



NOVEMBER 2025

PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday 2nd November All Saints Day
10.15 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 – Family Film @ St Denys

Sunday 9th November
Remembrance Sunday

10.15 am Morning Worship -
Remembrance Service (Stanford)
11.00 am Act of Remembrance outside at
the War Memorial Uniformed Groups and Villagers
gather outside at 10.45am.

4.00 pm Denys@4
6.00 pm Holy Communion at All Saints,
Goosey led by Archdeacon David Tyler

Tuesday 11th November

10.45 am Act of Remembrance at the
War Memorial

Sunday 16th November

2nd Sunday before Advent
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
- ECO Sunday
4.00 pm Denys@4 – Denys Deep Delve

Sunday 23rd November

Sunday before Advent
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4
6.00 pm Evening Prayer (BCP) at St George,
Hatford

Saturday 29th November

5.00 pm Lighting of the Christmas Tree & Church,
St Denys Church Churchyard, followed by the
singing of Carols and hot refreshments.

Sunday 30th November *Advent Sunday*

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4

Sunday 7th December

2nd Sunday in Advent
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00 pm Denys@4 Christmas meal at
Primary School

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 07808726780

Web Site – stdenys.org 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:

**Ken Macaulay
Joan Greenwood
Paul White**

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 ...

**Remembrance Sunday: A Call to Remember,
Reflect, and Recommit to Peace**

Each November, as the leaves fall and the chill of
winter settles in, we gather once again for
Remembrance Sunday. It is a day deeply woven into
the fabric of our national and spiritual life. A time to
pause, to remember the sacrifices of those who gave
their lives in war, and to pray for peace in our world
today. Yet this year, as we stand together in church
and at the village War Memorial, the act of
remembrance feels particularly poignant.

The news is heavy with stories of conflict and human suffering. The ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine has displaced millions, torn families apart, and reminded us of the fragility of peace even in modern Europe. Meanwhile, unrest continues across the Middle East, where generations have known the pain of violence, division, and uncertainty. These events are not distant headlines, they are realities that echo the same themes of loss, courage, and longing for peace that have shaped Remembrance Sunday since its beginning after the Great War.

When we wear our poppies, observe our two minutes of silence, and recite the familiar words: "We will remember them", we do more than honour the past. We proclaim that memory is a moral act. To remember is to resist the temptation to grow numb to suffering or cynical about the possibility of peace. It is to affirm the God-given dignity of every person, in every nation, in every time of history.

The men and women we remember did not fight for glory, but for freedom, justice, and the hope of a better world. Their sacrifice calls us to reflect on our own role as peacemakers today. How do we speak, act, and pray in ways that build bridges rather than walls? How can we extend compassion to refugees, support those suffering the consequences of war, and model reconciliation in our own communities?

Jesus said, "*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.*" On Remembrance Sunday, this beatitude takes on renewed significance. In a world still scarred by division, the Church's task is not only to remember but also to embody Christ's peace. Our prayers are not abstract; they are acts of hope against despair, of faith against fear.

As we lay wreaths and sing hymns of remembrance, let us hold before God not only the fallen of the past but also those who suffer today, the civilians in Ukraine/Russia war, the children in Gaza and Israel, the families torn apart by war anywhere in the world. Let our remembrance move us to compassion, our reflection to action, and our faith to renewed commitment that, with God's help, peace is still possible.

May this Remembrance Sunday deepen in us the resolve to live as instruments of God's peace, bearing witness to the light that no darkness can overcome.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We will remember them."

Why not join us this Remembrance Sunday – 1015am, November 9 in St Denys Church, then at 11am around the war memorial. Or, on Nov 11, 1045am as pupils from our CofE primary school lead us in our village Act of Remembrance.

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

November is 'Giving Month'

We are a Parish of 3 Churches, St Denys, St George, and All Saints. They are all beautiful old buildings which need a lot of care and attention.

Since Covid donations have decreased whilst costs have generally increased. The PCC have designated November as a "Giving Month" to help keep our wonderful buildings in good order.

Donations can be made by any convenient method:

- Bank transfer to Stanford PCC St Denys Church, Sort Code 30-93-18, Account 00109758.
Reference 'Gift Month' + the name of the church your donation is for, e.g. St Denys, Hatford or Goosey.
- Cheque made payable to Stanford PCC St Denys Church
- Cash to Vicarage, Church Wardens or to any PCC member.

Stanford Church Bell Ringers

If you might be interested in becoming a bell ringer – or perhaps learn more about how the church bells work and are maintained, please get in touch. We are always happy to teach new starters - and to welcome back any "lapsed" ringers. Come and see us when we are ringing or contact us at StDenysChurchBells@btinternet.com

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 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

Would you be happy to drive someone needing to get to a doctors or hospital appointment? Could be just local in Faringdon or Wantage, or further afield in Oxford and Swindon. We are down to very few drivers, and this is a very important service for people who cannot easily get to these appointments. It would be very sad if we had to close the service. Please contact Bobbie on the above phone number for more details.

VILLAGE VOICES

If you enjoy singing – or think you might – why not come along to Village Voices, Stanford's come-and-sing choir? No special talent or experience necessary and, certainly, no audition. We are a happy, friendly group - lots of chatter as well as singing – and meet on Thursdays, 7 – 8pm, in St Denys' Church. We've just done our annual concert in the Village Hall and will now be preparing for Christmas, starting on 6th November

Shifford Carriage Driving for the Disabled. VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are a small and friendly carriage driving group based in Charney Bassett. We drive with our participants on **Wednesday mornings between 10.00am - 12 noon from April to October.**

On other variable dates and over the winter we drive with volunteers for training and exercise purposes. We have two ponies and are looking for new volunteers who are familiar with handling horses/ponies. No carriage driving experience is necessary as training will be given. If you have time to spare (*even if it is not every Wednesday!*) and would like to find out more please contact us:

Email: Mandyhook2@gmail.com • **Mobile:** 07884 407 510 **Email:** Catherine.jessop@btinternet.com
• **Mobile:** 07470 300 203 Visit our website for more info: www.shi_ordcarriagedriving.org

Repair Café

We will be meeting as usual in the Social club on **Saturday 1st November 11am – about 2 pm.** If you can contact us beforehand it sometimes helps us get spares.

Wednesday 5th November 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

ART GROUP

VERY IMPORTANT. The next meeting of the Group will be on **Wednesday 12th November at 2pm.** It will be a painting /drawing session on Winter Landscapes. Also we will be having a discussion on the running of the Group next year. New ideas and faces running the Club will be welcome.

STANFORD IN THE VALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER

@ 7.30 in the large Village Hall
PARSON'S PLEASURE & DAME'S DELIGHT. A History of bathing and swimming in Oxford's rivers
An illustrated talk given by GEORGE TOWNSEND
Visitors welcome, admission £5

STANFORD IN THE VALE VILLAGE HALL FILM CLUB



THE SALT PATH (2024) 12A

Based on the controversial memoir by Raynor Winn, this is the

story of how she and her ailing husband Moth (played by Gillian Anderson and Jason Isaacs) set out on a 630-mile trek along the Cornish, Devon and Dorset coastline. After being evicted from their home, they make the desperate decision to walk in the hope that, in nature, they will find solace and a sense of acceptance. With depleted resources, only a tent and some essentials between them, every step along the path is a testament to their growing strength and determination.

Director: Marianne Elliott with Gillian Anderson, Jason Isaacs Runtime: 115 mins

Village Hall • Friday 14th November • Pay by Card
19:00 for 19:30 start • Bar & Refreshments

Stanford in the Vale with Goosey and Hatford Newsletter November 2025. To include items for the newsletter: Janet Warren 01367 710789 or jmwarren302@gmail.com Closing date this month is the 18th November. Stanford Community Website for e copy - Local events, business listing, village history and more Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale

St Denys invites you to Women's Breakfast

When: Saturday 15th November 2025

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

Time: 8.30 am for 8.45am start.

Talk by Chris Harding: "Fostering - Meeting them where they are: With acceptance not expectation"

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 by 12th November 2025 We welcome donations towards the cost of the breakfast.

Stanford in the Vale Village Hall

Grand Quiz Night

Saturday 15th November 2025

£28 per team of 4 if prior notice given, or £32 at the door, both including ploughman's supper. CARD PAYMENTS PREFERRED

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm. Raffle and Bar

Contact: J. Warren 01367 710789



St Denys Church CHRISTMAS BAZAAR SATURDAY

22nd NOVEMBER

Stanford Village Hall

11.30 am – 2.00 pm

Homemade Soup and puddings

Gifts, Toys, Books

Christmas Food

Plus more !!



PENNYHOOKS FARM TRUST CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 22nd November 2025 10.30am – 1.30pm

Pennyhooks Farm Trust - working with Autism

Saturday 22nd November 2025 10.30am - 1.30pm

We are delighted to welcome visitors to our annual Christmas Fayre at Pennyhooks Farm.

We have some wonderful products for sale, made by our students, such as chopping boards, reindeer, jams and jellies.

Find us at Pennyhooks Farm, Shrivenham, SN6 8EX (signed just off the A4020 between Shrivenham and Watchfield)

STANFORD SOCIAL CLUB

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 8PM

AL JENKINS (MUSIC FOR ALL)

**FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, EYE'S DOWN 7.30PM
CHRISTMAS BINGO**

EVERYONE WELCOME

STANFORD IN THE VALE GARDENING CLUB

The November meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 26th** at 7.30 pm in Stanford in the Vale Village Hall.

This meeting will be the Annual General Meeting with a Bring and Share Supper and Social Evening.

Enquiries to Rosemary Packer:- 01367 710445.

Gardening Tips for November

- Clear up fallen leaves, especially from lawns and ponds.
- Raise containers onto pot feet to prevent waterlogging.
- Plant tulips for a spring display.
- Prune roses to prevent wind rocking.
- Plant out winter bedding.
- Insulate outdoor containers from frost - hessian sacking or used bubble wrap.
- Cover brassicas with netting to deter pigeons.

Saturday 29th November

5.00 pm

Lighting of the Tree in St Denys Church Churchyard, followed by the singing of Carols and hot refreshments.

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Stanford in the Vale Village Hall

Prize Christmas Bingo

Friday 5th December 2023

Doors open at 7 for Eyes-down at 7.30pm

Cash prize for Last House

Bar and raffle

Contact: J. Warren jmwarren302@gmail.com
or 01367 710789



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 are really enjoying our learning this term as we get used to life at school! We have been exploring pumpkins over the past couple of weeks and thinking about all things autumn as well as continuing to work on our fine motor skills for our writing.

Year One - We have been busy writing some instructions on how to make a jam sandwich over the past couple of weeks. As well as this we have made windmills in DT to link to our learning about the weather.

Year Two - We have completed some brilliant non-chronological report writing all about camels. Alongside this we have also been practicing our skills with using clay to create pots and animals.

Year Three - We have been busy learning how to sew and have now used these skills to create wonderful purses. Also we have been working really hard in PE to practice our netball skills.

Year Four - To continue our learning about the water cycle we have been writing non-fiction pieces all about the water cycles. Also, we have been learning about how to calculate perimeter in Maths.

Year Five - We have created some amazing graphic novels set in Ancient Egypt this term. In addition, we have learnt all about why the Nile was so important to the Ancient Egyptians.

Year Six - We have been learning to perform the poem 'In Flanders Fields' this term to link to our learning about the World Wars. We had an

Pre-school news – November 2025

We held our AGM on the 13th and this was well attended. We now have a few new additions to our committee for the next year and say thank you to those outgoing members who have played an important role in the Pre-school over the last year.

The children have been enjoying spending time outside leading their play using the open-ended resources. They have built some amazing structures using loose parts and developed some wonderful and inventive imaginary games.

Our maths focus, this term has been on subitising – knowing how many without counting. This has been developed in play-based ways and progressed onto subitising with dice and dominoes. It has been great to use an array of natural materials around us at this time of year such as conkers and acorns to use as a resource for learning.

Children continue to enjoy singing including action songs, instruments, scarves and stretchy lycra!

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.easypfundraising.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.

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excellent trip to Coleshill to learn all about its links to the war effort in WW2.

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!

For Christmas Art Day this year we are in need of 200 2-pint milk bottles. Please donate any you may have to school!

Thank you for reading our report.
Take care and keep safe.

To include items in December's newsletter please send to jmwarren302@gmail.com or telephone **01367 710789** and leave a message.
Closing date: 18th December 2025
Late items can no longer be accepted