



THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER



Hall Diary

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise stated

Wed	1st		
Thurs	2nd	Gardeners	8.00 - 10.00pm
Fri	3rd	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
Sat	4th		
Sun	5th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
		Private Booking	3.00 - 7.00pm
Mon	6th		
Tues	7th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
Wed	8th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		Parish Council	2.00 - 4.00pm
Thurs	9th		
Fri	10th	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
		W.I. Carols	6.00 - 10.00pm
Sat	11th	Private Booking	2.00 - 11.00pm
Sun	12th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	13th		
Tues	14th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
Wed	15th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		Parish Council	7.00 - 9.30pm
Thurs	16th		
Fri	17th	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
Sat	18th	Private Booking	2.00 - 11.00pm
Sun	19th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	20th		
Tues	21st	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
Wed	22nd	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
Thurs	23rd		
Fri	24th	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
Sat	25th		
Sun	26th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	27th		
Tues	28th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
Wed	29th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		Private Booking	2.00 - 11.00pm
Thurs	30th	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30pm
Fri	31st	Private Booking	All Day

Stockbury Roundabout

It has been an “interesting” month. Since the last edition of The Observer, Honeycrook Hill has closed permanently, the National Highways “information bus” has been to the village, we have had a weekend closure on the A249, we have a 50mph speed limit on the northbound carriageway and National Highways have acquired a new Project Manager.

Both the Parish Council and National Highways (NH) received a lot of feedback about the information bus and the weekend closure. Many people took the time to send emails to the National Highways team; the sheer volume of these came as quite a surprise to NH! The most common issues raised were the lack of any detail / real information provided by the people running the information bus and the poor signage when the southbound stretch of the A249 was closed. Both of these were discussed with NH at our most recent liaison meeting.

The good news is that we now have a new Project Manager at NH: Daniel Rollinson. He is the fourth Project Manager since NH started to engage with the people of Stockbury and, judging by his candour at the last meeting with the Parish Council, represents a much more positive approach to working with Stockbury.

Once more, we have offered to take the NH team on a tour of the local roads in the Community Bus so that they can more fully appreciate the delicate “eco-system”; this time, it looks like the offer may be accepted. NH have also employed a Traffic Manager specifically for the A249 project, so hopefully closures and diversions will be better managed in the future. The first real test of NH’s new found desire to work with us will be when the northbound carriageway closes for a weekend at the end of January. This will be discussed in more detail at the December and January meetings between the Parish Council and NH.

In the meantime, there will continue to be the occasional problem whilst the enabling works take place. Some can be dealt with immediately (like contractors forgetting to re-open the deceleration lane at Church Hill last weekend), some may require rectification by NH and we may just have to live with others.

Please keep your feedback to the Parish Council coming in. We cannot stop or alter the overall scheme but we can try to minimise the disruption to people’s lives by bringing your comments and observations directly to the attention of those running the project.

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STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

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



Buxton Meadow, Stockbury

One bedroom ground floor flat available to rent with garden and allocated parking for £129.81 per week



To be eligible for this property you must have a local connection to Stockbury or the surrounding villages. You must also be registered for housing with Maidstone Borough Council.

The property will be advertised through Kent Homechoice between 29th November – 3rd December 2021. Please ensure you place a bid on the property through the Homechoice website.

For further information or to apply:
email allocations@englishrural.org.uk
or call 020 7820 7930 (option 2)
or visit our website www.englishrural.org.uk

Application deadline 5th December 2021



Christmas Greetings

Chris and Sue Porter would like to wish all their friends in Stockbury a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Instead of sending Christmas cards, we will be making a donation to Demelza House Hospice.

Keith & Ann Rich wish all their neighbours and friends in Stockbury a very happy festive season. Instead of sending cards we will be donating to The Smile Train to give some youngster a new smile and a new life.

Wishing all of our Stockbury friends and neighbours a fabulous Christmas and a happy and healthy 2022,
Geoff and Fiona Moody

I would like to take this opportunity to send huge thanks to all the distributors and contributors of The Observer throughout 2021 as well as to Mike and Nick Gee at Denmaur Paper for your continued help and support. I couldn't have done it without you!

Have a very happy and enjoyable Christmas and New Year, have fun!

And keep those articles coming into my in-box for 2022!

Ed x

Stockbury Gardeners

Well finally it has turned cold, the bird table has been fixed and cleaned, the feeders have been filled for our feathered friends too. There is no time to relax, it's going to be a busy week!

- Gather seeds up for next year's sowing, onion seeds are shaken from the dried allium heads ready to sow on 7th December. Runner bean pods should be pulled down from the bean poles and removed from the pod. These should be sown in April into pots.
- Greenhouses should be fumigated and the glass cleaned now. Once cleaned bubble wrap can be fixed inside to insulate the tender plants and seedlings that will be sown later. All of this can be carried out in one day, taking plants out and back inside so as not to let the overnight frost encroach on them.
- Dahlias can now be cut down and lifted and dried, or if you fancy taking the risk, leaving them. You could cover with straw to protect from the frost.
- Similarly, chrysanthemums can be cut down and the pots taken into a frost proof building, this will encourage the side shoots to form and these will be next year's flowers when taken as cuttings.
- Don't forget to get the orders in for seeds, if you leave it too late the variety that you prefer may not be available.
- Check over heaters before you need them. It's a good idea to make sure that the thermometer is where you last left it, I feel that a tell tale thermometer is probably the most useful item that you can have in the greenhouse.

The final produce is now finished and harvested from the greenhouse; the last of the tomatoes taken indoors to ripen, the sweet peppers and aubergines harvested, alongside the chilli peppers.



The chilli crop this year, having been picked, was difficult to know what to do with the rather large harvest, so we supplied The Harrow village pub, several Indian restaurants and the "Thai Fusion" restaurant in Sittingbourne. I can assure you that the fruits were all picked by hand, wearing neoprene disposable gloves!! Especially after last years episode with the contact lenses!!



Our next meeting is in the Village Hall on December 2nd at 8pm. All are welcome and we will be giving a taster on what to expect from our guest speakers next season.

I would like to wish all of our gardeners, those that are not, those that would like to be, and those that cannot any more, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Chris Spree

THE HARROW PUB

FREE HOUSE · COMMUNITY OWNED

A quiet village pub in the heart of Stockbury. Serving fresh home-cooked food.

Small functions catered for.

Open from -

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Sunday

11am

Kitchen open from -

Tuesday - Saturday

12pm-3pm and 5pm-8:30pm

Sunday

12pm-4pm

01795 843222

theharrowpubstockbury

The Harrow Pub Stockbury

Christmas Menu available from the 1st December (pre-booked only)

Christmas quiz on the 7th December at 8pm (limited tables available)



M2 junction 5 Stockbury interchange improvements

Moving utilities

We need to move some utility pipes on the M2 junction 5 westbound exit and entry slip roads. This will take place from 8pm Fri 3 Dec until 5am Mon 6 Dec on the exit slip and from 9pm Fri 3 Dec until 5am Mon 6 Dec on the entry slip.

Exit Slip Road Diversion Route

For drivers wanting to leave the M2 westbound at junction 5, take the diversion via:

- M2 westbound (towards London)
- exit at junction 4
- M2 eastbound (towards Canterbury)
- exit at M2 junction 5

Entry Slip Road Diversion Route

For drivers wanting to join the M2 westbound at junction 5, take the diversion via:

- A249 southbound (towards Maidstone)
- M20 westbound (towards London)
- A229 northbound (towards Chatham)
- exit at M2 junction 3



We're carrying out improvements to help reduce congestion at and on the **M2 junction 5 Stockbury interchange**, and enhance the flow of traffic, bringing real benefits to the drivers who use this junction daily.

To find out more, please visit our website: nationalhighways.co.uk/m2-j5 or scan the QR code. You can also call us on **0300 123 5000** or email m2j5@highwaysengland.co.uk



STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

A REMINDER

Following a successful trip to Polhill Garden Centre at the beginning of November, the Community Bus is off to **Canterbury Christmas Market** on Wednesday the **8th December**.

We aim to leave at approx 10:45am (after pilates) and should return by 4pm. If you have not already booked your seat, now is the time to do so by calling:

07551 454702

The last bus run of the year will be on Tuesday 21st of December, with the service resuming on Tuesday the 4th January, 2022.

From all of us at Stockbury Community Bus, have a very merry Christmas and a happy 2022.

THE HARROW QUIZ

Tuesday Dec. 7th

BOOKING IS A MUST!

No reservation, no table ... so sorry

CALL 01795 843222

LIMITED NUMBER OF TABLES

6 PEOPLE ONLY per distanced table

(No team? Call anyway, we will fit you in!)

COST for the **TABLE** only **£12**

We **START** promptly at **8.00pm**

Bring some small change ... we have a raffle too!

YOUR SAFETY IS IMPORTANT

PLEASE BE COVID AWARE

URGENT ROAD CLOSURE

Cowstead Road, Stockbury
Friday 17th December, 2021

In the vicinity of Cowstead Farm, for up to one day. This is to enable carriageway patching works to take place by KCC.

The alternative route is via Lower Hartlip Road, Old House Lane, Bull Lane and vice versa.



THE HARROW

Is Under New Management

As we bid farewell to Edo and Mike, The Harrow begins an exciting new chapter in its long history; so come along and meet the team who are ensuring The Harrow has a community focus with a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all and serving traditionally home cooked food which is locally sourced.

The Team:

Sarah : Manageress

20 years experience of working in pubs, with 8 years managing another very successful local hostelry.

Gareth (Gaz) : Head Chef

Trained in the Army with over 20 years experience in multiple award holding establishments.

And of course, all the familiar faces of the bar staff!

Opening Hours

11am – 11pm Tuesday to Saturday

11am – 8.30pm Sunday

Christmas menu is available from 1st – 24th December



December Events

7th – 12.30pm Tractor Club 8pm Christmas Quiz

10th – 7pm Carols on The Green

14th – 8pm Games Night

18th – Special Event – fully booked

25th – 12 – 2pm bar only

26th – 12 – 6pm bar only

27th – 12 – 10pm bar & food 12 – 7pm

28th – 12 – 10pm bar & food 12 – 7pm

31st – 11am – TBC

1st Jan 2022 – Closed

December is shaping up to be a very busy month in The Harrow, so Gaz has asked if anybody would be available to help on a volunteer basis in the kitchen with the washing and clearing up. If you would like to put your name forward to be included on a volunteer rota, please call Gaz on

07445 272808

Better still, pop in for a drink or a meal and tell him in person!

A Fabulous Friendly Warm Welcome
Awaits You

Polly's Beautique


At The Herb Garden

Surrounded by fields my Salon
will offer you a peaceful and
private treatment allowing you to
relax, enjoy and be beautiful ...

To see a full price list, learn
more about the Salon and its
offers

Or to book an appointment
See the following:

 Polly's Beautique at
The Herb Garden

 @pollys_beautique

 07725 403697

Price List:

- Gel Polish nails - £20
- Gel Polish toes - £15
- Full set acrylics with gel - £25
- Acrylic infill with gel - £20
- Waxing - prices from £7 for Eyebrows to £25 for full leg
- Range of facials
(Inc. Microdermabrasion, Dermaplaning etc)
prices from £25 - £75
- Full Body Massage - £40
- Back and Shoulder Massage - £25
- Wash and Blow dry from £15
- Eyelash and Eyebrow Tinting from £5
- Lash Lift and Tint - £30
- MICROBLADING - eyebrow tattooing, enquire for prices

New Salon Treatments

Classic Lash Extensions

Hybrid Lash Extensions

Russian Volume Lash Extension

Polly Kingsford-Field

email: pollykf@btinternet.com

Stockbury Kent

Join us for a stroll down Memory Lane

NEW YEARS EVE STOCKBURY VILLAGE HALL

60's, 70's, 80's,

DISCO

8pm-1am

BAR and LIGHT SNACKS

Tickets £10 from Irene 844642

or

Sarah at the Harrow 843222

Tickets only

Fancy Dress Optional

Any money raised will go to the
maintenance of our lovely
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Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri: 9:00am - 5:00pm

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Saturday: 9:00am - 12 noon

National Lottery Available

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Tel: 01795 842401

**Now Taking
Christmas Orders**

Stockbury Book Club

Trio

by William Boyd

Our most recent meeting was a virtual one and was also smaller in numbers. Coupled with that, only one person spoke positively about the book, so with all these factors in the melting pot - it was quite a short book related discussion.

For those of you that may wish to give it a try, it centres on the making of a film set in Brighton in the 'swinging' 1960's. The plot centres around the roles and lives of the main actors Annie and Troy, Talbot the producer and Elfrieda a novelist. Most of these people had a hidden or covert life which made their lives arguably more interesting and certainly won over many critics. But for all but one of our group it was a pointless tale of thespians and divas!

Our one enthusiastic member loved the setting, thought the characters were well developed and enjoyed the humour. Its overall score was a 5 out of 10.

So there you go - it only goes to show it's all a matter of personal taste.

Next month we are reading The Fine Art of Invisible Detection by Robert Goddard.

Moira Cooke

Patrik Says ...

Two female councillors were attacked by an angry mob, I was awarded the Hypocrite of the Month Award on a Facebook blog and accused of merely talking 'bla bla' amongst other things ... I won't dwell on this nasty month of hostilities, except to say that the six week period of Public Consultation on the Maidstone Local Plan Review Draft is available for all to have their say until **Sunday 12 December**.

Please include your comments:

<https://localplan.maidstone.gov.uk/home/local-plan-review>

As a result of this review, my ward of North Downs will only have one new development site included in Hollingbourne for NINE houses. That is 9 out of a total 30,000 across the borough. Maybe I should add that none of the nasty insults and comments which were thrown at me, came from North Downs residents; you guys are a lovely lot and I always enjoy meeting you at Parish Assemblies and the like.

Trees

As part of Maidstone Borough Council's (MBC) Biodiversity & Climate Change Action Plan, we are seeking to partner with local landowners to conduct tree planting projects. The aim of the project is to increase tree cover across the borough while ensuring that the right trees are planted in the right places for the right reasons. In collaboration and with technical support from the Kent Wildlife Trust and the Woodland Trust, the Council are issuing a call for proposals to seek sites that would be suitable for large-scale tree-planting projects. MBC would then either seek to support projects directly or offer support to landowners through other initiatives and funding opportunities. The call will

run until 22 January 2022. The proposal template and eligibility criteria are available on the MBC website.

Bins

We have gone a complete month without a contaminated rejected recycling load. There's no clear reason for the improvement over the last six weeks but needless to say that this is exceptionally good news. Thank you for applying that little extra thought when disposing of your rubbish.

The Christmas collection schedule has been agreed and is now promoted on the MBC website. It's quite normal for waste tonnage to increase by 20% to 25% over Christmas and New Year and especially in view of the national driver shortage, there may be additional collection problems on the horizon. Let's all try to reduce the amount of waste generated over the holiday to make the workload a little bit easier for the crews.

MBC & SEW identifies customers to receive lower water bills

In August I reported that MBC and South-East Water joined forces to help people on low incomes having their water charges capped. So far 4,000 customers were identified who were not yet on the Social Tariff.

The project has helped new cases every day and has led to the teams working on 1,106 additional customer accounts averaging a £170 reduced bill for each, with total reductions for the customers of £190k so far. The criteria for receiving the Social Tariff is household income of under £16,385.

Town Centre

The Policy & Resources Committee at their meeting on 14 December 2021, will look at an initial concept of the Maidstone Riverside Light Walk to improve links between Archbishop's Palace, Lockmeadow and the Town Centre. As I always say, the river is one of Maidstone's most undervalued assets.

Have your say on MBC Housing Strategy 2021 - 2026

A consultation has opened on the MBC Housing Strategy which sets out the Council's strategic approach to tackling the major housing challenges facing the Borough for the next five years.

The strategy will form the basis for all work with Maidstone residents and partner organisations and will inform the development of other important strategies and policies that link to housing, including the Local Plan. Maybe I ought to emphasise, this strategy is NOT about those dreaded housing numbers!

It describes the objectives, policies and targets for how MBC intends to manage and deliver the strategic housing role and provides an overarching framework against which the authority considers and formulates other policies on more specific housing issues.

The consultation closes Friday 31 December 2021 and the survey takes around eight minutes to complete. Please take part here:

<https://maidstone.gov.uk/home/primary-services/council-and-democracy/primary-areas/consultations/live-consultations/housing-strategy-2021-2026>

Cont'd ...

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Patrik Says cont'd ...

And finally ...

MBC to give businesses a boost

MBC is asking businesses affected by Covid-19 to come forward and check what help, advice and potential financial support is available to them as part of its new scheme, Maidstone Business Boost (MBB).

By offering diagnostic meetings to understand individual businesses' needs, MBB aims to guide applicants through the wide range of free resources on offer and help them identify which they qualify for, including training, marketing and recruitment. In addition to the support for businesses, grants of up to £10,000 are available to businesses taking on a lease for ground floor premises in a commercial centre.

Via the scheme, we particularly want to help any businesses which may have fallen through the cracks in previous grant rounds. We're also looking forward to supporting plans for growth, innovation and diversification via the grants available, especially for those taking on retail space in the town centre and in villages alike.

Any businesses that would like to receive information on the support available should contact
MBB@maidstone.gov.uk

So overall, I am pleased that this was a good-news newsletter.

PATRIK GARTEN

MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward (Conservative)

Phone: 01622-807907



**CAROLS
ON THE GREEN**



The ladies of Stockbury WI
would like to invite Stockbury residents and their
families to a free evening with
The Salvation Army Band

On

10TH DECEMBER, 2021

On the Village Green at 7.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Afterwards in the Village Hall 7.30pm – 9.00pm
For refreshments and more carols

The evening will include:

A Raffle

A collection for the
Salvation Army

A collection of non-perishable food
and toiletries

(All donations gratefully received)



We Look Forward to Welcoming you all

Maidstone Borough Local Plan Review requested to be included by Patrik Garten

For the past weeks my inbox has been swamped with emails from people from all over the Borough lobbying about the Maidstone Borough Local Plan Review (LPR).

I have every sympathy with your heartfelt feelings about the proposed allocation of land at Lidsing and Lenham for 2,000 / 5000 dwellings but, there are far wider planning and development issues involved which I will explain.

1. Planning permission for residential development at Gibraltar Farm was granted on Appeal by the Secretary of State (SoS) several years ago against the wishes of both Medway City Council and Maidstone Borough Council (MBC). The vast majority of the site lies within Medway. A revised application for this development has recently been submitted and is currently being processed. The principle of residential development on Gibraltar Farm has, however, been established by the SoS and cannot be revisited.
2. Planning permission for residential development on land off Gleamingwood Drive, east of Reed Croft Wood and west of Sindals Lane was also granted on Appeal to the SoS, against the wishes of MBC. This site is entirely within Maidstone. The East Hill site is entirely within Medway and I think that the Darland View site is as well. I have no knowledge of the current state of play of any development proposals for either of these two sites.
3. Last month's evening MBC meeting did not grant planning permission for 2,000 new houses at Lidsing. It resolved to approve for further public consultation and for onward submission to the SoS, the LPR.
4. The LPR proposes that 17,355 new dwellings be built in Maidstone Borough between 2022 and 2037. This global housing figure includes the 2,000 homes at a proposed Lidsing Garden Community as well as 5,000 new dwellings at a proposed Heathlands Garden Settlement at Lenham Heath; 1,300 new dwellings at the Invicta Barracks site in Maidstone (after it has been vacated by The Army in 2027) and new housing development on many other sites throughout the Borough.
5. There is an acknowledged national shortage of housing. For 40 years, the country has not been building enough new homes to keep up with a growing population and a dramatically increasing number of smaller households comprising single people and one-parent families etc.
6. Successive governments; Labour, Coalition and Conservative have sought to increase housebuilding across the country. The present Government would like to see 300,000 new dwellings built each year to deal with the demand for new homes that has been increasing cumulatively because not enough new homes have been built for so many years.
7. It is a government requirement that MBC plans for 17,355 new dwellings in its LPR. If it did not do this, the LPR would not satisfy the SoS; he might refuse to accept it or modify it in ways unacceptable to MBC in order to increase its proposals for new housing. The practical implications of this would be that
cont'd ...

Court Barn

ESCAPES



Luxury Shepherd's Hut in Yelsted with wood fired hot tub, stunning views and set exclusively and privately alone in an acre meadow field.

We would like to offer a discount to the local residents and the families and friends of Stockbury, Yelsted and Hartlip. Ideal for Christmas, New Year and family celebrations.

For further details please email info@courtbarescapes.com



MLPR cont'd ...

- without an up-to-date LPR approved by the SoS, developers would submit planning applications for housing on any site in the Borough and, despite any objections from MBC, would be almost certain to obtain planning permission on Appeal.
8. It is the onerous responsibility of MBC to find the land where the 17,355 new homes required in the Borough should be located. After 4 years of meticulously painstaking work and research by MBC Planning Officers in consultation with KCC (Highways), other KCC Departments, the NHS, environmental bodies and utility providers, etc - and with the constant involvement of Borough Councillors and with previous rounds of public consultation - the LPR was produced and was considered by MBC last Wednesday evening.
 9. The LPR is not perfect. No local council has ever produced a 'perfect' local plan and never will do. There will always be winners and losers. I am unhappy with some aspects of the LPR and so are many other Borough Councillors. Lidsing falls within the MBC Ward of Boxley and, at the MBC meeting on Wednesday, the Borough Councillors that represent Boxley Ward, Bob Hinder, Anne Brindle and Heidi Bryant, all spoke passionately against the proposed Lidsing Garden Community.
 10. At the end of the day, however, Borough Councillors have to consider the greater good of the greater number and give priority to the wider interests of the 170,000 people who live in Maidstone Borough. For these reasons other Borough Councillors, including me and my fellow Bearsted Ward Councillors, Val Springett and Mike Cuming, reluctantly voted to take the LPR forward. If the LPR were not to be taken forward, there would be planning chaos throughout the Borough.
 11. In summary, the LPR must provide for 17,355 new dwellings whether MBC likes it or not. With an up to date LPR in place, MBC has control over where these houses will be built. Without the LPR, MBC will have little or no control over where the housing goes. Developers will be able to submit planning applications everywhere and anywhere in the Borough with the strong likelihood of being granted planning permission by the SoS on Appeal against the wishes of MBC and of local people.
 12. The LPR will now go out to a further round of public consultation. This will last for 6 weeks from 29 October until the 12 December. You will be able to inspect a copy of the LPR on the MBC website and in hard copy at the MBC offices at Maidstone House, at public libraries and at some parish council offices. Do please comment or object to the LPR as you wish.
 13. All objections to the LPR will be considered by MBC and some amendments may be made to it before it is submitted to the SoS. Unresolved objections – of which I am sure there will be many – will be considered at a Public Hearing to be held next summer and conducted by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the SoS. The Hearing is likely to last several weeks. The Inspector has power to approve or reject the LPR or to make recommendations to MBC on amendments that he considers are necessary to make it acceptable. All

proposed new developments set out in the LPR will all need to the subject of separate, individual planning applications and the public will be able to comment on them when they are submitted.

14. Finally, I need to explain that the Boxley councillors and I are all very concerned about the extreme pressure that government is putting on MBC and other councils in the southeast to allocate more and more land for housing. MBC and individual councillors have, therefore, been putting a great deal of pressure on our local MPs, Helen Whately for Faversham and Mid Kent and Helen Grant for Maidstone and the Weald, to work with other southeast MPs to persuade Ministers to reduce their demands for housebuilding in the southeast and redirect it to less populated areas in the north. I do not know how successful we will be in our endeavours but, it will take months, probably many months, for any significant changes to be made to government policy. In the meantime, I am afraid we have no option but to progress with the LPR.

Denis Spooner

Chairman, MBC Planning Committee Member
MBC Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Committee



Calling the

"Ladies" of Stockbury:

Come and join like-minded ladies for a lovely lunch and a catch up

At

The Harrow Pub on the last Thursday of the month

at about 12.30pm

Please book your place directly with The Harrow on

01795 -873222

We would love you to join us

Ditty Corner

I made myself a snowball
As perfect as could be
I thought I'd keep it as a pet
And let it sleep with me

I made it some pyjamas
And a pillow for it's head
Then last night it ran away
But first it wet the bed!

Annon.

THE HOOK & HATCHET INN



CHURCH ROAD, HUCKING, KENT, ME17 1QT
WWW.HOOKANDHATCHETPUB.CO.UK

01622 880272

PUB GARDEN

CAMPING

BAR

RESTAURANT

EVENTS

FUNCTIONS



THE HOOK AND HATCHET INN IS LOCATED ON 573 ACRES OF PARK AND WOODLAND. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF DESIRABLE AMENITIES ONSITE OTHER THAN JUST THE FABULOUS BAR AND DINING AREA - PAIRED WITH A WIDE SELECTION OF BEERS, ALES, SPIRITS AND WINES AND ALSO FANTASTIC HOMEMADE PUB FOOD! THE PUB IS DOG FRIENDLY AND ALSO BOASTS AN AREA FOR HORSES TO BE TIED UP AND WATERED FREE OF CHARGE OUTSIDE TOO! THE HOOK & HATCHET IS ALWAYS BURSTING WITH EVENTS.

FOOD AT THE HOOK & HATCHET INN

FOOD IS AVAILABLE 7 DAYS A WEEK FROM NOON, AND EARLIER ON WEEKENDS AND BANK HOLIDAYS TO CATER FOR BREAKFAST GUESTS.

Cooking with Zeina

Peanut Butter Chicken Curry

I won't lie, this one's spicy. As we get closer to winter, a bit of spice goes a long way to warm things up! 🔥

Ingredients

3 - 6 Fresh red chillies, finely chopped (keep whole if worried about heat)
1 1/2 tsp Coriander powder
1 tsp Coriander seeds (whole)
1 1/2 tsp Cumin powder
1 1/2 tsp Turmeric
1 1/2 tsp Paprika (not smoked)
1 1/4 tsp Chilli powder (or to taste - if you prefer milder food, cut this by half or simply substitute paprika)
Salt (to taste if needed)
1 tbsp Honey
1.5 kg Chicken drumsticks/ chicken wings - skinned if possible
1 large White onion, chopped finely
4 tbsp Oil
1 Stock cube
2 inches ginger, chopped finely
1 cup cilantro/coriander fresh, chopped finely
5 Garlic cloves, chopped finely
3/4 cup Peanuts, roasted unsalted, chopped, separated
1/2 can coconut milk/cream
2 tbsp heaped peanut butter, crunchy or smooth
4 tbsp Lime juice (lemon will do)
3 Kaffir lime leaves (optional)
For Garnish: cilantro / coriander leaves and fresh chilli, finely chopped

Method:

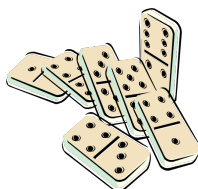
1. Take the fresh red chillies and fry them in the oil on a low flame - add the coriander seeds. (this will flavour the oil and wake up the whole dish) for just about ten seconds, make sure not to brown the coriander seeds or it'll flavour the whole curry oddly.
2. Add the onion and garlic, raise the flame to medium and fry until translucent but not brown. This happens fast, don't leave. I know you want to and whatever it is will just take a second. Don't do it! Stay! (I think all my recipes are a little needy. I'm sorry 😊)
3. Add the chicken and all the powdered spices (coriander powder, cumin powder, turmeric powder, paprika powder, chilli powder). Fry until fragrant (won't take more than five minutes).
4. Add the coconut milk and cook it down (on a high flame) until it's a paste frying in the oil (this is essential - I know it seems unnecessary and no one has the time - but it makes a difference to how all the spices and the coconut work together later on).
5. Add water (enough to just cover the chicken), half the stock cube, the kaffir lime leaves and the peanuts. Bring the flame back to medium and cover.
6. When the water has cooked down, taste for salt - add more of the stock cube melted in a little hot water or instead simply add a little bit of salt to taste if needed. Move off the flame.
7. In a separate bowl, mix the honey, peanut butter, lime juice, ginger and chopped fresh coriander/cilantro. Add this mix to the curry and fry on high for a couple of minutes. Take off the heat. Taste for yumminess 😊
8. Troubleshoot for yumminess: If it's too spicy add more coconut milk (up to half a cup) and peanut butter (up to half a tablespoon and **don't** add more honey as it'll get cloying and affect the flavour profile). If it's too bland add more lime juice, cilantro, ginger and/or fresh chilli.
9. Garnish with cilantro/ coriander leaves and fresh chilli - or not. I never really bother with garnish unless I'm making something for Mum 😊
10. Serve with plain rice and slices of fresh lime or lemon.

If you're making any of my recipes and have a question, my number is 07551-264537 - give me a call or send a text message. I would love feedback and advice as well. (I won't mind if you hate my recipes and simply want to call to tell me off!)

Love,
Zeina



CALLING ALL GAMERS!



Following its previous success, we are re-establishing a traditional games evening at The Harrow Pub on the second Tuesday of every month.

This is a great opportunity to play old favourites and to learn some new games.

Come along for an evening of traditional fun in the gloomy depths of winter and beyond.

We aim to start about 8 pm and would love to see anyone interested and you are welcome to bring any games with you.





Kingswood Christmas Trees

For the freshest and most beautiful trees, come and buy directly from us the growers.

£5 off a tree with this advert

Wreaths – Stands – Lights – Decorations

Choose and cut your tree (weekends only)

Santa's Grotto open weekends from 20th November
(book through our website)

Shop, café and seasonal food market open
7 days a week from 13th November

Email: info@kingswoodchristmastrees.co.uk
Tel: 01622 843780 Fax: 01622 843410
www.kingswoodchristmastrees.co.uk

Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood, ME17 3NU

IT'S CHRISTMAS - KEEP IT REAL

Observer Deadline!

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

MONDAY 20th December

Please email your contributions to
stockburyobserver@gmail.com

Calling All Advertisers

Our annual rates for advertising in 12 editions are:

A whole page £400

A half page £200

A quarter page £120

Our advertising year starts in April 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 place an advert in The Observer, 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 artwork, preferable in MS Word or as a PDF file.

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 meetings will be approved at the following meeting and will then be published on www.stockbury.org within 5 days of the meeting at which they are approved.

November Church Draw Winners

CONGRATULATIONS!

1st £40 - Mike Gee (268)

2nd £20 - Nigel Sharp (187)

3rd £10 - Pauline Adams (35)

Mobile Library Dates:

The mobile library will be at the Village Hall on

**Thursday 2nd December
from 9.10am - 9.40am**

Useful Contact Information

Church Matters St. Mary Magdalene		01795 227329
Community Bus	Booking Line	07551 454702
Cricket Club	Enrique Damian	07522 691831 07967 890010
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	Philip Painter	07850 190204
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 Officer for Stockbury		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	Ann Rich - email: ann.stockbury@btinternet.com	07718 070807
South East Water	Emergency Only Non-Emergency	0333 000 0365 0333 000 3330
Stockbury Observer - Editor	stockburyobserver@gmail.com	
The Harrow Public House	contact@theharrowstockbury.co.uk	01795 843222
WI	Ann Ballard - email: rosemary.ballard@outlook.com	01622 736331



*Wishing You All
a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*

