



# THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER



## Hall Diary

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise stated

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

## Stockbury Roundabout

One day, I hope to be able to write about something other than the roundabout but in the meantime ...

This month's bumper instalment features the exit from Church Hill onto the A249 and the very brief road closure on Friday night / Saturday morning.

### Church Hill

Several reports were received of dangerous incidents at the bottom of Church Hill. These included people using the grass verge to get past cars waiting to get onto the A249 and some extremely dangerous U-turn behaviour. The Parish Council discussed this junction with the team from National Highways (NH) at the last liaison meeting. They re-iterated their view that the closure of Honeycrock Hill and the diversion of slower traffic onto Church Hill has not made the junction more dangerous (according to their computer modelling). The fact that the deceleration lane on the southbound carriageway occasionally spills over into the live outside lane aroused some interest but was not seen as a problem.

NH did however agree to monitor the junction for a short while. The eagle eyed amongst you will have noticed that a portable CCTV camera has now been placed at the bottom of Church Hill. This is solely intended as a monitoring tool for NH; although footage may be made available to the police if requested, anyone who has an accident at the junction will not be allowed access to any of the recordings.

I would strongly advise everyone to consider getting a dash cam fitted to their vehicles which can provide a view to the right when exiting Church Hill.

### The Weekend 'Closure'

As you may know, the A249 northbound was left open up to Rumstead Lane, primarily at the request of the Kent Showground. Any vehicles heading north were to be directed to make a U-turn at Rumstead Lane and return down the A249 to the M20. Unfortunately, NH had not taken into account the "particular" nature of many A249 users. As a result, quite a few cars escaped into the lanes and one HGV made it as far as South Green via Rumstead Road! The main problem was that several vehicles decided to continue towards the Stockbury roundabout by travelling the wrong way up the southbound carriageway. One even made it as far as the roundabout. Whether this was a problem with the signage or whether it was just stupidity on the behalf of drivers, will probably never be known. Following consultation with the police, NH decided that they had to abandon the closure (and works) for safety reasons.

Unfortunately, NH forgot to tell anyone in Stockbury!

cont'd ...

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## Stockbury Roundabout cont'd ...

Their commitment to work closely with us fell down as soon as something happened outside office hours.

Future meetings with NH may be a little tricky ...

SPC

## Urgent Road Closure

### CHALKY ROAD, STOCKBURY 31st January, 2022

It will be necessary to close Chalky Road, Stockbury from 31st January 2022 for up to 5 days to enable urgent drainage works to be carried out by Kent County Council.

The road will be closed at the junction of A249 Sittingbourne Road. The alternative route is via Church Lane, Hill Green Road, South Street Road, Chalky Road.

## Temporary Road Closure

### YELSTED ROAD, YELSTED 1st February 2022

It will be necessary to close part of Yelsted Road, Yelsted from 1st February 2022, with estimated completion by 3rd February 2022.

Yelsted Road will be closed in the general vicinity of Chapel Cottage, to the extent indicated by signs and barriers on site.

The alternative route for any through traffic is via South Street Road, West Wood Road, Plum Tree Lane, Hill Green Road, Cradles Road, Lower Hartlip Road, Yelsted Road and vice versa.

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while repair works are undertaken by South East Water.

KCC Highways

## Kent Fraud Alert

### Fake Banking App Alert

We are urging anyone considering buying or selling goods online to be vigilant about a scam involving a fake bank transfer app.

Sellers using sites such as Facebook Marketplace, eBay and Gumtree, have reported incidents of fraudsters using a fake banking app to pretend to pay for goods they have agreed to purchase.

The app creates an image which shows a money transfer has been made. We have been advised that offenders have been targeting vulnerable individuals including the elderly in the UK.

If you have been a victim of this type of scam, then report it to Action Fraud at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or calling 0300 123 2040.

### Social Media Scams

Be mindful when using Social Media, scammers see it as a great way of "conning you" out of your cash.

Messages saying "is this you in a video" seem to be doing the rounds at the moment. The scammers try to get you to click on a link, which is likely to be harmful and may deliver malicious malware into your system.

Remember never click on links unless you have confirmed that it is genuine.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or calling 0300 123 2040.

### Romance Scams

Romance Scammers are manipulative and spend lots of time researching their victim and getting to a position where they can apply pressure and panic them into sending money without thinking to assist with a non-existent medical emergency etc.

If you are currently speaking to someone you have met online, ask yourself these questions,

- Shortly after meeting them online, they told you that they are madly in love and want a relationship?
- They say that their job means they work abroad a lot and cannot meet at the moment?
- They always have an excuse for not meeting or speaking via a video chat?
- They have sent pictures that appear to be professionally taken and are posing in front of mountains or they are in uniform or with a group of work colleagues?
- They have given you a "hard luck" story and ask for your help financially?
- Have they told you to keep the relationship secret and not tell family and friends?

If you can answer 'yes' to some or all the above, you may be a victim of a Romance Fraud. Report this to us by calling 101 and contact your bank immediately.

Our teams are always waiting to support you and so you should never feel embarrassed to ask for help. Kent Police

## AUCTION to HELP THE HARROW PURCHASE ... A HOT CUPBOARD

**OUR TARGET**  
**£1,479.99 ex VAT**



**How to Help?** ... If you can by donating :  
A new item – an almost new item – a 'collectable'  
A promise to do a bit of gardening, oven cleaning maybe,  
Or anything else you can think of.  
A big THANK YOU

**Who to Contact?** ... by email, phone or text

**Ann – 07718 070807 - [ann.stockbury@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.stockbury@btinternet.com)**  
Or  
**Fiona – 07845 741053 – [effcee-emm\\_gb@hotmail.com](mailto:effcee-emm_gb@hotmail.com)**

We will be compiling a catalogue, so please do start sending in your offerings  
**as soon as you can!**

More details will follow in the March Observer

### **When will the AUCTION happen?**

On either Saturday or Sunday of the JUNE Jubilee Weekend

# THE HARROW PUB

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

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Tuesday - Sunday

11am

Kitchen open from -

Tuesday - Saturday

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

Sunday

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**Tues-Sun**

**Collection only**



01795 843222



theharrowpubstockbury



The Harrow PubStockbury



contact@theharrowstockbury.co.uk

## EVENTS

*To celebrate Chinese New Year on the 1st February we will be offering some Chinese specials along side our normal menu.*

*Games night on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.*

*Quiz night on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.*

*14th February set Valentines menu (pre-book only)*



## M2 junction 5 Stockbury interchange improvement scheme

The weekend closure we had planned for the 21 January to 24 January had to be stopped in the early hours of Saturday morning due to health and safety concerns. **We apologise for any inconvenience or confusion this may have caused.**

Following a couple of incidents, including a driver travelling over the speed limit going through our cones into the working area, to help keep everyone safe, we made the decision to cancel the closure and our work.

The closure will be arranged for later in the year, and we will be reviewing the traffic management needed to safely carry out the work. We'll provide more information on our project webpage once new dates are confirmed.



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](https://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](mailto:m2j5@highwaysengland.co.uk)



# The Harrow

More good news! With the table and raffle proceeds from both the December and January quiz nights and a couple of anonymous donations, Sarah and Gareth have been able to purchase a super new dual deep fat fryer for the kitchen! This is fantastic news and will open up a whole new world of opportunities for the pub to delve into.

Speaking of Quiz Night, the January quiz was full to the rafters with 9 very competitive teams all vying for the title of 'Quiz Winners' and trying very hard to avoid the Wooden Spoon, whilst making the evening full of laughter and competitiveness! Many congratulations to January's winning team, The Dirty Fries and commiserations to the Wooden Spoon receivers, Three Beers & a Gin.

Our Quiz Master (or should that be Mistress?) and question setter for the evening was Irene Milton who did a sterling job keeping us all on our toes and the rabble in line!

On the evening we raised a fabulous £214 towards the pub's 'Wish List'.

The next Quiz Night is Tuesday 15th February. Will The Dirty Fries lose their crown ... ? Are you game for the challenge to topple them? Don't forget to book your quiz table.

The Harrow is now offering a special £10 lunch menu every Tuesday through to Thursday which includes a main meal and either a small glass of wine or half a bitter or lager or a soft drink. An ideal excuse to ditch the four walls of your home office, have a delicious lunch and interact with real people, other than via a screen, for an hour.

Gareth has also devised a takeaway lunch and dinner menu available from Tuesday to Saturday, as well as a takeaway Sunday roast. These are all for **collection only** and orders should be placed ahead of time and are not offered as a 'walk-in' option.

## £10 LUNCH DEAL



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Soup & sandwich  
Ham, egg and chips  
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Choose a main meal & either a small glass of wine, half a lager or bitter, or any soft drink for only £10

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## TAKE AWAY MENU



### MAINS

Harrow Burger & Chips	£11
Cod & Chips	£12
Wholetail Scampi & Chips	£11
Sweet Chilli Chicken Kebab	£10
Vegan Fish & Chips	£12
Vegan Buttermilk Burger & Chips	£10
Vege Chilli & Rice	£10

### SUNDAY ROAST

Lamb	£11
Beef	£10
Chicken	£10
Nut Roast	£10

### DESSERTS

Sticky Toffee Pudding	£4.50
Brownie	£4.50



Take away available Tuesday-Saturday 12pm-3pm & 5pm-8pm

Sunday 12pm-4pm  
Please call us to place your order

THE HARROW STOCKBURY The St, Stockbury, Sittingbourne ME9 7UH  
contact@theharrowstockbury.co.uk | 01795 843222

Other goings on in The Harrow for February include :

- **1st Feb** - Tractor Club - Join the Tractor Club minus tractors, for lunch at 12.30pm  
A limited **Chinese Menu** is being offered alongside the regular menu, in recognition of the Chinese New Year - its the year of the Water Tiger - Who knew!?
- **8th Feb - Games Night** - join in playing traditional board and card games from 8pm. They include Shove H'penny, Cribbage, Bananagrams ... and anything else you may choose to bring along with you.
- **14th Feb - Valentine's Night** with a special themed menu. Please pre-book ahead for the year's most romantic day of the calendar!
- **15th Feb - Quiz Night** - a fun evening discovering what you don't know and what's on the tip of your tongue!
- **24th Feb - Ladies Wot Lunch** - come and join us at 12.30pm for a leisurely lunch. Everybody is welcome, fella's too! Please book ahead.

Let's continue to make The Harrow, Stockbury a success story.

If you would like to know about purchasing shares in The Harrow, please contact Chris Porter on 01795-843715.

**OBSERVER DEADLINE  
MONDAY 21st February**

Please email your contributions to  
**stockburyobserver@gmail.com**

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At The Herb Garden

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

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## Price List:

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- 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
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Stockbury Kent



**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.**



## 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 843222

**We would love you to join us**

## Wow, What an Evening!

It all started as a bit of a throwaway conversation about celebrating a big birthday and kicking off the Christmas festivities at the same time. Following some research to establish the level of interest and bouncing a few other ideas around, Gareth finally talked himself into undertaking a six- course tasting menu!! - Well with a bit of persuasion!

After working out who would attend, we settled on a set menu with a vegan alternative to meet individual preferences and allergy needs.

All of the team as well as some of the Committee members made it all possible and on the night, everything just came together in perfect harmony.

The menu with suggested wine pairings was designed to reveal one course at a time thus enhancing the element of surprise and consisted of:

1. Wild Mushroom Cappuccino served with truffle oil
2. Pan Seared Scallops, Crispy Parma Ham and a Cauliflower Puree / Vegan.alternative - Battered Banana Blossom served with a Pea Puree
3. Pan Fried Guinea Fowl, Pearl Barley Granola, Crispy Chicken Skin, Jus / Vegan alternative - Chargrilled Spicy Cauliflower, Pearl Barley Granola, Wild Mushroom, Vegan Jus
4. Slow Cooked Beef Chuck, Roast Potatoes & Carrots, Kale, Jus / Vegan alternative - Stuffed Aubergine, Roast Potatoes & Carrots, Kale, Vegan Jus
5. Trio of Sweets: Crème Brûlée, Poached Pear, Chocolate Torte
6. Stilton & Walnut Parfait, celery, grapes, fruit and oat biscuits / Vegan alternative - Vegan Cheese Fondue



The setting looked the part with table cloths and festive table decorations too.



Pan Seared Scallops



Vegan Battered Banana Blossom



Slow Cooked Beef Chuck



Trio of Sweets Dessert

A thoroughly enjoyable evening with lots of hugely positive feedback from everyone who attended and lots of requests for similar future events.

So, if you have something to celebrate and aren't sure what to do, have a chat with Sarah and Gareth and they can help you design something really personalised and special.

A very big thank you to all the team at The Harrow for making my big birthday evening so memorable.

Jackie Smith

## Stockbury W.I.

As many of you may have already heard, the members of Stockbury WI have decided, due to depleting numbers, that it is not viable for us to continue, so Stockbury WI will be suspended at the end of March.

After this date, we will be around as a group and meeting up as usual for afternoon tea, lunch and outings.

Carol's on the Green will still continue and has already been booked for this year as we have a very good relationship with The Salvation Army.

So, as you can see, not a lot will change.

We would like to thank Doris and MB Farms for their

continued support over the years and all the villagers who have supported our Pie Lunch and our Spring and Christmas Fairs.

Ann Ballard

## Parish Historical Records

If anybody has any historical documents relating to the parish, parish clubs and/or organisations that they are looking for a home for, rather than simply disposing of them, please contact the Parish Council.

Although many records may not seem of much interest today, they maybe invaluable to historians at some point in the future.

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# Stockbury Book Club

## The Lamplighters by Emma Stonex

This popular novel is based on a true story about three lighthouse keepers who disappeared without explanation in 1900 while working on a lighthouse in the Outer Hebrides. The setting has been altered to the wild Cornish coast and the date changed to the late 90's but the main similarity of an unsolved disappearance remains.

In the novel, when the lighthouse is explored, the entrance door is found to be locked, there is an unfinished meal on the table and the clocks have stopped. Not a sign of the three men who were living and working there remained.

The story moves between the lighthouse and the three women who are still looking for answers two decades later. The reader is given several explanations as to what happened but the ending is inconclusive with few clues to support these ideas. When we began reading the book, most of us were keen to discover why and how the men disappeared but were disappointed with the conclusion as many questions were still left unanswered.

What we did enjoy was learning about how the lighthouse was managed by the keepers and how they coped with the isolation. Some of us found the characterisation good and the atmosphere and descriptions of the ocean and the weather were well written.

A suggestion which may be helpful would be to listen to the story on 'Audible' which was enjoyed by one of our group.

Overall, we weren't too impressed by the novel and gave it a score of 4.5.

## The Confidence Men by Margalit Fox

This is a new novel telling the true story of "how two prisoners of War engineered the most remarkable escape in history".

In the First World War, some captured British officers were held in remote Turkish camps and this book relates how two of these men were determined to escape. How they did this was with a clever psychological hoax which initially began with an Ouija board. They engaged their Turkish captors in an elaborate and complex scam and eventually did gain their freedom.

This is an historical book with a large number of references, notes and details and it was this aspect, which did deter some of our group from either starting or finishing it. However, 3 members found the book fascinating and once they had read the first couple of chapters were hooked and really enjoyed the rest. They admired the two officers who organised the hoax with their brilliant memories and ability to use psychological techniques and this led to an interesting discussion in the group about the history of psychology and the power of suggestion in many aspects of our lives today.

We did all agree that the actual true story was padded

out with historical information and really found the small print a bit of a problem.

The novel received a score of 7.

Jan Butterfill

## At The Risk of Teaching One's Grandmother ...! Did You Know?

In advance of the serious intent of this article, perhaps you would care to read a short note which a friend told me appeared on some European church noticeboards :

*It is possible that on entering this church you may hear the Call of God.*

*On the other hand, it is not likely He will contact you by phone.*

*Thank you for turning off your phone.*

*If you would like to talk to God, come in, choose a quiet place, and talk to Him.*

*However, should you like to see Him, send Him a text whilst driving.*

But seriously, we all know that rather tragic and sad circumstances surround accidents where drivers have been concentrating on their mobiles rather than on the road in front of them. To confront this escalating situation some new rules and regulations have become law this year, 2022.

I guess some of you may well know about these but it is worth refreshing the memory for the sake of you, your family and the wider world. Under new laws which have been introduced it will be a lot easier for the police to prosecute people for using their phones while driving because,

*'Those in charge of vehicles that can cause the greatest harm in the event of a collision bear the greatest responsibility to take care and reduce the danger they pose to others.'*

(Direct quote from the new Highway Code), briefly this is how things stand now :-

- Drivers will still be allowed to have a phone for sat nav, provided it is secured in a cradle
- Drivers are banned from using the phone to take photos or videos
- Drivers caught will face a fine of £200 and six points on their licence
- Exceptions will still be made in emergency situations
- People may also use their phones to make contactless payments whilst stationary e.g. at a drive-thru or at a toll booth and NOT FOR GENERAL ONLINE payments OR FOR GROCERY SHOPPING

Please do check out these new restrictions in detail. If you drive a motorised vehicle essentially you are in control of a lethal weapon!

Oh, and finally, from January 1<sup>st</sup> this year, insurers are banned from quoting existing customers a higher price for renewing their insurance than they'd pay if they were new customers. Worth checking don't you think?

Ann Rich

## FREE!!

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## Patrik Says ...

Welcome to this month's edition. Obviously, the usuals are simmering in the background: Local Plan Review, constitutional changes etc. but to report there is nothing new. So let me start with some national news:

The **Landscapes Review's final report** was published in 2019 after the government asked for an independent review into whether the protections for National Parks and AONBs are still fit for purpose. The review was led by Julian Glover and supported by an experienced advisory group. There is much to welcome in the Government's long-awaited response this month as it sets out actions to boost nature recovery, mitigate climate change, improve people's access to nature and safeguard our protected landscapes for future generations, all of which closely link to our recently-adopted AONB Management Plan.

However, the Government proposals, as currently presented, fall short of the ambitious, transformational change that Julian Glover and his team envisaged. Of most immediate concern is what appears to be a continuing failure to match expectations with resources, or to grasp the serious financial predicament facing AONBs across England, including the Kent Downs. Chronic under-funding was a central issue identified by Glover's review.

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Hospitality, leisure and accommodation businesses are being contacted by Maidstone Borough Council to check if they are eligible for the new **Omicron one off government business grant**.

The Council has acted quickly to make sure that all eligible businesses can claim the new grant of up to £6,000 and is emailing eligible businesses to invite them to make a claim.

Hospitality businesses were really relying on Christmas to help increase their trade and unfortunately the growth in the Omicron variant put paid to this. The new government grant will hopefully help, if only in a small way.

For further information about the new Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant visit: <https://maidstone.gov.uk/home/other-services/covid-19/tier-2-primary-areas/advice-and-help-for-businesses>  
Guidance can be found here: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1044354/omicron-hospitality-and-leisure-grant-guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1044354/omicron-hospitality-and-leisure-grant-guidance.pdf)

Any business that does not meet the eligibility criteria for this grant and is experiencing difficulty as a result of the pandemic should contact the Maidstone Business Boost Team by emailing [MBB@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:MBB@maidstone.gov.uk) to find out what other support, including grants, is available.

To keep up to date with all information on other support for businesses, please sign up at <https://www.businessinmaidstone.co.uk/newsletter/>

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Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) and BBS Construction are calling on **artists to submit**

**proposals to develop a piece of public art** for the new café building within Mote Park.

The artwork is to last a minimum of 10 years and there is strong preference for it to be based on the history of Mote Park, possibly incorporating memories of the past, people and children in the park over the years. Artists should consider how their piece of public art could be used to raise the profile and celebrate not just Mote Park but Maidstone and its heritage.

This is a fantastic opportunity for an artist to create something that will leave a lasting mark in Maidstone. Artists are free to work in any medium and to interpret the history of Mote Park theme in any way they wish, to explore new technologies and creative ideas for the design and development of the public art.

The new café in Mote Park is a key part of MBC's plans to regenerate the park and encourage both new and returning visitors into the county town. It is expected to open in Summer 2022 and will include indoor and outdoor seating, flexible space for learning, an educational and meeting area for local schools and community groups to hire and new modern toilet facilities.

Artists have until 11 February 2022 to submit a proposal. Details can be found at: [https://www.bbsconstruction.com/file\\_upload/files/Wider%20artist%20brief\\_December%202021.pdf](https://www.bbsconstruction.com/file_upload/files/Wider%20artist%20brief_December%202021.pdf)

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MBC is on a mission, asking everyone to play their part in helping to **keep the borough clean and tidy**. After the first Covid lockdown MBC saw a massive 250% increase in roadside littering. In 2020 Council teams removed over 1950 tons of waste which had been illegally disposed of on the highways across the Borough. Additionally, the start of every new year sees a 20% rise in waste including household waste, fly-tipping and illegal carriers offering to remove it.

To combat the problem MBC has introduced the **#CleanUpMaidstone** campaign encouraging everyone to play their part and help to eliminate litter now and for future generations.

The Waste Crime and Street Cleansing teams have a zero tolerance policy and will fine anyone who is caught committing a littering offence. Their team of 34 people work tirelessly to clean the streets, retrieve the litter and clear the roads of fly-tipping across the borough.

Council officers successfully applied 265 enforcement actions between 1 January 2020 and 30 September 2021 for waste offences. The team also seized 45 vehicles during the same 18-month period. Don't forget, I told you recently about our new camera technology to help identify more people littering from their vehicles. And, if you are disposing of your rubbish, please ensure that your contractors have the correct waste carriers licence. You can check it via the government website: [www.gov.uk/guidance/access-the-public-register-for-environmental-information](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/access-the-public-register-for-environmental-information). If you commission a dodgy contractor who fly-tips your waste, you can be held responsible.

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Patrik Garten  
MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward (Conservative)  
Phone: 01622-807907

# THE HOOK & HATCHET INN



PUB, RESTAURANT,  
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A BEAUTIFUL, ELEGANT & TRADITIONAL FAMILY  
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MAGNIFICENT HUCKING ESTATE. SURROUNDED BY  
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FEEL RELAXED AND AT EASE WITHIN OUR COSY  
INTERIOR AND GROUNDS.

## EVENTS THIS FEBRUARY...

SAT 5TH - SAT 19TH: SIX NATIONS SHOWING

MON 14TH: VALENTINES SET MENU & ENTERTAINMENT.

BOOKING REQUIRED

SAT 26TH: BAND NIGHT - JAZZ NIGHT WITH KENTISH SAX

MONDAYS - BINGO/QUIZ

THURSDAYS - OPEN MIC NIGHT

FRIDAYS - FISH FRIDAYS & TAKEAWAY FISH & CHIPS.

SATURDAYS - 3RD SAT MUSIC QUIZ. LAST SAT BAND NIGHT

[WWW.HOOKANDHATCHETPUB.CO.UK](http://WWW.HOOKANDHATCHETPUB.CO.UK)

[INFO@HOOKANDHATCHETPUB.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@HOOKANDHATCHETPUB.CO.UK)

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# Cooking with Zeina

## Zeina's Sunglovia Olive Palat

So in my free time, I write. I write recipes (for our most excellent village paper), I write articles on international politics and I also write a fantasy novel that may never see the light of day. Being always in search of the next Yum, I sometimes make up dishes that don't actually exist (or perhaps I've simply not come across them yet ...)

Here's an excerpt:

"Adara was sat in a cobblestoned square in Sunglo, enjoying a Palat – a popular Sunglo street snack that consisted of multiple layers of thin crisp pastry layered with melted cheese, tomato sauce and ground black olives. It was divine. Greasy. Likely to give her awful acid reflux. Perfect."

Upon googling, a similar recipe seems to already exist in Bulgaria - so FYI I'm not breaking any new ground here. On to the fantasy recipe for the Sunglovia Palat Tower:

### Ingredients:

- Black and green olives, drained, 300g
- Filo sheets, 600g
- Cheddar (mature or mild), 200g
- Olive oil, 3tbsp
- Extra Virgin Olive Oil, for drizzling
- Tomatoes, 8
- Stock cube, to taste (in place of salt)
- Black pepper, to taste
- Fresh basil, half a handful

### The Magic:

- This recipe involves significant crunch, so we'll be baking the filo sheets separately beforehand. Lightly brush the sheets with olive oil and bake in a preheated oven at 180°C until crispy and lightly brown. May need to be done in batches. Once done, set aside but don't cover. Must retain the crunch.
- Properly drain, dry and seed the olives (if needed). Put in a food processor and grind until you have a crumbly mix. Don't let this be a paste or it'll make everything squidgy later on. Set aside in the fridge, and maybe use a kitchen towel to mop up any excess juices from time to time.
- Shred the cheddar and set aside in the fridge.
- Cut the tomatoes and put them in a pan with a few tablespoons of water. Cover and cook on low.
- When the tomatoes are beginning to break down, add a little of the stock cube. You won't need much. Add the black pepper.
- When the tomato sauce is beginning to dry and stick to the bottom of the pan, taste for salt (if too salty, add water and more tomatoes and repeat the process). If too bland, add a bit more of the stock cube. Be careful, too much salt is depressing.
- Add the rest of the olive oil and fry the sauce until it glistens. Set aside.
- Right after you make the tomato sauce, you need to begin assembling - this is so the heat of the tomato sauce will melt the cheese. And melted cheese is the height of Yum. So you need to be making the tomato sauce just before serving.
- Begin by placing a little sauce on the plate to stabilise

- the tower. Now layer the filo pastry crisp alternating the three fillings: cheese, olive paste and tomato sauce. Drizzle a little extra virgin olive oil (if needed) and basil from time to time.
- When you reach the final crisp filo pastry level, take the palm of your hand and - gently - crush down.
- Garnish with a basil leaves and serve immediately. This doesn't age well. Eat it ... and quickly!

Not sure what you'd have this with, I suggest having it on its own with some iced tea. Open to suggestions ...

(Please, Ed, step in?) (Mmmm?? - Ed)

Love Zeina



### The Kemsing Singers and Cinque Ports Wind Quintet

present

### A lively concert with afternoon tea

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 3.30pm  
in Stockbury Village Hall

Spring is coming! We all need something to cheer us up and our lovely old church needs some TLC. This concert will certainly bring cheer and will hopefully raise some funds to complete the church kitchen and deep clean.

Tickets are just £10.00, available from The Harrow pub or via Irene Milton on 01795 844642.

## AWARD WINNING M B Farms

Monday to Saturday: 8:00am - 5:00pm.  
Sunday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

## Post Office Hours

Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri: 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Wednesday: 9:00am - 4:00pm  
Saturday: 9:00am - 12 noon

## National Lottery Available

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

Tel: 01795 842401

## 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