

# ETTINGTON AND FULREADY VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

## June 2026

*A burst of sunshine is finally settling over the village, and the real invitation of June is simple: step outside. Let the warmth lift your face, loosen your shoulders, and recharge the part of your spirit that only fresh air seems to reach. A few minutes in the sun can do more for your mood than you might expect - a quiet reminder that summer is here to be enjoyed, not observed from indoors.*

*Our community is buzzing with chances to soak up that energy together. The village breakfast is back, the bingo night promises its usual mix of laughter and friendly rivalry, and the summer concert in the church is shaping up to be a highlight. These gatherings aren't just events; they are small celebrations of village life, and you are warmly invited to be part of them.*

*And if you are feeling just a little bit daring, the village panto is officially on the lookout for new performers: no experience needed - only enthusiasm, a sense of humour, and the willingness to surprise yourself.*

*Sometimes the best stories begin with saying yes to something completely new.*

*So step outside, breathe deeply, join in, and let June work its magic.*

*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 July/August 2026 issue: By WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

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



Dear friends,

Some of you may have heard that I will be retiring at the end of June. For Adrian and me, it will be a big change as we move back to our own house and I look to what I do in the future. We have both greatly enjoyed being part of the communities of Stourdene, and it has been a privilege for me to lead the churches. There have been many highlights I will miss.

My final service will be at Ettington church on Sunday 28th June at the 10 am Cafe Church - all welcome!

Thank you to those who give so generously of their time, energy and skills to support the church and myself. This army of the blessed includes those who serve as officers of our parishes, those elected to represent us on our PCCs, our Churchwardens, those who carry out the unseen (and often unsung) ministry of administration, those who work making music, those who make our churches beautiful, keep the church clean, lock and unlock the doors, and so much more.

In expressing thanks, I must of course include Reverend David Jessett, who serves diligently to minister to our communities through Sunday services of Holy Communion. He has been a blessing to us, and I would like to record my thanks for his friendship and support to not only myself but to us all.

This means there will be a vacancy and then a process of appointing a new incumbent. Please pray for those who will maintain the work in the church and will be involved in the appointment process. It is no light thing to take on.

As I was writing these words, I received an email reminding me that when God calls people, they don't usually say 'Yes' straight away. The prophets usually looked around them and thought God must have meant someone else - surely not me? I'm not wise enough. I don't have the right words. I've no idea what to do. I grew up singing the Patrick Appleford hymn based on St Theresa's prayer;

Christ has no body now but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks along with the people here  
Compassion on this world,  
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.  
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.  
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

So please do give some serious thought and prayer about supporting the work of our churches. Another sign of a healthy church is that everyone does a little rather than a few doing a lot.

I wish you all God's blessings.

*Rev'd Nicki*

## STOURDENE BENEFICE SERVICE ROTA - June 2026

JUNE	Time	Church	Service Type	Clergy	Readings/Notes
Wednesday 3rd	10am	Newbold	CW Communion	NC	
Sunday 7th  GREEN	9.30am	Newbold	Morning Worship	NC	Genesis 12:1-9 Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
	9.30am	Halford	CW Communion	DJ	
	11am	Ettington	CW Communion	DJ	
	11am	Alderminster	Morning Worship	NC	
	11am	Pillertons	Morning Worship	AGP	
	6pm	Butlers	Evensong Psalm 33:1-12	NC	
Sunday 14th  GREEN	8.30am	Pillertons Priors Village Hall	BCP Communion	NC	Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)
	9.30am	Butlers Marston	CW Communion	NC	
	9.30am	Halford	Morning Worship	AGP	
	4pm	Ettington	PET SERVICE	NC	
	11am	Alderminster	CW Communion	NC	
Sunday 21st  Fathers Day  GREEN	8.30	Ettington	BCP Communion	NC	Jeremiah 20:7-13 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39
	9.30am	Halford	Morning Worship	NC	
	9.30am	Alderminster	CW Communion	DJ	
	11am	Pillertons	Morning Worship	NC	
	9.30am	Butlers Marston	Family Service	AGP	
	11am	Newbold	CW Communion	DJ	
Sunday 28th  GREEN	8.30am	Halford	CW Communion	NC	Genesis 22:1-14. Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42
	10am	Ettington	Café Church	NC	
	9.30am	Pillertons	CW Communion	DJ	
	11am	Butlers Marston	BCP Communion	DJ	
	10 am	Alderminster	Morning Worship	AGP	

## 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.

STOURDENE

We Exist To Make Christ Known

### THE STOURDENE BIBLE BOOK CLUB



The Bible Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of each month in Ettington Church from 1.30-3.00pm.

We choose a book of the bible to read in advance or we work our way through a Christian book, then spend time discussing it over refreshments when we meet. We are happy to welcome newcomers to this relaxed and friendly group.



Contact Jane Evans on 07802 348309 or [janealisonevans@gmail.com](mailto:janealisonevans@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the group or just want to know more about it.



### THE STOURDENE BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The bible study group has been going for over 15 years and meets on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in each other's homes (although there's no obligation to host). We welcome anyone interested in learning more about the bible - you don't need to be an expert. The group is very friendly and informal and we enjoy a cuppa and a biscuit with our conversation. Contact Jane Evans on 07802 348309 or [janealisonevans@gmail.com](mailto:janealisonevans@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the group or learning more about it.



**Village Bingo**

THIS FRIDAY  
EYES DOWN 19:30  
FULLY LICENCED BAR



**VILLAGE BINGO  
INVITATION**

Eyes down, dabbers ready - join your neighbours for a night of Bingo, banter and big laughs! FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> June, bar opens at 7 pm.

**VILLAGE BREAKFAST  
INVITATION**

Start your morning the village way – pull up a chair and enjoy breakfast with friends old and new.  
**SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> June.**



**Village Breakfast**

THIS SATURDAY  
8 - 10



*Create and build with thousands of bricks, mini figures and accessories.*





**LEGO CAFÉ**

**Ettington Church**

**2 - 4pm**

**4th SATURDAY** of the month

25th January 28th June

22nd February 26th July

22nd March 27th September

26th April 25th October

24th May 22nd November



**Fun for all ages!**

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## 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 to suit your needs flexibly.



The centre is served by superfast broadband, which is available throughout the building.

Regular classes include:

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

**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 10<sup>th</sup> June 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 [ilov2getherdancing@hotmail.com](mailto:ilov2getherdancing@hotmail.com). **Everyone Welcome.**



### Mobile Library in Ettington

The van will continue to visit on a **Wednesday** and stop at The Chequers from 11:05 to 11:25. The date is **3<sup>rd</sup> June 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.





## Spitfire Homes - Proposed Development on Old Warwick Road

Before the parish and council meetings got underway on 13th May, Ettington Parish Council hosted a presentation from Spitfire Homes, the developer behind a proposed development of approximately 44 homes on land off Old Warwick Road. Spitfire are at an early stage — no planning application has yet been submitted - and the evening was an opportunity for the council and our ward councillors to hear the proposals and ask questions. The parish council will not form a view until a formal application is made, at which point residents will also have the opportunity to comment through Stratford District's planning process.

A full report of the presentation, covering the planning background and the proposed scheme, has been published on the parish council website. We encourage residents to read it.

## The Parish Meeting - Chair's Annual Report

The formal Parish Meeting followed the Spitfire presentation and gave residents the opportunity to hear from the Chair and raise any matters of concern. Cllr Rich Smith presented his annual report, covering the past 12 months of the council's work. He paid tribute to Councillor David Hughes, who has stepped down from the council due to ill health.

On finance and governance, the council completed the year in a healthy financial position. The precept for 2026-27 has been set at £95,000, with additional funds earmarked for the Community Centre, playground and MUGA.

Work on the Community Centre has continued, with improvements including CCTV upgrades, fire door replacement, a new entrance carpet, a large-screen television and replacement battery storage for the solar system. Drain clearance is now on a regular maintenance cycle, and planning for future capital works is underway.

On the playing fields, outside access toilets were brought into use, and winter maintenance was carried out on the football pitch. A memorial bench in memory of former councillor Rob Lyall was installed in the small playground.

Road safety on the Banbury Road has remained a top priority. A formal request for a 20mph speed limit was made to Warwickshire County Council and refused, but the council continues to press for traffic calming measures. Progress on the staggered crossroads, reflective bollards and vegetation clearance has been slow, and we continue to push Warwickshire Highways for action.

Planning has been a particularly busy area, not least with the Spitfire proposals now in early engagement. The council made representations on the application to demolish The Dolls House on Rookery Lane and replace it with four houses. The Rainier Developments appeal for land south of Banbury Road resulted in Stratford District declining to defend its earlier refusal - a consequence of the district's current inability to demonstrate a five-year housing land supply. Throughout all these matters, the Ettington Neighbourhood Development Plan has remained our key tool and has informed the council's responses at every stage.

The council has also followed local government reorganisation closely, submitting a formal response to the government consultation in support of a two-unitary north/south model for Warwickshire.

Looking ahead, the priorities for 2022-27 are: meaningful progress on road safety on the Banbury Road; developing and delivering the Community Centre capital works plan; monitoring and responding to planning pressures; and preparing for any new responsibilities arising from local government reorganisation.

## **The Annual Council Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of Ettington Parish Council followed the Parish Meeting. Several important items of business were dealt with.

Cllr Rich Smith was re-elected as Chair and Cllr Rosemary Whitfield as Vice Chair, both unanimously.

The council was pleased to welcome Jane Eccles as a newly co-opted councillor, filling one of the casual vacancies on the council. Jane has already put herself forward to help with the council's internal governance work, and we look forward to her contribution.

The meeting also formally recorded the resignation of Cllr David Hughes due to ill health. David has given many years of dedicated service to Ettington, and the council was proud to see him awarded the Freedom of Ettington during the past year. He will be greatly missed, and the whole council wishes him well. One further casual vacancy remains; if you are interested in joining the council, please contact the Clerk.

Councillor responsibilities were confirmed for the year ahead: Cllrs Rich Smith, Rosemary Whitfield and Joe Harvey will continue to oversee the football field; Cllr Rosemary Whitfield will take on responsibility for the village hall, playing field and MUGA; and Cllr Tony Holdsworth will continue to lead on highways and the 20mph consultation. Annual governance policies were reviewed and re-adopted.

On finance, the end-of-year accounts were approved, with reserves in a healthy position. Plans were agreed to make better use of reserves by moving further funds into an interest-bearing account.

The council received updates on the long-running highways matters: the chicane design for the northern end of Banbury Road is near completion and will shortly go to the county council's Road Safety Team for audit; County Cllr Curtis confirmed he has the budget to fund that work. New government guidance on 20mph limits is expected in spring 2027, which may open new options. The council continues to chase Severn Trent for a definitive statement on sewage treatment capacity.

District Cllr Trevor Harvey confirmed he is now Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at Stratford District. He also flagged that the South Warwickshire Local Plan is approaching its Regulation 19 stage, with public consultation expected shortly. He has offered to present an overview to the parish council at a forthcoming meeting.

## **Next Meeting**

The next ordinary meeting of Ettington Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, 10th June 2026, at 7.30 p.m. in the Lounge at Ettington Community Centre. Residents are always welcome to attend.



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## ETTINGTON PANTOMIME 2027

*Oh, Yes It Is!*

**Save the Dates:**

**11th - 13th February 2027**

Rehearsals begin **late October 2026** - so warm up those vocal cords, dust off your costumes, and get ready for some classic pantomime magic.

**Get Involved!**

Whether you love the spotlight or prefer the buzz of backstage, there's a place for everyone.

 **Contact: Kate Allen - 07913 128367**

**A Colourful Community Production**

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## Wellesbourne & District Lions Club



Incorporating Wellesbourne & District Lions Club Charity Trust  
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### Knights of the Blind

VIBE (Visually Impaired Bowls England) will be holding the National Championships in **Leamington Spa on Monday 8th to Friday 12th June.**

Wellesbourne and District Lions will be joining forces with other Warwickshire Lions Clubs to become “Knights of the Blind”.

Lions will be helping visually impaired bowlers on the greens with a “pair of eyes”, giving guidance and commentary on the bowls position as they are bowled towards the “Jack” ball.

The accuracy of these top bowlers is amazing; they rely totally on verbal information and their well-practiced skills.

Lions will also be helping make refreshments and walking Guide Dogs, making sure everyone from all-over the country is looked after and given a good Warwickshire welcome!

The event takes place on the world-class greens at **Leamington Spa Bowls Club in Archery Road.**





**Carers4Carers** – your local support group for family carers. We usually meet on the fourth Friday of the month (except December when it's the second Friday) 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 26th June.** Come along and try Laughter Therapy, a practice which is said to boost mood, reduce stress and increase energy.

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) (new website under construction).

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## ALDERMINSTER GARDENING CLUB

May's visit to Beechhurst in Southam was thoroughly enjoyed by a small group of us, and we were lucky with the weather. We have another local trip out on THURSDAY 18th June, to 6 Canon Price rd, Nursery Meadow, Barford CV35 8EQ AT 2.30 P.M. This is a secret garden with lots of shrubs and perennials to see and buy(cash only)Visitors are welcome to join us, but you MUST book in with me by the 12th of June, phone 01789 621053, WhatsApp 07790435870 or [gillieh46@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gillieh46@yahoo.co.uk), (cost is £9.00, includes refreshments). Please park on the road in Barford and walk into Nursery meadow by the red phone box.



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Test your knowledge! Where were these photos taken?

Find out in the July/August 2026 issue.





## **Astronomical Society News** *by Adrian Wakeham and Dave Benton*

The Stratford-upon-Avon Astronomical Society meets **every first and third Tuesday at 8 pm (doors open at 7.30 pm) at Alderminster Village Hall**. Everyone is welcome, especially beginners and those wanting to learn more. The first Tuesday is a Club Night; in June, that will be on **2nd June**, and the speaker on the third **Tuesday, 16th June 2026**, will be Dr Jiachen Jiang from Warwick University with a talk called "Black Hole Astronomy 101". Please note that the speakers usually start quite promptly at 8 pm.

Each month, one of our members, Adrian Wakeham, writes an article on aspects of astronomical observation.

### **Noctilucent Clouds and Solar Observing.**

At this time of year, astronomers start to become grumpy creatures (and their partners start to see a lot more of them) as the days lengthen and nighttime observing becomes difficult. This is because, in June, full dark skies aren't visible in Britain due to its latitude of 52 degrees north. This is why June contains our longest days and shortest nights. However, other options are available to keep astronomers amused.



The word 'cloud' normally brings despair into stargazers' hearts, but at this time of year, we keep our eyes peeled for noctilucent clouds. These are visible about 45 minutes after sunset or before sunrise in the northern skies. They are electric-blue coloured clouds which are 'shining' against the night sky. When you see them once, you'll instantly recognise them the next time. They get their name from the Greek, meaning 'night shining'. They are fascinating to watch and make stunning photos. But what are they, and how do they form?

They are caused by ice crystals (seeded onto dust particles) high in the atmosphere, 80 km up in the mesosphere. As the Sun sets or before it rises, most of the rays are blocked by the Earth's shadow. As these clouds are so high up and reflective, they bounce light over the horizon

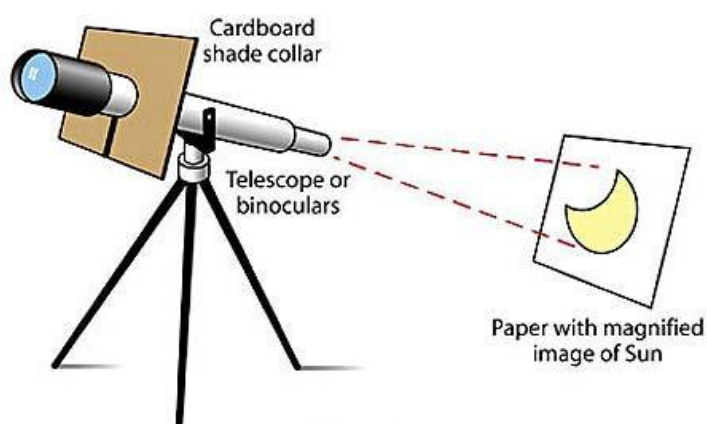
further, making the light more visible after sunset (or before sunrise). In late June, they may be visible in the north all night.

They are a summer phenomenon, as in May, June, July and early August, the Mesosphere is, surprisingly, then at its coolest. Also, displays are becoming a bit more common (possibly due to pollution and/or more rocket launches creating more dust particles), but they are regularly seen.

The other thing which stops us from getting bored during the longer days and short nights is solar observing.

First, can I make it clear that proper eye protection is needed - solar filters on telescopes and binoculars, blocking off finder scopes and eclipse glasses for naked eye viewing. Sunglasses are not sufficient! The Sun can cause serious and irreparable damage to your eyes, as well as your equipment!

With a solar scope, sunspots, prominences and flares are visible. With correct filters and magnification, granulation of the surface can be seen.



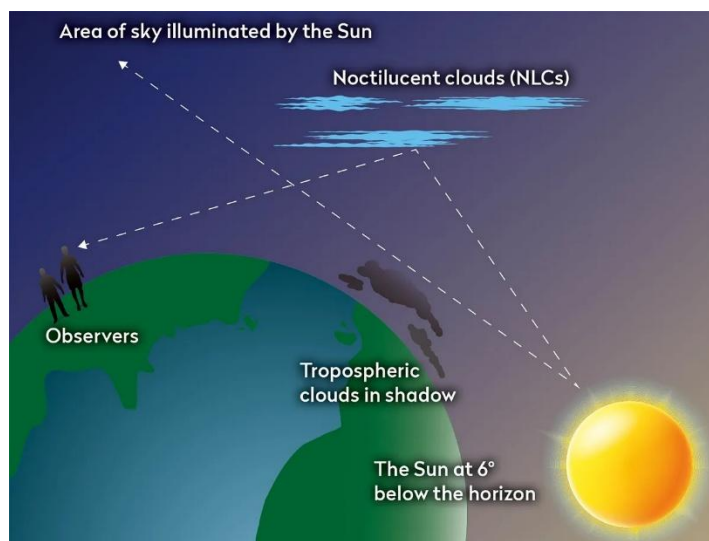
Another way to view the sun is to project it through a single binocular or telescope onto a white sheet behind. This will show any dark sunspots on the solar disc and it is a great way to display to multiple people. Clearly using any projection like this needs to be done carefully, as mentioned before, you should never look into the 'scope and there can be a lot of heat projected, so you should

keep the projection away from skin and even the paper and card it is projected on should also be monitored.

As the Sun is close to solar maximum, these features should be easily visible, and you can do at a sensible time of the day.

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 £20 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!



## One Appointment One Problem

I think that one of the biggest issues talked about in doctors' surgeries is the inability to get an appointment and then the wait you have when you are sitting in the waiting room.

Our clinicians will always endeavour to be on time, but an emergency in the surgery or having to spend extra time with a patient on several issues can put them behind.

One appointment, one problem ensures that the clinician can deal with each medical problem to the highest standard, and this proves impossible if you try to discuss multiple issues. Think about what you need to discuss, and then please pick the most important problem. If the doctor is having to rush through problems, not only is it unsafe, but it can also lead to the condition not being managed in the best possible way!

Most appointments are only 10 minutes, and in this time the clinician needs to listen to your concerns, ask questions, organise medication, tests and referrals, if necessary, perform any examinations and then finally write a comprehensive consultation note to your medical record. Add to this the time taken for patients to get into the doctor's room and sit down, 10 minutes even for one problem is very little time to carry out all that is required. .

So next time you make an appointment....think it through. One appointment, one problem!

## eConsults

Using an eConsult is the fastest and most efficient way to ensure that you are seen by the right person within the right timeframe. In most instances, you will be contacted on the same day by phone or text and either offered an appointment or referred to the correct service for your condition. eConsults can be accessed via the NHS App or on our website [www.hastingshouse.org.uk](http://www.hastingshouse.org.uk)

I hope this information has been helpful.

## Training day closures

The surgery will be closed for PLT on Wednesday, the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, from 12.30 pm.

Emily





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# REPAIR CAFE Wellesbourne

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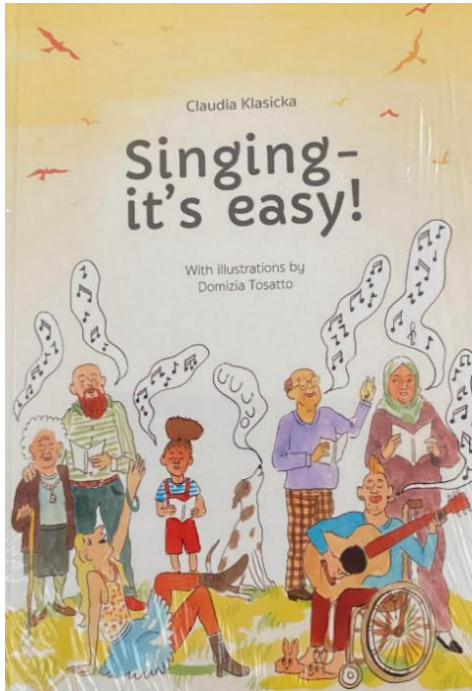


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