



# AUGUST 2025

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

### **SERVICES FOR AUGUST 2025**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 7<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**  
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)  
4.00 pm Denys@Home

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday after Trinity**  
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)  
4.00 pm Denys@Home  
6.00 pm Hymns & Pimm's at All Saints  
Church Goosey.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August**  
**9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**  
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)  
4.00 pm Denys@Home

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**  
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)  
4.00 pm Denys@Home  
6.00 pm Evensong at St George,  
Hatford (BCP)

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**  
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)  
4.00 pm Denys@Home

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September**  
**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**  
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)  
4.00 pm Denys@4

### **WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?**

#### **Vicar**

The Revd Paul Eddy

710267

#### **Church Wardens**

Maz Galley

07585 553883

Michelle Sinclair

07929 733429

### **WEDDINGS**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

**Ian Pendell and Kimberley Watkins**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

**Mark Titcombe and Jonalyn Bugatti**

### **IN MEMORY**

Our thoughts and prayers go to all the family and friends of people who have recently died. Sadly, this includes:

**Wendy Gibbard**

**Marjorie Gooding**

**Open House** Saturday's St Denys Church is open between 10 am and noon for coffee and tea, cake and chat. Do pop in.

### **The Vicar Writes –**

Dear Friends,

August brings with it a natural pause in the year. Schools close, diaries loosen (hopefully), and the pace of life—at least for some—slows. It's a good moment to remember one of God's greatest gifts to His people: Sabbath rest.

Right from the beginning of creation, rest is woven into the fabric of life. "On the seventh day God rested from all his work" (Genesis 2:2). And not because He was weary, but to establish a rhythm for us—a pattern of work and rest that reflects His goodness and our need. Later, in Exodus 20, the command to "remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy" was not a burden but a blessing: a day set apart for restoration, reflection, and reconnection—with God, with others, and with ourselves.

In our always-on world, many of us find this harder than ever. Even when work stops, emails follow us home, notifications keep ping, and our thoughts rarely quiet. And in summer, while some head off for a change of scene, others may feel stuck—unable to afford time away or held by responsibilities close to home.

But Sabbath isn't about exotic holidays or luxury. It's about choosing a change of rhythm. It's about intentionally stepping off the treadmill—if only for a few hours—to make space for joy, for stillness, and for God.

So, whether or not you can get away this August, may I encourage you to seek some true Sabbath time. Take a walk without your phone. Sit with a cup of tea and a psalm. Lie in the garden and simply breathe. Turn off the news and listen for God's still, small voice. Make room for play, for prayer, and for peace.

Jesus Himself said to His disciples, "Come away with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest" (Mark 6:31). That invitation still stands. It's not laziness—it's obedience. And it may just be the thing that renews your soul more than any packed itinerary ever could. Wishing you a summer of gentle days and holy pauses. Yours Paul Revd Paul Eddy

### Church Bell Ringing

As I write, we are looking forward to ringing the church bells to welcome the school leavers and their families to the annual Leavers' Church Service in July. In June we rang for two weddings and on 15<sup>th</sup> August we intend to ring to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VJ Day.

On so many occasions, happy, sad, reflective, or whatever, the church bells help to mark the occasion but to do so, each bell requires a competent bellringer. For the weddings, we asked for help from ringers from other villages or towns so that we could ring all 8 of our bells at the same time - but it would be lovely to increase the number of ringers we could call upon from the village itself.

We have taught a number of new ringers over recent years. Please do consider whether you would like to be one of the next intake. We would be very happy to demonstrate what is involved so you can decide whether you might like to begin to learn the art of church bellringing.

Get in touch via [StDenysChurchBells@btinternet.com](mailto:StDenysChurchBells@btinternet.com) or come and visit us when we are ringing on a Tuesday evening (or Sunday morning).

### Blood Training Session

My thanks to Ami Owen of TraumaMed Solutions and all those who attended her free bleed kit awareness training session on Friday 11 July in the Village Hall. I hope you found it useful.

Those of you who were unable to attend might like to look at the following videos:

**Video 1** – put [bit.ly/3UgSRNb](https://bit.ly/3UgSRNb) into your browser

**Video 2** – put [bit.ly/4kHPbPB](https://bit.ly/4kHPbPB) into your browser

In Video 2, scroll down to the 'Training Videos' and 'Slideshows & Leaflets' sections. The equipment shown is similar to that in the bleed kits in the village, but not exactly the same.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the British Heart Foundation's free, interactive, online cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training course. I encourage you to put [bit.ly/463Z5Y4](https://bit.ly/463Z5Y4) into your browser

and in just 15 minutes, you can learn how to save a life and receive your very own CPR certificate.

Les Harding

### AGE UK

### BIG KNIT 2005

The Big Knit ended on the 1st July and I was able to deliver 966 miniature bobble hats to Age UK headquarters, in Abingdon. This donation raised almost £290 for the charity, for which they were very grateful. I want to publicly thank all those people who participated in a very simple, but worthwhile, scheme using up oddments of wool and some of their time. Some knitted only a few and others knitted 100+ but they all counted for 30pence each. Thank you to everyone.

Jan Stenzhorn

### Stanford Drama Group

We would like to thank all the people who came to take part and support 'Blue Murder at the Blue Parrot'. We hope you enjoyed it all as much as we did, even if you didn't guess who dunnit!

Our thanks, also, to all the groups who gave up their village hall bookings for us.

We are always looking for new members to join our friendly group, especially adults. You can find us on social media or speak to any member of the group, or 01367 710400.

### Calling any Netball Players

Hi everyone! We're looking for more people to come and play netball with us on a Monday night, we play at the MUGA in Stanford in the Vale (football club) most Monday's at 7pm for an hour. No experience needed, as we do a range of activities, but need more people to be able to play games each week. Come along and see, we're a lovely group of ladies.

We just ask if you like it and would like to come more regularly that there is a contribution of £14 for the year to help with the liability insurance. We have all bibs and balls ready to play! Aged 16+ due to the insurance. Come along and have a go! Contact Tracey Vigor or Riddhi Sharma 07881 238220 if interested or more details!

### Wildlife Group

The new Stanford Wildlife Group has been active this month. We have had a walk around the community woodland, a bat walk and spotted another swift nest. We've also shared plants, photos and wildlife gardening tips. We communicate via WhatsApp – you'd be very welcome to join in the conversation:

<https://tinyurl.com/yhk69t2h>

Email: [zoeswnews@gmx.com](mailto:zoeswnews@gmx.com)

Zoë Williams, Daryl Buck, Jez Elkin and Maz Holden

**Stanford in the Vale with Goosey and Hatford Newsletter August 2025. To include items for the newsletter:**

**Janet Warren 01367 710789 or [jmwarren302@gmail.com](mailto:jmwarren302@gmail.com) Closing date this month is the 18<sup>th</sup> August.**

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**Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale**



### St Denys' Handbell Ringers

July has been another busy month, with us preparing for appearances at both Follyfest and the Stanford in the Vale Village Festival on the same weekend! Both performances went well though and it was lovely that so many people wanted to have a go.

Have you ever wanted to have a go at the handbells? Then come and join us In August at our **two open days on 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>**! We will be at the small village hall 8pm-10pm. Come and meet the group, see what we do, and join us for refreshments and biscuits. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information on joining or booking our group, please e-mail Jackie at [StDenys.HBR@btinternet.com](mailto:StDenys.HBR@btinternet.com). You can also visit our website at [stdenyshandbells.co.uk](http://stdenyshandbells.co.uk), and our facebook page at [www.facebook.com/StDenysHandbellRingers](https://www.facebook.com/StDenysHandbellRingers).

### Stanford in the Vale Volunteer Hospital Taxi Service - UPDATE

Should you require a lift for a hospital or dental appointment and cannot get there any other way,- call **07473550559** and leave a message stating your name and the location, date and time of your appointments. One of our drivers will then be in contact with you - please allow 3 to 4 days for a response.

**We are STILL in need of more volunteer drivers so that this service will still be available for any villagers who need a lift for a hospital or dental appointment.**

**Contact the number above if you could help.**

### 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.

### Repair Café

Because of holidays etc. the Repair Café on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August and Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September** at the Social Club (11am – 2pm) will open for emergencies. BY PRIOR APPOINTMENT ONLY. Phone or email us before the day to find out the arrangements [stanfordrepaircafe@silkie.co.uk](mailto:stanfordrepaircafe@silkie.co.uk) or phone 01367 710283

### Women's Breakfast

**Date: Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

**Venue: Stanford in the Vale Village Hall. (Large hall)**

**Time: 8.30am for an 8.45am start.**

We are very much looking forward to hearing from our lovely speaker, Elaine Sugden whose talk is entitled. "Cancer and Faith". Elaine, born in Yorkshire, studied preclinical medicine in Oxford where, in the Christian Union, she met her husband Chris who was training to become ordained into the Church of England. Together they went to India for 6 years with 2 children and returned with three. Most of her subsequent medical career has been in cancer (oncology) with adults and children. After retirement she was asked by a colleague of her husband to contribute to a multi-authored book 'Talking about Dying' and it's associated web site.

She was able to draw on her experience of patients faced with their own mortality as well as using information from extensive reading of all the issues involved.

She has served as a school governor, a PCC and Deanery Synod member and in autumn 2024 helped to run a 6 session course at her church: 'Caring for One Another as Years Go By'.

As always, we will be serving a "continental" style breakfast. Please do let us know if you have any special dietary requirements. 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](mailto:Womensbreakfast@stdenys.org) by 4th August 2025

### Social Club

**On Friday 15th August the club is having a GIN AFTERNOON from 4pm onwards**  
**Everyone is welcome.**

### Gardening Club

There will be no monthly meeting in August. Members will be contacted direct about the Summer Lunch on Sunday, August 17th. Enquiries: Rosemary Packer 01367 710445.

#### Gardening Tips for August

- Prune Wisteria to keep under control and improve flowering.
- Summer prune apples and pears, especially cordon, espalier trained.
- Deadhead flowering plants regularly.
- Collect seed from garden plants.
- Harvest sweetcorn and other vegetables.
- Cut out old fruited canes on raspberries and loganberries.
- Keep pond and water features, including bird baths topped up.
- Plant potatoes for Christmas.

## **Pre-school news – August 2025**

We've had a really busy end to the Pre-school year with lots of outside play and visits to school for the children leaving us this month. We have set up a school role play area and been making books with pictures of our new school to aid transitions. We had a wonderful Sports Day and Leaver's Picnic. The children loved taking part in the races and did a wonderful job of cheering each other on. We took part in the village festival with a display in the church and held our annual Teddy Tombola stall.

Thank you to all our wonderful staff and Committee for their continued hard work with Pre-school this year.

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>

[You can also support the Pre-school by buying online through Easy Fundraising and choosing us as your good cause. At no cost to you every time you shop we will get a commission from the company.](https://www.whitehorselottery.co.uk)

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stanfordpreschool/?utm\\_campaign=raise\\_more&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=rm-en-e2](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stanfordpreschool/?utm_campaign=raise_more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-e2)

If you are interested in registering your child with us please visit [www.stanfordpreschool.org.uk](http://www.stanfordpreschool.org.uk) and complete a Pre-Registration form or contact the Pre-school on 01367



### **Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School**

We have been continuing to enjoy our learning at school and the term remains busy and exciting!

Pupil Parliament

Year One - Jackson and Macy

Year Two - Willow and Toby

Year Three - Aira and Noah

Year Four - James and Emily

Year Five - Elodie and Josh

Year Six - Apha and James B

**Foundation** - We were lucky enough to enjoy a teddy bear's picnic this month; we had a wonderful time with our teddies and enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by the coffee shop.

**Year One** - We have been enjoying cooking a variety of delicious treats as part of our DT this term. Also, we have been writing some excellent

poetry based on our book 'Walking through the jungle'.

**Year Two** - We have been learning all about the Great Fire of London this term and to culminate our learning we recreated the 'great fire' by making and then burning our own London street.

**Year Three** - We had an amazing trip to Science Oxford this month. To support our learning all about light and shadows we were able to explore the hands-on zone, enjoy a spectacular show and take part in a problem solving workshop.

**Year Four** - Continuing our learning all about electricity we had an inspiring workshop all about electricity. The day began with a wonderful science show, and we then got to explore some circuit kits to debug the problems.

**Year Five** - We have been busy making toys with moving parts this month. We explored ways to construct moving parts within toys before designing our toys and finally constructing our impressive, finished pieces.

**Year Six** - We have been incredibly busy performing our leaver's show for the school and parents this week - everyone was incredibly impressed with our performance! We also enjoyed an excellent day out at the Royal Air Tattoo as a treat for all of our hard work this year.

Alongside all of these wonderful things we have also had our transition day this month. Everyone had the opportunity to spend the day in their new classroom with their new teacher ready for September. We also held our Sports Day and Family Picnic; it was a wonderful day with some great examples of sportsmanship and determination.

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.

To include items in September's newsletter please send to [jmwarren302@gmail.com](mailto:jmwarren302@gmail.com) or telephone **01367 710789** and leave a message.

**Closing date: 18<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

**Late items can no longer be accepted**

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