



# THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER



October 2021

## Hall Diary - October '21

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise stated

Fri	1st	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
Sat	2nd		
Sun	3rd	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	4th	Power Wave	6.30 - 7.30pm
Tues	5th		
Wed	6th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		UK Paper - Band	7.00 - 9.00pm
Thurs	7th	Gardeners	8.00 - 10.00pm
Fri	8th	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
Sat	9th	Private Booking	7.00 - 11.00pm
Sun	10th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	11th	Power Wave	6.30 - 7.30pm
Tues	12th		
Wed	13th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		W.I. (Comtee Rm)	2.00 - 4.00pm
		Parish Council	2.00 - 4.00pm
		UK Paper - Band	7.00 - 9.00pm
Thurs	14th		
Fri	15th	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
Sat	16th		
Sun	17th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	18th	Power Wave	6.30 - 7.30pm
Tues	19th		
Wed	20th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		Parish Council	7.30 - 9.30
Thurs	21st		
Fri	22nd	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
Sat	23rd		
Sun	24th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	25th	Power Wave	6.30 - 7.30pm
Tues	26th	E Kent Cara - Field	
Wed	27th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		UK Paper - Band	7.00 - 9.00pm
Thurs	28th		
Fri	29th	Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
		E Kent Cara - Hall	All Day
Sat	30th	E Kent Cara - Hall	All Day
Sun	31st	E Kent Cara - Hall	Morning

## Stockbury Roundabout

Rumours seem to be circulating about what is happening with the works to construct the new roundabout, flyover and junction. Some are based on fact, others are conjecture; here is what is actually happening:

- **Honeycrook Hill**

This will be permanently closed before Christmas and will become the access road (from the A249) for the contractor's compound. We are still waiting for a definitive date from the contractor (Graham). This was part of the plan approved by the Planning Inspector at the Inquiry and the Parish Council has no influence over it.

- **Enabling Works**

Graham intend to institute a number of whole weekend closures on the A249 to allow for enabling works, e.g. moving telephone cables, electricity cables, water pipes. The first of these had been planned for early October but KCC and the Parish Council intervened to prevent this happening until they had consulted fully with us and put forward proposals to mitigate the problems that closures would cause. This will be discussed with Graham in detail at the next liaison meeting to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> October.

- **Construction Phase**

Constructing the new interchange will take approximately 2 years and will inevitably result in disruption. Graham have been asked to provide a traffic management plan but have yet to do so which is a source of some disappointment.

In advance of receiving Graham's proposal, the Parish Council will be considering ways which we think the inevitable problems might be mitigated and testing these for practicality with Kent County Council. Key concerns are:

- **"Rat Running"**

Any delay at the Stockbury Roundabout will result in a build up of traffic along the A249. We already have some problems when the southbound approach is blocked and these are likely to get worse. Of more concern is the northbound carriageway; when this is blocked for whatever reason, drivers tend to use Bimbury Lane and / or Scragged Oak Road in an attempt to "beat the queue". Coupled with the increasing restrictions at Farthing Corner, this could prove disastrous if people use Bimbury or Chalky Road in an attempt to get to Church Hill and the front of the queue. As many will remember, a fire on the M2 a few years ago led to gridlock in the lanes and village. We need to find a way of preventing this from becoming a regular occurrence.

Cont'd over ...

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## Cont'd Stockbury Roundabout ...

The Parish Council will again be working with KCC to try to find ways in which we think rat running could be prevented or at least kept to a minimum whilst enabling residents to go about their business.

### • Access to the village / crossing the A249

Church Hill will become a “pinch point” and we need to be able to keep it open throughout the works at all costs. Graham have already agreed that their machinery will not use it as a way of accessing their compound but they will need to ensure that there is some form of traffic control at the junction with the A249 to enable people safely to exit Church Hill and to cross the carriageway in both directions. Equally they need to ensure that access to and egress from the 2 roads on the eastern side of the A249 is maintained. We anticipate that this will be a crucial part of Graham’s traffic management plan and will test this thoroughly with them once we have seen it.

### • Accidents

It is inevitable that there will be accidents in the work areas that Graham will be managing. Again, we need a robust plan from Graham as to how these will be dealt with as queues will build very quickly and could rapidly produce gridlock at the M20 junction without some form of contingency planning.

Once we have some clarity about what is proposed and some firm proposals on mitigation, the Parish Council will hold a public meeting, hopefully jointly with Graham and KCC, to explain fully both the “fixed points” and any plans that may be open to discussion and debate. This is going to be a rough ride for at least a couple of years but the Parish Council will do its level best to minimise the disruption for all Parishioners.

SPC

## Two Local Homes Available in Stockbury

You may have noticed the signs! Two homes are immediately available on Bull Lane and Buxton Meadow, and we are asking parishioners to let their family and friends who may be eligible know about them.

Local homes in Stockbury are administered by Maidstone Borough Council in conjunction with two housing associations:

The Riverside Group – for the Bull Lane property (<https://www.riverside.org.uk>)

English Rural – for the Buxton Meadow property (<https://englishrural.org.uk>)

To be considered for social housing in the village, as and when properties become available, any person who wishes to apply must first meet the eligibility qualifications and be correctly registered. Here’s a short breakdown:

### Eligibility Qualifications & Requirements:

- You have to -
  - Live in Stockbury or
  - Work in Stockbury or
  - Have a connection to Stockbury

• You will need to -

- Be on the MBC Housing Register **and**
- Qualify for MBC Social Housing

It takes approx 4 weeks for applications to be processed at MBC. Please see the link below to register. <https://www.kenthomechoice.org.uk/>

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 or wish to discuss, please contact a pParish Councillor. Please note that there is no such thing as a silly question and we will take up your concerns with MBC. We will respect and maintain your anonymity if so required. We want to help. We are here to help.

We have created an unofficial summary of key points that you may need to know. Copies have been left at MB Farms, the Village Hall, The Harrow etc. A copy can also be found online on the parish website - [www.stockbury.org](http://www.stockbury.org)

If you would like your name added to a list of interested parties held by your Parish Council please email your details to our parish clerk, Mrs Sherrie Babington, at: [stockburypc@sherriebabington.co.uk](mailto:stockburypc@sherriebabington.co.uk)

SPC

## St Mary Magdalene

Services in October are :

10th October 6pm - Communion

24th October 6pm - Evensong

At the moment regular services are taking place on a fortnightly basis; everyone is welcome to attend.

As we look forward, we want to see how the village can engage in how the church building is used so that it is seen as a resource for the community, not just for services. We will be interested to hear any thoughts. From a practical point of view, if any in the community are able to help clean or would like to beautify in some way with flowers, again let us know.

### A Flying Visit by Bishop Rose

On Tuesday 14th September, Bishop Rose visited the Sittingbourne Deanery of Anglican churches, which covers Sittingbourne, the surrounding villages and the Isle of Sheppey. As part of her visit, Rev Julian Staniforth, Rector of The Six and Area Dean, brought her



to Stockbury starting at the church before popping in to The Harrow, where she prayed for the team and gave blessing.

The Harrow Staff & Bishop Rose

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- Acrylic infill with gel - £20
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- (Inc. Microdermabrasion, Dermaplaning etc)  
prices from £25 - £75
- Full Body Massage - £40
- Back and Shoulder Massage - £25
- Wash and Blow dry from £15
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## Stockbury Gardeners

The Gardeners met last month and were given a talk by Nicky Bonner on flower arranging, after which she gave us the contents of a whole floristry shop! One to see if we were paying attention and two to see if we had remembered what she was showing us!! Thus, a miracle then ensued, with the members all having a go at flower arranging.

Some 14 members took part and with sheer determination, succeeded in producing some excellent arrangements.



(Is that concentration or bewilderment Rod? 😊 - Ed)

The next meeting is on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October and will feature our final Autumn Show of vegetables, fruit and produce, all of which is grown by and produced by our gardeners in Stockbury. During the judging we will hold our AGM, once judging and the AGM are completed, we will then be allowed to sample the exhibits. Personally, I normally head straight to the blackberry vodka and sloe gins!! Others might prefer quiche or sausage rolls ... I must remember not to eat supper before I leave for the hall that evening!

Our close friends from Upchurch HS who join with us at our evening meetings, also had their final show and it went very well, having record entries on the day.

We should now be prepping the ground ready for winter. It's a good idea to put down compost and empty old pots of expired peat to enrich the ground, this is always best to give the microbes time to digest their food for the winter, remember you cannot keep taking from the soil, you need to put back into it the nutrients required to make things grow!!

If you have an opportunity to find wallflower plants for sale and lettuce plants for sale its not too late to plant these ready for next year.

Your Chairman took his finest vegetables to the National Championships in Shrewsbury on 11<sup>th</sup> September, returning with two thirds for tomatoes and 3 kilo onions.

Don't forget, if you need any advice on flower and vegetable matters, come along and join us at our October meeting and enjoy the evening.

Chris Spree

## A Virtual Tour!

Those wanting to experience the National Highways Virtual Exhibition for the new Junction 5 road layout, please visit :

<https://m2junction5.queenswoodengagement.com/>

## Coffee Morning

@  
The Harrow  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup>  
September



Many thanks to everyone who supported the MacMillan Coffee Morning by making cakes and coming along to The Harrow on Friday. Also many thanks go to Edo and Mike for hosting the event.

You all helped to raise a magnificent £447 for this wonderful charity which was made up of £357 from donations and £90 from the tombola.

Thanks again.

Sue Porter

## From The Archives

Following on from Ann Rich's recent articles regarding the changes in the village whilst she has been a resident, I thought it might be of interest to look back much further.

Parish Councils were formally established as a result of the Parish Council Act of 1894. This Act was intended to make all non-ecclesiastical functions the responsibility of the newly elected parish councils rather than the parish churches; however, the church continued to play a role in the day-to-day village life following the first elections in December 1894.

The Rev. Thomas Cobb was elected Chairman of the first Stockbury Parish Council and was to hold this position, being regularly re-elected well into the 1900's. Six other local residents were elected at the same time, one of these, Mr Cephas Seager immediately resigned from the Council in order to take up the role of Parish Clerk. Initially this was an unpaid position but in 1901 it was agreed by the PC to pay Mr Seager £5 0s 0d for carrying out the role of Parish Clerk.

From the minute books that Cephas Seager maintained over the next 15 years, it can be seen that the PC met formally once per year to elect members and any other meetings were to address specific issues in and around the parish. The state of the local roads and footpaths was an item that was regularly being discussed at PC meetings 120 years ago (some things never change!).

It wasn't just the local roads that concerned the PC, as in April 1901 the Clerk was instructed to write to ascertain what interest Stockbury had in the road over Rochester Bridge. Apparently according to A.A. Arnold (Bridge Clerk) ancient custom dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> century meant that certain parishes were liable for repairs to portions of the bridge. Mr Arnold confirmed there is no likelihood of any contribution being required but that the connection with the parishes is maintained and that they become the constituents for electing the Bridge Warden and assistants.

Another road related issue was raised following the receipt of a letter in April 1904 from Mr George Pretty, rural postman of Bredgar, complaining about the state of the road between Hazel St and Camm Hill/The Old Forge, it was described as "*nothing less than an absolute quagmire and in fact quite impassable*". Mr Pretty regularly had to

cont'd ...

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## From The Archives cont'd ...

go via South Dean to get to Camm Hill and The Old Forge, this delayed his postal round by approx. 20 minutes. He urged the Council to address the problem. With no sign of any improvement by November, both Mr Pretty and the Postmaster of Sittingbourne wrote again to the PC requesting action. The PC's response was to write to Mr Sands (who appears from the parish records, to be the landowner), requesting that he "*not plough within four furrows of the wheel rut, which would soon be trodden down, and made a very nice path, and the vehicular traffic would not be interfered with*".

At the beginning of 1905 Mr Sands declined to take any action as he believed the PC should take the matter up with Mr Clinch who actually farmed the surrounding land. The Parish Council then decided not to pursue the matter further but to simply inform both the Bredgar and Sittingbourne Post Offices that there was nothing further that could be done.

So I guess that although today it may take some time for potholes and other road or footpath issues to be rectified, we should at least be grateful that something is eventually done about them!

Geoff Moody

## September Church Draw Winners

### CONGRATULATIONS!

1st £40 - Fred Eastwood (66)

2nd £20 - Hannah Brown (5)

3rd £10 - Nigel Sharp (186)

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## STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

### Calling all Passengers!

Hello All!

Kevin Masters here, hoping that I find you all fit and well and so glad that the Stockbury Community Bus is up and running again.

So here we are trying to get back to normal, whatever normal is nowadays, following an episode in our lives that none of us could ever have imagined!

Now that the bus has been up and running these last few weeks, we were wondering if anyone wanted to assist with the normality and get back to trying a few trips out again.

To that end, the thought is to start out slowly as we did in the beginning with a visit to Polehill Garden Centre where we last visited 3 years ago. If you remember it is just outside of Sevenoaks, is a family owned business with over 50 years of experience, is hugely successful and in the style of Nottcutts with plenty for everyone including, I would imagine, Christmas decorations and goodies!

It is only about 40 minutes away so we could leave say, 11:00am, take the usual route as always and arrive by 11:45am for a stay of about 4 hours or so for a good wander around, picking up all your garden needs and treat yourself to lunch in the restaurant.

### *So how about it??*

*We were thinking Wednesday 3rd November*

Following that, the next trip could be Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December to Canterbury for the Christmas Market that we have also enjoyed on two separate occasions; timings could be the same or perhaps a little earlier if preferred.

From then on we could be back to normal starting out in March (weather permitting) with a visit to Bybrook Garden Centre in Ashford; again we've been before but we know it's under new management and really looking good!

With your help and input we can come up with an itinerary that sees us out every 6 weeks or so on day trips and places of interest. If you have ideas please share them with the drivers or through the booking system.

Prices for day trips may vary depending on distance but will always be kept to a minimum, payable as usual on the day.

We can all wear masks in the bus if that's what is required so let's give it a go.

### *So are you coming?*

*Contact us now!*

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Kevin Masters

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## **Patrik Says ...**

This is a calm before the storm newsletter. In a week (after writing) we'll have full council and major decisions will be taken. We seek to introduce four yearly elections which received over 70% support by you, the consulted electorate. Also on the agenda will be our proposed move to an executive system of government. Actually, as things stand right now, we are working on an executive hybrid, encompassing the best of both worlds. I would like to write about some very exciting news about litter (not fly-tipping) enforcement but I am not allowed to talk about it before the end of the month. Last but not least, the Local Plan Review will receive its final touches and approvals before going to Regulation 19 consultation.

It's the perfect calm before the storm ... Please sign up to my personal newsletter via the email below so that you can get the news hot off the press when things happen over the next few weeks.

For now, just a few thoughts:

### **Bins**

I know it may be of little consolation to you but compared to our neighbours – Tonbridge for instance – Maidstone is performing pretty well in this crisis. However, in order to fulfil our statutory duties to remove food, black-bin waste and recycling, our contractor is compromising on the garden waste, which is a discretionary service.

The food, black bin waste and recycling collections are paid for out of your taxes. The gardening collection is paid for by your annual subscription, so legally you are in a private contract with Maidstone for garden waste and you could take civil action against MBC for non performance in a County Court; obviously we want to avoid taking such drastic measures. Maidstone is aware of the shortcomings and there are considerations afloat as to how to compensate affected members of the public, possibly by offering a reduced rate next year or, in extreme cases, a partial refund of your fees.

Please 'hang in there' and, for now, please collect your report references. Obviously continue always to report missed bins. I promise you that the crews and officers do read them. I will send updates via my newsletter.

Obviously, collections of food, black bin waste and recycling are a different issue, as explained – we have a statutory duty to care concerning these. Please continue to notify me of every collection which has not been made within 48 hours AFTER you have reported it on the MBC website.

### **Study Suggests LED Lighting Hurts Moth Numbers**

Research led by the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology has found that LED lights are producing even worse light pollution for insects than the traditional sodium bulbs they are replacing. The study found that the abundance of moth caterpillars in hedgerows by rural roads in England was 52% lower under LED lights and 41% lower under sodium lights when compared with nearby unlit areas. In grass margins, moth caterpillar numbers near LEDs were a third lower than in unlit whereas sodium lights had little

effect on abundance. On this note I shall continue my one-man battle for dark skies in our AONB unless you tell me not to.

### **Animal Protection**

Swift intervention has been undertaken by the Maidstone Borough Council Community Protection Team in relation to a pet shop in Maidstone.

After being alerted to welfare concerns within Maidstone Aquatics about the rabbits they were selling, the Animal Licensing Inspector conducted an inspection with a veterinarian. The operator is now working with them to correct the issues identified.

If anyone has any concerns about animal welfare in animal establishments in Maidstone they should contact the Community Protection Team by emailing: [communityprotection@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:communityprotection@maidstone.gov.uk).

### **Electrics Recycling Confusion**

A survey by BT has indicated that almost half of Brits have unwanted electrical waste, with nearly a third not knowing how to recycle it. Around three-quarters of respondents admitted to having thrown away electronics into the waste bin, committing the goods to landfill rather than taking them to be recycled. More than half engaged in 'wishful recycling' – throwing unwanted electronics into the recycling bin in the hope they will reach a recycling centre. **In Maidstone you can put your electrics and batteries in a bag or box placed on top of your BLACK bin.**

### **And Finally ...**

Please visit the Archbishops Palace consultation platform: <https://maidstone.gov.uk/home/primary-services/council-and-democracy/primary-areas/consultations/live-consultations/archbishops-palace>

Your voice counts!!!

PATRIK GARTEN

MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward (Conservative)

Phone: 01622-807907

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

## **Ditty Corner**

### **A is for the A249**

Now Mary, this Stockbury's  
A real lovely place  
But the road through the valley's  
A frightening disgrace  
The cars and the lorries  
All driving like sin  
As they race one another  
To see who can win

But once you're away from  
That mad noisy rush  
The peace of the village  
Is almost a hush  
And though we have tractors  
And harvesters tall  
They don't interfere with  
The 'do's' in the hall

Dot Spratt

# 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**

## Puzzles

				3		8	5	
		1		2				
			5		7			
		4				1		
	9							
5							7	3
		2		1				
				4				9



# 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.

## HALLOWEEN WORDSEARCH

N	E	E	W	O	L	L	A	H	R	B	R	Q	R	N
I	Q	H	N	R	O	C	Y	D	N	A	C	M	G	V
E	T	T	V	W	C	O	S	T	U	M	E	A	U	R
A	Y	X	H	F	I	C	D	X	O	M	S	R	Y	E
E	F	V	I	G	M	T	C	H	M	M	P	O	S	B
Z	Y	M	F	Z	I	J	C	O	R	L	O	U	P	O
S	V	M	X	E	T	R	N	H	D	B	O	N	U	T
K	S	A	A	A	H	S	F	S	Q	H	K	K	M	C
S	T	E	E	L	T	Q	H	R	D	B	Y	W	P	O
A	S	R	Y	E	I	O	Y	E	D	F	C	W	K	E
M	T	C	R	S	R	D	T	W	S	T	L	H	I	G
O	A	S	C	R	N	N	F	B	B	C	R	Q	N	C
A	A	H	O	A	U	A	L	O	J	S	A	I	L	R
L	G	R	C	A	S	I	Z	C	G	Z	Z	R	C	E
W	N	Q	H	H	U	K	W	W	L	Q	F	Z	Y	K



GHOST	PUMPKIN	FRIGHT	CORNFERS
WITCH	MONSTER	HORROR	CANDY CORN
TRICK	COSTUME	SCREAM	HALLOWEEN
TREAT	SPOOKY	BOG	OCTOBER
CANDY	SCARY	MASKS	HAUNTED HOUSE

# Zeina's Rosemary Chicken Pie

(Warning: This is not the most healthy of pies ...)

## Pastry Ingredients

- 225g Plain flour
- 100g Butter, diced and icy cold
- 1/8th of a stock cube, crumbled
- 1/4 Tsp black pepper (coarsely ground)
- 1 Teeny tiny pinch of garlic powder
- 1/4 Tsp tarragon, dried
- A drop of vanilla essence

**Note: Double ingredients if making a full pie with base.**



## Method to the Pastry Madness

1. Mix everything but the butter and the vanilla together until it is all finely mixed through - make sure the stock crumble is fully ground and incorporated, or you'll have a few random strange bites later on and no one will let you live it down!
2. Add in the butter and vanilla and mix together with your fingertips until the dough resembles breadcrumbs. Add two or three tbsps of cold water and work in to a dough. Cover and set aside in the fridge until you're ready to roll and cut the dough. **Remember this is simply for a pie lid - not a base too, if you want to have a full pie, double the dough and blind bake the base first.** Bake in a preheated oven (200 °C) for twenty five to thirty minutes - brush with egg first to make it more watertight.

## The Ingredients for the Insides

- 2 Tbsp flour
- 1 Cup chicken broth
- Salt (only if needed as broth may be salty) - To taste
- 4 Chicken breasts, diced
- 4 Tbsps butter
- 1 Cup double cream
- 1 Tbsp chopped fresh rosemary
- 4 Tbsps olive oil

## Method to the Yumminess

1. In a large pan, fry chicken in 1 tblspn of butter on low heat until golden brown and cooked through. Remove and set aside.
2. Add the chicken broth and stir to pick up the tasty browned chicken bits at the bottom of the pan.
3. In a separate pan, on a low flame, heat the olive oil and fry the flour. Once it smells nice and toasty, add the mixture to the chicken broth and quickly stir. Don't dawdle or you might get depressing lumps! Also something no one will let you forget!!
4. Stir in the cream, any remaining butter (because butter makes everything better) and the rosemary. Bring the sauce to a gentle simmer.
5. Add the chicken back to the pan for an additional 2-3 minutes.

**Tips:** You need the sauce to be of a thick soup consistency at this stage, so add some extra broth or cream in if it's too dry, add a bit more toasted flour in if it's too watery. Check for salt/flavour - adjust as necessary.

## The Assembling of the Pie (Cue Epic Music):

1. Roll out the dough then cut in to any shape(s) you like (see my favourite leaf design in the picture)
2. Pour the chicken mixture in to an ovenproof dish (9x9 inches).
3. Add your pastry on top and brush on a bit of milk or a beaten egg.
4. Bake in a preheated oven (200 °C) for twenty five to thirty minutes. Keep checking and cover with foil if the top (or rim, if you made a pie base) is getting too dark too soon. Lightly tap the pie top to check if it sounds mostly crisp throughout.

And you're done. Go forth and consume. Love, Zeina

## Stockbury & Hartlip Cricket Club

Our opponents were supposed to be Pegasus who are a large football club with a wandering cricket team and as the match clashed with England's opening game in the Euros, they cancelled. However there is always a silver lining and it was agreed with Oscar that we should attempt to replay the abandoned President's XI game on the Saturday and hope for better weather.

It was a lovely sunny day and with the barbecue primed and three tables booked at The Harrow for some 'afters' at the end of affairs, the match went ahead.

As the Presidents side appeared to be the strongest it was decided they should bat their 40 overs first, run up a big score and then try to stop us getting a draw.

In fact our bowlers did well to remove for ducks 5 of their batsmen, who shall remain nameless to avoid embarrassment! However, Mitchell not out 72, Scarrat 45, Coysh 54, Ratcliffe 28, Burton 22 and Weld with a magnificent 9 led them to a total of 262 for 10. (notice how these posh people only use surnames!).

Wickets were taken by Enrique 3, Henry 2, with Andy, Colby, Damian, Paul and Ted all bagging one, with John taking 2 catches behind the stumps.

Our innings proceeded as normal with Paul going for an early crispy fried and our so called strongest bats departing as follows : Ted 15, Henry 10, John 14 and Enrique 6. It was left to Andy to add an air of respectability to our score and having lost Wes and Keith for ducks and Colby for one he was joined by the skipper. I just mention here that he had been hit on the ball of the thumb whilst valiantly fielding at mid off and was nursing a nasty bruised hand. However with thoughts of Colin Cowdrey playing for the draw with a broken finger he strode to the wicket with 13 overs to go. After shepherding Andy to his first 50 for the Club he was joined by Damian who defended well to earn us a draw. Andy got 51, Damian 5 not out and Roger 5 not out. So the match was drawn the Trophy shared and a great day had by all. With thanks to Sophie for the grub.

Roger Milton

## Observer Deadline!

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

**MONDAY 25th October**

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](http://www.stockbury.org) within 5 days of the meeting at which they are approved.

## Mobile Library Dates:

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

**Thursday October 7th  
from 9.10am - 9.40am**

# Pétanque

## PLAYERS WANTED



**The Harrow Haflingers Pétanque Team**  
Invite you to join us to play in the Kent Winter League

Anybody is welcome to join us

Experience is not necessary

Interested?

Ring Martyn for more info

07742 751305

STOCKBURY VILLAGE HALL PROUDLY PRESENTS

An evening of  
**MOTOWN**

**SATURDAY 9TH OCTOBER**

Re-live the past when the music of  
Motown was King

The sound of young America

A night of nostalgia with the sound of  
Tamla Motown, R&B, Soul, Disco

Come and sing and dance the night away

Entry £5

Contact Terry Holliday

07391 878804

Show starts at 8pm

In aid of the PDSA

## 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 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	booking@theharrowstockbury.co.uk	01795 843222
WI	Ann Ballard - email: rosemary.ballard@outlook.com	01622 736331