

# STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY / MARCH 2024



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### STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

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The first meeting of 2024 took place on one of the coldest nights of the winter so far on Thursday 18 January 2024 at 7.30pm at the village hall. We were pleased to welcome our County Councillor, Peter Schwier.

**Pavilion** – New fire safety laws require buildings such as halls which are available to hire, to have a fire risk assessment, this is underway for the pavilion. A grant of £300 has been awarded from the District Council's Councillors' Community Grant and will be used towards buying 30 new chairs for the pavilion. Thank you to Cllr van Dulken and Braintree District Council for this grant.

#### **Bonfire**

If you were good enough to contribute material to our village bonfire, we apologise that you are not going to enjoy the experience of seeing it burn. You will remember that we were forced to cancel our November celebrations due to the difficulties of parking cars on the waterlogged field, however we planned to light the fire at a weekend when the weather was favourable, and anyone interested could gather around and enjoy the experience.

Unfortunately, this now is not an option as a misguided individual, for reasons that are difficult to fathom, took it upon themselves to light the fire without any notice. This action was completely without any permission from the Parish Council, and we regret the loss of an opportunity for us to get together for a pleasant social event.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we hope that you will continue to contribute material to our bonfire when we need it for bonfire celebrations later in the year. Please do not add any more material to the site now.

We are adding mesh reinforcement to the entrance of the parking area so that wet weather should not cause problems for future bonfire evenings.

**Highways** – County Councillor Peter Schwier was able to update the Parish Council on Essex Highways' work to repair the potholes and other highway issues across Essex. He also updated the Parish Council on the impact of Storm Henk and the winter gritting service.

**Defibrillator** – A recent incident meant that the new defibrillator at the village hall was accessed and removed. Fortunately, it did not need to be used and is now back in place, but this shows how important they can be. Thank you and well done to those quick-thinking individuals who sprang into action when needed.

The next meeting dates are:

14 March 2024

16 May 2024

All are Thursdays at 7.30p. Parish Council meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend.

Full minutes and agendas are available on the village website – [www.stambourne.com](http://www.stambourne.com)

Debbie Hilliard, Parish Clerk

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# STAMBOURNE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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## CHAPEL NEWS

There are lots of challenges in life today whether they are those caused by the weather or the ones we see on the news of people doing bad things. One statement which struck me was when one of the Post Office investigators was asked whether he felt what he was doing was right and he answered that he was just doing his job.

And I suppose many get trapped into situations where they are just doing their job without really considering the consequences of it. I spent much of my working life visiting companies and have had people in very senior positions say that they are proud of something which to anyone outside the company looked very wrong.

We often make our own judgements don't we? In work, in life, in relation to our neighbours, and even our own relations. But often we don't know the history behind the situation and all that has happened. The Post Office investigator may have had some difficult relationships in his work life which led him "to keep his nose clean" and just get on with the job. In some instances we may be the people who are causing that. We may put people under pressure so that they will hide under some title just to keep things peaceful. So is there a way we can react? We are told in the Bible to seek justice. But whose justice? That of the courts? Of this land or of some other country? Is there an absolute justice? One that never fails? That can be relied on whatever the situation?

Well for believers we can say yes, but some would even question that. Why would a God allow such suffering and pain? Well that's a very difficult question to answer in one line of text. But we do have an answer and it is provided by God in the Word of God, the Bible, that has been around for thousands of years and has proven trustworthy and reliable in answering life's difficult questions.

Only one way to find out..... Enjoy a peruse if you can or come and ask.....

Adrian Burr

Minister, Stambourne Chapel

## WHAT'S ON

**Film Evening 24th February - Doors open at 7pm, Film starts at 7:30pm**

The film is "**The Perfect Wave**" based on the true story of Ian McCormack (aka 'The jellyfish Man'), starring Scott Eastwood (Clint Eastwood's son), Rachel Hendrix (from 'October Baby'), and Cheryl Ladd (who played Kris Munroe in the TV show 'Charlie's Angels'). This incredible faith-filled feature film is set to become a global Christian blockbuster with its all-star cast, breath taking cinematography and an out-of-this-world true story that has to be seen to be believed. We will start with Fish and Chips and then move on to watch the first part of the film. A break in the middle will allow us to enjoy an ice cream before watching to the end of the film.

**23rd March** we celebrate the 100th Birthday of Jean Dobell. We will be starting at 2pm

Our **Good Friday Service** (March 29th) will be at 4pm and will be a time of Reflection and Prayer.

We celebrate our Risen Lord on **Easter Sunday** (31st March) at 10:45am

Stambourne Chapel Care **Outings Group** are organising a trip on April 16th (open to anyone) to the **The Hut** in **Felixstowe** for a day at the seaside. If you would like to come along let us know and we will send through all the details. If enough people want to go we will be using a bus. The Hut is a warm building on the sea front where we can enjoy some time together and entertainment, or if the weather is good, walk along the prom and enjoy lunch together.

We also take people to the dementia Friendly cinema in Halstead at 2pm on a Thursday.

15th February we will watch "The Bodyguard", 21st March the film is "The Little mermaid".

If you would like to come along let us know and we will arrange transport to get you there.

We will also be going to see the lambs at Boydells Farm in Wethersfield in April. We will let those interested know when that will be.

Also if anyone is interested in a trip to the Christmas Spectacular at Thursford please let us know so that we can establish whether we will be using a coach or cars!

#### **REGULAR EVENTS at the Chapel:**

**Sunday mornings – Worship** (1st Sunday of month includes Communion) – 10:45am

**Tuesday - Warm Space** Coffee and biscuits – 10am-12pm

**Wednesday - Wednesday Club** - 10am-1pm

**Wednesdays - Fitness Class** - Gentle exercises for older people - 2-2:45pm.

**Thursdays Warm Space** Coffee and biscuits - 10-12pm

**A warm welcome awaits!** (Our heating system is very effective and we are a warm hearted bunch of people!)

## **SILVER LINK**

Silver Link meet at the Chapel between 2 pm and 4 pm on alternate Tuesdays. The next dates are:



13 February

27 February

12 March

26 March

9 April

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

Looking back to the end of last year:

The Carol service was well attended and many thanks to those who decorated the Church, read lessons and helped with serving the refreshments and tidying up!!

Rev. Caroline said her “goodbyes” at the Benefice Service on 31st December at Stambourne and again this was well supported by all 7 Churches in the Benefice. She was presented with a garden voucher which she said will be put to good use in her new house and garden. We wish Caroline all the best in her new Parish.

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

Date	Time	Service	
11 February	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Justin Tomkins
3 March	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	T.B.C.
10 March	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev. Justin Tomkins
31 March	EASTER SUNDAY – services in the Benefice to be confirmed		
7 April	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Malcolm Buckland
14 April	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev. Justin Tomkins
5 May	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	T.B.C.
12 May	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Justin Tomkins

Val Kerrison, Churchwarden

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

Tel: 01440 785752 or 07879816362

## STAMBOURNE LADIES GROUP

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**When** – Monthly on Wednesday – 7pm for 7:30PM

**Where** - Stambourne Village Hall, Church Road, Stambourne CO9 4NP

**Cost** - Free for members; £5 for guests

**Refreshments** – Tea, coffee and buffet included

### 7 February - WELCOME TO 2024!

Welcome all to a New Year with the Stambourne Ladies Group! It's **membership time** again—bring your purse and sign-up for another year with us, as we share our exciting plans for 2024. Catch up with your **Gal-entines** (Valentine's Day is just around the corner after all) or make new friends.

### 13 March - EASTER CRAFTY BAKES

Our very own baking queen **Zoe** will teach us how to get crafty in the kitchen in time for the upcoming Easter holidays. Yum!



### 10 April - LIGHT-HEARTED POETRY COMPETITION & RECITAL

Are you a budding (or seasoned) poetess and fancy a bit of friendly competition? Join us tonight and enter our **poetry writing contest**! (Details will be published nearer the time.) If you don't fancy writing your own piece, but have a favourite poem you would like to share with the group, bring that along and spread the word. And if poetry is just not up your alley, we've got you covered — come and enjoy the delightful company, lots of laughs and delicious food.

### 8 May - TALK: EVERYTHING STOPS FOR TEA



A talk about the history of tea and the tradition of afternoon tea, held by Eve Regelous. You can expect an informative and entertaining evening filled with chats, laughs and delicious afternoon tea themed food.

Contact Lorna on 07980 922 636 or Zoe on 07740 723 057 for more details.

## KNIT AND NATTER CLUB

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At **The Green Man**, Toppesfield: **Every Thursday — 5pm – 7pm**

Everyone welcome! You don't need to be a member of the Stambourne Ladies Group to join us.

**FREE ADMISSION** — Just buy a drink from the pub. Contact Anna on 07944 696 527 for more details.



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Contributions for the next newsletter (to cover events in February, March and April) to Karen Crago at [kcrago@btinternet.com](mailto:kcrago@btinternet.com) or the post box at Tagley Farm by Friday 22 March, please.

## STAMBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

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Here's hoping you all had a good Christmas and New Year.

We had a very good evening at our Christmas Quiz night and we would like to thank Fiona and Tony Bailey for volunteering to organise the quiz and Zoe for cooking the excellent chillies.

A thank you also to Oscar Pickess for donating the Christmas trees.

Coral also held one of her Craft Markets in January and it went well. She will do another one later in the year.

Our next committee meeting will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 5 pm. This will be our A.G.M. All are very welcome as well as anyone who would like to join the Village Hall Committee.

To hire the Village Hall please contact Rosemary Horton on 01440 785 339.

Residents £8 per hour; non-residents £10 per hour.

## LIBRARY SERVICES

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We know we can sign up to borrow hard copies of books from Essex Libraries. In Stambourne we are lucky to also have the Mobile Library which visits the Village Hall on Wednesday, every three weeks, between 10:05 and 10:35 am.

**Dates for 2024 are:**

17 Jan, 07 Feb, 28 Feb, 20 Mar, 10 Apr, 01 May, 22 May, 12 Jun, 03 Jul, 24 Jul, 14 Aug, 04 Sep, 25 Sep, 16 Oct, 06 Nov, 27 Nov, 18 Dec

Remember you can also borrow eBooks and audio books remotely. Visit:

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/home> to find out more.

However, the Library offers many other services. They are not just about borrowing books they also run a lot of activity sessions. There are many weekly sessions for children with additional activities in the school holidays. Many sessions are free, although you'll often need to book.



In addition there are also sessions for adults, some centred around books and reading and others wellbeing. For example there is a weekly walking group which meets at Sible Hedingham Library. Again, check the libraries website or ask at the Mobile Library for information.

Note: If it's more convenient you can join Suffolk Libraries (for example Haverhill or Clare) who also have a wide and varied activity programme. See: <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/>





2023/2024



Did you know

Disposable nappies are not accepted in your clear sacks - please put these in your grey bin, or try reusable nappies.

### RECYCLING SACKS



NO GLITTER

LOVE

# My Recycling Calendar

## MONDAY ROUTE 1

**OCTOBER 2023**  
2 9 16 23 30  
**NOVEMBER 2023**  
6 13 20 27  
**DECEMBER 2023**  
4 11 18 25  
SAT 23

**JANUARY 2024**  
2 8 15 22 29  
TUES 2  
**FEBRUARY 2024**  
5 12 19 26  
**MARCH 2024**  
4 11 18 25

**APRIL 2024**  
2 8 15 22 29  
TUES 2  
**MAY 2024**  
7 13 20 28  
TUES 7  
**JUNE 2024**  
3 10 17 24

**JULY 2024**  
1 8 15 22 29  
**AUGUST 2024**  
5 12 19 27  
TUES 5  
**SEPTEMBER 2024**  
2 9 16 23 30

Grey bin and food bin  
Clear sacks and food bin only  
Green bin, clear sacks and food bin  
Green bin (SUBSCRIBERS ONLY), clear sacks and food bin

Did you know

Food that cannot be eaten should go into your weekly food waste collection. It becomes biofuel and soil improver. A single recycled banana peel can generate enough electricity to charge your phone twice!



BY 7AM



NO SIDE WASTE

GREY BIN



GREEN BIN

### GARDEN WASTE

From 4 March 2024 this will be a subscription service only. If you want a garden waste collection, make sure you sign up at [www.braintree.gov.uk/gardenwastesubscription](http://www.braintree.gov.uk/gardenwastesubscription)



FOOD BIN

If you print this, please recycle it in your clear sack.

Correct at time of publication 16.8.2023. Please check [www.braintree.gov.uk](http://www.braintree.gov.uk) for any changes.