



OCTOBER 2025

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2025

Sunday 5th October 16th after Trinity
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4 – Fellowship Tea

Sunday 12th October 17th after Trinity
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4 – All Age
6.00 pm Evening Service at All Saints Church Goosey.

Sunday 19th October 18th after Trinity
10.15 am Morning Worship with a baptism (Stanford)

Sunday 26th October
Last Sunday after Trinity
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4
6.00 pm Evensong at St George, Hatford (BCP)

Sunday 2nd November
10.15 am A Service To Remember
Have you lost a loved one in recent years? On November 2, during our 1015am service we will have a special time to name those gone before us, to light a candle and to sit and reflect on their lives. There's no need to book in, just turn up, either on your own, or as a family. Refreshments will be served after the morning service.

4.00 pm Denys@4

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

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:

Geoffrey Somerset

David Keeble

John Neal

David Keeble aged 94, died unexpectedly at home, husband to Valerie, dad to Helen Jane Alison and Sarah, grandfather and great grandfather. David moved to Stanford with the family in 1969. David was a keen gardener and with Valerie he made a beautiful garden from scratch, which was open to the public under The National Garden Scheme for many years. David was head gardener at Abingdon school until he retired.

In the 60's David owned a Lambretta scooter shop on the Botley road called "Scootique" a well-known destination for all Mods far and wide, still remembered today by many. David became a driving instructor in the village and taught many locals to drive.

David will be sadly missed by his family.

The Vicar Writes

Dear Parishioner

As the evenings draw in and the mornings carry the first frosts, we are reminded that winter is approaching. For many, this season brings a sense of quiet beauty: crisp mornings, log fires, the rhythm of the land slowing down.

Yet winter also carries with it particular challenges, especially for those who are older, unwell, or living alone. In our villages, where distances are longer and services fewer, the colder months can heighten feelings of loneliness and isolation.

It is at times like this that the message of the Christian gospel speaks with a special clarity. Jesus summed up God's law in two great commandments: to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves. The love of neighbour is not simply a nice sentiment, but a calling to practical care. The Good Samaritan did not walk past; he stopped, he gave of his time, his resources, and his compassion. That same invitation comes to us today.

Looking out for one another is woven into the fabric of rural life. We know who lives nearby; we know when a light has not been

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switched on or a curtain left undrawn. Yet it is easy to assume that someone else will make the phone call, drop off the groceries, or check in with the person at the far end of the lane. I want to encourage us all this winter to be intentional about caring. If a name comes to mind as you read this, perhaps God is nudging you to reach out with a call, a note, or a friendly knock at the door.

This is not only about physical needs, though those matter deeply - warm homes, food in the cupboard, medicine collected from the pharmacy. It is also about the gift of presence. A listening ear, a shared cup of tea, or a few minutes at the gate can be a lifeline for someone who may otherwise spend days without a conversation. In Christ, we believe that no one is forgotten or unseen by God. Through our care, we can embody that truth in a tangible way.

Of course, we also need to remember that caring for others begins with caring for ourselves. Winter can be demanding for farmers, carers, parents, grandparents and all who shoulder responsibilities. It is not un-Christian to ask for help; indeed, allowing others to support us can be an act of grace. As Paul reminds the Galatians, we are to *"carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ."*

So as we prepare for the colder months, let us do so with watchfulness and hope. Watchfulness, that we may see the needs around us and respond. Hope, because we believe that Christ is with us in every season. May our parish be a place where kindness is not rare but abundant, where no neighbour is left to feel forgotten, and where the warmth of Christian love shines even on the greyest of days.

With every blessing,

Paul **Revd Paul A. Eddy** **Vicar**

Stanford handbell ringers

Back in 1993, a chance conversation at a parents and toddler meeting led to the formation of Stanford in the Vale's very own Handbell Group. None of the initial ringers knew very much about handbell playing nor about music – apart from knowing they liked listening to music - on the radio mostly. From that beginning, the group set about getting hold of some handbells and learning. 32 years later, largely self-taught, the group has a 3-octave set of 38 bells which sound beautiful and has, through their activities, passed nearly £10,000 to various charities.

Why not join us and embark on a great and relaxing hobby while also raising money? As with the 1993 beginners – no experience necessary!

Contact Danielle or Jackie at
StDenys.HBR@btinternet.com or via our facebook page.

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.

Church Bellringing – Some misconceptions

"To be able to ring you need to be good at maths and music"

No, you don't! The only maths you need is being able to count and musical skill is not important either

"Bell ringers are all old men who go to church"

No! Bell ringers – ladies and gents - are of all ages, from under 10 to over 100. Some go to church, others do not – that's up to you!

"Bell ringing is expensive to learn"

No! Ringing costs nothing but a bit of your time to learn (& 'special occasion' ringing could actually pay you!!)

"Bells are very heavy and to ring you need to be very strong" Well, yes bells are heavy, with an average bell weighing about the same as five men...

BUT bells are hung on 'ball bearings' meaning that you don't need to be strong. Bell ringing is far more about technique than strength which is why a child of 10 can be as proficient as an adult. 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 1st October 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

The next meeting will be in the Social Club on Saturday 4th October 11am until about 2pm. If you can give us prior notice it helps so we can if possible, bring spares. October is the International Repair Café month where Repair Cafes throughout the World (there are. over 2000) will meet. Contact stanfordrepaircafe@silkie.co.uk or phone 01367 710283

**STANFORD IN THE VALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
RADLEY TIMBER FRAMED BUILDINGS
Speaker: RICHARD DUDDING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 8th 7.30 pm in the LARGE VILLAGE HALL Visitors welcomed £5 admission fee**

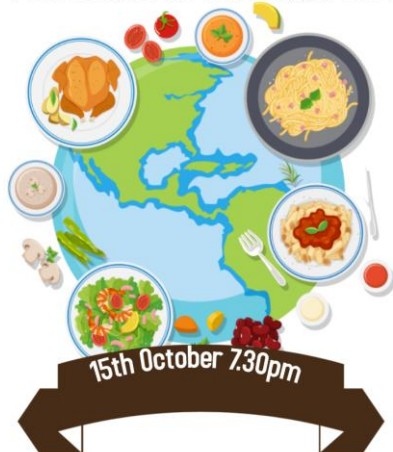
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ART GROUP The next Meeting of the Art Group will be on **Monday 13th October in the small village Hall starting at 7.30pm.** It will be a Group Activity "Memories of Halloween". Come along and scare us! Please note that the November Meeting will be on **Wednesday 12th November at 2pm** in the Small Village Hall. New members free for the first meeting. Any further details contact Derek on 01367 710283 Email: reco@recolab.co.uk

Stanford in the Vale WI

World food Tasting in the Village Hall
Please contact: Kat Warren 07938 601645



Friday 17th 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 18th October 2025- 9.30- 1.00 pm

Can you spare some time on 18th October to help maintain our Churchyard. Tasks could include, trimming and raking. Longer grass may need strimming and also mowing. Please bring tools for the above tasks.

We had an excellent time in October last year so hope we can repeat that experience.

If interested, please email cpngill46@gmail.com.

01367 718224 Hope to see you there!!

Sincerely Peter Gill- St Denys Church

St Denys Village Voices present

A SUPPER CONCERT

'JOIN HANDS AND SING'

In the Village Hall - Saturday, **18th October – 7pm for 7.30**

Bar and Raffle – Cash Only

Profit to be donated to St Denys Church

Tickets (in advance) £10 Cash

available from Stanford Coffee shop

STANFORD IN THE VALE GARDENING CLUB

The October meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 22nd at 7.30 pm in Stanford in the Vale Village Hall.** The speaker will be Jo Fowler and her subject will be **"Christmas Decorations".**

Refreshments and a Raffle.

Visitors will be welcome for a £3.00 entry fee.

Enquiries to Rosemary Packer:- 01367 710445.

Gardening Tips for October

- Divide established rhubarb crowns to create new plants.
- Cut back perennials that have died down.
- Divide herbaceous perennials
- Move tender plants, including aquatic ones, into a greenhouse or conservatory.
- Plant out spring cabbages.
- Harvest apples, pears, grapes and nuts. (Might be too late this year!).
- Prune climbing roses

Annual Exhibition
Faringdon Art Society



24 - 26 October 2025

Corn Exchange, Faringdon SN7 7JA

Free	Friday 24 October	10am - 6pm
Public	Saturday 25 October	10am - 6pm
Entry	Sunday 26 October	10am - 4pm

www.faringdonartsociety.co.uk

Pre-school news – October 2025

We have our AGM coming up on Monday 13th October. We are looking to replace both our Chair and Secretary who are both standing down this year. Many thanks to both of them for their hard work and support of the Pre-school over the last few years.

We have been settling back our returning children and visiting our new children joining us at their homes. We look forward to helping them and their families into our Pre-school.

In our Forest School sessions this term we will be planting tree seeds and thinking about what we need to help them grow. We have been talking about our families and talking about similarities and differences. We

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have set up a new outdoor music area and the children are experimenting with lots of different things to make music.

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

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 are all very excited to be back at school and have had a fantastic return to

school with our learning now in full swing! This year Pupil Parliament has been selected in a slightly different way so you will notice that the members are no longer 2 pupils from each class.

Year 2 - Ava and Teo

Year 4 - Millie

Year 5 - Rosie

Year 6 - Imogen, Melody, Phoebe, George and Mary

Foundation - We have been settling in well to our new classroom and getting to know our teachers.

It has been great fun exploring all of the resources and starting our Maths and phonics!

Year One - We are busy practicing our reading and writing. We have also been thinking about how the seasons impact trees and created some excellent artwork to show this.

Year Two - We have been writing some amazing stories all about different animals. We are also enjoying exploring the climates of different countries around the world.

Year Three - We are really enjoying learning about our enquiry question all about the changes from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We have also been practicing our addition skills in Maths.

Year Four - We are excited to be learning all about the water cycle this term as well as

thinking about the different states of matter. We have been enjoying reading our book 'The Rhythm of the Rain'.

Year Five - It has been a busy start to the year in year 5 as we have been designing scarab beetles and turning our classroom in to our very own museum to explore Ancient Egyptian artefacts. We have also been working hard in English to produce lovely descriptive writing.

Year Six - We have started swimming this term in year 6 which we are all really enjoying. We are also busy learning about WW2 - it has been fascinating to learn about the Battle of Britain! Please do look on our school website for more information about what we have been doing. Keep an eye out for the exciting projects Pupil Parliament are planning for the year ahead! Thank you for reading our report. Take care and keep safe.

FOSS 100 Club

Join our 100 Club today - £10 enters you into ten monthly draws each offering you the chance to win much more! Sign-up via this link (by 10 October)

<https://tinyurl.com/foss100club>

Friends of Stanford School (Reg'd Charity 1158396) supports our village Primary School to ensure that all students have the best possible education experience and opportunity regardless of their background/family circumstances. With inflationary costs piling pressures on families, this is vital now more than ever before. We have funded £4,000 of additional IT equipment annually, as well as a range of classroom, nature school or playground equipment, books and educational experiences (e.g. visit to Warwick Castle).

The prize fund is 50% of the monthly entries. Each month October-June will be split (60:40) across two winning entries, the July draw will see a single entry win the grand prize (£100 if 100 entrants).

Stanford in the Vale Village Hall

Clothes Bank - We were sorry to have the clothes bank removed but unfortunately the Children's Air Ambulance could not guarantee regular collections to empty it. As a result, the black bags around it were building up and the area was beginning to be used as a rubbish tip! We are looking into other charities who could provide a regular emptied clothes bank. In the meantime, there are 4 up the tip.

Future Events

Saturday 15th November - Quiz Night

Friday 5th December - Christmas Prize Bingo

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To include items in September's newsletter please send to jmwarren302@gmail.com or telephone 01367 710789 and leave a message.

Closing date: 18th September 2025

Late items can no long be accepted

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