

THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER

'In the Garden of England'

September '17 Diary

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise stated

Fri	1st	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	2nd		
Sun	3rd	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	4th		
Tues	5th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		NSYC	7.30 - 9.30pm
Wed	6th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
Thurs	7th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		Gardeners	8.00 - 10.00pm
Fri	8th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	9th		
Sun	10th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	11th	Highways M2 Jct 5 Plans	2.00 - 8.00pm
Tues	12th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		Art Group	7.00 - 9.00pm
Wed	13th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		W.I.	7.30 - 9.00pm
Thurs	14th	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30pm
Fri	15th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	16th	Chrysanthemum Society	2.00 - 10.00pm
Sun	17th	Chrysanthemum Show	All Day
		Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	18th		
Tues	19th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		NSYC	7.30 - 9.00pm
Wed	20th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		Craft & Chatter	1.00 - 3.00pm
		Parish Council	7.30 - 9.30pm
Thurs	21st	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30pm
Fri	22nd	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	23rd	Private Booking	All Day
Sun	24th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	25th		
Tues	26th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		Art Group	7.00 - 9.00pm
Wed	27th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		Bowls	7.00 - 10.00pm
Thurs	28th	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30pm
Fri	29th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	30th	Caravan Cl Hall & Field	All Day



M2 Junction 5 Improvements Have Your Say

Public consultation events on plans to improve the M2 Junction 5/A249 Stockbury Roundabout to reduce congestion, improve journey times and boost local economic growth are taking place during September.

The Highways England team will be at Stockbury Memorial Hall on **Monday 11th September from 2pm until 8pm** for you to learn about their proposals and help shape the direction of the scheme. Brochures will be available for you to takeaway and questionnaires will be there for you to complete. You are encouraged to voice your concerns and ideas to the Highways team.

If you are unable to attend the event in the Memorial Hall, there are other local consultation events at :

Holiday Inn (Coniston Hotel), Sittingbourne
Wednesday 6th September

Forum Shopping Centre, Sittingbourne
Saturday 16th September

The Mall, Maidstone
Saturday 23rd September

You will also be able to view the proposals and take part in the consultation online from 6th September onwards at:

www.roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/m2-junction-5-improvements/

The closing date for responses is 11.59pm on 17th October, 2017.

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Welcome To The
Stockbury Parish Website



Council



Events



Diary



Local
Businesses



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Info



Observer

Visit Us At

www.stockbury.org.uk

You get more with the online

**Stockbury
Observer!**

St Mary Magdalene Church

Stockbury



The services for September are as follows:-

- 3 September – 6.0pm Sung Communion
- 10 September – 6.0pm Evensong
- 17 September - 6.0pm Sung Communion
- 24 September - 6.0pm Evensong.

The church will now be open every Saturday from 10am until 4pm and every Sunday from 10am to 6pm until the end of September. Please do take this opportunity to enjoy the peace and beauty of our lovely historic church.

Penny Stevens - PCC Secretary

Details of the range of services held within the benefice of the six parishes, to which Stockbury belongs, can be found on the parishes' website www.thesix.org.uk or contact the Rev'd Liz Cox

For baptisms, weddings or funerals please contact The Rev'd Liz Cox on 01795 844241

St Augustine's RC, Deanwood Drive Rainham

Mass Times
Weekdays 9.30 a.m
Saturday 10.00 a.m and 6.00 p.m

August Church Draw Winners

CONGRATULATIONS!

- 1st - Colin Prior (£40) (12)
- 2nd - Graeme Clark (£20) (158)
- 3rd - Jeremy Baldwin (£10) (229)



We met up at Irene's home for our Committee Meeting and celebrated Wendy's birthday with homemade cake, biscuits and of course tea and coffee.

We also arranged our summer meal out and decided upon Riverside Golf Club where we had a very enjoyable time despite the rain and soggy sandals!!

Two of us were chosen to visit Rochester WI at their meeting place La Providence in Rochester High Street. They provided a wonderful afternoon tea and made us feel very welcome. We even had time for a stroll round the sites and shops of Rochester afterwards.

Happy 80th Birthday to our member Diane and a very Happy Wedding Anniversary to Wendy and Rod on their Special Celebration.

Our next meeting is 13th September at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

You will be very welcome to join us for Members Social Evening.

Heather Tomsett

Cockett's Corner Ditty

ARTY TIME

Here is a date to remember
It is the twelfth of September

With a warm welcome to all
Who come to our own Village Hall

Please come and have a good time
Lasting from seven 'til nine

A really fun evening for all
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Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

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STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

Mondays - Sittingbourne

Tuesdays - Maidstone

Thursdays - Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre (Savacentre)

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Stockbury Gardeners

Whenever I sit down to start writing these pages my first thought is always the weather. Gardeners live or die or rather succeed or fail due to the way that the Jetstream sits. Yes, we have moved on from the beetle in a matchbox, red sky at night etc. more latterly the weather balloons but now we have the "Jetstream". Wow! A wind that sits 10 miles high and influences OUR chances of growing a successful crop, why on earth did they not say that before!

Last month I intended showing leeks at the Stockbury Show, which I did unsuccessfully! As normal I dug up the specimen samples from the ground, however, they seemed limp and beaten up by the hot weather; as I lifted them I knew what was wrong. Whilst the recent rain that we had delivered during the wet August has kept the top 6" of soil damp, the soil 12" deep where the leek roots sit was as dry as the proverbial bone.

Speaking with Robert Hinge recently about his fruit crop, he informed me that he is 4 weeks ahead of any normal year!! Due to the consistently hot May/June that we had.

Richard Hinge once again kindly hosted a joint Stockbury and Upchurch Gardeners tour of his farm, showing us the latest developments in fruit breeding, including the plapple which is shaped like an apple but has the consistency of a pear tasting of bananas, and another of pineapple! He is the only supplier of these new varieties to Marks and Spencer. His superb apricots, the size of a large peach were so tasty as well. A very big thank you to him.

Things to do.

Keep watering. (see above), remove dead leaves from inside the greenhouse, clear debris from under brassicas, by now you should have pruned espaliers/cordon fruit trees. Harvest some apples and pears, yes they are probably ready now. Sow catch crops as last months newsletter. It is a good time to clear your greenhouse out, if like me you have exhausted the tomatoes and cucumbers, consider fumigating ready for next year to rid of whitefly and red spider mites. Keep on harvesting fruit and vegetables, preserving and freezing them.

Tip of the month

If next year and you have space, try growing runner beans over a strip of steel re-enforced 6" mesh fixed in the ground upright, then bent over at a height of 8 feet. The beans grow very straight as they hang through the 6" square holes, to pick them you just walk underneath.

This month The Gardeners have Jim Buttress from the BBC speaking about his career in horticulture. This is an event not to be missed and we are throwing it open to the public, so if you wish to meet Jim and get a signed book, let the Chairman know in advance. Admission is free but you will be press ganged into purchasing raffle tickets! Thursday 7th September 8 pm at the Village Hall.

Gardening Laws

1. Other people's tools work only in other people's gardens.
2. Fancy gadgets don't work.
3. If nobody uses it there's a reason.
4. You get most of what you need the least.



Oil Boiler Specialists

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Stockbury Neighbourhood Watch

We are a Police registered Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Neighbourhood Watch is a way for communities to help themselves stay safe. We are volunteers who work in partnership with the police to:

- Distribute safety advice
- Help make sure that elderly and vulnerable residents are not targets to criminals
- Gather information to help police tackle local problems
- Alert residents when there is a particular crime problem in the area

Our aim is to help people protect themselves and their properties and to reduce the anxieties of becoming a victim of crime.

Please be vigilant and report suspicious characters or incidents to the police and also to your co-ordinator (details below).

Co-ordinators will cascade any information from the police or neighbours to members.

CONTACT NUMBERS:

Emergency : 999
(crime in progress/life threatening)

Non-Emergency : 101

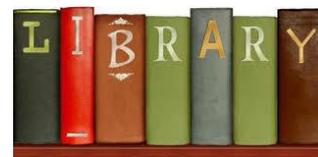
Rosemary (Ann) Ballard (*Co-ordinator*)
(01622) 736331

Alternatively you may e-mail the Co-ordinator at:

stockbury-neighbourhood@outlook.com

Any ideas and views would be greatly welcomed at the above mentioned e-mail address.

If you know of any other residents who would like to receive information from Stockbury Neighbourhood Watch, then please ask them to either contact the Co-ordinator on the above telephone number or e-mail their details to the above mentioned e-mail address.



Mobile Library Dates

14th and 28th September

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WHY WALK THE SAXON SHORE WAY?

PART 3

Walk 10 Sittingbourne to Conyer

Employing our strategy of selecting suitable places to park and set off on the next stretch leads us to meeting in the middle of the Eurolink Industrial Estate outside Sittingbourne Football Stadium and Dog Track. Adjacent to this are the ruins of a 12th Century Murston Church Nave. Parts of this church were taken to form the new 19th century church in Murston village. Our journey now takes us back towards the Swale and books we consulted tell us that the creeks of Conyer, Faversham and Oare have been greatly changed in character over the centuries. The land began as saltings, was reclaimed to become marshland and in the 19th century was heavily used for brick making. At this time there were so many Thames barges moored at Crown Quay you could apparently walk the length of the Quay, by walking from one barge to another. The barges, having transported the bricks up to London, returned with cargoes of rubbish for what we would now call landfill and manure for the orchards. Its not hard to imagine just how quiet the roads must have been at time. No doubt crossing the A249 could be done with amazing ease!

What was really noticeable on this bright but cold and windy day, was the solitude this stretch of the walk offered. I kept performing 360 degree turns to try and assimilate my surroundings as my orientations were confused by the many dykes and curves in the river. We passed disused Oyster Ponds (now inhabited by wildfowl) on one side of the river and paper mills on the other. Eventually though we are back to open countryside and eventually end up along the sea wall alongside the Swale and to the mouth of Conyer Creek. Interestingly, information sought for the walk tells us that in Roman times the river used to be twice as wide as it is now and for centuries ships used it to reach London from the English Channel. Our destination is the Ship Inn, alongside the boatyard. Well worth a trip and full of interesting old photographs. It was there we learnt that the Kent orchards began and that in Roman times vineyards existed here.

Walk 11 Conyer to Oare

This one was a bit of a disaster! In our ignorance we decide to walk it both ways (wrongly thinking it was not that far as our inadequate map provided no mileage). Needless to say we abandoned that plan as it was too far, too cold and too boring – enough said!

Walk 12 Oare to Faversham

Thankfully less far, a much nicer day and a much prettier walk.

After the previous failure we decide to do a circular walk, starting off in Flood Lane, Faversham. This takes us out of the town alongside the creek, with lovely perspectives of old houses and a selection of boats which of course now have some rather up market flats towering above them. Passing lovely Victorian cottages we follow Faversham Creek for a couple of miles, noting all the spring flowers in the meadows and the gorgeous spring sunshine, so different to our previous section. Stonebridge Pond, St Mary Magdalen Church and Davington Priory are all very attractive – especially on a lovely day. My source of local knowledge aka Julia tells me that is where a certain Sir Bob Geldof resides.

Walking out to Oare along the creek was just as lovely. We pass a very old looking pub called the Shipwrights Ams which I think would be good to visit if only I could ever find it by road in fact walking along the other side gave lovely views of the back of those lovely houses and Oare Church, with its graveyard sloping down to the water.

We soon get to the main road back into Faversham and finish with a very welcome drink and cake in a vintage tea room.

To be continued

Moira Cooke



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Saturday NOVEMBER 18th
Stockbury Church Fun Quiz
Stockbury Village Hall, 7.30pm

Saturday DECEMBER 2nd
Christmas Fayre
Stockbury Village Hall, 10 - 1pm

Friday DECEMBER 8th
Carols on The Green, 7pm

Look out for posters with more
information



Letters

Thank You

We would like to thank the people in Stockbury for all their kind words and cards they have sent to us after losing George. We would also like to say a big thank you to you for all the help in the past where he was redirected home after his wandering and your kindness towards him.

Sue Town and family

Fundraising At No Cost To You!

I cannot believe that no-one in the village shops on-line.

Please consider using the easyfundraising.org.uk site to go to your retailer (Amazon, Sainsbury, Boots etc. etc.) before you order anything. You will also need to register that you are fund raising for St. Mary Magdalene Church, Stockbury which is already set up. The retailers donate at **no cost to yourselves**.

We are about to embark on vital works at the church and have received some lottery funding but we still need to raise some ourselves and this is such an easy way to do it.

Every little helps and it could not be easier, please consider it when shopping online.

Penny Stevens

Art Group

The draw and paint group will be commencing on Tuesday 12 September, 7pm to 9pm in the Village Hall and then every two weeks thereafter (second and fourth Tuesdays, each month).

Mick Bingham

Why not express your views on local parish matters, good or maybe even controversial. Let us know your thoughts and we'll publish them subject to our usual considerations and procedures

All contributions must have a genuine name and contact details or telephone number supplied. Views expressed by contributors are those of the author and not of the Editor or Parish Council.

Send your contributions to email address

stockburyobserver@gmail.com

STOCKBURY PARISH SHORT SHORTS

provided by our very own Roving Reporters

There was very little to report this month but in summary:

- Planning issues around Longton Woods remain ongoing with Maidstone BC
- A Tri-Parish meeting will take place shortly to discuss M20 J7, the A249 and the M2 J5, as it affects Stockbury Village. Incidentally the PC had not been informed of planned roadworks to this junction.
- A member of the public asked why there were no up to date Minutes of the PC meeting on the Stockbury website. A plan was put in place to remedy this.

Your Roving Reporters

That's it for this month!

Important Notice from The Editor

Due to personal circumstances can all contributions for the October edition please be with me no later than **Friday 15th September** for them to be included.

Usual service will resume for the November edition!

Thanks for your understanding.

Ed.

Observer Deadline!

If you would like to advertise or have item included in next months Observer, we must receive it no later than

Friday 15th September, 2017

Please email your contributions to
stockburyobserver@gmail.com

Calling All Advertisers

Our annual rates for advertising are very reasonable and have remained unchanged for the 6th consecutive year :

£85 for a half page or £55 for a quarter page

Our advertising year starts in June and new adverts for less than 12 months duration will be charged on a pro-rata basis. Rates for ads smaller than a quarter page will be given on application.

If you would like to take out an ad, please email stockburyobserver@gmail.com The editor will confirm receipt and an invoice will be sent along with details of how to pay.

If you are a new customer, please also attach your ad, preferable in MS Word or Powerpoint. Please bear in mind when designing your ad that large solid blocks of colour may not look so good in the black and white paper edition of The Observer, despite looking good for our online edition.

This is a great opportunity to promote your business as The Observer is delivered to every household within the Parish of Stockbury as well as having an online presence.

**It's never too late to advertise in
The Stockbury Observer!**

Stockbury Parish Council Minutes

The minutes for our Parish Council meeting will be approved at the following meeting and will then be published on www.stockbury.org.uk within 5 days of the meeting at which they are approved.

Hoorraahhh!!

**The Harrow
is now
Open!**

**Congratulations
Chris & the Team
on a spectacular job!**

Must be time for a holiday Mr P!

Useful Contact Information

Cricket Club	Tom Bulbrook - th.bul2@yahoo.com	07780 440526
Church Matters St. Mary Magdalene	Revd Liz Cox - elizabeth.cox448@btinternet.com	01795 435184
Community Bus	Booking Line	07551 454702
Crimestoppers	(Confidential)	0800 55511
Dancing Club	Brian Crisp	01634 231886
Dog Club	Mick Bingham	01795 842480
Electricity Problems		0800 7838866
Environment Agency	Incident Hotline	0800 807060
Fly Tipping & Waste Collection	Including bulky items	01622 602162
Gardeners	stockburygardeners@live.com	
Golf Society	Jeff Hall	01795 843296
Hall Bookings	Sue Porter	01795 843715
Maidstone BC Councillor	Patrik Garten - patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk	01622 807907
MB Farms Stores & Post Office		01795 842401
Neighbourhood Watch	Ann Ballard	01622 736331
Not So Young Club	Rosemary Leonard	01634 232672
Parish Council	Sherrie Babington	01634 867173
Petanque Club	Tina Jacobs	07743 910185
Photographic Club	Tim Arnold - timarnold@btinternet.com	01795 843049
Police	Emergency Only Non-Emergency	999 101
Police Community Support Officers for Stockbury	Ryan Waring - 5872@kent.pnn.police.uk Dave Rowley - 59079@kent.pnn.police.uk	07969 584213 07772 226097
Public Footpaths & Bridleway	Reporting issues with. - westprow@kent.gov.uk	03000 417171
Roads, Potholes, etc	(manned 24hrs) - www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem	03000 418181
RSPCA		0300 1234999
Short Mat Bowls	Tony or Angela Russell	01795 842738
South East Water	Emergency Only Non-Emergency	0333 000 0365 0333 000 3330
Stockbury Observer - Editor	stockburyobserver@gmail.com	
WI	Brenda Mace	01622 884746