

# THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER

August 2021

## Stockbury Social Housing

The social housing in Stockbury is administered by Maidstone Borough Council in conjunction with the housing associations that own the social housing in the village.

To be considered for social housing in the village, as and when properties become available, any person who wishes to apply must meet the eligibility qualifications for MBC social housing, be living or working in the village, or otherwise have a connection with Stockbury *and* be registered on the MBC housing register. It takes approx 4 weeks for applications to be processed. Please see the link below :

<https://www.kenthomechoice.org.uk/choice/login.aspx#divRegister>

In addition to being on the MBC register, it is also necessary for persons to be registered on the housing lists for each of the village housing associations that the applicant may wish to apply for.

If you would like further details about the housing associations in the village and which houses/flats they control, please see the Stockbury Parish Council website, speak to a parish councillor, or email our parish clerk, Ms Sherrie Babbington at:

[stockburypc@sherriebabbington.co.uk](mailto:stockburypc@sherriebabbington.co.uk)

SPC

## Stockbury Play Area

We are looking for someone to carry out some lawn cutting/trimming on the children's play area and surrounds behind the village hall. This will be for a few hours a week and the person will be paid.

Interested?  
Call Sue Porter 01795 843715

## July Church Draw Winners

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**1st £40 - Sarah Austin (46)**

**2nd £20 - Colin Prior (76)**

**3rd £10 - Diane Spree (73)**

## STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

After 16 months idle, we are hoping to get some limited service back with our own community bus. Our initial survey suggests people would like to go to Hempstead Shopping Centre and to Maidstone, with the occasional trip out somewhere to include lunch; so we plan to start taking bookings from the beginning of August for:

Tuesdays - Maidstone (the Chequers Centre in King Street via Next and Notcutts if required)

Thursdays - Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre via Tesco/Dobbies

Pickups are from 9.30am and are from close to your home, returning usually about 1.30-2.00pm. Senior citizens with bus passes travel free.

In order to give reassurance to passengers and our volunteer drivers, we will keep the bus to about half capacity and continue to wear masks for now.

Please call 07551 454702 between 9-12am weekdays to book or enquire. You can also contact us at [communitybus-stockbury@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:communitybus-stockbury@hotmail.co.uk)

If you think you might like to become a volunteer driver, please email us at the above address.

**MORE DRIVERS = MORE SERVICES!**



## MB Farm Services

No doubt many of you pop into our farm shop for one reason or another, maybe to go to the butcher's counter or over to the Post Office; you pick up your newspaper, or choose some fresh vegetables.

**BUT** are you aware that at the beginning of the week you could take your winter coat in to be dry-cleaned, or that over-large duvet cover to be laundered and you would get them back by the end of the same week looking as good as new? **AND** there's another thing; you could also take your shoes or boots in to be soled, or heeled and have them returned after a week. Now wouldn't that save you paying for parking and waiting in a queue in town?

The reason I mention all this is that if we cease to use the service we could lose it because the company that bothers to visit Stockbury will be facing considerable A249 delays in the near future and who knows what necessary decisions they would have to make if business is slack.

Just saying!

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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**

The story of Jack's life (everyone knew him as John) is represented here by a compilation of thoughts and memories particularly from his daughters Abigail and Helen and also from friends who knew him throughout his long life in Stockbury.

## JOHN BLYTH COCKETT 30<sup>th</sup> August 1931 – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021



John was born on 30th August 1931 in Norwood, London. He was the only child of Jack who worked as a barristers' clerk and Emily. In his teens he was educated at Chislehurst and Sidcup County Grammar School for Boys until 1948. Two years later he moved to Stockbury with his parents where his mother ran a café from the house, which was popular with the RAF based at Detling Aerodrome. He would have met some interesting people at this time of his life; many Europeans stayed at the field centre based at Steppes Farm nearby. They came to study our flora and fauna and used the little tea shop round the corner for refreshment.

At twenty one he was called up to do National Service and was with the Royal Engineers until September 1954; for part of that time he was stationed in Malaysia. Apparently before he went he dismantled his motorbike engine, filled the tank with oil and deposited the components inside, ready to be reassembled on his return. Such fore-thought!

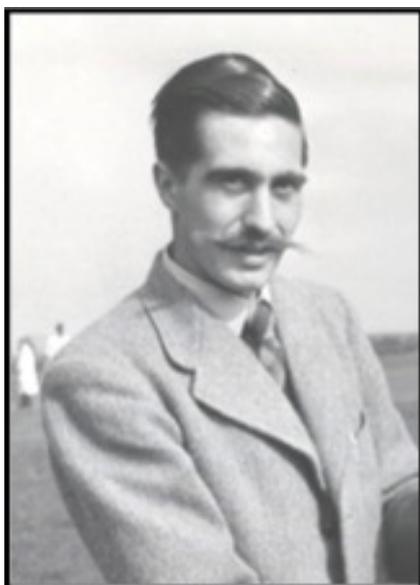
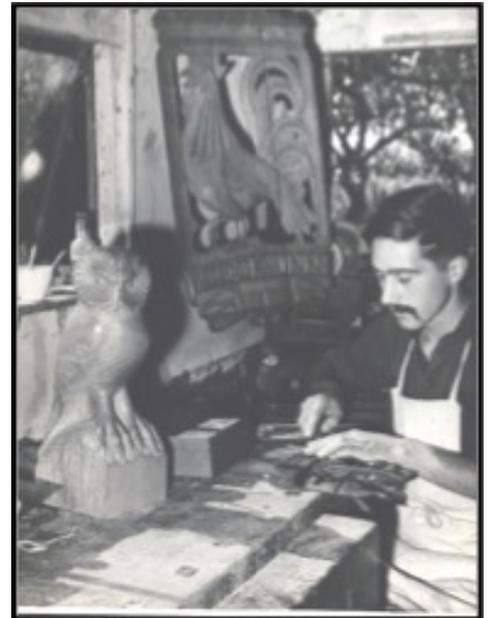
Afterwards he undertook a cabinet making course which sparked his interest in a career in design, woodwork and ultimately wrought iron work. He

spent his life perfecting his craft in the forge at his home. He produced many intricate designs for gates, both large and small. For one client he produced complicated drawings for a spiral staircase, which he also forged. Around the village there are bespoke creations of his in the shape of gates, window boxes and also the wrought ironwork, which for years hung over the Harrow Bar and housed the glasses, was forged by him. Another example of his design capabilities and on permanent display is the village sign standing on the green; his legacy which will be part of Stockbury for future years. At his home he built a pergola along the side of the house; it had beautiful curlicues and leaves supporting the roof. His car park gate was in similar style and his front gate was a cobweb. As well as being skilled he was inventive, coming up with solutions to problems he encountered in his workshop. For instance he made a device which enabled him to carve lettering into wood using a template. His wood carvings were many and varied.

John was multi-talented and he put his active mind to writing stories, which he illustrated and using his observations of village life related episodes he had witnessed. Some of these anecdotes were broadcast on local radio in the 1970s.

He did write and illustrate a book but thought his characters might be recognised by villagers so never published.

Add to his many talents .... Cooking! John's mother who had run the café in the 1950's (it was the only place for miles where you could get an ice cream) had taught him to make cakes and his light, tasty Victoria sponge is legendary amongst his friends.



*The famous moustache!*

It is no secret that John was quite eccentric and quirky at times in a gentle way. It meant that his active imagination seemed to have led to perhaps some lapses in concentration. Anyway it tended to make him accident prone! Once he nearly cut his thumb off with an axe and on another occasion, one winter, his magnificent moustache froze to the water tank. There were other instances too, some of which landed him in A&E.

At some point he also taught at Tonbridge College, enjoying the opportunity to pass on his knowledge.

Not until he was forty years old did he meet and marry Brenda. They lived in his family home, raising their three daughters Mary, Abigail and Helen in the lovely rural spot at Beaux Aires. Together they became engaged with village life for the next forty five years, joining clubs such as The Gardeners, The Not so Young Club, the W. I. and the Short Mat Bowls Club. A friend of forty two years recalls when Brenda joined the W.I. and John became a 'W.I. husband'. He supported them in all kinds of ways, whether helping to set up the village hall for harvest suppers, pie lunches or carol concerts and finally clearing up, or supplying his mother's 1950s café crockery for those events. Ever practical he even made a special cupboard for the china and it was placed in the village hall obviating the need to transport the it all on every occasion. He also assisted them in building and painting the staging for their entries into the Kent County Show each year. Many prizes resulted for the W.I. They

often asked him to speak at their meetings keen to take in knowledge of his crafts which he shared with them. **cont'd ..**

# THE HARROW

## OPENING HOURS

TUES - THURS 12pm-10pm

FRI - SAT 11am-10pm

SUN 12pm-8pm

Please Pre-book Your Table

Phone 01795 843222 or 07909 631057

Email: [contact@theharrowstockbury.co.uk](mailto:contact@theharrowstockbury.co.uk)  
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[www.springbankltd.co.uk](http://www.springbankltd.co.uk)



## John Cockett cont'd ...

Brenda passed away in 2016. In her last few years she sadly suffered with Alzheimer's and dementia. John ensured that she was extremely well cared for walking daily with her in those last years and facing stressful times with equilibrium, love and good humour even when his own wife accused him of kidnapping and the police came to investigate.

John was very committed to Stockbury and the community, involving himself in many aspects of village life, with as much energy and dedication as he applied to his work. In particular he served on the Parish Council for a number of years and was vigilant in protecting the rural aspect of our parish. Early in 1993 he helped with fundraising for a branch of the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf charity, latterly he organised Art classes for villagers, ever happy to pass on his knowledge and also at this stage in his life he loved plenty of company.

Many people remember John's irreverent sense of humour and his ready smile; they knew him as a gentleman, quietly spoken and unassuming. Only in the last couple of years did he experience health issues which ultimately led to him leaving the family home as he could no longer live an independent life safely. It was a great wrench for him. His last year was spent at Leysdown in a residential home where he regaled his carers with stories and continued to draw as best he could.

Many people in Stockbury and elsewhere whose lives John touched, will miss his conversation, banter and cheerful demeanour.



*One of John's many pen and ink sketches of Stockbury  
This is the Clock Tower at Hill Green*



*More of John's work*

## A John Cockett Corner Ditty

### Gluttony

A fly had a stroll on the ceiling  
Then experienced a starvation feeling  
He swooped down on a plate  
And ate too much cake  
Then drowned in a cup of Darjeeling!

(My absolute favourite Cockett Corner Ditty - Ed)

## AWARD WINNING M B Farms

Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Post Office Hours

Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri: 9.00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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

### National Lottery Now Available

[www.mbfarms.co.uk](http://www.mbfarms.co.uk)



## 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](mailto: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:

**The mobile library will be at the  
Village Hall on**

**Thursday August 12th  
from 9.10am - 9.40am**



**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**

## VILLAGE PICNIC

Stockbury WI wish to invite all Stockbury residents to a picnic on the Village Hall Playing Field

On

**SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST**

Please bring your own food

There will be free entertainment

The Harrow will be providing a bar for the evening

Start time to be confirmed

Please watch for notices around the village

CONTACT: ANN BALLARD (01622 736331)

## Robert (Bob) Town, RN RM January 1927 - 16th June 2021

The Observer is also sad to learn of the passing of villager Robert Town, known to many as Bob.

Bob was eager to have some of his life story in The Observer and spoke to Mick Bingham about his rich and varied life shortly before he passed away.

Bob was born in January 1927 and lived with his parents Thomas and Mable at Grafty Green near Maidstone. In 1941 at the age of 15, he left Harrietsham School and obtained a job on a local dairy farm.

A short time later, he joined 'E' Company, 29<sup>th</sup> Mid-Kent Battalion of the Home Guard, working by day on the dairy farm and doing his guard duties at night as was required. Early in March 1944 he decided to join the Royal Marines but was instead enlisted into the Royal Navy and on the 25<sup>th</sup> March, that same year, Bob, then aged 17, was posted to HMS Royal Arthur at Skegness for process and then onto HMS Ganges for basic training. On completion of his training, he was posted to HMS Sanfoin, a troop landing ship in India, which was ferrying troops from Burma and the Dutch East Indies to invade Malaya (Operation Zipper). During the voyage to Malaya, VJ Day was announced and the troops were instead landed to re-occupy the area.

Bob was then posted to HMS Maenad, a minesweeper that carried out operations in the Malaccan Straights and around the islands of Indonesia.

His next posting was to HMS Theseus, an aircraft carrier and toured Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand before returning home. He was released from the Royal Navy on the 26<sup>th</sup> February, 1948 and married his wife Theresa in January 1949.

After almost a year at home, he joined the Royal Marines and on earning the coveted green beret was posted to Malaya where he spent two and a half years during the Chinese Terrorist Campaign. He was released on completion of his service in January 1956.

Shortly after leaving the Royal Marines, Bob joined the Kent County Constabulary and after initial training, was posted to Chatham Division, then moved onto Ashford Division where he worked as the Coroner's Officer for the area, later being posted to Bethersden as the Rural Police Officer, serving there until he retired from the Force in 1980.

His last employment was as a porter at Benenden School for Girls, where Princess Anne was a former pupil some year's prior. He once met Prince Philip when he visited Mersham, who quizzed Bob about his marksmanship with firearms when he was part of the security team.

He finally retired at 65 years of age.

Bob was a countryman at heart and until age took its toll on him, enjoyed many a happy day with Jim Mackelden and his band of friends when the shooting season was in full swing.

Bob leaves behind a son, two grandsons, two great grandsons and two great granddaughters. Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

## Stockbury Book Club

### A Man Called Ove by Frederik Backman

This is the tale of a grumpy yet loveable man who finds his solitary world turned upside down when a boisterous young family moves in next door. Ove is a curmudgeon. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse but behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So, when one morning a chatty young couple with two young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heart-warming tale of unkempt cats and unexpected friendship, which ultimately will change Ove forever.

The majority of book club members really enjoyed this book, finding it both amusing, thoughtful and sad in places. Words such as "charming", "touching" and "endearing" were used in feedback.

Members liked the way the roles given to the wide range of people and the cat, led to getting to know more about Ove and helping to explore the process of him gradually healing. We felt the author alternated between past and present very well and most people felt that the conclusion was very satisfying.

We gave it 8 out of 10.

Next month we will be reviewing "The Salt Path" by Raynor Winn.

Jackie Smith

## CCTV And The Law

Increasingly we are making our homes more secure to prevent burglaries, keep ourselves safe etc. We all know the laws about dogs and alarms but how many of us have really thought about the CCTV systems we have installed (including the latest fad for CCTV doorbells)?

Under the current data protection laws, installing CCTV is not quite as straightforward as you might think. If it only captures images from within the boundary of your property the laws do not apply to you but if you are capturing images of people outside your property there is a lot to think about.

Rather than writing my own interpretation of the guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), below is an extract from the ICO website ([ico.org.uk/your-data-matters](http://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters)).

### *What is the law if my CCTV captures images of people outside my home and garden?*

If you are capturing images beyond your property boundary, you should have a clear and justifiable reason for doing so. In particular, you will need to think why you need these images. If asked by an individual or the ICO, you will need to be able to explain your reasons, so you should write them down now. You should also write down why you think capturing the images is more important than invading the privacy of your neighbours and passers-by.

You will also need to:

**cont'd ...**

# 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](mailto:pollykf@btinternet.com)

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## CCTV Cont'd ...

- Let people know you are using CCTV by putting up signs saying that recording is taking place, and why.
- Ensure you don't capture more footage than you need to achieve your purpose in using the system.
- Ensure the security of the footage you capture – in other words, holding it securely and making sure nobody can watch it without good reason.
- Only keep the footage for as long as you need it – delete it regularly and when it is no longer needed.
- Ensure the CCTV system is only operated in ways you intend and can't be misused for other reasons. Anyone you share your property with, such as family members who could use the equipment, needs to know the importance of not misusing it.

You also need to make sure you respect the data protection rights of the people whose images you capture. This includes the following things :

- Responding to subject access requests (SARs), if you receive any. Individuals have a right to access the personal data you hold about them, including identifiable images. They can ask you verbally or in writing. You must respond within one month and give them a copy of the data
- Deleting footage of people if they ask you to do so. You should do this within one month. You can refuse to delete it if you specifically need to keep it for a genuine legal dispute – in which case you need to tell them this and also tell them they can challenge this in court or complain to the ICO.
- Consider any objection you get now from particular people about capturing their image in the future. Given the nature of CCTV systems, this may be very difficult to do. However, you should again think whether you need to record images beyond your property boundary – particularly if your system is capturing images from a neighbour's home or garden.

There is more guidance on the website, including the steps recommended before installing CCTV and the potential consequences of disregarding the data protection laws. To avoid a potential fine and an awful lot of work responding to data access requests, it's well worth reading ...

Phil Woods

## Stockbury Gardeners

Love him or loath him Jeremy Clarkson has been a huge topic of conversation for various reasons, so when we booked a caravan site for a long weekend away, we were surprised to find out that we had booked the site next door to Jeremy's farm shop, as featured in Amazon's TV series; the farm shop having become almost a shrine for petrol heads and young farmers. On the road leading to the farm shop there are signs saying 1hr, 2hr, 3 hr wait, just to enter the car park! Being fans of Top Gear, subsequently we both literally walked the 100 yards to Diddle Squat Farm Shop.

The queue for shopping was about 75 yards long and being nearly its closing time, we decided to walk around the rear of the shop where Jeremy was meeting and greeting his fans; whereby we stumbled into the lambing shed and Jezza's pop up bar was discovered! A few ciders and gins later, Jeremy's lady Lisa, asked if we would mind if she

photographed our Weimaraner to include in her Farm Instagram. I haven't a clue what an Instagram is, however it has had a million views, so the picture is of Lisa taking a picture of me. What is the point of this useless information? Well, MB Farms should open a bar in the lambing sheds, deep litter of course, just like Jezza's!!



Slugs are rife this month now that we have had the monsoon season. Try to defeat them without using slug pellets, use beer traps, sheep fleece plugs, or nematodes can be very effective, Nemaslug is the preferred choice of mine, because it works.

I hope that you have all carried out your summer pruning of fruit, there is still time at the start of August. Not being a flower grower, my wife has informed me that if I want Sweet William flowers next year, I need to sow seed now, Sweet William has one of the nicest smells in any garden but the plant is bi-annual and is sown now and I thought onions had a long growing season!

A vegetable to harvest this month is sweetcorn, this year has been perfect for a bumper harvest, hot dry weather with rain at the correct time.

Stockbury Gardeners are now holding regular meetings and have the Summer Vegetable & Flower Show on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2pm until 4pm.

We meet this month on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> for a tour of the playing field to discuss the future of the planned wildlife borders; this was decided as there were people using the outlying areas of the field for disposing of waste.

Chris Spree

## **IMPORTANT!**

**A thought for those of you that share a cess pit system**

**WET WIPES  
SANITARY ITEMS  
COTTON WOOL**

**WILL EVENTUALLY BLOCK  
PIPES IF FLUSHED AWAY**

**This causes a breakdown of very essential services and is also expensive and time consuming to put right**

**Please think before you flush!**

## Patrik Says ...

Regular readers of this newsletter may be used to the annual August edition, when I task you to do a bit of homework, in the name of democratic consultations. This year is no different but twice as urgent!

### **Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) is consulting residents on how often they would like to vote for the Borough's councillors.**

Currently the Council holds elections 'by thirds' meaning that in three years out of four, one third of seats are up for election. MBC is interested to hear from people as to whether the system should change to 'whole' council elections, which would mean that all seats on the Council would be elected at the same time, once every four years.

Theoretically elections by thirds would be a good democratic tool to hold the authority to account regularly. Practically however, in Maidstone historically we never had sound majorities and therefore elections by thirds will make a weak system even more unstable. Furthermore we are losing 2 months every year to elections and purdah. We can only plan for the next 10 months because we never know who will be in charge next year.

As far as the **North Downs** are concerned, **elections by thirds would be even worse.** The electoral commission is very adamant that if we want to retain elections by thirds, we must have three members per ward in future, in order to get the required number of electors per elected member; the current rural ward of North Downs would have to be split up and sections attached to urban wards. Quite frankly I would think this to be a disastrous decision for our communities and I would not be comfortable in such a new ward.

The consultation runs until Monday 22 August, *please participate here:*

<https://maidstone.gov.uk/home/primary-services/council-and-democracy/primary-areas/consultations/live-consultations/whole-council-elections>

I've thought for a long time that large **council car-parks**, albeit necessary, are ugly and, quite frankly, a waste of space. What a brilliant idea to float much needed, affordable homes over those parking spaces! MBC envisions just that: put some pre-fab pods on stilts over the King Street car park.

The proposed new homes will consist of a mix of 1 and 2-bed apartments (of which 6 will be offered at social rent). More details about the proposed development can be found on the website: <https://maidstone.gov.uk/home/primary-services/business-and-investment/primary-areas/regeneration/tier-3-primary-areas/housing-projects>

A public consultation around the redevelopment of Maidstone's King Street car park will take place at the Town Hall on Thursday 12 August at 6-8pm. Everyone's invited.

**Covid:** Looking around town you would think that nobody had ever heard of this dreaded disease. Nice to

experience some normality but beware, latest figures in Kent show that infection rates are going up like a rocket. We haven't seen such rates for months. The epidemic is far from over!!!! The striking news is however, that hospital admissions are incredibly low, almost close to zero. Most infected are 14-26 year olds. Covid won't go away and we may have to learn to live with it, as we learned to live with the common cold. Please look out for your own safety and your loved ones. Just because hygiene rules are no longer mandatory doesn't mean that they are obsolete.

I hear that in December 2025 the UK's old copper-based analogue telephone network will be switched off, resulting in the withdrawal of all traditional land-line telephone services. You won't lose your phone or number but every business and household in the UK will need to replace their traditional telephone-outlet with an internet based service adapter. Will that mean that our rural communities will finally be connected to the 21<sup>st</sup> century? There is hope ... watch this space.

**And finally**, I see that *The Kent County Council (Waiting Restrictions And Street Parking Places) (Variation no. 39) Order 2021* has been advertised in the local paper.

You may remember me telling you that two years ago Maidstone commissioned learned and very well-paid traffic consultants to come up with a solution to reduce congestion and air pollution in Upper Stone Street. Kites were flown about introducing a Congestion Charging Zone at the cost of £5 million, among other harebrained ideas.

At the time your Councillor and writer of this newsletter bamboozled those learned traffic consultants with a strikingly obvious but simple idea, which only a layman in his unprofessional ignorance could ever envisage. I proposed to prohibit stopping along that road.

Well, it was a long time coming but the above (mouthful name) Order will forthwith prohibit waiting at all times [double yellow lines] on both sides for the entire length AND prohibit loading/unloading between 7am and 8pm, on all days [single kerb markings].

Drive smoothly, breathe freely ...

... and please vote how you like to vote in future!

PATRIK GARTEN

MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward (Conservative)

Phone: 01622-807907

[patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk)

# Domestic Abuse

If you or someone else is suffering from domestic abuse please visit a Domestic Abuse webpage for advice and more information:

[www.maidstone.gov.uk/home/primaryservices/housing/tier-2-additional-areas/domestic-abuse](http://www.maidstone.gov.uk/home/primaryservices/housing/tier-2-additional-areas/domestic-abuse)

[www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk](http://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk)

[www.womensaid.org.uk](http://www.womensaid.org.uk)

[www.mensadviceline.org.uk](http://www.mensadviceline.org.uk)

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

There are also helplines available if you would rather speak to someone:

- Choices Domestic Abuse Services  
**0800 917 9948**
- National Domestic Violence Helpline  
**0808 2000 247**
- Refuge freephone National Domestic Abuse  
**0808 2000 247**
- The Men's Advice Line for male domestic abuse survivors  
**0808 808 4994**
- National LGBT+ Abuse Helpline  
**0800 999 54428**
- Childline  
**0800 1111**

## Housing helplines

There are helplines available if you need help with housing:

- Shelter -**0808 800 4444**
- Choices -**0800 917 9948**
- Victim Support -**0808 168 9111**

# Observer Deadline!

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

**MONDAY 23rd August**

Please email your contributions to  
**[stockburyobserver@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.stockbury.org) within 5 days of the meeting at which they are approved.

## Useful Contact Information

Church Matters St. Mary Magdalene		01795 227329
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	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 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	Ann Rich - 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	booking@theharrowstockbury.co.uk	01795 843222
WI	Pat Fothergill	01622 734093