

# STOCKBURY OBSERVER

AND SOUTH GREEN

'In the Garden of England'



## Diary for October

All events at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise shown

Sat	1 <sup>st</sup>	Private booking	4-12 pm
Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bowls	3-5 pm
Mon	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hall bookings meeting	7 pm
Tue	4 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	2-4 pm
		NSYC	7.30 pm
Wed	5 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night in The Harrow	9 pm
Thu	6 <sup>th</sup>	Gardeners AGM	8 pm
Fri	7 <sup>th</sup>	Dancing Club	8 pm
Sun	9 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	3-5 pm
Tue	11 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	2-4 pm
Wed	12 <sup>th</sup>	WI	7.30 pm
		Quiz Night in The Harrow	9 pm
Thu	13 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	7.30 pm
Fri	14 <sup>th</sup>	Dancing Club	8 pm
Sat	15 <sup>th</sup>	Church Harvest Fair	11 am—1pm
Sun	16 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	3-5 pm
Mon	17 <sup>th</sup>	Hall Committee Meeting	6.30 pm
Tue	18 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	2—4 pm
		NSYC	7.30 pm
Wed	19 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council	7.30 pm
		Quiz Night in The Harrow	9 pm
Thu	20 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	7.30 pm
Fri	21 <sup>st</sup>	Dancing Club	8 pm
Sun	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bowls	3-5 pm
Tue	25 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	2-4pm
Wed	26 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night in The Harrow	9 pm
Thu	27 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	7.30 pm
Fri	28 <sup>th</sup>	Dancing Club	8 pm
Sat	29 <sup>th</sup>	Hog Roast and Bonfire Party	6.30 pm
		In Community Orchard	
Sun	30 <sup>th</sup>	Bowls	3—5 pm

### AUTUMNAL THOUGHTS

By John Cockett

*Now the harvest's safely gathered in  
The autumn weather really can begin  
The green leaves are turning brown and gold  
And bedding plants are looking rather old.*

*The greenhouse has started looking sad  
The last of the tomatoes going bad  
This is the time one should look ahead  
The mower cleaned, well-oiled, and put to bed*

*In an armchair with a catalogue of seeds  
Draw up a plan of work and list of needs  
Shall I dig the garden one or two spits deep  
And also start a nice new compost heap?*

## October 2011

### Editor's notes



This month's packed edition has a strong autumnal theme. You may have seen the collection boxes for the Hog Roast and Fireworks to be held in the Cherry Orchard on the 30th October. Please donate generously towards the cost of the fireworks as I'm sure this event will be well worth attending. Details on pages 6 & 9.

Apologies to all who phoned the number in last month's issue for the Fungi Walk. This should be 07813 785940. As soon as I was made aware of this error, I phoned and apologised to the very nice (bemused) gentleman whose number I mistakenly printed.

Due to slow ticket sales for the Gardeners Barn Dance, this event has been postponed until November. See page 13 for details.

### This month also brings:



**Regulars:** St Mary Magdelene and South Green Service dates; the Community Bus dates

**Reports from:** WI; Not So Young Club; Parish Council Minutes (September); Stockbury Cottage Gardeners, Cricket, Mid-Kent Downs bulletin

**Features:** Poets Corner; sorry, no Puzzle Corner this month; the Community Bus excursion September dates; Police tips on how to help protect your oil

**Letters page:** inc Police report

**Notices:** Halloween Hog Roast and Fireworks; Charity Lunch (Nov), Carols on the Green, carols request; 1st Aid class; advance notices for All at Sea (Dec) & New Years Eve party

Sue Gardner

## Stockbury Village Green

Sponsored by:-

Tomsett Kent

John Goldfinch

Keith and Ann Rich

Lyle and Wendy Cathcart

## St Mary Magdalene Church Stockbury

The services for October are as follows:-

- 2 October - 3.00 pm Sung Communion
- 9 October - 3.00 pm Evensong
- 16 October - 3.00 pm Sung Communion
- 23 October - 3.00 pm Evensong
- 30 October - 10.30 am 6 parish service @ Iwade.

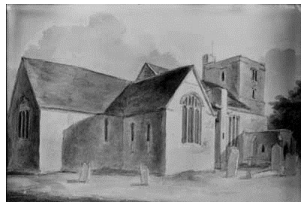
\*Note change of times for the winter.

The Harvest Fair in aid of the church Renovation Fund will be held on Saturday 15 October from 11 am to 1.00 pm in the village hall. Although the PCC has successfully obtained a generous grant from English Heritage, there is still a considerable sum that needs to be raised to save the fabric of the church, particularly the tower. Please come along and support this event.

There are a range of services held within the six parish cluster to which Stockbury belongs. Details can be found on the parishes' website – [www.thesix.org.uk](http://www.thesix.org.uk). or contact The Revd Liz Cox .

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact The Revd Elizabeth Cox - tel. 01795 - 844241

Penny Stevens  
PCC secretary



home-grown produce and to point out what's good about this county. Her passion for this was evident.

Next month's meeting is not yet finalised. The planned "Just Desserts" demo has to be postponed so we might have a craft evening instead. I'll try and put up posters when it's been decided.

All the best from Bridget.

### REPORT ON MY VISIT TO DENMAN COLLEGE, ABINGDON, OXFORD.

Winning the Stockbury Denman Bursary was an opportunity for me to have a break away. I was very fortunate to get the last place on a course and Mary, who was being Denman Hostess at the same time, kindly provided me with a lift to and from the College.

The Course title was "Cathedrals of England" and the Tutor was Richard Halsey.

It was such a fascinating subject and he was a brilliant Tutor. He made the whole course very interesting. He was passionate about his subject. We watched videos, discussed how the Cathedrals were built, their architecture and the historical facts.

We went to Salisbury Cathedral for a days visit, which was fascinating. It made me realise what a fantastic Church we have at Stockbury and how it has been altered from Medieval times up to today.

Each morning I walked round the delightful grounds, which were looking exceptionally well cared for. The House has been refurbished luxuriously. There is also a new shop. I was sleeping in the very attractive en-suite Norfolk Federation "Poppy Room". The food was wonderful. I met lots of members from all over the Country and we all had something in common, the W.I. We exchanged stories, shared course work and laughed a lot. I came home refreshed and happy and looking forward to my next visit to Denman. It was a marvellous experience.

Brenda Mace—Stockbury WI

### Services at South Green Church

During October services are scheduled at 10 am each Sunday.

Harvest Festival will be celebrated on the first Sunday of the month (2nd October)

Freddie Davey

## theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

It wasn't good to learn about the death of dear Dot Spratt last month. She began her connection with Stockbury W.I. at the age of 14 but later left to become a founder member of Not So Young Club.

She did return to us from time to

time not long ago after Les, her husband died. We will miss her at our village events; a great lady.

Despite my worries as expressed in my attempt last month in the verse about sunflowers, our girls seemed quite hopeful at September's meeting that we will have enough sunflowers to measure and find a widest bloom to enter the Northdowns District WI competition in October.

At our last meeting Joyce gave a long awaited summary of her first visit to National AGM that took place in Liverpool. The ladies held a craft meeting at Wendy's, starting work on the items for the stall later on but first there's the harvest fair to bake for. It was encouraging to see at September's meeting, a couple of potential members from Stockbury, Irene Milton and Denise Summer. Julia, the Vice President welcomed them. It will be great if they find it's their "cup of tea" and join the ranks. However, we disappointed them on two counts: we didn't sing Jerusalem and there is no chance of us doing one of "those" calendars! Our speaker, Amanda Cottrell, another WI member, was brilliant, so friendly and comfy with us. Her talk called "From High Sheriff to Tourism Chief" was extremely interesting. Her latest project is to promote Kent and its growing industry for

### Friends of Kent Churches Cycle Ride

Thanks largely to the generosity of the people of Stockbury a total of just over £860 will be passed to the Trust when the remaining sponsor money has been collected. (20 churches were visited on the day)

Jim Davey

### Stockbury Not So Young Club

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Dot Spratt, who was a founder member of the club 46 years ago. Looking back in the records Dot has only missed approx 2 meetings a year until her health began to fail in June of this year. Her help and cheery laugh (not to mention her coffee sponges) will be sadly missed. Our thoughts are with the family.

On the 6th September Esmond Wyatt from the Kent Air Ambulance Trust gave a very interesting talk on this valuable service. I would like to thank all those people who came along on a very wet and windy evening to support us. I am pleased to say that we were able to pass a donation of £180 to the trust. The evening ended with tea & refreshments.

Shirley Moss

## STOCKBURY PARISH

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**An advertising opportunity not to be missed—if you are a local business why not use our website to have a free world-wide presence**

**Contact Chris Porter on 01795 843715, likewise, to report any anomalies or errors.**

**\*\* Please note this site is still under development \*\***

### **Community Bus Weekly Schedule**

**Mondays – Sittingbourne**

**Tuesdays – Maidstone incl. Lockmeadow Market**

**Thursdays – Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre (Savacentre)**

**Pick ups from 9.30 a.m. close to where you live.**

**Call 07551-454702 to book your seat**

### **BREDHURST WOODLAND ACTION GROUP (BWAG)**

Fungi Foray

Sunday 30th October—10.30 till 1.30 pm

Meet at Hurstwood Road, Bredhurst

Join BWAG for a walk around Bredhurst Hurst, led by fungi expert Tricia Moxey and learn about the types of fungi found in the woodland

**Cost is £3 and places are limited to 25 so booking is essential. Please contact Vanessa Jones on 07813**

**785940 / [bwag@vanessajones.plus.com](mailto:bwag@vanessajones.plus.com) to reserve your place**

### **STOCKBURY COTTAGE GARDENERS**



Our September meeting was really good. Our speaker, Mrs S Hollings gave us quite a good insight into medieval life and what food both the lord and the peasant would have eaten. We tasted the food she was talking about, which to our surprise was really quite nice and not what we expected at all.

Unfortunately, we have had to move the Barn Dance from the 24<sup>th</sup> September to the 5<sup>th</sup> November as we did not get the support that we needed, so we really hope this evening will be a better night for all. If you would like tickets please give me a call on 01795 479440.

Our next meeting is our AGM and Autumn Show and this is for members only. If you are a member could you please remember to bring any cups or trophies back as we need to get them engraved for the presentation evening. Thank you.

We hope to see you all at the Church Harvest Fair on the 15<sup>th</sup> October where we will be having our usual stall.

Don't forget that we are having a New Years Eve Party in the Hall and every one is welcome. Tickets cost £15 per person so if you would like a really enjoyable evening lots of fun and laughter why not come along and join us if you require tickets please give me a call on 01795 479440.

Judith Sanford

#### **Top10 jobs for October**

1. Clear up fallen autumn leaves regularly
2. Cut back perennials that have died down
3. Divide herbaceous perennials and rhubarb crowns
4. Move tender plants, including aquatic ones, into the

greenhouse

5. Plant out spring cabbages
6. Harvest apples, pears, grapes and nuts
7. Prune climbing roses
8. Order seeds for next year
9. Last chance to mow lawns and trim hedges in mild areas
10. Renovate old lawns or create new grass areas by laying turf

**To contact the editor: Email:**

**[stockburyobserver@googlemail.com](mailto:stockburyobserver@googlemail.com)**

**All stories, notices, letters, recipes, articles and pictures welcome.**

**All contributions must have a genuine name and contact details otherwise the article will not be considered for publication.**

**Please try to write your article as concisely as possible.**

**The Editor may have to change your layout etc in order to fit the space onto the pages.**

**Deadline third Friday of the month, sooner if possible please.**

**All emails will be acknowledged.**

***Views expressed by contributors are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Editor or Parish Council. However, the Editor reserves the right to publish, shorten articles/letters or reduce the size of notices.***





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the following people who helped me prepare the food for the wake of Dot Spratt. Betty and Sue F for making the cakes, Irene for cooking the sausage rolls, Enid and mum for helping to make the sandwiches, Tina for serving endless cups of tea or coffee and Reg and John for putting out the tables and chairs.

I hope everybody who attended enjoyed our fayre. We left what was over for the NSYC to enjoy in the evening. We know Dot would have approved of our gesture on her family's behalf.

Once again, thank you to everyone who helped. I really appreciated it.

Pauline

### Baby and Toddler Swimming lesson offer for Stockbury Observer Readers

Angela from Iwade has been in touch with the Stockbury Observer as she has recently started offering baby and pre-school swimming lessons in Sittingbourne and Faversham, and would like to offer readers a 10% discount off their first term if they enrol before the end of September.

Angela says 'I chose to start offering the Puddle Ducks baby and pre-school swimming programme as I truly believe that water should be a fun and safe place for children to be. The health benefits and indeed the safety benefits of teaching children to swim at an early age are vast and I feel honoured that I have the chance to offer this to the residents of Sittingbourne and the surrounding areas.

Teaching small babies is very much at the core of the Puddle Ducks programme, since the benefits of baby swimming are immense. Babies can be taken swimming from birth and love the freedom, massage and gentle exercise that the water offers.

Only in the water can a baby move completely freely and baby swimming classes provide a complete physical workout: strengthening your baby's heart, lungs and respiratory system. This gives "swimming babies" the opportunity to develop crucial higher brain functions, core muscle development and co-ordination far earlier than they would otherwise be able to. Regular swimming often improves eating and sleeping patterns – great news for parents!

But most importantly of all, baby swimming should instil a love of water for the rest of your child's life.

Puddle Ducks recognise that swimming is a skill for life and this is something that I feel really passionately about. In the UK, at least 50 children drown each year and drowning is the third most common cause of death in children under 16. Yet still, 200,000 children leave primary school each year without basic skills needed to survive in the water!

Toddlers and pre-schoolers who have swum since birth need a more progressive class than children of a similar age who have not been in the water regularly. The older a child is when they first enter a swimming pool, the bigger the ordeal it can become for them. Puddle Ducks has a carefully designed programme which will enable any child to discover the joys of playing and swimming in the water in a fun, but safe, environment.'

If you would like to find out more from Angela, please give



her a call on 01622 236111 or an email on [eastkent@puddleducks.com](mailto:eastkent@puddleducks.com) and don't forget to mention the Observer to get your discount! A Puddle Ducks franchise owned and operated under license to SwimStarz Ltd Registered company 7491733

Puddle Ducks is a registered trademark

### Kent Police

#### Public Engagement meeting:

**Date and time: Friday 21 October 10.00 AM - 11.00 AM**

**Venue: Stockbury Village Hall**

If anyone within the community have organisations or group meetings where residents attend regularly, then please get in contact with me, as this is a great way of me being able to give out regular advice with regard to crime in the area, security information, possible freebies, and just an opportunity to talk to me.

PCSO Joanna Watts

## Harvest Fair In aid of Stockbury Church Renovation Fund

**SAT 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER  
11am- 1pm**



### Stockbury Village Hall

**Home made Cakes and Preserves  
Plants and Produce, Flowers, Books  
Bottle stall, mini bowls, Raffle**

***NEW This year:  
Antiques Corner  
with Billy Buck  
(As seen on Antiques Roadshow)  
Bring your antiques for valuation***

**Refreshments :  
Hot Dogs, Tea/Coffee Cake/biscuits  
FREE ENTRY**

**Steppes Hill Road, Stockbury Valley**

In the September issue of the Observer (Letters to the Editor), reference was made to the minutes of the 20 July 2011 meeting. The item concerned recorded the remarks of a parishioner during the allotted time for the public to speak. It was not the opinion of the parish council.

For clarification, the following should be noted.

1. The parish council takes the situation at Steppes Hill Road, Aerodrome Approach and Aerodrome Industrial Estate very seriously. Members have discussed ways forward, and the chairman has been working closely with Maidstone Borough Council and the Police to find a solution which is both practical and enforceable.
2. The lack of positive action being taken by the authorities to deal with the continuing anti-social activities within the parish, especially at Steppes Hill Road, Aerodrome Approach and Aerodrome Industrial Estate is cause for extreme concern. Well before the closure of Longreach layby, anti-social behaviour was occurring at these locations.
3. In recent years, closure of Steppes Hill Road was provisionally agreed with Kent Highways as a measure to stop anti-social behaviour, but this was vetoed by the then KCC Cabinet Member for Highways, Cllr. Keith Ferrin. Since that decision, continual efforts have been made to have this unacceptable situation dealt with.
4. At a site meeting held in March 2011, representatives from the Police, KCC, MBC and the parish council fully discussed possible actions, including record photographs, and a report was promised. This has not been received. The MBC officer at the meeting has left his post and a new officer assigned to the case.
5. The parish council has written to the owners of The Three Squirrels public house (now closed) but has had no response.
6. The parish council wishes to see Steppes Hill Road closed in order to stop these unacceptable anti-social activities. Alternatively, for security measures to be taken to stop all parking and access to the adjacent private woodland.

EILEEN BUXTON, Clerk to the Parish Council

## THE COMMUNITY BUS

As the summer draws to a close and our final Summer Day Trip has been run, I hope all of you who ventured out with us to the various destinations, enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to the 2012 trips already! At the moment next summer seems a long way off, but if you have any ideas as to where you would like to go, just let me know and I'll see what we can do. Not a lot is impossible and it's never too early to tell me your ideas!

A **BIG** thank you to this year's Summer Trip drivers too, who did a sterling job taking good care of us.

Unfortunately before next summer arrives, we have to get through the cold winter months and Christmas. I'm sure I am not the only person who detests trawling car parks looking for a space and then having to fight my way through hoards of Christmas shoppers with elbows at the ready, constantly biting my tongue when I've been tripped up or run into with a pushchair. We at the Community Bus, however, have a plan. To make life a little less stressful for all you Christmas shoppers, we shall be running trips to **Ashford Designer Outlet** and **Bluewater** through November and December:

**SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER – ASHFORD DESIGNER OUTLET, Leaves Stockbury 8.30am**

**WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER – BLUEWATER, Leaves Stockbury 9.30am**

**WEDNESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER – BLUEWATER, Leaves Stockbury 5.00pm**

**SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER – BLUEWATER, Leaves Stockbury 8.30am**

The fare to both Ashford and Bluewater, will be £4.00 return unless you have a valid National Bus Pass and we will collect and deliver you back to your normal pick up points. It is never too early to Christmas shop, it will be here before you know it, so don't delay, book today! Call **07551-454702** or email me at [communitybus-stockbury@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:communitybus-stockbury@hotmail.co.uk) to book your seat. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an older family member or responsible adult.

Fiona

## KENT WASTE

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Kent  
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01622 630705

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# HALLOWEEN HOG ROAST BONFIRE PARTY

For the first time, Stockbury will be holding a Halloween Bonfire Party in the Cherry Orchard on the 29<sup>th</sup> October; which is kindly being funded by local businesses and public donations.

## Entry to the Bonfire Party is FREE!

The orchard gates will open at 6.30pm where there will be parking available for those of you are not within easy walking distance of the Cherry Orchard. The bonfire will be lit at 7.15pm, with the raffle to start the fireworks being drawn at 7.45pm. The lucky winner will then light the first firework to begin the display at 8.00pm.

At the Hog Roast spit you will be able to buy a Hog Roast Roll for £2.50 each as well as tea, coffee and soft drinks to sustain yourselves during the evening.

Raffle tickets to start the fireworks are £1.00 for a strip of 5 tickets or 30p each and are available to buy before the 29<sup>th</sup> from Tomsett Kent MOT & Repair Centre and MB Farm Shop as well as on the night. We will also have 2 consolation prizes. All proceeds from the raffle will go towards the cost of the fireworks, so the more raffle tickets you buy, the greater the display! Donations toward the firework fund are extremely welcome and you will find donation boxes located throughout Stockbury. Thank you in advance for your kind contribution!

We look forward to seeing you on 29<sup>th</sup> October for an enjoyable evening and as we will be celebrating All Hallows Eve as well as Guy Fawkes Night, why not come along in a warm Halloween costume. It will be October after all!!



# Stockbury Cottage Gardeners Association

## New Years Eve Party starts at 8pm

### In Stockbury Village Hall

Fancy Dress Costume optional  
(Prize for the best Costume)

There will be a Disco/Party Games etc

Tickets Cost £15 per person

For tickets contact Judith on 01795 479440

(Please bring own food and drink)





## STOCKBURY CRICKET CLUB IN ASSOCIATION WITH HARTLIP CC

After a long and challenging season and Stockbury's first for a long time in the KVCL league, this improving side has come into form at the seasons end, winning their first league game against New Ifield and a very competitive friendly against the in-form Pegasus CC. The rain affected 30 over league game saw New Ifield win the toss and bat first, yet Stockbury's opening bowlers Tom Bulbrook and Nick Emery did a good job of restricting New Ifield, with Nick taking 2-31, before Stockbury veteran Nigel Sharp (3-19) produced a match winning spell of bowling. New Ifield set a competitive target of 130 to win from 30 overs, but Stockbury started the chase comfortably with contributions from Dan Bulbrook (17), Tom Bulbrook (21) and a strong half century from Oscar Ratcliffe. Wickets fell late on, but Dan Oates (16\*) kept a cool head to get Stockbury over the line.

Stockbury hosted what turned out to be an extremely entertaining and competitive friendly with an inform Pegasus CC. Having lost the toss, Pegasus were put into bat and were restricted by opening bowlers Tom Bulbrook and Nick Emery on a difficult batting surface. Pegasus went onto to slowly recover, before Stockbury's first change bowlers Joe Martin (3-29) and Simon Clare (3-15) strangled the scoring, and took 3 wickets a piece, as good bowling and fantastic team fielding produced a collapse of 50-1 to 85 all out, with Tom Bulbrook coming back strong and taking two wickets himself.. Therefore Stockbury were set a total of 86 to win, and that chase began straight away, with an hour still before tea.

Stockbury openers Daniel Bulbrook and Simon Clare began steadily and cautiously, getting off to a good start on a difficult pitch, before Simon mistimed a drive and was caught, leaving Stockbury 30-1. This soon became 30-2 as Tom Bulbrook was the victim of an almost unplayable delivery and 31-3 when Nick Emery was bowled first ball. Jon Brignall came to the crease and departed not long after, and Stockbury went into tea at 50-4, with Dan Bulbrook and Oates at the crease.

When both teams emerged after tea, a great contest ensued. Dan Oates found a fielder when attempting to go over the top and Sam Martin was bowled by the same Pegasus spinner soon after, while opener Dan Bulbrook resisted and kept the scoreboard ticking along as these Stockbury wickets continued to fall. Dan and Joe Martin added valuable runs to the total, before Dan eventually fell having top scored with 39, departing with the score at 77-7, just 9 runs away from victory. Young Mark Collins was the 8th wicket and Joe the 9th, as Stockbury were reduced to 81-9. Connor Young then had the privilege of hitting the valuable winning runs, striking a boundary to the level the scores, and running a single to take the game, in a pulsating finish.

Daniel Bulbrook

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**The Stockbury Parish Council Minutes for August 2011 were approved at the August meeting and therefore there is no requirement to print them again in this issue. Please refer to the August 2011 edition of the Stockbury Observer for these minutes or view them online: [www.stockbury.org.uk/minutes](http://www.stockbury.org.uk/minutes)**

NOT YET APPROVED

## **STOCKBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, 21 September 2011 in the Memorial Hall, Stockbury at 7.30 pm.

### **1. Present**

Cllrs. L. Cathcart (chairman), J. Cockett, J. Collins, D. Tomsett, P. Woods. In attendance: D.S. Williams, treasurer, Cllr. J. Whittle (KCC), PCSO J. Watts, E.M. Buxton, clerk.

### **2. Apologies**

Cllrs. C. Porter, F. Mace, D. Parvin (MBC).

### **3. Minutes**

Copies of minutes of a meeting held on 17 August 2011 had been issued to councillors and, there being no comments, the minutes were approved and signed (proposed P. Woods, seconded D. Tomsett).

### **Matters arising**

School bus: more pupils were now using the bus, beyond the capacity of Stockbury Community Bus. Mid Kent Downs: the village hall committee could not offer parking space except for a group booking.

### **4. Notice of reports from external meetings**

Core Strategy 7 September: Concurrent Functions: A249 Action Group 16 September.

### **5. Declaration of interests**

There were none

### **6. Consultation on this meeting agenda**

None

### **7. Police Report and matters**

PCSO Joanna Watts reported - 15 August to date:

Theft: Construction pipeline, Church Hill - compactor (rammer) (Clancy Docwra); Magpie Hall Farm, Hazel Street - 700 litres heating oil; Oast House, South Street Road - Dog stolen, then recovered. An arrest was made.

Burglary: Garage, Rumstead Lane - generator, welder, disc cutter, chainsaw.

Steppes Hill Road. If the road were not closed, bunds could be built to stop illegal parking. The junction with A249 was a safety issue. The chairman and Cllr. Tomsett had inspected the area, including the nature reserve, and found little rubbish. It transpired that MBC had cleared the rubbish a few days before, and the chairman was contacting Environmental Services for more information.

### **8. Highway matters**

Cllr. Whittle reported: A249 Action Group meeting. There was need for a roundabout at the Showground which she was taking forward. A second roundabout was necessary at Stockbury.

The chairman reported a summary of accidents showed a reduction in numbers although an increase at the Stockbury end. 50 mph limit.

### **9. Core Strategy**

The chairman explained briefly how the AONB could be affected. The Strategy was inconsistent but it was necessary to study it and report back. A sub committee was formed, Cllrs. Woods (chairman), Tomsett and Collins.

### **10. Planning**

Application 11/1331 Court Farm, Yelsted Lane: 1st floor extension and other external changes. **Recommended**

**Approval.** It is noted that neither MBC nor adjoining neighbours had been consulted prior to applying. The parish council would be interested to know if any neighbours have complained.

11/1086 Farriers, Pett Road (reported in minutes 17 August 2011). It had been established that a condition remained that the annex building cannot be used as a separate dwelling.

### **11. Finance**

a) Concurrent Functions: the new return form was accepted (proposed J. Collins, seconded P. Woods).

b) Stockbury PC No.2 Account: Although the parish council had sent written authority for statements to be sent to Cllr. Tomsett, the bank was still confusing the issue and sending statements to Cllr. Cockett. The clerk would write a strong letter requesting immediate action.

c) Cheque numbers 001331 to 001334 and 001336 and 001337 were signed (proposed D. Tomsett, seconded J. Collins). Cheque 001330 Audit Commission was held over for further information. Cheque 001335 was spoiled and destroyed.

### **12. External Reports**

a) Cllr. Whittle (KCC) reported: Her KCC member funding was still available; in this respect, Cllr. Tomsett was awaiting figures for traffic calming in the village.

b) Concurrent Functions: There continues to be confusion as to whether there will or will not be reductions in 2012. Further information awaited.

### **13. Correspondence**

Parish Independent Remuneration Panel, Members' allowances: noted but does not apply to Stockbury. Kent Downs AONB Managing Land for Horses to councillors for information. Kent Wildlife Trust: response regarding the chalk spread on the reserve at Queendown Warren. Balfour Beatty, M2 roundabout, stating that traffic lights would remain.

### **14. Any other business**

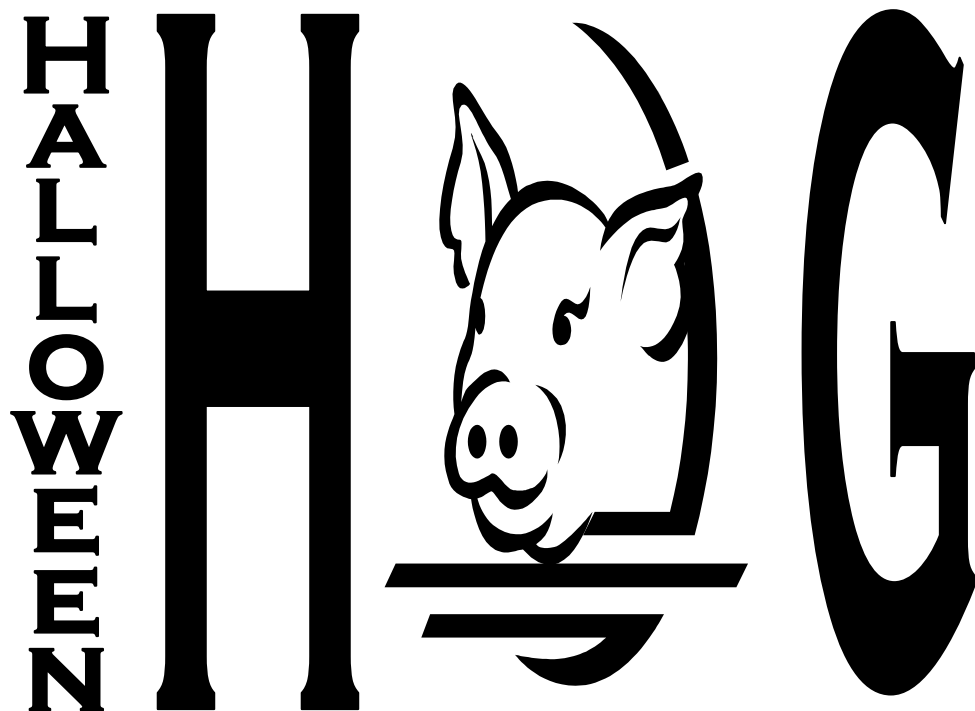
ACRK Kent Village of the Year 2011: Cllrs. Tomsett and Cathcart would attend the presentation meeting to be held in Dunkirk Village Hall on 13 October 2011. Millennium sign cleaning; Sea View Farm; Stockbury Community Bus - free bus passes, refunds where fare exceeds £4.

### **15. Closure**

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 pm.

EM Buxton





**ROAST  
BONFIRE PARTY  
INCLUDING FIREWORKS  
FREE ENTRY**

**\*\*HOG ROAST £2.50 PER ROLL \*\***

**RAFFLE TO START FIREWORKS**

**2 CONSOLATION PRIZES**

**STOCKBURY ORCHARD**

**~ SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER ~**

**GATE OPENS AT 6.30 PM**

**DONATIONS FOR FIREWORKS FUNDS IN VARIOUS  
STOCKBURY LOCATIONS**

## Community Bus



### Christmas Shopping Trips ASHFORD DESIGNER OOTLET

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November - Leaves Stockbury 8.30am

#### BLOEWATER

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November - Leaves Stockbury 9.30am

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November - Leaves Stockbury 5.00pm

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Leaves Stockbury 8.30am

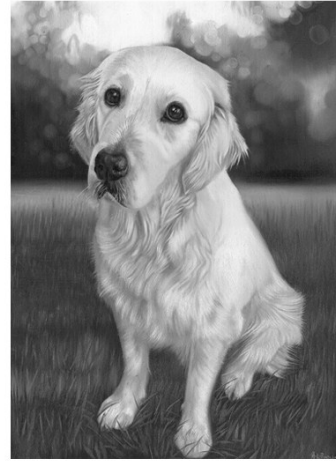
Call: 07551-454702

Email: [communitybus-stockbury@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:communitybus-stockbury@hotmail.co.uk)

## Pet Portraits

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*Choose from Oil paints, Pencils or  
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*Call Amanda on 01622 720952 or  
07926 919631*

[www.theportraitworkshop.com](http://www.theportraitworkshop.com)



### “CAROLS ON THE GREEN”

WITH THE

**SALVATION ARMY**

**FRIDAY 9<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2011**

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO REQUEST A CHRISTMAS CAROL ?**

IF SO, PLEASE FILL IN THE FORM BELOW AND LEAVE AT THE MB FARM SHOP  
WITH ANGELA BROWN (post office hours) BY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER

CUT HERE >> .....

Name.....

Address.....

Choice of Carol.....

We will do our best to include all requests

STOCKBURY WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON THE EVENING

# STOCKBURY COTTAGE GARDNERS ASSOCIATION

## Invites you to Barn Dance with them



**5<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

(postponed from 24<sup>th</sup> Sept)

At Stockbury Village Hall at 8pm

Tickets cost £6.50

Includes: a ploughman's supper    Please bring your own drink

The caller is Mrs Margaret Browning

For tickets contact Judith on 01795 479440

### FIRST AID



We may never be doctors, but we still might be able to save a life, buy time before the emergency services arrive. You could be anywhere. You could help a stranger. You could save a member of your family.

**BUT**

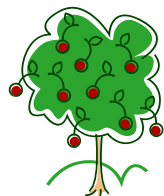
**DO YOU HAVE THE CORRECT KNOWLEDGE TO DO THAT ?**



If you are interested in a morning of instruction on the basics of first aid, (including help for infants & children) please let me know as soon as possible so that I might arrange a session in the Village Hall, provisionally on the Saturday morning of November 19th. The cost of the course is £20 + VAT per person, together with a share of the hire of the hall.

**Ring Ann Rich on 07718 07 08 07**

### Church Lane Orchard



The new trees that were planted in Church Lane Orchard a few years ago have, for the most part, done well and produced blossom and some fruit this year. There are about 15 trees (of the 100 originally planted) which have not survived and Mike Phillips of Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership has agreed to supply replacements. There will be a working party to replant the trees on

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December starting at 10.00am**

This should not last more than a couple of hours, so please come along to help

**Please Support  
Stockbury  
and South Green Churches  
Annual Charity Lunch  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November  
12 – 2pm  
in Stockbury Village Hall  
this year in aid of  
**Prison Outreach - Uganda****

**Adults £6.00 Young persons £3.00  
(inclusive of tea/coffee and dessert)**

**Tickets available from**

**Brenda Mace 01622 884746  
Freddie Davey 01795 842978**

**Prison Outreach – Uganda**

In Uganda there is a group of unpaid volunteers who have NGO status and visit prisons at their own expense.

In order to carry out this work support and finance are required. Bibles in local languages are needed and basic goods such as sugar and soap are also needed by prisoners and staff in rural prisons.

The Rev. Ken George, a prison chaplain on the Isle of Sheppey, is a Patron of the group and travels there every two years to support their ministry. Whilst there he has contact with a school which takes in orphans. He takes school stationery and equipment and when possible he takes clothes to give away.

Also he is in contact with the Single Parent Association of Uganda. Many of these families have only one parent as a result of the Aids epidemic.

We look forward to seeing you in support of this voluntary work.

**Fuel theft – Kent Police General Advice**

Police are urging those who store fuel to be extra vigilant. This includes businesses, schools and farms.

The rise in fuel prices may result in an increase of thefts of fuel, not only from fuel pumps and fuel tanks but from storage areas too.

Businesses are advised to avoid parking up lorries with **full** fuel tanks overnight. An alternative could be to rethink where lorries are parked and the accessibility of the tanks.

Consider anti-siphon devices and regularly review security around your premises. Fuel storage containers should be kept locked and alarmed where possible.

Residents are advised to keep vehicles in a garage overnight. Alternatively, make sure vehicles are parked in a well-lit area with the fuel tank facing away from the street. Consider locking fuel caps and using anti-siphon devices.

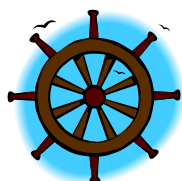
For crime prevention advice, call the non-emergency number and ask to be put through to your local **crime reduction officer**. 01622 690690

Examples of Companies that can offer assistance:

**Oil Storage Tank Security**

“Expensive fuel costs, difficult times, don’t be a victim of rising fuel theft”. We have the answer. Police, Community Safety, housing association, councils. Security direct have developed the “Parallel fuel line lock”.

- 3mm Steel case fits over the gate valve.
- 25mm diameter lock bolt that cannot be bolt cropped, locks in place.
- Finished in bright red powder coating.
- Highly visible and easy to fit.
- £89 including VAT and Delivery.
- Contact – Free phone - 0808 680680  
[www.securitydirect.uk.com](http://www.securitydirect.uk.com)



**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

**ALL AT SEA**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY & DISCO**

**STOCKBURY VILLAGE HALL**

**3RD DECEMBER**

**TICKET INCLUDES 3-COURSE MEAL**

**FURTHER DETAILS IN NEXT MONTH’S OBSERVER**





## Mid Kent Downs e-Bulletin—September 2011

A quarterly information service published by the Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership, specifically aimed at letting you know the latest news, grant information and events. (précised by the Editor)

We have a new website—[www.midkentdowns.org.uk](http://www.midkentdowns.org.uk)

### Grants Update

The latest news concerning grants which local groups can apply for to fund their projects. If you would like to discuss funding for a project please contact the Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership team on 01303 815170 or [midkentdowns@kentdowns.org.uk](mailto:midkentdowns@kentdowns.org.uk)

### Kent Free Trees Scheme

More than 20,000 trees are available to community groups, schools, parish councils and charities across Kent to 'green' their spaces. Groups are offered a free-of-charge pack of 25 trees. There are five different types of pack, including a Hedgerow mix, Woodland mix, Foragers mix, Wildlife mix and Schools mix. All of these contain native species suited to Kent.

The scheme is open to groups and organisations in all the districts and boroughs of Kent, and the London Borough of Bexley. The trees are suitable for village greens, churchyards, schools and community centres. The final deadline for bids is the 31 October 2011. For more information contact us on 01303 815170 or visit the Free Trees Scheme [http://nwkcp.org/index.php?pageid=9&pagetitle=Kent%20Free%20Tree%20Scheme&parent\\_id=38](http://nwkcp.org/index.php?pageid=9&pagetitle=Kent%20Free%20Tree%20Scheme&parent_id=38)

### Colyer-Fergusson East Kent Parish Plans Grant

This grants programme is targeted at rural communities undertaking a parish plan for the first time. Parish Plan grants are only available for charities and other properly constituted organisations (including Parish Councils) based and working within the districts of Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway, Swale and Thanet.

The maximum size of grant is £5,000 or 50% of the total cost of your project, whichever is the lower. For a list of parishes in your area that have completed a plan email: [Kathy.Bugden@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:Kathy.Bugden@ruralkent.org.uk) 50% Matched funding is required. Volunteer time will not be counted as eligible for match funding.

Applications may be submitted at any time and should be sent by email to [info@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:info@ruralkent.org.uk). For further information visit: [www.ruralkent.org.uk](http://www.ruralkent.org.uk)

### Events

All of our events can be found online on the Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership website (see top of page)

### Boxley Warren

Walks, practical tasks and a public consultation. See the website for more details.

### Bredhurst Woodland Action Group.

Volunteer Task Days every 3rd Sunday of the month. Fungi Foray Sunday, 30th October (10.30am – 1.30pm)

For more information go to their website.

### Gorham & Admiral Community Woodlands

Walks and practical tasks including a fungi foray and small mammal surveys. See the website for more details.

### Heaths Countryside Corridor

Practical tasks run by Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership

For more information go to their website.

### Park Farm Community Cherry Orchard, Lynsted

Halowe'en Party – Bonfire, children's games etc. Saturday, October 29th (4.00pm – 6.00pm)

For more information go to their website.

## Contact Us

Mid Kent Downs Countryside Partnership  
West Barn, Penstock Hall Farm  
East Brabourne, Ashford, TN25 5LL

Tel: 01303 815170

Fax: 01303 815179

E-Mail: [midkentdowns@kentdowns.org.uk](mailto:midkentdowns@kentdowns.org.uk)

Web: [www.midkentdowns.org.uk](http://www.midkentdowns.org.uk)

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/MidKentDownsCP>



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## USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

### **Cricket Club**

Mike Lee 01795 842532

### **Church Matters**

St Mary Magdelene – Please contact

Revd Liz Cox 01795 844241

South Green Methodist –

Church Steward - Freddie Davey  
01795 842978

### **Community Bus**

Booking line 07551 454702

### **Dancing Club**

Sue Carey 01634 387478

### **Dog Club**

Mick Bingham 01795 842480  
07775 856273

**Electricity Problems 0800 7838866**

### **Environment Agency**

Incident hotline 0800 807060

### **Fly Tipping & Waste Collection**

**Including bulky items 01622 602162**

### **Gardeners**

Judith Sanford 01795 479440

### **Golf Society**

Jeff Hall 01795 843296

### **Hall Bookings**

Brenda Cockett 01622 737782

### **Maidstone BC Councillor**

Daphne Parvin 01622 673209  
07967 224839

### **MB Farms stores and Post Office**

01795 842401

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Local co-ordinator—Tony Kerr  
01795 844077

### **Not So Young Club**

Shirley Moss 01795 842691

### **Newspaper correspondents for KM**

Claire Adams 01795 841140

[foxgloveadams@aol.com](mailto:foxgloveadams@aol.com)

### **for East Kent Gazette**

John Cockett 01622 737782

**Observer Editor—** Sue Gardner

[Stockburyobserver@googlemail.com](mailto:Stockburyobserver@googlemail.com)

### **Parish Council Clerk**

Eileen Buxton 01795 842687

[embstockbury@btinternet.com](mailto:embstockbury@btinternet.com)

### **Pétanque Club**

Mick Bingham 01795 842480

### **Photographic Club**

Tim Arnold 01795 843049  
[timharnold@btinternet.com](mailto:timharnold@btinternet.com)

### **Police – Emergency only 999**

**Non-emergency 01622 690690**

**& ALL General enquiries**

**Including contacting our rural PCs**

### **Rural Police Officer PC Lee Talon**

PCSO Joanna Watts 07772 225983  
01622 604390

or email [maidstonerural.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:maidstonerural.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk)

### **Crimestoppers (confidential)**

**0800 555111**

### **Public Footpaths – PROW Officer:**

John Pelham 01732 872829 ext 4

### **Roads, potholes etc (manned 24 hours)**

[Kent.highwayservices@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Kent.highwayservices@kent.gov.uk)  
08458 247800

**RSPCA 0300 1234999**

### **Short Mat Bowls**

Sue Finnis 01795 844524

### **South East Water emergency**

0845 6032603

### **South Green Rendezvous Club**

Ken Elgar 01795 424827

### **W. I.**

Brenda Mace 01622 884746

#### **M B Farms Opening Hours**

Monday to Saturday	8.00 am—5.00 pm
Sunday	8.00 am—3.00 pm

#### **Post Office hours**

Monday, Tuesday,	
Thursday, Friday	9.00 am—5.00 pm
Wednesday	9.00 am—4.00 pm
Saturday	9.00 am—12.30 pm