



OCTOBER PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2023

Sunday 1st October 17th after Trinity
10.15 am Holy Communion(Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4

Sunday 8th October 18th after Trinity
10.15 am Holy Communion(Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4
6.00 pm Evening Prayer at All Saints,
Goosey

Sunday 15th October 19th after Trinity
10.15 am Holy Communion(Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4

Sunday 22nd October 20th after Trinity
10.15 am Holy Communion(Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4
6.00 pm Evensong at St George,
Hatford (BCP)

Sunday 29th October Last after Trinity
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4

Sunday 5th November
4th Sunday before Advent
10.15 am A Service of Remembrance
& Hope
4.00 pm Denys@4

Sunday 5 November 2023

1015 – A Service of Remembrance & Hope

If you have lost a loved one in recent years, you may find a service we offer a help – especially if you are facing Christmas for the first time without a close relative/friend.

In our 1015am service, we will read out a list of those who have asked us to remember them by name, give an opportunity for family members to come forward and light a candle, and those who mourn shall be remembered in prayers. Appropriate hymns, bible reading, and a short sermon will support the focus. Afterwards, cake and hot drinks shall be served at the back of church. In the past this service has been on a Sunday afternoon but we are focussing our 1015am service for the wider community this year on Nov 5.

We will promote this service again nearer the time via the November Parish Newsletter and on social media, but you might like to note the date?

Open House On most Saturdays St Denys Church is open between 10 am and noon for coffee and tea, cake and chat. Do pop in. You'll find a warm and friendly welcome.

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?

Vicar

The Revd Paul Eddy 710267

Church Wardens

Maz Galley 710211

Michelle Sinclair 07929733429

Verger

Susan Mayall 710138

Parish Website: www.stdenys.org

PRAYER CHAIN

A telephone prayer chain has now been set up for everyone who would like prayers offered for them. It can be completely anonymous with basic information of what the prayer is for – literally anything that is a cause for concern, worry or anxiety, such as illness, loss, appointments, family crisis.

Please contact **Maz** on **07585 553883** who will pass on the request and pray with the next person on the contact list, who will then contact the next person and so on. This is not just for 'church' people. Anybody who would value prayer is welcome to call.

Thank you. Maz, Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator.

The Vicar Writes

Last month, The Times published a rather questionable Survey of so-called Church of England vicars about the state of the church and nation.

On social media, I'm linked up with well over 1,500 vicars and only 2 had received a request for answers. So I'd take their headlines with a pinch of salt. But more than that, the much published death of the parish church is not born out in this parish!

Last month saw the first anniversary of our switching from our pre-Covid, monthly 9am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion services at both Goosey and Hatford, to my suggestion of a 6pm Evening service instead. Thanks to incredibly hard work on the ground by a small team of worshippers, we now have around 35 attending at Goosey, with refreshments served from 5.15pm, and 25-30 attending at Hatford. Both services are led by my parish ministry colleague, Veronica Buxton.

This month, on October 9, we shall have been worshipping as a completely new congregation aimed at young families. Denys@4 meets at St Denys every week at 4pm for a relaxed, interactive service for all the family, with every 5th or 6th Sunday turned over to a Fellowship Meal where we get to know and support each other better.

We have also run the ParentTalk course for parents of Primary age children during the year, and over the coming 12 months, hope to offer the CAP Money Management Course for any family in the village wanting to manage their budgets better, and start to save money. We also aim to offer the ParentTalk course for parents of Secondary school age children, and a session by an outside expert for children aged 12-14 on internet safety.

Like most churches, Covid resulted in a drop in attendance overall through a range of reasons, including people moving on, deaths or others no longer able to attend church. One of our overall 5 aims over the coming season as a church is to try to offer a 'Hybrid Church'. That is, opportunities for attendance in person, but also taking part by engaging with parts of the service online. To that end we hope to install a telephone line and internet access in St Denys which over time will enable us to livestream major national events (such as the Queen's Funeral and some sporting fixtures) and invite villagers to watch together instead of on their own at home. We are conscious of the increasing number of villagers who live alone and the impact of isolation can make on mental health.

So, as you can see, contrary to The Times survey, this parish is by no means dying. There is clear growth at our 4 and 6pm services, and villagers are welcome to attend any of our services, 10.15am, 4 or 6. Full details are in this monthly newsletter and on our website (which we hope to update soon) www.stdenys.org

Yours Paul Revd Paul A Eddy Vicar

OPEN MIC NIGHTS in the village:

These start at **8pm every 1st Wednesday** of the month in the Horse and Jockey and every 3rd Thursday of the month in the Social Club (no need to be a Social Club member to attend the open mics). Come along to enjoy a fun night of free entertainment and/or to perform to an enthusiastic audience.

Stanford in the Vale with Goosey and Hatford Newsletter October 2023. To include items for the newsletter:

Janet Warren 01367 710789 or jmwarren302@gmail.com Closing date this month is the 18th October

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Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale



Faringdon Writers
Short Story Competition

FREE ENTRY

Three categories:

- Adult (1500 words)
- 12-17 years (1000 words)
- 5-11 years (500 words)

Closing date for entries
1st Oct 2023

Theme 'Folly' or 'folly'

Prize: Story published in next volume of 'Voices from Faringdon'.

Winners will be announced at FW Book Fair, Corn Exchange, Faringdon, 25th November.

For further information and rules email:
faringdonwriters@gmail.com

The poster features a blue background with a megaphone icon in the top right, a photograph of a church tower, and an illustration of a pen and paper.

Dog Walkers and the Churchyard

Please note it would be very much appreciated if Dog walkers would continue respecting the **Churchyard**.

At this point in time **dog mess** has been left on the **grassed pathways** that are cut around the churchyard.

Please ensure all mess is bagged and deposited in the appropriate bin or just taken home.

Thank you- Peter Gill for Saint Denys Church

LEARN TO RING!

Church Bellingring: a fun hobby, a friendly team activity and a volunteering opportunity

Have you ever heard church bells ringing for a wedding or on a Sunday morning and wondered why – or how? Would you like to try bellingring but don't know how to go about it? Well, here is your opportunity! Following great progress by our recent learners, we are again happy to recruit new ringers to this fun activity. No experience is necessary as we will teach you the basics - and who knows, this could become a lifelong hobby that you can share with newly made friends or maybe invite family and friends to join in too!

Dispelling the myths

There are some stereotypical myths about bellingring which are not true. Here are some of the common ones:

- You must be musical – *No, you don't*. There is no music to read. The skill is in being able to control your bell and make it ring when required.
- You must be strong – *No, not that strong at all!* The mechanics are such that it is about skill more than strength. You can learn to ring from about the age of 10, and, once experienced, there is no upper age limit. Many ringers continue into their 80's and beyond
- You must be good at maths – *No, you don't!* You can become a very competent ringer without maths (although, if maths is your subject,



- some of the theory might particularly interest you).

To find out more please visit us in the church tower on a Tuesday (7.30-9pm) or Sunday (9.45-10.15am) (ideally contacting us in advance via e-mail at StDenysChurchBells@btinternet.com). Jackie O'Hagan

St Denys' Handbell Ringers

We were delighted to be asked to play at a recent marriage celebration in Faringdon. The first piece we played was "Get me to the Church on time" (from *My Fair Lady*). The guests clearly enjoyed it as they very quickly started humming and then singing along. It is always lovely to get a good reaction!

We have several other bookings lined up for the rest of the year and so are busy rehearsing for them at our Wednesday evening practices in the small Village Hall. We do still have room for further new ringers and would love to hear from potential new recruits as we have a full three octave set of bells and still not quite enough hands to ring them all. It helps if you have a good sense of rhythm but you don't need to be able to read standard musical notation.

Please contact us at StDenys.HBR@btinternet.com

Wednesday 4th October 2023

7.30 pm **Stanford in the Vale Parish Council Meeting in Stanford in the Vale Village Hall** - check noticeboards or Parish Council website for details. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Repair Café Coffee shop 7th October 12.00-2pm
Advice on repairs, small items and Ultrasonic cleaning of jewellery
Social Club 21st October 11am – about 3pm General repairs and servicing. Please let us know beforehand so we tools and possibly parts on hand
Our work is varied but new Volunteers are welcome
Tele 01367 710283 Email stanfordrepaircafe@silkie.co.uk

Stanford Art Group

Monday 9th October in Small Village Hall - **7.30 pm**
Fee for Members £2
Fee for Visitors £6 (cash, please)

STANFORD IN THE VALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

WEDNESDAY 11th October at 7.30 in the Large Village Hall **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAN**
BILL KING **WALKING THE THAMES PATH - Oxford to Pangbourne** Visitors welcome £5 entrance fee

Village Voices Concert

Saturday 14th October at 7.30

St Denys' Church

'SINGING BRITAIN' Songs and music of the British Isles. Refreshments at the end. All very welcome
Donations to the Medical Detection Dogs.

Stanford in the Vale WI

The next meeting of Stanford in the Vale WI is on **Wednesday 18th October 2023** in the Village Hall. The speaker will give a talk on **Saving the Planet**. For enquiries, please ring Annette on 01367710528.

Friday 20th October

St Denys invite you to

An Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall

Come for a free, delicious **Afternoon Tea** in the **Village Hall** All welcome and bring a friend.

Any time between 2.30-4.30pm

Churchyard Working Party

Saturday 21st October –

9.30- 3.30pm -approx

Can you spare some time on 21 st October to help maintain our Churchyard. Main task will be raking up the long grass areas which need to be cut down in the Autumn. Rakes and wheelbarrows would be excellent. Also pruning and cutting tools would be very useful.

STANFORD IN THE VALE GARDENING CLUB

The October meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 25th at 7.30 pm in Stanford in the Vale Village Hall.

The speaker will be Mandy Bradshaw, a qualified journalist and life-long gardener based in the Cotswolds. Her subject will be "**Beyond the Garden Gate**". Refreshments and a Raffle. Visitors will be welcome for a £3.00 entry fee. For more information contact Rosemary Packer. Tel. 01367 710445.

Gardening Tips for October

- Plant Bulbs for Spring Display.
- Plant Fruit Trees and Bushes.
- Plant Onion Sets and Garlic.
- Plant Rhubarb Crowns.
- Plant Broad Beans such as Aquadulci Claudia. Protect from frost if necessary.
- Plant established Spring Cabbage Plants.
- Cultivate the veg border and add manure ready for spring planting

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ECOCHURCH.

As part of St Denys Eco church project, we are planning to plant bulbs in the churchyard on:
Saturday morning, 28th October, 10.00am -12.noon.
Children/adults welcome. Please just turn up, and there will be refreshments available. See you there!
Eco-church Team.

Stanford in the Vale Volunteer Hospital Taxi Service

Should you require a lift for a hospital or dental appointment - call **05603 660 122** and leave a message. If a driver is found, they will contact you.
Should you not receive a phone call by the day prior to your appointment this usually means a driver has not been found. **We do need more drivers so that this very valuable service can be continued in the village.**
Contact Dan – 05603 660 122 for more information – leaving your number and he will get back to you

November Dates for your diary

**St Denys' Church invites you
to a Women's Breakfast.**

When: Saturday 4th November 2023.

**Where: Stanford in the Vale Village Hall
(Large Hall)**

Time: 8.30 am for 8.45am start.

**Talk by Margaret Williams: "Over the hill?
It's not about getting older, but your vision
when you reach the top."**

**Seats are limited, so to book your place, or
for further details, please leave a message on
07880655102, sign up in Church or email the
Breakfast Team
via Womensbreakfast@stdenys.org**

Stanford in the Vale Village Hall

Quiz Night

Saturday 4th November

£24 per team of 4, if pre registered

£30 on night incl. ploughman's supper.

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm

Raffle and Bar

Contact: J. Warren 01367 710789

jmwarren302@gmail.com

Christmas Bingo on Friday December 8th.

STANFORD IN THE VALE SOCIAL CLUB

Dates for your diary.

**Christmas Fayre will be held 12 to 4pm on
Saturday 4th November (requests for stalls to
Christine Hutt 01367 710451)**

**Christmas Bingo - eyes down 7:30 pm Friday 1st
December. Christmas Club Draw will be held at
8pm Friday 16th December**

Pre-school news – October 2023

We are all pleased to be back in Pre-school and ready for the coming year. We are delighted to welcome 8 new families to the setting.

Already this term we have been catching up with our resident pigeons and watching their babies fledge. We

have also observed grey squirrels taking hazelnuts from our tree and burying them ready for the colder weather. This has led to lots of learning and discussion.

We have enjoyed the last bit of warm weather with lots of outdoor play. The children have made some wonderful obstacle courses and have been testing their coordination and balance completing them.

We have now signed up as a good cause on the new White Horse Lottery. This is a great way to support the Pre-school and also win some money yourself. Information on how to join can be found here:
<https://www.whitehorselottery.co.uk>

The Pre-school would be delighted to hear from any companies or individuals who would be interested in supporting the Pre-school financially. Due to a mixture of long- term insufficient funding from government (our only income) and rising financial costs the Pre-school continues to be in a very precarious financial state.

If you are interested in registering your child with us please visit www.stanfordpreschool.org.uk and complete a Pre-Registration form or contact the Pre-school on 01367 718696.

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Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School

Reported by the newly elected School Council:

Year 1 - Jonathan & Lola,

Year 2 - Sophie & Luis,

Year 3 - Ivy & Saffron,

Year 4 - Conway & Anneke,

Year 5 - Toby & Lottie,

Year 6 - Tessa and Esmay

We are all very excited to be back at school and have had a fantastic return to school with our learning now in full swing!

Foundation - We have been thoroughly enjoying exploring our new school and classroom! We have been practicing all sorts of different and new skills as well as forming new friendships and getting to know our teachers!

Year One - We have been doing lots of reading and practicing our writing skills. We are starting to learn all about different seasons and the weather. We are really enjoying exploring the field and playing with our friends.

Year Two - We have started to learn about the weather in different habitats as well as continuing to practice our reading and writing skills. We have been thinking about place value in Maths and enjoying practicing our gymnastics movements in PE - we are looking forward to starting swimming next week!

Year Three - We have been starting to read out text 'The Wild Way Home' as well as learning about place value for increasingly large numbers in Maths. We have been enjoying our Science - learning about rocks - as well as our PE lessons where we are practicing our gymnastics and learning the rules of dodgeball.

Year Four - We have been learning about the Anglo-Saxons and reading the story 'The Princess Who Hid in a Tree' all about an Anglo-Saxon princess from Oxford. In PE we are learning Hockey skills and been practicing our gymnastics partner balances.

Year Five - We have been reading our focus text of 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx' to help

with our learning about Ancient Egypt. We have been thoroughly enjoying creating our own scarab beetles. We have also been very lucky to start out whole class guitar lessons which have been very exciting!

Year Six - We have started our learning on the topic of World War II by beginning to read about the subject through our text - My Secret War Diary. We have been enjoying beginning our learning in Science, History and Art so far this term where we are learning all about light, World War II and World War I artists respectively.

As a whole school we enjoyed celebrating World Engineering Day on Friday 15th. During the day we were all able to learn all about what an engineer does, consider the various types of careers in engineering and have a go at being engineers creating products including trains, planes, rockets, towers, bridges and boats!

Please do look on our school website for more information about what we have been doing.

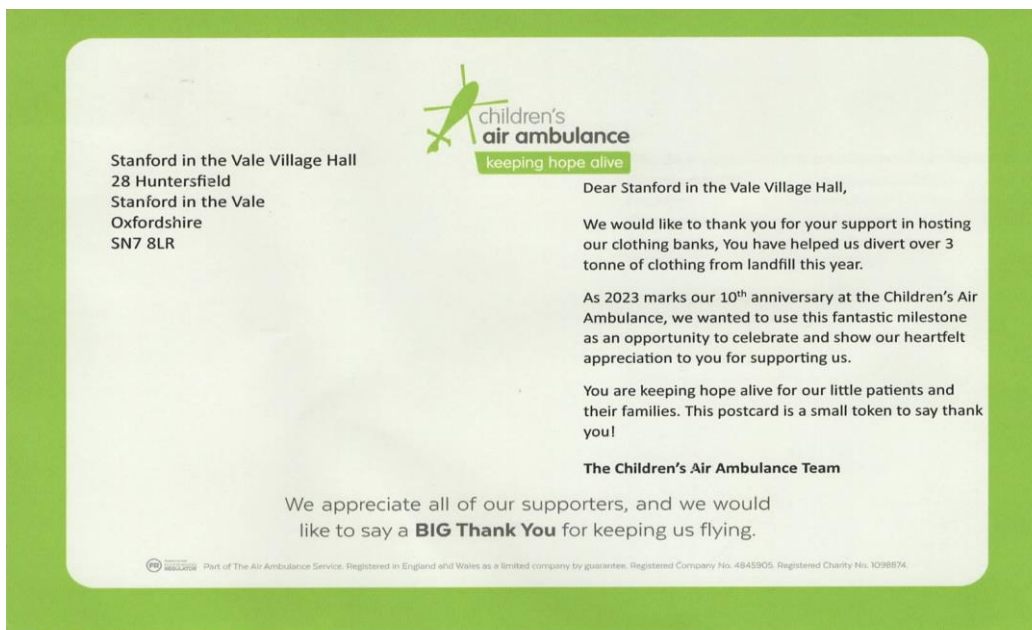
Thank you for reading our report.

Take care and keep safe.

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We have received this as a result of you all using the clothes bank in the Village Hall Car Park.



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