

# STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2025



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## STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

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The latest meeting of the Parish Council took place on Thursday 17 July 2025 at 7.30 pm in the village hall. There were 3 members of the public present.

**Pavilion** – Work on the shutters has been completed. The pavilion is available to be booked for children's parties and other events. Please contact me for details.

**Playingfield** – Thank you to Michael who has been keeping the field tidy through the summer. A new gateway will be installed between the playing field and the field behind to allow for overflow parking on bonfire night with the kind permission of the landowner.

**Highways and Footpaths** – As mentioned previously anyone can report highways or footpath issues direct to ECC Highways on [www.essex.gov.uk/highways](http://www.essex.gov.uk/highways).

**Planning** – As you may have seen in the press recently the Local Plan Review has been taking

place. The Call for Sites allowed landowners to submit areas of land to Braintree District Council for consideration for development. Parish Councillor Nathan Robins attended the Committee Meeting on 26 June and was able to report that the Committee decided not to put the Stambourne sites forward. More information on the Local Plan Review can be found at: -

[About the Local Plan Review – Local Plan Review – Braintree District Council](#)

**Chapel End Way Defibrillator** – Local resident Vicky has been monitoring the defibrillator in Chapel End Way for many years and has now stepped down. We would like to thank Vicky for her contribution to the village. If anyone would be interested in taking this on, please get in touch.

**Bleed Control Kits** – The Parish Council has agreed to fund the purchase of two bleed control kits from the Bonfire Fund to be located at each end of the village.

And finally .....



A date for your diary - Bonfire Night will be on Saturday 8 November 2025 – more details to follow!

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

Debbie Hilliard

Parish Clerk

Tel: 01440 785629; email: [clerk@stambournepc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@stambournepc.org.uk)

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Contributions for the next newsletter (to cover events in October, November and December) to Karen Crago at [kcrago@btinternet.com](mailto:kcrago@btinternet.com) or the post box at Tagley Farm by Friday 27 September, please.

## ST. PETER & ST. THOMAS PARISH CHURCH

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There is very little to report from the Church, apart from saying that Tia Stickland's Priesting is on Saturday 27 September and after that date she will be the Vicar overseeing Toppesfield and Stambourne. There may be the possibility of both our services returning to 9.30 am but I will confirm that and any other changes in the next Newsletter.

Tia has kindly offered to officiate at a Harvest Festival for us and this will be held at 4pm on the afternoon of Sunday 19 October. Decorating of the Church and offers of tinned and packaged food items can be taken along to the Church on Friday 17 and Saturday 18 October. After the service these items will be taken to the Food Bank.

### SERVICES FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS:

Date	Time	Service	
3 August	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Tia Stickland
17 August	11:00 am	Holy Communion	Rev. Graham Ridgwell
31 August	11:00 am	BENIFICE SERVICE at STAMBOURNE ALL WELCOME	Rev. Justin Tomkins Tia Stickland
7 September	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Tia Stickland
21 September	11:00 am	Holy Communion	Rev. Graham Ridgwell
5 October	9:30 am	Morning Prayer	Tia Stickland
19 October	4:00 pm	HARVEST FESTIVAL ALL WELCOME	Tia Stickland

Val Kerrison, Churchwarden

Tel: 01440 785752 or 07879816362; email: [valeriekerrison@outlook.com](mailto:valeriekerrison@outlook.com)

## STAMBOURNE LADIES GROUP

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### PICNIC in the PARK – Wednesday 13 August

6:30 pm onwards

An informal get together at the playing field to mark the Summer; free for members and guests – bring whoever / whatever you want to make a fun evening!



### PROVISIONAL - JEWELRY UPCYCLING WORKSHOP – Wednesday 10 September

6:00 for 7:30 pm in the village hall

Please check social media or [www.stambourne.com](http://www.stambourne.com) for updates

### OKTOPBERFEST – Wednesday 8 October



6:00 for 7:30 pm in the village hall

**Jacket potatoes** with a selection of fillings, served with salad.

**Choice of desserts** to follow.

Bring your favourite tippie – **tea, coffee** and **squash** provided.

Free for members, £5 for guests

For all events please contact **Lorna** on **07980 922 636** or **Zoe** on **07740 723 057** for more details.

## KNIT AND NATTER CLUB

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**Every Thursday** — 5pm – 7pm at the Green Man, Toppesfield  
(Meet-ups are subject to variations, **please check** before attending)  
Contact **Anna** on **07944 696 527** for more details.

## FRESHWELL SURGERY - THE CREAMER FUND

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The CREAMER Fund spends in excess of £70k per year simply to maintain these vital services and equipment, services which save patients considerable waiting time, rather than waiting for hospital appointments. As well as the economic pressures which shape our future, we are having to find innovative and new ways to connect with our existing and potential donors – which we see as opportunities for growth! There has been an influx of new residents in our villages – a huge ‘Welcome’ to you all – but this does place more pressure on the services Freshwell Health Centre delivers. In order to maintain its position within the top 10 surgeries in the Country, we need to raise more funds over the coming years.

But exciting times are ahead for The CREAMER Fund; you may have noticed a greater presence on Facebook (please follow us if you’re not already doing so!) and within our Parish magazines as we reach out to a wider audience. It is key to our fundraising that we engage with the every-changing demographic in our communities and will be launching some new fundraising initiatives over the coming months.



We are very grateful to everyone who donates to The CREAMER Fund – it’s truly heart-warming to receive the positive comments we get as well as the donations through collecting boxes etc. For more information on how to make a donation go to [www.creamerfund.co.uk](http://www.creamerfund.co.uk).

Thank you and let’s look forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Dr Andrew Hildrey  
Chair of The CREAMER Fund

## VILLAGE HALL

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### ACTIVITIES

#### YOGA

After a successful taster evening and sit down yoga afternoon; YOGA is BACK!!

YOGA – **Tuesday 9 September** at 6:30 for 1 hour.

£9 per session or £49 for a six week course.

SIT DOWN YOGA – **Thursday 11 September** at 1:00 pm for 1 hour.

Prices as above.

The Yoga instructor’s name is Jo Johnson.

Tel: 07789 967467; email [joanneadele27@hotmail.com](mailto:joanneadele27@hotmail.com) if you have questions.



#### BINGO



Bingo is also back weekly commencing on Monday 2 September – 3 pm to 4 pm.

Anybody requiring a lift to the village hall please contact Wendy Anderson.

Tel: 01440 788702 or 07810136200

The Village Hall is for hire - £8 per hour for residents; £10 for non-residents.

Ring Rosemary Horton on 01440 785339.

## VILLAGE MARKET – TOPPESFIELD VILLAGE HALL

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Finest Local Produce – Arts & Crafts, Meat, Cakes, Pastries and a lot more!!

The next dates are 1 August, 6 September and 4 October.

10:30 am – 12:30 am





# ST. MARGARET'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

As always, we have been busy in school this summer term and are delighted to share some of our news with you.



We are very pleased to announce the opening of our new Outdoor Classroom by Reverend Tia Stickland.

This is a beautiful space for children to use whatever the weather for play or outdoor learning. The Outdoor Classroom fits with the school's ethos of enhancing children's wellbeing, alongside our Forest School, and to teach children about caring for nature and the local environment.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the Earls Colne & Halstead Educational Charity and the Friends of St Margaret's (FOSMs) for their help with funding this project which means so much to the school community.

The whole school enjoyed a trip to Colchester Zoo in May where they showed great respect for everyone, making it a brilliant day. We must thank our staff, parents, governors and FOSM's for their support in making this trip such a success.



Once again, our year 6 pupils have shown immense resilience and positivity during SATs week. They all worked hard and showed great determination working through these tough papers. We wish them all the best of luck as they move up to senior school.

At the time of writing this, there may only be four weeks of term left, but we still have a lot to pack in, our school production, transition days, our community coffee afternoon, sports day, district sports and a water fight!



We welcome all to our Community Coffee Afternoons so please look out for details of future dates. There is always plenty of cake! You can contact the school office for details.

Our hall is available for lettings. If you have a need for a letting for a one-off event or a regular booking and are struggling to find a suitable space, why not contact the school office by emailing [admin@st-margaretscofe.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-margaretscofe.essex.sch.uk) or calling 01787 237354.

More information about the school including up to date news and events can be found on our website:

<https://www.st-margaretscofe.essex.sch.uk/>

