

My VILLAGE VOICE

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2025

ACTON TRUSSELL • BEDNALL • BRADLEY • BROCTON • CHURCH EATON • COLWICH • COPPENHALL • DUNSTON • DERRINGTON
HAUGHTON • HYDE LEA • MARSTON • MILFORD • SEIGHFORD • THE HAYWOODS • WALTON ON THE HILL

Complete Smiles

Opens World-Class
Dental Clinic in
Eccleshall

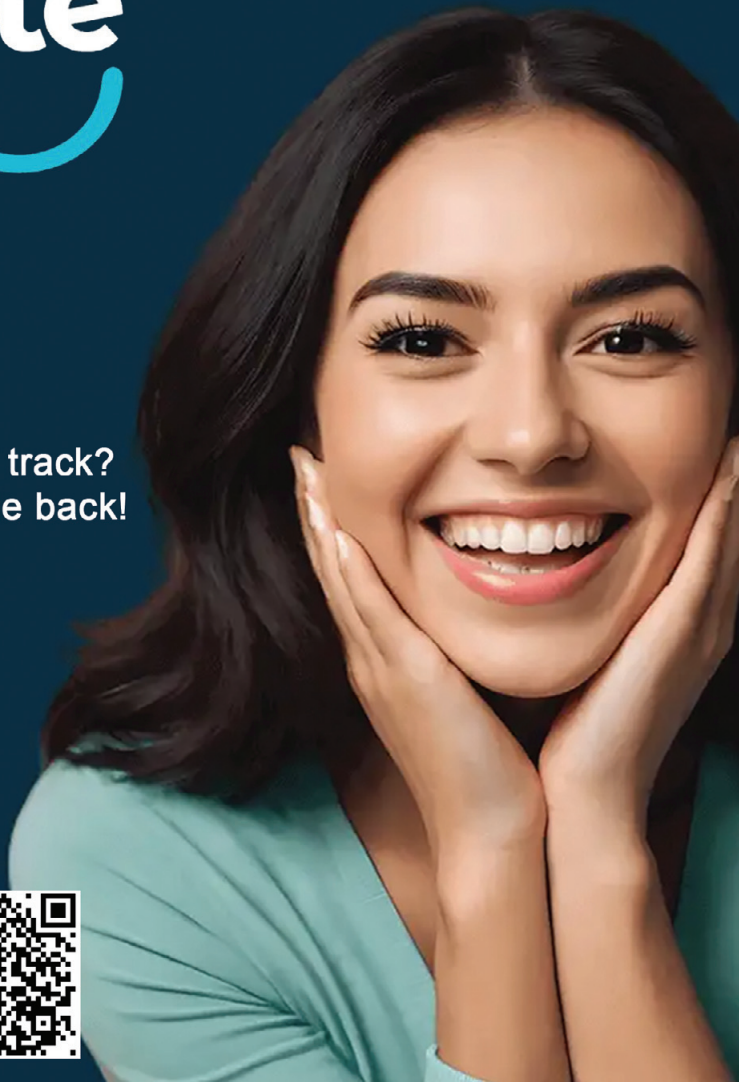
Toothaches, gaps, or teeth off track?
We'll bring your confident smile back!

FREE Dental Check-Ups
for Veterans, Service
Personnel & UOTC on
Remembrance Weekend
November 8 - 11

75% OFF
Check-up
for Adult Military
Family Members



See page 4 inside



 **straumann** modernclear

 **invisalign**

 **Care Quality
Commission**

 **BDA**
British Dental Association

 **PHILIPS
ZOOM!**

 **chrysalis
finance**

Open 7 Days - Monday - Sunday: 9am - 6pm At 5 Small Lane, Eccleshall

Call 01785 334 822 www.completesmiles.co.uk

WELCOMING
NEW RESIDENTS



Purpose
Built Homes



Person-
Centred Care



All Inclusive
Fees



Daily
Activities



Nutritious
Food



Couples
Welcome

LITTLETON LODGE

Lifestyle Residential Care Home

Begin your next chapter in a warm, welcoming home where you'll receive care with dignity and kindness. Whether for a short stay or longer term, our cosy care homes offer quality care, peace of mind for you and your family, delicious meals, and activities to support your wellbeing, day and night.

To find out more, please speak to one of our friendly team.



01543 399 640

A: Bishop Street, Hednesford, Cannock, WS12 4HT

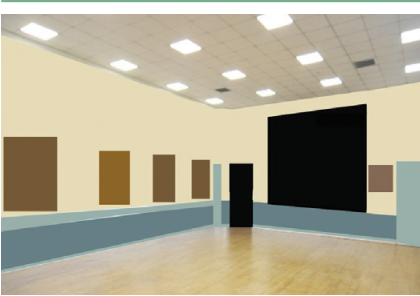
W: hc-one.co.uk | Part of the HC-One Family of Care Homes



My VILLAGE VOICE

Issue Number Eighty Six - November & December 2025

CONTENTS



News...

- Acton Trust to spend £20,000 on Centre improvements
- All Saints - Project Update
- Christmas Church Services
- Christmas Bazaars and Markets
- Acton Quiz & Curry Nights



In Pictures...

- Haywoods Flower and Vegetable Show
- Haughton Garden Guild Show
- St James' Church Tidy Up
- Derrington Dream Boys Calendar

January / February out on January 15th
Editorial Copy Deadline - December 31st
Ad Booking Deadline - December 31st



Once you've read
My Village Voice
recycle it, by
giving it to a friend!

Can It Get Anymore Christmassy!

There's seems to be a real boost in the villages recently, with The Acton Trust about to spend £20,000 on improving the Community Centre, whilst just down the road in Bednall, the All Saints Church update project is well underway, and on track to finish on time.

Both places offer a much-needed village community space, and these improvements will safeguard the future of both buildings for future generations.

The re-opening of The Red Lion in Bradley has reunited the villagers too, having a drink at home is all very well and good, but just isn't the same as socialising with friends and neighbours down the pub is it?

Even though we live in 2025, the Churches and Pubs remain the hub of any village, 1000 years on!

Inside you'll find some great photos spread from the recent Haywoods Flower and Vegetable Show and the Haughton Garden Guild Show, and a couple from the Derrington 'Dream Boys' Charity Calendar, *though you'll have to buy one if you want to see Mr. July!*

There's plenty to see and do too with The Stafford Caledonians inviting you to *Dance Scottish*

with them, Acton Trussell have the return of their popular Quiz Night, and are hosting a Curry Night too - *I can't wait!*

Upcoming talks at various venues include, Staffordshire Railways On The Level, Famous Folk of Staffordshire and Idioms and Expressions (*more than you can shake a stick at!*)

With Christmas just around the corner you'll find lots inside to keep you busy, with Christmas Markets and Bazaars, where you can meet the Alpacas!

Or perhaps strut your funky stuff at Brocton Village Hall's Christmas Disco Party Night?

If you're the crafty type, there's Christmas Wreath Making Workshops and Stafford Flower Club have their Christmas Flower Arranging Special.

There's listings for Christmas Concerts taking place in the villages, and some of the Festive Church Services too. If you want to feel the Christmas spirit early, Brocton have their annual *Christmas Carols on The Green* on Sunday 14th December, just perfect to get you in the mood.

Can it get anymore Christmassy! Until next time, may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Dan Mitchell 3/11/25

Get in Touch

5,400 copies are hand-delivered free to homes and businesses in **Acton Trussell, Bednall, Bradley, Brocton, Church Eaton, Colwich, Coppenhall, Derrington, Dunston, Haughton, The Haywoods, Hyde Lea, Milford, Seighford & Walton on the Hill**

If you have any news or stories, or are interested in placing an advertisement for your business, please get in touch

stonegazette@outlook.com

Telephone 07514 967 890

Read this issue online at www.myvillagevoice.co.uk

The views expressed in this publication are those of our contributors and are not necessarily those of the publishers, nor indeed their responsibility.
All Rights Reserved © My Village Voice 2008 - 2025

Complete Smiles

Opens World-Class Dental Clinic in Eccleshall

Smile More. Pay Less. Dental Excellence Trusted by Thousands.

A trusted name in London and Norway, Complete Smiles has opened its doors in Eccleshall, Stafford, offering premium dental care at prices that rival the NHS.

The brand is new to Eccleshall but not to excellence. Complete Smiles was a proud finalist at the Private Dentistry Awards, a recognition for their commitment to outstanding patient care.

The multidisciplinary clinic is rolling out unmatched offers to celebrate the launch, including a £25 general check-up with a basic X-ray (in comparison, the NHS cost is £26).

General Check-up
WITH Basic X-ray
£25

Full Hygiene
Cleaning
~~£70~~ **£49**

Full Mouth Implants
Starting
£178/month

This Remembrance Day, Complete Smiles will honour heroes with **free dental check-ups** for veterans, service members, and UOTC students (Nov 8–11). Adult military family members receive 75% off.

They also offer special festive season deals, including a full hygiene clean for £49 (usual price £70).

Comprehensive Dental Treatments

Located at 5 Small Lane, Eccleshall, Stafford, the clinic offers a range of treatments, including dental implants, composite bonding, crowns, bridges, hygiene cleaning, and cosmetic treatments.

The clinic is designed to enhance patient comfort and reduce dental anxiety. Amenities include multilingual staff and pick-up and drop-off services upon request. Emergency appointments are available 7 days a week, including outside normal hours (*subject to availability*).

Leaders in Dental Implants

Complete Smiles specialises in treating missing teeth with dental implants. Their lead implantologist, Dr. Pedro Coelho, trained under the founder of All-on-4.

The clinic offers the best rates in the region for dental implants and even offers a price-match guarantee.

Single implant costs start from £1,999, and the first 10 patients can receive All-on-4 both arches for only £16,000 (usual cost £19,999). If the patients can find a lower rate elsewhere, they'll match it.



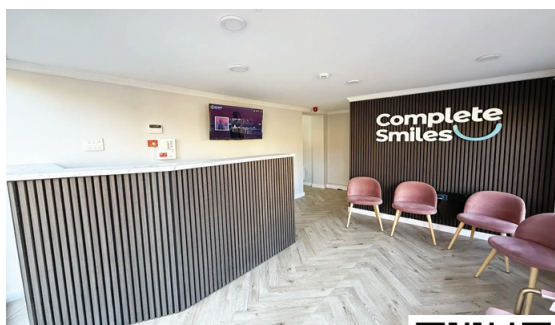
"What makes us different is that we are a family-run clinic that offers the most attractive prices in the area."

"What we offer for All-on-4 both arches is distinctively cheaper to what most other clinics offer for one arch. No one else is matching our prices for full mouth rehabilitation."

- Sanjeiv Asokan, co-founder and managing director of Complete Smiles.

Flexible Finance Plans for All

Because advanced dental treatments can be a significant investment, Complete Smiles provides flexible finance plans. Patients can spread the cost of treatment over time, making life-changing dental care more accessible than ever.



Open 7 Days! Monday - Sunday: 9am - 6pm

At 5 Small Lane, Eccleshall ST21 6AD Call 01785 334 822
stafford@completesmiles.co.uk www.completesmiles.co.uk



News And Upcoming Events At Brocton Village Hall

After a short summer break, Brocton Village Hall hit the ground running in September with our ever popular Autumn Rummage Sale. The community support in donating pre-loved items is amazing and it was our biggest sale ever. Thank you to everyone that donated or supported us on the day, the rummage sales are a vital fundraiser for our hall.

October saw the return of our Quiz Night and although there were some tough questions, a good night was had by all and 'The Rutters' became our Village Quiz Champions!

We have a busy couple of months ahead with the following events:



Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 15th November
1pm - 4pm Free Entry

Come and meet the Alpacas!

Lots of local craft stalls, Christmas gifts, cakes, local jams, children's activities, tombola and much more!

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop
Sunday 30th November

1pm - 3pm or 4.30pm-6.30pm

£30 per person (includes mulled wine and a mince pie)

Join us for an afternoon of festive fun and take home your very own handcrafted Christmas Wreath

Numbers are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

Christmas Party Night (Disco & Buffet)
Saturday 6th December
7.30pm

£15 per ticket

Start the party season with a night of dancing and socialising with friends and family. Our local village DJ's Dave and Rose will be keeping us entertained and a delicious buffet will be served.

Full bar will be available.

For details of how to get tickets for the above events please email info@broctonvillagehall.org.uk.



A rammed rummage sale



Christmas Carols on The Green
Sunday 14th December

Join Brocton Parish Council for their annual Carols on The Village Green at 5pm, followed by mulled wine, hot chocolate, mince pies and chocolates for the children at Brocton Village Hall.



On behalf of everyone at Brocton Village Hall, thank you to everyone that has supported us in anyway during 2025 and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you at one of our events soon.

From Jo Pincher

Bradley News

We had another successful village market at the end of September and there will be a **Christmas Market on November 29th**. Lots of stalls to find a Christmas bargain at, and bacon sandwiches too!



September Bradley Village Market

We held a Barn Dance on October 26th, with the proceeds going towards the repairs to the Church Wall.



On **December 4th** Sarah Plant is giving a **Wreath Making Session**. This has always been great fun providing beautiful wreaths for the Bradley locality. Still a few places available for the afternoon session.

As 2025 has been a bumper year for fruit, Bradley has had many baskets of free fruit out round the village. From courgettes earlier to plums, pears and apples by the gallons!



Apples and Pears - help yourself

The Red Lion continues to be open every day, much to the delight of the village and surrounding community, it's great to see such an important a hub in the village re-open.

From Judith Manners



A beautiful autumnal post box topper

CUTTLESTONES

AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

unlock their *true* value

Now taking consignments for forthcoming auctions - including:

Gold - Silver - Jewellery - Watches
Antique & Vintage Furniture - Paintings
Medals & Militaria - Coins - Toys
Rock & Pop Memorabilia - Books
Tribal & Oceanic Art - Designer Goods
Classic Cars & Motorcycles

ALL VALUATIONS ARE FREE.

Contact us now on:

WhatsApp **07949 603872**, email **office@cuttlestones.co.uk**
or Call **01785 714905** to book your appointment

Cuttlestones Ltd, Pinfold Lane, Penkridge, Staffordshire ST19 5AP

www.cuttlestones.co.uk



GOLD £5 COIN
SOLD £2,000



ROLEX SUBMARINER WATCH
SOLD £6,000



Staffordshire's Leading Roofing Company

**DONT
LET IT DECAY -
CALL TODAY**

Over 50 years' combined experience
in the Roofing Industry.

We specialise in all aspects of roofing.

We can repair or replace all pitched,
flat and conservatory roofs,
UPVC rooflines & cladding.

- Family run business where quality comes as standard
- FREE no obligation quotes
- Competitive & affordable prices
- No payment until 100% satisfied
- All work comes with full written guarantee
- All materials are BSI approved & fitted to a high standard

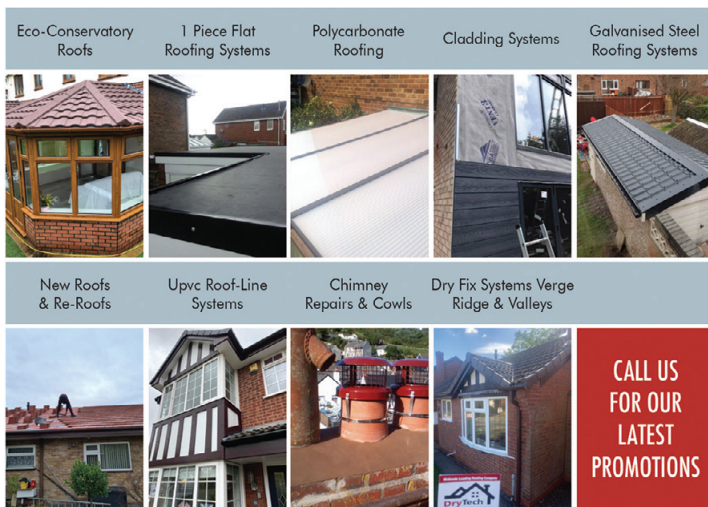
Proud members of

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

Call: 01543 887682

email: raymond.clee@yahoo.com

Covering: Lichfield,
Burntwood and Cannock



Acton Trust To Spend £20,000 On Centre Improvements

The trustees of Acton Trussell, Bednall & Teddesley Hay Community Centre have agreed a budget of £20,000 for improvement works.

The car park has already been relined and three new bays for disabled drivers plus one for motorcycles created. At the rear of the building, the damaged concrete path has been replaced with smart tarmac giving safe access to the children's play area.

A height restriction barrier has been installed at the side of the Centre leading to the recreation ground to prevent unauthorised access. All the blue upholstered chairs have been cleaned and the front fence panels are to be repaired and repainted.

In coming months, new front doors are to be installed and plans are in hand to redecorate the foyer, main hall and meeting room.

A range of other works are also to be undertaken, including re-treating the main hall floor, repairing extractor fans, kitchen improvements and upgrading audio equipment.

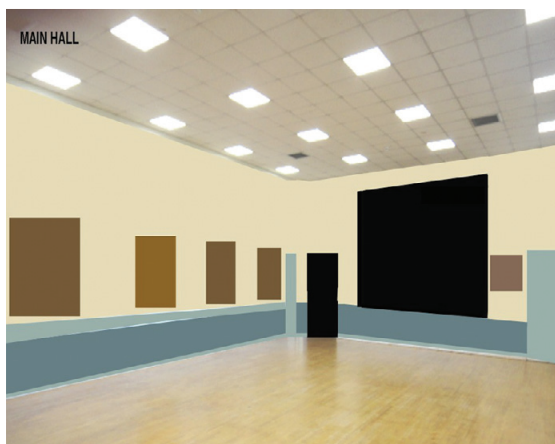
A new ceiling-mounted projector and on-stage roll-down screen has been provided by the generosity of the BATTH Social Group with the support of Trust funding and this equipment will undoubtedly attract additional social and business use of *"The Centre for All"*.

A year in the life of our Community Centre

Built for the benefit of our community, the Centre celebrated its 35th anniversary this year, since opening on 29 June 1990 and, as we approach 2026, we find ourselves not only looking ahead but reflecting on an eventful past year.

"The Centre for All" once again has had a busy twelve months, hosting some 600 functions from children's parties, club meetings and concerts to football matches, celebrations and all manner of social and business events.

It is satisfying to know that the Centre continues to play an important part in the life of our villages and hopefully will remain relevant and useful long into the future. The income from these lettings ensures the Centre's financial survival but it is the band of willing volunteers and club members that make it thrive and we thank them all for their time, skill and dedication.



The Main Hall proposal

2025 has also seen the trustees working long and hard to improve the Centre and the way it operates. Preparations are well advanced to convert the Trust to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, a structure which offers many benefits and creates long-term safeguards for the Centre; a range of health, safety and management measures have been introduced; property development, income generation and marketing plans with a new logo have been agreed and are being progressively implemented; Centre News is now produced and distributed to every home every two months;

Our new website is up and running, incorporating an online booking system, to be followed soon with a presence on Facebook; and it has been possible to allocate £20,000 towards improvements at the Centre, making it even more welcoming to even more people.

Such support and firm foundations give the Centre certainty and a continued relevance but it will always need additional, fresh individuals with new ideas and enthusiasm to constantly reinvigorate its purpose. Please, ask not what the community can do for you but what you can do for the community. Take part - It's fun and rewarding. To find out how simply go to

www.actontrussellcommunitycentre.org/engage/

All Saints Community Facilities: Project Update

Work is steadily progressing both on the outside and the inside of All Saints' Church in Bednall.

The path has been re-laid this week, along with the manhole covers housing the new drains.

Inside the church, the frame is now in place for the toilet. The lighting and heating are near completion, as is the area inside by the front door.

So far there haven't been any construction difficulties and, at present, the work is on schedule.

Thanks go to Paul, the site manager from Messenger, who prepares the inside of the church ready for services to take place.

From Grete





Calling All Performers!

Whether you are stepping onto a stage for the very first time, or you're an experienced performer, joining the EL Performance Collective family means embracing a journey of growth and discovery.

For those new to performing arts, it's an opportunity to explore your potential in a supportive environment. At ELPC we are dedicated to nurturing talent and helping everyone become a confident performer across the triple threat that is acting, singing and dance.

Established in 2025 by Emily, EL Performance Collective is a weekly performing arts class in Weeping Cross, Stafford. With two classes running locally every week, we cater for all children from the age of 10.

We offer a safe and encouraging performance platform to anyone wanting to give performing arts a go and showcase their skills in our regular family friendly events.

Come and join us for one of our **Free Taster Sessions at St. Anne's Church, Weeping Cross every Wednesday from 6.30pm.**

Please also check out our socials for dates, times and more information. Or you can email Emily at elperformancecollective@gmail.com



ELPC Founder - Emily

All Aboard For A First-Class Talk



Staffordshire Railways On The Level with Carl Dudley

Thursday 13th November 2025 At 7.30 pm in the Parish Room, Sandon, Lichfield Rd A51, Corner of Milwich Lane, Sandon, ST18 0DN

Track down Rose for tickets on 07876 540491 priced at £8 to include light refreshments.



Mincher-Lockett OPTICIANS

PUTTING THE EYES AND EARS OF THE STAFFORD COMMUNITY FIRST



We are a proudly independent practice in the heart of Stafford who are devoted to the health of the eyes and ears of our community. Advances in optical technology allow us to perform eye examinations that provide greater detail of your eye health.

DISPENSING OPTICIANS - PRIVATE & NHS EYE EXAMS
CONTACT LENSES - SPECTACLES - SUNGLASSES
DESIGNER BRANDS - LATEST TECHNOLOGY LENSES
SPORTS VISION - COMMUNITY URGENT EYECARE SERVICE
COLORIMETRY - AUDIOLOGY - EAR WAX REMOVAL

18-20 Stafford Street, Stafford ST16 2BP
01785 253478 - Mincher-Lockett.co.uk

BYCERYS

manicurist

BUILDER GEL
 GEL EXTENSIONS
 GEL NAILS



MORE INFO



07879 037346 ceznailss@gmail.com

StudioRAE, Dunston Business Village,
 Log Cabin 11b, Dunston, Stafford, ST18 9FJ

Haywoods Flower and Vegetable Show 2025

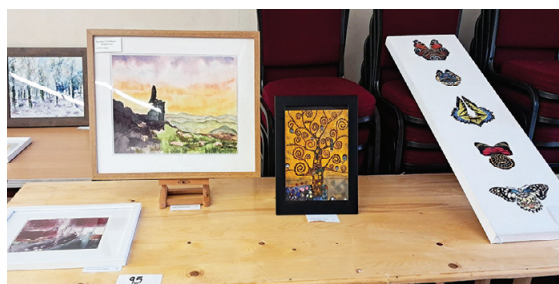
This year's Haywoods Flower and Vegetable Show was another amazingly busy celebration of achievement.

Despite the dry summer, we had some impressive flowers, fruit and vegetables which really brightened up a wet and windy Sunday in September! There were lots of colourful crafts on display, delicious bread and cakes and the preserves were prolific.



The artwork and photography entries were really striking and beautiful. We also welcomed entries from 17 new entrants to the Show, which is wonderful and so heart warming to know that people are keeping skills alive and enjoying sharing them with their community.

As always, the Committee would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who entered, visited and supported the Show.



We would like to thank Colwich Parish Council who supported us and we are also very grateful to Canalside Café and the Memorial Hall Ladies who so generously donated some fabulous cakes for our refreshments.

We'd like to give special thanks to the RNLI, Hixon Community First Responders, our local Police Community Support Officer and Guide Dogs for the Blind who all attended the Show to make connections with our villages. We thought we might have to call on the RNLI at times but the rain did ease eventually!



There certainly seemed to be a real buzz around the Show, so we hope that everyone felt inspired to have a go at something and enter next year.

If you would like to join the team, or have any ideas for future Shows please let us know via email at haywoodsflowerandvegshow@outlook.com

Many congratulations go to our talented trophy winners as follows:

- The Clendon Vase (Flowers) – J. Tabernor
- The Sydney Rawlings Rose Bowl (Roses) – M. Sarjant
- The Rosern Trophy (Best Rose in Show) – M. Sarjant
- The Cys Dyle Cup (Pot Plants) – R. Bullock
- The HW Hunt Company Cup (Vegetables) – S. Jones
- The Stan Hopper Memorial Plate (Best Vegetable in Show) – R. Stanley (for runner beans)
- The Morrall Plate (Longest Runner Bean) – J. Sarjant
- The Canalside Salver (Fruit) – Y. Lycett
- The Great Haywood Memorial Hall Challenge Cup (Preserves) – C. Startin
- The Great Haywood WI Trophy (Baking) – F. Burton
- The Little Haywood Ladies Club Cup (Bread) – A. Hurley
- The Davies Floral Art Challenge Cup (Flower Arranging) – J. Tabernor
- The Marjorie Chiltern Trophy (Best Floral Art Exhibit) – A. Clendon
- The Burbridge Tray (Handicraft) – G. Freeman
- The Jan Pugh Art Cup (Art and Photography) – J. Gray
- The Alison Mayo Junior Trophy (Children 5-7 years) – H. Tabernor
- The Bishton Hall Cup (Children 8-11 years) – M. Tabernor
- The Flower and Vegetable Show Trophy (Children 12-16 years) – K. Hurley
- Longest Runner Bean (16 years and under) – A. Lycett
- The Broome Junior Baking Cup (Junior Baking) – K. Hurley
- The Francis Hill Cup (most successful New Entrant) – R. Bullock
- The Alan Fuller Perpetual Challenge Cup (Second overall runner up) – C. Startin
- The Peter Handy Perpetual Challenge Cup (First overall runner up) – J. Cross
- The Earl of Lichfield Challenge Cup (Overall Winner) – J. Tabernor

Well done to everyone. See you in 2026!





Acton Quiz & Curry Nights

Acton Trussell, Bednall & Teddesley Hay Community Centre are holding a **Quiz Night** on **Saturday 8th November at 7.30pm**.

Please bring your own refreshments. £2.50 per person.



And then the committee are holding a **Curry Night "A Taste of India"** on **Saturday 6 December at 7.30pm**
Bring a bottle | Tickets £TBA



Thanks – Moat House Lunch

Thanks to all who supported and enjoyed the lunch at the Moat House on Sunday 19th October to raise funds to maintain St James' Church.

The food was delicious – thank you Moat House and thanks to the organisers and helpers.



The nervous suspects line up

Who Dunnit? Again

It was murder mystery night, for the second time, at Stafford Rangers, for Stafford Lions on Friday 10th October.

The Plot:

Rupert Bray-Deleigh, a wealthy land owner, was found stabbed to death in the kitchen of the manor and Chief Detective Bill requested assistance from the audience in exposing the killer.

Six suspects (*willing volunteers, I think!*), were questioned (*rather intensively*) by more than 100 would be sleuths during two sessions of interrogation.

It was so intense the '*juries*' needed a food and drink break at half time to build up their reserves of energy for what was to come.

After the final session the '*juries*' made their selection whilst the suspects were detained in another room.

When the culprit was eventually named one table had successfully nominated the guilty party and the motivation for such an act.

That table won a set of lottery tickets so here's hoping luck was on their side, twice.

Proceeds from the evening went to local charities and to contribute to the Stafford Rangers less able visitor access provisions.

Thanks again to Stafford Rangers for the use of the facilities and to Sugar & Spice for providing the food.

And thanks to the '*juries*' who paid for the opportunity to work all evening on a baffling case.

And finally, to Detective Bill (*Lion Bill Douthwaite*), who wrote the script, rounded up the suspects and conducted the investigation.



The lawyer did it !

PS – The lawyer did it (*there's a surprise!*)

Stafford Lions are a group of local men and women who dedicate some of their spare time to helping charities, vulnerable groups and individuals in and around Stafford. Find out more at www.staffordlions.co.uk



Driveways

Dawkes & Co Ltd is a local authority-approved company with over 45 years experience in surfacing.

Our highly-qualified and dedicated workforce are equipped to undertake a large range of domestic surfacing requirements in a wide range of tarmacadam colours and options including Mastertint.

Contact us today to see how we can transform your driveway.



Unit 1, Astonfields Road, Astonfields, Stafford
T 01785 252609 F 01785 211548
info@dawkesltd.com www.dawkesltd.com



CHAS compliant
IOSH qualified



Berkswich WI Afternoon Tea

On Friday 17th October, Berkswich WI held their Annual Afternoon Tea event.

This has been a regular event for Berkswich WI's for many years, when we welcome local people, often those who live alone to come for a lovely afternoon.

This tea was a huge success, helped by Berkswich Primary School children that sang delightfully for our guests.



Harvest Festival

A joint Harvest Festival Service took place on Sunday 28th September at Acton Trussell, Bednall and Teddesley Hay Community Centre.

The Village Singers joined the congregation. Tony Guest, a Cannock and District Food Bank Co-ordinator gave an update on how the food bank is developing in the area.

After the service, a light lunch was served. Items of food were donated and a collection of £225 was raised towards the Food Bank. Thanks go to everyone who helped make this a happy event.

From Grete



Stafford Flower Club Christmas Flower Arranging Special

Christmas is being celebrated early on **Wednesday 26th November** starting at 2.15 pm when Beverley Artis returns to Stafford Flower Club to do a Demonstration of Floral Art entitled "Step into Christmas".

Beverley is a lady who is very passionate about her flowers and is able to get the more unusual ones as she is married to her wholesaler!

A NAFAS Area Demonstrator based in Long Eaton, she has been a florist since 2002 running shops in Coalville and Hathern. She now works from home concentrating on her demonstrating, teaching, wedding and event work plus being the Programme Secretary for Castle Donington and District Flower Club.

She likes to make her demonstrations fun, sharing the experiences she has had in the floristry industry over the years, and there are some howlers! She is closely involved in the wholesale floristry side of the business and loves to bring new ideas and varieties of flowers to her demonstrations.

I am sure she will be bringing extra sparkles with her to light up the room with her displays. The flower arrangements created during the afternoon are the raffle prizes, so if you are a lucky winner, you will take a beautiful arrangement home with you.

Come and enjoy an afternoon with a difference where you can relax, be entertained with things florally Christmas, meet up with friends, or maybe meet new ones. If you have your Christmas Cards already written, you can exchange them and save on the postage.

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram Pages where you can see photographs as a reminder of the afternoon's fun and enjoyment.

Visitors: £8 for an afternoon of live entertainment combining art, gardening and theatre, including light festive refreshments. You will always be welcome whether you are a member or a visitor.

We meet at Rising Brook Methodist Church, ST17 9DH starting at 2.15 pm, there are lots of parking spaces close by and it is on a regular bus route.

If you would like further information, please contact us at: staffordflowerclub@gmail.com or ring Ros on: 07985 602287

We don't have a meeting in December as our normal meeting date would be too near to Christmas so, **Stafford Flower Club Committee would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.**

Our meetings start again in January, see you there.



TAX

- Self-Assessment
- Corporation Tax
- VAT

ACCOUNTANCY & BUSINESS

- Sole-traders and Partnerships
- Limited Companies
- Management Accounting

MAKING TAX DIGITAL

- VAT
- Book-keeping
- Payroll, RTI and pension reporting

Dealing with the accountancy and taxation of your business need not be stressful or costly.

Here at SET Accountancy we offer services that are both efficient and cost effective.

Call Sandra today for a friendly chat and initial consultation

07791 539 541

info@set-accounts.co.uk

set
accountancy+tax

HAYWOOD

EXTERIOR CLEANING

CALL LIAM ON
01785 291991
@ Liam.hecltd@gmail.com

- Exterior Cleaning Specialists
- Expert Roof Cleaning Service
 - 5★ Driveway & Patio Cleaning Service
- Over 180 ★★★★★ Reviews Across Google & Facebook

10% OFF
FOR MVV READERS





PureSeal
Services UK Ltd
APPROVED APPLICATOR

SOFTWASH
Training Solutions
Professional Softwashing
City & Guilds ASSURED

- Fully Insured
- PASMA Trained
- IPAF Trained
- City & Guilds Assured Softwash Technician

 www.haywoodexterior.co.uk  Facebook.com/haywoodexterior

Haughton Garden Guild Show 2025

The tables were laden with vegetables, fruit, flowers, scones, cakes, preserves and handicrafts for Haughton and District Garden and Countryside Guild's Annual Show, held at Haughton Village Hall on Saturday 6th September.

Once again, the weather presented difficulties for the gardeners throughout the growing season, with its heatwaves, long spells without rainfall and an unsettled August. Fruit was in abundance, flowers came early and the vegetable crops were lighter. Even so, Guild members were able to put together a very good-looking show for judging and viewing.



Sue Beatty of Haughton Parish Council and Haughton Village Hall Committee opens the show

The show was opened by Sue Beatty, Haughton Parish Councillor and Secretary of Haughton Village Hall, who presented the trophies and prizes to the winners and runners-up.

At the end of the show any remaining produce was auctioned by Roger Barker (President) and Sue Edwards (Chairman).



Guild President Roger Barker invites bidders to make offers at the produce auction

Guild meetings are held at Haughton Village Hall on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7.30pm.

New members are welcome.



Some very tempting-looking cakes, bakes, fruit and veg

Trophy winners 2025:-

Hollinshead Rose Bowl – Gentlemen
Peter Mincher-Lockett

Hollinshead Trophy – Ladies
Claire Pickering

Charlie Gunter Trophy (Fruit and Vegetables)
Clive Plant

Rowland Dahlia Trophy
Peter Mincher-Lockett

John Williams Trophy (Homecraft)
Claire Pickering
Avril Cotterill Cup (Flowers and Plants)
Peter Mincher-Lockett

Duff Cooper Trophy (Other Award Winner)
Gill Anslow



Mixed cut flowers in a vase and some flowering indoor pot plants make a contrasting display



In spite of recent rain the specimen roses were beautiful



*This year's winners with their trophies.
(L-r) Clive Plant (Fruit and Vegetables), Gill Anslow
(Other Award Winner), Sue Edwards (Chairman),
Claire Pickering (Homecraft and Overall Winner – Ladies),
Peter Mincher-Lockett (Dahlias, Flowers and Plants and
Overall Winner – Gentlemen)*



Tomatoes, carrots and unusual shaped vegetables

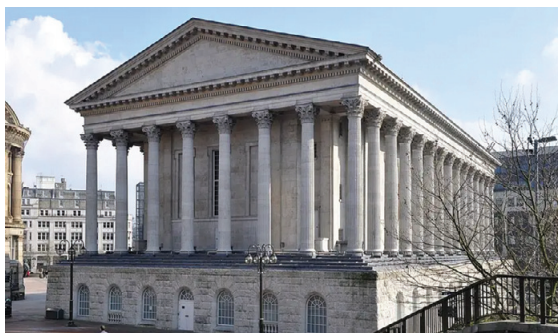


*Sue Beatty with Lesley Clark, Peter Mincher-Lockett and
Clive Plant (Fruit and Vegetable Winner)*



*Sue Beatty with Claire Pickering (Homecraft winner)
Barbara Riddle and Peter Mincher-Lockett*

The Arts Society Lectures



Birmingham Town Hall The Pride of Birmingham and an Ornament to England

*Lecturer Anthony Peers
November 11th*

In October 1834, the Preston Chronicle described the recently completed Town Hall as '*The Pride of Birmingham and an Ornament to England*'.

This impressive neoclassical temple was Britain's first genuinely civic building. Designed to house the country's first great public concert hall, Birmingham Town Hall was a ground-breaker.

It survives as an historic building of national standing.



The Royal Academy - Guardians of British artistic taste?

*Lecturer Ian Swankie
January 20th 2026*

Famous for its annual Summer Exhibition the Royal Academy has been a pillar of British art over 250 years.

The Arts Society meet at Stafford Gatehouse, usually on **the third Wednesday in the month**. Lectures start at 1.45pm and last about 1 1/4 hours.

The Arts Society doesn't meet in December, and then return in January.

Annual membership are available from 1st April - £57, giving access to 10 lectures and to all other Society activities. (*Visits and study days are at cost*)

Guest attendance at first trial lecture costs £10 Membership Application is easy.... Just call our secretary Joan on 01785 284629 Email jholmes123@btinternet.com Or visit our website www.theartssocietystafford.org.uk

Village Voice

Acton & Bednall

NEWS IN BRIEF

Time for Tea

Every Thursday morning the Acton Trussell, Bednall & Teddesley Hay Community Centre plays host to The Tea Room where good company can be enjoyed with hot beverages, scrummy tea cakes and on the first Thursday of the month it's Bacon Buttie Day. Don't miss it - everyone is welcome!

Acton Library

Our Read & Return Library has a large and varied collection of books. When next you're in the Acton Community Centre, it's worth having a browse for your next bedtime story. Borrowing is free but donations are welcome.

Friends Of Bednall AGM

Join us online for our Friends of Bednall AGM on **Monday 24th November at 7.30pm**. Contact David Primrose primrose01@talktalk.net for the zoomlink, and to receive an advance copy of the Annual Report with Accounts.

As well as looking back at the successes of this year's village events - quizzes, village spring clean and maintenance work, craft group, Afternoon Tea and Garden Lunch, we will also be looking forward to events and activities for the coming year.

There will be a particular focus on initiatives which could be based in the church's new community space when it opens next year.

And if you might wish to join Friends of Bednall's committee, then please talk with any of the current members—Carol Bloxham, David Primrose, Elaine le Montais, Neil Homer or Katie Holmes.



Bednall Classic Car Meetings

Many thanks to everyone who has supported our Classic Car Meets. Since the end of May, we have met monthly over the summer months, first in the Car Park, following which Tony Wood kindly let us gather in his paddock.

The events have proved popular with local residents and several enthusiasts from neighbouring areas. Please pass on your comments to Kevin Bucknall, Toni and Paul Castle, Jim Goodwin and David Primrose as we discuss whether to hold similar meets next year.

National Trust Staffordshire Centre Talks

The Staffordshire Centre's programme of talks at Walton Village Hall in Stafford continues on **November 11th**. There is no need to book in advance, just turn up at the door and pay as you go in. However, it would help the organisers if you book your place(s) on our website <https://www.ntstafford.org.uk/> go to Events-Talks - Book a Talk.

All talks start at 2.30 pm and you do not have to be a member of the Centre to attend. Admission is £4.50 for non-members of the Centre and talks are followed by tea and biscuits.



Famous Folk of Staffordshire November 11th

A Talk by Kath Reynolds

This is a talk by the always entertaining Kath Reynolds. The talks Kath presents are a reflection of her interest in people and in social history – usually within living memory. She is a collector and sharer of stories. This will be about some famous sons and daughters of Staffordshire.

John Brindley as the subject of a previous talk a few years ago. Some, such as Robert Peel, the former Prime Minister and founder of the British police force, you may have heard of but won't be sure of the Staffordshire connection. Others, John Currie perhaps? You might think you've heard of – but he wasn't a skater.

Still more – Mary Blagg, Fanny Deakin, for example, may be a complete mystery to you. Come along and listen to Kath reveal all.

Use that idiom!
Two heads are
better than one.



Use that idiom!
Cat got your
tongue.



Idioms And Expressions December 9th

A Talk by Steve Williams

I didn't know how to describe this talk but, in the end, I decided to bite the bullet, get my act together and get something down in black and white. Don't want to steal Steve's thunder by letting the cat out of the bag but I only get to do this once in a blue moon and it's not going to cost me an arm and a leg.

Who thought of all these expressions, and where do they come from?

Perhaps I'm barking up the wrong tree and you should take everything I say with a pinch of salt. The best thing you could do is turn up at Walton Village Hall on December 9th, let Steve Williams tell you himself and get it straight from the horse's mouth.

To keep up with our future events, watch out for us in these pages or check out our Events page at <https://www.ntstafford.org.uk/>



*Sue Zurawiel, President Soroptimist Club Stafford
with David Teasdale, North Staffordshire Bee Keepers
with jars of local Honey*

The Wonderful World of Bees

At a recent meeting, members of Soroptimist International of Stafford welcomed David Teasdale as their Guest Speaker. David belongs to The North Staffordshire Bee Keepers and explained about the wonderful world of Bees.

Bees work at looking after their young and pollinating crops (e.g. *The oil rape seed crop that increased its production by 60% because of pollination by Bees and insects*)

Honey Bees live in Hives with about 50,000 in each colony, consisting of The Queen Bee, hundreds of Drones (male) and thousands of Worker Bees (female)

The Hive has cells, made from wax secreted by the Worker Bees, where the Queen lays her eggs (The Queen can lay 5,000 eggs in one day)

When the larvae hatch they are fed by The Worker Bees with pollen and nectar. Worker Bees must visit over 4,000 flowers to make just one tablespoon of Honey.

The Bee Keepers collect the Honey from the Hive by hand, so that the Bees are not harmed, the Bees are then fed with sugar syrup to replace the Honey.

Honey is made when the Bees ingest nectar, process it and then store the substance in the honeycombs. Bees wax is used for candle making, water proofing, polish, soap and cosmetics.

Soroptimist International is a global voice for women 80,000 members in 3,000 clubs in over 100 countries around the world, who make a positive difference to the lives of over half a million women and girls in the world every year.

For more information about The Soroptimist Organization visit www.sigbi.org
Or for the Stafford club www.sigbi.org/stafford

Local Vocals Christmas Concerts

Local Vocals, the popular community choir, has announced its upcoming Christmas season of concerts.

On **Saturday 13 December 11.30am** catch them at St. Michael's Christmas Tree Festival, Penkridge.

On **Saturday 13 December 7.30pm** they will be at Berkswich Methodist Church

And then on **Monday 15 December 7.30pm** they perform at St. Andrew's Church, Weston.

Tickets from 07729 595460.

New members always welcome, please get in touch on this same number and we look forward to seeing you.

FREE DELIVERY
WITH EVERY
ORDER

Charles Swann
coal merchants

APPROVED COAL &
SMOKELESS FUEL
MERCHANT

01922 408152
SWANNSCOAL.CO.UK

✈️

Core Cars

PRIVATE HIRE • AIRPORT TRANSFERS

- Private Hire for the villages - Church Eaton, Gnosall, Bradley, Wheaton Aston, Blymhill, Haughton, Penkridge & more.
- Comfortable 4WD Vehicle ■ Up to 6 Seat Options
- Ski/Cycle Carriage Available

Airport/Seaport Transfers Up to 4 Passengers

Birmingham	Manchester	Heathrow
from £50	from £65	from £145

Prices are for each way • All UK destinations available

07860 150526 01785 822463

OIL BOILER SPECIALISTS

01782 542632

07811 427423

- All makes of oil boilers, serviced, repaired and installed
- Fully qualified and Oftec registered engineer
- Installation of oil tanks and upgrades

ALL AREAS
COVERED

goldstraws

WWW.GOLDSTRAWS.CO.UK

Brocton WI Meetings

"It's all about colour!" Joanne Massey explained at our September meeting. During her presentation she told us of her passion for all things 1950s, which began as a teenager as a result of *"Becoming fascinated with old movies."*

This passion deepened and developed, after meeting her husband Keith, when they both decided to create their perfect 1950s home, in which they could live their 1950s lifestyle - a perfect retreat from the twenty-first century.

She took us through their journey in creating their authentic home, from travelling up and down the country in search of the perfect vintage piece, to even importing furniture from France. Their attention to detail in creating their retro dream is truly amazing. From bakerlite switches and sockets, formica worktops and eye level grill to a bespoke hall carpet - with its colourful geometric swirls.

Joanne's entertaining talk provided us all with a chance to escape the humdrum of modern day living, as well as encouraging us to let a little more colour into our everyday lives!

Then at our October presentation - *'A Serving Gurkha'*, was presented by a long serving member of the regiment, who had followed in the footsteps of his grandfather and uncle. His talk explored the history, recruitment process and everyday life of a serving Gurkha in the British Army, based in Stafford.



The Gurkha army began in the early 1800s when the King of Gurkha united a number of small kingdoms to create Nepal, which was protected by a new army named after him - the Gurkhas. A peace treaty was signed in 1815 between the King of Nepal and the East India Company. Part of this treaty allowed the company to



Joanne Massey and her husband Keith

recruit young Nepalese men into the East India Company's army. This continued when India became part of the British Empire and later after India was partitioned, four regiments were incorporated into the British Army.

Each year 30,000 applications are received from young Nepalese men for the much coveted 250 places within the British Army's Gurkha regiments. Each eventual recruit is expected to complete a number of gruelling physical and mental tasks including carrying 15Kg for 25Km. This is slightly easier than the previous task which was to carry 35Kg uphill for 2.5 miles! Once selected the recruits move to the UK, where they spend nine months in training. During this time they learn English and study UK culture including how to order a pint of beer in a pub. When they have finished their training they are ready to join one of the Gurkha regiments based throughout the UK including the Signals based in Stafford.

This interesting and informative talk allowed us time to reflect on the bravery of the Gurkhas, as well as the important role they play within the British Army and, as we approach Remembrance Sunday, it provided a fitting opportunity to remember those that have fallen in past wars.

Brocton WI meets on the second Wednesday of each month at Brocton Village Hall (Old Acre Lane, ST17 0TU). New members always welcome. For more information please contact: email secretarybroctonwi@gmail.com Facebook Brocton WI



Bespoke Joinery

We can manufacture anything from a small section of timber to match a pattern to a grand oak staircase. We try to treat every project equally.



Renovation/Restoration

We can bring life back to any timber item, where feasible, and bring it back to its former glory.

Commercial/Residential

We will do any project put to us whether they are residential or commercial, large or small.

Conservation

With our team of highly skilled craftsman we are capable of producing any joinery requirements for conservation area and listed buildings.



Examples of previous work

- Doors • Shop Fitting • Windows • Furniture • Staircases**
• Flooring / Skirting / Architraves • Bars • Gates • Counters • Porches
• Desks • Oak Buildings • Conservatories • Furniture • Barn Conversions

From small acorns grow stunning designs!

Tel: 01543 504563 www.acornjoinerystafford.co.uk
Unit 1A, Walford Works, Longford Road, Cannock, WS11 0LF

Derrington Dream Boys Calendar 2026

Raising Funds for the Heart of the Community and Prostate Cancer UK

Following a community meeting earlier this year, it became clear that additional funding was essential to continue the upkeep of Derrington Village Hall – a true pillar of our local community. In response, I decided to take on a fundraising initiative, with proceeds going to support Derrington Village Hall, Prostate Cancer UK, and a contribution towards St. Matthew's Church for essential repairs.

After a bit of gentle persuasion (*and a few laughs*), the Derrington Dream Boys Calendar 2026 was born – featuring local men aged 28 to 83, bravely baring all for a good cause! With a combined age of 900 years, this group of volunteers has shown true community spirit, good humour, and generosity.

We officially launched the calendar on 25th October at Derrington Social Club, who kindly hosted and supported the evening. It was a fantastic event, full of community spirit and support.

How to Get Your Calendar: Calendars are available now for £10 each. To order: Email: vickyturner29@yahoo.co.uk Or purchase directly from Derrington Social Club.

Special Thanks To: Paul Milgate-Scarrott Photography – for your time, talent, and professionalism in capturing these memorable images. R.W. Print – for bringing the calendar to life with your excellent printing services. Derrington Social Club – for supporting the launch and being an invaluable part of our village.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this project. Let's continue to come together to celebrate our community and raise vital funds for these worthy causes.

From Vicky Spencer, Derrington Resident



Acton & Bednall Parish Sunday Lunch



The team of helpers - From L to R: Angela Hughes, Ali Webb, Katie Holmes, Toni Castle, Carol Bloxham, Alison Primrose, Joan Hammerton and David Primrose

With our village marquees installed at Hill House, forty guests sat down safely out of the rain to enjoy a three-course Sunday lunch on Sunday 14th September.

Many thanks to all those who, in preparations and on the day, worked so hard to ensure this was a great community success, as well as raising £825.50 for church funds.

Our sincere thanks go to both Alison and David Primrose who kindly hosted the Parish Lunch at their home at Hill House. The marquees offered shelter on

what was a blustery day, but that did nothing to dampen the most enjoyable time had by all.

The menu choice was lovely: first course was soup or melon, main course was chicken casserole, cooked ham or mushroom tart and for dessert the choice was summer pudding, apple crumble or poached pears.

Thanks go to everyone involved in the organising, cooking, serving and preparations before the event and clearing up after the event.



Some of our members helping pack the boxes

Penkridge Inner Wheel Sending Christmas Cheer

Every autumn our members of Penkridge Inner Wheel fill 50 boxes, with items donated by members, for the nationwide shoebox appeal to provide Christmas gifts to vulnerable children, through schools, nurseries, hospitals and orphanages.

The organisation Teams4U, working with partners such as the Red Cross, distributes the boxes to Ukraine, Romania, and other Eastern European countries, wherever children are most in need.

We fill each box with useful and fun items, toys, toiletries, school supplies, socks, pants, and warm scarves and hats knitted for us by local volunteers.

For some children, receiving a shoebox may be the first gift they have ever received, bringing happiness and a



sense of being valued. For us, the social fun of joining together to fill the shoeboxes, brings joy and friendship with a sense of International understanding, prime objectives of Inner Wheel service.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a member of one of the world's largest international voluntary service organisations, we welcome membership from all women who wish to share our aims.

We meet monthly at the Moat House, Acton Trussell.

Please contact our secretary, Margaret Taylor margaret_taylor@btinternet.com, 07791160648



Carolyn Lane, our International service organiser

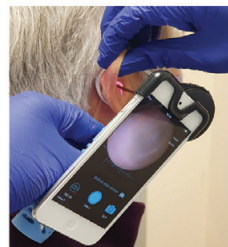


EarwaxDoc® Ltd
Ear wax removal specialist

ENDOSCOPIC EARWAX MICROSUCTION

**Safe and effective earwax removal,
using the latest endoscopic technology**

- **In Clinic or Home Appointments Available**
- **Evening & Weekend Appointments Available**



**Based at Parkfield Business Centre
Park Street, Stafford ST17 4AL**

Call 07897 832 997

earwaxdoc@gmail.com www.earwaxdoc.co.uk

THE STONE & ECCLESHALL Gazette

The Stone & Eccleshall Gazette is hand delivered bi-monthly to 13,400 homes in Stone, Eccleshall and the surrounding areas.

The Gazette and My Village Voice are both 'editorially led', and it's local editorial content that is at the heart of what we do. An abundance of quality, local editorial is the reason readers will keep a free magazine.

Some of our advertisers have been with us for over the 20 years we have been publishing, and on any given month, up to 80% were in the previous edition.



My Village Voice

My Village Voice is our sister publication, it has the same ethos as The Gazette, in terms of strong local editorial content, but is delivered to homes and businesses within villages to the south of Stafford.

5,400 copies are hand delivered bi-monthly to Acton Trussell, Bednall, Bradley, Brocton, Church Eaton, Colwich, Copenhall, Dunston, Derrington, Haughton, Marston, Milford, Seighford, Great Haywood, Little Haywood and Walton on the Hill.

THE ST15 DIRECTORY

The ST15 Directory is an annual directory, produced by The Stone & Eccleshall Gazette.

10,000 copies are delivered each year in late January, to homes and businesses within the ST15 postcode area. B5 in size it has a strong laminated cover, making it perfect to keep all year round.

2026 BOOKING DEADLINE - JANUARY 10TH 2026



Advertising with us could make a real difference to your business in 2026

Call 07514 967 890 or email: stonegazette@outlook.com

www.stonegazette.com www.myvillagevoice.co.uk www.st15directory.co.uk



St James' Church Tidy Up

Thanks to all who came along to the St James, Acton Trussell churchyard tidy-up on Saturday 13th September, armed with their brushes, spades, wheelbarrows and secateurs.

We were small in numbers this time but what a great job we did (*both outside in the churchyard and also inside the church*) and we enjoyed a good chat and catch up too!



Barry & Geoffrey before the start of the service

The End Of An Era

Sadly, this October saw the last of the Farmer's harvest celebrations to be held at High Coley Farm, Little Haywood generously hosted by Barry Baggott and his family.



The congregation

This was the 14th such occasion and was attended by over 300 folk. The service was taken by Rev Geoffrey Staton with the setting in a barn and hay bales to sit on.

It was followed by a drink and bacon bap (*the latter supplied by T G Sargeant (butchers) of Bramshall & Uttoxeter*).

This event alone raised just short of £5,000 donated to Katherine House Hospice.

A huge vote of thanks goes out to the Baggott family and their neighbours and friends who have made this event such a wonderful and memorable occasion over the years.

Cllr Andy Cooper
Stafford Borough Council



The Harvest display



Rennie - Clarinet



Flo - Bassoon

Newport Music Club 50th Anniversary Season

The finale of Newport Music Club 50th anniversary season sees the visit of a trio of talented young musicians to Cosy Hall on **Saturday November 15th** at 7.00 p.m. at Cosy Hall, Newport TF10 7LD.

We are delighted to introduce Rennie Sutherland, clarinet; Florence Plane, bassoon and David Palmer, piano.

Lumas Wind Trio are members of Lumas Winds, an ensemble based in London committed to promoting the rich variety of wind chamber music repertoire and have been described as 'one to watch' (BBC Radio 3, Record Review). Winners of the prestigious 71st Royal Over-Seas League Mixed Ensemble Prize, the group are currently Munster Recital Scheme Artists and Kirkman Concerts Society Young Artists.

Alongside performing the classics of the repertoire, Lumas explore works that deserve recognition. This is highlighted in the six hidden gems on their debut album, *The Naming of Birds*, released in May 2024, it features works from every decade from 1960 to 2010 and includes three world premiere recordings. They will be playing works by Mozart, Glinka and Hurlestone.

The ensemble has performed in venues throughout the UK including Wigmore and Conway Hall, Snape Maltings, St George's Bristol, and recently toured Scotland with the generous support of the Tunnell Music Trust.

Tickets are £15 adult/£5 child & student (cash or cheque) at the door on the day.

Contact the Music Club at chairman@newportmusicclub.org or phone 07726 959233 to confirm the number of adults and children tickets you would like to reserve.

To discover more visit our website

www.newportmusicclub.org.

Newport Music Club returns with a programme of six concerts in 2026. The first will be on **Sunday January 25th at 3.00 p.m. featuring the Jarualda String Quartet.**



David Palmer - Piano

The Grooming Barn

01785 665348

High quality
**GROOMING
SERVICES**
for your dog

Our services include:

- Individual Grooming
- Clipping
- Hand Stripping
- Washing & Pampering



Contact us for prices and appointment bookings. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.



A ONE TO ONE SERVICE
Just like a salon experience!

The Grooming Barn, Home Farm, Main Road,
Milford, Stafford ST17 0UW

www.thegroomingbarn.co.uk info@thegroomingbarn.co.uk

Wooden Garage Doors and Gates By "The Woodworks"



Doors and Gates can be supplied and fitted complete with all hardware and staining or painting.

Automation systems available

Telephone for brochure and full price list.

Thousands of installations - The Woodworks has been established for 30 Years (since 1987)

Overdale Farm, Main Road, Colwich Stafford ST17 0XQ
Call Pete on 07944 656591 or 01889 359759

An Afternoon of Art, Music and Style in Salt

Salt Village Hall was transformed into a haven of creativity and charm on Saturday, 14th September, when Sue Chatterton's talented watercolour group unveiled their latest exhibition.

The afternoon was not only a celebration of artistic skill but also a delightful social occasion that will surely be remembered as one of the highlights of the village calendar.

At the heart of the exhibition was a special feature: a collection inspired by Ed Conway - singer, entertainer, and master of many instruments. The artists captured both his presence and the spirit of his music with sensitivity and flair, and visitors were impressed with the standard of the artwork. The atmosphere was one of admiration both for the artists and Ed who brought so much joy through performance.

The event was crowned with the announcement of Ed's personal choice of painting to take home. The honour went to Carole Field, whose work stood out for its warmth and originality and attention to detail. Her painting will now grace Ed's home, a fitting tribute to the bond between artist and subject.

Of course, no village gathering would be complete without refreshments - but what awaited guests went far beyond the expected. Afternoon tea was served with such finesse that one could easily have mistaken it for the spread of a five-star hotel. Delicate sandwiches, exquisite cakes, and endless cups of tea created an indulgent pause between viewing artworks, sparking conversations among friends old and new.

Those who were lucky enough to attend left with their senses filled, eyes dazzled by watercolours, ears reminded of Ed's music, and tastebuds thoroughly spoiled. And for those who missed it? Let's just say you missed



From left, Jane Mitchell, Ed Conway and Carole Field

more than an exhibition - you missed an experience.

The event was held to raise funds for a professional hanging system for the gallery that is a feature of the Village Hall.

This is a permanent exhibition space **open to the public on a Thursday from 10am to 3pm** or by arrangement.

£230 was raised towards the hanging system. The hanging system means the exhibitions will look even better and we will no longer have to knock nails into the wall. Salt Village Hall has once again proved itself to be more than a venue: it was a stage for talent, a home for community, and, on this September afternoon, the very centre of culture and delight.

Come 'Dance Scottish' with the Stafford Caledonians

Have you ever wanted to try Scottish Country Dancing but never got round to giving it a go. Now is your chance to find out more through the Stafford and District Caledonian Society.

Don't worry you don't need to be Scottish or wear tartan all the time and you don't need a partner. Our friendly and inclusive group welcomes new members of all abilities with beginners especially encouraged.

Not only can you learn and develop Scottish Country Dancing steps and dances, but it's also a way of keeping fit and active, having fun and meeting new people.

The group meets weekly on Wednesday evenings at the North End Community Centre, Holmcroft Road, Stafford ST16 1 JG starting with the Beginners and Improvers session at 7pm.

Just wear something you are comfortable in and bring some pumps or lightweight trainers.

The session continues for social dancing at 7.45pm with a break for tea and chat at 8.30pm, with the evening finishing at 9.30pm. The social dancing includes learning new dances with 'walk throughs' of all dances so people are familiar with them before we dance each one.

The evening session costs £3 and the annual subscription is £10. Those attending the Beginners session only pay £1.50.

The group runs from September to May and during that time there are some special occasions like Burns Night, President's Evening and Annual Ball not forgetting the Fish and Chip Supper plus dancing!

Start date of the new session was on 3rd September



2025, carrying on every Wednesday.

There is a website for the group at **www.staffordscottishdancing.danceorg.uk** so you can check out what's on and see any variations to timings. Alternatively you can phone Gerald on 07904 380760 for information about membership or to ask any questions and there is a contact form on the website, where you will usually get a response within 24 hours.

So put on your Scottish dancing shoes, come along to the Stafford and District Caledonian Society and 'Dance Scottish'.



Church Services at Acton and Bednall Nov/Dec 2025

Church Services at Acton and Bednall until the end of December 2025. Get the Christmas dates in your diary now. **We look forward to seeing you.**

Sunday Services in church at 9.30am, Friday services at 10am		All Saints, Bednall	St James, Acton	All Welcome
Day	Date			Preaching/Leading
Sunday	9th November		Remembrance 10.50 am	DH/RH
Friday	14th November		BCP Holy Communion	DH
Sunday	16th November	Holy Communion		DP/PC
Sunday	23rd November		Morning Prayer	RH/DH
Friday	28th November		BCP Holy Communion	GY
Sunday	30th November	Morning Prayer		EB/JB
Sunday	7th December		Holy Communion	DP/RH
Friday	12th December		BCP Holy Communion	DH
Sunday	14th December	Holy Communion		PC/DH
Sunday	21st December		Carol Service 8.30pm Advent 4	RH/DH
Wednesday	24th December		Christmas Eve	DH
Wednesday	24th December	Carol Service 6pm		DP/PC
Wednesday	24th December		Midnight Holy Communion 11.30pm	DH/RH
Thursday	25th December	Extended Holy Communion 9.00am		PC
Sunday	28th December	No Service	No Service	

Contacts: All Saints, Grete Willacy - 01785 661939; St James, Roger Howarth - 01785 714527

Sunday Online Zoom services 11am. Phone- 01785 714527 email roger.howarth@ltddev.net

What's on at Great Bridgeford Village Hall

Monday		Time	Contact
Monday Club	alternate weeks, over 60s;	1.30 - 3.30 pm	Maureen 01785 282 785
Zumba	Weekly	6.00-7.00	Michelle - 07449 048 726
Garden Guild	2nd Monday in the month	7.30 - 9.00pm	Angie - 01785 282 634
Tuesday			
Parent and Toddlers	Weekly during term time	10.00-12.00	Joan 01785 282 722
Moorland Voices Choir	First Tuesday of the month	8.00-9.30	Sue 07710 234 223
V Hall Committee mtg	Every 2 months	7.30-9.00	Chairman Phil Causer
Wednesday			
Coffee Morning	Alternate weeks - 2025 15th & 29th Oct, 12th & 26th Nov: 10th Dec, 2026 - 7th & 21st Jan, 4th & 18th Feb	10.30-12.00	Leslie & Peter 282 582 Homemade cakes including gluten-free and sugar reduced
Tai Chi movements for Wellbeing	weekly	2.00-3.00	Sam 07948 717 534
Argentine Tango	Weekly	8.00-11.00	Hannah 07749 368 581
Thursday			
Canine partners - assistance dogs	Last Thursday in the month;	10.00 - 12.00	Ronnie 07584 995 247
Baby Massage	Weekly	10.00-11.00	Stacey 07872 647 296
Gentle Yoga	Weekly	6.00-6.45	Emma 07376 050 512
Yoga Flow	Weekly	7.00-8.00	Emma 07376 050 512
Friday			
Life drawing	Weekly during term time	9.30-12.30	Laura 07588 074 229
Argentine Tango	Weekly Beginners Course	7.00-9.00	Hannah 07749 368 581

Tennis Club - contact Sarah Twigg - 07971 443 396

To book the hall go to
www.greatbridgefordvillagehall.org.uk
and choose Online Booking to take you to the calendar.
Booking Secretary - Amanda Milner 07963 548 691

The Clothing Bank on Great Bridgeford Village Hall car park is for quality unwanted clothes and shoes (in pairs, please). Proceeds will be shared between the Salvation Army and St Chad's Church.

Sandon Hall Concert

The Chanteuse Ladies Choir will perform an 'Evening of Christmas music and much more' at Sandon Hall on **Wednesday December 3rd at 7.30pm.**

Light refreshments and a Bar will be available on the evening. Tickets are available from 07976 540491 or 07972 838140. In support of All Saints Church.



FAMILY RUN BUSINESS BASED IN LITTLE HAYWOOD
PROVIDING ALL TYPES OF LANDSCAPING
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION INCLUDING

Garden designs • Total clearance and rebuild
• All types of fencing • Slabbing
• Turfing • Driveways and groundworks
• Hedge cutting and tree work

PROVIDING A SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS

FREE QUOTE CALL BEN • 01889 622860 • 07896 110253
Email: ben.r.coates@hotmail.co.uk • Find us on facebook @rootedltd



Elsie Bloxham shows off the cakes!

Bednall Cake Friday Success

Our team of 'home-made cake bakers' have provided delicious cakes for our village cart throughout the summer, which have proved to be greatly appreciated.

These regular goodies, along with contributions of homemade cards, jams and other bring and buy produce, have drawn much needed donations towards the everyday running of our beautiful church.

We have managed to raise approximately £1,300 for church funds. We would love to have some more bakers to join our team next summer. Any contribution, however small, would be very welcome - many hands make light work. Please contact Alison Webb on 07811 196836 if you'd like to help.



Macmillan Coffee Morning at Great Bridgeford

A very big thank you to everybody who came to our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning on Wednesday October 1st, and donated so generously.

Old friends, new friends, ex- colleagues, and Bridgeford Coffee Morning regulars all contributed to the magnificent total of **£363.80!**

There was another £47.25 raised through Gift Aid, and some who weren't able to donate on the day also donated online.

Thank you also to those who made cakes, including Amanda who has recently joined our team, and Peter, and thank you to those who helped on the day, collecting empties, putting away the furniture, sweeping the floor - it all helped to make the morning a great success.

Thank you everybody



Ride And Stride Thanks

It was a lovely day on the Saturday morning 13th September for Ride and Stride, but got rather rainy later on!

Well done to all the cyclists who got involved, especially our loyal local supporters.

Both St James Acton, and All Saints Bednall, welcomed the Ride and Striders and some visitors and offered much needed refreshments - thanks to everyone who helped with refreshments and opened the churches to our visitors.

A Macmillan – Thank you!

The tearooms at Acton Trussell, Bednall and Teddesley Hay Community Centre raised an amazing £490 for Macmillan Cancer Support at their coffee morning this year. **Thank you to all!**

Thank you for making our Coffee Morning special

Together, we raised a fabulous

£490

to support people living with cancer.

It's not too late to donate.

Simply scan this QR code with your phone to donate to your host's Coffee Morning.

It's easy, quick and secure. Thank you.

Scan me to donate



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (206107), Scotland (SC206907) and the Isle of Man (807). Also operating in Northern Ireland, MAC206907, Jersey & Guernsey, Jersey.

THE STONE & ECCLESHALL Gazette

The Stone & Eccleshall Gazette is hand delivered bi-monthly to 13,400 homes in Stone, Eccleshall and the surrounding areas.

The Gazette and My Village Voice are both 'editorially led', and it's local editorial content that is at the heart of what we do. An abundance of quality, local editorial is the reason readers will keep a free magazine.

Some of our advertisers have been with us for over the 20 years we have been publishing, and on any given month, up to 80% were in the previous edition.



MY VILLAGE VOICE

My Village Voice is our sister publication, it has the same ethos as The Gazette, in terms of strong local editorial content, but is delivered to homes and businesses within villages to the south of Stafford.

5,400 copies are hand delivered bi-monthly to Acton Trussell, Bednall, Bradley, Brocton, Church Eaton, Colwich, Coppenthorpe, Dunston, Derrington, Houghton, Marston, Milford, Seighford, Great Haywood, Little Haywood and Walton on the Hill.

THE ST15 DIRECTORY

The ST15 Directory is an annual directory, produced by The Stone & Eccleshall Gazette.

10,000 copies are delivered each year in late January, to homes and businesses within the ST15 postcode area. B5 in size it has a strong laminated cover, making it perfect to keep all year round.

2026 BOOKING DEADLINE - JANUARY 10TH 2026



Advertising with us could make a *real difference* to your business in 2026

Call 07514 967 890 or email: stonegazette@outlook.com

www.stonegazette.com www.myvillagevoice.co.uk www.st15directory.co.uk



AKB
ELECTRICAL
COVERING STAFFORD,
STONE, AND SURROUNDS

**YOUR LOCAL, RELIABLE
ELECTRICIAN**

**25 YEARS EXPERIENCE
DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL**

**CALL MICK ON
07351 651 385**

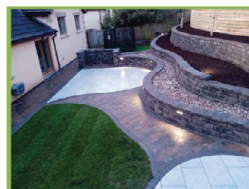
HILDENS

Driveways & Patios



01785 749422 - 07834 233356

WWW.HILDENS.CO.UK





M L Wenlock Ltd
Landscaping and Groundworks Services

EXPERIENCED LAND MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS

- Hedge Cutting
- Agricultural Services
- Private and Commercial
- Paddock Maintenance, Topping, Harrowing & Rolling
- Baling and Wrapping
- Spraying & Weed Wiping
- Chipper Services
- Tractor & Digger Work Including Drainage
- Garden & Ground Maintenance
- Decking • Turfing • Fencing
- Landscaping
- Shed Assembly & Shed Bases
- Patios • Garden Features
- Raised Borders
- Garden Clearance
- Groundworks
- Excavator Services
- Stem Injection Treatment for Japanese Knotweed



FREE NO
OBLIGATION
QUOTES

FAMILY RUN
COMPANY
Over 20 years' experience

NO JOB
TOO BIG OR
TOO SMALL

LOCATED IN
SWYNNERTON



City & Guilds

FOLLOW US ON
facebook

Mob: 07969 507573 Tel: 01782 796488

E: markwenlockltd@gmail.com www.markwenlockltd.co.uk

We Care About the Details • Customer Satisfaction Guaranteed

MARK REDLER & Co SOLICITORS YOUR "FRIENDS IN LAW"



- Conveyancing
- Civil Litigation
- Divorce & Family Matters
- Personal Injury Claims
- Wills & Probate and Powers of Attorney
- Employment Law

T: 01785 256445 M: 07837 069107
post@markredler.co.uk

**FOR A PROMPT,
LOCAL AND FRIENDLY
PEST CONTROL
SERVICE YOU
CAN RELY ON**

**CALL OLIVER AT
TERMINATE AND
WE'LL BE THERE
TO HELP**

For a free, no obligation
quote give Terminate Pest
Control a call on

**01889 882366
OR 07795 180493**

TERMINATE PEST CONTROL



Based in Little Haywood

We can treat for:

- Wasps and other flying insects
- Rats and mice • Ants • Fleas and bedbugs • Commercial and domestic treatments undertaken.

Terminate Pest Control uses the most up to date techniques to remove pests and will give you free advice on how to prevent them coming back again.



Big or Small, We Do It All!

We specialise in: New Roofs • Flat Roofs

- Tile and Slate Roofs • Leadwork

- Repointing • Chimney Stacks

- All Roof Repairs • Replacing Missing

- or Broken Tiles Valleys Repairs

- New PVC Fascias and Gutters

- Moss Removal - *WE DON'T USE PRESSURE WASHERS*

BE WINTER READY!

**Moss
Removal &
Gutter Clean
from £295**



**Find &
Repair
Leak
from £175**

A local family run business

Call us today on 01785 305 141

www.rapidresponseroofing.co.uk

rapidresponse06@yahoo.com



Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

J.A. Mayer Decorators
Jack and Aaron Mayer

PAINTING AND DECORATING

STAFFORD
STAFFORDSHIRE

07980 175287 / 07854 780886

J.A.MAYERDECORATORS@GMAIL.COM

**YOUR AD
COULD GO
HERE**

Call My Village Voice
on 07514 967 890

MALPASS

PEST SOLUTIONS



Residential
Commercial
24hr Service
Fully Insured
Fast & Reliable
Falconry Specialist

CALL FOR A FREE SURVEY!

ECCLESHALL BASED

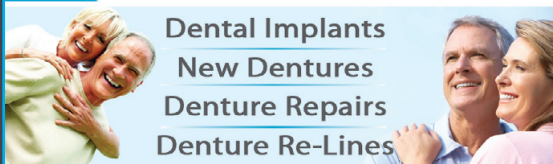
Pat Malpass
Senior Technician
07496 944 410

info@malpasspestsolutions.co.uk

www.malpasspestsolutions.co.uk



HarrisonDenture
Clinic Ltd



Dental Implants
New Dentures
Denture Repairs
Denture Re-Lines

WE HAVE RELOCATED TO

The Advanced Clinic at 13 Lichfield Road,

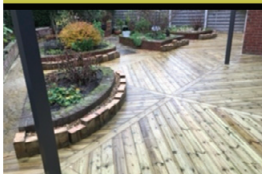
Stone ST15 8NA 01785 338505

Talbot Place Dental Practice 18 Wolverhampton Road

Stafford ST17 4BP 01785 255435

DECC-KING

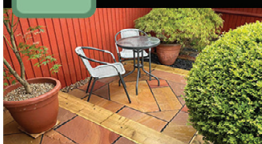
DECKING • SEATING • LIGHTING • PLANTERS
PROFESSIONAL DECKSMITHS



A

ALAN BENNETT

Landscapes & Maintenance



Patios - Driveways - Fencing/Gates - Decking
Drainage - Digger/Operator Hire - Retaining

T: 01785 213522 M: 07813 892408

www.stafford-decking.co.uk

www.alanbennettlandscapes.co.uk

Haywood Fencing

Specialists in all types of Fencing & Gates

Post & Rail • Field Gates • Stock Fencing
Concrete Posts & Gravel Boards • Close Board Panels
• Handrail • Sheds • Decking • Sleepers • Gravel Drives
Hedges Removed • Slabbing • Grass Cutting
• Concreting • Groundworks

Hardwood & Kiln Dried Logs For Sale

Call Stephen on 01889 358039

or mobile 07831 606530

A.T. HOME SERVICES

(Coppenhall)

Reliable, trustworthy, & insured, local handyman available for all kinds of help around the home.

Servicing Coppenhall, Hyde Lea, Dunston and surrounding areas, all work considered, no job too small, call Andy on 07718 190494

Facebook: athomeservs



OUTDOOR & GARDEN

- Lawn mowing & edging
- Trimming & pruning
- Leaf clearing & tidy up

HOUSEHOLD ASSEMBLY & DIY

- Flat pack assembly
- Picture, mirror & TV hanging
- Curtain & blind installation

BASIC TECH SET UP

- Wifi Routers
- Smart Devices
- TV Boxes

EAGO

PERFECT HOME SOLUTIONS



Quality, Affordable Bathrooms, Kitchens, Bedrooms & Tiles
Combining Style and Innovation

Our Perfect Solutions are exclusively designed for you



Looking to upgrade your Bathroom, Kitchen or Bedroom?

Then visit the one stop shop for all your home solution needs.

Our **Brand New Showroom**, which is mobility friendly, is the biggest for miles, with **Over 60 Bathrooms and Cloakrooms, 10 Kitchens and 10 Bedrooms On Display!** Many are live displays, so you can really get a feel of the quality that's on offer.

Our **Tile Outlet** gives you hundreds of choices - with all the very latest fashions - or maybe you're looking for a more traditional look?

There's 100's of designs **IN STOCK to TAKE AWAY** the same day.

We offer a free design and consultation service, with evening and daytime appointments available.



Open 8am - 4pm Monday to Friday, 9am - 4pm on Saturdays, 11am - 3pm Sundays at
Eago Perfect Home Solutions Greyfriars Way, Stafford ST16 2RF
Call us today on 01785 244447 or come and take a look around