

THE STOCKBURY & SOUTH GREEN OBSERVER

'In the Garden of England'

Stop Press!

Spend the Weekend in the Pub!

Saturday 1st July Quiz night 7.30pm for 8

On Saturday, a quiz night with tables of 6 @ £5 per head to include food.

Book via email or speak to one of the committee

No fancy dress necessary
(unless you really want to!)

Easy questions... 😊

Sunday 2nd July Lunchtime BBQ 1pm – 3pm

A lunchtime BBQ with burger or sausage in a bun, salads and cake for only £5!

There'll be real ales on sale

Great new wines

All proceeds from the food and drinks will go towards the refurbishment of The Harrow

Volunteers needed! Please get in touch

Email: stockburypub@gmail.com

Phone: 01795-842850

The Harrow Update



We did it! We've bought the pub!

On Wednesday 21st June we completed the purchase of The Harrow, it now belongs to The Harrow Community Benefit Society, so thanks to everyone for the massive support in making it happen.

The pub opened for the first time since our new ownership on Friday 23rd with Andy our temp licensee introducing some great new real ales, lager and wine and with snacks provided by volunteers (thank you!) there was quite a party atmosphere.

The pub will be open again the weekend of Friday 30th from 5.30pm so come and join us for the last weekend in the 'old' Harrow before the pub starts it's refurbishment on Monday 3rd July. Check our Facebook page, website or black board on the village green for precise times. All monies raised will go into the refurbishment and improvement of The Harrow so do come along and give your support. The garden, thanks to a band of very willing volunteers looks lovely.

Building/decorating works and safety considerations permitting, we will try to open the pub at least on Friday nights while the refurbishment is being done (we'll need a drink after all the hard work...) so keep an eye open for details, as above, and come and join us.

We still need volunteers to help with the refurbishment of the pub and also donations of any building materials, so if you can help/donate/provide materials in any way and your name isn't on Chris's or Matt's list, do send Chris Porter an email or speak to one of the committee.

See you in the pub!

stockburypub@gmail.com

<http://stockburycommunity.wixsite.com/theharrow>

www.facebook.com/stockburycommunitypub

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STOCKBURY PARISH

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Stockbury
Halloween
Fireworks
Saturday 29th
October 2016
[click here](#)

Visit us at

www.stockbury.org.uk

You get more with the
online

Stockbury Observer!

Got a question for Stockbury Parish Council? Send us an email to parishcouncil@stockbury.org.uk

St Mary Magdalene Church

Stockbury



The services in July are as follows:

2 July – 6.0pm Sung Communion

9 July – 6.0pm Evensong

16 July – 6.0pm Sung Communion

23 July – 6.0pm Patronal Festival:
Songs of Praise

*30 July – 10.30am

(joint communion service with the
benefice churches)

***Please note the time**

The church will now be open every Saturday
from 10am until 4pm and every Sunday from
10am to 6pm until the end of September.
Please do take this opportunity to enjoy the
peace and beauty of our lovely historic church.

Penny Stevens - PCC Secretary

Details of the range of services held within the
benefice of the six parishes, to which
Stockbury belongs, 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

St Augustine's RC

Deanwood Drive Rainham

Mass Times

Weekdays 9.30 a.m

Saturday 10.00 a.m and 6.00 p.m

Sunday 9.30 a.m and 11.00 a.m

June Church Draw Winners

1st (ticket 50) Sue Sellens (£40)

2nd (ticket 59) Sharon Grosse (£20)

3rd (ticket 99) Belinda Gately (£10)

July '17 Diary

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise stated

Sat	1st	NSYC Food & Craft Fair	11.00 - 2.00 pm
Sun	2nd	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00 am
Mon	3rd	TBA	
Tues	4th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00 pm
		NSYC	7.30 - 9.30 pm
Wed	5th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30 am
Thurs	6th	TBA	
Fri	7th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30 pm
Sat	8th	TBA	
Sun	9th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00 am
Mon	10th	TBA	
Tues	11th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00 pm
Wed	12th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30 am
Thurs	13th	TBA	
Fri	14th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30 pm
Sat	15th	TBA	
Sun	16th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00 am
Mon	17th	TBA	
Tues	18th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00 pm
Wed	19th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30 am
		Parish Council	7.30 - 9.30 pm
Thurs	20th	TBA	
Fri	21st	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30 pm
Sat	22nd	TBA	
Sun	23rd	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00 am
Mon	24th	TBA	
Tues	25th	Bowls	2.00 - 4.00 pm
Wed	26th	Pilates	9.30 - 10.30 am
Thurs	27th	TBA	
Fri	28th	Dancing Club	8.00 - 10.30 pm
Sat	29th	TBA	
Sun	30th	Dog Club - Field	10.00 - 11.00 am
Mon	31st	TBA	

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

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

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

Post Office Hours

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

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

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

National Lottery Now Available

Web: <http://www.mbfarms.co.uk>



Stockbury Community Bus

Mondays - Sittingbourne

Tuesdays - Maidstone

Thursdays - Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre (Savacentre)

Pickups from 9:30 a.m. close to where you live. Why not give us a try!



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M: 07807 929602

I am a very experienced dog groomer, in the business for 7 years. I recently moved into the area and am pleased to offer my van based dog grooming services, for all small to medium size breeds.



Stockbury W.I.



Another month has passed by and what wonderful weather we are enjoying.

Instead of having our meeting in the village hall as normal, this month the members decided to treat ourselves and met up for an enjoyable lunch at the Golf Club.

At the NSYC Craft and Produce Fayre on Saturday 1st July at Stockbury Village Hall, members will be serving bacon and sausages in rolls, so please come along and join us.

We will be entertaining our W.I. link from Westwell at our July meeting on the 12th July. Mr. Glyn Bareham will be there to give us a talk on 'Every Picture Tells a Story' (your guess is as good as mine on this one)!!

Lastly, does anyone have any photographs of the Carols on the Green event from last December that we can take a look at please? If so, please contact our Secretary, Brenda Mace on 01622 884746.

Heather Tomsett

Quiz Night

in aid of

Remus Horse Sanctuary

Saturday 12th August

Stockbury Village Hall

7.30 Start

Tables of 6 or 8

£5 per head

Bring your own booze and snacks

Yummy cake, tea and coffee
available on the night

To book a table ring
Alison on 01622 884600

or

Jayne on 07946 218242

Stockbury Community Bus

Calling All Passengers

Join Kevin on a trip down to Margate to the famous Walpole Bay Hotel just outside of Cliftonville, in the company of village friends and family, as we take a leisurely afternoon drive down to the coast taking in the sea air.

Once there we will have a short talk on the Hotel history from the owner followed by the chance to visit the museum inside the hotel – this will be followed by the wonderful Walpole Strawberry Cream Tea consisting of:

A large homemade scone
with butter curls, jam and cream
A portion of strawberries and a pot of tea for one
Fantastic!

The price for this trip is only £10 for Bus Pass holders or £15 for those without, payable on the day, which includes the cost of travel and the Cream Tea. The trip is planned for **Wednesday 12th July** leaving around 12 noon and returning at approximately 5:30.

Why not join us for a great afternoon!!

So are you coming? – then contact Fiona now on
07551 454702

Our usual T's&C's apply.

Cockett's Corner Ditty

Verges

This is the lovely time of year
When our beautiful native plants appear

Villagers guard our roadside verges
From council workers mowing urges

Everyone, grown up or child
Know why these plants are feeling wild!!



Oil Boiler Specialists

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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Stockbury Neighbourhood Watch

We are a Police registered Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Neighbourhood Watch is a way for communities to help themselves stay safe. We are volunteers who work in partnership with the police to:

- Distribute safety advice
- Help make sure that elderly and vulnerable residents are not targets to criminals
- Gather information to help police tackle local problems
- Alert residents when there is a particular crime problem in the area

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

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

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

CONTACT NUMBERS:

Emergency : 999
(crime in progress/life threatening)

Non-Emergency : 101

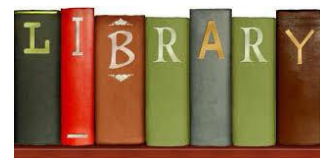
Rosemary (Ann) Ballard (*Co-ordinator*)
(01622) 736331

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

stockbury-neighbourhood@outlook.com

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



Mobile Library Dates

**6th & 20th
July '17**

At the Village Hall

the physiotherapy centre

(Established 20 years in Sittingbourne)

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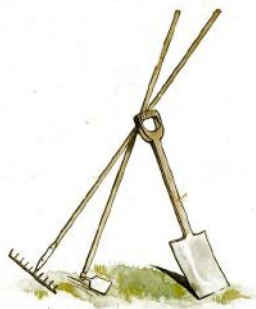
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Stockbury Gardeners



35 degrees Wednesday 21st June 2017water in the garden hose exceeds 55 degrees, yes that is what the water laying in a garden hose can reach, so be careful not to water plants if the hose has been sitting in the sun.

I am sitting in the garden and pondering again, that's what I do well, or so Diana informs me! Upon looking out of the window, there is a cock pheasant sounding off a warning call standing just a mere 3 meters from a fox who is picking up dropped cherries from the old trees; he seems completely oblivious to the pheasant. As quick as a flash I whipped out my iPhone camera to take a snap and the fox turned and moved on, followed by my dog who had scaled the 5-bar gate; upon whistling she stopped and sat and looked at me! As she sat a hen moved out from the long grass who was sitting on a nest. Was the cock trying to distract the fox drawing him away from the nest? Was the fox unwell? Or was it just mutual respect? I seriously doubt the latter. BUT I have the photograph to prove that it happened!

The sSweet Pea & Rose Show held in the hall on 24th June was an immense success, the 2 judges being very complementary on the quality of the entries. Best In Show went to Penny Spearman with a splendid vase of pastel cottage garden flowers, narrowly beating Di Spree with her entry. Best Vegetable Exhibit went to Rodney Gibson with a first class set of peas. The members before clearing up the hall were allowed to sample some of the cookery exhibits, the chairman enjoyed the samples very much. There must go out a big thank you to all that helped in setting up, running, and clearing up afterwards.

It was too late to report aboutThe Chelsea Flower Show last month, so here is a brief resume of my visit. I am not sure on the garden that won the Best Show Exhibit, being a pile of concrete blocks with weeds growing in between! I ask you, was it modelled on the A 249? If you threw a few plastic bottles into it you would not have been able to tell the difference! Kent Highways take note. I bumped into our old friend Paulo from Franchi seeds who gave a masterly talk on seeds at our meeting in March, he was selling his excellent seeds. There were one or two stands demonstrating various eco ways of composting and usage of by products to promote soil bacteria, and electricity; not too sure I got my head around that one though! It is worth a visit if you have a chance next year.

By now you will know the great news about the pub being now in the safe hands of the village. As the opening date comes closer, keep an eye out for the window boxes and hanging baskets, these were planted by the Stockbury Gardeners in anticipation of the completion.

On the plants and vegetable side of things, please be careful in purchasing "bee friendly" flowers, it has been revealed recently that the seeds of some so-called flowers have been treated with systemic insecticide, not very bee friendly is it! I suppose the best thing is to demand from suppliers only non-treated plants.

Things to do:

- Do not put plants out too soon from the greenhouse or they can burn if not acclimatised correctly.
- Shade glasshouses with shade paint and green shade material.
- Wear a hat especially if you are lacking in top cover, a la Chairman!
- Keep plants watered and mulched.
- Use water from water butts where possible, its better for the plants as well.
- Feed citrus plants. Don't waste money with special feeds, use chem pak and read the instructions, its much better value.
- Many of you will be taking holidays soon, please ask neighbours to assist with watering plants.

The next monthly meeting has been changed to helping in the pub garden and the usual teas in the hall.

Both Rodney Gibson and I are competing at the Kent Show which is a month early this year.

Finally for all of you that show plants, vegetables and flowers:

"To get the best results you must talk to your vegetables"

PRINCE CHARLES

Chris Spree



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Brainercises!

1. Where did Chris Spree visit in May?
2. The Community Bus passengers are having what, where in July?
3. Stockbury W.I. were ladies that lunched where in June?
4. What campaign are Maidstone Borough Council launching?
5. What important village hurdle concluded on Wednesday 21st June?
6. The book 'Fingersmith' read by Stockbury Book Club was written by who?
7. Rodney Gibson won which category at the Sweat Pea & Rose Show in June?
8. Who are your two 'Roving Reporters'?
9. Name the two woods that border the A249
10. In the Marlowe Theatre stage production of 'Not Dead Enough' seen by the Stockbury Book Club, who played the lead detective?



Stockbury Book Club

NOT DEAD ENOUGH by PETER JAMES

On this occasion we decided to attend a live performance of the adaptation of the above book, before we read it and knew the ending! It was adapted for the stage by the author and we all visited the Marlowe Theatre to see it. Only then did we set about reading the longer version of the story.

Most members found the enactment engaging and entertaining, commenting that the violent scenes were handled well and that the lead detective, played by Shane Ritchie, held the performances together. There was a difference of opinion expressed by a couple of our number, who considered that the acting did not do justice to the material and that the stage set rather hampered adequate projection. We registered the thought that perhaps the violent nature of Not Dead Enough did not translate well to the stage, however on the whole we gave it a score of 7.

When reading the book some found it hard to get started but once into the story it was an easy read, with a well woven plot. The interplay between the detective and the pathologist carried the storyline convincingly, the end twist however was rather crafty and we thought not entirely plausible. The book just pipped the stage performance scoring 7 ½;

THE FINGERSMITH by SARAH WALTERS

Fingersmiths are petty thieves and this story, set in 1862 London, revolves round three major characters, Susan Trinder part of the thieving 'family', Mandy Lilly a 'refined' young woman living with her uncle in the country and the infamous Richard Rivers. A mean plot is hatched in part by Mrs Sucksby the matriarch of the thieves and the author unfolds this sometimes complicated plot first by writing from Susan's viewpoint and then from Maud's, finally bringing both elements together in the third part.

This is a long book and some thought the detail, though interesting, full of atmosphere and historically correct, did not advance the plot significantly and was therefore tedious at times. However the characters were multi-dimensional and there were good twists in the plot; for this you had to keep your wits about you, especially in the denouement.

Not everyone finished the book at this busy time of year but we decided on 7 as our score.

Ann Rich

WHY WALK THE SAXON SHORE WAY? PART 2

Some readers may remember the first part of this late last year. Yes we did carry on and here are the results of our endeavours:

Walk 8: Halstow to Kingsferry Bridge

As I write this on a cold and rainy day in early March, the weather (in true British fashion) is worse than when we began our walks in 2016! We decided to postpone this walk until the weather was drier., needless to say we have not quite got round to retracing our tracks, so watch this space.

Walk 9: Ridham Dock to Sittingbourne

Parking under the Sheppey Crossing on the road to Ridham Dock at the end of January, doesn't sound the most auspicious start to our Saxon Shore Way walk 2017! Being the northern interloper that I am, I have no idea that there is a dock so close to Stockbury. The wind blows in off the marshes and we set off trying to sidestep the thundering lorries that go to and from the docks. Passing such places as Bedlams Bottom and Cheney Hill my research tells me that in the 18th Century sailors from many ships tried to land here, be it from prison hulks and/or ships laden with sailors with Bubonic Plague. Many men died from other reasons than the plague, since food and water were so hard to come by out on the Medway Marshes. What with the rather gruesome history and my trusty Saxon Shore Way book telling me that many old guidebooks say this area is quite unhealthy, Julia and I both conclude that the best part about the walk was Milton Country Park which was lovely. The walk ended for us at Asda car park in Sittingbourne, where the 'husband chauffeur service' was waiting – we know how to live!

To be continued



Stockbury Church



NSYC - Tea & Coffee
With a Slice of Cake



Stockbury WI
Bacon or Sausage Rolls



KEEP CALM
AND
BUY RAFFLE
TICKETS

Stockbury

Not So Young Club



Food



&

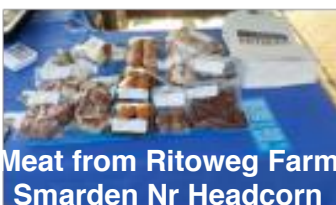


Craft Fair



1st July, 2017

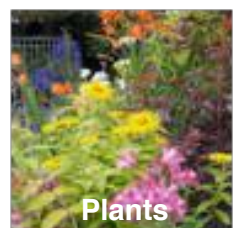
11am - 2pm



Meat from Ritoweg Farm
Smarden Nr Headcorn



Kate's Korner



Plants

STOCKBURY PARISH SHORT SHORTS

provided by our very own Roving Reporters

Well 'Short Shorts' it is this month, so here we go:

- The sale of The Harrow Pub completed today (21st June). The Chairman of the Parish Council offered his thanks for all the hard work put in by Committee members "past and present and all the villagers for their ongoing support".
- Routine maintenance in the Orchard continues. Nettles were recently sprayed.
- The updated Parish Council website is due to be launched next month. It is hoped it will be a much improved and more up to date site.
- It is hoped that some CCTV equipment will still be available to the village to act as a deterrent to fly tipping. Our Maidstone Borough Councillor is still working to progress this.
- Outstanding planning issues are still ongoing at both Squirrels Wood and Longton Wood. Patrik Garten (MBC Counsellor) reported that Maidstone Borough Council Planning Officers are very involved here, in reaching an appropriate outcome.
- Patrik also reported that there is no news on the proposed Binbury Park development.
- He also told the meeting about a 'Love Maidstone' campaign which is to be launched, which is keen for village feedback, so keep an eye on their website if you are interested.
- Last but not least, concern was expressed about an increasing number of vehicles speeding down Church Lane and Bull Lane. It was felt this made it particularly difficult and dangerous for pedestrians, due to the lack of footpath.

That's all from your Roving Reporters for this month.

What would you like to see and read about in The Observer??

If you have any ideas or would like to contribute an article please contact stockburyobserver@gmail.com

Brainercise Answers!

1. The Chelsea Flower Show
2. Cream Tea at the Walpole Bay Hotel
3. The Golf Club
4. Love Maidstone
5. The purchase of The Harrow
6. Sarah Walters
7. Best Vegetable Exhibit
8. Moira Cooke and Sue Gardner
9. Squirrels Wood and Longton Wood
10. Shane Richie

Observer Deadline!

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

Friday 21st July, 2017

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 6th 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

Cricket Club	Tom Bulbrook - th.bul2@yahoo.com	07780 440526
Church Matters St. Mary Magdalene	Revd Liz Cox - elizabeth.cox448@btinternet.com	01795 435184
Community Bus	Booking Line	07551 454702
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	Lex Sargent - stockburygardeners@live.com	01795 842741
Golf Society	Jeff Hall	01795 843296
Hall Bookings	Sue Porter	01795 843715
Maidstone BC Councillor	Patrik Garten - patrikgarten@maidstone.gov.uk	01622 807907
MB Farms Stores & Post Office		01795 842401
Neighbourhood Watch	Ann Ballard	01622 736331
Not So Young Club	Rosemary Leonard	01634 232672
Parish Council	Sherrie Babington	01634 867173
Petanque Club	Mick Bingham	01795 842480
Photographic Club	Tim Arnold - timarnold@btinternet.com	01795 843049
Police	Emergency Only Non-Emergency	999 101
Police Community Support Officers for Stockbury	Ryan Waring - 5872@kent.pnn.police.uk Dave Rowley - 59079@kent.pnn.police.uk	07969 584213 07772 226097
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	Tony or Angela Russell	01795 842738
South East Water	Emergency Only Non-Emergency	0333 000 0365 0333 000 3330
Stockbury Observer - Editor	stockburyobserver@gmail.com	
WI	Brenda Mace	01622 884746