

THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER

'In the Garden of England'

May '19 Diary

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise stated

Wed	1st	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
Thurs	2nd	Gardeners	8.00 - 10.00pm
Fri	3rd	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
		Caravan Club - Field	
Sat	4th	Caravan Club - Field	
Sun	5th	Caravan Club - Field	
		Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	6th		
Tues	7th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		NSYC	7.30 - 9.30pm
Wed	8th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		WI	7.30 - 9.30pm
Thurs	9th	Bowls	7.00 - 9.00pm
Fri	10th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	11th		
Sun	12th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	13th		
Tues	14th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		Private Booking	7.00 - 9.00pm
Wed	15th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		Sew & Chatter	1.00 - 3.00pm
		Parish Council	7.30 - 9.30pm
Thurs	16th	Bowls	7.00 - 9.00pm
Fri	17th	Gardeners	7.00 - 11.00pm
Sat	18th	WI Pie Lunch	12.00 - 2.00pm
Sun	19th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	20th	Private Booking	7.00 - 9.00pm
Tues	21st	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		NSYC	7.30 - 9.30pm
Wed	22nd	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
Thurs	23rd	Elections	All Day
Fri	24th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	25th	Private Booking	2.00 - 7.00pm
Sun	26th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	27th		
Tues	28th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		Private Booking	7.00 - 9.00pm
Wed	29th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
Thurs	30th	Bowls	7.00 - 9.00pm
Fri	31st	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm

Village Hall Fees

On behalf of the Hall Committee I'm writing to advise of a necessary increase in hall fees which came into effect from 1st April 2019. Apologies for the delay in this Notification of Increase.

We have had no increase since January 2017 and the Committee believe a small increase is necessary to cover the ever-increasing costs of maintenance and electricity.

Over the last couple of years the Hall has undergone a large amount of maintenance, including upgrading the men's toilets, replacing both the cooker and some of the electric heaters. The electricity bill for the last year was just over £2000, which was more than double that of the previous year. It has been noted on some occasions that the heaters in the hall have been left on, sometimes for more than 24 hours because they have not been turned off when hirers leave the hall. If you have hired the hall would you please ensure before leaving that **ALL** heaters have been checked and turned off completely.

With effect from 1st April, the new Hall Charges are:

Hall per Hour - £ 11.00

Committee Room per hour - £ 9.00

Hall – Saturday (Residents) - £180.00 (All Day)

Hall – Saturday (Societies) per hour - £17.00

Playing Field - £30.00 (per match)

Use of Kitchen with Playing Field - £ 8.50
(if required for catering purposes)

Caravans - £ 6.00 (per caravan, per night)

Use of Hall with Caravan Club - £100.00

Hire of Tables – Donation required
Please see Sue Porter

The Committee would like to thank all Clubs and Societies for their continued use of the hall.

Yours sincerely,

Treena

Hon. Secretary
Stockbury Memorial Hall and Playing Fields
Management Committee

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Mondays - Sittingbourne

Tuesdays - Maidstone

Thursdays - Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre (Savacentre)

Pickups from 9:30 a.m. close to where you live. Give us a try!

07551 454702

St Mary Magdalene Church Stockbury



The services in May are as follows:

5 May - 6pm Holy Communion.

12 May - 6pm BCP Evensong

19 May - 6pm Holy Communion

26 May - 6pm BCP Evensong.

**NB. The services in will take place in
Hartlip Church**

Penny Stevens - PCC Secretary

There are a range of services during Holy Week held within the benefice of the Six Parishes, to which Stockbury belongs and 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 am
Saturday 10.00 am and 6.00 pm
Sunday 9.30 am and 11.00 am

April Church Draw Winners **CONGRATULATIONS!**

1st - Wendy Cathcart
£40 (120)

2nd - Mary Holliday
£20 (223)

3rd - Natalie Seymour
£10 (9)

STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

"CALLING ALL PASSENGERS!!"

With one success under our belt, here we go again!

Where to this time? Canterbury. No it's not Christmas but it doesn't have to be to enjoy an early look around a much loved shopping area. You will remember we were meant to go in December for the Christmas Market but had to cancel due to unforeseen circumstances, so second time lucky!

We will pick up at normal shopping time of 9.30am and make our way via Sittingbourne, Teynham and Faversham down the A2 and will drop off as before outside Next, opposite the Bus Station and stay there three hours or so depending on opinion and come back via the motorway as usual.

Wednesday 22nd May is the date for your diary. The trip will be free for concession holders and £5:00 per person for those without, payable as usual on the day.

***So are you coming?
Call Fiona NOW!!
07551 454702***

We are looking to recruit new volunteer drivers. If you are interested to join this much relied on and loved village service, can spare a couple of mornings each month and are over 25 and under 70 years of age please contact Fiona on 07551 454702 for more details.

Newington Hartlip Stockbury Iwade Upchurch Lower Halstow

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Following last year's success - a Summer Festival celebrating the wide and exciting range of music in our villages

All welcome - community groups, church choirs, schools, music groups ... or why not form a new group?

Perform your own favourite songs and join in with the community songs

Or just come along and listen
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Do Join Us!

St Mary's Church, Newington
5pm Sunday 14th July

Contact singwiththesix@gmail.com for more details
or Caroline White, Andrea Staniforth, Jill Rothery, Penny Stevens



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Email: karenbrunning@gmail.com

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Patrik Says ...

Hi, it's your friendly councillor again. Did you notice? It's gone rather quiet on the political front. On the B – issue: I did not have to eat my words (yet).

It is so quiet that KMTV even asked me for an interview. They must be desperate!

You are most likely aware of the demise of CCTV in Maidstone's town centre. Three years ago we had 60 cameras, which were monitored 24/7; the number of cameras has been halved under some national data-protection rules and MBC has done away with the monitoring.

We were now asked to replace the remaining system of recording equipment at the cost of £278K this year, followed by £118K annually thereafter.

What will we get for this money? A lot of recorded pictures which nobody watches and the police rarely requests because it is easier to get CCTV images from the shops.

Worse, because few people appreciate that the cameras are no longer monitored live, the whole system provides a sphere of false security. Should you be unfortunate enough to get attacked in Maidstone, do not expect any help being ordered as a result of the CCTV. However, you can rest assured that there may be some brilliant HD pictures available for the police to identify your murderer. Maidstone CCTV is a measure after the horse has bolted at an annual cost of £4000 per camera per year and twice as much this year.

Oh, during my famous TV stint, viewers also heard Committee Chair Councillor Mortimer (Lib), proclaiming that this new CCTV system helps in the fight against fly-tipping. I am afraid he is soooooooooooooooooooooo wrong! The Environmental Enforcement Team, who only recently received my praise in this column, uses entirely different cameras not connected to the town centre system. Theirs are purchased at a one off cost of £500 per camera. Rest assured that we will use them in the North Downs.

An Afterthought:

I wonder whether giving the Police and Crime Commissioner Mathew Scott an annual grant of £118,000 to employ two dedicated PCSOs in the town centre 24/7 may be more effective in fighting crime?

We expect shortly a planning application to come in for the building of a care home on the A20 close to Junction 8, the site which backs onto the new Woodcut Farm Industrial Estate; the latter got outline planning permission last year. I visited the developer's care home in Warwick, which is equally wedged between the motorway and an industrial estate. I was very impressed with what I saw. The quality of care for the people at the home is very high and everybody appeared very happy to

be there including the staff. I have not yet experienced a massive protest wave against this home and will therefore be happy to support it. – Of course I already voiced my two senses to the developer how to improve their design. – Nothing else should be expected from yours truly.

Building for Life 12 provides a consistent structure for discussions on design principles. A Maidstone version has been drafted and approved by committee; it places emphasis on what is important to Maidstone BC. The guide is an excellent tool to be used in development planning conversations; it sends a clear message that MBC expects high quality designs for future residential developments and it enhances the structure and consistency of operational discussions. – A breath of common sense blown over Maidstone's future developments.

The local elections will have passed by the time you'll receive my next newsletter. and with it, this awful purdah - The time when Electoral Law requires me to bite my tongue even though my seat is not up for election this year.

PATRIK GARTEN (Cons)
MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward

Email: patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk

Phone: [01622-807907](tel:01622-807907)

(for back-copies of my Newsletters see:
<https://www.stockbury.org.uk/observer>)



Stockbury Book Club

The Garden of Burning Sand by Corban Addison

This book certainly provoked some lively debate and exchange of opinions in our meeting and was a book that would be recommended by the majority of the group, as well worth a read.

Set in Zambia the story concerns a disabled child who is attacked and left for dead. American lawyer Zoe and policeman Joseph Kabuta uncover a heinous crime that the perpetrator and his family go to great lengths to cover up.

Nothing unique or unusual in that for a book plot, you may feel, but what makes this book such an interesting read, is what we learn about Zambian society – its cultural beliefs, how its wealthy abuse power, its judicial system and the impact of Aids on its people. There is even a fair amount of content on the pros and cons of International Aid.

It felt a very well researched book but some of the group thought the characterisation was sometimes quite weak – with Kuyeya, the young girl that was attacked – acting more as a catalyst than a character in her own right. Our one dissenting voice that didn't enjoy the book, felt the author 'was no good at women'. On the other hand another member felt it was the best book we have read for a long time. We gave it a score of 8.

Well it would be boring if we all agreed wouldn't it?!

Moira Cooke



Stockbury Neighbourhood Watch

Oil Boiler Specialists

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

A big thank you to all my loyal customers. I have been doing a lot of training and readying my company for the new RHI launch and to this effect we can now offer you biomass boilers (log, pellet and woodchip) and thermal Solar panels.

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I will still be the best oil technician I can be for you all and keep your oil boilers running at their best

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.

Give me a call or email



Mark Viccars
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chestnutplumbing@yahoo.co.uk

CONTACT NUMBERS:

Emergency : 999
(crime in progress/life threatening)

Non-Emergency : 101

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

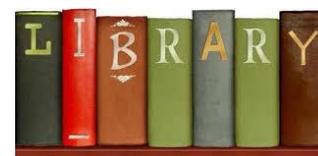
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Alternatively you may e-mail the Co-ordinator at:

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.



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9th and 23rd May '19

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Stockbury Gardeners

Wasn't so much as "did the earth move" it was more like the roof blew off the hotel room! last year 29th April and a very special wedding anniversary was spoilt but a massive storm.

Never the less, the Sands Hotel Margate, of TV fame and very nice food, gave us another visit on them, to celebrate the evening, thank you Sands Hotel. Highly recommended.

Some bad news to report, the robin has gone!! Eaten by magpies together with his young!

(Ed - Oh No!! RIP robin 😞)

This month remember do not cut down flowered daffodils yet, let the leaves feed the bulb ready for next year.

The Gardeners are performing their annual compost throwing evening, during May, where each of us try and get as much compost into a pair of our own hanging baskets and then plant up with bedding plants, it is fun so if you want to learn how to plant one up come along,, if you already know how to do it, then come and help others!! You would all be welcome, its 8pm in the village hall on Thursday 2nd May. Chris Porter note we do clean up afterwards.

Its worth noting that next month on June 6th we have a BBQ hosted by the Sprees from 7pm, please advise attendance for catering purposes, viewing of the exhibition vegetables and flowers.

The 22nd June is the Sweet Pea and Rose Show at the village hall, 2 until 4pm, its getting busy!

Keep a good lookout for pests both in the greenhouse and garden. Whitefly can be a real pest but be aware that the variety in the garden is not the same as the greenhouse variety, they arrive at different times. I purchased what I thought was a bargain the other day but the chilli pepper came complete with its own aphids!!

See right - seen in the greenhouse this week, no known sprays work I am afraid !!



Pot up begonia plants; my wife buys them in February as plug plants and nurtures them until May and they are fabulous.

Basil can be a good fast-growing crop and takes up no space at all, its really easy to propagate and is always handy in the kitchen.

Chris Spree

Stockbury & Hartlip Cricket Club

As you can see from the heading Stockbury have joined with Hartlip to form a "new" club.

It is only a change of name really ,as we have been "associated" with Hartlip C.C. for 10 years now and as they have contributed with both players and finance over those years I thought it was time we joined them in name.

Cricket Clubs are falling by the wayside at an alarming rate and almost all village sides are suffering from lack of players as, in my opinion, league cricket is taking the enjoyment out of playing cricket.

Since 2012 eleven clubs have folded in the Swale, Medway and Maidstone areas and premier clubs such as Gore Court and The Mote suffered from lack of players last year with all three of Gore Court's league sides being relegated.

If you are not a proficient player and are in a league side it is highly likely that you will not bowl, will field on the boundary and will bat low in the order but still be expected to score runs. This does not help you to enjoy the game!

This year we are going to try and put the fun back into cricket by giving everyone the chance to shine however inept they are.

We are endeavouring to only field teams consisting of Stockbury & Hartlip residents (plus a few of the recent team members) in an effort to bring back true village cricket. Therefore we are looking to recruit anyone in the villages who would like to play friendly games of cricket where there is no pressure to perform and no recriminations if you drop a catch or misfield.

If you have not played before and would like to give it a try, no matter how old (I did not start playing until I was 40) or young (Joe Martin was 12 when he started playing in the men's team) please do get in touch because **WE NEED YOU** as we try and keep **YOUR** village cricket team alive.

We will be having regular evening nets during the season to enable you to improve your skills and will provide whites for you to wear if you do not already have them. (You will need your own box!!) Bats, gloves and pads are provided so you just need a pair of trainers.

If you just want to support us or come and have a laugh at our expense we will be happy to see you.

Make a point of keeping the fixture card close by so that you know when we are playing at home although travelling fans will have the chance to visit many picturesque grounds and villages.

ALSO PLEASE KEEP THE FIXTURE CARD AVAILABLE SO THAT YOU CAN USE THE SERVICES OF OUR LOYAL ADVERTISERS WHO OFFER SERVICES AS VARIED AS DOG GROOMING AND FOOTCARE TO CAR REPAIRS AND PICTURE FRAMING.

If you would like to advertise next year please let me know. If you have any questions regarding the club or would like to be an umpire please ring me

Roger Milton
01795 844642

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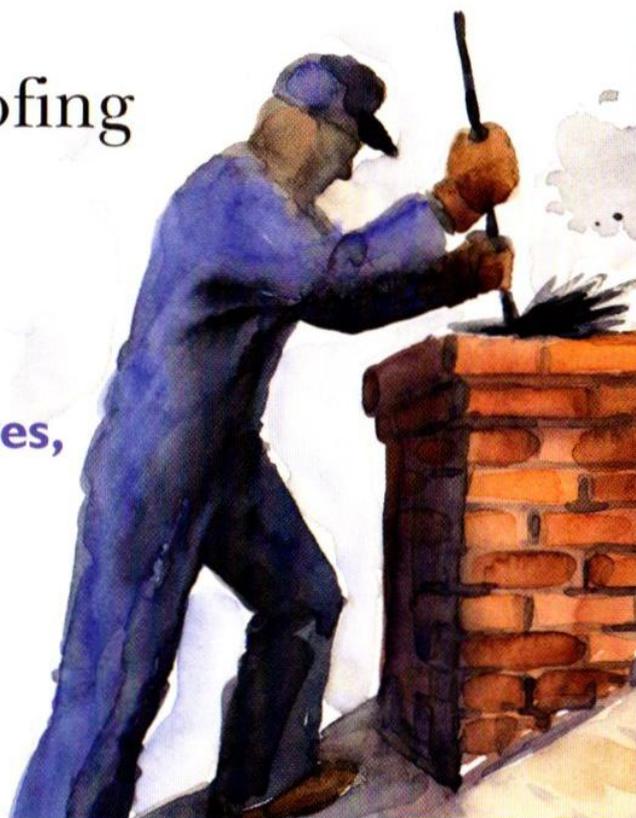
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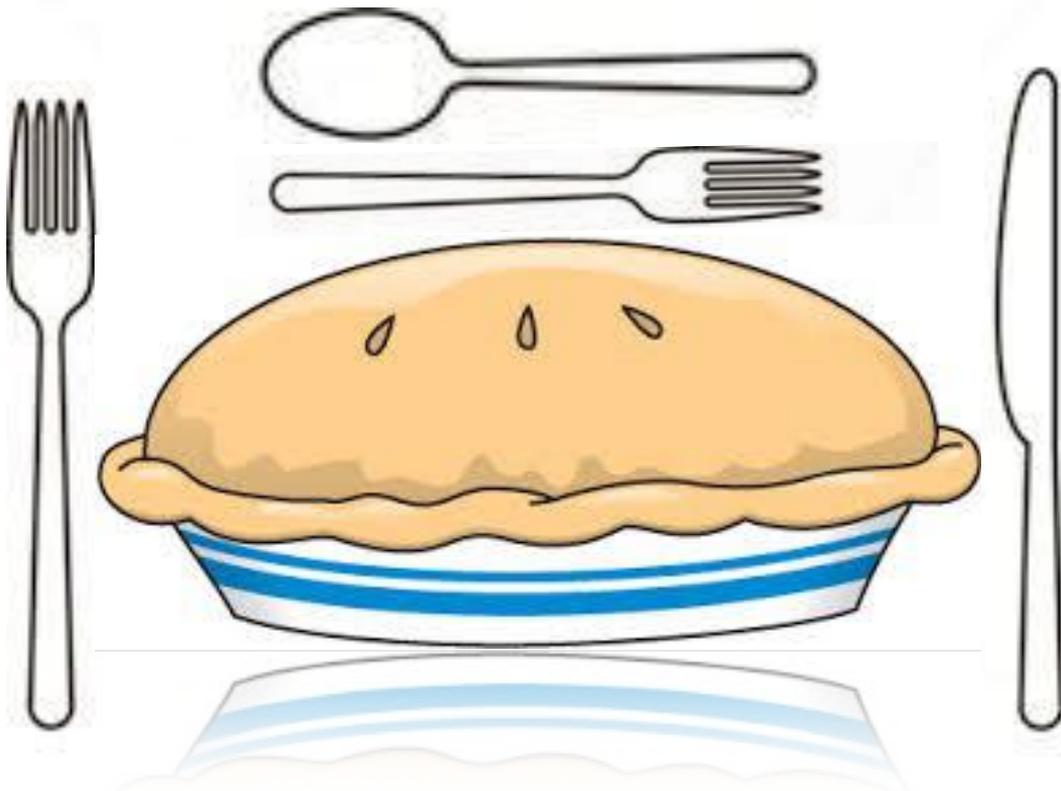
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SUNDAY
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**Day tickets from £20
Under 18's FREE!**



Family Friendly Music Festival to Return!

For one weekend in July, the normally sleepy village of Stockbury, will be transformed into a mini-Glastonbury!! The newest festival of its kind in Kent.

It's all thanks to Moya and David Taylor, whose dream of hosting an annual festival is now a wonderful reality, which brings the whole community together for a family friendly weekend of music, fun and good food, and even better drink!

The three day event, from 19th to 21st July, will host fantastic live Folk, Roots and Acoustic music on two stages, with 37 bands in total! There will be food stalls, a bar supplying local ales and ciders, and most importantly, a family friendly feel. By making the commitment of supporting local businesses and charities (Scouting UK - Sittingbourne) David and Moya aim to give back to the local community whilst hosting the only festival of its type in the area.

It is very important to David and Moya to make the festival site as accessible as possible to everyone. Having a son in a wheelchair they understand how un-accessible some festivals can be. Attendees with specific requirements just let them know what they need in advance and they do what they can, to the best of their ability to make the festival experience as care free, easy and enjoyable as possible. Similarly, as Chickenstock is a family friendly festival, tickets for children under 18 are free! (limited to two children per paying adult).

Already, the festival has outgrown its original accommodation, the grounds of David and Moya's house, and so will be moving to larger paddocks - over the road! David and Moya's neighbours have joined in the community spirit by not only offering their fields for camping and car parking but this year, it will be their field for the festival field. It really is a community event!

This year, the festival will have two stages; the Main Stage for established acts from as far away as America, to the three headline bands which are all local; The Lowly Strung, Green Diesel and Bamboozle and the Bar Stage, an exciting addition for new acts to showcase their talents. Who knows, they might make it to the Main Stage for Chickenstock 2020!

Due to licensing laws, the number of tickets available are strictly limited – so get yours early to avoid disappointment! For tickets, or to be considered for the Bar Stage and everything else you need to know about this exciting Kent Festival go to www.chickenstockfestival.co.uk.

STOCKBURY FOOD & CRAFT FAIR

29TH JUNE 2019 10-2PM

First Ascot Luxury Jam



Pitch and Stich Knitting for all ages



The NSY are doing the Refreshments



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Stockbury Church Preserves



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The "Small Ads" section is for Stockbury Parish residents to sell redundant or unwanted items in good condition. If you have any such items, please send the details to the Editor at stockburyobserver@gmail.com and they will be advertised for free in The Observer for **one month only**.

We accept no responsibility for the quality of the items advertised for sale or the handling of payment between buyer and vendor.

Observer Deadline!

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

Monday 27th May, 2019

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 8th 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.

Visit Us At

www.stockbury.org.uk

Useful Contact Information

Church Matters St. Mary Magdalene	Revd Liz Cox revlizcox@outlook.com	01795 435184
Community Bus	Booking Line	07551 454702
Cricket Club	Roger Milton - rogerandirene@btinternet.com	01795 844642
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
Kent County Councillor	Shellina Prendergast shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk	
Maidstone BC Councillor	Patrik Garten - patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk	01622 807907
MB Farms Stores & Post Office		01795 842401
Member of Parliament Faversham & Mid Kent Ward	Helen Whately - helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk	
Neighbourhood Watch	Ann Ballard	01622 736331
Not So Young Club	Rosemary Leonard	01634 232672
Parish Council Clerk	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	Daniel Genn daniel.genn@kent.pnn.police.uk	101
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	Brenda Groves - quizqueen106@gmail.com	01634 388425
South East Water	Emergency Only Non-Emergency	0333 000 0365 0333 000 3330
Stockbury Observer - Editor	stockburyobserver@gmail.com	
The Harrow Public House	stockburypub@gmail.com	01795 843222
WI	Pat Fothergill	01622 734093