

# THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER

*June 2022*



Queen Elizabeth II  
Platinum Jubilee  
1952-2022

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## STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

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**

## Hall Diary

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise stated

Wed	1st	Pilates	9.30-10.30am
Thurs	2nd		
Fri	3rd	Zumba	9.30-10.30am
Sat	4th		
Sun	5th	Dog Club - Field	10.00-11.00am
Mon	6th		
Tues	7th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
Wed	8th	Parish Council	2.00 - 4.00pm
Thurs	9th		
Fri	10th	Zumba	9.30-10.30am
Sat	11th		
Sun	12th	Dog Club - Field	10.00-11.00am
Mon	13th		
Tues	14th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
Wed	15th	Parish Council	7.30-9.30pm
Thurs	16th		
Fri	17th	Zumba	9.30-10.30am
Sat	18th	Lab Rescue + Field	All Day
Sun	19th	Dog Club - Field	10.00-11.00am
Mon	20th		
Tues	21st	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		The Harrow AGM	7.00-9.00pm
Wed	22nd	Pilates	9.30-10.30am
Thurs	23rd		
Fri	24th	Zumba	9.30-10.30am
Sat	25th	Sweet Pea & Rose Show	2.00 - 4.00pm
Sun	26th	Dog Club - Field	10.00-11.00am
Mon	27th		
Tues	28th		
Wed	29th	Pilates	9.30-10.30am
		Caravan Club	All Day
Thurs	30th	Caravan Club	All Day

## May Church Draw Winners

### CONGRATULATIONS!

1st £30 - Colin Fagg (194)

2nd £20 - Mavis Day (156)

3rd £10 - Anne & Julius Hutson (136)



## Stockbury Platinum Jubilee Celebration Events 2nd-5th June 2022

### Thursday June 2nd – 4th

Flower Festival in Stockbury Church  
Open 10.30am – 4pm

### Thursday June 2nd

Town Crier Proclamation on the Village Green  
Complimentary canapés/finger buffet in The Harrow,  
with a display of coronation memorabilia and local  
memories of the coronation

**7pm-8.45pm**

#### Stockbury Church

Join friends and neighbours for a toast to  
HM the Queen

**9pm-9.30pm**

#### At the Beacon

Join us and a bugler for the lighting of our beacon

As part of the UK wide

National Ceremonial Beacon Lighting

**9.40pm-9.45pm**

### Saturday June 4th

#### Village Hall

Viewing of the Jubilee Auction Lots

**2.00-3.00pm**

#### Auction on The Village Green

With all proceeds going to The Harrow

**3.00-5.00pm**

#### Hog Roast & a Vegetarian/Vegan alternative

@ The Harrow

Or bring your own nibbles!

**5.00-8.00pm**

#### Live 50s Music @ The Harrow

**8.00pm-12.00am**

### Sunday June 5th

#### Stockbury Jubilee Lunch

12pm onwards

#### A Quick Cricket Game

For the children on the field

**12-00-1.30pm**

#### Children's Fancy Dress Competition

**3pm**

# THE HARROW PUB

FREE HOUSE - COMMUNITY OWNED

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

*Small functions catered for.*

Open from -

**Monday - Closed**

**Tuesday - Sunday**

**11am**

Kitchen open from -

**Tuesday 5pm-8.30pm**

**Wednesday - Saturday**

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

**Sunday**

**12pm-4pm**

- **Live Music- Saturday 4th** by The 3 Hats (fancy dress optional)
- **Jubilee Weekend** (check out our facebook for more information about the events)



01795 843222



theharrowpubstockbury



The Harrow PubStockbury



contact@theharrowstockbury.co.uk

## EVENTS

*Fish'n'chip shop night on the 1st Friday of every month*

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

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

*Coffee and cake morning on the last Friday of the month*



**Wi-Fi**  
FREE



## M2 junction 5 Stockbury interchange improvement scheme

Our work is progressing well and we'll soon be starting to put in drainage for the new carriageway. To do this we need to close the A249 southbound carriageway, from the Bobbing roundabout to north of the Stockbury roundabout, for three weekends in June.

The closures will start at 10pm on Friday evening, with the road reopening by 5am on Monday morning. The closure will be in place:

- 10pm 10 June to 5am 13 June
- 10pm 17 June to 5am 20 June
- 10pm 24 June to 5am 27 June

For drivers wanting to head south (towards Maidstone) from the Bobbing roundabout, there will be a diversion in place via Sheppey Way, Chestnut Street and Maidstone Road. This will bring you the Stockbury roundabout, where you can continue your journey.

We would like to thank everyone for your patience while we carry out our improvements.



We're carrying out improvements to help reduce congestion at the junction, and enhance the flow of traffic. This will provide a safer and more integrated network for everyone and bring 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@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:m2j5@nationalhighways.co.uk)



## Public Meeting

### Rat Running & The Bridge

#### 8<sup>th</sup> June 19:00 at the Village Hall

After the stunning turnout at the last Parish Council meeting, we have decided to give it one more go ...

Rat running has become a real problem in the lanes around the Parish. The problem on the eastern side of the A249 is temporary as it has been caused by the short term closure of Oad Street; the problem on the western side is likely to remain until National Highways have finished their project.

The Parish Council has been talking to the Kent County Council Highways department about what can be done to limit numbers and speeds but the options are very limited so far as we can see. We know what the problems are and have been conducting vehicle counts at various strategic points; we will also be conducting spot speed checks in the coming weeks. What is needed are real and practical ideas for resolving or reducing the problems. This is *your* chance to come forward and tell us what *you* think should be done and how *you* are able to help.

As you know, the idea of a bridge across the A249 to replace the increasingly dangerous Church Hill junction was rejected by the Department for Transport (DfT). The criteria used by the DfT means that we are never likely to succeed in getting funding through conventional means.

The question for Parishioners is how far should we go to put additional pressure on the DfT and would you want to be part of any campaign / action?

Parish Councillors have put untold numbers of hours into both of these problems but we cannot do everything on our own. It may be that you do not see either issue as a problem, in which case we will cease pursuing them. On the other hand, you may be concerned about one or both, in which case we need some of you to step forward and help.

SPC

## Accident

Unfortunately, Yelsted experienced its first fatal accident in many years on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May. As I write, the police have yet to complete their investigation but first impressions from seeing the site are that speed had a lot to do with it. As you may know, the speed limit in the lanes is 60 miles per hour, so the driver may well have been travelling at a dangerous speed but not breaking the law.

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May, members of the Parish Council will be meeting with Officers from Kent County Council Highways to discuss a safety audit of the lanes within the Parish. This does not guarantee that any measures can be put in place to reduce the problems but it is an essential first step if we want KCC to do anything.

In the meantime, advice is the same as always: please keep your speed down when driving through the lanes and wear high visibility clothing when on foot, riding or cycling.

SPC

## THE HARROW

Sarah and the team have had busy time of it this past month. It started with the May Day bank holiday's Dart Tournament which to her amazement, Sarah and her husband Darren won! The final game between Sarah and Darren, Kirsty and Andy Brown was a tense one, with just a 'double one' needed for Sarah and Darren to win the tournament. Sarah freely admits that she is 'rubbish' at hitting the dartboard in the right place at the right time and was a little shell-shocked when she achieved just that to win the game and award herself and Darren the trophy!

The Boughton Monchelsea Morris Dancers entertained a delighted, crowded pub later that week with an hour of traditional Morris dancing, all decked out in their finest regalia, bells and sticks included. They saved the last dance for the Gardeners who were in the Village Hall that evening but then returned to The Harrow and continued to entertain inside until the closing bell rang.



As well as the busy, well attended Games / Quiz / Fish'n'Chip Nights, we were also serenaded with an atmospheric and chilled evening courtesy of Beau Keats.

There were plenty of parties catered for throughout the month too, in the pub as well as the Village Hall, with a christening, an engagement and sadly a wake too.

Coming up in June, all your regular favourites as well as our Platinum Jubilee celebrations:

- **2<sup>nd</sup> June** - Join us for a drink or two accompanied by a complimentary buffet before wandering up to the Beacon lighting at the church.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> June - Fish'n'Chip Night** - Please pre book your table or takeaway for this popular evening.
- **4<sup>th</sup> June - Live Music** - A 50s themed evening in celebration of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee with entertainment by 'The 3Hats' aka Steve, Mike Duo.
- **8<sup>th</sup> June - Tractor Club** - 12.30pm
- **14<sup>th</sup> June - Games Night** 8pm. Traditional card and board games and those that your Granny taught you! Come and have a go at Cribbage, Dominoes ... and much more!
- **19<sup>th</sup> June - Father's Day** - Treat those well deserving dads to a Sunday roast where all dads will receive a table gift.
- **21<sup>st</sup> June - Quiz Night** - 8pm start. Get swatting!
- **24<sup>th</sup> June - Coffee & Cake Morning** - 10.30 - 12.00 - The perfect way to relax after a trying month, a delicious piece of homemade cake and a frothy coffee ... or tea Who can resist ...?
- **30<sup>th</sup> June - Ladies 'wot' Lunch** - 12.30 - Join like minded ladies and gents for a bit of a gossip and a spot of lunch accompanied by a drink or two in a lovely relaxed atmosphere!

# 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
  - Builder Gel with Gel Polish - £25
  - Gel Polish toes - £15
  - Gel Extensions with Gel Polish - £30
  - Gel Extension Infills with Gel Polish - £25
  - Waxing - prices from £7 for Eyebrows to £25 for Full Leg
  - Range of Facials (Inc. Microdermabrasion, Dermaplaning etc) prices from £20 - £75
  - Full Body Massage - £40
  - Back and Shoulder Massage - £20
  - Wash and Blow dry from £15
  - Eyelash and Eyebrow Tinting from £5
  - Lash Lift and Tint - £25
  - MICROBLADING - Eyebrow Tattooing
- Enquire for Prices

## New Salon Treatments

Hybrid Lash Extensions  
£35

Russian Volume Lash Extension  
£40

*Polly Kingsford-Field*  
*Stockbury, Kent*

Email: [pollykf@btinternet.com](mailto:pollykf@btinternet.com)

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## Stockbury Village Hall



I am sure that you will now have seen the wonderful new sign on our Village Hall. We are very lucky to have the extremely talented artist, Jill Brooks, living in the village and she designed this sign as well as those for The Harrow. Many thanks Jill and thank you also to the Stockbury Cultural Fund who financed the manufacturing of the sign.

Stockbury Hall Committee

## Rubbish In Our Lanes

Dear Fellow Residents of Bimbury Lane, South Street and Yelsted Road,

I have over the last year been waging a one man war on the litter discarded from people's cars that is blighting our lanes. It is an impossible task for one person to undertake alone and then keep up with the repeat offender's spoiling what I have already cleared.

However, there is a solution and that is if we all come together and have a marathon clear up. Thereafter once cleared, it literally only takes 10 minutes each week to pick up the newly discarded items. It works, as I have been keeping my 400 yard stretch of road cleared for months using this method.

If once the massive clear up is completed we could then all adopt a small stretch of road either side of our properties we can collectively and effectively maintain the cleanliness of the parish roads.

I know we shouldn't have to do it but sadly there is no one else who is going to do it for us. We live in a lovely picturesque area but selfish, mindless individuals are spoiling it and its time for action to restore what should be the pride we have for our community.

For those that need them, I can organise litter bags and litter pickers.

Please contact me on 07825-792031

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Gary Morris

## Stockbury Book Club

### Mercury Falling by Robert Edric

*Mercury Falling* is a novel about the decline and fall of Jimmy Devlin, a young man trying to survive in the bleak and unforgiving landscape of the Fens in 1954. For a year we follow him as he takes any work he can get, even if that means becoming involved with petty crooks and conmen and inking deeper into trouble. He has no prospects, no hope for a better life. Even in the best of times, this harsh

area of England is a difficult place to live and these aren't the best of times. A severe flood the year before has only complicated matters for all the inhabitants and any idea of kindness or generosity has gone out the window.

It is no surprise then, that many among the comments about this book referenced its bleakness and as some of the members have associations with the area, they related strongly to the descriptions of the cold and isolation. A couple of people wanted to take care of the principal character and give him a "hot bath and a meal"!

One person only read a couple of chapters before giving up, so abstained from scoring.

There was a general consensus that despite the bleak descriptions, the book did generate interest in that members wanted to read more and find out what happened in the end. There was discussion about the particularly idiosyncratic nature of the inhabitants of the area.

The choice of names of the characters and the references to Romany travellers confused one reader into feeling that it could have been set in Ireland.

One member particularly related to the black-market references and another to the consequences of flooding both having had these experiences in their youth.

The meeting was again somewhat depleted this month with members missing due to physical ailment, geographical isolation (Oad Street closed and general traffic chaos on the A249) and more cheerfully members on holiday but this did not dampen the spirit of the group and the book received a score of 7/10.

Next month we will be discussing "The Fine Art of Invisible Detection" by Robert Goddard.

Jackie Smith

## STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

We are currently planning the next Community Bus outing, which is likely to be run on **Friday, 15th July** and will be to the Cinque Port town of Rye.

Rye is a quaint little medieval town with lots to see and do including the once favoured pub of smugglers, The Mermaid Inn, as well as quirky and cute shops in the cobbled streets to explore.

It is steeped in history with a museum, the Ypres Tower, St Mary's Church and was once the home to literary figures like Lamb and E F Benson.

There is plenty of variety for lunch to suit all pockets and stomachs!

We can visit Camber Sands for a paddle or walk in Rye Nature Reserve. Let's see what the weather is like and please ourselves.

Cost and further details regarding the timing will be provided in next months Stockbury Observer.

If you are interested in partaking in this trip, then it is never too early to book! To do so please call Geoff on 07551 454702.

Sara Kemsley



## CHICKENSTOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL

28<sup>TH</sup> TO 31<sup>ST</sup>  
JULY 2022



TANKUS HENGE

SKINNY LISTER

- The Bar-Steward Sons of Val Doonican
- Triage
- True Strays
- Tom Malachowski
- Danama
- Blake Sonnet
- Lucy Blu
- Gentlemen of Few
- Jet Black Bees
- Cara Dillon
- CJ
- Shannon Turner band
- The Jives
- Anthony John Clarke
- Sally Ironmonger and Brian Carter
- Bamboozle
- Tom Jaworski
- Beans on Toast
- The Undercover Hippy
- Edward II
- Mr Tea and the Minions
- Rob Bartlitz

TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS OR TO GET MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
**WWW.CHICKENSTOCKFESTIVAL.CO.UK**



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

## Chickenstock Music Festival Plans

Plans for this year's festival are now almost complete, so we thought we would share with you a few things that you may want to know. We have looked closely at last year's event, which was bigger than previous years, have identified things that we should have done better and have addressed those issues. The festival is on Pett Farm, which is the South Green side of the A249, so does not cause issues to the main village - apart from maybe an increase in customers to the pub and farm shop.

As part of our Traffic Management strategy, we ask attendees when they will be arriving when they purchase their tickets. We will use this information to make sure a suitable amount of stewards are where they need to be to direct the traffic. We anticipate that a majority of traffic will arrive on Thursday 28th July between midday and 4pm. All traffic will be heading to the festival from the A249 from the Oad Street junction and then up Pett Lane and into Pett Road. Some of this traffic will be motorhomes and cars towing caravans which will be difficult to pass going in the other direction. Therefore we politely suggest that those not needing access to Pett Lane area avoid it if at all possible. We also expect day visitors to arrive between 10am and 11am on Friday 29th, Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st July and to leave between 10pm and 11pm. Again this may result in increased traffic using Pett Lane during these times. I have been in contact with Graham with regards to any planned road closures due to the road works, during the dates of the festival and have been assured that there are no closures planned.

For residents living in the immediate vicinity of the festival, there will be 24 hour Security Guards at both the top of Pett Road by the main gate into the camping fields and on the track between Norton Green Farm and South Green Lane to make sure that no unwanted visitors or traffic can get access to the houses in this area. We will also have Security on the festival arena and camping areas to ensure everyone is safe.

We have informed our headline bands (the ones playing last each day) that the music must cease by 11pm at the latest as we have done in all previous festivals, which is the cut off time we requested when we applied for our license. The cut off time could have been later but were conscious to keep late night noise to a minimum for our neighbours.

We will again be offering free tickets to residents of Pett Road, Pett Lane, South Green Lane and this year also to Deans Hill Road. You must have a ticket to gain access to the festival, so if you do want tickets, please email me at [moya@chickenstockfestival.co.uk](mailto:moya@chickenstockfestival.co.uk) with photo proof of your address, or call me on 01622 884114.

We are very excited to have a total of 47 bands and artists performing over the 4 days including the original and legendary 10cc, as well as workshops for all ages including Circus Skills, African Drumming, Sing-and-sign, Ukulele, Willow weaving and Yoga. There will be a bar selling local beer and ciders as well as wines etc. and a selection of food stalls and retail stands selling all sorts of items and crafts.

Lastly we are an extremely small festival in comparison to others; I'm sure when some people hear the word '

festival' they think of Glastonbury which has over 120,000 attendees. We do not expect more than around 2,000 people to attend the event over the weekend. Most attendees are over 40 and very well behaved. The type of music is not heavy rock or rap and is mostly roots, blues and folk music.

We hope that local people will come and enjoy the event, which is family and dog friendly; we look forward to welcoming you to Chickenstock. We also hope that the disruption to those who live locally and do not want to attend will be as minimal as possible and to assure you that we will adhere to our license at all times.

All the information about the bands playing and anything else you are likely to need to know is on our website, [www.chickenstockfestival.co.uk](http://www.chickenstockfestival.co.uk), but if you can't find the answer to your question, please get in touch.

With warm regards,

Moya & Beth Taylor

## Stockbury Gardeners

One of the really good things about having a mobile phone, in particular one with a high-resolution camera is, that you can if you wish seize the opportunity to record any wildlife "happenings" in the garden. For two years now we have had a bug structure built of old untreated timber, part of which is a bamboo home with other parts home made with logs and old garden canes. This month we have seen the emergence of the larvae produced last year., they in turn have been off and fed on flower nectar in the garden, mated and themselves filled all available locations up with next years broods. There is no wonder that I struggle to keep up with the gardening, I spend too much time watching the leaf cutter bees.

Our annual compost throwing evening (acronym for hanging basket workshop)



took place, in the Village Hall last month and the participants were treated to a fleeting visit of wandering Morris Dancers who had been thrown out of The Harrow for drinking all of the beer (not really!) They performed in the hall and then invited us to join them once we had tidied up, back in The Harrow. It was quite an eventful evening!!

This month we have a BBQ evening by kind invitation of Upchurch Horticultural Society, it is on the 1st June NOT our normal Thursday, members please note.

Unfortunately, due to covid, we have not confirmed our speaker lists for the remainder of the year, so please look at your monthly parish newsletter for 1st July next.

A few things that you can be doing now is once we have a few dry days, is to hoe off any weeds and let them roast in the sun; you will be amazed how they fry in the heat!! Watch out when you plant out young plants in the garden though, if they have not been acclimatised first they can be burnt by the sun.

cont'd...

## Gardeners cont'd ...

The Kent Show will not include the Horticultural Tent this year and as a result the Kent federation show/competition will take place on the 26th June at Ditton Community Centre.

Have a great month of gardening.

Chris Spree

## Patrik Says ...

Most likely you will have read about the recent election results. Overall the Conservative Party at Maidstone have bucked the national trend, although there is no denying that we lost two members. Fortunately, Cllr de Wiggondene-Sheppard of Detling and Thurnham Ward returned back to us; this leaves us with a majority of one and allows us to proceed with the essential works which we started last year. As previously reported, the new council will operate under a hybrid model of an Executive Cabinet and three Policy Advisory Committees. This unique Maidstone model will return to a strong and effective executive leadership, while not entirely discarding the few benefits which the old committee system offered. Members and officers are looking forward to a culture change for the better in Maidstone House.

### THE GREEN PARTY

North Downs voters may remember the Green Party candidate who gave me a run for my money in last year's election. This year Mr Jeffery's tireless campaign bore fruit and he became the Green Party's councillor for the urban Bridge Ward. I hear that upon election he joined the Independent Councillors Group. A tactical move no doubt, to get more committee seats than he would otherwise be entitled to as the sole Green Party member. He immediately rumbled the Council Chamber by criticising the Independent Remuneration Panel.

### THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

The role of the elected Councillor should, in part, be viewed as unpaid voluntary service. The Independent Remuneration Panel therefore advocates a principle of fair remuneration:

*Remuneration should not be an incentive for service as a councillor. Nor should lack of remuneration be a barrier. The basic allowance should encourage people from a wide range of backgrounds and with a wide range of skills to serve as local councillors. Those who participate in and contribute to the democratic process should not suffer unreasonable financial disadvantage as a result of doing so.*

The Panel therefore found that **£9.03** per hour is a fair rate. This is 47 pence below the National Minimum Wage and limited to 12 hours per week only. Many of us work much longer hours and most of us are not entitled to any special allowance for additional work.

Cllr Jeffrey is right insofar as there will be a steep spending increase for members' remuneration due to our governance system changing. For elected members to take back control of the council we will overall need to spend more time doing our job. The previous committee system failed the people of Maidstone.

Democracy does not come for free but the taxpayers of Maidstone will get a good deal. – I'm not too sure that

the NHS did when they paid Mr Jeffrey £140,000 (including pension contributions) in 2019.

## JUBILEE AND OTHER EVENTS

There are just too many events to list for the Jubilee Weekend. Please refer to your Parish Council's website. However, for Kent-wide listings you could also look here <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/platinumjubilee> and for Maidstone events: <https://www.visitmaidstone.com/whats-on>. The latter website is also a good event guide throughout the year; you may want to add it to your Favourites / Bookmarks.

## ALLINGTON HWRC

I have been advised that the new KCC Waste Management site in Allington is now open to the public. To ensure maximum efficiency, the new site has been designed to operate without interruption as it is built on two levels thus allowing full containers to be removed safely while residents can still use the site to deposit their recyclables and waste. A number of other environment-friendly features were incorporated into the design, such as solar panels and rainwater harvesting.

The site will offer Maidstone residents an alternative, to the site in Tovil.

## MAIDSTONE BUSINESS BOOST NETWORKING EVENT

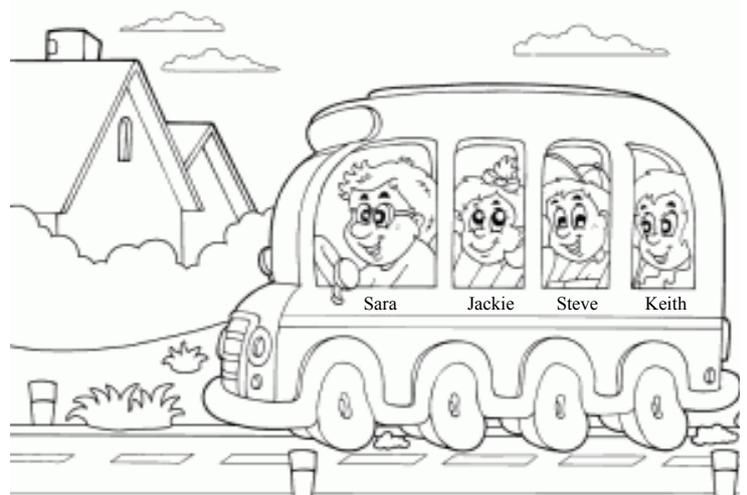
Organised by The Business Terrace, MBC's flexible workspace, a free to attend in-person networking event, invites Maidstone businesses of all ages and sizes to come and find out what 'boosts' could be available to them through the range of free resources on offer. The MBB Networker event takes place on Tuesday 7 June, 12-2pm. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mbb-networker-registration-327256471917>

## AND FINALLY

National bus company Stagecoach, which I hasten to add does NOT operate in Maidstone, has urged the Government to introduce devices to cars which keep track of where and how far they travel and apply a set toll charge. Just because their business model does not work they want us rural folk to subsidise it. Well, I urge the government to ignore Stagecoach's request until bus companies can provide a reliable and cost effective service in the North Downs! If they cannot, then there is no point in flogging a dead horse at the expense of rural motorists.

PATRIK GARTEN

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



## Fraud Alert

### Courier Fraud

The four most common versions of courier fraud are:

**Bank card expiry:** Fraudsters claim to be from the victim's bank and say their card is no longer valid. They ask for the pin number and then send a "courier" to collect the card before using it for fraudulent purposes.

**Purchasing high end items:** The suspects pretend to be police officers and ask the victim to help with an undercover operation by purchasing expensive items like watches, jewellery and gold. Once the item is bought, the victim will hand over the item to the criminal.

**Counterfeit cash/bank investigation:** A person claiming to be a police or banking official informs the victim that they need to help with a banking corruption investigation. The victim is told to withdraw a large amount of money and the cash is picked up later by a courier to "check for fingerprints or to identify counterfeit bank notes".

**Computer takeover:** The fraudster telephones the victim, purporting to be from their internet service provider, saying that they have had an issue with their internet connectivity and they are due compensation. The victim is persuaded to download a remote access application, giving the suspects access to their home computers. The fraudster persuades the victims into thinking that they have been paid too much compensation and the victims then withdraw cash to pay the money back, which is later collected by a courier.

Some of the signs of courier fraud are:

- Courier fraud usually starts with an unsolicited telephone call to the victim.
- Typically the suspect will pose as a bank official, police officer or a computer or utility engineer.
- Courier fraudsters will usually request the victim purchases high value items such as Rolex watch and gold bullion, withdraws cash or provides a bank card for collection from a courier.
- Fraudsters will instruct victims not tell any family or friends about what they are doing.
- When carrying out courier fraud, criminals will request the victim hangs up the phone to ring their bank for confirmation while keeping the line open. The suspect then purports to be bank official and provides false confirmation.\*
- Fraudsters will also make arrangements for a courier to meet the victim to collect the item they have purchased.

\*We would **always** advise people to call using a different phone to the one they were called on. If this is not possible, then they should wait five minutes and then ring a family member or friend to ensure that the line has been cleared, before calling.

Remember, if you get a call from someone stating they are from the Police and request that you withdraw money for them to collect, **it is a scam**. The Police will never ask you to do this or to lie to your Bank or family etc.

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 or if the crime is happening, ring 999.

Kent Police



SPIRIT OF CARE

email: [spiritofcare@btinternet.com](mailto:spiritofcare@btinternet.com)

Phone: 07907884210

Local service seeking to recruit part-time workers or volunteers to support adults with learning disabilities to enjoy activities in the community. For example, to walk with a young man for about 4 hours on a Friday. To apply please phone or email Teresa.

## 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

LABRADOR RESCUE KENT & BORDERS PROUDLY PRESENTS THEIR

25TH ANNIVERSARY

ALL BREEDS

FUN DOG SHOW

STOCKBURY VILLAGE HALL & GROUNDS

ME9 7UD

SATURDAY 18TH JUNE 2022

12:00-16:00



#### INCLUDING

- BEST VETERAN (7 YEARS+)
- BEST YOUNGESTER (UNDER 7)
- WAGGIEST TAIL
- BEST 6 LEGS
- DOG MOST LIKE OWNER
- BEST FANCY DRESS (OWNER & DOG!)
- DOG JUDGE WANTS TO TAKE HOME
- BEST IN SHOW

PLUS... A RAFFLE, A SILENT AUCTION, AGILITY COURSE, HIDE & SEEK GAME, STALLS, AND DISPLAYS FROM THE SOUTHERN GOLDEN RETRIEVER DISPLAY TEAM & STOCKBURY DOG TRAINING CLUB





## Jubilee Trifle Recipe

Celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II with this impressive trifle (the cheats version!), winner of the Platinum Pudding competition.

For this recipe you will need 2 Swiss roll tins, measuring approximately 24cmx34cm/9½inx13½in and a trifle dish with capacity of approximately 3.5 litres/6 pints. However, you could always halve the recipe to serve 10 instead of 20!

### Ingredients

#### For the Swiss roll

- 4 large free-range eggs
- 100g/3½oz caster sugar, plus extra for dusting
- 100g/3½oz self-raising flour, sieved
- butter, for greasing

300gm jar of Lemon Curd

1 packet of lemon jelly - follow packet instructions to make 568ml / 1 pint

500ml / 18fl oz ready made custard

100gm / 3½oz amaretti biscuits

600ml / 20fl oz double cream

#### For the chunky Mandarin Coulis

4x tins mandarins, around 300g each

45g/1¾oz caster sugar

16g/½oz arrowroot (2 sachets)

½ lemon, juice only

### Method

- To make the Swiss rolls, preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C Fan/Gas 4. Grease and line the 2 Swiss roll tins with baking paper. In a large bowl, beat the egg and sugar together with an electric hand whisk for approximately 5 minutes or until light and pale. Using a metal spoon, gently fold in the flour. Divide between the two tins and bake for 10–12 minutes or until the sponges are lightly golden and cooked through.
- Sprinkle some extra caster sugar on two sheets of baking paper then turn the sponges out onto the sugared paper. Peel off the paper from the underside and, while still warm, roll them both up from the short end into a tight spiral using the paper to help. Leave to cool.
- **To make the chunky mandarin coulis**, strain two tins of mandarins of their juice. Discard the juice and put the fruit into a saucepan with the sugar and heat gently until broken down. Remove from the heat. In a small bowl, slake the arrowroot with 2 tablespoons cold water then add to the warm mandarins. Add the lemon juice and mix well before pouring into a large bowl. Strain the remaining two tins of mandarins and add the fruit to the bowl then leave to cool completely.
- **To assemble**, unroll the cooled Swiss rolls and spread with the lemon curd. Roll back up again and slice one into 2.5cm/1in slices and place upright around the bottom edge of the trifle dish so the swirl is visible. Slice the other Swiss roll into thicker pieces and use these to fill the bottom of the dish, ensuring the top is roughly the same level as the slices that line the edge. Use off-cuts of sponge to fill any gaps.
- Pour the lemon jelly over the Swiss roll layer and set aside in the fridge to completely set. This will take approximately 3 hours. Once set, pour over the custard then arrange a single layer of amaretti biscuits, keeping a few back for the top. Pour over the mandarin coulis. In a large bowl, whip the double cream until soft peaks form then spoon this over the coulis. Scatter reserved amaretti biscuits, mixed peel and white chocolate drops to decorate.

## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon Tart

The ingredients represent all 4 nations of the UK:

England: Cheddar Cheese

Northern Ireland: Potatoes

Scotland: Smoked Salmon

Wales: Leek

### Ingredients

#### Pastry Case:

- 140 g (5 oz) plain flour
- 35 g (1 ¼ oz) margarine
- 35 g (1 ¼ oz) vegetable fat
- About 1 ½ tablespoons cold water

*Or* use ready-made shortcrust pastry

\*20cm (8") loose-bottom flan tin

\*baking beans

#### Filling

- 100 g (4 oz) Smoked salmon (trimmings or chopped small)
- 50 g (2 oz) leek
- 100g (4 oz) cooked potatoes
- 70g (2 ¾ oz) Cheddar cheese (grated)
- 200 ml (7 fl oz) single cream
- 2 large eggs (beaten)
- 1 tablespoon fresh chopped parsley
- Black pepper
- Butter or oil

### Method

- To make pastry - place flour in bowl add the fats and rub in lightly with fingertips until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Add enough cold water to bind to a soft dough, knead briefly and shape in to a ball. Wrap and chill for 30 minutes.
- Roll out the pastry and use to line the flan tin. Prick the bottom of the pastry with a fork. Line pastry shell with foil and fill with baking beans. Place tin on a heated baking tray and bake in preheated oven at 200°C Fan (Gas 7) for 10 minutes, remove foil and baking beans, return to the oven for a further 10 minutes.
- Reduce oven temperature to 160°C Fan (Gas 4).
- Scrub potatoes and place in a pan of lightly salted boiling water to cook for 15 minutes. Drain and allow to cool before removing the skin and then slicing thinly.
- Finely chop leek. Heat a little butter or oil in a small frying pan, add chopped leek to the pan and cook over a low to moderate heat, stirring occasionally, for about 10 minutes until soft but not coloured - allow to cool.
- Mix together cream, beaten eggs, chopped parsley and plenty of ground black pepper. Layer filling in pastry case; spread smoked salmon over base of tart followed by cooked leek and then 50 g (2 oz) grated cheese (keeping remaining 20g (¾ oz) to sprinkle on top). Top with thinly sliced cooked potatoes. Sprinkle remaining grated cheese over the top, then gently pour cream and egg mixture in to the tart.
- Bake in oven for 30 - 35 minutes until filling is set and golden. Serve cold.

Trifle Recipe courtesy of BBC Food



## 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
Parish Council Clerk	Sherrie Babington	01634 867173
Pétanque 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