualified Oftec Registered Engineers Based In Ettington

• Contact us for :

• Oil Boiler Installations, Commissioning, Servicing & Breakdown Repairs

• Central Heating Installations & Maintenance

• Unvented Hot Water Cylinder Installations, Commissioning, Servicing & Maintenance

• General Plumbing Works



Tell/Whatsapp: [01789740031](tel:01789740031)

Email: [avonboilercare@gmail.com](mailto:avonboilercare@gmail.com)

[www.avonboilercare.co.uk](http://www.avonboilercare.co.uk)

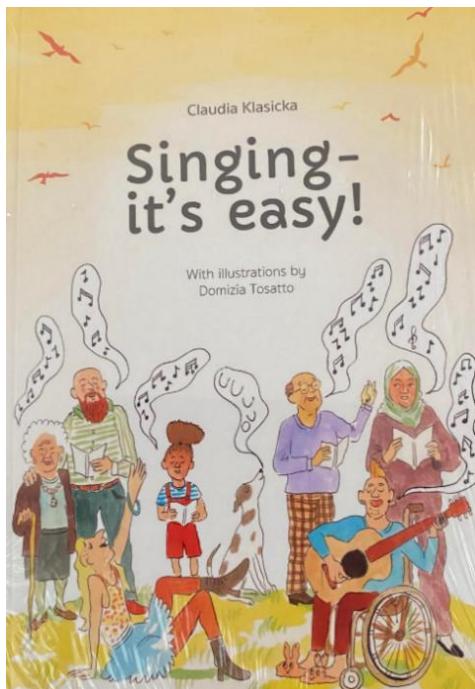


 @beau\_elme\_bakery

 Beau Elme Bakery

 beauelmebakery@gmail.com

 Ettington, Stratford upon Avon



**Singing - it's Easy!**  
by Claudia Klasicka  
A delightful little illustrated book,  
that offers simple,  
clear and entertaining guidance for people,  
who want to develop their ability to sing.

Suitable for all ages,  
and perfect for the newcomer to voice training.  
Fun and accessible to all. Only £9.99  
See [www.singing-its-easy.uk](http://www.singing-its-easy.uk).

*In memory of Claudia,  
her family is planning to donate  
all proceeds from the sale of the book  
to a trust, that will aim assist people,  
who would find it difficult  
to afford musical training.*

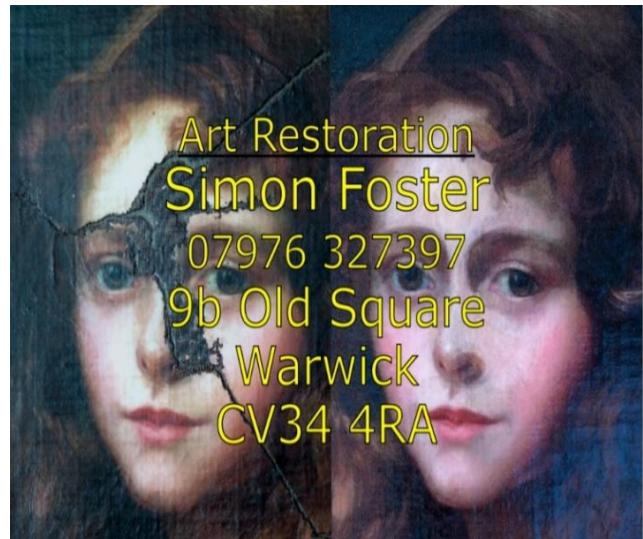


## Service list

Tree Inspection and care  
Stump grinding  
LOLER  
Emergency call-outs / Rope access  
Tell: 07845745183  
Email: [lsauders@protonmail.com](mailto:lsauders@protonmail.com)

## AT ONE PILATES

Pilates Classes  
All age groups & fitness levels  
Mondays & Thursdays 9am  
Ettington Community Centre  
£8 per session  
Contact: Beverley Smith  
Mobile: 07977 142339  
Email: [atonepilates@gmail.com](mailto:atonepilates@gmail.com)



## Editor's note

Greetings from my table - the heart of our home. For as long as I can remember, the dining or kitchen table has been the centre of family life. Everything seems to happen there, and this table is no exception.



During the challenges of Covid-19, with lockdowns and curfews, this table became even more important. It is where meals are shared, birthdays and anniversaries are celebrated, and where we have toasted everything from friends' independence days to our neighbour's end of quarantine. It is where we have gathered with friends for long evenings of food, wine, conversation, and laughter.

It has also doubled as my husband's office, hosting countless hours of laptop work, meetings, and phone calls. It is where my teenage twins completed their online lessons and end-of-year exams, and where I could sit beside them, supporting them through it all.

This table has seen late-night board games, craft projects, family discussions, and plenty of everyday chaos. It is also where I have spent many hours putting together the Ettington and Fulready Newsletter - a small reminder of what community means and how we stay connected.

In many ways, this table is the most important place for our family and our lives.

I hope you have a table in your home that holds similar stories - a place where people gather, talk, laugh, and simply enjoy being together. If this table could talk, it would share a lifetime of memories, and I am grateful for the way it brings us closer and teaches us to appreciate one another, learning respect and tolerance.

Enjoy your table, everyone. Stay well and take a moment to appreciate the simple spaces that hold our lives.



# ETTINGTON VILLAGE STORE



**DPD**  
**Evri**   
**Amazon**  
**Royal Mail**  
**Parcelforce**

**Barry the Butcher**  
**Christmas meat order**



**Pick your Christmas  
tree from the Café  
garden**

Pre orders made in store for  
your favourite Suma products

