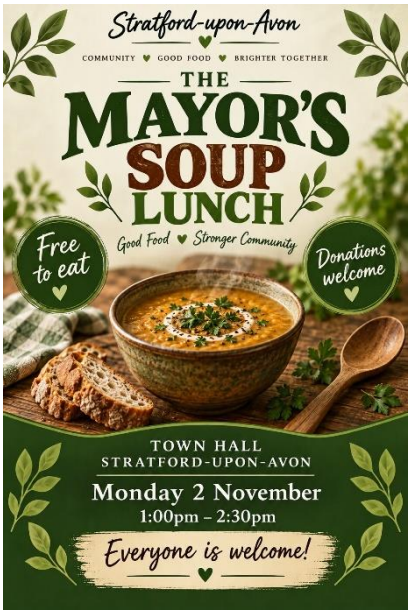
Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council

November 2026 Newsletter

This issue's must-read articles:

- The Mop Fair
- Remembrance Commemorations
- Christmas Lights Switch-on
- Contemporary Arts Fair
- Charity Christmas Tractor Run
- Stratford-upon-Avon Christmas Markets
- Santa's Postbox
- Community Corner and much more…

For regular updates throughout the month, follow us on Facebook!







Stratford-upon-Avon Mop Fair
A tradition through the ages

A much-loved fixture in the Warwickshire calendar, Stratford-upon-Avon Mop Fair has a history stretching back centuries. Originating as a hiring fair for agricultural and domestic workers, it gave employers the opportunity to recruit staff for the year ahead. Workers would carry an item representing their trade, with those without a particular skill carrying a mop head - giving the fair its name.

Today, the fair takes place on 12 October, transforming the town centre into a lively funfair filled with rides, games, food and entertainment. During the 1950s, special trains were even laid on to bring visitors from surrounding areas.

The fun continues a week later with the Runaway Mop, traditionally offering a final opportunity for employers and workers to reconsider their arrangements before committing to a year's employment. Now a popular street fair, it combines exciting modern rides with traditional attractions.

Though its original purpose has changed, Stratford's Mop Fair remains a cherished tradition, bringing generations together to celebrate the town's history.





Remembrance Commemorations

Sunday 8 November 2026

Garden of Remembrance, Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon.
Arrival from 10:30am
Service of Remembrance and wreath laying.
Following the service, the March Past and salute will take place in Church Street (opposite the District Council building)

The following roads will be closed from 07:00am - 12 noon:

Chapel Street
Church Street
Chapel Lane
Old Town
Southern Lane
Waterside (from the junction with Sheep Street to Southern Lane)
College Street
Bull Street (junction with Chestnut Walk to the junction with Narrow Lane)



Wednesday 11 November 2026
Armistice Day
Interfaith Service, Evesham Road Cemetery
Arrival from 3:30pm

Christmas Lights Switch-on
Saturday 14 November 2026

Stratford-upon-Avon town centre will once again be dazzled with its annual Christmas Lights on 14th November 2026. Switch-on will take place at 5:30pm on Wood Street.

The entertainment and activities organised by Stratford Upon Avon BID and partners, will transform the town into a winter wonderland, featuring interactive attractions like a giant snow globe, plus face painters and other family-friendly delights.

Live music and roaming

Free parking

From 4pm - 11:59pm on Saturday 14 November, you will be to park for free in the following car parks:

Arden Street
Church Street
Fisherman`s car park (Warwick Road)
Guild Street (Disabled Only)
Riverside car park (Leisure Centre)
Recreation Ground car park
Windsor Street
Swans Nest Lane

performers added to the festive atmosphere, while businesses and the market welcome shoppers, offering unique seasonal items.

The superb Christmas Lights Company illuminations are making the town sparkle. Residents and visitors are invited to celebrate with the Stratford-upon-Avon businesses, embracing the festive season's joy and community spirit.

There will be Christmas Market stalls within the town centre, which will be open from 10am to 7pm; this is organised by LSD Promotions.

More information can be found here: stratforduponavonbid.co.uk/

Road closures will be in place for the event. More information can be found here: stratford-tc.gov.uk/news/

Bridgeway Multi-Storey and the Surface Car Park and the Riverside coach / lorry car park are NOT included.

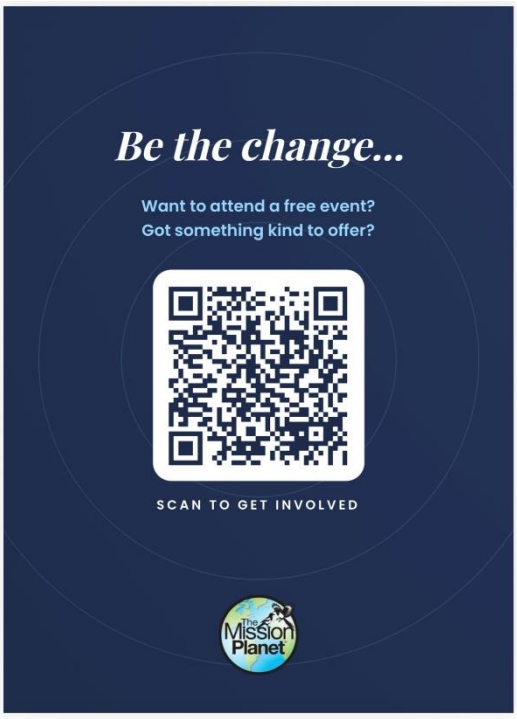
You will still need to pay if parked here.



KindFest
14-21 November 2026

For one week this November, local people, groups and businesses across Stratford are hosting free events for everyone!
More information can be found here: https://www.themissionplanet.com/kindfest





Contemporary Arts Fair

The best Arts Fair in the Region with 40 artists exhibiting their work and of course the Golden Cup Cafe!

When:
Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th November
Open to the Public FREE ENTRY

Where:
Stratford-upon-Avon Town Hall, Sheep Street, CV37 6EF

Opening times:
10:30 - 5pm Saturday
10:30 - 4pm Sunday

You are welcome to join us to discover artwork to fall in love with, chat with our artists, gather presents for yourself or to give to others, commission pieces of artwork, but mostly be inspired….



Santa's Post Box

Santa's post box will be outside the Town Hall from **Saturday 14 November** until **Tuesday 15 December**.

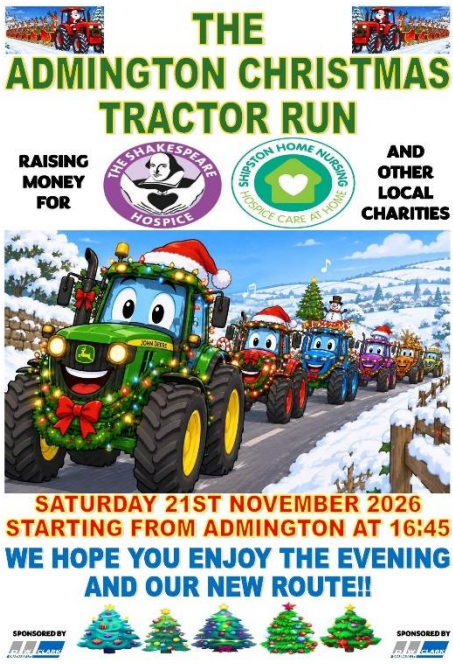
You can post your letters **Monday to Friday**. The post box will also be available when the Town Hall is open for weekend events.

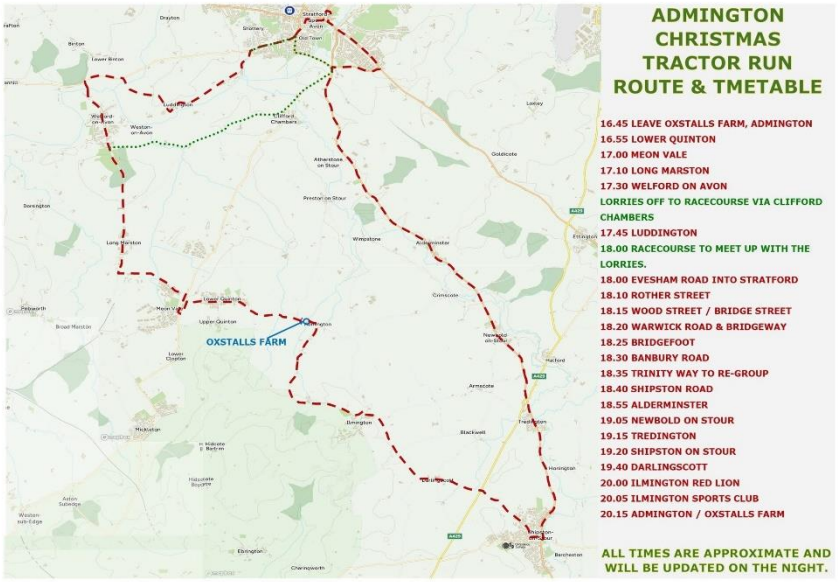
Don't forget to include a return address with your letter so Santa knows where to send his reply!



Charity Christmas Tractor Run

This years event is taking place on Saturday 21st November and they are raising funds for two local charities - The Shakespeare Hospice and Shipston Home Nursing. More details can be found below including timings and route.





Christmas Markets

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Stratford-upon-Avon!

First weekend: Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November 2026
Second weekend: Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 December 2026
Saturday opening times: 12noon - 8pm
Sunday opening times: 10am - 5pm

Stroll through the streets lined with twinkling lights, discover unique gifts from local makers, warm up with mulled wine and snack on delicious festive treats. From handmade crafts to tasty street food, there's something magical around every corner – the perfect way to kick off the holiday season! More information can be found here: [stratford-upon-avon-christmas-markets]

Road closures will be in place for the events:
Waterside - fully closed
Bridge Street - fully closed (both directions)
High Street - One way system will be in operation.
Sheep Street - Open but no access onto Waterside
We encourage visitors, using their own transport, to use the Stratford-upon-Avon Park & Ride in Bishopton. Normal park & ride charges will apply on each of these days.

More information can be found here: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/stratfordparkandride]

Temporary bus stops will be in place for the events, buses will arrive and depart from Guild Street (behind M&S).

These events are brought to you by Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council and LSD Promotions



Hubs in Stratford-upon-Avon



Hubs – Stratford upon Avon

Net Zero Climate Hub
30 Meer Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6QB
Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays 10am-4pm

Arts & Heritage Hub
The Old Slaughterhouse, Sheep Street CV37 6EE
Mondays 1-3pm

RSC Warm Hub
The Welcome Space, Level 2, Royal Shakespeare Theatre CV37 6BB
Tuesdays 10:30am-12:30pm

Stratford Warm Hub
Office 1, 11 Guild Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6RE
Tuesdays 11am-12:30pm

Stratford Library Henley Street CV37 6PZ
(general Library opening hours 9am-5pm Mon-Fri and 10am-3pm Sat)
Wednesdays 1:30-4pm

Stratford Town Trust Community Hub
Venture House, Avenue Farm Industrial Estate CV37 0HR
First Thursday of the month 10am-12:30pm

St Gregory's Parish Room
Welcombe Road, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6UJ
Thursdays 11am-1pm

Clopton Connect Warm Hub
Ken Kennett Centre, Justins Avenue CV37 0DA
Fridays 1-3:30pm

Net Zero : Community Kitchen
Ken Kennett Centre, Justins Avenue CV37 0DA All welcome.
Pay as you feel.
Fridays 5-6:30pm

January 2026

Mayor's Engagements

If you would like to request the Mayors attendance at an event, please click on the link below and complete the online form. Once received we will check availability and contact you as soon as possible: stratford-tc.gov.uk/the-mayors-diary/

Civic Diary 2026

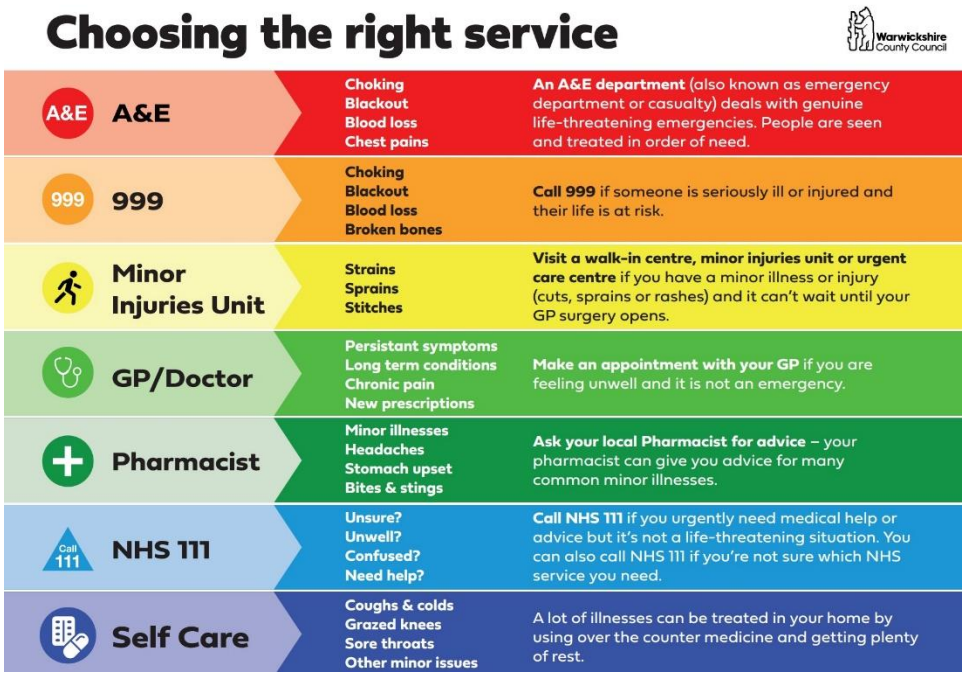
Sunday 8 November
Remembrance Sunday, Garden of Remembrance

Wednesday 11 November
Armistice Day, Interfaith Service, Evesham Road Cemetery
Saturday 14 November
Christmas Lights Switch-on, Town Centre

Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 November
Stratford Christmas Markets (weekend 1)

Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 December
Stratford Christmas Markets (weekend 2)

NHS Services, Minor Injuries and Useful Contact Numbers







Useful Contacts

Local Police (**Non-emergency**)	101
Severn Trent emergency line	0800 783 4444
National gas emergency service	0800 111 999
Power cuts	105 0800 6783 105
NHS	111
Late night pharmacy	01789 200920
Stratford Hospital	01789 205831
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
UHCW Hospital	02476 964000
Stratford Foodbank	07736 929029
Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council	01789 269332
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
Citizens Advice South Warwickshire	0808 250 5715
VASA – Community Transport	01789 262889 (Option 1)

Future Town Council Meetings

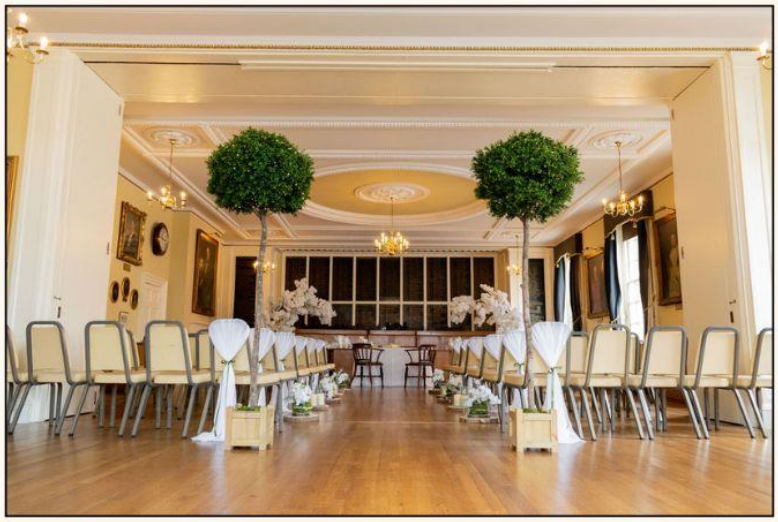
Tuesday 3 November
Governance, Finance & Resources Committee

Tuesday 10 November
Planning, Environment & Transport Committee

Tuesday 24 November
Town Council

Meetings start at 6:30pm and are held in the Town Hall, Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6EF
More information can be found here: stratford-tc.gov.uk

Say 'I do' at the Town Hall
Unique. Elegant. Unforgettable...



www.stratforduatownhall.co.uk
T: 01789 269332
E: emma.evans@stratford-tc.gov.uk

Townswomen's Guild

Next Meeting
Date: Thursday 5 November 2026
Location: Town Hall, Sheep Street, Stratford upon Avon
Time: 2:15pm (arrival from 2pm)
Featuring: The Ukes of Ale
Refreshments and raffle
New Members Welcome!

The Stratford-upon-Avon Townswomen's Guild are now on Facebook!
Click on the link to view their page:
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61573768105002

Stratford District New Build Forum - bringing communities together

The Stratford District New Build Forum (SDNBF) is a growing network bringing together residents and Residents' Associations from new-build developments across Stratford-on-Avon District. The Forum was established to help communities share experiences, learn from each other and work constructively with Stratford-on-Avon District Council, developers, managing agents and other organisations on issues affecting new-build developments.

The SDNBF's particular focus is on the long-term management of public open spaces, sustainable drainage systems (SuDS), estate roads and other communal infrastructure, as well as the service charges that residents may be required to pay.

SDNBF welcomes the work undertaken by Stratford-on-Avon District Council at its Task and Finish Group on Privately Managed Public Open Spaces, Flood Alleviation Schemes and State Roads 2025/2026. Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet endorsed the recommendations arising from the review.

The SDNBF wants to hear from Residents' Associations, community groups and individual residents living on new-build developments anywhere within Stratford-on-Avon District. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact John Fedorowycz at info@herdwickshipstonra.org.uk

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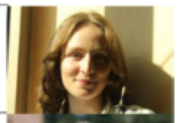
Community Corner

If you would like to share an event that town residents would enjoy, please send an email with more information to info@stratford-tc.gov.uk

Want to see what's happening in the the town? From live events and local theatre to family days out and festivals, the new Stratford-upon-Avon What's On website has it all. Click on the box below and start exploring!

SOUNDBITES RECITALS

The Friends of the Music of Holy Trinity Church present Soundbites on Wednesday every lunchtime featuring exceptional musicians, many from top conservatoires and music colleges.
Refreshments available from 12.15pm. Recital 1pm – 1.30pm.
This month these concerts will be held in The Parish Centre

4th Nov	Mary Glasby (Oboe) Musician from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire The programme will include a range of folk-inspired music from across the world, focusing on aural tradition and storytelling.	
11th Nov	Ciara Thompson (Piano) Musician from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Programme: Mozart sonata in c minor k.457 Rachmaninoff preludes op23 no.s 1-4.	
18th Nov	TO BE CONFIRMED Check the website for updates	
25th Nov	Fosseway Chamber Orchestra Programme to be confirmed	

Free admission – retiring collection

www.htcfom.co.uk




HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
Coffee & Chat
No charge, donations welcome
Friendship
Chat
Board Games
Cake
Thursday 5th November
Holy Trinity Parish Centre
in the Lounge
11am-1pm
Lives changed through God's love
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND


COME AND JOIN US AND
ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES!
HOLY TRINITY
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
Men's Breakfast
It's not served-it's shared.
Cook and enjoy a hearty feast
and discover faith together.
£5 per person
TO BOOK
SCAN THE QR CODE,USE THE LINK
IN THE BULLETIN
OR CALL/MESSAGE JONATHAN
ON07772001369
SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER
IN THE PARISH CENTRE
9AM-11AM


Stratford Town Trust
creating a vibrant and connected community
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
Tea and Talk
Pop in for a cuppa and a chat with us!
Find out about volunteering and tell us what belonging to a community means to you.
Wednesday 18th November, 4 - 6pm
at Stratford Town Trust
Community Hub
Venture House, Avenue Farm Industrial Estate
www.stratfordtowntrust.co.uk

THE PARISH OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

HOLY TRINITY • ALL SAINTS' LUDDINGTON • ST. HELEN'S CLIFFORD CHAMBERS

TODDLER GROUPS

FRIENDLY SPACES FOR BABIES, TODDLERS, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND CARERS

Ken Kennett Stay & Play



Tuesday
(Term Time)
9am - 10.30am
Ken Kennett Centre
(Justin's Avenue)

Trinity Tots



Thursday
(Term Time)
1.30pm - 3pm
Holy Trinty Parish Centre
(Old Town)

Toys, songs, stories, tea and biscuits
no charge, donations welcome

For more information contact phil@stratford-upon-avon.org

Lives changed through God's love

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Net Zero

Straford's home for community climate action

WHAT'S ON...

Repair Cafe
Saturday 7th November, 10am-2pm @ Methodist Church, Old Town

Straford Climate Action Meeting
Wednesday 11th November, 7:30pm @ Net Zero, 30 Meer St

Carbon Literacy Training
Saturday 7th & 14th November, 2pm- 6pm @ Kenilworth Centre
Abbey End Car Park, Kenilworth, CV8 1QT
Fully booked - ask us about joining future sessions

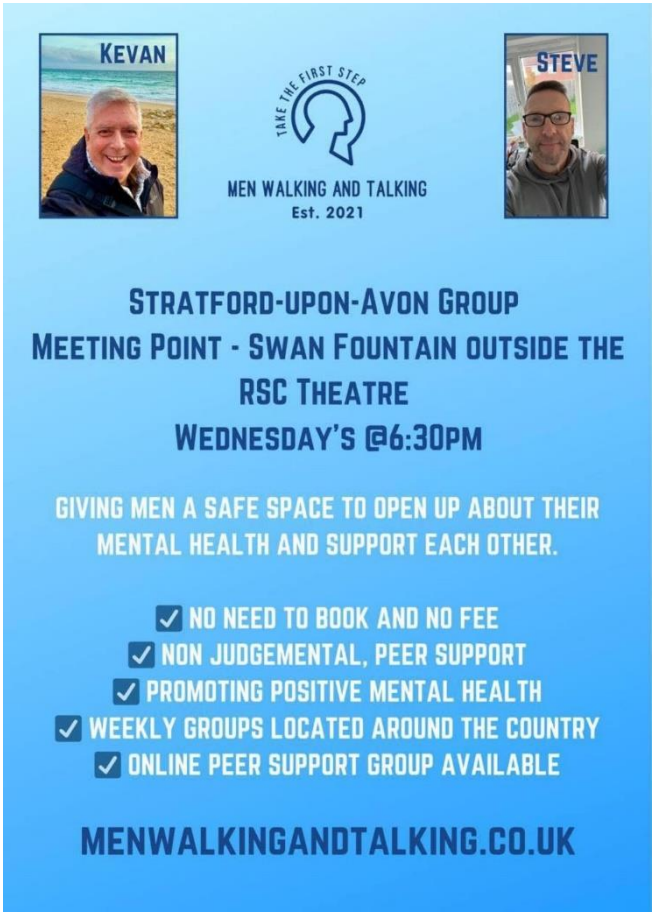
Great Big Green Week 2027 Planning Meeting (1st meeting)
Thursday 19th November 2-3:30pm @ All welcome - contact
janet@netzerostratford.org.uk for details

Eco-Craftalong
Saturday 28th November 10:30-11:30am @ Net Zero, 30 Meer St
Tickets on Event Brite

Community Kitchen
Every Friday, 5pm @ The Ken Kennett Centre, CV37 0DA

Net Zero Climate Hub: 30 Meer Street, CV37 6QB
For event queries, please contact janet@netzerostratford.org.uk


the BIG TOY SWOP
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
Stratford-upon-Avon Foodbank
Together with Trussell
STRATFORD FAMILY CLUB
WARWICKSHIRE & SOLIHULL CAVA
COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY ACTION
SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER
10AM-1PM
MASONS ROAD HUB,
100 MASONS ROAD, CV37 9NU
Bring what you can & take what you need!
nocrap parties
The Kids Party Pact Will You Sign?


KEVAN
TAKE THE FIRST STEP
MEN WALKING AND TALKING
Est. 2021
STEVE
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON GROUP
MEETING POINT - SWAN FOUNTAIN OUTSIDE THE RSC THEATRE
WEDNESDAY'S @6:30PM
GIVING MEN A SAFE SPACE TO OPEN UP ABOUT THEIR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER.
NO NEED TO BOOK AND NO FEE
NON JUDGEMENTAL, PEER SUPPORT
PROMOTING POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH
WEEKLY GROUPS LOCATED AROUND THE COUNTRY
ONLINE PEER SUPPORT GROUP AVAILABLE
MENWALKINGANDTALKING.CO.UK


Make your own
Christmas Pudding
2pm Saturday 21st Nov
£8 per pudding (pay on the day)
&
Christmas Wreath Making
Saturday 28th Nov 10.30am or 1.30pm
£42 per wreath
(make individually or as a group)
Both events at the Parish Centre
Sign up using the QR Codes or the link in the Weekly Bulletin
Booking ends: Pudding Weds 18th Nov
Wreath Sun 22nd Nov, or when fully booked
Christmas Pudding
Wreath Making
SOCIAL EVENTS
For more information please contact Marie Mcdougall on 07875018282
THE PARISH OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



PIATTI STRING QUARTET



Resident Quartet at Kings Place, London, the distinguished Piatti Quartet is widely renowned for its 'profound music making' (The Strad) and its 'lyrical warmth' (BBC Music Magazine). Since its prizewinning performances at the 2015 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition, the quartet has performed all over the world with numerous international broadcasts.

Quartet No.13 Op.29 "Rosamunde" - Schubert
Langsamer Satz - Webern
Quartet No.12 in F major Op.96 "American" - Dvořák

Sunday 29th November
7.30pm
United Reformed Church, Rother Street, Stratford-upon-Avon

Tickets £25 (students aged 18 or under £5) available on the door or in advance via the website

This concert is part of the 2026/27 season presented by
Stratford-upon-Avon Chamber Music

25th October 2026 Melvyn Tan (piano): Bach, Ravel and Schumann
29th November 2026 Piatti String Quartet: Schubert, Webern and Dvořák
10th January 2027 Erda Ensemble (soprano, flute and harp): Ravel, Gaubert, Debussy, Fauré, Boulanger, Wertheim and Chaminade
21st February 2027 Poston Trio (clarinet, flute and piano): Connesson, Debussy, Burton, Webster, Coleman, Brahms and Schmitt
7th March 2027 Cristian Do Sa (violin) and Keigo Mukawa (piano): Beethoven, Prokofiev, Debussy and Ravel
11th April 2027 Fibonacci String Quartet: Mozart, Martinu, Bridge and Berg

Season tickets cost £120 (students £24) for all six concerts –
these can be purchased in advance online or on the day at the door
For full details see www.stratfordchambermusic.co.uk

Registered Charity No 1217327




THE PARISH OF
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
HOLY TRINITY • ALL SAINTS' LUDDINGTON • ST. HELEN'S CLIFFORD CHAMBERS
Souper Fridays
12.30pm
Holy Trinity
Parish Centre
30 October
& 27 November
Homemade soup
& pudding
Recommended
donation £5
Everybody welcome
Come and enjoy a sociable lunch
Lives changed through God's love
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

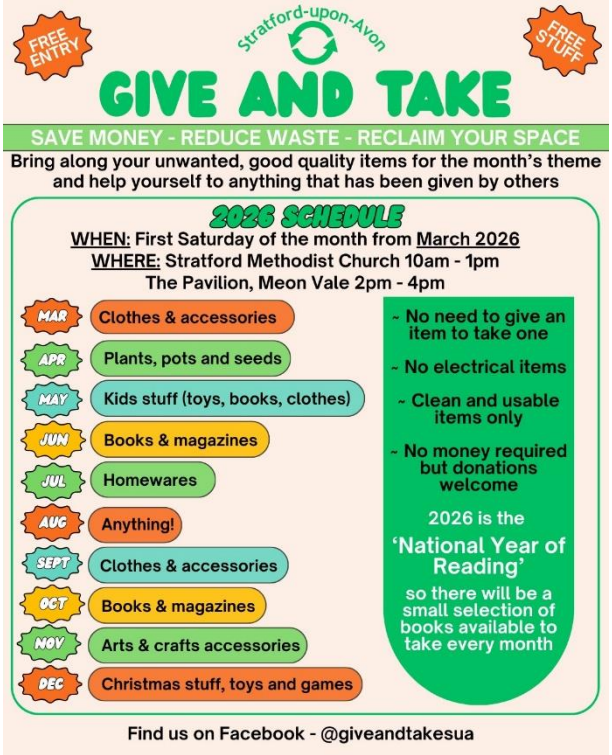

THE WILD WOOD CONNECTION PROJECT
THE WILDWOOD CONNECTION PROJECT
PRESENTS
RAISING FUNDS FOR MEN'S MENTAL HEALTH IN STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
GLO Quiz
QUIZ NIGHT
— FUNDRAISER —
Hosted at
ALVESTON MANOR
FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER
DOORS OPEN 6.45PM
7.30PM START – 11.15PM
£15 PER PERSON
(TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE)
TEAMS OF 6
(OR WE CAN HELP YOU FIND A TEAM)
SCAN HERE
TO BUY TICKETS ONLINE
MEGA RAFFLE
BIG PRIZE DRAW!
PLUS A CHANCE TO WIN AMAZING PRIZES ON THE NIGHT!
BRING PLENTY OF POUND COINS TO PLAY ON THE SPOT QUICK GAME CHALLENGES TO WIN MORE PRIZES!
BRING YOUR TEAM, BRING YOUR FRIENDS, MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
ALVESTON MANOR


Proud members of making music
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
AN AFTERNOON OF
ACTION ROMANCE AND RUSSIAN FIRE
VIOLIN SOLOIST FENELLA HUMPHREYS
SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER
2.30pm
DAN WATSON CONDUCTOR
PHIL HOUGHTON LEADER
ROTHER STREET ARTS HOUSE
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
CV37 6LU
Festive Overture - Shostakovich
Violin Concerto - Tchaikovsky
Music from the movies
Pirates of the Caribbean,
The Godfather, Titanic,
James Bond, Gladiator
Tickets £15
£5 for accompanied under 16s
https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GMHZ
and from members of the Orchestra
Registered Charity No. 1120845


WARWICKSHIRE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE
Contact us for a wide range of information relating to children and young people aged 0-25, including: childcare, money, debt and benefits, housing, SEND, health and wellbeing, and so much more.
warwickshire.gov.uk/fis
FREEPHONE: 0800 408 1558
Email: fis@warwickshire.gov.uk
Scan me
Stay up to date with the latest news to help your family at:
warwickshire.gov.uk/parentupdates
@WarwickshireFIS
Warwickshire County Council


Coffee Morning
Every Tuesday 11am - 12.30pm
Swan House, 11 Guild Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
MUNICIPAL CHARITIES OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON


REPAIR CAFE
Stratford-upon-Avon
FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
Donations welcome!
10am - 2pm (last item 1pm)
Stratford Methodist Church
Limited parking - walk/cycle if you can
Refreshments provided!
Repairs on offer can vary each month but usually include: electrical, bikes, clothing & fabric, IT, tool sharpening.
Plus 'Give & Take' monthly swap event.
We advise you visit our website below before you visit to see any up-to-date information.
www.stratfordrepaircafe.co.uk
Run in partnership by Net Zero Stratford & Stratford Town Trust.
Stratford Town Trust
creating a vibrant and connected community
GIVE AND TAKE
Net Zero





Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council are proud to support the following organisations.

Get in touch

If you have any ideas or suggestions for our Newsletter, we would love to hear them. Please email us at info@stratford-tc.gov.uk. You can call us on 01789 269332.

If you would like to discuss an issue in your ward, or with a specific concern of the Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council, you can reach out directly to a Councillor. Call the Town Hall on 01789 269332.

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Our mailing address is:
Town Hall, Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6EF