



SEPTEMBER 2025

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday 7th September

12th Sunday after Trinity

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

4.00 pm Denys@4 – Fellowship Tea

Sunday 14th September

13th Sunday after Trinity

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

4.00 pm Denys@4 – All Age

6.00 pm Harvest Service at All Saints Church Goosey.

Sunday 21st September

14th Sunday after Trinity

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

4.00 pm Denys@4 -Deep Delve

Friday 26th September

2.30pm Stanford School Harvest Festival Service.

Sunday 28th September

15th Sunday after Trinity

Harvest Festival at St Denys

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

4.00 pm Denys@4 – All Age Harvest

6.00 pm Harvest Festival at St George, Hatford (BCP)

Sunday 5th October

16th Sunday after Trinity

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

4.00 pm Denys@4 – Fellowship Tea

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

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Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?

Vicar

The Revd Paul Eddy 710267

Church Wardens

Maz Galley 07585 553883

Michelle Sinclair 07929 733429

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Liz Ward

Web Site – stdenys.com stanford in the vale

IN MEMORY

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

Sue Godwin

Finding Balance After the Summer Break

The Vicar Writes ...

As the long days of summer give way to the gentle shift of autumn, many of us find ourselves stepping back into fuller routines. The school year resumes, workplaces gather momentum, and calendars quickly fill. It's tempting to rush headlong into 'catching up', but I believe this is a moment to pause and consider how we might shape our days, and months wisely — with balance, health, and God's rhythm at the heart.

When we open Scripture to the creation story in Genesis, we see that God worked for six days — bringing life, beauty, and order into being — and then rested on the seventh. This wasn't because he was weary, but to set a pattern for us: work and rest, energy and renewal, labour and delight. The Sabbath principle is not merely about a single day of rest; it's about acknowledging that our time is a gift from God, and that unbroken striving is neither sustainable nor faithful.

After the summer, many of us can identify patterns from the past that have left us drained. Perhaps we have said "yes" too often, taken on more than we could carry, or blurred the boundaries between work and home until rest became an afterthought. The good news is that God offers us the grace to start again — to reorder our days with His wisdom guiding us.

Creating a balanced routine begins with prayerful reflection:

- **What have I learned from the last season about my limits and needs?**
- **Where might God be inviting me to step back, to say no, or to protect space for renewal?**
- **How can I honour both my responsibilities and my humanity?**

Healthy boundaries are not selfish; they are an act of stewardship. They help us serve others from a place of

strength rather than exhaustion. This might mean keeping one evening a week free for family or quiet; switching off emails after a certain hour; or taking a true Sabbath day in which you set aside productivity to delight in God, His creation, and His people.

Jesus Himself modelled this balance. Even in the midst of urgent ministry, He withdrew to quiet places to pray, rest, and be renewed by His Father. If He needed that rhythm, how much more do we?

As you settle back into post-summer life, I encourage you to set your calendar not only by deadlines and duties, but by God's design for you — a rhythm of meaningful work, refreshing rest, and holy joy. Let's enter this season not overburdened, but with hearts anchored in the peace of the One who holds all our days. Yours **Paul** **Revd Paul A. Eddy, FRSA**
Vicar. Email: vicar@stdenys.org

Calling any Netball Players

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 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!

Uffington Farmers Market and Café is under new management! The market is held on the 1st Sunday of every month excluding January, in Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall Uffington from 10am to 12:30pm. It was relaunched in February this year and we now have 44 stalls registered with approx. 25 attending every month. The stalls include butchery, olives, vegetables, cheese, chocolate, blade sharpening, garden plants and metalwork plus a wide variety of arts and crafts. We aim to use only local suppliers and small businesses and rotate the types of stalls each month so there is always something new to try.

Please come and join us - it's a lovely way to catch up with friends on a Sunday morning over a coffee and the children can be entertained in the play park or the Jubilee Field. Further details are available from uffingtonmarket@hotmail.com or follow us on Facebook – Uffington Market.

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.

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Looking for a new challenge this September?
Would you like to support families in your community?

Become a Home-Start Home-Visiting Volunteer this autumn and support a family through difficult times.

- Receive free, high-quality training
- Learn new skills & enhance your wellbeing
- Change the lives of the families you support
- Make friends & connect with your community

We have strong demand from families in Faringdon, Shrivenham and the surrounding villages and need local volunteers to help them!

If you can spare a couple of hours each week to support a parent and their children, please contact us on:

admin@homestartso.org or 01235 511152
www.homestart-southernoxfordshire.org.uk/volunteer

Church Bell Ringing

As anticipated, we rang the church bells to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VJ Day on 15th August. We hope that you heard the bells and realised why they were ringing.

I recently came across some words about bell ringing: "Bell ringing is intriguing, brings lifelong friendships, ignores age, gender, race and wealth. It engages the intellect and brings a sense of belonging". This following video link shows more about church bellringing and ringers:-
<https://youtu.be/M3gnM7psyEA>

If you'd like to know more, the Stanford ringers would be very glad to show you. Get in touch via StDenysChurchBells@btinternet.com or come and visit us when we are ringing on a Tuesday evening (or Sunday morning).

Stanford in the Vale Volunteer Hospital Taxi Service -

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



Wednesday 3rd September 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

Repair Café

The next Repair Café is on **Saturday 6th 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 or phone 01367 710283

Stanford Art Group

The next meeting will be on **Monday 8th September in the small Village Hall at 7.30pm.** Sue Klemencic will be running a Workshop on "Still Life", looking at Composition, Drawing and adding watercolour to your finished picture. Cost for Members £2.00 and for Visitors £5.00. **New Members come FREE to their first meeting** For any more information contact Derek at reco@recolab.co.uk

STANFORD IN THE VALE VILLAGE HALL FILM CLUB FRIDAY 12th SEPTEMBER - MAD ABOUT THE BOY



Synopsis: In *Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy*, Bridget is alone once again, widowed four years ago, when Mark (Oscar® winner Colin Firth) was killed on a humanitarian mission in the Sudan. She's now a single mother to 9-year-old Billy and 4-year-old Mabel, and is stuck in a state of emotional limbo, raising her children with help from

her loyal friends and even her former lover, Daniel Cleaver (Hugh Grant). Pressured by her Urban Family —Shazzer, Jude and Tom, her work colleague Miranda, her mother, and her gynecologist Dr. Rawlings (Oscar® winner Emma Thompson) — to forge a new path toward life and love, Bridget goes back to work and even tries out the dating apps, where she's soon pursued by a dreamy and enthusiastic younger man (White Lotus's Leo Woodall). Now juggling work, home and romance, Bridget grapples with the judgment of the perfect mums at school, worries about Billy as he struggles with the absence of his father, and engages in a series of awkward interactions with her son's rational-to-a-fault science teacher

19:00 for 19:30 start • Bar & Refreshments

- Card payments

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STANFORD IN THE VALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The 25/26 programme of talks will start on :

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER @ 4.00pm

AT ST. DENYS CHURCH

**SPEAKER : DR. DAVID ASHBY our VILLAGE
ARCHEOLOGIST**

A THOUSAND YEARS OF HISTORY (An illustrated in situ talk on the development of our church building from Saxon times until today)

All visitors welcome Non Members £5

Stanford in the Vale WI



Our next meeting will be a drumming workshop led by Andy Fowler on Wednesday 17th September 2025 @ 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

For enquiries, please call Rebecca on 01367 718719.

Stanford Social Club

Cash Bingo on Friday 19th SEPT

EYE'S DOWN AT 7.30pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

STANFORD IN THE VALE GARDENING CLUB

The September meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 24th at 7.30 pm** in Stanford in the Vale Village Hall.

The speaker will be Richard Barnes and his subject will be **"Plants from the Ends of the Earth".**

Richard has worked as a Landscape Architect and Garden Designer for 30 years. He is also a published writer and photographer and a member of the Professional Photographers Association and the Garden Media Guild. This talk looks at the origins of familiar and not so familiar garden plants and the exploits of the Plant Hunters who risked everything to bring new varieties to the West. This talk will be delivered via Zoom Refreshments and a Raffle.

Visitors will be welcome for a £3.00 entry fee

Enquiries to Rosemary Packer:- 01367 710445.

GARDENING TIPS FOR SEPTEMBER

- Plant spring flowering bulbs.
- Gradually reduce house plant watering.
- Divide plants to increase stock.
- Harvest fruit such as apples and pears.
- Plant overwintering onion sets and spring cabbage plants - protect from pigeons.
- Sow vegetables for overwintering including turnips, spinach and winter lettuce.

Pre-school news – September 2025

Thanks to a grant from the PPC (Public Purposes Charity) we have had some much-needed work done in the Pre-school Garden. This includes a new shed and work on the sand pit. We are looking forward to welcoming 17 new families to the Pre-school and getting to know them and their children.

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/stanfordpresch/?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 and complete a Pre-Registration form or contact the Pre-school on 01367 718696.



Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School

We hope you all had a lovely Summer.

We would like to welcome all our new children and families into Foundation.

Our new topics for this term are:

Foundation – Who am I and who are my family?

Year One – How do I know what season it is?

Year Two – Would you rather live in a hot desert or a cold desert?

Year Three – What does White Horse Hill teach us about life from the Stone Age to the Iron Age?

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Year Four – Where does our water come from?

Year Five – Why was the Nile the source of Ancient Egypt's success?

Year Six – What was it like to be a child in WWII?

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

We are all looking forward to being back at school and getting started with our new enquiries in our new year groups in September!

Please support: **100 Club**

Support F.O.S.S (Friends of Stanford School) in raising funds for our school by taking part in the 2023/24 '100 Club.' £10 membership fee will enter your allocated number into the 10 monthly draws (October – July). A first and second place winner every month from Oct-June, with one winner in July. Example prize fund based on 100 members = £30 first prize, £20 second prize for each draw and a bonus draw in July will see one prize-winner scooping £100. To enter, please complete a '100 Club' registration form available from the school office.

Thank you for reading our report.

Take care and keep safe.

Some Future Events in the Village Hall

Friday 26th September

MacMillan Coffee Morning

2nd Friday of each month

Film Club

Friday 17th October

Afternoon Tea

Saturday 18th October

Village Voices Super Concert

Fern Meadows Extra Care Housing – Now Open for Applications

Fern Meadows in Faringdon offers 60 modern homes for residents aged 55+ with care needs. The scheme supports independent living with tailored on-site care and welcoming community facilities. Apartments are available for rent and shared ownership. Features include a café, hair salon, lounge, guest suite, communal gardens, and secure mobility aid storage.

To find out more or apply, please search online for 'Fern Meadows Extra Care Housing'.



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