

# STOCKTON'S NEWS

keeping you informed ....

April 2026

Issue 185

Magazine Deadline:- 15th of the month  
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Is this you outside S.J.WAY or Way's as it was known?

## ROUND TWO PROJECTS

# Community Climate and Nature Fund



## SOLAR PANELS AND BATTERY INSTALLED AT STOCKTON VILLAGE HALL

### ABOUT THE PROJECT

“

“The Stratford District Council grant was vital in enabling Stockton Village Hall to install a solar panel system which will save money and reduce its carbon footprint for the next 20+ years.”

Chair, Stockton Village Hall Committee

The objective of the project was to install a set of solar panels and batteries to Stockton Village Hall with the aim of reducing the electricity bill and carbon footprint of the building. An experienced supplier, based in Stratford, was selected, with extensive experience of installing solar panels and battery storage units in similar village halls. The solution chosen consisted of 20 panels with a maximum generating capacity of 10.2 kW with 5 modular batteries with a total capacity of 23.3kWh. The SDC grant money, in conjunction with other funding bodies, paid for the purchase and installation of the selected system. The project was managed by the Chair of the Committee in conjunction with the supplier's experienced installation manager. The installation took just two days and was completed on schedule.

### IMPACTS

It is estimated that the installed system will generate 9,166 kWh per annum. This is estimated to cut the electricity bill of the hall by about 70% and its carbon footprint by 1,878kg per year. These estimates have been deemed to be accurate after two months of continuous operation in late Autumn. In the longer term, the project will help ensure the viability of the Village Hall in Stockton which is an important community resource used by many different ages and groups.





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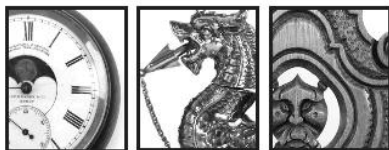
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Tel: 01926 814092

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Many thanks to all those who have already contributed towards  
the cost of producing **Stockton's News**  
it is great to have your support.

If you wish to make a donation you can do so by **Bank Transfer** to -

**Account:** Stocktons News **Sort Code:** 40-42-15

**Acc. No.** 91456652 **Reference it Donation**

**Cash/Cheque** in envelope addressed to Stockton's News to -  
Steve Kittendorf - The Limes, Marion Stringer - 12 George Street  
Wendy Rumsey - 1 St. Michael's Crescent.

**The magazine is run entirely by volunteers  
and any surplus monies are used for the benefit of the village.**

Click on the link for this month's magazine.

<http://stocktonsnews.org.uk>

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### Locations of Defibrillators and Bleed Packs

**Telephone Box, The Square  
&**

**Football Club House, Napton Road**

**Stop the Bleed Pack** - For use in a catastrophic bleed and does not contain normal first aid items like plasters etc.

**Dial 999**

and they talk you through how to apply tourniquet and wound dressings.



## Village Calendar



### Regular Weekly Village Events

#### **Monday** :~

Knit & Natter: Church ~ 2 - 4pm

#### **Tuesday** :~

Create & Play: Church 9.30 - 11.00 am ~ (Term Time)

Cubs & Scouts: Stockton Scout Hut 6.45pm - 8pm (Term Time)

Clubbercise: Village Hall ~ 7.30 - 8.30pm

#### **Wednesday** :~

Chess Club: Nelson Club ~ 5.30 - 7.30pm

Lazy Cat Yoga: Village Hall ~ 7.30 - 9.00pm

#### **Thursday** :~

Seated Chair Exercises: Village Hall ~ 11am - 12 Noon - Open to all

Afternoon Bingo ~ Nelson Club ~ Doors open 1.30pm Eyes Down ~ 2.00pm

Beavers: Stockton Scout Hut 6.15pm - 7.30pm (Term Time)

#### **Friday** :~

Toddlersaurs: Village Hall ~ 9.45- 11.15am (Term Time)

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 ~ Village Hall ~ 7.30pm ~ **13th**

Parish Council Meetings: 3rd Monday ~ Village Hall ~ 7.15pm ~ **20th**

#### **Tuesday**

Brewed Awakening: Nelson Club ~ 10.00am - 12.30pm ~ **7th & 21st**

Folk Night: Last Tuesday of the month ~ Nelson Club ~ 7.30pm

#### **Wednesday**

Friends Lunch: Every 2nd Wed ~ The Crown ~ 12.30pm ~ **8th**

Church Lunch: Every 3rd Wednesday ~ 12noon

#### **Friday**

Quiz Night: 7.00pm ~ Village Hall ~ **10th**

#### **Saturday**

Coffee Morning & Library: 1st Sat ~ 10am - 12Noon ~ Village Hall ~ **4th**

Whist Drive: Every 2nd Sat ~ Village Hall ~ 7.30pm ~ **11th**

Stockton Cinema: Every last Saturday ~ Village Hall ~ 7.00pm ~ **25th**

Pétanque Melee ~ F.C. & C.C. ~ All Welcome ~ 2.00pm ~

# STOCKTON CHURCH

METHODIST AND ANGLICANS IN UNITY

The Bridges Group of Parishes  
email:admin@thebridgesgroup.org.uk.

www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk  
Tel:01926 812383

<b>THE BRIDGES GROUP</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> <i>red</i>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> <i>white</i>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>Easter2</b> <i>white</i>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>Easter3</b> <i>white</i>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> April</b> <b>Easter4</b> <i>white</i>
<b>PRIORS HARDWICK</b>	All-Age Worship & procession 9.00am	Morning Worship 9.00am	Easter Carol Service 5.00pm	<b>Holy Comm</b> BCP 9.00am	
<b>PRIORS MARSTON</b>		Morning Worship 10.30am	Morning Worship 10.30am	<b>Holy Comm</b> CW 10.30am	
<b>WORM-LEIGHTON</b>					Morning Worship 10.30am
<b>NAPTON</b>		<b>Holy Comm</b> CW <b>Easter Sunday</b> 10.30am		Family Service 10.30am	Evening 5.00pm
<b>STOCKTON</b>	<b>Holy Comm</b> CW <b>'The Gathering'</b> 10.30am	Morning Worship 10.30am	<b>Holy Comm</b> Methodist Tradition 10.30am		<b>Holy Comm</b> CW 10.30am
<b>LOWER SHUCKBURGH</b>					<b>Holy Comm</b> BCP 9.00am

## Special Church Services for Easter Week 2026

2 <sup>nd</sup> April Maundy Thursday	3 <sup>rd</sup> April Good Friday	4 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Eve	5 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday
6.45pm <b>Holy Communion</b> Tenebrae & meal <i>Stockton Church</i>	10.30am ‘Seven words from the Cross’ <i>Priors Marston</i> 2-3pm Prayer & Reflection <i>Lower Shuckburgh</i> 7pm Meditations on the Cross <i>Napton</i>		See Sunday Grid

(Note: All services other than Holy Communion are Lay Led)

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 to pray for our communities. 4 groups are in person, or 1 is online. If you would like to join, please contact the Group leader below:

Every Tuesday online at 6.15 Zoom	Katie	07965 209075
Every Wednesday at 8pm in Stockton	Wendy	01926 812694
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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: 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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

## WHO'S WHO

Parish Council	Chairman	Howard Collerson	813181
	Clerk	Robbie Robinson	814094
	Councillors	John Emberton	814267
		Helen Kittendorf	815376
		Chris Millidge	812991
		Terry Warner	813424
	Richard Rumsey	813730	
	Wendy Rumsey	813730	
District/County Councillor Member of Parliament		Andy Crump	815745
		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	07902775078
Stockton School	Head Teacher	Mrs. A. Bedgood	812483
Little Acorns			813789
Toddlersaurs		Becca Makepeace	07733107197
Group Scout Leader/Scouts		Jo Brough	07568 653158
Cubs		Toby Leeman	07866 563301
Beavers		Jo Brough	07568 653158
Women's Institute	President	Sue Gill	07502207380
	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		Steve Kittendorf	07706155358
Magazine Treasurer		Steve Kittendorf	07706155358

## LOCAL EVENTS

*Events and News from Our Neighbouring Villages*

### **Long Itchington History Group**

*Meeting at Community Centre 7.30pm*

*[www.longitchingtonhistory.org.uk](http://www.longitchingtonhistory.org.uk)*

**Wednesday 8th April**

"A Some History and Music of Morris Dancing" - Alan Benjamin.

For further details phone 07745110666.

To request transport call 07771953139

Programmes available on request



### **Southam Gardening Club**

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

Tel: 01926 813986 or 815086.



**David Cheshire** will give an illustrated talk  
**'The Art of Bonsai'** at 7.30pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April

at the **Communal Hall, Tithe Lodge**, Little Park, off Park Lane, Southam.

All are welcome. Non-members £4.50.

Refreshments from 7.15pm included.

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



# 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



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

**Belated Birthday wishes go to Albert Cox. Is he the oldest person still living in the village, born in 'Rose Cottage', School Street, 20th March 1936?**

*To include birthdays/anniversary please contact magazine.  
Tel: 01926 813730/812887 or email before 15th of month*

## Mobile Library

**Stockton Church 2.10 - 2.30pm 10th April**

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

## Refuse & Recycling

**Food Waste - weekly**

**Grey Lid Bin - 3 weekly - 17th**

**Blue Lid Bin & Green Bin - 2 weekly - 3rd & 17th**

Missed Bins Tel: 01789 260616

**Southam Pharmacy: 4 Market Hill, CV47 0HE Tel: 812287**

**Opening Hours:- Mon - Friday 8.30am - 6.15pm Sat 9.00am - 5pm**



## Wheelchair Short-term Loan:-

Stockton Church - 812383

Stockton's News - 813730/812887

## Locations of Defibrillators and Bleed Packs

**Telephone Box, The Square & Football Club House, Napton Road**

**Stop the Bleed Pack** - For use in a catastrophic bleed and does not contain normal first aid items like plasters etc. Dial **999**

and they talk you through how to apply tourniquet and wound dressings.



# STOCKTON VILLAGE FESTIVAL

Summer Bank Holiday Weekend  
28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026

Live Bands over the Festival Weekend  
28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> August

Beer & Cider Festival 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> August

Scarecrow Trail 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> August

Produce Show 29<sup>th</sup> August

Family Fun Day 30<sup>th</sup> August

End of Festival Quiz 31<sup>st</sup> August

Name the Bear at all Venues 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> August

-----

Full program and details to follow, watch this space ...

## **This year's chosen charity is The Shakespeare Hospice**

The Shakespeare Hospice provides free specialist palliative and end-of-life care for patients, families, and carers facing life-limiting illnesses in South Warwickshire. Services include Hospice at Home, a Day Hospice for therapies, adult counselling, bereavement support, and specialized care for children and young people (5-18)



[stocktonvillagefestival@gmail.com](mailto:stocktonvillagefestival@gmail.com)

## New Date for Stockton Charity Cup Final

Our traditional Easter Monday Stockton Charity Cup Final date has been postponed , unfortunately due to the extremely wet winter months, the Charity Cup is behind with its cup fixtures and we still have to play Quarterfinals and Semifinals which takes us into April.

The plan is to hold the Final on either Friday 1st May or 15<sup>th</sup> May

We will keep you posted

***Rick Musson***

SCCC



### STOCKTON'S WEATHER STATION



## FEBRUARY 2026

**Headlines - for the fourth year running, this has been a snow-free February.**

In February the average **minimum temperature** was 5.0 deg. C, more than three degrees above the average (1.8 deg. C.). The lowest temperature was -0.1 deg. on the 13th. The average **maximum temperature** was 9.2 deg. C, just over one degree above the average (8.1 deg.C.). The highest temperature was 14,2 deg. on the 24th . **Rainfall** was 71mm, 45% above the average of 49mm. The wettest day was the 5th with 14.5mm. It rained on 16 days. **Sunshine** levels have been only 40% of the average for February. **Winds** blew mostly from the south west, south and south east (18 days).

**Trivia of the month - February has been the second dull month with very low sunshine levels, locally only four Februarys have recorded less sunshine since 1895.**

*The weather monitor*



## 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*

*These are informal notes only - for full record please refer to the authorised minutes on our website.*

**County and District Council Matters:** Cllr Crump reported that the **road safety survey of the crossroads** is under way (you may have noticed the traffic counters on all four roads) and that he has got a figure of £1.5m put into the capital works budget. This scheme will have to be appraised before it is fully committed in the WCC budget. Cllr Crump has also got approval for a **road safety audit between Stockton crossroads and Napton crossroads. Consultation on Local Government Reorganisation** - the parish council resolved to support the proposal for two unitary authorities to cover Warwickshire based on a north and south division.

**Planning Matters: Grange Farm, Tomlow Road (25/02888)** Change of use of two agricultural buildings to seven dwellings - Approved. New housing development off **Sycamore Close (25/00823)** - the parish council considered the idea of engaging a traffic consultant to look at the Richborough Traffic Assessment and the WCC response. It will also seek a response from the planning officer over how the various objections from statutory bodies have been satisfied by the Richborough response.

**Village Facilities:** The council agreed to **planting of daffodils** on various areas that it owns this autumn and to involve families in the planting. WCC will be asked to change the **street signs on Weaver's Way** to include a reference to Arnold's Corner and also to show it as a No Through Road.

**Stockton Cemetery:** the parish council has accepted a generous offer from a villager to donate a bench to be located in the cemetery. It also turned down a suggestion of creating a rose garden in the cemetery in view of the possible maintenance issues. The **verge opposite The Crown car park** will be reinforced with grasscrete in the next few weeks.

**Rugby Benevolent Fund:** this fund has now been wound up and all remaining funds have been distributed. Over the years it has given £17M to local causes and charities, including many in Stockton. The parish council resolved to write to the Trustees to thank them for their support.

**Villager of the Year 2025:** There were seven nominations for five nominees. The parish council decided that the award for 2025 should go to the **Village Hall Committee**. (See elsewhere in the News for a full report).

**MOAN OF THE MONTH** - to dog walkers please clean up after your dog particularly on the children's playing field as it can represent a real health hazard here.

**Next Meeting:** Monday April 20th 2026 at 7.15pm

*Howard Collerson* (Chairman)

## **STOCKTON VILLAGER OF THE YEAR 2025**

**The following nominations were received for 2025. The Award was given to Stockton Village Hall Committee.**

### **DORNE JONES**

**Nomination 1** I would like to nominate Dorne Jones that runs Josie's Place in the village. I would say she has brought the village together since opening the cafe and I think she deserves it.

**Nomination 2** I would like to nominate Dorne Jones for villager of the year due to the positive impact she and her team have had within the community. Josie's has become a very welcoming warm safe space for many people and I have noticed that some vulnerable members of our community will now venture out and visit Josie's, where as in the past they would have stayed home alone. Dorne is a wonderful young woman and as a villager I feel very proud of her and the wonderful cafe and safe space she has brought to the village.

### **HELEN & TERRY WARNER**

**Nomination 1** I would like to nominate Helen and Terry Warner, last year on 5th of January my next door neighbour of 44 years went into hospital and sadly died 4 weeks later, he was Helens brother, in the weeks he was in hospital they took his wife Joan to see him every day, and in the months that followed they were Joan's rock. She was diagnosed with bowel cancer in the weeks after Bill died and they were there for her every single day. They took her to doctor appointments, hospital appointments, dentists, shopping every week and organised every thing for her, help in the home medical aids to make her life easier. Sadly Joan also died in October but I know she would never have coped without those two wonderful people and everything they did for her.

**Nomination 2** I am writing on behalf of my parents Eileen & Keith Turner of 16 St Michael's Crescent, Stockton. They have both lived in Stockton for the entirety of their lives. They would like to make a nomination for Villagers of the Year and that would be for Terry and Helen Warner. My Dad has found himself suffering ill health for around the last six months and this has meant he has been unable to drive. He has struggled at times to walk to the bus stop. He has had to attend several weekly appointments to Warwick and to Southam, sometimes at short notice. My Mum's mobility is not good and general day to day shopping etc

has become difficult for them both. They really don't know what they would have done without this help and support during these difficult months.

### **SARAH LLOYD-MOSS**

I'd like to nominate Sarah Lloyd-Moss for villager of the year as she has given so much time to various committees over the years including the PTA, Scouts and the Road Safety Committee. She goes above and beyond for so many local causes and does it with so much passion.

### **STEWART THE POSTMAN**

I would like to nominate our Postman Stewart who is so caring, keeps his eye open for everyone, checks we are all safe and if not takes action - raises the alarm.

He is very much a people person and we all think the world of him. We are lucky to have him, not only as our postie but a very kind and caring person to us all.

### **VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

I would like to nominate Stockton Village Hall Committee for Villager of the year.

Due to their hard work and renovations, and bringing people of all ages to the village hall.



### **News From Andy Crump**

WCC Councillor for Southam, Stockton & Napton

SDC Councillor for Southam Central and East and Stockton

Mobile: 07771335273 - [cllrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk)

[andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

### **Information for Stockton PC 160326**

**Casework** including a particularly challenging ASB case, poor parking issues, potholes (I try to report as many as possible but please let me know or report online via [fixmystreet](http://fixmystreet.com) (see below), road closures. Still issues around streetlighting (the latter is quite challenging as various councils/public organisations own them. There are delays replacing some obsolete lamps as these organisations are reliant on the National Grid/utility companies in the process and they have a backlog, I believe. I will keep chasing and I share residents' frustrations. **I will be going around the village with a WCC Highways officer on Friday to look at the highway issues in the village.**

I will be using my delegated budget to provide some **Grasscrete on the verge opposite the Crown to make the area tidy and safe.** This should happen by the end of the month. I have spent all of my WCC Highways

delegated budget for 25/26, from 26/27 I will use some of it to do a **Road Safety Audit** for the village.

Sometimes as a councillor you are damned if you do and damned if you don't – residents raise issues re **speeding say on a road**, when I raise these concerns with the Police and they send a speed van, people then advertise its presence. Also, I work hard to raise issues and get infrastructure improvements and get things sorted, others then try to claim credit. Hopefully residents recognise those who have worked consistently on their behalf for many years.

I've also been told that the **leader of SDC** has been in Southam recently, maybe looking for a site for the headquarters for the **new unitary/unitaries that will replace WCC and District/Boroughs after local government reorganisation**. Maybe she was looking at the sites in SWLP that could see thousands of homes built in Southam and even more in the Southam area. **SDC only has a 2.74 year 5YHLS**, developers are circling the town and surrounding villages as the tilted balance is in presumption of approval of an application if it is deemed as sustainable. I've been told that **SDC has 9,000+ homes** in the planning process for Stratford. SDC are seeking to employ extra planning officers to meet any potential backlogs caused by the high number of applications. They will also be looking to put in additional resources to help progress the SWLP.

**The planning application for up to 80 dwellings on the 12-acre site off Sycamore Close in the village**, is still progressing, with many technical areas needing more information and clarity. I and the PC maintain our objection and will keep residents informed of any developments.

### **Stockton Crossroads**

As there was no Stockton PC meeting in February, I was able to update the Parish Council about the progress on the project. Recently the feasibility process progressed further with some temporary cameras erected and speed measurement tubes being placed on the road all around the crossroads.

One of the major stumbling blocks has been the cost of any works.

However, as part of WCC's capital budget resolution 26/27, it was agreed that

The Council will ask officers to bring forward proposals for the following capital investments:

- Home to School Transport Fleet
- Mobile Children's Centres
- Highways Maintenance – Stronger focus on flexibility over the maintenance programme
- Additional Children's Homes
- Changes to investment in schools sufficiency
- Investment in Residential Schools

- Investments in Innovative Technology e.g. BioChar/Waste Incineration
- Solar Panels on car parks and roofs of council buildings
- Stockton Junction

All proposals will continue to be subject to a robust scrutiny process prior to approval to ensure widespread support for capital investments, a strong business case and the deliverability of the project to ensure benefits for those who live, work and visit Warwickshire.

**SWLP (South Warwickshire Local Plan)** – as chair of scrutiny, the committee is monitoring its progress. The District Council has published its updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) for March 2026, setting out the timetable for preparing key planning policy documents that will shape the District's future development up to 2050. The LDS outlines when each stage of the Council's Local Plan documents will be prepared, consulted on and adopted. Keeping the scheme up to date is a legal requirement and ensures communities, developers and stakeholders have clear information about how and when they can engage with the planning process.

The revised LDS also confirms the latest programme for preparing the South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) - a joint plan with Warwick District Council that will replace Stratford-on-Avon's Core Strategy 2011-2031.

**The next major milestone will be the Publication (Regulation 19) consultation in June 2026, with submission for examination scheduled for December 2026.**

### **Road Closures over next few weeks in and around Southam.**

**28th March - Ufton Hill - 1 day**

**30th March - Stockton Road Stockton. - 1 day**

**30th and 31st March - Oxford St Southam- 2days**

**Road Closure - Dog Lane - 2nd April 2026 for up to 2days. Installation of a boundary box - I believe it is during school holidays**

All these aren't HS2 works so less likely to be amended or postponed but never say never !! Mostly for resurfacing and/or patching but also some tree works and a boundary box.

### **Food Waste Action Week 2026**

This Food Waste Action Week and beyond, find out how reducing your household's food waste is good for the environment and your wallet.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7466/make-your-food-go-fuuuuurther-this-food-waste-action-week>

### **Warwickshire Food Strategy update**

A further step to combat food poverty in the county, increase availability of affordable food in priority areas and empower communities to improve their diets and health outcomes has been taken.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7484/important-steps-to-combat-food-poverty-as-warwickshire-prepares-its-new-plan>

### **Student mental health**

Warwickshire County Council used University Mental Health Day to signpost to mental health and wellbeing support available to students studying in and around Warwickshire.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7483/warwickshire-students-encouraged-to-speak-about-mental-health-with-friends-and-family-on-university-mental-health-day>

### **Support available to young carers**

Warwickshire County Council is highlighting the support available to young carers and young adult carers, which can help them to balance important caring responsibilities alongside time to rest and enjoy fun activities.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7482/council-highlights-the-support-available-to-young-carers-this-young-carers-action-day>

### **Smoking Safety Month 2026**

It only takes one poorly extinguished cigarette to destroy a home. Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service has revealed that 35 smoking-related fires broke out across the county in the last year alone.

Find out how to stay safe: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7465/warwickshire-fire-and-rescue-service-issues-warning-as-national-safety-month-begins->

### **No Smoking Day 2026**

This No Smoking Day, smokers in Coventry and Warwickshire were encouraged to join the thousands of other local people who have accessed free support to quit over the past few years.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7476/no-smoking-day-join-thousands-of-others-quitting-smoking-with-local-support-in-coventry-and-warwickshire>

### **How many smoke alarms do you have?**

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service, as part of the Fire Kills campaign, is asking people to make sure they fit smoke alarms on every level of their home and to test them regularly.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7357/how->

## **many-smoke-alarms-do-you-have-**

### **Warning signs before an electrical fire starts**

With so many electrical appliances in our homes, it's crucial to stay vigilant and follow simple safety tips to prevent fires. □ □

□ For essential tips and links to more information click here: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7398/could-you-spot-the-warning-signs-before-an-electrical-fire-starts->

### **Warwick Castle Unboxed**

Discover untold stories from the Warwick Castle archive at this new exhibition at Market Hall Museum, Warwick.

Warwick Castle Unboxed combines objects and documents to tell some fascinating stories.

The exhibition opens on Friday 20 March: [https://](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7459/warwick-castle-unboxed-new-stories-from-an-old-castle)

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7459/warwick-castle-unboxed-new-stories-from-an-old-castle](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7459/warwick-castle-unboxed-new-stories-from-an-old-castle)

### **Cost of Living Support - SDC**

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/benefits-support/cost-of-living-support.cfm>

### **Personal Flood Plans**

Do you know how to make a Personal Flood Plan?

It's one of the best ways you can be [#BetterPrepared](#) for flooding near you, and takes just five minutes!

Find this and more tips to prepare for flooding at: <https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/risks/flooding/>

### **Emergency contacts**

Do you know who to contact in an emergency?

You can find your key contacts near you on the [#Warwickshire Resilience Forum](#) website!

Select a risk and enter your postcode at [https://](https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/emergency-contacts/)

[www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/emergency-contacts/](https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/emergency-contacts/), and find out who's here to help near you.

### **Log highways issues and report feedback**

Warwickshire County Council has launched a new platform to support the way customers can report a highways problem or log customer feedback through its website.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4953/updates-to-the-way-customers-log-highways-issues-and-report-feedback>

### **Reporting highways issues – or let me know !!**

[cllrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Warwickshire County Council is urging residents to report any Highways

faults that they encounter while driving or walking in the county via its website.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4085/warwickshire-county-council-encourages-residents-to-report-road-issues>

### **Collection Calendar**

Paper copies can be requested still either by emailing [info@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:info@stratford-dc.gov.uk) or ringing 01789 267575. Residents in my ward of Stockton and Southam Central and East can use my contact details ([andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk)) or 07771335273 if they need my assistance.

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=IwAR3vzf03zQgXUsEHH04ODEqfid1b1msbwpVg8DG6nQn47HoAcwmw5LL9Joc>

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/online-forms/missed-bin-report-form.cfm>

**PAVEMENT PARKING/PARK IT RIGHT – the excuse, I won't be long isn't sufficient – it only takes a few seconds for a collision to occur. THINK ABOUT OTHERS NOT JUST YOURSELF**

**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 –**

**Dentists' charges are going up: brace yourself!**

**I've just bought a twenty foot horse, I'll let you know how I get on  
Was wondering why I had such a sore neck, and then it clicked.....**

**I used to have a fear of hurdles, but I got over it...**

**I'm hoping to start a snooker cue repair business, anyone got any tips?**

Andy -07771335273 – [ellrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:ellrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk)

WCC Councillor for Southam, Stockton & Napton

SDC Councillor for Southam Central and East and Stockton –

[andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

## **W.I. Ladies and their Music Hall Hats**





## WOMENS INSTITUTE

Meeting 7.30pm at Village Hall first Monday of Month  
President:- Sue Gill Tel: 0750 2207380  
Secretary: Joan Ford Tel: 01926 810220



Sue opened our March meeting welcoming the members and we all sang Jerusalem.

Joan then went through the matters arising and new events and told us that there will be two darts teams again this year for the competition. We'd better start the practices soon ladies!

For those interested there is a trip in May to the Brandon Grange Farm Anaerobic Digester which apparently generates electricity from organic waste such as food scraps, manure or sewage sludge. This natural process produces a renewable fuel and a product which is used as fertilizer.

All of us, helped by Josie, then took part in making paper flowers to decorate the hats we had brought along, in the style of a Music Hall hat. Josie gave a demonstration and after the flower making we trawled through the ribbons, scarves and trimmings on the craft table to glue onto the hats. A good time was had by all.

Our photo is of some of the finished hats and maybe one not quite finished! We then enjoyed the refreshments whilst doing a table quiz.

The end of March is the end of our WI year so this is the ideal time for non members to come along to see what we do with a view to joining the group.

If you are interested please ring Joan or Sue on the above numbers. There is no charge for the first visit but you may wish to participate in the raffle. Tea and biscuits are provided.

Our next meeting will be **Monday 13th April 2026** at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. The speaker for the evening is Claire Louise on The Art of Listening to Yourself and the competition is a Scarf.

## 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*

¼ mile from Crossroads Garage – look for our Tourist Sign

### APRIL

Hopefully the weather will be suitable to be able to get outside and get on with some of the many jobs there are to do this month. Forsythias and flowering currant shrubs aren't as popular as they once were but if you have them now is the time to prune the old stems removing roughly a third as low down as you can. Also prune buddleias, fuchsias, winter honeysuckle and trim back lavender. Finish pruning roses and feed with rose fertilizer or well rotted manure. There seems to be plenty of ladybirds at the moment which will remove any greenfly rather than apply an insecticide.

Easter is the traditional time to plant potatoes. You can grow them in large buckets if your soil is too sticky and claggy. Sow cabbages and other brassicas, radish, peas, beetroot, carrots and spinach. Home grown carrots have a 'proper' carrot taste unlike those bought in the supermarket.

The garden here will be open every weekend starting on Good Friday until the end of September to raise money for the National Garden scheme. Last year I was able to send £1456.50 to headquarters which is then distributed to several caring charities including Marie Curie and Macmillan nursing. Thank you to those of you who contributed.

*Christine Dakin*

**Did you know ..... you can now exercise in a chair along to music.**

**An hours work out**

**No Lycra needed**

**And Fun!**

**Come along and join us -**

**Every Thursday - 11.00am til Noon - Village Hall - £3.15p**

## March Report

Now that we can accommodate more than 8 concurrent games we are getting an average of 22 players for our Saturday Club and 24 for our monthly melees. We are particularly proud that 15 of our regular players have entered recent Heart of England Regional competitions with great success. Two ladies' pairs – Sally Hayes/Emily Adams and Catherine Black/Sarah Jerger - were 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively in the International Womens' Day qualifier, and two men's pairs – Rich Rushton/Alfie Potter and Nouri Beladaci/Richard Collyer achieved 2nd and 3rd places in the Regional Winter League.

21 players turned out for the March melee on a very chilly but dry day. After three rounds John Emberton was the only player to win three games. Eleven players won two games, the best being Nouri Beladaci with a +12 points advantage, just ahead of Catherine Black on +11.

With just two weeks to go in Stockton's Winter League we have a three-horse race: Steve Neale is in the lead with 87 points just ahead of Sarah Jerger on 85 and Catherine Black on 80. With 12 more points available, it will be a very tight finish!

The annual Singles League started on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026 and after 8 weeks, Steve Neale and Nouri Beladaci are tying on 7 wins each, closely followed by Richard Collyer on 6 wins.

The next Open Melee will be on **4<sup>th</sup> April with a 2.00pm start**. Everyone is welcome and we will provide the boules and tuition on the rules.





## STOCKTON VILLAGE HALL

**Bookings - Helen Kittendorf Tel: 07902 775078**

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

***Hourly Rate £10***

Great news! The joists and flooring in the Village Hall have been replaced on time and within budget – it looks great and we would like to thank you for your patience whilst this necessary job has been completed.

We buried a Time Capsule under the new floor to be discovered at some point in the future containing various objects, including details about the flooring project and a copy of Stockton's News!

Our two new great activities – weekly Seated Chair Exercise classes and a bi-weekly Community Singing Group - have now started and there has been great participation in both. Feedback has been really positive, and we look forward to welcoming more of you to each session. The Seated Chair Exercise classes take place each Thursday starting at 11am and the next Community Singing Group session will be on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** at 6.30pm – no need to book, just turn up on the day.

Our other usual monthly events are scheduled as followed:

Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> from 10am-midday

Lunch Club is on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> at 12.30pm at The Crown

Quiz Night is on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 7pm

Whist Drive is on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm

Cinema Night is on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> starting at 7pm

Bookings are now being taken for the production of Oscar Wilde's 'An Ideal Husband' on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 6.30pm** and tickets cost £15 – the show is by Auntie Jen Productions who put on the recent pantomime and Murder Mystery Evening, so a great show is guaranteed!

Hold the date! Our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will take place on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July** – we will be hosting an Afternoon Tea and have great entertainment lined up! Further details will follow very soon.

Thank you for your continued support and use of the Village Hall - we hope to see you very soon at one of our events.

**The Village Hall Trustees and Management Committee**

## Stockton's Archives

### HILDA GARDNER'S MEMORIES

These are extracts from the memoir of Hilda Gardner and have been taken from her full memoir by kind permission of her grandson, Barry Fitchett. Hilda (nee Kenning) was the wife of Charles Gardner and in the later part of their lives lived at the bungalow at the top of Elm Row (The Batory).

### MARRYING CHAS AND COMING TO STOCKTON

I met Chas at the Long Itchington Flower Show and two years later we were married, much against Dad's will - he didn't think Chas was good enough, mainly I guess, because he was only a cement worker. Marrying a farmer would have pleased him better, like my sister did. I was twenty years of age, and Chas two years older. For about ten months we lived with my in-laws at Stockton, where Brenda was born. She was born on 16 August, 1924, the day on which the Nelson Cement workers came out on strike as they wanted an extra half-a-penny an hour. Not all the men came out and those who didn't were met on this particular Saturday by strikers holding poles tied by a line which stretched across from each side of Elm Row. On the line hung black stockings and as the men came home from work, the strikers yelled "Black Legs." This strike didn't do much good and I believe it only lasted about a week. The Manager would not take back those who he thought were the strike leaders and, as they were occupying firm's cottages, had to leave their homes. Some had their furniture put out in the garden.

This was a sad occasion, but it meant that we were given one of the vacant houses, 24 George Street, and this was our home for the next thirty-five years. Two of the evicted families were offered homes by Andrew Carter, at the back of The Crown Pub in a very large army hut, where they lived for years. 24 George Street was at the top end of the street and the end house of a block of four. It was a three bedroomed cottage, had a large back garden, no electricity, no drinking water, a bucket toilet, no bathroom, fields at the side and allotments at the front.

For drinking water we had to go up our long garden path and down Elm Row (half way) to a pump. A bit of a nuisance, especially if we had been out and arrived home thirsting for a cup of tea to find the water bucket empty. There was soft water in a well in the back yard, water off the roof. The rent was four shillings and two pence which was deducted from Chas's pay packet each week leaving a take home wage of thirty shillings. Paraffin lamps and candles; trimming these lamps was a daily task, later - and before electricity came - we had mantle lamps, called Aladdin lamps. T.B.C.

**THE NELSON CLUB at STOCKTON**

**Napton Road, Stockton Tel: 01926 812613**

**OPENING HOURS:-** Mon - Thurs:- 5pm - 11pm Friday 4pm - 12.00 midnight  
Sat 2.00pm - 12.00 midnight Sun 12 Noon - 11pm

**Brewed - 10am - 7th & 21st**

**Bingo - 2pm. - 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th**

**8pm - 11th, 18th & 25th**

**Chess - 5.45pm 22nd**

**10th Easter Family Quiz - 7.30pm**

**11th LIVE BAND Roadhogs - 9.00pm**

**25th LIVE BAND 2nd Hand Daylight 9.00pm**

**2nd May TRACTOR RUN passing at 12.30pm approx.**

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**

# **Stockton Football & Cricket Club**

**About Us:** We are a non-profit, Community Amateur Sports Club, run by a team of volunteers for its members & the wider community.

## **The Club House**

Recently extended to include disabled facilities and additional changing rooms. **Well stocked bar with Sky Sports & BT Sports.** Pop into the clubhouse or see Facebook for information on upcoming **events** or to become a member.

## **Our Teams:**

**Stockton Football**

**(Mens, Girls & Boys)**

**Stockton Stars Cricket,**

**Stockton Ladies**

**Netball,**


**Stockton Petanque,**

**Warwickshire**

**Grizzlies Baseball,**

**SFCC Darts Team**

**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

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