

# STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2021



Published and distributed by Stambourne Parish Council

No: 264

## STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The latest meeting of the parish council took place on Thursday 16 September in the village hall.

### **Playing Field**

This continues to be kept neat and tidy by our grass cutting contractor, Michael. Thank you Michael for your hard work.

### **Pavilion**

Since coming out of lockdown the pavilion has seen regular use. We are looking for a cleaner to keep it in good order throughout the year. See the advert below if you are interested.

### **Highways**

We continue to report in any highways issues and fly tipping as and when they arise. Highways issues can be reported in direct at [www.essex.gov.uk/highways](http://www.essex.gov.uk/highways) and follow the link.

Thank you to our team of Stambourne Wombles who are still regularly out litter picking to keep the village tidy.

### **Footpaths**

We are aware that some of the footbridges need repair. These have all been reported to Essex County Council. Please take care on our footpaths.

The final meeting of the year will take place on Weds 17 November 2021. Full minutes available on the village website at [www.stambourne.com](http://www.stambourne.com)

Debbie Hilliard

Parish Clerk

Email: [debbiehilliard614@gmail.com](mailto:debbiehilliard614@gmail.com)

Tel: 01440 785629



### **CLEANER REQUIRED**

To clean Stambourne Pavilion  
Regular hours and good rate of pay  
Please contact: Stambourne Parish Council  
01440 785629



\*\*\* **BONFIRE NIGHT is back!!** \*\*\*

Saturday 6 November 2021

From 6.30pm

Food and refreshments available

# STAMBOURNE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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## FROM THE CHAPEL

This last two months has been a time of getting back to something like normal. Shops seem fuller, people seem to have more freedom, some have even managed to travel away from this country! But at the same time the news isn't good, and I was reminded that life has always been like this. We think we are in control, but then something hits and we find that we are led down a path that we couldn't have expected. It is at times like these that we turn to others, and as a church we turn to God and pray. This last two months has been full of surprises, many of them not good. But then there have been the good surprises - Val and Adrian completed a 50 mile sponsored bicycle ride, and one of the people we support used his tricycle and between us we raised around £500 for the Stambourne Chapel Care charity and the building project that is ongoing. At the same time we have been able to help pay the hospital and food bills for many people in rural India, where the loss of a job has meant total loss of income.

So for all our freedoms, all our joys, there are many so much worse off than ourselves. We saw people fleeing from a volcano last month, people fleeing from an oppressive regime the month before. And yet we can only count our blessings for the life we have here. Yes, we can moan about price rises, but that means we are still able to buy those things, we still have a roof over our heads that are supplied with electricity, gas

and water. Yet a large proportion of the world don't have these things.

We are coming up to that season when "spend" is the watchword. What about buying a cow for a budding farmer in Africa, an education for a child in India, food for an orphan or a refugee...

For we don't know what tomorrow will bring. Whether it will be fun and laughter, or tears and pain. In the Bible the book of Ecclesiastes says "Nothing makes sense! Everything is nonsense. I have seen it all— nothing makes sense!" (chapter 1 verse 2 CEV). And this was written by someone 3000 years ago! He could see that all the effort we put in, all the things we chase after, everything we collect and store away, all of it is pointless. And yet he concludes that this is what we do!

So we pray that we will all find peace and joy in our lives. We will find the place where we can enjoy the relationships we have and find room to "love one another" as Jesus commanded us to do, for surely our relationships matter more than anything else.

Have a lovely Autumn.

God bless,

Adrian Burr

Minister, Stambourne Chapel, 07983 656166, [aburr@inbox.com](mailto:aburr@inbox.com)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**3rd October** - Sunday Service remembering all those we have lost in these last few years

Fundraising for

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

**15th October** – Macmillan's Coffee Morning 10 am -12 noon

**7th November** at **Ridgewell Chapel** - bringing the lives of the people on the war memorial to life

**13th November** - Christmas Fayre 10 - 2pm

**19th December** - Christmas Celebration Service at Stambourne (10:45 am), then at Ridgewell Chapel (4 pm) informal interactive Christmas celebration

**25th December** - Christmas Day Service and we hope to be holding a Christmas lunch for those who would otherwise be alone in the Chapel again this year.

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Tuesday and Thursday 10 am -12 noon we are at Chapel for coffee and a chat.  
A time to catch up with the church and all we are doing.  
Wednesdays 10 am - 1:30 pm - Wednesday Club for people with learning disabilities  
1:30 pm - Move it or Lose It - Exercises to keep us mobile

**STAMBOURNE CHAPEL CARE** is set up as part of the work of Stambourne Chapel and provides opportunities for people to volunteer to help people who are going through changes in circumstances, who are vulnerable, or who are not well. We offer a friendly face, and time to chat and discuss, as well as transport to hospital, pick up of food and medications, support during consultations with health or social services contacts, but above all someone who cares about each individual. If you know someone who would like this support please let us know. If you would like to volunteer, then please register with us.  
Contacts:

Adrian Burr, 07983 656166 email: [aburr@inbox.com](mailto:aburr@inbox.com)

Jill Holmes, 07883 423528 email: [holmesjill30@gmail.com](mailto:holmesjill30@gmail.com)

## SILVER LINK CLUB



Dates for next meetings – 2 pm – 4 pm at the Chapel:

October 12th and 26th

November 9th and 23rd

December 7th and 21st

January 2022 **4th Party Time**

If anyone would like to come along please just turn up or if you need a lift just give Vanessa a call on 01440 785122 or Lois on 01440 578720. We love to welcome new members.

## ST. PETER & ST. THOMAS BECKET PARISH CHURCH

Our second cream tea on August 22nd was very well supported. A very big thank you to all those helping and attending. We just about finished before the rain came down!

It is so nice to be able to sing again at our Church services. Although our organist, David, has retired we have recorded music at most services which is easy to sing along to.

We have a variety of services coming up in the next three months which are not at our set time of 9.30 am. So do please check the Church notice board or this newsletter before you set out.


### SERVICES AT STAMBOURNE FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS:

Date	Time	Service	
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Dave Brown
10 <sup>th</sup> October	18:00 pm	HARVEST FESTIVAL	Rev. Liz Paxton
7 <sup>th</sup> November	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Dave Brown
14 <sup>th</sup> November	10:50 am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	Rev. Mike Bursell
5 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Dave Brown
12 <sup>th</sup> . December	17:00 pm	CAROL SERVICE	Rev. Liz Paxton

Val Kerrison, Churchwarden

Email: [valariekerrison@outlook.com](mailto:valariekerrison@outlook.com)

Tel: 01440 785752 or 07879 816362



St Peter and  
St Thomas Becket  
Church  
Stambourne

# Harvest Festival Service

**Sunday 10th October**  
at 6.00 pm

Refreshments to follow

Food donations welcome, on Saturday  
Will be given to the Food Bank

## RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

### Autumn Reflections - and remembering those who have died

In Stambourne, and around about, there have been a number of memorials recently in church for people who died during the last eighteen months where the numbers permitted to attend a funeral were very limited. Families who had no opportunities to say goodbye to their loved ones or had to watch over Zoom are gathering to remember. We have also had the twenty year anniversary of 9/11 and we are beginning to reflect on those who lost their lives in the war as Remembrance day approaches. We think of the soldiers who died or were wounded in Afghanistan and the impact war continues to make in the lives of their families. Whether or not you have been fortunate in the last eighteen months and have been unaffected by bereavement personally, you will all know someone who has lost a loved one over this period. It has been a difficult time and is by no means fully over; we will be 'living with COVID' for some time. But we do want to acknowledge that we may have turned a corner and have a new approach to the challenge, and at the same time acknowledge that it has been tough for us, and especially for those who have lost loved ones. Although we are speaking about bereavement in different cases the repeating factor is in fact 'loss'. Whether a loss is perceived as small or significantly large they all have a cumulative effect. If we are able to come to terms with our losses through life and reach the point of acceptance then we tend to regain our zest for life and look to the future with hope.

One helpful way to deal with loss and bereavement is to give these difficult feelings over to God. It is especially true when you are able to do this in the company of others who understand the way you are feeling, because they have (or still are) experiencing the same emotions themselves.

On Tuesday 2nd November at 2pm we are meeting together in St Margaret's Church, Toppesfield to pay our respects to all those whom we still love but see no longer. We call this service 'All Souls' where we pray together, light candles for our loved ones, comfort each other and, with God's help, come to accept the new shapes of our lives without the family and friends who have died.

If you are reading this as a person who is struggling with bereavement or loss, whatever the cause, then perhaps you could give the comfort of Christ a chance, after all what do you have to lose? Come to the service, bring your friends and neighbours who you know are having a hard time, and find comfort.

Of course on 11th November we will be honouring the war dead at St Peter and St Thomas, Stambourne (with the service starting at 10.50). You are also very welcome to attend this service at the war memorial and in the church.

Blessings  
Rev Liz Paxton



The Church of England  
in Essex and East London  
Diocese of Chelmsford

## STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER

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Ideas and contributions for the next newsletter to Karen Crago at [kcrago@btinternet.com](mailto:kcrago@btinternet.com) or the post box at Tagley Farm by Thursday 24th November. Thank you.

### REMINDER

The Newsletter is also available (thanks to Steve Platt) on the Stambourne website – [www.Stamboure.com](http://www.Stamboure.com)  
This is a useful resource for checking latest news and old information if you lose your paper copy.

## STAMBOURNE LADIES GROUP

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On a warm, sunny day in August we enjoyed a day out at Helmingham Hall in Suffolk.



In September the weather was once again kind to us when fish and chips were delivered to the pavilion. We didn't let the twilight stop our fun!



### *FUTURE EVENTS*

- We're meeting up at 2pm on Wednesday 13th October at Debden Barns for coffee and cake.
- A trip with Felix Coaches from Haverhill to Norwich is planned on Tuesday 30th November for sightseeing and shopping.
- We've booked our table on Wednesday 8th December at The Red Lion, Sturmer to celebrate Christmas. To find out more call Vicky on 07908 099904 or Lorna on 07980 92263

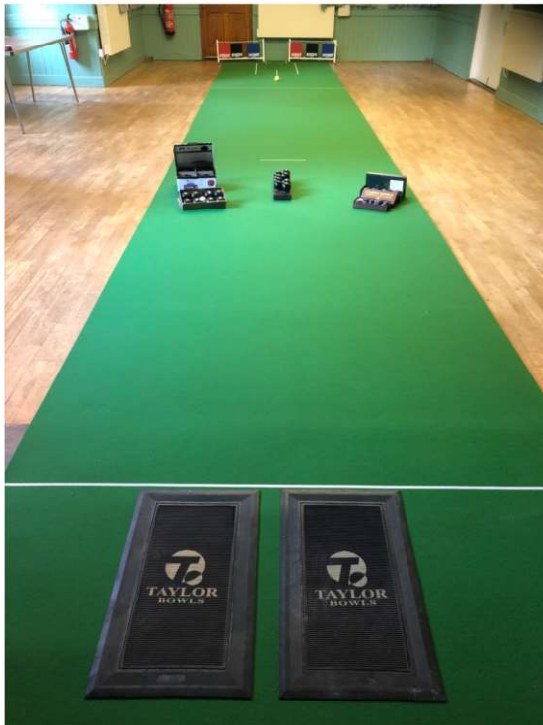
# VILLAGE HALL

## VILLAGE HALL AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

For Non-residents £10 per hour

For Residents £8 per hour

Including use of indoor bowls mats and bowls £10 per hour



There is also a table tennis table to hire.  
Please ring Rosemary on 01440 785339 to book.

## XMAS

This year there will be a **Grand Christmas Draw** so make sure you get your tickets!! On **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December** at 7 pm we will have a free Cheese and Wine get together (bring your own glass) with live 60's music, The Reflections. We will draw the raffle at the end of this evening.

## WOMEN'S WORKOUT

This friendly group meets every **Tuesday at 6 pm** at the Playing Field or in the Village Hall (depending on the time of year / weather) and via Zoom. The group is great for beginners and intermediates who wish to improve their fitness levels in a fun non-competitive supportive environment. Sessions are pay-as-you-go so come along and try it out!  
For more details contact Lara on 07471 105210.



## BINGO

This is fortnightly on **Wednesdays at 6:30pm.**

## CONNIE JAMES – EPIC SOLO RIDE FOR CHARITY



Connie completed the **970** miles in just nine days (an unbelievable average of 108 miles a day!) with just one puncture and apparently no aches and pains!



So far Connie has raised £2,625 for her chosen charity Back Up, who help people with spinal injury transform their lives. A big thank you to all those who have already donated. If anyone would still like support this good cause and recognise Connie's huge achievement then her Just Giving page is still open - search "**Connies Lands End to John o Groats page**".



**WELL DONE, CONNIE!**