



PARISH NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

At the time of printing the newsletter items were correct. However, with the coronavirus pandemic things are changing all the time.

The Church is shut until further notice

The Play areas with any equipment are shut until further notice. Whoever is removing these notices **PLEASE STOP!!** You are endangering people's lives.

STANFORD 20 HELPERS Facebook Group has been set up as a Neighbourhood Assistance Programme for COVID-19 for the villagers of Stanford in the Vale, run by the villagers of Stanford in the Vale.

You should all have received a note about help if you are self-isolating with the name, address and phone number of the person who can help you. **If you have not received this or would like to know who your helper is, contact us,** through the editor and we can put you in touch.

This service is for picking up shopping, posting mail, urgent supplies or just a friendly phone call. We have told helpers not to go into houses and to social distance from you.

All helpers have a card explaining they are collecting items for a person who is self-isolating, and the local supermarkets have been informed about this. We are part of the Oxfordshire All In network of community volunteers

Finally, many, many thanks to all who have volunteered to help. The response has been amazing **Stanford 20 Helpers Admin.**

No Church Services until further notice and Church is shut

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?

Vicar	The Revd Paul Eddy	710267
Wardens		
Margaret Williams		710254
Nigel Archer		718163
Verger	Mrs Susan Mayall	

Vicar Writes

Dear Parishioners

What a time we are living through. As I write this (19 March), we've had pubs, clubs, cinemas, theatres, church services, and schools closing. Those over 70, or with health issues, are being asked to self-isolate for three months, and those with anyone in their family with one or more of the Coronavirus symptoms have been asked to self-isolate for 14 days. And, we hear, there are likely to be more social restrictions to come if, we are to keep the maximum number of people safe and, ease the strain on our incredible NHS. I suspect those of us born after the Second World War have never experienced such times.

As a church, we are joining in the **Stanford 20 Helpers** scheme. You should by now have received a little card through your letter box with a named person willing to help you with shopping, and collecting medications, if you are self-isolating in any way.

May I briefly outline some things which I know many in the parish will be keen to hear about:-

Church Services: public worship is on hold until the current restrictions on social gathering have been lifted. This is likely to be for at least three months, maybe longer.

St Denys Church: the church will remain open from 10am-5pm each day, where possible, for private prayer, stillness and reflection. Please remember social distancing if anyone else is in the church if you go in.

Communication: We shall be using the **St Denys Facebook Page** and the Village Facebook pages to share information in addition to this newsletter.

Pastoral care: Depending on your health condition and the latest advice at the time, I am happy to visit parishioners or, to talk on the phone, be contacted via email, or skype or FaceTime chat. vicar@stdenys.org, or 01367 710267.

Baptisms/Weddings: These are currently on hold.

Funerals: given the Government's social gathering policies and especially for those over 70, the Cof E has issued guidance which are adapted for this parish:

- a) Arrangements for funerals will be done via phone/email/skype etc if the person died as a result of Coronavirus, or the family is in self isolation, or deemed most appropriate. If a personal visit is needed, social distancing must be possible
- b) Short Committal-only services will be held at local Crematoria, where immediate family only will attend with me and the service can be skyped/recorded. OR,
- c) A short Graveside funeral in the churchyard will be held, with immediate family only attending, but maintaining social distancing guidelines.
- d) No Wakes are recommended following (b) or (c) options under current restrictions
- e) All families will be encouraged to hold a Memorial or Thanksgiving Service in St Denys Church once the current social gathering restrictions have been lifted, in order that the wider family, and the community as a whole, can pay their respects.
- f) Funeral advice from the Government and Cof E will be under constant review as things develop. I shall endeavour to keep the village up to date.

Prayer Needs: we have set up a separate prayer@stdenys.org which we'd like to make available to the whole parish to email Prayer Requests. Every day, at 12noon, I will say Prayers and pray through the list, and, lift the whole Parish up to God. You will hear the Church bell toll at the start of my prayers, so you know I am praying for the parish. Please email prayer requests and let me know if you wish them to be shared with other church members for them to pray for you.

Over the months I will be constantly updating our **Frequently Asked Questions** Sheet, answering as many church-related questions as I can, with the information and guidance available to me at the time. Please email questions to vicar@stdenys.org, if you have any. This will be made available via local Social Media pages.

We live in a time of fear and anxiety. But we are about to go through April in which Christians in this parish will journey with Jesus through his

agony, his fear, his anxiety during his last week before Good Friday, and then celebrate on Easter Day (albeit a bit differently this year) that Jesus rose from the dead. He overcame all doubts, all questions, all that had gone on before in that week, however lonely, desperate and isolated he felt.

In fact, Jesus suffered total isolation from God his father on the Cross on Good Friday when he took on himself all our wrongdoing and selfish nature, so that you and I may never again feel any separation from God - if we believe and trust in His son and turn to him.

Amongst all this fear and uncertainty swirling around, we need to turn to God. We need to feed our faith, not our fears. If we feed our faith, our fears will starve. If we feed our fears, our faith will starve. Over the coming months, as a church, we are committed to praying and serving the parish in the ways we always have – often behind the scenes, but always in the name of Christ, our Risen saviour!

With my prayers for you all

**Paul
Vicar**

**Revd Paul Eddy
#FaithNotFear**

Derek Belcher – Thank You

Pauline would like to say 'Thank You' to family and friends for all the cards and messages. Also, to everyone who came to say goodbye to Derek.

£400.00 + has been donated to the Alzheimer's Society. Lastly, thank you to Mrs Rowlands for the order of service.

Publicly accessible defibrillators

There are three publicly accessible defibrillators (PADs) in Stanford – one at the village hall, one at the football club and one at the school.

I thought it might be useful to explain again the process for accessing these devices.

In the event of a suspected sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), the person discovering the patient or anyone else present must ring the ambulance service on 999 or 112 to report the incident. Instructions will be given by the ambulance service call taker about what you should do as far as basic life support is concerned.

The ambulance service call taker, knowing your location, will advise you where the nearest defibrillator is and, if

*Stanford in the Vale with Goosey and Hatford Newsletter April 2020 To include items for the newsletter:
Janet Warren 01367 710789 or jwarren302@gmail.com Closing date this month is the 18th April
Stanford Community Website for e copy - Local events, business listing, village history and more
Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale*



appropriate, will give you the location and access code of the cabinet.

It is vital that someone stays with the patient at all times and continues basic life support as explained by the operator, **while someone else goes to fetch the PAD from the cabinet.**

Therefore, if you are on, your own you will be asked to stay with the patient and continue basic life support.

When the PAD has been collected, it can be used on the patient in accordance with the instructions written on it and the verbal instructions given.

If you want to make a life-saving difference in your community, why not think about becoming a Community First Responder? For more information, please visit

<https://www.scas.nhs.uk/our-services/community-and-co-responders/>

Les Harding Community First Responder Coordinator for Faringdon & District'

Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council meeting originally scheduled for 1st April has been cancelled. We are legally required to hold certain meetings and therefore provisional dates for these are as follows :

Annual Parish meeting - 22 April

Annual meeting of the Parish Council - 6 May

We will of course be looking to ensure there remain in full compliance with applicable government advice, at the time, and so last-minute adjustments may be necessary

FARINGDON & DISTRICT U3A

Everything to be postponed for at least ONE month as a result of the corona virus.

**Chatterbox Small Village Hall
Closed until further notice**



**Sunday 10th May
Sadly due to the corona virus
this event has been
cancelled.**

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AGE UK BIG KNIT

For anyone wanting to get their knitting needles out again, the Big Knit will be back in the Autumn.

Timings will be confirmed later in the year but you can get a 'head start' if you begin knitting your mini hats now. Last year £10,000 was raised, in Oxfordshire, to help support local older people ... and that really does makes a difference to their lives. If you would like to know more about the Scheme Phone Jan on 01367 710724.

Stanford Pre-school News

Come rain or shine we have been out in the garden and the Park! The children have enjoyed making dens and watching the birds, as we continue to feed them.

We asked the children to bring someone they love into Pre-school for a special Valentine's breakfast. We have done this for a number of years, and it is always lovely and very well attended! We also welcomed parents and careers for a Stay & Play morning - to come and spend time with their children in setting.

We are getting ready for Mother's Day – the children have been planting sunflowers seeds and thinking about what we love about our mummies!

Please note: The Pre-School operates a waiting list. We advise parents wishing to secure a place for their child to get their name down on the waiting list as soon as possible. Download a Pre-registration form from our website (www.stanfordpreschool.org.uk) or call into Pre-school and pick one up. If you wish to make an enquiry, please call us on 01367 718696.



Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School News

What an interesting few week we have had!! When this newsletter lands on your doormat the school will be closed to most of the children and we will only have a handful of key worker and vulnerable children. We hope everyone keeps safe and looks after each other at this uncertain, challenging time.

Sport Relief

For Sport Relief every child completed a sponsored bike or scooter ride. The children enjoyed cycling and scooting around the school and many achieved their targets that they had set out to do. Quotes from the



children: 'It was really fun.' 'It was really tiring.' 'It was fun bringing our bikes to school and getting to cycle with all of my friends.' We will not know how much sponsor money we have raised until we return.

Stem Day

On Monday 9th March, the whole school took part in STEM day. The aim of the day was for children to see how the STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths) all link and promoting engineering and design and technology in the school. Classes worked on different hands on activities throughout the day, all with a STEM theme.

- Foundation and Year 1 looked at magnets and what is magnetic. They made their own magnetic fishing games which were brilliant!
- Year 2 looked at structures and shape, building towers from cocktail sticks and sweets. They also worked with electric circuits completing set challenges.
- Year 3 Made catapults and measured distances of catapulted objects and compared results. The class also took part in 'the egg drop challenge'.
- Year 4 worked with electric circuits completing set challenges and made catapults and measured distances of catapulted objects and compared results.
- Year 5 and Year 6 made batteries from 2p coins, zinc washers and vinegar to make a LED blub light up. They also made hovercrafts using balloons, bottle tops and CD's, looking at distances they could travel and on different surfaces.

The day was a big success! The children were engaged and excited by STEM and the activities they took part in, well done everyone!

Football Matches

Year 2 at The Ridgeway School 13th March. With the sun shining and a red kite hovering above, our year twos took on The Ridgeway School, Childrey, in a series of six a side football matches. Although the results went against us, the score lines didn't show how close the games actually were! Everyone played really well and I think we may have some stars for the future!

On March 10th Stanford played home against Caldecott and won 12-1. It was a fantastic performance from the whole team, they dominated possession and scored some great goals.

On Thursday 5th March some year 4 girls went to a football tournament. They all did really well. They won 2, lost 1 and drew 1.

On Tuesday 3rd March Stanford played against St Michael's. It was a brilliant game with the team winning 9-0.

Hockey

On Wednesday 4th March we took 6 year 5 pupils to play in a 5/6 hockey tournament at Tilsley Park in Abingdon. They played 4 matches, won 1, drew 1 and lost 2. This was a new experience for them all and they enjoyed playing on the full size hockey astro pitch. All the children showed lots of resilience, determination and fight.

Netball

On Friday 6th March, a mixed year 5/6 team went to the Wantage Area Schools Netball Tournament. They had a shaky start with a 0-0 draw but as the games continued, the team really started to gel. As the matches progressed, the team won their league, without conceding a goal! In the final round, the team beat Stockham A 3-0 and then saw close competition against St James but finally won a tight game 5-4 to win the entire tournament, only conceding 4 goals in total!

We are uncertain when we may return back to school but we thought we would leave you with a poem written by Mill Lodge Primary:

The Time We Spring-Cleaned the World

The world it got so busy,
There were people all around.
They left their germs behind them;
In the air and on the ground.

These germs grew bigger and stronger.
They wanted to come and stay.
They didn't want to hurt anyone -
They just really wanted to play.

Sometimes they tried to hold your hand,
Or tickled your throat or your nose.
They could make you cough and sneeze
And make your face as red as a rose.

And so these germs took over.
They started to make people ill,
And with every cough we coughed
More and more germs would spill.

All the queens and kings had a meeting.
"It's time to clean the world up!" they said.
And so they had to close lots of fun stuff,
Just so these germs couldn't spread.

We couldn't go to cinemas
Or restaurants for our tea.
There was no football or parties,
The world got as quiet as can be.

The kids stopped going to school,
The mums and dads went to work less.
Then a great, big, giant scrubbing brush
Cleaned the sky and the sea and the mess!

Dads started teaching the sums,
Big brothers played with us more,
Mums were in charge of homework
And we read and played jigsaws galore!

The whole world was washing their hands
And building super toilet roll forts!
Outside was quiet and peaceful,
Now home was the place for all sports.

So we played in the world that was home
And our days filled up with fun and love,
And the germs they grew smaller and smaller
And the sun watched from up above.

Then one morning the sun woke up early,
She smiled and stretched her beams wide.
The world had been fully spring cleaned,
It was time to go back outside!

We opened our doors oh so slowly
And breathed in the clean and fresh air.
We promised that forever and always
Of this beautiful world we'd take care!