



THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER

'In the Garden of England'

April '19 Diary

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise stated

Mon	1st	Private Booking	7.00 - 9.00pm
Tues	2nd	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		NSYC	7.00 - 9.00pm
Wed	3rd	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
Thurs	4th	Gardeners	8.00 - 10.00pm
Fr	5th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	6th		
Sun	7th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	8th		
Tues	9th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		Private Booking	7.00 - 9.00pm
Wed	10th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
		WI	7.30 - 9.30pm
Thurs	11th	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30pm
Fri	12th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	13th		
Sun	14th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
Mon	15th	Private Booking	7.00 - 9.00pm
Tues	16th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		NSYC	7.00 - 9.00pm
Wed	17th	Pilates	
		Sew & Chatter	1.30 - 3.30pm
		Parish Council	7.30 - 9.30pm
Thurs	18th	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30pm
Fri	19th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	20th		
Sun	21st	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
		Private Booking	9.00 - 3.00pm
Mon	22nd		
Tues	23rd	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
		Private Booking	7.00 - 9.00pm
Wed	24th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am
Thurs	25th	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30pm
Fri	26th	Private Booking	10.00 - 6.00pm
		Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30pm
Sat	27th	Plant Sale	10.00 - 3.00pm
		Private Booking	4.00 - 11.30pm
Sun	28th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00am
		Private Booking	2.00 - 4.00pm
Mon	29th	Private Booking	7.00 - 9.00pm
Tues	30th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00pm
Wed	31st	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30am

NEWSFLASH

MBC-KCC Judicial Review Nearing Agreement

Lib-Dem led Maidstone Borough Council's long-running judicial review action against Kent County Council is believed to have ended, with MBC withdrawing from the proceedings and settling out-of-court.

Welcoming the outcome, Cllr. John Perry, Leader of the opposition Conservative Group commented:

"Maidstone needs a major upgrade in its road network. But, instead of co-operation and co-ordination between their councils, local taxpayers were having to fund one council taking legal action against the other. Hopefully this settlement will mean we finally see progress on what matters most to our residents, which is improving the roads and transport system around Maidstone."

The settlement is understood to involve KCC funding survey work in respect of a south eastern relief road from other sources, as they had offered to do back in June 2018. In November last year, a judge turned down MBC's application for an injunction to stop KCC's work on the relief road. There is believed to be an agreement on the use of developer contributions to fund road improvements. MBC will now fund a dedicated transport planner to work between the two councils.

BREXIT

Do you have any questions or concerns about Brexit?

MBC have set up a Brexit information page on the Councils website. It can be found at:

<https://www.maidstone.gov.uk/home/brexit-advice>

If you have any questions or information regarding Brexit that you think our local councillor should know about which isn't covered by the MBC Brexit page, please contact our MBC Councillor Patrik Garten

Email: patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk

Phone: [01622-807907](tel:01622-807907)

You can also use the dedicated hashtag #BrexitKent on social media.

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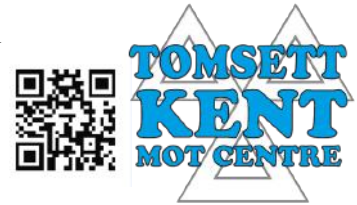
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Council



Events



Diary



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**Stockbury
Observer!**

St Mary Magdalene Church Stockbury



The services in April are as follows:

7 April - 6pm Holy Communion.

14 April - 6pm BCP Evensong

21 April - 6am Sunrise Communion

28 April - 6.0pm BCP Evensong.

**NB. The services in April will take place in
Hartlip Church**

Penny Stevens - PCC Secretary

There are a range of services during Holy Week held within the benefice of the Six Parishes, to which Stockbury belongs and can be found on the parishes' website – www.thesix.org.uk or contact The Rev'd Liz Cox

For baptisms, weddings or funerals please contact The Rev'd Liz Cox on 01795 844241

Newington Hartlip Stockbury Iwade Upchurch Lower Halstow

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Or just come along and listen
All while enjoying tea and cake!

Do Join Us!

St Mary's Church, Newington
5pm Sunday 14th July

Contact singwiththesix@gmail.com for more details
or Caroline White, Andrea Staniforth, Jill Rothery, Penny Stevens

St Augustine's RC, Deanwood Drive, Rainham

Mass Times

Weekdays 9.30 am

Saturday 10.00 am and 6.00 pm

Sunday 9.30 am and 11.00 am

Lent & Easter Services And Viable Weekly Adoration

Saturday 13th April

6pm - Mass Blessing & Distribution Of Palms

Palm Sunday 14 April

9.30 & 11am. Mass Of The Sick With Anointing 3.30 pm

Maundy Thursday 18 April

9.30am - Mass

10.30 - 12 Noon Confessions.

8 pm Mass Of The Last Supper & Washing Of The Feet
Watching until 11pm followed by Night Prayer

Good Friday 19 April

10am - 12 Noon Confessions

3pm Solemn Liturg

7.30 pm Lenten Liturgy

Holy Saturday 20 April

8 pm Blessing Of The Fire & Lighting Of The Paschal
Candle; followed by Scripture readings & Mass

Easter Sunday 21 April

9.30 am & 11 am - Mass

Divine Mercy Sunday 28 April

9.30 & 11am - Mass

1.30 To 2.55pm - Confessions

2pm Adoration & Divine Mercy Prayers,

3pm Mass Of Divine Mercy

And refreshments after Mass

Holy Week Confessions 10.30 – 12am

Monday - Friday

Adoration & Exposure Of The Blessed Sacrament
every Friday, all year round -7am - 8pm
With Masses at 9.30 & 8pm in between

March Church Draw Winners

CONGRATULATIONS!

1st - Mike Wegg

£40 (55)

2nd - Angela Brown

£20 (3)

3rd - Annabel White

£10 (19)

AWARD WINNING M B Farms

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Tuesdays - Maidstone

Thursdays - Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre (Savacentre)

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Pieces and Gloss £50

Perm £55

Based in Stockbury/Home visits available



Patrik Says

Welcome to another monthly rant from your local councillor. I actually managed to offend some readers last month. It is still a bit short of my stated aim to receive death threats but I certainly had my pet-theory tested and it opened the discussion. If I don't receive your feed-back I must assume that you all agree with my rant. Surely that can't be true? Please feed me back now, rather than surprising me next year at the ballot box.

I still have one more year to go representing you at MBC but like almost every year, there will be a third of councillor's seats up for election soon. And like every May, there will be some disruption to the Council's political operation, at an extra cost of £80,000 each year or £240,000 over a four-year election cycle. Needless to state, that the current opposition (we) prefers to save this waste and move to all-borough four-yearly elections.

The MBC Waste Crime Team does NOT pursue financial waste but fly-tipping: The team has been in operation since last summer and 10 fly-tippers' vehicles have been impounded since then. Three of which have been crushed and one is currently up for sale.

Recently, I arranged a meeting with the MBC Waste Crime Team's manager and a group of North Downs Parish Councillors; I think it is fair to say that the Councillors, who are usually a very critical bunch, were suitably impressed with the team's activities. We've made some plans to work closely together and to set a public signal that fly-tipping won't be tolerated in the North Downs. – Watch this space.

Regular readers may remember that I offered some cash to community projects. This financial year's money was split between a security casing for a defibrillator, a contribution to the Hollingbourne Meadows Trust and improvements to Wormshill Village Hall, where I also volunteered my handy-man skills for an afternoon. Next financial year there will be another Member's Grant available – watch this space !

Finally, the dreaded, Brexit: Firstly let me thank our MP Helen Whately. Looking at her voting record in the Commons, I think that so far, she took the right and pragmatic decisions and represented sensibly and skilfully the wishes of the majority in our community.

Maidstone Borough Council, in co-ordination with our neighbouring councils, the emergency services (Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, South East Coast Ambulance Service, Maritime and Coastguard) and KCC is preparing to activate the official apparatus to deal with planning for emergencies and disasters

Services that are considered to be critical within MBC have been identified and staff will be moved across from other areas, as necessary, to deliver these services.

If travel is disrupted, we envisage that staff who are not in customer-facing roles, will work from home. A day of tests was carried out this month to check the ICT systems' capability when a large number of staff are need to work from home at the same time.

The most likely affected MBC service has been identified as waste collection. This will be due to traffic disruption and contingency plans for the collection of household waste have been put in place. Without wanting to worry you and in the very worst case only, large 'RoRo' bins for the collection of household waste can be distributed around the Borough to allow residents to drop their own waste. Garden waste collections are also considered to be optional in the worst case.

I may be leaning wide out of the window and may be forced to eat my words before next year's MBC elections, but "worst case" will not happen – in my humble and very personal view fingers crossed! I hope ...!

I was once told the story of a NATO exercise. All week the Germans were very organised and therefore the obvious expected winners of the manoeuvres. The frustration of the German General was understandable when at the end of the week the British won: "Se British " --- long thoughtful puff on his pipe: "Se British, sey strive in Kaos.....War is organised Kaos.. ... No vonder se British won se exercise!"

PATRIK GARTEN (Cons)
MBC Councillor for North Downs Ward

Email: patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk

Phone: [01622-807907](tel:01622-807907)

(for back-copies of my Newsletters see:
<https://www.stockbury.org.uk/observer>)

"I'll have done my job if, in the end, the deal is so tough on the British that they'd prefer to stay in the EU".

Michel Barnier

Brexit must be a form of "punishment" for deserters.



Kent County Council will be undertaking resurfacing and other ancillary works on the **A249 Detling Hill (southbound only) between the Stockbury Roundabout and the roundabout to the M20 junction 7**, on the **31st March**. This should take 1 night to complete.

These activities will be undertaken between **the hours of 20.00 – 06.00** on the night of works and we expect to be completed by 6am on Monday 1st April 2019.

Please note that there will be NO ACCESS to Detling Village via the northbound A249 and its various right-hand turns. Access to Detling will be maintained (and fully signed) from the A249/M20 junction 7 roundabout utilising Bearsted Road and Hockers Lane.



Stockbury Neighbourhood Watch

Oil Boiler Specialists

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:

A big thank you to all my loyal customers. I have been doing a lot of training and readying my company for the new RHI launch and to this effect we can now offer you biomass boilers (log, pellet and woodchip) and thermal Solar panels.

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- 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

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I will still be the best oil technician I can be for you all and keep your oil boilers running at their best

Our aim is to help people protect themselves and their properties and to reduce the anxieties of becoming a victim of crime.

Give me a call or email

Please be vigilant and report suspicious characters or incidents to the police and also to your co-ordinator (details below).



Mark Viccars

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Co-ordinators will cascade any information from the police or neighbours to members.

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Emergency : 999
(crime in progress/life threatening)

Non-Emergency : 101

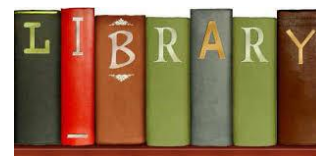
Rosemary (Ann) Ballard (*Co-ordinator*)
(01622) 736331

Alternatively you may e-mail the Co-ordinator at:

stockbury-neighbourhood@outlook.com

Any ideas and views would be greatly welcomed at the above mentioned e-mail address.

If you know of any other residents who would like to receive information from Stockbury Neighbourhood Watch, then please ask them to either contact the Co-ordinator on the above telephone number or e-mail their details to the above mentioned e-mail address.



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11th and 25th April '19

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Stockbury Gardeners

Whatever your wishes about Brexit, the looming No Deal version is going to be an issue. Government departments have been formed underneath Whitehall to cope with shortages and the appropriate response planned for that eventuality. For those that can recall the last war, we grew rhubarb in Yorkshire, this became known as the 'Rhubarb Triangle'; similarly the 'Asparagus Triangle' still exists in Evesham. So, it comes as no surprise that the French will not supply onions to the UK. Yes, that is now a distinct possibility that has been identified by quangos in Whitehall.

The reaction to this is to grow our own onions, to this end, the department has hired in expensive consultants to identify areas in the UK to compartmentalise an onion growing region. The soil conditions and humidity of the North Downs in Kent are similar to the French onion growing regions; what is more, meetings were held last week with local farmers around Stockbury to commandeer land in order to grow onions. Watch this space

It's the time of year now that the spring equinox is past and the clocks go forward. Wow! its already arrived, more time to be spent gardening!

Veg plants are available now from Dobbie's in Gillingham, however if you are lucky enough to arrive at Homebase immediately after a plant delivery, they can be good value.

You should now be mulching underneath roses and other perennials once you have fed them!!

The Gardeners will meet on the 4th April when Phil Johnson presents the correct way to grow sweet peas. Phil assures me that he will have seeds and plants to sell. That is 8pm in the village hall, all are welcome.

This month we have the **annual plant sale** on 27th April at the Village Hall from 9:30 until 13:30. On sale will be bedding plants, veg plants and a variety of other plants. Tea, coffee and rolls will also be available.



Hopefully this is what we will be looking at in May Note the nets to keep the pigeons away.

Happy gardening!

Chris Spree



Stockbury W.I.

Due to several of our group being unwell, the decision was made to postpone our guest speaker for this month and the afternoon was spent sorting out cutlery and crockery in preparation for our 'Pie Lunch' event on 18th May. If anyone would like to come and enjoy a well prepared two course lunch served by ourselves, in the Village Hall, please ring Pat Fothergill on 01622 734093 to obtain tickets. Don't delay as tickets are limited and going fast.

Di, Joyce and Brenda B spent some time at Denman College during March, enjoying their courses:- Di – History & Heritage of the Cotswolds, Joyce – Machine Embroidery and Brenda did Willow Work and made a sweet little heart and a dear little piggy.

It is good to see that WI membership continues to grow. There were over 29,000 new members joining from October 2017 to September 2018 and 79 new WI's started up. We wish the newly formed WI group in Huckling, all the best and much success for the future.

Our Campaigns on Food Matters, ending plastic soup and climate change are seeing continued success in the right places and showing that it is not too late to leave a legacy we can be proud of for future generations.

Our next meeting will be on the 10th April in the Village Hall at the new time of 7.30pm. Please come along and join us.

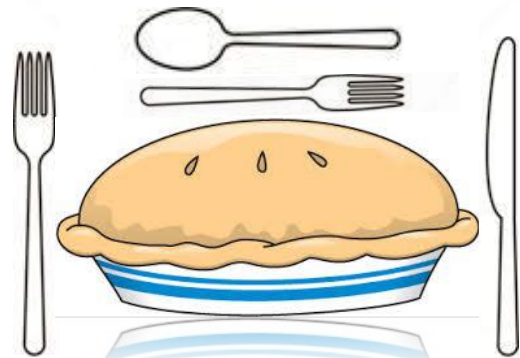
Heather Tomsett



Stockbury WI Pie Lunch

**Saturday 18th May
Stockbury Village Hall
12.30 - 2.30pm**

Adults £8 Children Under 12 yrs £5



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April Events

Tuesday 2nd - Pie & a Pint Lunch

Saturday 6th - Steak Night

Friday 12th & 26th - Fish & Chip Friday

Saturday 13th & 27th - Breakfast Club

Wednesday 17th - Senior's Lunch

Saturday 20th - Curry Night

Sunday 21st - Easter Sunday Lunch

(Free Easter Egg for every child that has lunch)

Thursday 25th - Ladies Lunch

Saturday 27th - Fully Booked - Drinking Only

Tuesday 30th - Games Night!

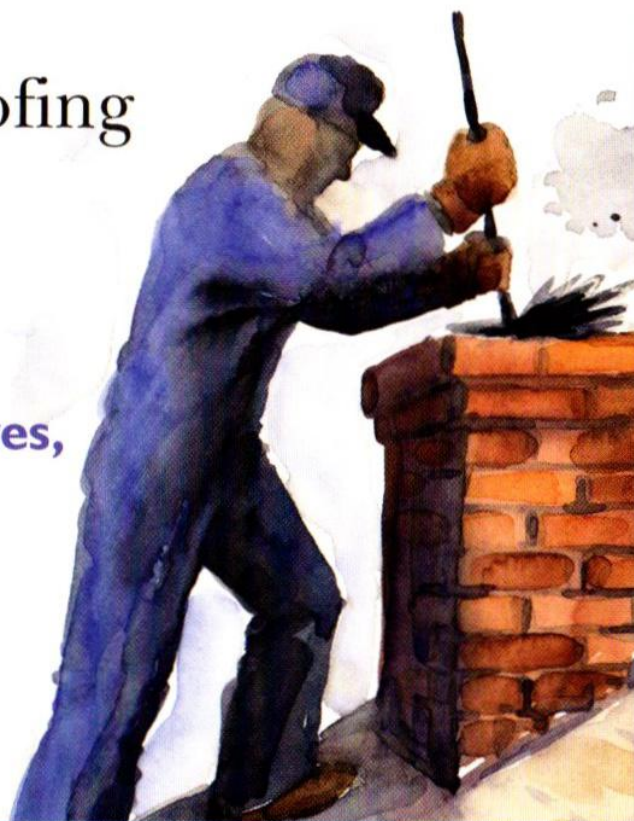
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Stockbury Book Club

How to Stop Time by Matt Haig

In the book Tom Hazard has a dangerous secret. He may look like a normal forty one year old but he has a rare condition which means he can and has lived for centuries. Amongst many others, he has met Shakespeare, been part of the Jazz scene in Paris, rubbed shoulders with Scott Fitzgerald and now craves an 'ordinary' life. However as he ages very slowly it is necessary for him to move every few years in order to stay alive as normal humans begin to get suspicious and fearful of him. This and the fact that he should never allow himself to fall in love leaves him sad and lonely. To make the story more interesting there is another person, also living a long life, who is a malevolent influence throughout the narrative. How this impacts Tom Hazard's life provides one of the threads running through this book.

To live for upwards of 400 years would be pretty challenging and the more you read this story the more you realise it just wouldn't be fun to witness all the mistakes made by society, over and over again. Add to that the isolation such a condition would impose on you. Should you fall in love your partner would age in the usual way whilst you would remain roughly the same age as when you first met them. How ghastly to watch that scenario unfold with someone you adore!

We all thought the writer had researched in excellent detail the historic facts surrounding the episodes in which he chooses his characters to be involved over the 400 year period to the present day. In fact the majority of the group enjoyed this book and gave it high marks. It opened up an interesting debate on how long any one of us would care to live; may be *not* for 400 years!

Only one dissenting member thought the storyline linking the historic highlights, rather weak. Overall the score was 7/10

Ann Rich

Cockett's Corner Ditty

Weather

The climate just now is nice and easy
A bit cold but bright and breezy

Be grateful at the very least
There's no return of the 'Eastern Beast'!

Predicting the weather no one wins
But daffodils and nice catkins

But any predictions will go to pot
When we get the next sun spot

STOCKBURY COMMUNITY BUS

"CALLING ALL PASSENGERS!!"

In my hot little hands, I have 10 cinema tickets to see André Rieu's Shall We Dance Concert from his hometown of Maastricht at Cineworld, Rochester. The tickets are for Saturday 27th July at 7pm and are £11 each. This is a party you really do not want to miss if you are an André fan!

I know December is a long way off but I've also 12 pantomime tickets for an evening performance of Cinderella at The Central Hall, Chatham on Thursday 12th December. These are £12.50 each and expected to be snapped up fast, so don't rest on your laurels! Act now!!

The finer details of both of these evenings will be made closer to the appropriate days but the bus fare for each will be £5 per person unless you are a concession card holder.

Don't forget to book for our trip to Bybrook Barn Garden Centre on the 24th April either!

There's so much for you to look forward to and the year is yet young!

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The "Small Ads" section is for Stockbury Parish residents to sell redundant or unwanted items in good condition. If you have any such items, please send the details to the Editor at stockburyobserver@gmail.com and they will be advertised for free in The Observer for **one month only**.

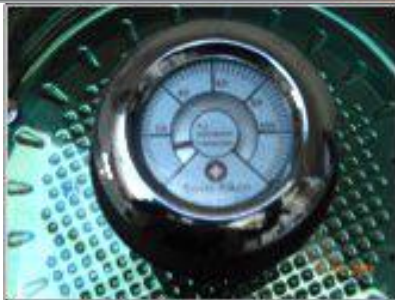
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Ring or text Ann on 07718 070807



Observer Deadline!

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

Monday 22nd April, 2019

Please email your contributions to
[**stockburyobserver@gmail.com**](mailto:stockburyobserver@gmail.com)

Calling All Advertisers

Our annual rates for advertising are very reasonable and have remained unchanged for the 8th consecutive year :

£85 for a half page or £55 for a quarter page

Our advertising year starts in June 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 take out an ad, 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 ad, preferable in MS Word or Powerpoint. Please bear in mind when designing your ad that large solid blocks of colour may not look so good in the black and white paper edition of The Observer, despite looking good for our online edition.

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

Useful Contact Information

Church Matters St. Mary Magdalene	Revd Liz Cox revlizcox@outlook.com	01795 435184
Community Bus	Booking Line	07551 454702
Cricket Club		
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	Jeff Hall	01795 843296
Hall Bookings	Sue Porter	01795 843715
Kent County Councillor	Shellina Prendergast shellina.prendergast@kent.gov.uk	
Maidstone BC Councillor	Patrik Garten - patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk	01622 807907
MB Farms Stores & Post Office		01795 842401
Member of Parliament Faversham & Mid Kent Ward	Helen Whately - helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk	
Neighbourhood Watch	Ann Ballard	01622 736331
Not So Young Club	Rosemary Leonard	01634 232672
Parish Council Clerk	Sherrie Babington	01634 867173
Petanque Club	Tina Jacobs	07743 910185
Photographic Club	Tim Arnold - timarnold@btinternet.com	01795 843049
Police	Emergency Only Non-Emergency	999 101
Police Community Support Officers for Stockbury	Daniel Genn daniel.genn@kent.pnn.police.uk	101
Public Footpaths & Bridleway	Reporting issues with. - westprow@kent.gov.uk	03000 417171
Roads, Potholes, etc	(manned 24hrs) - www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem	03000 418181
RSPCA		0300 1234999
Short Mat Bowls	Brenda Groves - quizqueen106@gmail.com	01634 388425
South East Water	Emergency Only Non-Emergency	0333 000 0365 0333 000 3330
Stockbury Observer - Editor	stockburyobserver@gmail.com	
The Harrow Public House	stockburypub@gmail.com	01795 843222
WI	Pat Fothergill	01622 734093