



The Three Villages Magazine

COVERING GREAT AMWELL, ST MARGARETS AND STANSTEAD ABBOTTS



Price: £1.00

Issue 1

March 2022



THE 3 CHURCHES BENEFICE

HOLY WEEK

"He is not here; he has risen!"
(Luke 24:6–7)

Our 3 Churches Benefice will be coming together to celebrate Holy Week, as we remember the Passion and death of our Lord, and his glorious Resurrection.



Important dates for your diary:

10th April – Palm Sunday

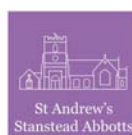
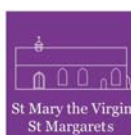
14th April – Maundy Thursday

15th April – Good Friday

17th April – Easter Sunday



For full details about all our services running throughout Holy Week, please visit
www.3churches.net or www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7897/benefice/



The 3 Churches Benefice

Join us ONLINE using the following link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2701785021>

You can also join in on an ordinary landline phone by ringing any of these numbers +44 131 460 1196, +44 203 051 2874, +44 203 481 5237 with the meeting ID: 270 178 5021

When meeting in person, as we emerge from COVID restrictions, we ask that you are be careful of those around you and attentive to their safety and preferences. Thank you.

Rev'd Dr Sarah Forest, Priest in Charge



The Three Villages Magazine

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From the Editor...



Cover: 'Blossom by the canal' © Chloe Welch.

Welcome to the first issue of our new-look magazine. The Three Villages Magazine is a joint venture between the three Parish Councils of Great Amwell, St Margarets and Stanstead Abbots, and The 3 Churches Benefice. It is intended as a new community resource that is accessible to everyone. The online and print formats provide a platform to share local news and information, showcase local talent and support local businesses.

The magazine will be issued quarterly with publication in March, June, September and December. If you wish to contribute to forthcoming issues this year, the deadlines are 3rd April (June issue), 4th July (September issue) and 3rd October (December issue). Please send all submissions and any related questions to print.threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.

Every issue, the photograph used on the front cover will be selected from a local photographer. This issue's cover features the work of Chloe Welch. It is a wonderful image that captures the beauty of spring in our local area. Chloe of C. Welch Photography is based in Stanstead Abbots and exemplifies the incredible local talent we are lucky to have in the three villages. Please do check out her work at www.cwelchphotography.com, and follow on Facebook and Instagram ([c.welchphotography](https://www.instagram.com/c.welchphotography)). If you would like to enter your work for the next issue's cover, please send your photograph(s) to threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.

We would like to acknowledge the work of Katrina Dukes (1965–2021) and Gaby Wilde, who were instrumental in the early stages of The Three Villages. Thanks are also offered to Willowthorpe Care Home, our kind sponsors, and East Herts District Council for their contribution.

Please do check out our website (www.thethreevillages.com) for all live events and important up-to-date news/information. You can also follow us on Facebook (search 'The Three Villages').

We hope that you enjoy this first issue!

Anna Bond

Print Editor

THE THREE VILLAGES COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Anna Bond | Rosemary Imroth |
| Julia Davies | Clare Maynard |
| Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest | Lyn Paddon |

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The Three Villages Magazine

FROM THE VICAR

You know you're beginning to really settle into a job when you've done the whole cycle of work and started again. It's been a very strange year and a bit; when we arrived in September 2020, the churches had been closed since the beginning of lockdown and the challenge was to find a safe way to get them open, only to have to close again in December. We have got very proficient at all sorts of new technology, especially Zoom, which we have been using for services both while we were closed and since. We are now open again and have been having weekly services since October, while continuing to be online fortnightly on Zoom for all those who can't be with us in church. It's been a challenge to work out how to reach people and include folk, but it's also been a chance to think about what we mean by church, how we use our beautiful but ancient buildings, and what might be the future for our community.



The Easter Tomb at St Mary the Virgin, St Margarets



Candles at St James's Church



'The Stable' at St Andrew's

When we talk about church we tend to think about those buildings, but when the first Christians met and worshipped together 'the church' was the group of people who gathered, sometimes in people's homes, sometimes in the temple. The church was the people, not the building. But we have had churches in our Benefice for 1000 years, and people have met and prayed in them for so long that it is almost like the gap between heaven and earth is worn thin by those prayers. Inside the stone walls, the peace that comes from God fills the space. No wonder it has been hard in the months that the churches have been locked up. Though our heads tell us that this has been necessary to keep us safe, our hearts have been saddened.

It's not just been new technology that has filled the gap, we've used the outside space over the last year to meet, worship and to pray. Last Easter we shared the story of Jesus' death and resurrection with the children of St John the Baptist and St Andrew's schools through 'Experience Easter Outside'. We had stations telling the story, with some amateur dramatics from the church family, and we left storyboards around the churchyard so that other visitors could explore the story of God's salvation plan for the world. We had outdoor church monthly over the summer in the grounds of St Andrew's School, and at Christmas we had 'Outdoor Carols' in the garden of The Red Lion pub. As COVID numbers were rising exponentially just before Christmas, our Crib Services were replaced by 'The Christmas Journey', a walking Nativity from St Margarets Station to the stable at St Andrew's church. We travelled like Mary and Joseph, knocking at the inns to see if there was any room, singing Carols all the way!

There's an old saying with a lot of truth in it, that when we pray to God for patience, he gives us opportunities to be patient; when we pray to God for strength, he gives us opportunities to be strong. We have had a lot of opportunities to grow in our patience, strength, resilience, imagination and courage! And I hope we have learned to be hopeful, to look for the blessings we have, to appreciate the relationships that make us a community, and to love and care for our neighbours.



Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest
Priest in Charge, The 3 Churches Benefice



St John the Baptist
Great Amwell



St Mary the Virgin
St Margarets



St Andrew's
Stanstead Abbots

The 3 Churches Benefice

THE THREE CHURCHES FOODBANK HUB



A local Hub of the Hertford & Ware Foodbank based at St Margarets' Parish Church

The local Foodbank Hub operating out of St Margarets' Parish Church (St Mary the Virgin) began life in December 2020, after discussions with our Priest in Charge, Reverend Sarah Forrest. Through her links with the schools, the increasing strain on individuals and families during the Pandemic became apparent, and the idea of a local hub delivering to people in the villages was taken up by us as a church. We regularly deliver Foodbank parcels to people in need, many of whom would struggle to get to Hertford or Ware to pick up what they and their families need.

We began applying for various grants to help us in our plans, and were blessed with positive responses from sources such as East Herts County Council and CVSBEH. When the Rectory took on a new lease of life during the early part of 2021 as Temporary Accommodation for single guys and families, we felt that it would be an appropriate gesture to give a 'Welcome' pack of groceries for each and every new arrival. We were aware that moving to a new area and maybe not knowing anyone or where the local shops were, it would be comforting for the new residents to feel that we were thinking of them and welcoming them into one of our villages. A small gesture such as this was also a way of new arrivals knowing that there were people out there that they could contact if they needed any additional assistance.

We also advertised on Facebook for bedding, towels etc. early on in the life of the Rectory and the response was absolutely amazing; we only advertised for a couple of days and were inundated with so much that we were able to take down our request very quickly. We would like to take the opportunity of thanking everyone who responded to our cry for help. The response was overwhelming and humbling. It is at times like this, that our villages really show true community spirit.

We now also have links with a local charity working to reduce food waste, and we collect food items from supermarkets, which we deliver to local people on a weekly basis.

This is just the beginning and even though we have been in lockdown on and off since our launch, and have had to do less than we would have liked, it is a fantastic beginning. We are forming links with various charities and have plans for more work to support local people in the coming months.



Lyn Paddon

Foodbank Manager

The Three Villages Magazine

ST MARGARETS STATION ART



St Margarets Station Art project leads

At French & Jupps we strive to support our community through the sponsorship of innovative ideas, partnering with community lead initiatives that make our local and surrounding area so vibrant.

In acknowledgement of the hard work of all those involved with our latest sponsorship it brings us great delight to announce the unveiling of the refurbishment of St Margarets train station in Stanstead Abbots.

The refurbishment of St Margarets station and signal box was a concept driven by The New River Line Community Rail Partnership. The Community Rail Partnership (CRP) was formally established in January 2020 by local authorities, community groups and organisations working in partnership with Greater Anglia and other rail networks to enhance station platforms up and down the country.

At the centre of this initiative for our local area is Katie Goldthorpe, CRP Officer for the New River Line, which covers all stations from Hertford East to Broxbourne. Katie

not only works for the organization, but also lives in Stanstead Abbots and had long thought that the signal box could be transformed at St Margarets. It was when she joined the CRP in 2020, she seized the opportunity to do something with it.

To commence the process, Katie contacted French & Jupps to propose sponsoring the redesign of the station platform with art, which was enthusiastically received by director Paul King. From there the campaign was launched on the Stanstead Abbots community Facebook page in addition to posters being pinned up on village noticeboards requesting submissions from people within the area to submit original artworks the redesign.

The response was fantastic, with local residents and two local primary schools St John the Baptist and St Andrew's Primary School getting involved. The result is stunning with the twelve art pieces in a variety of mediums being chosen and printed by local company Universal Signs.

Katie's work doesn't end there. She had also been working with Rosemary & Robin to bring new life to the station through a planting scheme introducing foliage onto the station platform. The tireless work of all involved culminated in the annual station adoption award being granted at the unveiling by Alan Neville, Community Engagement Manager, Greater Anglia.



The Award being presented

Overall, the day was a great success, enhanced further by the generous offering of cakes and refreshments provided by local businesses Libby's Coffee Shop and The Galley Hall pub in a true reflection of community spirit.

We believe the results are spectacular and that the return to travel from our local station is made all the brighter as a result of their hard work.

To get involved and support this local cause on some of their upcoming projects, you can contact The New River Line Community Rail Partnership on newriverline@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

You can also follow The New River Line Community Rail Partnership on Facebook and Twitter.

James Marinos

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Great Amwell Parish Council

The Parish Council continues to meet, with safe distance measures, on the second Thursday of each month in the Parish Hall, Hillside Lane at 8.00pm (except August when there is no meeting).

The Parish Council has its own web site that continues to evolve in terms of providing parishioners with useful information. Details of your parish councilors, and recent copies of meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the web site (<https://gtamwellpc.org>).

The business considered varies from the monthly planning applications and highways issues of concern to ad hoc matters ranging from reports of anti-social behavior, litter and on-street parking. If you have an issue of concern that falls within the remit of local government then please contact the parish council (greatamwellpc@virginmedia.com) to make your views known. You may also wish to contact the District Council directly (<https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/contactusform>).

Jeff Hughes, Clerk to Great Amwell Parish Council

St Margarets Parish Council

We have been busy choosing projects that not only benefit the community, but also the environment. With the help of the Woodland Trust, we planted 420 saplings on land provided by Councillor Nigel Copping. In addition to this work, we arranged for the Granary footpath under the A414 flyover by the railway line and into St Margarets Community Wood to be cleared and reopened. The area has been a focal point for antisocial activities, and we were keen to reclaim the space for local residents.

Currently our ongoing projects are:

- * To extend the CCTV programme within the village for St Margarets towards Hoddesdon Road.
- * Installation of a new defibrillator at the Nigel Copping Centre.
- * Adopting a High Street bench to repair and restore it.
- * Working with LVRP (Lea Valley) to improve the green area by The Jolly Fisherman.
- * Working with all Parishes to complete the Neighbourhood Plan.
- * Investigating the option of funding our own PSCO.
- * Consideration for a Tommy Statue within the St Margarets Parish.
- * Search for new volunteers to join the Parish Council committee.

If anyone is interested in joining the Parish Council, please email our Clerk at stansteadstmargaretspcclerk@gmail.com.

Stanstead Abbots Parish Council

We hope that villagers enjoyed the Christmas lights in the High Street. The lights cost around £7000 pounds a year and the council is currently considering quotes for next year's lights. Stanstead Abbots Parish Council have been busy setting the budget for the coming financial year 2022–23. In addition to funds from Council Tax, the Parish Council has secured funds in the last few years by way of grants which have enabled a new outdoor gym area, new toddler play equipment, the new CCTV system, and several new tables in the Meadow and playground two of which have wheelchair access. These improvements would not have been possible without funding, and we are hoping to secure more funding this year for further enhancements to the village and its facilities, and would welcome any suggestions from residents on what they feel would enhance our lovely village. All Council meetings are open to the public and if you are interested in finding out more about the parish council, please visit our website www.stansteadabbotsparishcouncil.gov.uk and like us on Facebook at Stanstead Abbots Parish Council.

Sarah Neighbour, Clerk to Stanstead Abbots Council

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INTRODUCTION TO ST MARGARETSBURY FOOTBALL CLUB

The club was founded in 1894 as Stanstead Abbotts FC, but in 1962 the club moved to their present location, St Margaretsbury Recreation Ground in St Margarets - on condition they changed their name to St Margaretsbury FC.



The 1896/97 team at their home ground in Mill Field, Cappell Lane, Stanstead Abbotts

On the left is the earliest photo we have, which is of the 1896/97 team at their home ground in Mill Field, Cappell Lane in Stanstead Abbotts. Given photography was not commonplace for working class people, we are humbled and grateful to have such a precious example of the club's heritage.

However, we have always looked to be forward-thinking, especially in embracing new technology, and we were one of the first clubs in the UK to move to a digitally published programme during our 2017/18 league season. Programme Collectors prefer a printed version, but the digital version allows us to include links and even video. To see the last version, visit <https://indd.adobe.com/view/0cbd5c45-31f1-422c-9795-4cd1e0279ea9> online.

Next season we will have the latest AI Sports Camera available, which will allow us to live stream matches over the internet, and our Coaches can access footage to use as an analytical tool to

improve their individual and team performances – exciting times!

The club is run entirely by volunteers, some of whom live within Stanstead Abbotts and others further afield. We are always keen to welcome new local volunteers, so please read on, and let us know if you would be interested to join, or just come down and have a chat.

We are essentially a Village Club, but our Senior First team has performed at a consistent level in the Premier Division for the last 23 years – against Clubs such as Hoddesdon Town. But we also have 8 youth teams from Under 11s to Under 17s (122 players), an Under 18s team and a Ladies Team.

The senior team is the flagship of the club and they play in the Essex Senior League on Saturdays and sometimes Tuesday evening on our floodlit stadium pitch. This is the only team where we charge an entrance fee to watch - £7 Adult, £5 Concession for Senior Citizens 65 or over – but all children under 14 years of age can enter and watch for FREE.

We publish all the Senior, U18 and Ladies fixtures in our digital programme, which also has links to each of the leagues for full fixtures and results.

The facilities include plenty of FREE parking on-site, a warm and friendly Clubhouse Bar with Tina our Bar Steward serving hot & cold drinks, a great outlook across the Cricket Field and grounds, with the Tennis courts to the side.

If you wish to get in contact please email myself (gs.smfc.chairman@gmail.com) or our Club Secretary (sbarksy@gmail.com).

Thank you – and we hope to see some of you during this season.

Gary Stock, Club Chairman



St Margaretsbury Football Club entrance

STANSTEAD ABBOTTS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY (SALHS)



Stanstead Abbots High Street in
the 1920s

It was on a February evening in 2012 that the formation of a local history society for the villages of Stanstead Abbots and St Margarets was mooted. The driving force behind it was the charismatic Ian White. By May, a Constitution had been agreed and the first public meeting took place.

Now, nine years on, the Society is the largest, regular, social gathering in the village. Membership is over 100; a book has been published and an average of 60 attended our monthly meetings prior to lockdown.

But from the outset Ian White made it a principle that SALHS was not just about past village history. He was adamant that such a society should be involved in the villages' unfolding history.

So we've engaged in a wide range of contemporary activities. Have you seen, for example, the Information Board at the entrance to the car park? Or read the plaques at the entrances to the village streets commemorating the soldiers from those roads who died in the First World War? Or the War Memorial in the church grounds that was cleaned and shined up for the centenary remembrances in 2014? Or perhaps you attended the beacons lit on Easneye Ridge in 2018 to mark 100 years since the war ended? Or maybe you've sat on one of the donated benches scattered around the village, which we've checked and maintained? Most recently our members have been involved in the paintings that have gone up on the old railway signal box. These are just some of the projects that SALHS has been involved with since 2012.

But, to my mind, the greatest contribution SALHS has made is the production and organising of its website (www.salhs.org.uk). Have you visited it yet? You must do! It's a 'treasure store' of the villages' heritage. Articles range from the beginnings of a primitive Lea-side community to an account of the largest employer the village has known, Websters of Netherfield Lane. There are personal reminiscences, accounts of local Second World War plane crashes and tales of the New River – not to mention the great malting industry that continues to this day. So much to wonder at and enjoy.

We were, of course, so sad that because of COVID-19 we could not meet physically at our monthly gatherings. With an average of over 60 in attendance this was such a lively social occasion as well as being engagingly informative.

But we are now back to meeting together! Please accept this as an invitation to our next meeting. Members come free (membership is only £8.00 per year) while non-members pay £2.00. Maybe we'll see you there? Details of obtaining membership are on the website.

Bob Hunt, Chair SALHS

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EAST HERTS HEALTH WALKS



The East Herts Health Walks is part of a countywide programme of free, volunteer-led COVID-19 Safe Health Walks, which aims to help people get outdoors, get more active and reap the benefits. These walks are coordinated by The Countryside Management Service and sponsored by East Herts Council and Hertfordshire County Council.

Every other Friday a volunteer, trained by East Herts Health Walks, leads a party of walkers from The Red Lion car park. Departure is at 10am, there is no charge, anyone can join in and parking is free thanks to the generosity of the landlord. There are a variety of walks and the choice is made according to the likely condition of the terrain, which in turn is governed by the weather. The pace is brisk, but the back-marker ensures nobody is left behind and there is much cheerful chatting to ease the effort of walking. The walks last for about 90 mins and average 3 miles.

To book your Health Walks please call 01992 555888 Monday to Friday 9am–3pm. Pre-booking is optional and you will be able to book walks several weeks in advance. To find out more about the walks and to register online, please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/healthwalks.

Countryside Management Service
01992 588433
healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk



RECIPE: EASY BANANA OATCAKE BARS

Here is a really simple and easy recipe to make delicious banana oatcake bars. A great treat to make with the kids!

INGREDIENTS

- 3 ripe bananas, mashed
- 40g margarine/softened butter
- 160g rolled/porridge oats
- 80g dried fruit/chocolate chips
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

METHOD

1. Mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl.
2. Press the mix into a greased shallow baking tin.
3. Bake in a pre-heated oven at 180°C for 15–20 minutes until golden brown.
4. Leave to cool on a cooling rack.
5. Once cool, gently remove from the tin and cut into bars/squares (any size you like).
6. Store in an air-tight container and they will stay fresh for 2–3 days.



If you have a tried-and-tested recipe that you would like to share, please email to print.threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com

March 2022

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, GREAT AMWELL NEEDS YOUR HELP

The limestone cornerstones, door arches and window surrounds are crumbling, some so much that renewal is required to prevent structural damage. Unless repairs are completed within the next two years our Church will become unsafe.

You may not attend St John the Baptist Church regularly, or even at all, but we hope you agree that our beautiful church is an important part of the village of Great Amwell. At Christmas, Easter, Remembrance Sunday and at other services during the year, the pews are full. You may have attended a school service, a baptism, a wedding or a funeral at some time, so please help us to keep our church safe and open.

We are 80% of the way to our fundraising target, but still urgently need £22,000 to be able to make a start on the repairs.

Donations can be made by:

Bank Transfer – to GA with StM PCC Designated Account,
Sort Code: 40-24-21, Account: 81535048

Cheque – Payable to GA with StM PCC Designated Account.
Send to: M. Vaughan, 30 Hertford Road, Great Amwell,
Ware, SG12 9RX

Just Giving – Go to [JustGiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com), then search and click on
'Richard Mellor' or 'Great Amwell'.

Thank you in advance for your support. Any queries, please
contact Martin Vaughan at martinvaughan2@gmail.com or on
01920 877779. Please Gift Aid your donation if you can.

Martin Vaughan



DEDICATION: Katrina Dukes 22nd May 1965 – 26th June 2021



Katrina worked for 13 years as Benefice Administrator for The 3 Churches Benefice, keeping the vicar on track, dealing with mounds of administration and caring for the people in the Benefice. She was the editorial and print team for the parish magazine, and involved in moving us forward towards this new format and partnership.

Katrina was a caring communicator. She was an expert, not just on how to put the magazine together, but on how to find and help advertisers, chase writers, liaise with printers and deal with deliveries.

Gentle, kind, and loving, Katrina had a strong faith in Jesus, which was the foundation of her life. She was a much-loved member of her own church community in Hertford Heath, working with children and families at Trinity Tots and Trinity Kids for the last 20 years.

Katrina was a bright flame, a beautiful wife and mother, a loyal friend, a staunch ally, and a woman of integrity and faith. We are grateful for her time with us and miss her deeply.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory!

Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest
Priest in Charge, The 3 Churches Benefice

The Three Villages Magazine

UPDATES FROM OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS

We are lucky to have a number of excellent schools within the three villages. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful staff at the schools for their hard work and dedication, especially over what has been a highly unusual and challenging few years.



Amwell View School and Specialist Sports College

Hidden away behind a small wooded area that we call 'The Dell' is our school for children with Severe Learning Difficulties. We are a maintained Local Authority School in Hertfordshire, based in Stanstead Abbots.

Built in 1963, the school now provides specialist education to children aged 2–19 years, from highly qualified staff to 154 children who are lucky enough to be given a place. There is a bit of a crisis in special education – in that there are too few schools and too many pupils who need our expertise – hence my reference to children 'being lucky'.

The school is proud to tell you that we have achieved a judgement of 'Outstanding' from Ofsted four times and that this is down to the wonderful staff and the lovely children. The children always try hard to achieve their targets and, thanks to the work in partnership with parents, we are proud to tell you that the children make very good progress. The curriculum supports the children to achieve to the best of their ability. For some this may mean being able to walk. For others it may mean being able to speak, read and write. The celebrations are varied and numerous: learning to swimming, cleaning their own teeth, singing in the school choir, signing hello as they enter the classroom, sharing a smile and running in the races on Sports Day, are to name but a few.

It's so exciting to be a child at Amwell View School. The day is full of interesting and imaginative activities. Music and Sport are particularly popular, which means that our assemblies are good fun and the annual school show makes for great entertainment and draws an audience for 4 performances in 'Show Week'. Sports Day has been described by parents as the 'best day of the year' to be a spectator, when parents cheer their child on, chat with other family members and spend time outside with like-minded parents. Cheering and tears of joy make a great combination for a celebration.

Working together with parents is so fulfilling. Whatever might be the focus it's good to have some joined-up thinking so that we get to the same end point together and hopefully at the same time. The Speech and Language therapists, physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist along with school nurses and the Paediatrician make up a very complementary team of professionals, who provide a range of Health funded support to the children and their families.

For a fuller picture of the school, more information, news and ideas, please take time to view our website www.amwell.herts.sch.uk.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jan Liversage'.

Co-Headteacher
Amwell View School

UPDATES FROM OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS CONTINUED...



St Andrew's Church of England (VC) Primary School

Despite the uncertain times due to COVID, St Andrew's School has continued to flourish and we have been in a 'nearly normal' state since the beginning of the Autumn term. We have been very fortunate that we have not had to return to bubbles and our staff and children's attendance has been good. Our focus, therefore has been upon school improvement and, as such, we have introduced a new phonics and spelling scheme to ensure that our teaching of phonics is consistent; helping our children achieve even more. We have also adopted a new Maths scheme, which has been supported by new resources and equipment. All subject leaders have continued to develop and embed their whole school schemes of work, and these can be seen on our school website <https://standrews323.herts.sch.uk/>.

We have also been improving our outside learning spaces. 'Copping's Corner' has been given a complete makeover and is now a delightful outside learning space for all year groups. Our EYFS outside space has also been improved with the addition of new climbing frames and, possibly, the world's largest school sand pit! Another very positive aspect of this term has been the provision of enrichment opportunities for all the children (following all COVID advice) with visits and visitors, and the return of our much-loved Christmas Nativities. We are hoping that we can look forward to an equally happy and positive term in Spring 2022.

Helen Gillingham
Headteacher



St John the Baptist CE VA Primary School

St John the Baptist CE VA Primary School lies hidden away on Hillside Lane in Great Amwell. We enjoy our rural location and like to make the most of exploring our local surroundings. This academic year has seen a return to a more normal pattern of school life for which we are very grateful.

We were very pleased to be able to invite parents back into school in December for a series of plays and performances from children in Reception through to Year 3. We have also returned to playing netball and football fixtures against other local schools. Our Year 4 children have also had the opportunity to compete with other schools at a sports development day. We enjoy close links with St John the Baptist Church and the children enjoyed participating in 'Experience Christmas' in December, listening to members of the church telling stories about the key figures in the Christmas story. We enjoyed going into the church to celebrate Harvest and holding our Christmas Service in the churchyard.

We have also been revising our curriculum to ensure that we help the children to build on their prior learning over the past two years. This has included ensuring we continue to deliver a broad ranging curriculum to engage all of our learners. Years 5 and 6 learnt all about the Second World War, with Year 5 visiting the local war memorial and presenting a book of poems in memory of the fallen. Years 3 and 4 were exploring South America with Year 4 making delicious chocolatey treats. Years 1 and 2 were investigating the Great Fire of London and playing detective to find out how it started. Our Reception children have been making the most of our Forest School and taking their learning outside. To see more of what goes on in St John the Baptist do look at our website <https://www.sjbaptist.herts.sch.uk/>.

Lydia Hunt
Headteacher

The Three Villages Magazine

MEET A LOCAL: KATIE GOLDTHORPE

Our own Julia Davies had a chance to catch up with fellow local, Katie Goldthorpe. Here's what she found out...



Katie Goldthorpe has lived in Stanstead Abbots for 23 years, having grown up in Suffolk and, after university, living in Wareside. During this time her two sons have grown up, left Richard Hale School and have got launched on their own careers.

After several interesting jobs – including working at Herts County Council and Hertford Town Council – Katie is the Community Rail Partnership Officer for the New River Line (a recently created post). What Katie especially loves about her job is meeting people and also bringing the right people together to make improvements at the stations she oversees (Hertford, Ware, St Margarets, Rye House and Broxbourne) and in the community beyond.

Katie reports to a Steering Group consisting of representatives of councils at three levels: County, District and Town. For example, Katie is finding ways to persuade more visitors to come north out of London, by train, to explore the local area. She is creating a family activity guide showing walks centred on one of the stations to include questions and challenges. She is still hopeful that there can be books on loan at St Margarets Station in the waiting room.

Together with the company Rail Scape, Katie is creating a rewilded area at Hertford East and Rye House. We can look forward to seeing new insect-life encouraged by bug huts and local school children caring for the cleared space. It would be really good to have less litter around the station. The art on the signal box was also Katie's project and she found willing and generous support from, amongst others, Ryan at Universal Signs and Paul King at French & Jupps.

Much as Katie enjoys her job she also enjoys her leisure time. She loves living in the village where she enjoys long-standing friendships, she makes the most of the many countryside walks she has access to and enjoys trips to London. Katie enjoys eating out with friends and family, particularly at independent restaurants – Lussmans in Hertford and Casa Lua in Ware, as well as The Red Lion in Stanstead Abbots. Katie's favourite local shop is probably the Book Nook in Ware and the novel she has read fairly recently that she most admires is *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult. During lockdown, like many of us, Katie has found some favourite box sets for entertainment on Apple TV – *Ted Lasso* and *Schitt's Creek*. On the down side, she really missed being able to visit her mum.

If Katie were given the chance to invite two people to dinner whom she would find the most stimulating companions, she would choose Steven Fry and Bill Bailey. She would be looking forward to being very amused and highly entertained. They, in turn, would find Katie a friendly, cheerful and thoughtful host with a smile that would immediately put them at their ease. Carry on the good work, Katie, you are a great asset to the village and we can all look forward to more station improvements along the New River Line.

THE THREE VILLAGES (IN PRINT AND ONLINE)



The Three Villages offers a print magazine along with its website. The online format allows locals to advertise up-coming events and post important news/information on the blog. The website also features information about local clubs, societies and meetings, along with featuring the work of some of our talented local photographers.

The site is regularly updated, so do check it out!

www.thethreevillages.com

EASTER FOCUS

Hot Cross Buns

As I sit here in the aftermath of the Christmas celebrations of the birth of Jesus Christ, I am reminded that however miraculous this event is, as is the miracle of birth of any new child, there's more to this than a baby arriving. I am reminded that this particular birth is so important because of Jesus' life, ministry, passion, death on the cross and resurrection. As a Christian, Maundy Thursday, when Jesus celebrated the Last Supper and later was accused, persecuted and handed to Pontius Pilate; Good Friday when Jesus was crucified; and Easter Sunday with Jesus' resurrection, mean so much more to me.

Within my family we have kept the simple tradition of making 'Hot Cross Buns' that started back in the 19th Century, and the recipe used each year is taken from my Great Grandmother's now extremely frail book. Each generation has been shown by the previous generation, or in my case two generations, Grandad and Dad, measuring the ingredients out diligently, including the Mixed Spice, only for Grandad to then put the rest of the packet in for extra flavour. Indeed, each year I now follow the same course, measuring the Mixed Spice carefully, before putting the rest in too! In a way it brings back my Grandad, Dad and all the previous generations in the process. Shop bought Hot Cross Buns have a lovely white cross in the middle; ours are made simply with a ruler pushed into the dough twice. Then when the buns come piping hot out of the oven, they are glazed by egg, milk and sugar, glazing the cross in particular.



Hot cross buns



Stained glass window at St Andrew's

To my knowledge the family have only missed making our Hot Cross Buns one year in 1917. My Grandad's brother Cecil was the first of the 'Atkins boys' to be sent to the Western Front in 1916. He was wounded in the head on Easter Monday 9th April 1917 in the Battle of Arras and died of wounds four days later. He was 19 when he died. Since then, the family has always ensured their Hot Cross Buns have been made and for many, many years it's been the men of the family who have been the custodians of this tradition.

Easter 2019 was my Dad's last Easter and I can remember him sitting in an armchair directing operations, helping me explain and tell the tales to his then 10 and 3 year old Granddaughters: the finer points of mixing in the breadcrumbs, measuring exactly and then making as many buns as possible from the mixture, how we have never broken his Dad's record of 88 buns. We then made the crosses, let the buns prove, bake and then glazed the multitude of buns as they came out of the oven. Then one bun was buttered for tasting. After that no more were eaten until breakfast on Good Friday, coffee time, lunch etc. with any family, friends or guests being offered them. When I was born just before Easter, my Grandad took several into hospital for Mum so she didn't miss out!!

Hot Cross Buns mean to me the great sacrifice Jesus made for all on the Cross, and the feeling of all the generations that have gone before being with me in those same prayers and traditions. That will, I hope, continue for generations to come.

Sara Atkins

The Three Villages Magazine

ST MARGARETSBURY FC: CAN YOU HELP?

Local to St.Margarets, Great Amwell or Stanstead Abbots?

...ever thought about LOCAL volunteering?

Even if you don't tick all the boxes, we'd love to meet you!

- ✓ Are you looking to get out and get involved in positive activities on your doorstep?
- ✓ Do you enjoy some friendly banter with locals and spectators, while providing a welcomed service?
- ✓ Like to expand your circle of friends by joining the other friendly volunteers at our club?
- ✓ Do you want to share your experience & skills for the benefit of young people and the local community?

Is that you?... or know someone who'd be interested?

We are **YOUR** local Football club, and before and during each season (**Sept to May**) we are looking for **LOCAL** volunteers to join us. Or you may just want to help out every now and again. Either way please call me for a chat or pop over to the Club and we'll show you around.



ST.MARGARETSBURY FC is run by unpaid volunteers on a non-profit basis, promoting the benefits of Football to boys and girls of any age or ability within teams available. We support **YOUTH TEAMS** from U7's to U18's, a **LADIES TEAM** and a **MEN'S SENIOR TEAM**. We develop local young talent and provide a positive environment for **YOUR** local community.



ST.MARGARETSBURY FC

Just contact me (Gary) on 07595 308127 or gs.smfc.chairman@gmail.com or just pop in!

Ask for any Football committee member and say you are interested in volunteering. We play weekends, Tues & sometimes Thurs evenings, although Sunday is probably the best day for us to show you around.

St Margaret'sbury FC, The Recreation Ground
Off Station Road, St Margarets SG12 8EH.
<http://stmargaretsburyfc.leaguerepublic.com>

STANSTEAD ABBOTTS & DISTRICT EVERGREEN CLUB

Our Club has been running for over 60 years – meeting once a week since 1960 and the only break has been recently due to COVID restrictions. But we are up and running again.

At least two of our members have been coming for over twenty-five years! Emily Pearce is 94 and Elizabeth Gillanders isn't saying – neither can remember exactly when they started coming, and to my knowledge Emily walked to and from the club until a very few years ago.

Just to remind you all, we meet in Stanstead Abbots Parish Hall on Monday afternoons from 2 till 4pm to play Bingo, knit and natter (or just chat!) and enjoy a cup of tea with bread and butter and cake, all for £1.50 each time. The hall is warm and welcoming, and we would be very happy to greet new members. You have to be over 60 to join! Phone Ann Hardy to book your place – 01920 870526.

As our members get older and more fragile they need transport to and from the club on Monday afternoons. If you are retired and looking for a most rewarding occupation on a Monday afternoon, please could you volunteer to be a driver? For details please telephone Ann Hardy on 01920 870526.

THE AMWELL SOCIETY

The Amwell Society was founded in the 1970s to oppose the development of Madgeways Close; this has evolved into more generally working to keep the village as the place where we want to live. That doesn't mean opposing progress, but we do still comment on impactful planning applications. Overall, the goal is to foster a sense of identity and place, and bring residents together.

Besides that, we coordinate litter-picking, organise walks and theatre trips, have talks in Great Amwell Parish Hall, and occasional social events for members. These have been harder during the pandemic, but the last meeting was also streamed on Zoom and we will continue that to widen participation. Meetings are usually on the last Friday of January, March, June, September and November at 8pm in the Parish Hall.

We produce a newsletter; not as regularly as we should, but with information on what we have been doing and anything else that we think members should know about, such as the District and Neighbourhood plans. The best way to find out more is to come to a meeting. Contact the Chair (William Brown) at william@signalbox.org.uk to find out more.

LEARN TO BELL RING AT ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH



Everyone likes to hear the church bells ringing, but if we do not find more ringers, the bells will fall silent.

We desperately need new ringers: young, old and any age in between. Many bell ringers are not church goers.

We practise every Thursday at 8 o'clock, so do come and join us.

Telephone Seth or Frances Adams on 01920 870861.

REGULAR CLUBS, GROUPS AND MEETINGS IN THE THREE VILLAGES

1st Stanstead Abbotts Brownies: Mondays 5.45–7pm (Stanstead Abbotts Parish Hall) for girls aged 7 to 10 years. Guider in charge: Helen Payne (01920 462676).

Great Amwell Scout Group: Squirrels: boys and girls aged 4–5 years old, Beavers: boys and girls aged 6–8 years old, Cubs: boys and girls aged 8–10½ years old, Scouts: boys and girls aged 10½–14 years old. All groups meet at Scout HQ, 142 London Road, Ware SG12 9NH. For details visit www.greatamwellscouts.org.uk or call 01920 320142.

1st Stanstead Abbotts & St Margarets Scout Group: Age groups as above. All groups meet at Scout HQ, Marsh Lane, Stanstead Abbotts SG12 8QT. For details visit www.stansteadabbottsscouts.org.uk or follow on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

Bingo for the over 60s: Every Friday 2.30–4pm in Folly View Community Centre. New players welcome, just turn up.

Evergreen Club: Every Monday afternoon 2–4pm at the Stanstead Abbotts Parish Hall. Transport can be arranged. Contact: 01920 424140.

Carpet Bowls: 7.30pm every Tuesday at the Parish Hall, Great Amwell and every Monday at the Stanstead Abbotts Parish Hall (not during summer months).

Great Amwell Women's Club: Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday 7.30–10pm at the Parish Hall, Great Amwell. Club Secretary: Dulcie Fordham. Contact number for enquiries: 01920 466689 (Christine).

Herts Wheelers (Cycling Club): Weekly Sunday club rides for various abilities normally starting in Ware. Contact membership@herts-wheelers.org.uk.

The Amwell Society: Quarterly talks in the Parish Hall, Great Amwell, as well as trips walks and activities locally. For details of membership contact William Brown on 01920 872450 (Chairman)

Stanstead Abbotts Local History Society: Chairman, Bob Hunt. Regular meetings for both members and non-members. For details visit: www.salhs.org.uk. For membership details email: admin@salhs.org.uk

St Margaretsbury Tennis Club: A friendly club with social sessions on Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturday and Sunday mornings, plus a junior section, coaching available, and opportunity to play match tennis in local leagues. For details contact: secretary@stmargaretsburytennis.co.uk or come along to a social morning.

'Armchair Singers' for those with lung conditions: Held in the Nigel Copping Community Centre every Monday 1.30–3.30pm. Singing for health and well-being. All ages welcome. For more details please contact Gabby Hanley on 07875 221543.

St Margaretsbury Football Club: The Recreation Ground, Station Road, St Margarets (near Stanstead Abbotts). A Chartered Standard local football club for Youth, Ladies and Mens football, with youth starting from 6 years upwards in non-competitive leagues, and more competitive as they move up into Under 18, Ladies and Mens Football. Contact: Club Secretary at www.stmargaretsburyfc.leaguerepublic.com.

Stanstead Abbotts Parish Hall Table Tennis Club: A friendly club meeting on Friday afternoons from 2pm, and Thursday evenings from 7.30pm with the opportunity to play in local leagues. For further details please call 07841 583265 or email saphttc@yahoo.com – or just come along!

If you would like to add a club, group or meeting to this list, please send details to print.threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.

The Three Villages Magazine

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AND REGULATION 14



After several years' work of thoroughly exploring the settlement area, researching and discussing the options for the future of the village, we plan to go ahead with the necessary Regulation 14 consultation this spring. There has been a delay as we have been waiting for the responses to the AECOM organised Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The SEA is a particular survey which has to be done where the Neighbourhood Plan Designated Area includes an internationally and nationally designated Ramsar site (wetlands with special recognition for their species and wildlife habitats) or Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) as ours does.

All residents of Stanstead Abbots Parish, St Margarets Parish and the section of Great Amwell Parish which is in the Designated Area for the Neighbourhood Plan, will be invited to look at and comment on the Neighbourhood Plan. A summary of the plan will be delivered with instructions about how to view the full document and how to respond should you wish to. The entire plan will be online and available for people to read, and we will be hoping to have online feedback or alternatively written feedback through the post. Comments have to be considered by the Steering Group and, if it is appropriate at the end of the consultation, changes will be made. There will be an Open Day when people can view paper copies of the Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents, and ask how to complete their consultation response.

What the Neighbourhood Plan can NOT do is include any policy which would go against the current East Herts District Plan. Similarly we do not duplicate any policy already in that document, so it is well worth looking at the two documents together.

The plan will contain policies on green spaces and the natural environment; on the community and leisure; on heritage and protection for the many much-loved historical features in the community; there will be policies to encourage employment and others on transport addressing the needs of residents who have a variety of reasons to travel.

After the Regulation 14 consultation has closed, the responses taken into account and amendments made, it will be submitted to East Herts Council along with the Consultation Statement and statutory maps etc.

East Herts Council will publish the documents online for a further consultation – Regulation 16. The Plan and the consultation comments will then be inspected by an independent examiner and further changes are likely to be made. If it is considered to meet the Basic Conditions, a referendum will follow. All those people living in the Neighbourhood Plan Area will then have a chance to vote yes or no, i.e. in favour or not in favour. If more than 50% of the votes cast are in favour then the plan will be adopted by East Herts Council.

If the plan is adopted then no housing development outside the village boundary, other than on sites selected in the plan, will be granted planning permission by East Herts Council until 2033. This is why the Neighbourhood Plan is so vital to the future of our village.

Julia Davies Chair

*Stanstead Abbots, St Margarets and the Folly Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
(January 2022)*

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: THE MALTINGS COFFEE HOUSE

Anyone who has visited The Maltings Coffee House during the last few months will have received a wonderful welcome from Henry and Nat – and their dog. People who work at the Maltings, or anyone else who goes up to what was once a museum, can put in their orders for a range of delicious food along with excellent coffee. After several visits to The Maltings Coffee House, it seemed time to find out some more about the business. We asked the owners to tell us...

We are Nat & Henry, we're a husband and wife team who own and operate The Maltings Coffee House in Stanstead Abbots. It's a fantastic space, where anyone can come to enjoy great coffee and delicious food. We pride ourselves on great customer service and at the coffee house we focus on creating a welcoming environment for all our customers.



The Maltings Coffee House



Our Beef Roast from the SOKA Sunday Roast

We are from Hertfordshire and have always lived in the area. Our catering company SOKA Catering & Events has really grown this past year as the work we put in during COVID lockdowns, such as providing at home dining deliveries, has given us a good reputation within the local community.

Our business has grown and now that events are back we're seeing great growth in this area, but the coffee house has provided us with a real home for our business where we can welcome customers into our space and provide them with our warm hospitality. We're really enjoying meeting new customers each day and love interacting with our regulars too!

We have exciting plans for 2022 at the coffee house, keep an eye on our Instagram @themaltingscoffeehouse for updates, we'll be launching a co-working initiative along with our new series of supper clubs and, of course, our ever popular monthly Sunday Roast!

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How it works

The East Herts Community Benefit Lottery is a weekly online lottery. All funds raised go to good causes that benefit the local community in East Herts. The draw takes place every **Saturday night at 8pm**.

Each ticket costs **£1 per week** and consists of six numbers. The more numbers you match in a draw the bigger the prize you win! There is a 50:1 chance to win prizes up to the **£25,000 jackpot**.

Players choose who their ticket purchase will support. They can either support the Community Fund (funds are distributed to the local community) or they can choose a specific good cause to support.

There are a range of payment options. Players can play monthly via **Direct Debit** or credit/debit card so they never miss a draw. They can also make a **one-off payment** via Debit Card for 1, 3, 6 or 12 months.

Players are notified by email when they win. To claim their winnings, they log in to the lottery site and choose to either have the winnings paid directly into their nominated account or donate their winnings back to the good cause they support.

60% from every ticket sold goes directly to local good causes!

Good causes receive 50p from every ticket purchased via their lottery page. A further 10p is distributed to other local good causes via the central fund. 20p goes towards the prizes which can be won by supporters every week and 20p covers the cost of running the lottery and VAT.



How can your good cause join?

Applying is easy - it's all done online and takes a few minutes. East Herts Council lottery team will check each cause qualifies with the 'cause conditions' and approve them. A full list of criteria can be found on the website.

Once you're approved the sky is the limit - you can go and sell as many tickets as you wish to start raising unlimited funds for your cause! We provide all of the marketing materials you need to spread the word to your community via Facebook, Twitter or leaflets, plus there are additional special offers throughout the year. All you need to do is shout about the lottery to your supporters.

There is a dedicated support team to help answer any questions you or your supports may have.

w: www.easthertslottery.co.uk/
e: support@easthertslottery.co.uk
t: 01279 912 777

Scan the QR code
to find out more
and sign up! ➔



The Three Villages Magazine

A YEAR IN STANSTEAD ABBOTTS by Greg Andrews

Two parishes separated by water. Is it the Lea or Lee? Who cares, both the old river and navigation are beautiful as they wind their way through our village.

Interesting old boats and barges – Sixpence, June, Two Crew and a Cockapoo to name a few. Is there a better smell than them firing up their wood burning stoves?

It's neither a River nor New, but this working waterway is so very pretty and still feeds London to this day.

So many lakes on our doorstep, home to noisy ducks and geese, and fishermen trying their luck. The picturesque Amwell reserve, expectant twitchers glued to their binoculars searching for the elusive Bittern.

Such friendly people and new friends made.

Thirsty? Three pubs and a village club to choose from, which is your favourite? I know mine. An amazing Thai, Indian, Italian and fish and chips too.

We won't starve! Endless paths, tracks and fields to discover. Have you spotted a nervous muntjac?

Stunning cherry blossom in spring, bright red dots of poppies in summer,
all the browns of autumn and the sparkling snowdrops in winter.

Starry, starry nights and the hoot of an owl,

The predatory yet ever so shy cormorant,

Huge but graceful heron,

Magnificent circling red kites,

Elegant swans protecting their young,

The beautiful electric dart of a kingfisher – blink and you'll miss it!

The whack of leather on willow from St Margaretsbury.

The shout of "howzat" followed by enthusiastic applause.

The distant bells from St Andrew's.

The honk of the train at a crossing,

Be quick or you'll get stuck at the gates.

The lingering smell of roasting grains wafting over from the Maltings. You either love it or hate it, I love it...

and love everything, about our wonderful village.

~

If you would like to see your work in the next issue of The Three Villages Magazine, please send your poem (550 words maximum) in Word and PDF formats to threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

We are looking for skilled, local photographers, both amateur and professional, to enter our photography competition.

The winning photograph will appear on the cover of the next issue of The Three Villages Magazine. We are looking for a seasonal photograph that showcases our beautiful local landmarks within the three villages.

If you would like to enter and showcase your work, please email threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.



DIRECTORY OF USEFUL NUMBERS

THE 3 CHURCHES BENEFICE

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Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest 01920 870115
07488 914972

Lay Ministers

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Mrs Rachel Melrose 01920 422092
Mrs Lynne Griffiths 01920 460668

Great Amwell with St Margarets

Organist: Mrs Jill Hall 01279 842328
PCC Secretary: Mr Richard Mellor 01920 460474

St. John the Baptist, Great Amwell

Churchwardens: Mr Richard and
Mrs Margaret Mellor 01920 460474
Assistant Churchwardens: Mr Martin and
Mrs Sue Vaughan 01920 877779
Mr Brian and Mrs Julia Brace 01992 447845
Treasurer: Mr Richard Mellor 01920 460474
Wedding enquiries: Mrs Alex Richardson 01920 871391
Baptism enquiries: Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest 01920 870115

St Mary the Virgin, St Margarets

Churchwarden: Mrs Lyn Paddon 01920 487717
Treasurer: Mrs Lyn Paddon 01920 487717
Baptism enquiries: Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest 01920 870115
Wedding enquiries: Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest 01920 870115

Stanstead Abbots

St. Andrew's, Stanstead Abbots
Organist: Mrs Lynne Griffiths 01920 460668
PCC Secretary: Mrs Michele Ross 01992 302279
Churchwardens: Mrs Janet Dance 01920 871262
Mrs Marilyn Britton 01920 870188
Treasurer: Mr Edward Trower 07919 003949
Baptism enquiries: Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest 01920 870115
Wedding enquiries: Mrs Lynne Griffiths 01920 460668

PARISH COUNCILS

Stanstead Abbots

Parish Council Clerk: Ms Sarah Neighbour 07943 602877

Great Amwell

Parish Council Clerk: Mr Jeff Hughes
greatamwellpc@virginmedia.com

Stanstead St Margarets

Parish Council Clerk: Ms Christina Whellams 07422 582172

SCHOOLS

Amwell View School and Specialist Sports
College, Stanstead Abbots 01920 870027
St. Andrew's C of E (VC) Primary School,
Stanstead Abbots 01920 870097
St. John the Baptist CE VA Primary School,
Great Amwell 01920 870135

CHURCH/PARISH HALLS

Great Amwell Parish Hall: Mrs E. Hawkins 01920 467927
Stanstead Abbots Parish Hall: Mrs Vicky Burt 07703 402790
Wilshere Hall, St Andrew's Church:
Ms M Freeman 01920 870632

NATIONAL & LOCAL HELPLINES

Police non-emergency number 101
NHS Telephone Advice Service 111
Free 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Hotline 0808 2000 247
Samaritans (Freephone) 116 123
Hertford & District Foodbank 07487 350918
East Herts Citizens Advice Service 03444 111 444
CAP (Christians Against Poverty) 0800 328 0006

If you would like to add a number to this directory, please email the
Print Editor at print.threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.

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The Red Lion Pub & Amico Di Amici Italian Restaurant


Pop in for a drink in our 16th century, dog friendly pub. Watch live sport or tackle our weekly quiz.



Enjoy our authentic Italian cuisine, in a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere.

For opening times, menus and bookings, please call us on
01920 410056
or visit our website at:
redlionamicodiamici.co.uk

1 High Street, Stanstead Abbots, Ware SG12 8AA



The Walled Garden

The Walled Garden grows chemical free and nearly certified organic vegetables and fruit, and have pasture-fed cows and sheep grazing our fields.

Since March 2018 we have had community gardening sessions for local families, particularly 3-5 year olds and their parents.

For more information, email
ginitrower@btinternet.com or call 07721 751910. Find us on Facebook (The Walled Garden – Stanstead Abbots).

DJ Garage Services Ltd



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We would love to hear your thoughts on the new-look The Three Villages Magazine.

Do email us with any constructive comments, but particularly in answer to the following questions:

- Did you like the content within the magazine?
- Is there anything of which you would like to see more/less?
- Do you have any suggestions of items you would like to see included that were not in this issue?
- Are you happy with the price of the magazine?
- Were you able to get a copy of the magazine easily?

Please send your feedback to print.threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.

Thank you!

The Three Villages Team



The Staff:

- Select team of experienced, professional staff
- B&M Care has one of the most envied staff training programmes in the industry
- Appropriate ratios of staff both day and night
- Emphasis on individually planned care
- Person centred staff who advocate and support the people in our home.

How To Find Us:

- For satnav use postcode SG12 8AS
- From A10 take exit for Harlow (A414). At roundabout take 3rd exit and follow signs to Stanstead Abbots on the B181. Go through level crossing at Stanstead St Margarets and the walled, gated entrance to Willowthorpe is on your left, just after you cross over the river.

To Arrange a Viewing or For Further Information:

We have an open door policy and B&M Care invites you to visit the home at any time. If you would like to arrange a viewing at a specific time or require further information please contact us using the details below.



The Care We Offer:

- Fully inclusive, 24hr person centred care by experienced staff
- Long term residential care for older people
- Long term specialist dementia care in a safe, engaging environment under the Rose Model of Dementia Care
- Short stay, respite and holiday breaks (subject to availability).
- GP, district nurse, optician, chiropodist, dentist by appointment
- Willowthorpe transport for trips out.

Dining:

Dining is inclusive and residents may take meals in a choice of dining rooms or if they wish, in the privacy of their own room. Family dining is available by arrangement. A skilled chef prepares an extensive range of appetising and nutritionally balanced meals, taking into account any specific dietary requirements or individual preferences. A choice of menu is available with refreshments and snacks available 24hrs.

Lifestyle and Activities:

Our aim is to provide a safe stimulating environment, providing the highest standards of care to promote, encourage and maintain a resident's daily living skills and quality of life. An active lifestyle is encouraged, with community, friends and families always welcome. An Engagement Lead arranges a varied social calendar of events and entertainment in groups and on a one to one basis. Every resident experiences meaningful occupation tailored to who they are.

Facilities:

- 56 shower en-suite rooms
- TV & telephone points in all rooms
- SKY TV available by arrangement
- Rooms can be personalised
- Call bell system for assistance at any time
- Lift and stair lift
- Assisted bath and shower rooms
- Choice of resident and visitor lounges
- Fully inclusive dining in a choice of dining areas
- Fully inclusive in-house laundry
- Hair and Treatment Salon
- Cinema
- Easy access to private landscaped gardens and patio areas
- Garden log cabin and greenhouse
- Stunning riverside views



@bandmcare



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@bmcarehomes

T: 01920 871811 | E: willowthorpe@bmcare.co.uk | W: www.bmcare.co.uk

Willowthorpe Care Home, High Street, Stanstead Abbots, Hertfordshire, SG12 8AS



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Willowthorpe

Stanstead Abbots, Hertfordshire

Formerly a private country house, Willowthorpe is situated in the centre of the charming and picturesque Village of Stanstead Abbots. Set in 5 acres, the building has been tastefully extended and enjoys an exclusive riverside location along the banks of the River Lea.



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