

# Stoneleigh & Ashow

## *News*



**July / August 2020**

**“The Heart of Stoneleigh” defibrillator  
in the phone box on The Green**

**Co-ordinator: David Ellwood 07785 284482 text if no reply**

**Trained volunteers:**

John Churchley .....	07885 496795	Laura Elliot .....	07738 222969
David Ellwood .....	07785 284482	Richard Hancox .....	07596 276829
Ian Huston .....	07974 237331	Sharron McEldowney ..	07760 101775
Claire Neale .....	07557 675842	Lisa Reay .....	07716 416320
Martin Smith .....	07958 955629	Mary Taylor .....	07890 535506

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This month's front cover



**Sunshine:**

**Extract from The Ashow Map**

*Stitchers:*

***Diana, Judith, Marian,  
Clare & Janet***

Photo: Lucy Morris

## Ashow Map Update

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Clare Burdett

**A**nne Gregory has been working hard behind the scenes, successfully obtaining a faculty for the installation of a light in Ashow Church so that, once the church is open again, the beautiful Ashow map may be more easily seen by visitors and churchgoers. Thank you, Anne.



Photo: Lucy Morris

## Stoneleigh Village Hall Update

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Liz Sykes on behalf of the Village Hall Trustees

**T**he trustees of the hall are waiting for the Government guidelines on what will be needed for hygiene and social gathering measures to enable the reopening of the village hall. We are ready and happy to take provisional bookings to hire the premises, but cannot guarantee those bookings as yet.

## Town Centres Reopen

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**O**n Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, non-essential businesses were allowed to open their doors once more. There have been some changes to road layouts and pedestrian thoroughfares in town centres to allow more room for queueing and social distancing, with town centre ambassadors on hand to offer assistance and answer any questions. **It's worth noting that all the town centre car parks are free until the beginning of August! Warwick District Council have also pledged to plant a tree for every resident.** As Government guidance changes, so too will the arrangements in town centres, so do visit <https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/towncentres/> for the most up-to-date information.



### Stoneleigh Village Hall and Playing Fields Charity (702842)

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### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Stoneleigh Village Hall and Playing Fields Charity is to be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 7.00pm at Stoneleigh Village Hall, Birmingham Road, Stoneleigh (subject to change in restrictions).

**Please come along to support your village hall committee.**

# Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir News

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Philip Jones, Chairman

**T**he choir are no longer meeting on a Wednesday evening in the village hall. However, we are now rehearsing together via Zoom calls, which provide members with an opportunity to see and talk to each other. Thanks to Simon White who set up the equipment for Alan Biddle to use.

As well as our singing practices, members are keeping in touch via phone, e-mail and the choir's WhatsApp group. A weekly quiz is sent to everyone which hopefully provides some relaxation and fun. Many humorous and uplifting videos and e-mails have been circulated. One such video features young musicians from a very deprived area of Paraguay playing wonderful music with instruments made from items they had found at a local rubbish tip. They call themselves The Landfill Orchestra.

At this time we have no idea when we will be able to get together or whether our future concerts planned for October and December will take place. Perhaps in a few weeks' time, things will be clearer.

I hope everyone is safe and well. Take care and God bless.



# Teams4u Shoebox Appeal

**If you're at a loose end during lockdown,  
please help us to fill shoeboxes  
for children this Christmas.**



You could be knitting gloves, hats, and scarves.

You could also have a sort out and find unused toothbrushes, toothpaste, hair accessories, brushes, soap and face cloths, children's toy vehicles, soft toys, puzzles, small balls and small musical instruments.

For the home, tea towels, washing-up cloths, miniature toiletries, make-up, utensils, clothes pegs, plastic utensils and small decorative items are also welcome.

*"People say it's just a shoe box, but it isn't.  
It tells that child that someone, somewhere, has done this for them;  
someone cares about them."*

Dave Cooke, Founder of Teams4u

Each shoe box is given to a vulnerable child or family in Eastern Europe, bringing joy and excitement into an often bleak existence. For more information, visit <https://teams4u.com>.

Collection of items and filling of boxes is happening all year round. If you have any items to donate, or would like to cover and fill your own shoebox, contact Jane (01926 858315), who'll be happy to receive them.

Monetary donations are also most welcome to help cover expenses. Donations can be made online at <https://teams4u.com/donate/>.

**Thank you.**

## HS2 Update

**Margaret Wallis on behalf of Stoneleigh Action Group (against HS2)**

**H**S2 continues to attract media attention, but with pressure for the project to be scrapped in favour of other financial priorities falling on deaf ears in Government. This area is now surrounded by 'enabling works', with road closures/traffic lights/one way systems/noise very much in evidence. Cadent have now begun gas pipeline works which will involve four closures of Crewe Lane between now and the end of October.

An HS2 Zoom meeting is planned in mid-July, when BBV will give the Parish Council and StAG an update on the planning situation.

Jeremy Wright MP will host another Forum meeting in July, which Anthony Bianco will attend. Various issues around the subject of noise have been raised by StAG and these have been forwarded to Jeremy Wright and to the Department for Transport for urgent environmental review.

## STOP PRESS: Local Roadworks/Closures

**J**ust as we were about to finish this edition, the following information arrived from HS2 Ltd. Most residents will be affected, so be warned! Queries can be sent to [hs2enquiries@hs2org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2org.uk) or call **08081 434 434**. Regular news alerts are provided here: [www.hs2inwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.hs2inwarwickshire.co.uk) (head to the "Works in your area" page).

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July** (subject to site and weather conditions)

- a) **B4115: Surveying for three days from 6<sup>th</sup> July**  
Temporary traffic lights (two- or three-way) along the route from Stoneleigh Road/Birmingham Road and the junction of the B4115 and A452 Leamington Road/Kenilworth Road
- b) **Temporary night closures (approx. 8.00pm to 6.00am)**
  - 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> July: Stoneleigh Road closed from A46 to B4115/Birmingham Road junction)
  - 16<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> July: B4115 to Stoneleigh Close
  - 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> July: Hall Close to B4113 Coventry Road
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> July: Coventry Road to Stoneleigh Bridge

HS2 say that “access to properties will be maintained”. Let’s hope so, as the diversions are inevitably long-winded.

To pour salt into the wound, numerous other roadworks are in the pipeline.

### **HS2 – associated**

- New bridge and road diversion B4115
- New bridge and road diversion B4113
- New roundabout entrance to Stoneleigh Park
- New roundabout for entrance to the re-located Farmers’ Market (next to the new A46 Stoneleigh junction)
- New junction layout at Chesford crossroads
- PLUS either a three-year 2 x 2 contraflow or a 10-day 24/7 closure so the line can cross the A46

### **Other**

- A46 roundabout
- New footbridge at Glasshouse Lane
- Closure/re-surfacing at Festival Island (9<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August)
- Renewal of all road markings on Toll Bar Island (3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August)
- Within next two years, separated interchange at Binley and then at Walsgrave

## **Parish Council Notes**

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**Hannah Watts, Parish Clerk**

### **Meetings**

Because of the current social distancing requirements, there have been some changes with regards to Parish Council meetings. Until further notice, meetings will be held online, via Zoom. Residents are still welcome to join the Parish Council meeting; simply email the Clerk at [stoneleigshowparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stoneleigshowparishcouncil@gmail.com) to request a link. Please also note that all information relating to meetings will be on the website only for now. No information will be posted on the village noticeboards.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7.00pm.**



To view the full details of these and other meetings, including upcoming planning applications, please visit the Parish Council website: <http://stoneleighshowparishcouncil.btck.co.uk/CouncilMeetings>.

The June meeting, held virtually, covered subjects including the closure of the Birmingham Road, HS2 and flooding in Ashow. We were pleased to be joined by five members of the public, demonstrating that, although the meetings are being held online, people are still able to attend and take part.

The potential closure of the Birmingham Road has been an on-going issue for some time, and Councillors have drafted a short consultation paper that will soon be sent to all residents of the parish who are registered on the electoral roll. This will be your opportunity to state whether you are in favour of closing the road or not. If residents are in favour of closing the road, it will be down to highway engineers at Warwickshire County Council to consider the best way to do this and where the closure should be. We would like to hear from as many people in the parish as possible, so do look out for your consultation letter, and be sure to return your completed vote by the deadline given. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk via email. Minutes of the meeting are available on the Parish Council website.

Information about COVID-19 is changing quickly, and we are keeping our Facebook page up-to-date with the latest developments. Don't forget to check out the [Parish Council website](#), which is regularly updated with local information such as road and traffic issues, HS2 updates and local consultations. It's a great way to find out what's going on locally and get involved.

You can also keep up-to-date by joining the Parish Council Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stoneleighshow.parishcouncil.3?ref=bookmarks>

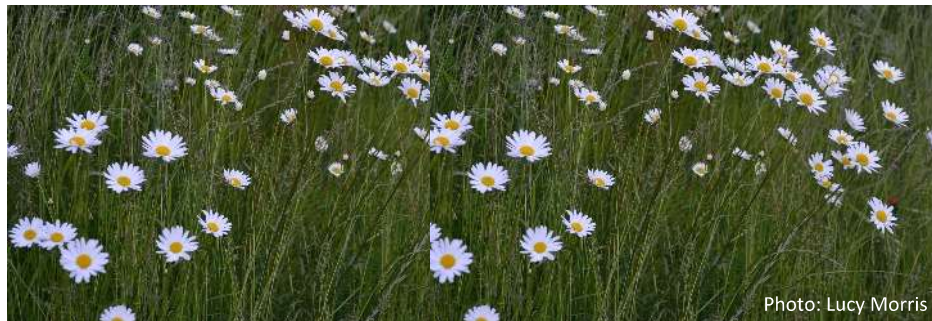


Photo: Lucy Morris

## **Stoneleigh & Ashow Churches**

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**June Burr, Gordon Gatward & Kate Jones - Church Wardens**

**Y**ou will have no doubt heard that permission has been given for places of worship to open for private prayer. However, we are sorry to report that we are unable to open Stoneleigh and Ashow churches at present because we cannot meet all the necessary health and safety requirements. Like you, we look forward eagerly to the day when the doors can be opened wide and everyone welcomed back! Until then, we will continue with our pastoral telephone calls and Zoom meetings. We are still very much here for you. The church is alive and kicking!

We have as yet no news about a new incumbent, but we know that a lot is going on in the Diocese as they seek the best way forward for our parishes.

With love and prayers.

## **Prayers**

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**Gordon Gatward - courtesy of the Arthur Rank Centre**

### **Psalm during COVID (a rethinking of Psalm 126)**

How bright was life before lockdown!  
How busy and noisy and fun.  
We sang, prayed, and praised together;  
God was good.  
Now there is silence, and for some darkness, loneliness and fear.  
Where is God?  
The silence is broken by loud insistent birdsong,  
The darkness is illuminated by a profusion of flowers and butterflies.  
We exchange smiles and greetings with strangers.  
As we learn to stop, look and listen,  
We are surrounded by glimpses of God:  
God is here!  
God is good!

## Prayer

Loving God  
Help us to know your presence  
Even in the darkest times.  
Remind us how much we are loved  
And help us share that love with others.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.



Photo: Lucy Morris



## From the Registers



### Funerals

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Mary Neale** – graveside service at Stoneleigh

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020

**Nevil Bellamy** – graveside service at Stoneleigh

# Stoneleigh Community Orchard CIC Update

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Pete Freeman

**A**s predicted in last month's article, we ran out of cider back at the start of June and of further interest was how popular our limited quantity of perry proved to be!

In Stoneleigh Orchard, our perry pear trees form part of the line following the banks of the river. We have five varieties with interesting names such as Moorcroft, Thorn, Judge Amphlett, Hendre Huffcap and Helen's Early. Each of these pear varieties share common features. Their fruits are small, hard and packed with tannins. When you try to eat them, the taste is pretty awful and full of acids. Perry is the alcoholic liquor derived following their pressing and fermentation. The perry created from the orchard to date appears to have a clear-to-blush appearance, with the sweetness of the pear only picked up as a subtle background taste. It makes a perfect drink on a hot summer's day, particularly when chilled with ice!

The harvesting of these fruit will commence in September and will definitely be more labour intensive because the fruit rots from the inside to the out, so needs to be picked just at the right moment to both capture all the natural sugars, but also avoid the decay. A pressing also produces smaller volumes of juice and, as a result, Stoneleigh perry can be considered a premium product relative to Stoneleigh cider.

I consider June, July and the first part of August to be a relatively quiet period in the orchard, unless there is a summer storm to interrupt the serenity, so do take a stroll in advance of the busy autumn period. I look forward to meeting fellow members of the group for the harvest.

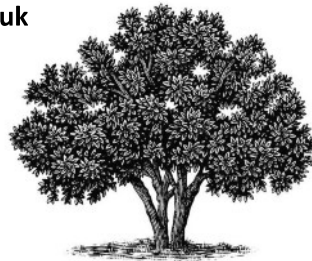
Finally, I'd like to praise villagers, Russell Poole and Deborah Collins (who live in the School House) for all their hard work litter picking in the meadow. This work is purely voluntary, but didn't go unnoticed when we met in the orchard earlier in the year. Perhaps they can act as a catalyst for others.

It was also with some amusement that, back in late May, the orchard became the final destination of Brody's "Gold and Treasure" hunt on BBC CWR. The interview was a small, but significant, milestone and was won, as

I recall, by a listener from the Rugby area. It is great to see the orchard becoming a focus more broadly in the area.

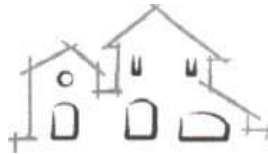
Orchard Friends' subscriptions and yearly renewals for 2020 will cost £10 and can be made to Pete Freeman as Chairman or to Richard Hancox as Treasurer. Cheques should be made payable to Stoneleigh Village Community Orchard. Alternatively, why not become a long-term friend and set up a direct debit?

Contact: Pete Freeman (Chairman)  
5 Church Lane, Stoneleigh / [pete.freeman@swft.nhs.uk](mailto:pete.freeman@swft.nhs.uk)  
Richard Hancox (Treasurer)  
[richard.hancox@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:richard.hancox@highwaysengland.co.uk)



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# Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir

Pat Wightman

**L**ike all other groups, Stoneleigh Ladies' Choir suffered a hasty shutdown in March in the middle of rehearsals for our May charity concert, with no idea when we were likely to meet up again. Undaunted by modern technology, we have formed a Zoom choir which meets at our usual time on a Thursday afternoon. This has been a brilliant opportunity to keep in touch with each other, exchange news and continue with some singing, albeit not at performance level! Our leader, Karen Whyte, joins us from her piano at home and we are bravely learning some new music to give us a head start for when we are able to meet again. We've enjoyed a seaside theme, then the Chelsea Flower Show and Ladies' Day at Ascot, dressing appropriately for each occasion. It was great fun to see how innovative members could be. Now we 'ladies of a certain age' have been given some freedom, it is still unclear when we'll be able to meet up again in the village hall. In the meantime, we'll 'keep calm and carry on singing'.



Photo: Pat Wightman

# Stoneleigh Village Club Update

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*www.facebook.com/stoneleighvillageclub*  
*stoneleigh.villageclub@gmail.com*

**W**e do hope that you are keeping well in these unprecedented times. The Extraordinary General Meeting was convened on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 7.30pm via the Zoom platform. The two motions were duly voted on by those members who cast votes.

1. Cancellation of the 2020/2021 AGM due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Resolution No 1:**

**The 2020/2021 AGM was voted to be cancelled by 20 votes for and nil against.**

2. The current club committee is to remain in post for a further 12-month period.

**Resolution No 2:**

**The current club committee to remain in post for a further 12-month period was voted 20 votes for and nil against.**

With the formalities above now concluded, the committee can proceed with plans for the forthcoming year in these very challenging times. The committee has been working very hard in the background right from the early days of the lockdown to ensure that the club premises, staff and financial position are in the best possible shape they can be, given the uncertainty surrounding any possible reopening of hospitality venues.

We have been monitoring both the Government, local council and the large pub chains as sources of information, and will continue to do so in order to be able to be in a position to reopen when safe to do so. Guidance is constantly changing, so we are doing our utmost to keep up-to-date with developments.

Each individual premises will have its own unique challenges to overcome. We are actively investigating internal and external layouts, protection of staff and customers, sanitary arrangements, working practices, cleaning, capacity planning, stock availability and reordering, claiming duty back on spoilt stock and redecoration.



Unlike the major pub chains and free houses who have full time management teams and access to large financial and material resources, we are a part-time committee of volunteers who will do their level best to get the club open again. We want members and your friends and families to enjoy coming to the club in the confidence that it is a safe and well-run establishment.

The best way that you can support the club at present is to renew your membership subscriptions. If we can get this activity completed quickly, we can then put one hundred percent effort into preparing the club for reopening. We will not be able to renew club memberships on the club premises due to the anticipated restrictions regarding hygiene, cash and staff safety. Payments can be made via bank transfer or cheque through the club letterbox in an envelope detailing who the payment is for (membership remains at £12 per adult). We'd like this opportunity to thank those who have already paid; your support really is appreciated.

We will be sending out regular updates by email to all members for whom we hold email addresses. Any queries should be directed to our email address or call 024 7641 4440. (Please note that this number is on divert to the committee, so please leave a message if we can't answer immediately.)

Stay safe all. We look forward to welcoming you soon.



*Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire CV8 3DH 024 7641 4440  
Stoneleigh Village Club Ltd. Registered in England No 8560869*



## Ashow Church News

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Kate Jones, Churchwarden

**A**lthough Ashow Church is still closed, the churchyard is looking lovely thanks to Tony Gregory's hard work. Tony has also rebuilt the oak wooden gate, and painted and treated the two doors into the church, which look very impressive.

A couple of weeks ago, when the river was particularly low, a team of volunteers from the village recovered from the water two gravestones and part of a cross (which it is thought came off a grave). All three items had been lying in the river for many years and nobody knows exactly how they got there in the first place. The items are now safely stored until we can get somebody to come and look at them.

*(Pictured: Steve Edwards and Pete Gray hard at work in the river)*



Photos: Steve Edwards

Although no services are being held, Rev Jim Perryman from Leek Wootton Church has taken on the pastoral care of the village and congregation. Via Zoom, Jim leads a weekly service on a Saturday afternoon at 5.30pm, as well as daily prayer sessions from Monday to Friday at 8.45am. For more information, visit <https://www.leekwoottonchurch.co.uk/>.

Take care, keep safe and God bless.

## Water, water everywhere...

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Kim Smith

**W**ell, that was quite a storm! It all happened during the evening of Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June. Within about 30 minutes, the sky went dark, there was a great thunderclap and the heavens opened. Very quickly, the Birmingham Road became a fast flowing river! It headed down past the Green, across the Square, down Church Lane and out into the orchard.

The water spilled over on to the pavements and into gardens, carrying with it mud and debris from the road edges and fields, causing mess for many. However, some (these being men of a certain age!) found it exciting and could not resist the temptation to paddle in the deep (4") flowing river; one neighbour even managed to lose a flip flop!



The following day, the Council were straight on with cleaning the road (thanks to the efforts of the Parish Council reporting concerns), and councillors Pam and Wallace Redford knocked on doors to check that all was well, which was really appreciated. There is concern about the state of the drains.

I haven't heard of anyone experiencing serious damage, so I do hope that nobody is in this situation.

If anyone would like to see video footage of the flood, there are a few clips on the village Facebook page. There are some particularly good ones of Church Lane, thanks to Amanda Smith and Kelly Ridge.



Photos: Kim Smith



## Let us buzz on in! HoneyBee HomeCare

Care Comes Naturally

HoneyBee HomeCare, founded by a resident of Stoneleigh; is a care company that puts emphasis on the word "care".

From our clients, to their family, to our staff: we aim to look after everyone involved with our company at any opportunity we can get.

To ensure that our clients get the best care possible, we start by making sure we are the best care company to work for by treating our staff like family and paying them well!

We give our staff thorough training so they are confident in every aspect of their role in our clients' lives.

Our carers also take pride in getting to know our clients' families and friends as their social life plays a big part in maintaining their care & well-being.

If you're interested or have any further questions, don't hesitate to get in touch!

tel: 01926 428509

E-mail:  
[Jess@honeybeehc.co.uk](mailto:Jess@honeybeehc.co.uk)

web:  
[www.honeybeehc.co.uk](http://www.honeybeehc.co.uk)



This month's edition of **Stoneleigh & Ashow News** was compiled by **Lucy Morris**, who would like to thank all contributors.

The online colour version can be viewed at the village website  
**[www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk](http://www.stoneleighvillage.org.uk)**

*At the time of writing, it is by no means certain that it will be possible to produce a print, as well as online, version of the News.  
We very much hope that normal service can be resumed as soon as possible but, for the timebeing, this is out of our hands.*

The September 2020 edition will be compiled by  
**Mike and Bernice Evans**  
**[heronbank8@gmail.com](mailto:heronbank8@gmail.com)** / Heronbank, 8 Coventry Road, Stoneleigh CV8 3BZ  
*We prefer digital A5 copy, but paper copy may also be submitted.*

**Copy deadline: 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

**Placing an advertisement in Stoneleigh & Ashow News**

Our page format size is A5. Rates **per annum (10 editions)** are:

<b>Full page</b> (13 x 19cm)	<b>£100</b>
<b>Half page</b> (13 x 9.5cm)	<b>£50</b>
<b>Quarter page</b> (portrait or landscape) (6.5 x 9.5cm or 13 x 5cm)	<b>£25</b>

Rates for advertising in a **single edition** are:

<b>Full page</b>	<b>£40</b>
<b>Half page</b>	<b>£20</b>
<b>Quarter page</b>	<b>£10</b>

**How to create your advertisement**

- Create an advertisement to match your chosen size (see above). We accept the following formats: Word, pdf, jpeg, png. Don't worry too much about exact dimensions; the editor can scale it, if required.
- Email your ad to the Treasurer at **[w.e.crofts@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:w.e.crofts@warwick.ac.uk)**, stating:
  - size of ad that you would like
  - number of editions in which you would like it to feature
- Deadline for entries is the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication, i.e. 18<sup>th</sup> April for May's edition. Once received, you'll be invoiced and your ad will be placed with the editor(s) of your chosen editions.
- All advertisements are accepted at the editor's discretion, subject to S&A News policy. Editors reserve the right to edit all contributions.





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



## **Contacts**

### **Ashow**

Churchwarden: Kate Jones 01926 853511  
Deputy Wardens: Anne Gregory 01926 717084  
Peter Shrimpton 01926 859404

### **Stoneleigh**

Churchwardens: June Burr 024 7622 7726  
Gordon Gatward 01926 512528  
Deputy Warden: Richard Ashley 01926 427729

### **Or please contact the Parish Administrator:**

Jackie Cubbitt 024 7641 5506

**admin@stoneleighchurch.co.uk**

Website: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12954/benefice/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12954/benefice/)

*Work hours: Wednesday 9.00am – 12.00pm, Thursday 9.00am – 1.00pm*



Photo: Lucy Morris