

# STOCKTON'S NEWS

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**keeping you informed ...**

**April 2023**

**Issue 155**

**Magazine Deadline:-** 15th of the month  
emails: *Magazine Items* - [stocktons.news@gmail.com](mailto:stocktons.news@gmail.com)  
*Adverts* - [stockton.ads@gmail.com](mailto:stockton.ads@gmail.com)  
**Web Page:-** [www.stocktonsnews.org.uk](http://www.stocktonsnews.org.uk)



**Andy Crump County Councillor visit to the  
New Stockton FC & CC Changing Room Facilities**

**Printed by:- Stockton's News**

# NAPTON ART GROUP



## EASTER ART EXHIBITION 2023

Easter  
Saturday and  
Sunday  
10 am. - 5 pm.  
Napton  
Village Hall,  
CV47 8LS

### Easter Art Exhibition.

Napton Art Group are holding their Easter Exhibition of members' work on 8th and 9th of April. There will be about 200 paintings in all mediums including oils, watercolour, acrylics and pastels and greetings cards of some of these will be available. Admission is £1 with free entry for children and there will be light refreshments in the pop-up cafe. Everybody who comes can vote for The Best in Show. The art group has a membership that now stands at over 60 and meets every Thursday afternoon at Napton Village Hall and has a programme featuring a wide range of demonstrations and weekend workshops.

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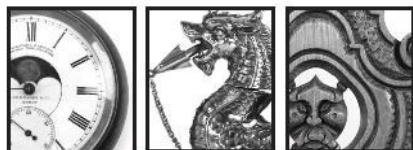


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### Magazine Policy

Deadline for articles **15th** of the month and can only be accepted if in the form of a typed/written copy to Stockton's News Editorial Team or email [stocktons.news@gmail.com](mailto:stocktons.news@gmail.com). The Editorial Team 1.) Reserve the right to withhold or shorten items as views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team. 2.) Contributors can request that their names be withheld but the team cannot accept anonymous items for publication. 3.) Reserve the right to edit each edition of the magazine to be put on the Web. 4.) No Liability will be accepted for loss or damage caused by error or omission from advertisements or content. 5.) Income is aimed at covering all costs generated by the production/circulation of Stockton's News. 6.) Any surplus funds will be distributed within the Parish of Stockton. Village groups are invited to apply for funds to the betterment of our community.

*Copy of Magazine Guide Lines reinstated from the 1980's Parish Mag*

8.) We will try to print anything that wont land us up in court 9.) We do not endorse ALL the views expressed. 10.) We don't judge between those in dispute. 11.) We want to provide news, views, opinions and reports. We do not want to be unfair, biased, censorious or condemnatory.

Airing a view is an opinion but a continual airing of that view and/or it's opposite becomes an argument.



## Village Calendar



### Regular Weekly Village Events

#### **Monday :~**

Senior Day Centre: Village Hall ~ 9.00am - 3.00pm

Knit & Natter: Church ~ 2 - 4pm

#### **Tuesday :~**

Create & Play: Church 9.30 - 11.00 am ~ **25th April** - Play & make puppets

Brewed Awakening: Nelson Club ~ 9.30am - 12Noon

Clubbercise: Village Hall ~ 7.00 - 8.00pm

#### **Wednesday :~**

Chess Club: Nelson Club ~ 5.30 - 7.30pm

Lazy Cat Yoga: Village Hall ~ 7.30 - 9.00pm

#### **Thursday :~**

#### **Friday :~**

Toddlersaurs: Village Hall ~ 9.30 - 11.30am

W.I. Craft Morning: Football Club ~ 10 - 12noon

#### **Saturday :~**

Bingo: Eyes down 8.00pm ~ Nelson Club (Top Room)

### Regular Monthly Village Events

#### **Monday**

Women's Institute: 1st Monday of Month ~ Nelson Club ~ 7.30pm ~ **3rd April**

Parish Council Meetings: 3rd Monday ~ Village Hall ~ 7.15pm ~ **17th April**

#### **Tuesday**

Folk Night: Last Tuesday of the month ~ Nelson Club ~ 7.30pm ~ **25th April**

#### **Wednesday**

Friends Lunch Club: 2nd Wednesday ~ The Crown ~ 12.30pm ~ **12th April**

Church Lunch: Every 3rd Wednesday ~ 12noon ~ **19th April**

#### **Thursday**

Afternoon Bingo ~ Alt. Thursdays ~ Nelson Club ~ 2.00pm ~ **13th & 27th**

#### **Friday**

Charity Fun Quiz Night: Every 3rd Friday ~ Nelson Club ~ 8.00pm ~ **21st April**

#### **Saturday**

Coffee Morning & Library: Every 1st Saturday ~ Village Hall ~ **1st April**

Stockton Pétanque Club melee: 2pm start ~ **1st April**

Whist Drive: Every 2nd Saturday ~ Village Hall ~ 7.30pm start ~ **8th April**

Stockton Cinema: Every last Saturday ~ Village Hall ~ 7.00pm ~ **29th April**



## DIARY DATES



- 8th & 9th** Napton Art Exhibition ~ Details page 2  
**12th** Long Itchington History Group ~ see Local Event Pages  
**15th** Southam Indoor Market ~ Grange Hall Southam ~ 10am - 12.30pm  
**17th** Southam Gardening Club ~ see Local Events Pages  
**30th** **Birdingbury Tractor & Classics Road Run** ~ Calling by the Nelson Club around 12.30pm

### Refuse & Recycling

**Food Waste** - *Weekly* - Every Friday **Grey Lid Bin** - *3 weekly* - **21st**  
**Blue Lid Bin & Green Bin** - *2 weekly* - **7th & 21st**

Missed Bins Tel: 01789 260616

**Stockton Recycling Centre:** To book a slot over the phone please ring  
01926 410410 - Customer Services at W.C.C .

### Mobile Library

21st ~ **Stockton Church 2.10 ~ 2.30pm**

For further information, ring Mobile Library enquiries on 01926 851031  
or visit the Mobile Library on-line at  
[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mobilelibraries](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mobilelibraries).

### Southam Pharmacy CV47 0HE

**Tel: 812287 email:** [southam.pharmacy@dudleyt](mailto:southam.pharmacy@dudleyt).

**Opening Hours:-** **Mon - Fri** 8.30am - 6.15pm  
**Sat** 9.am - 5.00pm  
**Sunday** - Closed



### Lions Furniture Sales

2nd Saturday of the month  
8.30am - 11.30am  
Behind Southam Co-op



**Wheelchair Short-term Loan:-**

**Stockton Church -**

## Contents

Church . . . . .	19
County Councillor . . . . .	13
Garden Jottings . . . . .	25
Local Events . . . . .	27
Parish Council . . . . .	12
Pétanque . . . . .	26
Stockton Weather Station . . . . .	23
Village Hall . . . . .	24
W.I. . . . .	18
Who's Who . . . . .	30



**VILLAGE MATTERS**  
**To have your news included please**  
**Contact by email - [stocktons.news@gmail.com](mailto:stocktons.news@gmail.com)**  
**or by hard copy to Editorial Team**



**Congratulations to** Grandparents Steve and Helen Kittendorf  
on the safe arrival of Deniz Noah on 16th March who weighed in at  
8lbs 9oz first son for Ryan and Gamze Kittendorf.



**We are to celebrate the crowning of King Charles III on  
the 6thMay 2023.**

**Is your organisation holding any special events for this  
Bank Holiday weekend.**

**Don't just rely on Social Media to spread the news let  
your village magazine help promote your events!**

## **Andy Crump, County Councillor visit to the New Stockton FC & CC Changing Room Facilities**

**Title: A trip down memory lane – Andy visits his old club Stockton FC to see brand-new facilities.**

On Wednesday, 1 March, Stockton FC & CC welcomed their local County Councillor, Andy Crump, to see their New Changing Room and Garage Facilities.

Andy, who previously had played football for the club, was amazed by the new facilities. Funding was provided by Sports England and HS2 through grants, with the design and planning being undertaken by Kier, a leading UK infrastructure services, construction and property group.

The club would also like to give special thanks to Luke Cole, Andy Stanley, Ian Benbow, Stockton Parish Council, and many others for their support and efforts in bringing about this fantastic achievement.

The new changing rooms were officially opened in December 2022, have had a hugely positive impact on all our teams, particularly the Netball section of the club. They offer all members a dedicated space to get changed and showered, with their privacy and dignity guaranteed.

The new changing rooms also offer wheelchair access, with disabled toilets and a baby changing room.

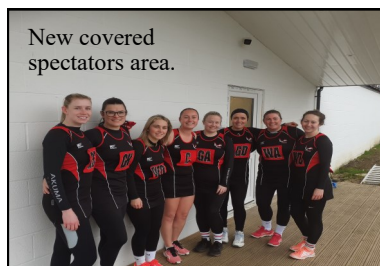


The club supports several women's and men's teams, including football, cricket, baseball and pétanque – a lawn game similar to bowls. The new facilities allow the club to put on multiple matches of the same or different sports that can be played

simultaneously.

We're pleased to report that we've had overwhelmingly positive feedback from visiting teams, with many wanting to use our facilities as their home ground. This resounding vote of support for the club, and the wider community is our legacy to the next generation.

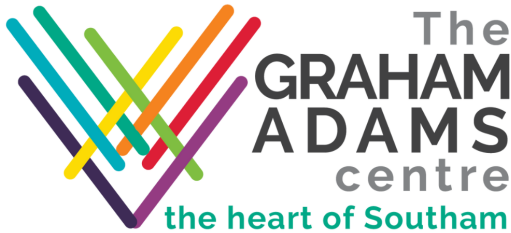
With the increase in the popularity and capacity of our club to hold multiple matches, our next project will be to convert the area at the rear of the clubhouse into additional car parking spaces. Once again, we're pleased to announce that Kier has offered to support this project, an offer we are glad to accept.



## STOCKTON BELLRINGING "Ring for the King"

Stockton & Napton bells will be rung for the Coronation with dates / times to be published in the May magazine.

The next Practice at Napton will be on **April 11<sup>th</sup>** and the ringers will be attending the Coventry Diocesan Guild of Bellringers A.G.M. on April 22<sup>nd</sup> when final arrangements for Coronation ringing will be discussed.



## Southam Youth Club

Aged  
11-14?

Tuesday  
7-8.30pm

**Come along to  
Southam Youth  
Club**

Southam Youth Club,  
Graham Adams Centre,  
St James Road,  
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## STOCKTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings held every 3rd Monday in Village Hall 7.15pm.

*Full copies of approved minutes available from Clerk to Parish Council*

*Mr. W.J. Robinson Tel: 01926 814094 or*

*website .www.stockton-warks-pc.gov.uk*

## STOCKTON PARISH COUNCIL - NOTES OF MARCH 2023 MEETING

These are informal notes only, for a formal record please refer to the authorised minutes on the parish council website.

**County Council and District Council Matters** - Stratford have increased their council tax by 3.13% for next year and have allocated an extra £50,000 for planning enforcement measures. Warwickshire have increased their council tax by 3.94% and have been given an extra £2.8M from the government for pothole and highway repairs. The Aldi planning application for the new store in Southam is still at the stage of signing off the S106 agreements connected to the development. The pay dispute in the Fire and Rescue Service has been resolved nationally with a pay deal agreed.

### **Planning Matters -**

**Top New Zealand Farm** (23/00663): new grain store, no objection from the parish council.

**Windmill Farm House, Rugby Road** (23/00366): erection of hay and machinery barn, stable block and menage, no representation by parish council.

**The Crown Inn, High Street** (22/03170); variation of condition due to change of materials, permission granted.

**Westfield House, Mount Pleasant** (22/03347): reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping and layout) pursuant to previous outline permission, permission granted.

### **Village Facilities -**

**Radar speed cameras:** the parish council will reply to the measures required by the County Council and request that less obstructions are placed in the way of the parish council's plans.

**Cemetery repairs:** it was agreed that the parish council would undertake minor repairs to headstones that have become loose on their bases.

**Parking on the village green:** the parish council will contact the Church and the School about users parking on the green.

**Hedge trimming** - the parish council agreed to find a contractor to cut back various hedges in the autumn.

### **Coronation Volunteering Day 8 May -**

The Village Hall will be holding a Coffee Morning that day and the parish council will look at ways of publicising volunteering opportunities with local

organisations.

**Next Meeting - 7.15 pm on Monday 17th April 2023 in the village hall.**

**Howard Collerson**

(Chairman)



**News From Your Warwickshire County Councillor  
for Southam, Stockton & Napton  
Mobile: 07771335273 - [cllrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk)  
Stratford District Councillor for Southam South  
[Andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk)**

### **Local Councillor update for April 23**

Most readers are aware that I've been your County Councillor for the last 6 years – I've tried to make a difference representing the ward and Stockton at Shire Hall. I've spent significant time, locally, dealing with school places, potholes, streetsignage, broadband issues and contractors, improvement to road markings as well as bus routes, buses not stopping, getting the tip re-opened etc. Dealing with the Police to help tackle ASB in the village has been another priority as well as speeding. Several organisations in the village have benefitted from my Councillor Grants pot and it was great to visit Stockton FC & CC the other week to see the recently built new facilities – Ted was there practising his darts but I thought I'd best not challenge him ha ha !

I will be standing in the Southam East, Central and Stockton Ward at the Stratford DC Elections in May and would hope you could vote for me.

**Inclement weather over the past few weeks** - I would like to thank all the posties, drivers/delivery people, refuse collectors, carers, bus drivers, medical professionals who made it business as usual, despite horrendous weather over the past few week. Also to the vast majority of road users who were driving appropriately to the conditions. Warwickshire CC's gritting teams were working around the clock to keep many roads open – well done. Now that the Snow has melted there is a lot of water on the road and rivers/streams/ditches are starting to fill up – SO PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY STILL.

**Barriers/sandbags/signs**

There are a few discarded around and about – the contractors should take them away but if you see some left behind please report via <https://www.fixmystreet.com/reports/Warwickshire>  
It is worth noting for future reference that anything immediately dangerous on the highway should be reported direct to the Police on 999, which is the same process for any pressing issue Out of Hours.  
During normal office hours - 8:30am to 4:30pm, WCC call centre is best on 01926 412515

Nice Comment – NOT

On a Southam Facebook Page – ‘Typical workmanship - Back handing councillors get a grip and that’s directed to SDC and WDC’ - I ASSUME HE MEANT WCC, Obviously I’m a WCC and SDC Councillor. I can assure/ reassure you, I do not do the job in the hope of gaining vast financial rewards. I spend significant amounts of time on council business, 7 days a week (ask my wife !) – there’s a saying don’t knock it until you’ve tried it. The post was eventually removed but that is not the point. If you have evidence on any corruption in local government please report to the monitoring officer at SDC.

Warwickshire County Council is sharing ways that residents can help out in their local communities, **to improve their own wellbeing and that of others.**

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4014/getting-by-with-a-little-help-from-our-friends-and-communities->

**The Warwickshire Holiday Activity and Food programme** will once again offer free and fun activities for eligible children and young people this Easter.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4012/easter-activities-for-warwickshire-children-and-young-people>

**Keeping a healthy and active lifestyle throughout your older years** will help to sustain a longer independence, and Warwickshire County Council’s Living Well website has tips and advice about how best to keep your physical and mental health at a peak condition.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4010/warwickshire-county-council-promotes-living-well-website-to-help-residents-stay-independent-and-active-in-later-life>

**Smokers in Warwickshire** are being encouraged to give quitting a go as research shows that smoking significantly increases the risk of developing dementia.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3997/stop-smoking-to-help-your-heart-and-your-brain>

**Residents struggling to pay utility bills**

Warwickshire residents financially struggling to pay their utility bills can look to the County Council for support.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3994/help-for-warwickshire-residents-struggling-to-pay-utility-bills>

**Warm Welcome locations**

Warwickshire residents can now search over 150 Warm Welcome locations to

find their nearest one, if they are looking for somewhere warm and safe to spend time.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3989/find-your-nearest-warm-welcome-location>

### **Living Well Website**

Warwickshire County Council's Living Well website has tips and advice about how best to keep your physical and mental health in peak condition.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4010/warwickshire-county-council-promotes-living-well-website-to-help-residents-stay-independent-and-active-in-later-life>

### **New Assistant Chief Fire Officer**

Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service is pleased to announce the appointment of Sally Waldron as Assistant Chief Fire Officer, effective from March 1, 2023.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3992/sally-waldron-appointed-as-assistant-chief-fire-officer-at-warwickshire-fire-rescue-service>

### **UK Says No More to Domestic Abuse 2023**

Warwickshire County Council and partners are uniting to say NO MORE to Domestic Abuse as part of a national campaign.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3996/warwickshire-supports-uk-says-no-more-to-domestic-abuse-2023-campaign>

### **Stop smoking**

Smokers in Warwickshire were encouraged to give quitting a go during No Smoking Day on 8 March as research shows that smoking significantly increases the risk of developing dementia.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3997/stop-smoking-to-help-your-heart-and-your-brain>

### **Medieval Warwickshire Book**

A new book sheds light on the founding and eventual desertion of a medieval village in Warwickshire which was discovered during one of Warwickshire County Council's largest archaeological digs.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4005/new-book-is-set-to-illuminate-warwickshire-s-medieval-past>

### **The Property and Infrastructure Fund**

Businesses looking to grow in, or relocate to, Warwickshire now have access to £40m of financial support as the latest pillar of a major economy-boosting initiative goes live.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3988/new-fund-launched-to-give-warwickshire-economy-a-40-million-boost>

### **Climate change exhibition at Market Hall Museum**

A new series of panels at Warwick's Market Hall Museum explores the subject of climate change – natural and human-influenced – throughout the ages.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3991/exploring-warwickshire-climate-change-through-the-ages-at-market-hall-museum>

### **Green Shoots: Energy saving streetlights for Marton**

There is a brighter, more energy-efficient, future in store for the village of

Marton thanks to funding from Warwickshire County Council's Green Shoots Community Climate Change Fund.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3990/green-shoots-community-climate-change-fund-energy-saving-streetlights-for-marton>

### **Voice of Warwickshire online panel**

“Don't let other people speak for you” is the message from Warwickshire County Council, who are urging people of all ages from across the county to sign up to its 'Voice of Warwickshire' online residents' panel.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4011/do-you-have-things-to-say-about-your-local-area-we-want-to-hear-from-you-warwickshire-county-council-are-looking-for-new-residents-to-join-their-voice-of-warwickshire-online-panel>

### **Admission Appeals Independent Panel Members**

Warwickshire County Council are seeking volunteers to become independent panel members to hear school admission appeals. Could this be for you?

Find out more: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/jobs-volunteering/independent-panel-member-hear-school-admission-appeals](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/jobs-volunteering/independent-panel-member-hear-school-admission-appeals)

### **Women's Tour 2023**

Warwickshire will welcome back the Women's Tour, the UK's leading international women's cycle race, when the county features in two of the 2023 event's five stages, including the Grand Depart.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4015/women-s-tour-2023-to-return-to-warwickshire>

### **Power of Warwickshire communities**

Warwickshire County Council is sharing ways that residents can help out in their local communities, to improve their own wellbeing and that of others.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4014/getting-by-with-a-little-help-from-our-friends-and-communities>

**Missed Bins** – please continue to report to SDC – the App is very useful for doing so and **make a note of your reference**. It helps SDC hold the Contractor to account. Missed bins -. Contacts are [streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk) or Telephone: 01789 260616 Or download the app.

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/online-forms/missed-bin-report-form.cfm?fbclid=IwAR3vkf03zQgXUsEHH04ODeqfid1b1msbwpVg8DG6nQn47HoAcw mw5LL9Joc>

**PAVEMENT PARKING/PARK IT RIGHT** – (seen some corking examples recently) – not helped by the amount of roadworks, traffic lights and dug up paths at the moment.

Every week, I get reports of some terrible parking – with cars blocking pavements (especially dropped kerbs), making it impossible for people with mobility scooters or with push chairs to get by, without going into the road. In some cases, too, emergency services vehicles (particularly fire appliances) would struggle to pass. **PLEASE THINK OF OTHER PEOPLE, NOT JUST YOURSELF**

PLEASE REPORT ANY ASB , however trivial it may seem. Small incidents

can lead to bigger ones, so better to stop them before they escalate .Also, the more calls/incidents the Police have, the sooner they will realise there is a problem in a certain area. PLEASE ALSO ENSURE YOUR PROPERTY AND CAR IS LOCKED AND SECURE.

Reporting out of hours highways issues can be challenging, the best number for that is 01926 415000.

[streetlighting@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:streetlighting@warwickshire.gov.uk) or 01926 412515 (not all are currently owned by WCC – some owned by town or parish council.)

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/reports/Warwickshire>

It is worth noting for future reference that anything immediately dangerous on the highway should be reported direct to the Police on 999, which is the same process for any pressing issue Out of Hours.

During normal office hours - 8:30am to 4:30pm, WCC call centre is best on 01926 412515

### **Councillor groans**

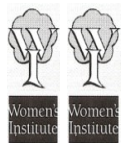
Did you hear the stone mason quit. He was fed up being taken for granite  
My wife's just got a new job as a circus clown. The only problem is, every evening when she gets home I have to tell her to wipe that silly grin off her face.  
I've just tried some of Elvis Costello's new Mediterranean based sausages.

I can't see it catching on, but apparently olive salami is here to stay  
Went for a Chinese meal last night, but the lights were so bright in there, I asked for the manager. "What do you want me to do about it?" he said.

I said, ".....Dim Sum?"

***Kind regards***

***Andy***

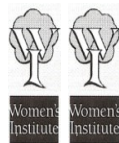


## WOMENS INSTITUTE

Meeting 7.30pm at Nelson Club first Monday of Month

President:- Sue Gill Tel: 01926 460278

Secretary: Joan Ford Tel: 01926 810220



Sue opened our February meeting welcoming the members and we all sang Jerusalem. She then introduced our speaker for the evening, Ruth Lowe who was a collector of Mary Quant items of fashion and who had recently contributed many items to the exhibition at the V & A Museum in London. She had brought a rack of 1960's clothing which she displayed to us emphasising that the labels in these garments are really important when trawling through flea markets and charity shops. Some of her items were worth around £600. An item with the Bazaar label is the best one you can get so keep a look out ladies! Bazaar was Mary Quant's first boutique in the Kings Road after her college course on design and illustration. The clothes were of real interest to those of us who were teenagers in the sixties but we were amazed how tiny and skimpy they were.

Joan then went through the events of interest which included the Napton Art Group Exhibition over the Easter weekend which is open to everyone; Cotswold Mosaic Workshop at Ashorne during June; an evening with the Womens' Land Army at Napton in May, and a Serious Science talk at Leamington Spa Baptist church in April. More details and dates for these are available at our meeting on the events table and members are requested to write their names on the list for anything of interest to them. Ladies that Lunch is at the Old Smithy at Church Lawford.

There followed a quiz prepared by Sandi which we all enjoyed.

Our April competition is an Easter Bonnet and maybe we can have a parade of the members modelling these. Any hat you may have can be hand decorated by anything you can find relating to Easter and Spring, some of us pay no attention to the saying "less is more"!

Our next meeting will be **Monday 3rd April 2023** at 7.30 pm at the Nelson Club. The speaker is Clive Garner whose talk is The Mulberry Worm. The competition an Easter Bonnet

# STOCKTON CHURCH

METHODIST AND ANGLICANS IN UNITY

The Bridges Group of Parishes

[www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk)

**Rev. Gillian Roberts** Tel: 01926815831

email: [gillian@thebridgesgroup.org.uk](mailto:gillian@thebridgesgroup.org.uk)

	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April Palm Sunday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> April Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> April Good Friday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> April Easter 2</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> April Easter 3</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> April Easter 4</b>
<b>Priors Hard- wick</b>	9.00am Family Service			5.00pm BCP Easter Evensong	6.00pm Easter Carols		
<b>Worm - leigh- ton</b>						10.30am Morning Worship	
<b>Lower Shuck burgh</b>			2.00pm Church open for prayer			<b>26<sup>th</sup> April</b> at 10am Midweek BCP Matins	
<b>Nap- ton</b>	10.30am CW Comm		7.00pm Journey to the Cross	5.45am Dawn Vigil	10.30am CW Comm by extension 4.00pm Messy Church	5.00pm Easter Carols	
<b>Stock- ton</b>	10.30am Morning Worship	7pm Maundy Thurs service				10.30am CW Comm by exten- sion	10.30am The Gather- ing
<b>Priors Mars- ton</b>	10.30am Morning Worship		10.30a m Journey to the Cross	10.30am CW East- er Comm	10.30am Morning Worship	3.00pm 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	

**Holy Week** – Morning Prayer at **Stockton** at 9.00am  
Evening Prayer at Priors Marston at 5pm

## Letter from Rev. Gillian Roberts

### (Hatches, matches and) DESPATCHES

It will soon be Easter, when we focus on Jesus rising from the dead, offering us new life with him for eternity. And that seems like a good time to write about the third in our series of “life events”: funerals.

Funerals are designed to help us say “goodbye” and to give thanks for our loved one. It helps us face the reality of our loss, to accept the fact that the person has really gone. The funeral also helps us deal respectfully with the body. Although Christians believe that after death we no longer need our earthly bodies, we also know that bodies are important, because God made us physical beings, not just spirits. The respect with which we treat the body of someone who has died is a sign of what they meant to us. It also points us ahead to the physical reality of the new heaven and earth that God has promised, as we commend the person into the care of God.

When someone dies, they are entitled to have a church funeral in the parish where they lived, regardless of whether they went to church or not. A funeral led by the local minister could be held in church, beside a grave or at a crematorium. And the service can be whatever you would like: from live streaming to 1000 people in a marquee in the pub car park or simply the minister and you at the crematorium. Each funeral will reflect the unique life of the person you knew. You can make it special with your choice of music, hymns, readings and tributes. There will be prayers and a quiet time for personal reflection. You can include photos, flowers or even personal mementoes for special ways to make the service personal.

As well as looking back at the life of the loved one, the church is able to add an extra dimension to the service as it looks to the future and talks about God’s promises of a time when “there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” [Revelation 21:4] Whatever your beliefs, hearing these words can bring a sense of immense comfort and peace, even at this most difficult time.

*God bless,  
Gillian*

## My valedictory reflection

As I come to the end of my formal ministry in the Bridges group of six parishes, I wanted to reflect on the past ten years since I was ordained and appointed first as Curate-in-Charge and then Priest-in-Charge.

I can't deny there have been challenges along the way: coping with the emotional impact of the pandemic; the time, energy and finances involved in maintaining six ancient buildings; the battles with the diocese to get the voice of rural ministry heard; the problems of ageing and diminishing congregations.

But I have found that the joys of rural ministry far outweigh the challenges! Here are just some of the highlights, in no particular order:

- Seeing the father, confined to a wheelchair for many years, get out of it to walk his daughter down the aisle on her wedding day. (The bride and I were both in pieces before the service even started.)
- Blessing a new-born baby at the altar rail on Christmas day.
- Seeing people line the streets to say farewell to a beloved neighbour when we couldn't have funerals in church. And giving them a hug when we could.
- Sharing stories of Jesus over a cup of tea or pot of glittery paint.
- Asked to say a prayer at the village Christmas tree lights switch-on.
- People having an encounter with God because of something I have facilitated.
- Having a heart for the oppressed and encouraging people to fight for justice then seeing the results at the Fosse Foodbank, the support for the Carriers of Hope working with refugees in Coventry, and help for farming charities.
- Driving through the early morning sunshine on a Sunday morning to see the sheep grazing in the churchyard at Wormleighton.
- Waving off a coach load of happy, smiling Syrian refugee families on their way home to Coventry after a day out on a farm in Napton.
- Alpha courses, Lent courses, marriage preparation, concerts, meeting the Archbishop, confirmation services, open air services on farms, Messy Church and Messy Church bags, school assemblies, singing, plant sales, pancake parties, soup lunches, people, more people, cake, more cake and so on.....

Glory to God and thank you to everyone for a wonderful ten years. The Church is very much alive in this place and our faithful God is at work. Jesus tells us that "I came that you may have life, and have it abundantly." [John 10:10]

*God bless,  
Gillian*

## THE BRIDGES GROUP NOTICE BOARD

LOWER SHUCKBURGH, NAPTON, STOCKTON  
PRIORS MARSTON, PRIORS HARDWICK & WORMLEIGHTON

### **Programme for Children and Youth**

**Create & Play:** Tuesday mornings from 9.30 – 10.45am (term times) in Stockton Church – for further details, contact: Deborah Dutton on 01926 819016 or [deborahduttoncreative@gmail.com](mailto:deborahduttoncreative@gmail.com)

**Babies & Toddlers Group:** Monday mornings from 9.30 – 11am (term times) in Napton Village Hall – for further details, contact: Helen Eadon on 07811 010440

**Messy Church** – on 3rd Sundays of the month at 4pm – venues TBC

### **Mid-week programme for Adults - Home Bible Study Groups**

The following groups meet for Bible study, prayer and fellowship.

If you would like to join, please contact the Vicar or a Group leader:

Every Wednesday at 8pm in **Stockton** Gillian 01926 815831

1st & 3rd Thursdays at 2.30pm in **Stockton** Jan 01926 817991

Every Thursday at 8pm in **Napton** Julia 01926 811476

Weekly (day varies) at 7.30pm in **Napton** Angie 01926 812225

### **Social get-togethers**

**Knit & Natter:** Mondays at 2pm in **Stockton Church** Jan 01926 817991

**Knit & Natter:** Mondays at 2pm in **Napton** Jayne 01926 813227

**Coffee & Chat:** 1st Thursdays at 10am in **Priors Hall** Anna 07870 685124

### **Parish enquiries**

For initial enquiries about baptisms, weddings, funerals and graveyard matters etc, please contact Susan, our Group Administrator, on 01926 812383 or email: [admin@thebridgesgroup.org.uk](mailto:admin@thebridgesgroup.org.uk). Please note that Susan works part-time but she will get back to you as quickly as she can.

See elsewhere in the magazine for details of other church activities & events

or visit our website: [www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk)



## STOCKTON'S WEATHER STATION



### STOCKTON'S WEATHER STATION - FEBRUARY 2022

#### Headlines - an exceptionally dry and sunny February

In February the average **minimum temperature** was 2.5 deg. C, about one degree above the long-term average (1.4 deg.). The lowest temperature was a -4.3 deg. C on the 6th. The average **maximum temperature** was 10.2 deg. C, nearly three degrees above the long-term average (7.5 deg C). The highest temperature was 16.1 deg. C on the 17th. **Rainfall** was a meagre 4.5 mm this month, compared to the February average of 44 mm. and it only rained on 5 days. The wettest day was the 21st February with 2.5 mm. The **sunshine** total was one third above the February average. The wind direction was predominantly from the north-west, west and south-west (17 days).

**Trivia of the month** - the driest February for 25 years and the driest month since May 2020.

#### *The Weather Monitor*

### STOCKTON'S NEWS DONATIONS

Thanks to all those who have already contributed towards the cost of producing Stockton's News - it's great to have your support. Don't forget that you can also get the magazine online at no cost from our web site

<http://www.stocktonsnews.org.uk>

Anyone wishing to make a donation can do so by bank transfer to-

**Account name:** Stocktons News **Sort code** 40-42-15 **Account No.** 91456652  
or cash to: Marion - 12 George Street, Wendy - 1 St. Michael's Crescent or Steve - The Limes, Church Street.

Please reference your donation as 'Stocktons News'.

*Thank you for your support.*

## STOCKTON VILLAGE HALL

**Bookings** - Helen Kittendorf Tel: 815376

[helenkittendorf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:helenkittendorf@hotmail.co.uk)

*Hourly Rate £9*

Wow April already, spring is here, the days are drawing out again and summer is around the corner.

Our coffee mornings are in full swing on the first Saturday of the month, for another year of delicious cakes on offer to cater for everyone including those who require Gluten free. Pushed for time is no reason for missing out, we offer a take-out option. A big shout out to our Bakers, we really appreciate the work you put in to make coffee mornings a big success. It's nice to see so many faces, old and new. If you've not been before, please come and join us, the next one being **01<sup>st</sup> April** between 10 am and noon, what better way to start the weekend. Hope to see you then.

The **Friends Lunch Club** continues to be a big success, it is so lovely to enjoy a meal with so many "friends". The Carvery offered by the Crown Inn, for our meals are delicious, what more could you ask for; good food, good company, and no washing up!! The next meet up is **12<sup>th</sup> April**, there are limited spaces so don't forget to book your seat with Val on 814640. Raffle tickets are available, and the prize is your Lunch club meal paid for.

**Stockton Cinema** continues to run, its film and supper night on the last Saturday of the month, **29<sup>th</sup> April** is the next one, but unfortunately, we are unable to offer supper before the showing on this occasion. Our new style "Film Club" means we no longer advertise the film but what we can tell you is that there is *"one moment in time"* when you *"want to dance with someone who loves you"* for full details and information why not join the film club by contacting Steve Kittendorf on 01926 815376 or [stevekittendorf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stevekittendorf@hotmail.co.uk), and you will be able to keep up to date with what film is being shown.

The film starts at 7pm and refreshments are available as usual. Missed last month's film, don't worry, the DVD will be offered for hire through the library, £1.00 hire and £5.00 refundable deposit when returned. Contact Helen or Val if you wish to hire the film.

The village hall is, as always, available for hire. Please contact Helen to discuss your booking needs on 815376.



# Garden Jottings

from Bridge Nursery - your local Hardy Plant Specialists



*Christine Dakin, Bridge Nursery  
Tomlow Road, Napton.*

*Tel: 01926 812737  
[www.bridge-nursery.co.uk](http://www.bridge-nursery.co.uk)*

¼ mile from Crossroads Garage – look for our Tourist Sign

The garden here was started 25 years ago with much optimism, determination and energy, also an almost total lack of understanding just how challenging it would be to make a garden on heavy clay soil. It gets waterlogged, splashy splashy wet in the winter and dries out with deep cracks in the summer.

It is a windy site, there are rabbits, and brambles would quickly take over if it was abandoned for a short period of time. It has proved to be a very useful testing ground for plants which will thrive in such awful conditions.

There are six large compost bins here and the contents are added as a mulch each year, this has helped enormously and the soil is much more workable these days.

There have been many casualties and quite a lot of plants which sulk but don't die. I'm fairly ruthless about removing clumps of this and that which aren't growing well.

Among the stars of the show are asters, verbena, primroses, roses, shrubby winter flowering honeysuckle, viburnums, ornamental grasses, hardy geraniums, birch, bamboo, and too many others to list here.

If you are stuck deciding what to plant and where to plant it please do come and take a look at what works here and also help raise funds for the NGS charity.

The garden is open every weekend from Good Friday until mid September.



Stockton Pétanque Club played in the quarter final of the West Area European Cup on 11<sup>th</sup> March against a strong team from Whitnash who fielded some England Internationals. The first round of two triples ended 1-1 after a great 13-5 win by Diane Emberton, Dave Hancox and Nigel May, and a close 11-13 loss by Rich & Becky Rushton and Rich Powell. Diane and Nigel then went on to a great 13-1 win in the pairs, followed by a very close 10-13 defeat for Rich & Rich, leaving Dave and Becky playing a nail-biting deciding match which they won with a great shot by Dave to clinch a 13-12 result. We now wait for the Semi-final against a team from Kenilworth or Bath.

We had a great turnout of 21 players for the March melee, despite a cold - but dry - wind. After three rounds there were five unbeaten players, the top prize going to Catherine Black with a 21 point advantage, just pipping Iain Cunningham who was on +20. Becky Rushton was not far behind on +17, just ahead of Charlie Caruana on +15. Dave Hancox and Doreen Scrutton were also unbeaten with a joint +7.

With just 3 weeks left in the club's Winter League, Dave Hancox is well in line to retain the title with 82 points, but Rich Rushton (77) and Sarah Jerger (75) are close behind and could just overtake him!

The annual Singles League started on 14<sup>th</sup> January and after 7 weeks Diane Emberton and Rich Rushton are in the lead with 6 wins each.

Our next melee is on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April** with a 2.00pm start now we are in BST.

This will be followed by the Club's Charity Pairs on Easter Saturday – 8<sup>th</sup> April. Everyone is welcome – we will provide the boules and tuition in the rules.

## LOCAL EVENTS

*Events and News from Our Neighbouring Villages*

### **Long Itchington History Group**

***Meeting at Community Centre 7.30pm***

***Www.longitchingtonhistory.org.uk***

**Wednesday 12th April**

AGM followed by "Back Tracks" - Detecting the Past. Colin Clay and Phil Taylor  
Admission £3

For further details and to request transport please contact David Williams 01926 812573  
Programmes available on request.



### **Southam Gardening Club**

[thesouthamgardeningclub.blogspot.co.uk](http://thesouthamgardeningclub.blogspot.co.uk)

Tel: 01926 813986 or 815086.



Howard Drury will give an illustrated talk on  
**‘Climbers, Twiners and other wall shrubs’**

at 7:30pm on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April

at the Graham Adams Centre, St James Rd., Southam.

All are welcome.

Non-members £3.50. Refreshments included.

Further information: [thesouthamgardeningclub.blogspot.co.uk](http://thesouthamgardeningclub.blogspot.co.uk)  
or tel 01926 813986 or 815086.



## **Galanos House**

For Service people past and present and their families

Banbury Road, Southam, CV47 2BL

For a full list of events visit our facebook page

[www.facebook.com/RBLCommunityHub](http://www.facebook.com/RBLCommunityHub)

or contact us on 01926 812185 Ext 5365

**All events take place at the Community Hub and Café  
Next to Galanos House, Banbury Road, Southam**

### **Nosh and Natter (NEW – hosted by the Community Hub and Café)**

**Everyone is welcome to come along, booking is essential.**

First Wednesday of every month.

Next date: **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April** 12 noon - 13:30pm

Cost £10 - 2 Course homemade hot lunch and dessert.

Please telephone 01926 812185 Ext 5365 to place book your place.

Free transport available from Southam library to the Community Hub:

Collection outside Southam Library: 11:45

Return to Southam Library: Approx. 14:15

### **Sporting Memories (Free)**

Reminisce about all thing's 'sport' and some gentle exercise with guest speakers

2nd Wednesday of month 10:30am - 12:30pm Next date: Wednesday **12<sup>th</sup> April**

Light lunch available afterwards for only £2

Open to everyone, come along on the day.

**Silver Sunday (Free)** Join us, bring a friend, and have a dance.

Everyone is welcome to come along. Please telephone 01926 812185 Ext 5365

to book your place. Every other month Next date: **16<sup>th</sup> April** 2:30pm

### **Armed Forces Veteran's Breakfast Club**

Last Wednesday of every month

Come along, purchase your own Hub Breakfast, and join in with the banter

Next date: **26<sup>th</sup> April** 10am - 12noon

### **Café Muse (Free)** Dementia friendly Music Café

Every 4th Thursday of month Next date: Thursday **27<sup>th</sup> April** 11am - 1pm

Telephone 01789 267567 to book your place

### **Galanos House Dementia Café (Free)**

Dementia support group with music and refreshments

Last Friday of every month

Next date: **28<sup>th</sup> April** 2:30pm - 4pm Open to everyone, come along on the day.



#NationalTeaDay

# NATIONAL TEA DAY



Join us to celebrate  
National Tea Day  
at our Tea Dance  
Afternoon on  
Friday 21st April,  
2:30pm

Live performance from Cathy Morris  
Music from the 1930s-1980s  
and a generous Prize Raffle



Call us today to book your tickets! Only £3 per person



**Community Hub and Cafe**

Banbury Road, Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 2BL

📍 RBLCommunityHub ☎ 01926 812185 Ext 5365

## WHO'S WHO

Parish Council	Chairman	Howard Collerson	813181
	Clerk	Robbie Robinson	814094
	Councillors	David Crate	0799 9667824
		John Emberton	814267
		Helen Kittendorf	815376
		Chris Millidge	812991
		Terry Warner	813424
		Wendy Rumsey	813730
District Councillor	Louis Adam	07971 342940	
County Councillor	Andy Crump	815745	
Member of Parliament	Jeremy Wright	01926 853650	
St. Michaels	Priest in Charge		
	Administrator	Susan Holloway	812383
	Church Warden	Wendy Turner	812694
	Church Flowers	Wendy Turner	812694
Village Hall Bookings		Helen Kittendorf	815376
Stockton School	Head Teacher	Mrs. Ann Bedgood	812483
Little Acorns			813789
Toddlersaurs		Jo Harvey	811120
Group Scout Leader		Jo Brough	07568 653158
Scouts		David Brough	07432 358259
Cubs		Emily Howard	07910 137037
Beavers		Jo Brough	07568 653158
Women’s Institute	President	Sue Gill	460278
	Secretary	Joan Ford	810220
Football		Rick Musson	813018
Football Club House		Luke Cole	07710 864192
Magazine Editorial Team		Wendy Rumsey	813730
		Marion Stringer	812887
Advertising Editor		Helen Kittendorf	815376
Magazine Treasurer		Steve Kittendorf	815376

## Julia Prior drawings & sculptures of animals



**portrait commissions**  
**The Cutting Gallery**  
 Station Road, Stockton  
 Southam, Warks. CV47 8HA  
 Tel. 01926 817572  
 Email. [Juliapriorart@aol.com](mailto:Juliapriorart@aol.com)

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Web: [www.dfjhewerbuilders.co.uk](http://www.dfjhewerbuilders.co.uk)



Registered House Builders

# Stockton Football & Cricket Club

## The Club House

**Well stocked bar-** Draft San Miguel, Carling & Stowford, hand pulled real ale, premium gins, wines & prosecco.

**Sky sports & BT sport** on our 3 TVs

**Function Room** – available for private parties, charity events and more.

**Events and promotions** - See our Facebook page for details.

**Membership** - Everyone is welcome but become a member\* and enjoy our member prices & promotions.

\*Membership £6 per year (OAP £1)

## Home to

Stockton Football Club  
Stockton Stars Cricket Club  
Stockton Ladies Netball Club  
Stockton Petanque Club  
**Details on our FB page.**



Town Piece,  
Napton Road,  
Stockton Tel: 01926 813960  
Facebook @StocktonFCCC

## THE NELSON CLUB at STOCKTON

Napton Road, Stockton Tel: 01926 812613

**OPENING HOURS:-** Mon - Thurs:- 5pm - 11pm Friday 4pm - 12.30am  
Sat 2.00pm - 12.30am Sun 12 Noon - 11pm

**BREWED AWAKENING** ~ 9.30am til 12 noon ~ Every Tuesday

**AFTERNOON BINGO** ~ 2.00pm ~ Alt. Thursdays 13th & 27th

**EVENING BINGO** ~ Every Saturday ~ Eyes down 8.00pm (Top Room)

**CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT** ~ Every 3rd Friday 7.30pm

**FOLK NIGHT** ~ Tuesday 25th ~ 7.30pm (Function Room)

**8th April INTRUDERS 9pm in the bar**

**22nd 2nd HAND DAYLIGHT 9pm in the bar**

**30th Birdingbury TRACTOR & CLASSICS ROAD RUN**

**Calling by around 12.30pm**

Join us for sporting events with BT and Sky Sports

For last minute events or changes to the current planned events please see the following:

**Web page:** <http://nelsonclub.co.uk/index.html>

Find us on **Facebook & Twitter**