

STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER

APRIL / MAY 2024



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No: 279

STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The latest meeting of the Parish Council took place on Thursday 14 March 2024 at 7.30pm at the village hall, Stambourne.

Playingfield

The playing field is looking in good order despite the very wet winter. It has been decided to install additional mesh matting to the vehicle access point as soon as weather permits.

Highways

As you are no doubt aware the number of potholes on our roads, both locally and further afield are a constant problem. We continue to report them. Highway issues can be reported in using the Essex County Council website – essex.gov.uk/highways and follow the links. Drive safely everyone.

Our Vehicular Activated Signs (VAS) sign is now in Church Road and does seem to be having an impact on traffic speed. It will be regularly moved to different locations in the village.

Planning

There were 2 applications for consideration at the meeting:-

- Application Number 24/00330/FUL - Land Adjacent, 1 Church Road, Stambourne
- Application Number 24/00285/HH - Hill Top House, Dyers End, Stambourne

Next Meeting Dates

16 May 2024 (AGM and Annual Parish Assembly)
18 July 2024
19 September 2024
21 November 2024
All are Thursdays at 7.30pm

Full minutes and agendas are available on the website at www.stambourne.com

Debbie Hilliard
Parish Clerk
Tel: 01440 785629
Email: debbiehilliard614@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE - GREY BIN COLLECTIONS

Braintree District Council have notified that from April ONLY black bins with closed lids will be collected. Excess waste (i.e. additional bags alongside the bins) will NOT be collected.

Braintree District Council consider that a 180 litre bin is big enough for a family of up to four people, if you separate out all your recyclable waste. You may qualify for a larger or additional bin if:

- you have a larger family
- you have one or more members in disposable nappies or incontinence pads
- you have a household member who has a medical condition that generates significant additional waste.
- none of the above guarantees that you will be allocated more capacity.

There is no charge for larger or additional bins and if needed you can apply on the BDC website: <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/xfp/form/567> or search “request for a larger bin”.



ST. PETER & ST. THOMAS PARISH CHURCH

The Annual General Meeting of the Parochial Church Council is on Tuesday 30th April at 7pm in the Church. We are always looking for new members for the PCC so if you are interested in joining please contact me for further information or likewise if you can offer any help at all please get in touch.

SERVICES AT STAMBOURNE FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS:

Date	Time	Service	
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	Tia Stickland
12 May	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev. Justin Tomkins
2 June	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Malcolm Buckland
9 June	9:30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Justin Tomkins

Val Kerrison, Churchwarden
Email: valeriekerrison@outlook.com
Tel: 01440 785752 or 07879816362

STAMBOURNE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

CHAPEL NEWS

At the end of March we celebrated the 100th birthday of one of our active and regular members of the congregation! Obviously Chapel reaches parts that other things cannot reach! Which raises a thought - we all have our beliefs even if it is abdication of believing anything (which seems very prevalent!). For many people will say "I don't believe", but when discussing in more depth we discover that most people have some strongly held beliefs, some of which are remarkably similar to the Christian Faith!



It is said that Church is the only organisation set up for its non-members, for the role of churches throughout the generations has been to provide where government, and society falls short. So at the end of the 19 century it was education and health that was in short supply for those who couldn't afford to pay privately. And so many of our schools are C of E, but the early ones were nearly all started by non-conformist churches. Even chocolate was in short supply to the masses so all the big name chocolate companies (Fry's, Cadbury's etc) were started by non-conformist church people, who often cared for their workers, providing education and housing as well.

In today's society things are different. Most things are provided for, but there are still people who fall between the cracks in the ever diminishing services that the Government is providing. So we find people becoming lonely, who can't get the care they need, and Churches and voluntary organisations step up and take some of the pressure off these services. REACH in Haverhill, the Foodbank in Halstead, Stambourne Chapel Care and various other voluntary organisations provide services for people that are not available elsewhere. These organisations rely on donations to pay for their work, and volunteers to do much of that work. We have just produced our report for the end of our third year of Stambourne Chapel Care.

STAMBOURNE CHAPEL CARE

We have just passed out three years of operation - gosh where did that time go! We started in February 2021 and looked after around thirty-five people with just four volunteers. We now have around sixty whom we support and have ten volunteers providing visits, telephone calls, dog walking, accompanying for health visits, and generally trying to help people to access the services they need.

If you would like a copy of the report please ask Adrian! And if you would like to volunteer, or to refer, yourself or any one you know for support and help, we will be pleased to hear from you. Our biggest difficulty at present is providing sufficient transport and supporting people through hospital and doctors' visits so if you have a few hours each month and are willing to help, please let us know.

WHAT'S ON

Outings Group

We have enjoyed many trips including visits to the cinema in Halstead for their dementia friendly afternoon showings of some interesting films and have planned several visits for this coming year including:

April 16: Felixstowe - places still available. £20 for coach plus fish and chips lunch.

May 17: Boydells Farm, Wethersfield

June 16: A boat trip down the Stour starting in Sudbury.

December: A trip to an afternoon showing of the Thursford Christmas extravaganza.

These are open to everyone, though priority is given to the people registered with Stambourne Chapel Care. If you would like to come to one of these visits, or have a suggestion for somewhere else to go do let us know! It's always more fun to go with a small group, than alone.

18 May - Plant Swap and Sale – 10 am - midday

Regular Events

Sunday - Services at 10:45 am

Tuesdays - Warm Room - Coffee and chat 10 am -12 noon

Wednesdays - Club for people with learning disability 10 am -2 pm

Thursday - Warm Room – 10 am – 12 noon

We look forward to seeing you at our events and activities

Adrian Burr

StambourneChapelMinister@gmail.com

07983 656166

SILVER LINK

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



9 April

23 April

7 May

21 May

4 June

18 June

STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER

Contributions for the next newsletter (to cover events in June, July and August) to Karen Crago at kcrago@btinternet.com or the post box at Tagley Farm by Friday 24 May, please.

STAMBOURNE LADIES GROUP

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

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**! 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.



Thursday 13 June – VISIT: WENDY THE DETECTORIST

A walk and talk with viewing of Wendy's interesting historical finds.

If you have anything you'd like to bring along that you have found in the ground please do so as Wendy can help you identify it.

Pub afterwards for those who would like to do that.

10 July – SUNSET FISH 'N CHIPS @ The Pavillion



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

KNIT AND NATTER CLUB

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

What if I can't knit? (And don't want to learn!)

No worries! Some people come to crochet, sew, draw, and some don't bring anything but themselves and just come for a chat and to meet friends (or make new ones). Whatever your levels of craftiness, join in!



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.

Mum's library in a phonebox

Family helps to transform abandoned red telephone box in village into a library

By Elliot Deady
elliott.deady@newsquest.co.uk

A mum-of-three who turned a village's rundown red telephone box into a library has said the initiative provides the "magic" of books to those in the community.

Iona Connolly has always been an avid reader and wanted to bring the "magic" of books to those in Stambourne, between Halstead and Haverhill.

The 35-year-old moved to the village in September 2022 after previously living in both Harlow and Hackney.

She stumbled across an abandoned phone box kitted out with old shelves which she transformed into a library.

"I saw a telephone box in our village and it didn't have the telephone inside, but old shelves," she said.

"It used to be used as a library but then the person running it stopped because they moved away.

"I got this idea in my head where I thought: 'I'm going to get this telephone box, it's going to be my responsibility'."

"I wanted to do it to give something to the community."

Since 2006, BT's Adopt a Kiosk scheme has allowed communities to buy redundant phone boxes for just £1.



All the books that can be redeemed for free with a £1 World Book Day token 2024.

Iona got permission from Stambourne Parish Council in December 2022 to acquire the telephone box.

Since then, Iona and partner Ben, 35, have added new shelves and personal touches, such as signs in the windows.

She said her children have been "excited" by the library, especially Jake, aged ten, and Ava, six, who

helped to stack shelves and even created pictures to add to it.

Iona loves seeing people in the library, with the door closed behind them as they look at the books.

"Seeing all the books stacked up and sectioned by book genres, and the before and after pics of the library, was lovely," she said.

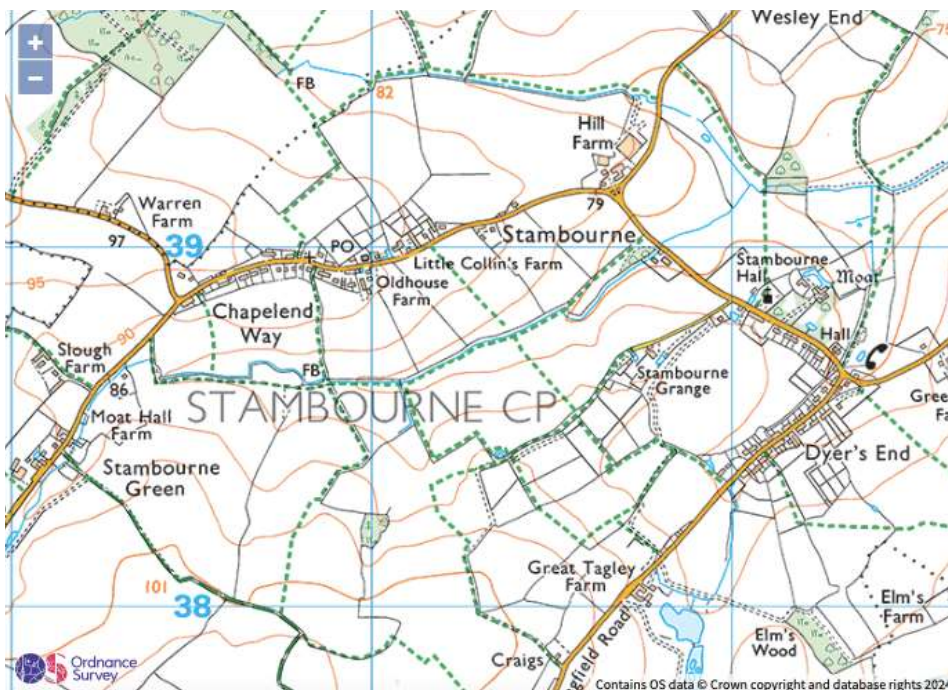
Iona hopes to do some themed events in future after being inspired by seeing other phone boxes dressed up to celebrate Easter and Christmas.

Helpers - Iona's children have helped to transform the disused telephone box in Stambourne. Inset: Before and after the work

Feel free to use with wonderful amenity if you are passing.

WALKING

As the weather improves and we all venture out a bit more you can find an interactive Ordnance Survey map of the village (and further afield) on <https://www.stambourne.com/things-to-do/walking-routes-and-footpaths/> where you can check the possible routes and footpaths.



You can also check the weather here before you set out! <https://www.stambourne.com/weather/>

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – How to Protect and Mark Your Property

Hello All,

I talk to many of you in the rural communities, whether at farmer's markets, coffee mornings or generally patrolling, about the importance of marking property as every year Essex Police recover hundreds of items and we are unable to return to their rightful owners - **why is this?** Because the property is not marked. A sample of this can be seen here:



There are various ways in which you can mark your property, the simplest method being to mark or etch your property with your postcode, house or flat number or the first three letters of your address. All of these measures help police identify stolen goods, making it harder for thieves to sell. **So make your mark!** As technology improves there are now advanced products on the market - Essex Police do not promote any one company, just those that are secured by design.

What is Property Marking?

The Secured by Design ("SBD") membership scheme includes member companies whose products have been awarded the 'Police Preferred Specification' status. As a police initiative Secured by Design was implemented to encourage the building industry to adopt crime prevention measures in the design of developments to assist in reducing the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime, creating a safer and more secure environment and ensuring that the product is sufficiently robust to resist physical attack by casual and opportunistic criminals. The SBD focus is on the critical factors that combine to deliver a product's performance - design, use, quality control and the ability to deter or prevent crime. Examples are: Smart Water, Selecta DNA, Asset Marking.

What is DNA Property Marking?

DNA property marking is a forensic marking system designed to reduce theft by coding valuable possessions with unique synthetic DNA and using warning labels to alert criminals your property is protected. Each property marker contains thousands of microdots which allow Police to identify property located at the scene in a matter of seconds. Thieves can no longer get away with possessing stolen property when confronted by Police. This small bottle of glue which is easily applied to lots of household items contains UV tracers which are incorporated in the synthetic DNA product making it easy for Police to locate and return to their owners.

Other DNA products include Personal Defence Sprays, Underground DNA spray for cables, Tool marking kits, DNA intruder sprays and Tagging Sprays.

For more information around crime prevention advice visit the Essex Police web site:

[Crime prevention advice | Essex Police](#)

Stay safe, enjoy the Spring & Summer months, but please MARK YOUR PROPERTY.

I look forward to seeing you out and about.

Terrie Johnson

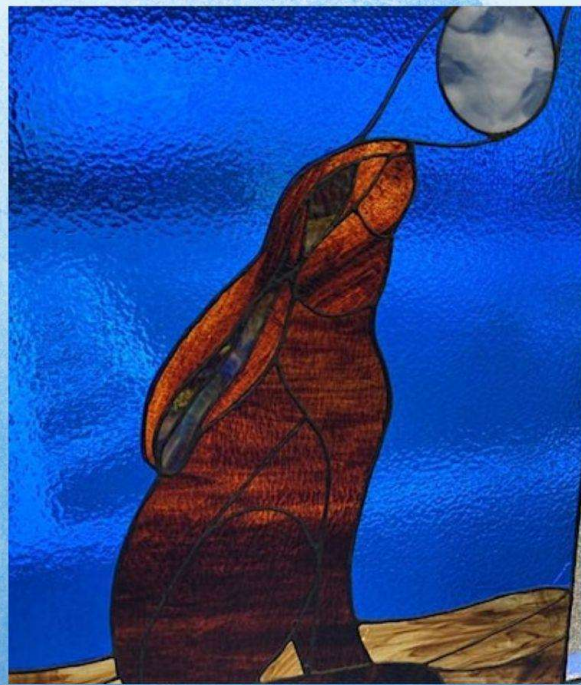
PCSO 8143 Braintree Community Policing team

STAMBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Our next meeting for the Village Hall Committee will be on April 11 at 5 pm. This will be our AGM. All are welcome as well as anyone who would like to join the committee.

To hire the hall please contact Rosemary Horton on 01440 785 339.
Residents £8 per hour; non-residents £10 per hour.

STAINED GLASS CLASSES



Jeanette Woodhouse is doing a stained glass workshop in the Village Hall on Saturday 18 May between 10 am and 3 pm. A light lunch and refreshments will be served. The price is £70:00. Anyone interested please contact Jeanette on 07707 507 880 or jeanettewoodhouse07@gmail.com

Stambourne Charity Tractor Road Run

Craft fair and Classic car/tractor show
RAISING MONEY FOR Breast Cancer

Sunday 2nd June

Run to start at 10am

Start and Finish at

STAMBOURNE PLAYING FIELD

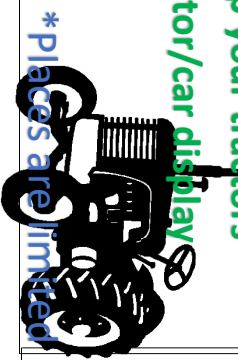
£10 a tractor*

To get your place and your booking form please
email

stambournetractorrun@yahoo.com

or call colin on 01440788211

We would love you to park up your tractors
after as part of our small tractor/car display



Stambourne Charity Tractor Road Run

Craft fair and Classic car/tractor show
RAISING MONEY FOR Breast Cancer
Sunday 2nd June

At Stambourne Playing field

STALL HOLDERS WANTED

We are looking for country crafts /
small local businesses to sell or
exhibit.

£10 a pitch

SET UP FROM 10:15 SHOW OPENS ONCE TRACTORS RETURN
AROUND 12:30pm

Email Craftsbyamy23@outlook.com for
more information and to book your pitch