

STOCKTON'S NEWS

keeping you informed

November 2025

Issue 181

Magazine Deadline:- 15th of the month
emails: *Magazine Items* - stocktons.news@gmail.com
Adverts - stockton.ads@gmail.com
Web Page:- www.stocktonsnews.org.uk



Presentation of W.I. Federation Darts Cup to Stockton's W.I. Team
 Mary Lee, Glynis Dunhill, Sally Humphrey
 & Charlotte Leister (not in photograph)

THE NELSON CLUB at STOCKTON
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OPENING HOURS:- Mon - Thurs:- 5pm - 11pm Friday 4pm - 12.00 midnight
 Sat 2.00pm - 12.00 midnight Sun 12 Noon - 11pm

Saturday 8th - 9pm - Live Band MODSTORY
Sat 29th - 9pm Live Band THE GUITAR HEROES
Sunday 30th 7.30pm - 10pm Xmas Doormat & Gift
Sack Painting (tickets only)

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 Every Saturday @8pm - Bingo

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Parish Councillors – Josie Hancocks gave notice of her retirement from council
Bus Tokens – distributed 6th May to 136 eligible villagers. Laurel Farm development mentioned and fair to visit.

Villager of the Year – Mona Griffin. A new club for children The Middle Club started in the Playing Field Pavilion is started by Wendy Rumsey.

16th May

Election- Chair Malcolm Bodfish

Vice Chair – Howard Collerson

Parish Councillors – Eric Scott, Matt Sharples, Ron Cairns & Brian Eadon

27th June

Street naming on new development – It was decided that the names for the new development should be Laurel Drive and Sycamore Close.

1996

23rd Jan

Chair – Malcolm Bodfish

Vice Chair – Howard Collerson

County Councillor – Bransby Thomas

District Councillors – R. Stevens,

Jim Taylor, Geraint Morgan

Parish Councillors – Eric Scott, Brian Eadon, M. Sharples, Ron Cairns

Planning – H. Stock 1, Napton Road, application for 38 dwellings together with new road and landscaping. Charles Muggeridge Fair to visit in June – 1 week.

27th Feb

Villager of the year – Ron Cairns



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Old Parish Council Min Extracts

1994

25th January

Sgt. Ian Tew attended to address Parish Council on the new policing of the village which now comes under Leamington Spa. Southam Police Office will be open from 8am – 12pm weekdays and 8am to 2am weekends. Other times will be switched to Leamington Police Station.

Houses in Glebe Close being built and a sign reading – Stockton welcomes careful drivers – has been ordered. Warwickshire County Council have written to assure councillors that the new Middle School at Long Itchington and Senior School at Southam will not share buses to transfer them to their schools.

22nd February

Mrs. Trudie Windsor retired as Clerk and Ron Cairns co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

29th March

Chair – Brian Eadon Vice Chair -Malcolm Bodfish Clerk -William Robinson

Parish Councillors – Matt Sharples, Josie Hancocks, Ron Cairns,

District Councillors – Ruth Tresidder, Robert Stevens

Mrs. Trudie Windsor presented with an inscribed bowl for 25yrs service to Parish Council with the last 17yrs as Clerk

26th April

Planning Application – Stockton Stores, The Square – proposed change of use from existing retail shop to 3 starter homes with associated parking

24th May

Elections – Chair Brian Eadon Vice Chair-Malcolm Bodfish Clerk – William Robinson Parish Councillors – Matt Sharples, Josie Hancocks, Ron Cairns, Travel tokens issued at Bazaar. Seat placed on village green from Stockton Charity Cup in remembrance of George and Annie Finch. Fair to visit June 11th -16th . Villager of the year – Bernice Benbow.

28th June

Howard Collerson co-opted on to Parish Council

Planning Application – 41 houses sought

Application from Rugby Cement for 300 dwellings on the site of the original Nelson Quay's project minus the canal side and marina dwellings.

29th November

Chair – Brian Eadon Vice Chair – Malcolm Bodfish

Parish Councillors – Ron Cairns, Howard Collerson, Josie Hancocks

District Councillors – Mrs. Ruth Tresidder, Geraint Morgan, Robert Stevens

1995

28th Feb

The resumption of the Carnival was decided to be held on June 17th. Stockton School still known as a first school.

25th April

Chair – Brian Eadon

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Stockton Football & Cricket Club

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more fearful for my own safety with that edge on such heavy axes as he favoured, and remembering that snick on his hand was bothered about my leg if I made the slightest error.

'You'll be all right,' Tom says consolingly, and after a short spell of trepidation getting the feel of the thing, I found it marvellous: its own weight with that edge snicked off surprising big chunks at one stroke. All the same, for comfort in regular use I'd stick to my own smaller blade. Tom's could be as worrying as a sawbench, and I hadn't to take trees down like him, only trim the cordwood. On the other side of this firewooding, the delivery side, I made many good customers and, even better, many good friends and acquaintances. Until the second war came along I worked a fortnightly delivery, that was Stockton, Bishop's Itchington and Harbury one week; Southam, Napton and Prior's Marston the other.

'Lall' Tranter of Rugby, who dabbled in that sort of thing, fixed me up with a better replacement for my old Ford 'tonner' after a couple of years at this job, and he laughed at a later meeting when he related to me how he, having taken my old vehicle in part exchange, had gone on to a wedding that day and had turned up at the ceremony with it belching steam from the radiator like a railway engine. But then, you had to live with your 'tonner' in constant comradeship in those days to know of all their little foibles, to be able to coax and pamper the best out of them. Talk about an education in mechanics! I had soon found that one couldn't for ever be calling in the aid of the professionals from the garages, which was ruinous and inconvenient, and made inroads into the cash one needed to live on.

I am now convinced that it was realising this sort of thing early enough that enabled me to make my living at all and provided the reason why I was able to withstand the inevitable competition that came up from time to time.

My competitors would be carried away with the glamour of the new lorries, so strongly impressed on them by the skilled salesmen who naturally pounced on us, seeing us about with our old corks, but I soon learnt the answers to their blandishments. 'You needn't pay down,' they would argue; something above £4 a week in instalments, I believe, which was just about all the profit one could make on the job, and which constituted a fair living at that time. 'And look what you've got when you've paid for it!' they would continue. I was bucked when I realised the answer to that one, which was: 'Oh. no! That's where you're wrong! By the time I've paid for it, I shall have a vehicle like this one!' After many years I amused myself by having a reckon-up and found my old vehicles had cost me, without running expenses, only a shilling a week to buy.



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timber, bucking and rearing, yet there's a touch of sadness at the passing of the other.

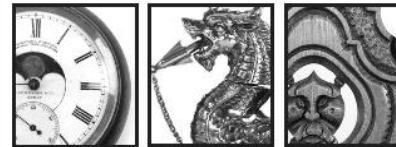
There was old 'Shakes' (short for 'Shakespeare') in Crackley Wood; not the poet, but the horse named after him. This was some time later and Spa and Warwick had set up a portable engine and sawbench in the wood, and I was fetching away the offcuts. 'Shakes' in contrast to the remarkable contrast to that team effort at Princethorpe, was an equally efficient solo exponent. Worth his weight in gold, as the chaps said. One had to watch him to realise the skill he was capable of, as he lugged the trimmed trees to the sawbench. He seldom needed a word from his driver as his chain was coupled to the log and he set off, gently laying into his collar and sometimes almost on his knees as he put his weight into the business, and watch him negotiate the stumps of the felled trees or any other obstacles; his wisdom in realising the length of the tow-chain so that he started to pull left or right in good time to miss them; and his instant understanding of the futility of wasting his strength when the log did foul anything, when he would stand and wait patiently for his human colleague's helping hand. I even question whether mechanisation could supersede him in those circumstances, though I must concede I had been too hasty in stating that that team of twelve could never be replaced by a machine. But it was, and I hadn't foreseen the idea of the winding-gear and its long tow-rope which didn't chew up the ground like the horses' hooves. Neither had I foreseen the anchoring down of the tractor to prevent the little thing being dragged back rather than the heavy timber brought forward.

Once I had some treetops to cut out myself in a spinney some fields off the road, Marton way, whose entrance was by the old toll-house. I believe it was February time, and surprisingly the turf was hard enough to begin with; we had had an unusually dry spell for that time of year, but the weather eventually broke and drove me back to the sawmill stuff, luckily available just then, and the vagaries of that season's weather prevented me resuming at this spinney until June. But the point I wanted to relate was to bring in old Tom Higginson, who had some fame as a prince of 'fallers' (perhaps 'fellers' is more correct but in our area they were called by the former name). At this time Tom hadn't quite finished his part in the business and now and then I had a word with him, and had noted his extreme care of his tools. You can realise that when I mention that he would finish his axe-edges on a razor hone. I don't know if others in his line did that, but he did and I had seen one day frightening evidence when, skilled as he was, he looked up at me in conversation whilst honing away, and the merest touch on the blade of his axe lifted a chunk of flesh on the ball of his thumb.

So, when another day I went off without my own axe, I thought I'd see if Tom had an old one to loan me, and he says: 'No, no old axe; take one of these', I was startled that such a particular chap would trust me with the thing, risking that razor-edge of his careful nursing, and making me fearful that I might damage it. On his assurance that he wasn't worried on that score I was no end



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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>

Magazine Policy

Deadline for articles **15th** of the month and can only be accepted if in the form of a
typed/written copy to Stockton's News Editorial Team
or email stocktons.news@gmail.com.

The Editorial Team

1. Reserve the right to withhold or shorten items as views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team.
2. Contributors can request that their names be withheld but the team cannot accept anonymous items for publication.
3. Reserve the right to edit each edition of the magazine to be put on the Web.
4. No Liability will be accepted for loss or damage caused by error or omission from advertisements or content.
5. Income is aimed at covering all costs generated by the production/circulation of Stockton's News.
6. Any surplus funds will be distributed within the Parish of Stockton. Village groups are invited to apply for funds to the betterment of our community.

Copy of Magazine Guide Lines reinstated from the 1980's Parish Mag

7. We will try to print anything that won't land us up in court
 8. We do not endorse ALL the views expressed.
 9. We don't judge between those in dispute.
 10. We want to provide news, views, opinions and reports. We do not want to be unfair, biased, censorious or condemnatory.
- Airing a view is an opinion but a continual airing of that view and/or its opposite becomes an argument.

Another relative of mine was to emphasise my ignorance of country matters that should have been inherent to my country breeding. There was my father with his birds, my cousin Fred (with Denny Hardwick) on the habits of wild duck, and now another cousin, Charlie Neal, bred on that New Zealand Farm we have talked about, had to teach me a trifle on rabbits' habits. He accompanied me now and then when he could be spared from the farm (sometimes his brother Tom did so, too) and it was on that same stack of cordwood concerned in our last adventure that he had remarked that he daresay I had found bags of rabbits. Oh, I had seen plenty, but they never waited for me to catch them. I had seen a stoat pounce on a pretty little young one that had inadvertently wandered out of the stack; so deadly was his pounce that I thought it best not to disturb him and thus prolong the youngster's agony. But I couldn't pounce like that! and had wondered how one set about catching the things, until Charlie on his first visit here – I must have made scores of visits, all fruitless – taught me a thing or two, and in a few moments had a victim in his hands. A quick glance round had drawn from him the remark: 'I'll bet there's one in here; could be eight or nine, no telling', and sure enough he draws one out of the hole in question. Now how did he know that? I ask. There was no end of holes which we had previously uncovered as we had loaded from the stack, so how do I know which are occupied? 'Why, look here,' says Chas, and draws my attention to an odd hair from the fur of a rabbit at the entrance to the run, which he begs me to note is a clean new hair, and there you are. Talk about attention to details!

It's a queer thing that I could have shown cousin Charlie how to produce rabbits out of a top hat, and I daresay I had done so at some time or other, but his was the more useful knowledge for all that.

The bulk of this cordwood at Princethorpe had come from the wood at the far end of the lane, and the timber hauliers were still drawing out the trimmed timber for the sawmills, and here I saw the sight of a lifetime, which I doubt I shall ever see again: a twelve-horse timber team lugging out the loaded carriage. The weather had broken by then and the continual drawing-out of the timber had churned up the end of the lane that ran into the wood until the axles of the carriage were dragging through the mud. There was something thrilling in watching this sight: the marvellous perfection of each member of the team in responding to the orders shouted by their attendant who – so expert himself – walked some distance away in the wood on clean solid ground whilst his equally experienced charges were wallowing in the mud up to their bellies, all pulling their weight in faultless unison – no snatch or jerking – flawless teamwork.

Modern mechanisation gives me some mixed thoughts: no doubt often sparing hard-worked animals, sometimes amounting to ill-treatment (though I think it very doubtful that the timber-team handlers, who had such an affinity with the horses, probably stemming from the pride in the perfect product of their efforts, would have stood for that) and I must grant, too, that it's no mean spectacle to watch a comparatively small timber-tractor anchoring down and fighting out the

Part 24

The season was nearing the winter-time and I kept wondering whether I would clear this particular stack before the weather broke and prevented me getting off the turf with my load. Time and again I had the satisfaction of thinking 'that's one more load nearer' as I found my wheels on the hard road once more; and the winter and dark evenings drew nearer, and the turf gradually softened. Still I kept getting off, sometimes when I had hardly hoped to. Then this memorable day I had gone alone – on occasions I had a little temporary hired help; only one or two loads left now, and I loaded up, which could be hard work enough, roped my double stack on and started up the engine. My wheel spun; I stopped immediately as I had enough experience now to avoid the error of grinding oneself in deeper. So I laid pieces of bark behind the wheel and tried reversing; the other wheel spun, so to work with the jack. I don't know if you've ever tried this sort of thing on softened turf: your jack pushes into the ground so you find chips of wood, brick ends, stones or whatnot and they push into the ground until you have pushed enough in to hold up. Finally you get the wheel up and something you hope to bite on under it. In the course of time I get two wheels up. And have thrown off some of my load from the rear stack. Try again and find that the front wheels have sunk in. Jacking commences afresh and numerous and various solid articles are pushed into the ground; more and more of my laborious loading is undone until I have thrown off all the load and still the empty lorry spins its wheels, which have now become so muddled they refuse to grip.

By this time night is approaching and I am getting anxious as my lights happen to be out of order, not having been needed for some time and awaiting first chance of repair. Then a farm chap is seen at last – I don't remember seeing another fellow creature all that time – but no tractor is available, and he suggests that I walk across the field and collect an armful of straw from the rick over there. Not too hopefully I take his advice as I could think of no alternative. Lo and behold! It works; it gives me a bite and I'm away backwards and daren't stop backing, fearful of spin again, until I'm near the slope to the gate. Must have looked funny but never mind, we're on the road and just time to get home before dusk. No time to throw any of our wood over the hedge and ditch to load on the road, which little task we have often been driven to do, but go home empty. And there we were: one whole day's work for nothing, in fact worse than that if you consider the petrol and running expenses. I'd have been better off if I had sat at home with a book, but at least I was grateful to get home before the problem of the lights arose.

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Locations of Defibrillators and Bleed Packs

Telephone Box, The Square
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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.

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

<p style="text-align: center;">STOCKTON CHURCH METHODIST AND ANGLICANS IN UNITY The Bridges Group of Parishes www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk</p>					
THE BRIDGES GROUP	02.11.25 4 th before Advent Green	09.11.25 3rd before Advent Remem- brance	16.11.25 2nd before Advent Green	23.11.25 Christ the King Red	30.11.25 ADVENT SUNDAY Purple
PRIORS HARWICK	Morning Worship 9.00am	Village Remembrance Service 9.00am Evensong 5.00pm	Holy Comm BCP 9.00am		
PRIORS MARSTON	Morning Worship 10.30am	Village Remembrance Service 10.45am	Holy Comm CW 10.30am		
WORM-LEIGHTON		Village Remembrance Service 10.45am		Morning Worship 10.30am	THE GATH- ERING 10.30am Holy Comm BCP
NAPTON	Holy Comm CW 10.30am	Village Remembrance Service 10.45am	NO SERVICE	Evensong 5.00pm	
STOCK- TON	Morning Worship Lay Led 10.30am	Village Remem- brance Service 10.45am	NO SERVICE	Holy Comm CW 10.30am	
LOWER SHUCK- BURGH		Village Remembrance Service 10.45am		Holy Comm BCP 9.00am	

BCP – Book of Common Prayer CW – Common Worship

Stockton's Summer League ended on 27th September with Nouri Beladaci declared 2025 Champion with 103 points. The race for runner-up was won by Sarah Jerger on 81, just ahead of Anthea Sansom on 78 and Richard Collyer on 76.

After 30 weeks, the annual Singles League is a closer contest. Nouri Beladaci is in the lead with 22 wins, Anthea Sansom is a close second with 19 wins followed by Sarah Jerger on 18 wins.

16 players turned out for the October melee and after three rounds there were just two unbeaten players. Rick Hayes was the champion conceding only four points, creating a club record of +35. There was a battle for second place between Catherine Black and Rich Rushton who were both unbeaten after two rounds and played what was in effect a knockout for the third win. Rich Rushton emerged as the winner with a 13-8 result and thus claimed 2nd prize, leaving Catherine in 3rd place with the best points advantage with two wins.

The highlight of our domestic year will be our annual Beaujolais Nouveau melee and buffet on Saturday 22nd November when we will be playing for The Bill Bentley Beaujolais Nouveau Trophy.

We also continue to offer 'Pétanque parties' to any local organisation wishing something a little different as their annual social evening and have recently hosted the Rugby Webb Ellis 41 Club and ladies from Stockton WI.

Looking forward, we have a busy calendar, with the start of the Heart of England Winter Pairs on 9th November, the Heart of England AGM on 23rd November at Whitnash, and the first round of the European Cup for Clubs due to be played in November

The next **Open Melee will be on 1st November**. Everyone is welcome – we will provide the boules and tuition on the rules.



The club has had a very busy Autumn, including completion of the extension to our playing terrain from 8 lanes to 16 lanes, giving us the opportunity to host Regional and National competitions.

The new pistes were opened officially on 28th September for the club's annual Open Pairs competition involving 20 teams: seven from Stockton, plus teams from Leicester, Whitnash, Coventry, Hampton-in-Arden and Penkridge, plus our old French friends and seven Juniors. The weather was fine, the standard of play excellent with some very close games, where everyone played at least one game on each of our new pistes.

Two Stockton teams qualified for the Gold knock-out stage, with Rich Rushton and Alfie Potter reaching the semi-final and earning the accreditation of Stockton PC 2025 pairs champions.

The National Veterans Champion of Champions competition was held at Lordswood on the 28th September in which Catherine Black and Steve Neale represented the Heart of England Region. They won 2 out of 3 games against top teams from other Regions which qualified them for the Gold knock-out stage but lost their quarter final against a strong team from Central Region. A great performance and good learning opportunity for them.

We dedicated our Saturday Club on 20th September as a tribute to Bill Bentley, with a melee involving his family and friends as well as the Stockton Pétanquers. Over 30 people played with plenty of red wine consumed before we all adjourned to the clubhouse for an excellent buffet and an evening of memories of Bill.



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

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 3rd 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 209 075
Every Wednesday at 8pm in Stockton	Wendy	01926 812694
1 st & 3 rd 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 st 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. Please note that Susan works part-time but she will get back to you as quickly as she can.

www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk



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 :~

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)

Sunday:-

Games Night - Nelson Club with free hot snacks - 5pm

Regular Monthly Village Events

Monday

Women's Institute: A.G.M. & Afternoon Tea ~ 2pm ~ Village Hall ~ **3rd**

Parish Council Meetings: 3rd Monday ~ Village Hall ~ 7.15pm ~ **17th**

Tuesday

Brewed Awakening: Nelson Club ~ 10.00am - 12.30pm ~ **4th & 18th**

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

Wednesday

Friends Lunch: Every 2nd Wed ~ The Crown ~ 12.30pm ~ **12th**

Church Lunch: Every 3rd Wednesday ~ 12noon ~ **19th**

Saturday

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

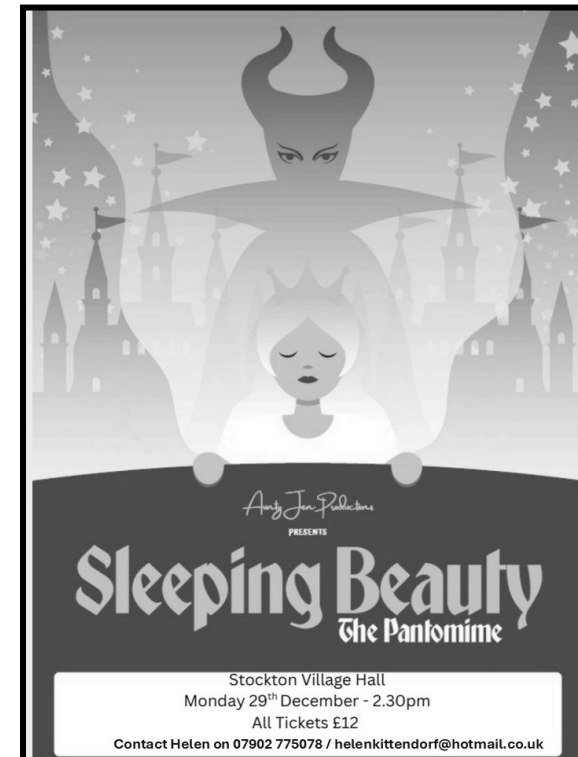
Whist Drive: Every 2nd Sat ~ Village Hall ~ 7.30pm ~ **8th**

Stockton Cinema: Village Hall ~ 7.00pm ~ ***** **15th** *****

Pétanque Melee ~ F.C. & C.C. ~ All Welcome ~ 2.00pm ~ **1st**



Village Hall Murder Mystery Evening – Friday 10th October





STOCKTON VILLAGE HALL

Bookings - Helen Kittendorf Tel: 815376

email: helenkittendorf@hotmail.co.uk

Hourly Rate £10

It's been another busy month for the Village Hall as we continue planning for lots of events taking place between now and the end of the year – your support is really appreciated as the Village Hall exists to provide a space that the whole Community can use.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Murder Mystery Evening – it was a fabulous night and great fun! The Aunty Jen Production Team were amazing and we are now looking forward to the panto!

Our next event is **wreath making on Friday 14th November at 6.30pm** – the cost of £40 per person includes all of the items needed plus a glass of wine – you just need to bring some scissors or secateurs. Please contact Helen to book your place by **Friday 24th October** as places are limited.

Our pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' is on **Monday 29th December at 2.30pm** priced at £12 and you can reserve your place now by contacting Helen in the usual way.

We also have a Christmas Shopping Trip to Broadway, Worcestershire planned for **Friday 5th December** – departing at 4pm from the Village Hall and leaving from Broadway at 8pm - a great start to Christmas! There are magical lights, music, reindeer and lots of boutique shops and food outlets – something for everyone! The cost is £13 and please contact Helen to book your place.

This month our **Coffee Morning** will be on **Saturday 1st** from 10am-midday,

Whist Drive is on **Saturday 8th** at 7.30pm and the **Lunch Club** is on

Wednesday 12th at 12.30pm at The Crown.

The next **Stockton Cinema Night** is on **Saturday 15th November** – PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER DATE - if you want to join the mailing list for Stockton Cinema, please contact Steve at stevekittendorf@hotmail.co.uk, to find out what film is coming up and the supper on offer.

Hopefully you have noticed that the new solar panels have been installed – this is great news and means we are now starting to reduce our carbon footprint and cut our energy bills.

We have also been successful in applying for funding from the National Lottery Community Fund towards the cost of replacing the floor – more on this project to follow soon.

If you have any suggestions for events we can hold at the Village Hall then please let us know - we look forward to seeing you very soon.

The Village Hall Trustees and Management Committee

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		Andy Crump	815745
Member of Parliament		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	815376
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	815376
Magazine Treasurer		Steve Kittendorf	815376

LOCAL EVENTS

Events and News from Our Neighbouring Villages

Long Itchington History Group

Meeting at Community Centre 7.30pm

Www.longitchingtonhistory.org.uk

WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER STARTING AT 7.30.

"Deception and Subterfuge in War Time" - Dave Morse.

For further details phone 07745110666. To request transport call 07771953139

Programmes available on request



Southam Gardening Club

thesouthamgardeningclub.blogspot.co.uk

Tel: 01926 813986 or 815086.



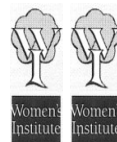
‘A Fun Gardening Quiz’ with prizes for the winning team

7:15 for 7:30pm on Monday 17th November

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

All are welcome. Non-members £4.50. Refreshments included.

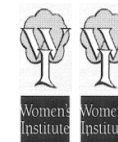
Further information: thesouthamgardeningclub.blogspot.co.uk
or Tel 01926 813986 or 815086.



WOMENS INSTITUTE

Meeting 7.30pm at Nelson Club first Monday of Month

President:- Sue Gill Tel: 0750 2207380



Sue opened the October meeting which was well attended and after a rousing rendition of Jerusalem, the meeting was opened and notices read. One of the events of interest is the Creating an Enamel Pendant workshop at Federation House in December. Well would you believe it we've only gone and done it again, Stockton WI has won the darts cup.

Well done Mary, Charlotte, Sally and Glynis on your excellent play beating Long Itchington in the final. I wonder if we can do the hat trick next year. (see photo)

Sue introduced the speaker, our very own Chris Stubbings who presented 'Up Hill Water'. Through some delightful slides, anecdotes and stories, Chris gave us an insight into his life leading up to and including life "on the Cut".

Brought up on an isolated farm in the Blackdown Hills of Devon, Chris honed his skills as a Wheelwright. With the decline of carts with wooden wheels however, Chris answered an advert seeking work on the canals. Although many canals had been left to decline in 1948, cargoes were still being carried on the bigger canals up until the 1990s. He also found work on a community boat and butty pair "Lapwing" and this is where he met his wife Gill. The boat was used for Guide and Scout group holidays but also for party trips too. Chris loved the waterways and engineering so decided to build his own steam boat called "Adamant" and Chris and Gill lived aboard until the imminent arrival of their first child. After moving to George Street, Chris continued to work on the canal, maintaining locks, clearing blockages and keeping the canal flowing. One of the jobs he was involved with was keeping the flow of water between Leamington and Calcutt. This involved installing massive pumps to get the water back up to the Top Lock at Calcutt.

Chris' slides depicted both the "Beauty and the Beast" sides of canal life, the brutality of the cold hard winters and back breaking work for the peace and tranquility of life "on the Cut". Thank you Chris for donating your time and fee and we hope you enjoyed your carrot cake! A very enjoyable evening.

Thanks also go to the Pétanque Club for our very enjoyable afternoon recently and in particular to Anthea and Diane for their help with setting up and the tuition of this entertaining game. We are also very grateful to Joan for baking and supplying us with her delicious cakes at these events.

Our next meeting will be **Monday 3rd November 2025 at 2pm** at the Village Hall for our AGM with Afternoon Tea.



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



As another birthday drifts by I find myself continually thinking about how to carry on gardening into the future. The harsh reality is that I can no longer do what was so easy 10 or even 5 years ago. Bits of my body hurt if I do too much. My strength and stamina have diminished but luckily I can still bend, just not for too long! Here are a few strategies which might help... If you can afford it get someone to help do the harder jobs (easier said than done, not enough experienced people who have availability)... have some raised beds to reduce the amount of bending... plant 'easy' plants including shrubs and perennials, and more drastically, move to a smaller garden or a flat. This issue will creep up on all who love gardening even those of us who are in denial about getting older.

On the plus side, being outdoors is good for our general health and well-being even if nothing much is achieved, it is good to mooch about, maybe pull an odd weed or two, trim this and deadhead that. There will be plenty of days during the winter when it will be too cold and wet to do anything except study seed catalogues and make plans for next year.

Christine



STOCKTON'S WEATHER STATION



SEPTEMBER 2025

Headlines - a very average month with all temperatures very close to the long term averages

In September the average **minimum temperature** was 10.6 deg. C, very close to the average (10.4 deg. C.). The lowest temperature was 4.3 deg. on the 21st. The average **maximum temperature** was 19.0 deg. C, just above the average (18.7 deg. C.). The highest temperature was 23.4 deg. on the 7th. **Rainfall** was 38mm, two thirds of the September average of 58 mm. The wettest day was the 14th with 12mm. It rained on 9 days. **Sunshine** levels were identical to the average. **Winds** blew mostly from the west, south west and south (20 days).

Trivia of the month - last year between 21st - 26th of the month 122mm of rain fell, but during the same period this year we had not a drop.

The weather monitor



Rotary Tree of Light, Christmas 2025



The Rotary Club of Southam 2000 will again be hosting a
Memory Tree of Light.

You might like to remember someone who has passed, or perhaps someone who is living far away, whilst also giving to a good cause.

For a **minimum donation of £5**

your message will be written on a special card which will be laminated and placed on a board at the **Tree of Light** (located in Coventry St, beside Southam Carpets).

Your message and the name of your loved one(s) will also be recorded in a **Memory Book** which will be on display at Southam Library from 1st December.

The board will be put in place on Sunday 30th November and the tree will be lit by the Mayor at 5pm, immediately after the Town's Christmas Lights are switched on.

All the money raised will be donated to Acorns Children's Hospice. A Charity which serves Southam and the Warwickshire Community

To take part, please pick up a leaflet from Southam Library or Southam Carpets, or visit <https://southam2000rotary.org.uk>. Forms and donations may be placed in an envelope and given to a member of staff at the Library or Carpet Shop, or submitted online during the month of November and up to 20th December.





VILLAGE MATTERS

To have your news included please
Contact by email - stocktons.news@gmail.com
or by hard copy to Editorial Team



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday Wishes go to Connor Chatland and Nicky Gaskins

To include birthdays/anniversary please contact magazine.

Tel: 01926 813730/812887 or email before 15th of month

Refuse & Recycling

Food Waste - weekly Grey Lid Bin - 3 weekly - 21st

Blue Lid Bin & Green Bin - 2 weekly - 14th & 28th

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

Mobile Library

Stockton Church 2.10 - 2.30pm - 14th

For further information, ring Mobile Library enquiries on
01926 851031 or Mobile Library on-line at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mobilelibraries.



Wheelchair Short-term Loan:-

Stockton Church - 812383

Stockton's News - 813730/812887

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 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 –

Well I never !

Never knew singer Alfie Boe has a younger brother called Harry ,,who is a confectioner

As I often sit on my 19th century sofa and speak out loud the words of Queen songs. It's my Bohemian Rap-Settee!

I love auto correct. It's the beast thing since liced bed.

I think men who shorten their name to Pat are missing a trick

Andy

07771335273 – cllrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk

WCC Councillor for Southam, Stockton & Napton

SDC Councillor for Southam Central and East and Stockton –

andrew.crumpp@stratford-dc.gov.uk

the successful installation of Brompton Bike Hire facilities at Kenilworth Train Station.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7054/unfolding-kenilworth-new-bike-hire-launches-from-kenilworth-station>

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

This October, Warwickshire County Council and its partners are supporting Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The month-long campaign gives anyone who needs it, encouragement to come forward.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7043/support-available-for-all-this-domestic-violence-awareness-month>

Collection Calendar

SDC no longer post out the A5 bin collection calendar as a matter of course. <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling> A pdf can also be downloaded or printed. Paper copies can be requested still either by emailing 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) 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 or Telephone: 01789 260616

Or download the app.

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/online-forms/missed-bin-report-form.cfm?fbclid=IwAR3vkf03zQgXUeHH04ODeqfid1b1msbwpVg8DG6nQn47HoAcw mw5LL9Joc>

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

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

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>

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

Joan Stanley

1st Nov. 1940 - 17th Oct. 2025

Joan very sadly passed away on 17th October 2025. She had been very ill at home since being diagnosed with her terminal illness on May 1st. She coped as long as she could with help from family and very kind friends and neighbours.

She went into Newstead Lodge where she deteriorated, had a stroke and was hospitalised. On her discharge from Hospital she was made comfortable at Galanos House where she was cared for until she passed away 17th October 2025.

Joan will be missed very much. Two weeks before she passed away she asked us to put an article into Stockton News to say how grateful she was for the help and kindness shown by her friends and neighbours, whilst at home and in Galanos House.

You know who you all are, thank you so much.

Joan 's funeral is on 17th November at 11.30am at Rainsbrook Crematorium and afterwards at The Nelson Club Stockton.

No flowers donations to Bowel Cancer please



Join us for our annual Christmas light switch on - Friday 5th December!

Agenda:

5pm FREE children's crafts inside the football club

6pm family friendly Christmas singing and light switch on the football club car park!

Look out for our club raffle raising money for our facilities and the Stockton School PTA with their bottle bag stall

Fancy a drink? Enjoy our mulled wine, or try our 'naughty or nice' hot chocolate! The bar will be open as usual.

Hungry? We have the amazing Jammin Pizza joining us for the evening!

Stars will be available for those who want to hang them on the Christmas tree, a lovely thought for remembering loved ones or for making wishes.

Want to make a lasting mark? Why not ask about getting your name on a tile in our club!



Could you support older people?

Do you want to help older people stay socially active and engaged?

Then a role of a personal assistant working could be for you

Find more about becoming a Personal Assistant: [https://](https://www.penderelstrust.org.uk/rcrPA16.php)

www.penderelstrust.org.uk/rcrPA16.php

Families First in Warwickshire video

Warwickshire County Council worked with young people and parents to create an animation to explain how it puts families first, and at the heart of decision making.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7044/warwickshire-s-families-first-approach-comes-to-life-in-a-new-animation>

Leave winter illnesses out in the cold

With the onset of winter and the colder months sweeping across the country, Warwickshire County Council is reminding everyone to book in for winter health immunisations for adults and children.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7037/leave-winter-illnesses-out-in-the-cold-by-taking-up-a-vaccination-to-protect-yourself-and-family>

From learner to licensed webinar

The From Learner to Licensed Webinar delivered an insightful discussion on the influence and role parents and guardians play in shaping their young people's attitudes and behaviours towards driving.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7056/webinar-aimed-at-the-parents-and-carers-of-new-drivers-hailed-a-great-success->

Boosting emotional wellbeing in Warwickshire schools

Discover how Warwickshire County Council is helping schools to support pupils' emotional resilience through a powerful new support programme.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7049/new-programme-launches-to-boost-emotional-wellbeing-in-warwickshire-schools->

Staying safe and well at university

Services across Warwickshire are helping students have a safe and healthy start to the new term by sharing information and details of local support.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7039/started-uni-stay-safe-and-well-with-these-essential-fresher-tips>

Statement from Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board

In the wake of last week's atrocious events at a synagogue in Manchester, the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board stand together against hate crimes against any group or individual in our society.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7059/statement-from-safer-warwickshire-partnership-board>

Unfolding Kenilworth

Opportunities for active travel in Kenilworth have received a boost following

to HAF can apply for a code to access the programme via the website: <https://warwickshire.gov.uk/HAF> Every session includes a free meal.

Have you tested your smoke alarms recently

During the past three years, over a quarter of the residential fires that Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service has attended involved homes that did not have smoke alarms fitted.

Have you tested yours: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7045/have-you-tested-your-smoke-alarms-recently->

Is your chimney ready for winter?

With autumn just around the corner, many residents will soon be lighting their stoves for the first time in months.

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue is urging residents to get ready for the colder months by making sure their chimneys are safe.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6959/is-your-chimney-ready-for-winter->

Have you got enough smoke alarms fitted in your home

Working smoke alarms that are regularly tested can provide lifesaving seconds in an emergency.

As part of the latest Fire Kills campaign, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) is urging residents to fit smoke alarms in their home.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6727/have-you-got-enough-smoke-alarms-fitted-in-your-home->

Safe and Well Checks

Do you know someone who would benefit from a free Safe and Well Check from Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service?

They can help people to stay safe and reduce the risk of fire in their home.

Book online at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fire-safety-home-1/apply-safe-well-visit>

Children in Care Team celebrated with regional award

Warwickshire's Children in Care Team has been recognised at the West Midlands Team Excellence Awards 2025, a celebration of outstanding services that make a difference to children and families across the region.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7048/warwickshire-s-children-in-care-team-celebrated-with-regional-award>

New Fostering film: The Run

Warwickshire Fostering is proud to announce the release of The Run, a short film which highlights the transformative power of fostering.

Find out more and watch the film: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7060/warwickshire-fostering-hopes-new-film-the-run-will-inspire-a-generation-of-foster-carers->

Personal Assistant – Adult Social Care – recruitment

Stockton's News would like to thank all who have supported us over our 15years of bringing you this magazine, not only with monetary donations but also those who advertise, deliver, and send items to include in this village news magazine, as without you there would be no magazine.

It has always been our intention that this voluntary run magazine would be a means of putting any surplus monies back into the village and below is an account of all we have contributed to over our roles as Stockton's News Team.

Thank you once again as without your support this would not have been possible.

2010- 2011	Stockton C. Club U14s (3/4 sleeve shirts)	£224.55
2011- 2012	Stockton Football Club Shirts - Junior team	£250.00
	Stockton P. C. Phoenix Seat on The Green	£362.96
	Stockton P. C. Countryside Bench in The Square	£261.05
	Warw'ks Assoc' Y.Clubs Stockteen Youth Club.	£30.00
2012 - 2013	Stockton Parishioners Wheelchair	£110.00
	Stockton Cricket Club U16s (3/4 sleeve shirts)	£203.33
2013 - 2014	Stockton F. C.U15s Football Shirts	£150.00
	Stockton Football Club Sunday Football Shirts	£150.00
2014 - 2015	Stockton Village Hall Table Top Fridge	£79.99
	Cardall Collection Donation	£20.00
	Stockton V.H.Colomax 3litre Wall mounted Boiler	£430.80
	Stockton Village Hall "Old Stockton" pictures	£45.57
	Wark's Air Ambulance Donation	£50.00
2015 - 2016	Cardall Collection Donation	£25.00
	Stockton F.C Sunday Football Shirts	£250.00
	Myton Hospice Donation	£51.15
	Stockton Brownies Village Hall hire & activities	£117.00
	BRAKE Charity Donation	£11.00
	Stockton C. C. Wednesday Cricket Team	£200.00
2016 - 2017	Stockton School Play Equipment	£9.95
	Stockton Village Hall Folding Table	£81.83
	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£30.94

	Manchester Arena Attack Appeal Donation	£75.00
	Stockton Toddlersaurs Storage shed & Groundworks	£250.00
	Stockton Church Churchyard maintenance	£45.00
	Stockton Church Bells Framework	£45.00
2017 - 2018	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£50.00
	Stockton Brownies Village Hall hire & activities	£250.00
	Stockton School Play Equipment	£430.07
2018 - 2019	Stockton Church Bells Framework	£1,054.00
	Galanos House Donation	£200.00
2019 - 2020	Galanos House Donation	£200.00
	Southam 2000 Rotary Club Donation	£200.00
	Stockton Netball Team New court surface	£200.00
	Bridge Nursery Photo Competition Prize	£25.00
2021 - 2022	Stockton Village Hall Kitchen Refurbishment	£400.00
2023 - 2024	Stockton Toddlersaurs Storage Boxes	£150.00
2024 - 2025	Stockton F & C Club Bleed Control Kit	£91.98
	Stockton Village H Broadband Installation	£287.40
2025	Stockton Football Club Ground Maintenance	£500.00
		£7,598.57

Southam Volunteer Transport Scheme

Southam Town Council operates a voluntary transport scheme which is available to eligible residents living in Stockton, (over 65 or hold a bus pass), who cannot otherwise get to medical appointments. Residents pay the drivers directly. For more information, please contact the telephone number below. We are also seeking new drivers to assist us in operating the scheme. If you have some free time and are interesting in helping out as a driver please contact the Deputy Clerk on the email address below.

Telephone Number 01926 815817
Deputyclerk@southamcouncil-warks.gov.uk

been noted and as such, unlikely to be one that we would actively promote.

GRANTS, GRANTS AND GRANTS

Councillor grant fund second round

Applications for the second round of the Cllr grant fund are open now until 2 November 2025. Apply now for funding for small scale projects within your community and voluntary groups.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/7021/warwickshire-county-council-s-councillor-grant-fund-returns-for-second-round>

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's £350,000 Community Grant Scheme!

The scheme, developed in collaboration with local and regional partners, will support capital projects that improve accessibility, resilience, and diversity in community spaces.

Eligible projects may include:

- External structural repairs to community buildings.
- Refurbishment or installation of kitchen and bathroom facilities.
- Building extensions to improve internal space.
- Accessibility improvements such as wheelchair access, handrails, and raised flower beds.
- Enhancements to play areas, recreation grounds, allotments, orchards, and leisure facilities.
- Creation of new community assets.

Read more: [<https://ow.ly/I8UA50X7Riu>](<https://ow.ly/I8UA50X7Riu..>)

Cost of Living Support - SDC

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

Warwickshire County Council - Kind Communities-Kind Food project

I would just like to make you aware of a grant fund that is being launched Monday 13 October 2025 under Warwickshire County Council's Food Strategy - Kind Communities-Kind Food-enabling community organisations to bid for funding for local projects that focus on improving the local availability of affordable healthy food, healthy food education and reducing food waste. Organisations can apply for up to £1,000 for their project and the fund has £22,500 available. The application process is being managed by Warwickshire CAVA - please see the link to their website and the grant will also go live on Warwickshire County Council's webpages on Monday. The launch will be accompanied by a news release from WCC.

[<https://www.wcava.org.uk/.../warwickshire-kind.../>](<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/...>)

Holiday activities and food programme

Holiday activities and food (HAF) programme code form now open for applications! Families receiving benefits-related free school meals who are new

included in the Urban Capacity Sites assessment in table 3 on page 96.

At the meeting Mr Careford said that some difficult decisions may need to be made to boost our 5YHLS as quickly as possible, in order to regain more control over the planning process. This control has recently been diminished by the Appeal decision that effectively reduced our 5YHLS to 2.74 years.

As Ward Member (and a long serving Southam District Councillor) for the area Wood St Car park is in, it was a pity no one saw fit to seek my views before it was included in the report.

I note it was included as Amber, I'd heard it was originally proposed to be delegated as Green.

Whilst some of the concerns that I raised at Cabinet were answered, I didn't hear (maybe I missed it) any rebuttal of the potential to build houses on Wood St. Please could you confirm how likely this site is to be taken forward. If not, you may have set hares running unnecessarily. It may have been sensible to have had some narrative about it in the report.

I and Cllr Bromwich have raised the need to protect and maintain the status quo around Wood St Car park. This has garnered significant support from Southam residents and surrounding villages, both on Facebook and in emails (which I can share with you). The support indicates that it is a valued community facility and that it is vital to the well-being of Southam and surrounding villages.

Please reply at your earliest convenience so that Cllr Bromwich and I can reassure residents that the long term future of Wood St Car Park has been safeguarded.

Best wishes

Andy

Reply

Just to provide some comfort, the sites listed in the Cabinet Report represent an initial high-level assessment of potential sources of supply. Their inclusion does not mean that they will come forward for development – rather it was intended to demonstrate some of the potential sources of supply as well as the scale of the challenge we face.

So, whilst I can categorically state that it is not definite that it would come forward (and give you some comfort), equally, I can't definitively rule it out either. But that is true for all sites.

Ultimately it will be for the landowner as to whether they wish to pursue an application on the site, but the concerns you have raised about its value have



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

STOCKTON PARISH COUNCIL - OCTOBER 2025 MEETING

Please note that these are informal notes only, for a full record please refer to the approved minutes on our website.

District and County Council Matters ;

The study into safety issues at **Stockton crossroads** should be made available by the end of October.

Local Government Devolution: the County Council have decided to put forward a proposal to have a single unitary authority covering the whole of the county. Rugby Council have yet to make their decision but the other district councils are proposing two unitaries to cover the north and the south of the county. Formal submissions have to be made to central government by the end of November.

Cllr Crump is looking into strengthening of the **verge opposite The Crown in High Street**.

Stockton Football & Cricket Club Lease - The negotiations over a new lease between Cemex and SFCC are nearing completion with the only outstanding issue being a requirement from Cemex that a fence has to be erected between the two fields.

Stockton Road Safety Group - The group has asked about the possibility of a cycle track/footpath between Stockton and Southam. The parish council agreed to look out any papers that still exist in relation to a similar proposal that was investigated about 20 years ago. This found that the main issues were the choice of the route, either next to the A 426 or across the fields to follow the existing footpath, and also how to cross the Southam bypass.

Planning Matters:

3 Mount Pleasant - loft conversion (25/02008); this does not need planning permission and is given a certificate of lawful development.

42 Post Office Lane: demolition of existing dwelling and erection of three new dwellings (25/02247); the Parish council resolved to support this application.

Land to the west of Napton Road, construction of up to 9 dwellings (25/02294); the Parish Council resolved to object to this application on the grounds that it lies outside the village boundary, the strain on existing infrastructure that the proposal does not seek to improve, and the lack of reference to the results of the Parish Housing Needs Survey in 2021. However, given the lack of the minimum requirement for a 5 year housing land supply in the Stratford area, the Parish Council have asked that if Stratford are minded to approve the application then the developer should be required to include some form of community benefit such as, for example, a bus turn around point, traffic calming measures or improvements to the children's playing field.

Village Facilities:

Warwickshire Highways will be asked to put down white line road markings at the **junction between Sycamore Close and Laurel Drive** following a complaint from a resident about recent near misses.

Litter bin on The Green: Stratford DC will be asked to replace the bin that is showing signs of corrosion.

Warwickshire Highways will be asked to repaint the **yellow zig-zag lines outside Stockton School**.


Light in Rectory Close that is obscured by tree branches - this is being referred to Warwickshire Highways as the tree has a tree preservation order.

Stratford DC has a fund for **new village noticeboards** and this will be investigated for a possible replacement for the noticeboard that used to be sited on the Post Office wall.

Wood Street Car Park, Southam: following proposals that this might be redeveloped for housing the Parish Council will write to Stratford DC about the impact on Stockton residents with the loss of parking to access the library chemist, shops and other facilities.

Next Meeting: 7.15 pm on Monday **17 November 2025** in the village hall.

Howard Collerson
(Chairman)



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
andrew.crump@stratford-dc.gov.uk**

I'm often in and around the village looking at various issues e.g. parking, leaning bus stop signs, potholes, blocked drains, faulty lights, missing street markings, dangerous trees, drains, hedges, grass cutting etc....and attending the Parish Council to give various updates. Feel free to say hello if you see me.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

Warwickshire County Council has formally expressed its support for a single unitary council as its preferred future form of local government for the county. This follows a meeting of County Council this week where Councillors debated this issue. Government has set out its intention to move all areas with two tiers of local government to a single tier, a process known as local government reorganisation.

Read more: <https://orlo.uk/weLIb>

IN CASE YOU HAVENT SEEN THIS

WOOD ST CAR PARK UPDATE – Some but not 100% reassurance

Cllr Tony Bromwich and I would like to thank residents for strongly supporting (by emails or on Facebook) our efforts to maintain the status quo at Wood St. This was brought about by a report to SDC's Cabinet called 'options for boosting the supply of housing land'. Hidden in the lengthy report was a potential option to develop Wood St Car Park for housing (8).

Buoyed by strong local support, and being a man of action not words, I sent a measured and informative email to senior SDC officers (and the Planning portfolio holder), stressing the importance of this valued community asset to Southam and surrounding villages. The reply gave **Some but not 100% reassurance** – here is my email and the response, I will leave it for readers to make their own minds up

'Options for Boosting the Supply of Housing Land Cabinet 6 October 2025

Hi All

At the above, I and others raised concerns about Wood St Car Park being