



The Three Villages Magazine

COVERING GREAT AMWELL, ST MARGARETS AND STANSTEAD ABBOTTS



Price: £1.00

Issue 7

September 2023

HARVEST FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER



HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

11am at St James' Church, Roydon Road, Stanstead Abbots

HARVEST LUNCH

12.30pm in the Haybarn at Stanstead Bury Farm, Stanstead Abbots

*A traditional celebration for everyone in the three villages!
Enjoy the beautiful historic church of St James
and celebrate locally produced food in all its variety.*

~

Reserve places for lunch or find out how you can get involved
by emailing ginitrower@btinternet.com

The Three Villages Magazine

COVERING GREAT AMWELL, ST MARGARETS AND STANSTEAD ABBOTTS

Issue 7

September 2023

From the Editor...



Cover: Village Green
© Nicholas Cox

Welcome to the September Issue of our 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 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.

Within this issue, along with our regular items, we have the next in our new series focusing on Local Historic Faces & Places that have

had a significant impact on our villages, news from our local Girlguiding and Scouting groups, the winner of our Summertime 'Flash Fiction' Writing Competition and more!

The magazine is issued quarterly with publication in March, June, September and December. If you would like to contribute to the last issue this year, the deadline is 3rd October (December Issue). Please send all submissions to print.threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.

The photograph featured on the cover this time is by Nicholas Cox and was taken on the village green in autumn, on a Sunday morning dog walk to Rye House and back. Nicholas moved to Stanstead Abbots from Ware over 30 years ago and is very active in the community: he sits on St Margarets Parish Council and East Herts District Council, and represents Ware Trinity on behalf of the Green Party. Thank you to Nick for letting us use this lovely image. If you would like to enter your work for the next cover, please send your photograph(s) to threevillagesmagazine@gmail.com.

Continued thanks are offered to Willowthorpe Care Home, our generous sponsors. We have also been kindly supported by a grant from East Herts Council.

Please do check out our website (www.thethreevillages.com), subscribe to our News & Events blog for all live events and important up-to-date news, and follow us on Facebook.

Thank you for your support.

Anna Bond, Editor

THE THREE VILLAGES COMMITTEE

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Julia Davies	Clare Maynard
Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest	Lyn Paddon

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FROM THE VICAR

When I was coming to the end of my training as a priest, I asked a friend, who had been a vicar for many years, how long it takes to settle into a new village. She said it takes about three years to really feel like you've grown some roots. This September marks three years since my family and I unloaded the moving vans in a heatwave, sprawled out into the Vicarage, and I started working as the Priest in Charge. Since then, I've met lots of people who have been in the village for all their lives and several generations, and I've met those who have just arrived; those who, like us, came in and around lockdown, and consequently took a little longer to feel like they'd really settled in.

September brings a new season. If you've grown up in this country, it's almost like you continue to feel that 'new school term' feeling, even if it's been years since you went up a class in September. September brings that 'knuckle down' feeling after the long summer, but in the church it also brings the season of harvest. It's easy to forget that our villages have a strong farming background. The tractors, driving straw down the High Street and sprinkling it in their wake, reminded me of this! And this year it finally feels like we are really going to celebrate harvest properly; celebrate the blessings that we have from God, celebrate the food and produce, celebrate our farming roots, and celebrate community by having our Harvest Services and Harvest Lunches together.



Our schools also celebrate harvest; they learn about food production and harvesting, they come into church and sing the harvest songs, and importantly, they learn about generosity and sharing. Our schools and families are incredibly generous, year-on-year, at sharing with those in need, whether it's through the Bishops Harvest Appeal or donating food directly to our local Foodbank Hub. There's something very special, and very important, about recognising our blessings, and about sharing those blessings practically with other people. This year may well be difficult for many people, but support is growing, help is around. The work of the churches through the Foodbank Hub continues to grow and we have now firmly established Make Lunch to support families in the school holidays. These villages are a joy to serve because we work together to share our blessings and to build our community!



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
Stanstead Abbots

The 3 Churches Benefice

LOCAL HISTORIC FACES & PLACES: SIR EDWARD BAESHE THE SECOND

Who do we have to thank for the iconic, much-photographed Clock House on Stanstead Abbots High Street? Or for the quaint almshouses on Cat's Hill? Or for the embellishment on St James's Church? Or for Stansteadbury House? It's none other than Sir Edward Baeshe (also spelled Baesh or Bashe). In this, the second article about eminent local faces and places, we are going to feature the next greatest benefactor in our history after Thomas Fowell Buxton (see issue 6).

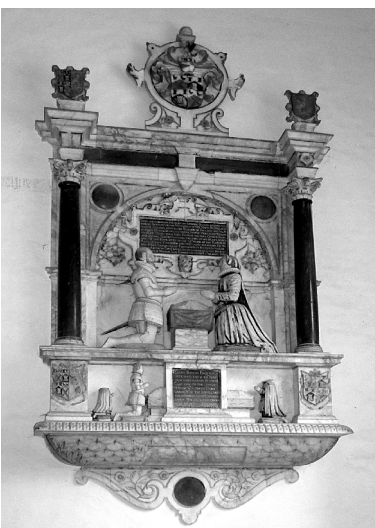
Sir Edward Baeshe (1594–1653) lived at Stansteadbury and was grandson of a previous Sir Edward. They both held the role of, Surveyor of Marine Victuals, i.e. grocers to the Royal Navy! They held this role during the turbulent Tudor days that included feeding the navy during the Spanish Armada. Oxford historian, Dr David Morris, was of the opinion that the Baeshe family must have been 'wheeler-dealers' to have survived the unpredictable tensions of the Tudor court's comings and goings!

Life moved fast for Edward junior. At the age of 4 his father died and he inherited the Manor of Stansteadbury and all its lands. He was made MP for Lincoln at the age of 20 in 1614 and was knighted two years later, still only 22. Married twice but having no children, Edward set about very generously passing on his wealth to the villagers and ultimately created his Baeshe Charity on 10th November 1653. This act formalised the charitable activities he had performed during his lifetime.

The first building he had provided for was a boys' free grammar school at the end of the High Street in 1634 (the Clock House). Then, in the same year, he funded the six almshouses at the bottom of Cat's Hill – for 'poor widows and distressed tradesmen.' This came with the gift of lands, the rents from which would provide income for the widows et al. Among further bequests was the building of a 'neat brick house' plus two acres of land for the local vicar (that's the Old Vicarage along Roydon Road, now a private hotel). He also provided the salaries of the parish clerk and a schoolteacher for the grammar school.



The Clock House



The Baeshe Memorial

The Baeshe home of Stansteadbury needed to be worked over in time for the first of three visits by Queen Elizabeth I. She always travelled with a huge retinue who all had to be provided for (often these processions could bankrupt the host!). To be thus visited three times was a measure of the esteem in which the Baeshe family must have been held. While there she worshipped in St James's Church and, it is said, an extra wing needed to be added to the church to accommodate her large entourage – all at Baeshe's expense!

No portraits of Edward Baeshe exist – but there is a lovely plaque featuring Edward and wife Jane at prayer at St James's Church. It would seem that, as in the case of Thomas Fowell Buxton, it was a fervent Christian faith that motivated all these benevolent activities – and our villages still profit from that generosity.

Further information can be found in Ron Dale's book on the three villages (*A History of Stanstead Abbots, Rye House and St Margarets*, 2013) or on the SALHS website at www.salhs.org.uk.

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SUMMERTIME 'FLASH FICTION' WRITING COMPETITION WINNER

Over the summer we held a 'Flash Fiction' writing competition with a summertime theme. Local author Annette Hannah, whose latest book *Lottie's School of Dance* has just been published, was kind enough to judge our writing competition entries. She chose the entry from Rebecca Griffiths-Duchiron, commenting: 'I loved reading this and think *Amira's Garden* is a clear winner. Rebecca's writing is beautiful and painted such a clear picture that I could see the scene vividly in my mind. There is a maturity to this writing, and the comparison with the garden and how it reflects Amira's own thoughts was skillfully done. Congratulations Rebecca, I hope you continue writing in the future and if you haven't already written a book then I really think you should.'

About the author

Rebecca Griffiths-Duchiron moved to Dubai in 2014 to further pursue a career in global travel retail, but grew up in Ware and has close connections to St Andrew's Church, Stanstead Abbots. She regularly comes back to the UK to visit family, still based in Ware. Rebecca did a creative writing component to her undergraduate degree and her love of writing continues to this day.

Congratulations to Rebecca! I hope you all enjoy reading her winning entry as much as we did!

Amira's Garden

by Rebecca Griffiths-Duchiron

In a desert city, where the summer sun blazed mercilessly, lived a woman named Amira. The scorching dusty winds swept through the streets, carrying waves of heat that seemed to engulf everything in their path. With temperatures soaring over 40° Celsius, stepping outside felt like entering an oven.

Amira longed for the cool embrace of an English summer's day. Fields of barley swaying in a gentle breeze, the sound of children shouting and playing nearby, surprising scatters of rainfall – the kind of summers she remembered from her childhood. As the humidity grew heavy in the late afternoon sun, hanging in the air like a damp embrace, Amira sat by her living room window, a cup of tea in hand, gazing out at the garden. Behind the back wall, a sea of golden desert dunes rolled away into the distance. The air shimmered and rippled at the horizon.

Her garden was small but loved. A little oasis of vibrant colours and striking contrasts. Amidst the arid landscape, she marvelled at the resilience of the desert vines that climbed the walls, adorned with flowers – some pure white, others a deep crimson – blooming heartily under the beating sun.

As she sipped her tea, Amira admired the plant's tenacity, standing tall despite the overwhelming challenges, an enduring beauty. She supposed it was the adversity they faced that made these desert flowers stronger and more resilient, forcing them to adapt and evolve, finding innovative ways to survive.

Her collection of small cacti stood proudly on the patio table, different heights and shapes, their spiky exteriors serving as a shield against the harsh elements. A sharp gust of wind carried a dusting of sand across the table, yet the cacti appeared almost frozen, undisturbed and calm. They seemed to thrive in adversity, growing steadfastly in the blistering heat. Their ability to store water within themselves, defying their arid environment, had always fascinated Amira.

As the sun dipped below the horizon, casting hues of orange and pink across the sky, Amira reflected on the power of nature's resilience. Amira felt a sense of kinship, for she, too, had faced her fair share of challenges in life. Just as the plants found a way to flourish, Amira had learned to adapt and persevere. The adversity had shaped her, instilling within her a strength she never knew she possessed.

And as she sat in her living room, her cup now almost empty and cool to the touch, Amira found comfort in the thought that, like the desert flowers, she, too, could thrive and grow, even in the harshest of environments.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Great Amwell Parish Council

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

Since the last update:

- * Local elections were held on 4 May 2023; Great Amwell Parish Council filled 9 of its 10 seats – the remaining seat will be filled by co-option;
- * Following further representations made by to the District Council on the use of the green belt land off Amwell Roundabout for car boot sales and music festivals, the District Council has now confirmed that the permitted number of days usage is 28 and not 40 days;
- * East Herts Council is responsible for emptying all litter bins within the parish – should you experience an overflowing litter bin then please use the following website to notify that authority without delay: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/bins-waste-recycling/report-overflowing-or-full-litter-bins>;
- * Hertford Heath Parish Council has a large allotment site with a number of vacant plots available to rent for just £30 per year – these are available to residents of adjoining parishes so, if you fancy the idea of growing your own fruit and vegetables, why not contact Jo at admin@hertfordheathparishcouncil.gov.uk to arrange a time to meet up on site (adjacent to London Road in Hertford Heath) and have a look at what's on offer.

More information can be found on the website (<https://gtamwellpc.org>). 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>).

St Margarets Parish Council

Following the May elections, the Parish Council were not successful in gaining the required number of seats of councillors and therefore were unable to conduct business for a few weeks, so a re-run election had to be held. As a result, we were successful in gaining extra councillors and our Annual Council Meeting took place on 13th June 2023 with Cllrs Clare Maynard (Chairman), Nicholas Cox (Vice Chairman) and Alison Tyne. At the meeting they also received applications for co-option from Cllrs Scott Everid and Simon Morris, who we have welcomed on board.

Although there has been a delay in business, the Parish Council continues to focus on ongoing projects. These include, but are not limited to, our plans to further develop hedgerow planting in the field next to Sanville Gardens; to identify who owns a section of land by The Granary in order to tidy it up following some fallen trees a year ago; and to request a dog waste bin from East Herts District Council for St Margarets Road/Stanstead Road to deter dog walkers from throwing poo bags into residents' gardens.

Finally, we are looking for some volunteers to help us with sanding down a bench that needs repairing, which we adopted in January 2021 and is located by The Jolly Fisherman. If you think you can spare us some time then please contact the Clerk at stansteadstmargaretspcclerk@gmail.com.

Stanstead Abbots Parish Council

Local elections took place in May and 8 councillors were appointed to the Parish Council for a term of 4 years and we have one vacancy. The following councillors were appointed: Cllr Paul Breach, Cllr George Cassidy, Cllr Julia Davies, Cllr Mike Dormon, Cllr Richard Gerrard, Cllr John Hickford, Cllr Mo Howlett, Cllr Julia Witting. Contact information for the councillors can be found at <https://www.stansteadabbottsparishcouncil.gov.uk/councillors/>. At the Annual Council meeting on 11th May, Cllr Mike Dormon was appointed Chairman and Cllr Mo Howlett was appointed Vice Chairman.

The annual Parish meeting was held on 10th May and we had several interesting speakers including Cllr Paul Breach who gave an informative presentation on the Hedgehog Highway Project. The Hedgehog population in the UK has declined alarmingly from around 50 million in the 1950s to just around 1 million in 2023. A Hedgehog Highway is a 5-inch gap in a fence or wall allowing access for hedgehogs. These gaps are essential in the battle to prevent the extinction of our endangered spiky friends. The council have purchased 50 hedgehog surrounds that can be fitted to garden fences to create a hedgehog highway. The Hedgehog Highway allows hedgehogs to: forage for food, meet mates to breed and access nesting sites. If you would like a hedgehog surround free of charge please contact the clerk on clerk@stansteadabbottsparishcouncil.gov.uk or 07943602877 and we will get one delivered to you. For more information on the Hedgehog Highway project please visit www.hedgehogrus.co.uk.

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1ST STANSTEAD ABBOTTS & ST MARGARETS' SCOUT GROUP



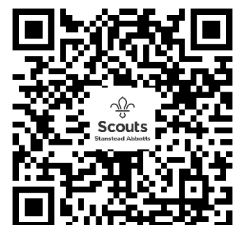
Marsh Lane continues to be busy with young people from our villages and those in the surrounding area joining in scouting. The summer term is always action-packed and this year has been no different. Our amazing volunteers are at the heart of delivering a fantastic programme and providing our youngsters with skills for life and, as I always say, there is so much more we could offer with a few more pairs of hands. If you think you can help us, please do get in touch.

The highlight of the recent months was the Ware and District Camp in mid June where we took 94 of our young people from across all our sections, who joined a further 550 young people and their leaders from across the district, to Tolmers Scout Camp & Activity Centre, in Cuffley, for a weekend of adventurous activities and fun! Our Cubs and Scouts came down on Friday night and stayed over for 2 nights, our Beavers arrived early Saturday morning (thank you parents & carers) for 1 night away, and our Squirrels joined during the day on Saturday. Activities put on included archery, slippery slide, orienteering, fairground activities, a campfire and songs, as well as an opportunity to slow down with craft and a visit to the Lego and fire engine base! We need to thank all the extra adults who helped us out and, from what they said, had just as much fun as the young people! 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 dinner and 2 suppers were catered for by a fantastic team for about 130 people. If this makes you excited and want to join the fun drop us a line, we'd love to hear from you.

In late June we had our open evening with a BBQ and campfire following on from the group's Annual General Meeting. The group is a registered charity, and this evening allows us to celebrate those who have been able to support us through donations, volunteering but above all to recognise the achievements of all the brilliant young people who are our members. We had over 120 people along, including those from the local community that do so much for us. The weather stayed fair, and we had leaders and parents/carers around a campfire long into the evening.

All our sections have been hard at it with activities such as: hikes, water-sport days, inflatable activities, Cub Olympics, camping skills, cooking, campfires, high-ropes, catapult building and finished off in the hot weather with water games! Finally, the trophy cabinet is growing with our Jaguar Cubs bringing home the District Fun Run Trophy and the Scouts winning the Ware Festival Raft Race just pipping 2nd Ware to the line in a hugely exciting morning! As well as these 2 competitions we have also had a tremendous time in the district go-karting with both Cub packs, the Beaver skills day, and the Scouts swimming gala: all go!

We do need to grow our volunteer team and if you can help in anyway in the foreground with the young people, or the background with skills, trades or time to support our Trustee Board, please follow the QR code and get in touch or email GSLTeam@stansteadabbottsscouts.org.uk.



Will Drury, Group Scout Leader



1ST STANSTEAD ABBOTTS BROWNIES

1st Stanstead Abbots currently have 25 girls. Pack holiday is always lots of fun: our last holiday was back in November and we are off again on 14th July for the weekend. This year's theme is Harry Potter and the girls have already made wands and been sorted by the sorting hat in preparation for the trip!

We celebrated the coronation of the King back in May with the rest of Ware District. We did archery, bounced on a bouncy assault course, played on space hoppers, did balloon modelling and watched a story teller who breathed fire! There was also a hat competition for the coronation event and Eleanor Street's hat won. We also took part in the King's Big Help Out; painting benches in Ware Priory and donating food for the foodbank.

This term so far, we have built dens in the wood and been to Allenbury Social Club to play games in their sports hall. We will be taking part in Ware Carnival as usual too. At the end of this term we will be going sailing.

As a voluntary organisation, we rely on Leaders and Unit Helpers giving their time and talents for free. It is a fantastic opportunity to give something back to our community and also to be an active part in helping the next generation flourish. It is also good fun! If you are interested in volunteering, check out www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved.

For more information about Girlguiding in Hertfordshire, please visit www.girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk/get-involved.

Helen Payne, Leader



Coronation celebrations: fire-breathing story teller!



Coronation celebrations: archery



Coronation hat competition winner: Eleanor Street



Coronation celebrations: bouncy assault course



The Big Help Out: painting benches in Ware Priory



The Three Villages Magazine

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: THE RED LION



THE RED LION
bar & kitchen



Martin and Judy with their daughters Millie and Olivia, and Judy's mum Ruby.

In November 2022, Stanstead Abbots said goodbye to Maz and Mel, who for many years had run The Red Lion public house, and we welcomed Martin and Judy along with their two daughters into the village, as Martin and Judy became the new landlords.

Martin had previously been a city broker and had long had a dream of becoming landlord of his own pub. Judy has been and still is a beauty therapist. Martin and Judy both have a family background in the hospitality industry, as Martin's father had previously run a restaurant in Ware and Judy's mum had been a pub landlady for many years.

Since Martin and Judy arrived, there have been changes made to The Red Lion with many more new ventures planned for the future. The restaurant has undergone a makeover and while to start with the food was 'pub grub with a twist', it is now being developed by chef Michael into a gourmet menu with seasonal changes. Martin and Judy have also created a senior menu with choices of both main and dessert for Wednesday lunchtimes,

which has proved a hit with all who come along from both near and far to enjoy the food and atmosphere. If you haven't had a chance to try the Wednesday lunchtime delights so far, it is well worth coming along.

The car park and garden area have also been redesigned this year, and pictures of this were in the June issue of our magazine. These areas were opened on the May Bank Holiday weekend, which was extremely well attended, with a DJ and live music. The garden area now has Wi-Fi. They have just started offering a takeaway service from the Bar Menu. Collection Service is available from the kitchen weekdays from 11.30am to 2.30pm. There are also plans afoot to have more live music evenings, so watch out for the information on their website – www.theredlion.net.

Martin and Judy are looking to introduce themed evenings in the new restaurant moving forward and a Christmas market in the grounds is planned for November. There are also plans to hold 'chilming' evenings – big screen with a film. There are many exciting new ventures coming to The Red Lion in the months ahead as Martin and Judy strive to meet more needs of our friendly community within the three villages.

Martin and Judy have recently been informed that they are the winners of the Best Beer Garden in Hertfordshire 2023 award! Huge congratulations to them for all of their hard work and dedication in such a short space of time.

As you can see, there are ongoing changes and improvements continuing at The Red Lion to better serve our communities, and we wish Martin, Judy and the family all the very best for the future.

Lyn Paddon



Duo of beef medallion and brisket with wild mushroom brouillade

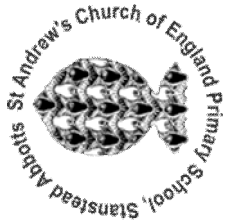


Eaton mess – just one of the delicious desserts available



Smoked salmon roulade, prawn cocktail, crevette with bloody mary dressing

UPDATES FROM OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS



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

Summer Term Report

This has been a very busy summer term at St Andrew's. It is, of course, the term of many statutory tests including Year 1 phonics screening; Year 2 assessments in reading, writing and maths; Year 4 multiplication test and Year 6 SATs. However, around all of these tests we have managed to offer our children many enriching learning opportunities.

In April, twenty members of our school choir, led by Miss Sewell, joined with other Hertfordshire school choirs to sing at the Royal Albert Hall for the bi-annual Hertfordshire Schools' Gala. They sang a medley of sea shanties with a massed choir accompanied by a full symphony orchestra, and watched dance and musical performances. It was a spectacular evening and certainly one which I know the children and I will remember for many years.



In May we celebrated the King's Coronation with a day of regal rejoicing. The school was peppered with flags, bunting and crowns.

Trips and events this term have included the EYFS trip to Lea Valley Park Farm, Year 1 explored Castle life and visited Capel Manor, Year 2 travelled back in time to encounter life during the Great Fire of London, Year 3 visited Verulamium, Year 4 and 5 had a Faith tour in Bedford comparing and contrasting a Christian church, Mosque and a Sikh Gurdwara, Year 4 experienced an Ancient Greek day, transported back to the year 431BC to the city state of Sparta, Year 5 have visited the Maltings to learn all about this local industry, and Year 6 visited Henry Moore sculpture park and had their residential stay at PGL Wiltshire. Phew, no wonder we are all exhausted!



We have also had a very successful sporting year, winning or doing well in a number of events. So much so that we achieved our Gold School Games Award for the fourth consecutive year.



Our year was rounded off by a wonderful Year 5 and 6 performance of 'Mystery at Magpie Manor' during which the children delighted us with their singing, comedy, dancing and acting. We also had a rather rainy, but none-the-less joyful, Summer Fair run by our fabulous FOSTA.

Helen Gillingham, Headteacher

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UPDATES FROM OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS



St John the Baptist CE VA Primary School

As I write this article, we are just ending the academic year and sadly preparing to say goodbye to our Year 6 leavers, having had the privilege of watching them grow and develop over the last seven years. At the point you are reading, we have just started the new academic year having excitedly welcomed our new cohort of Reception pupils.



Our summer term has seen the children out and about, extending their learning experiences through educational visits. Year 5 visited the British Museum to find out more about the Mayans and have the opportunity to see first-hand artefacts of the period. Years 3 and 4 had the opportunity to further develop their Forest School skills during a day's outing to Post Wood. Years 1 and 2 visited Southend and the Sealife Zooquarium to deepen their knowledge of life under the sea. Year 6 visited Walton-on-the-Naze, and used the money they had



raised as part of their mini-enterprise project to part fund their trip, pay for their ice creams and hire the soft play area. Our Reception children marked the end of their first year in school with a Teddy Bear's Picnic on the field.



We continued our participation in a range of sporting events. Year 5 participated in the WWW games at Wodson Park and were thrilled to win the silver medal in the Zero Bounds competition. This was the first time they had tried this sport and had felt at a disadvantage, having arrived late due to traffic and missed the training session, so they were particularly thrilled. Years 5 and 6 also competed in the District Athletics. We marked National Sports Week with a week of fun-packed activities, providing the children with the opportunity to try

a range of new sports including fencing, Zero Bounds (having enjoyed it so much at the WWW games) and even Quidditch. We also had a visit from Team GB gymnast Courtney Tulloch, who is double Commonwealth Gold champion on the rings. He impressed us with a display of his gymnastic skills, and inspired us with a talk encouraging the children to persevere with the things they enjoy, even when others might say they are not good enough. Courtney had been told to give up the vault as this was his weakest discipline, but had been pleased to prove everyone wrong by winning the silver medal in the 2018 Commonwealth Games. We were also pleased to learn on the last day of term that we had once again achieved Gold in the School Games Mark.



Continuing to encourage children to develop their musical skills, parents were invited to watch their children perform in our second piano recital of the year. Many of the performers on this occasion were beginners this year and some had only been learning for a few weeks. The confidence and skill with which they performed was impressive.

Our academic year ended with a humorous Year 6 production of 'The Pirates of the Curry Bean' and our end of year service. This is always special because each class reflects on their key memories of the year and Year 6 share their memories of their time at St John's. Rev'd Sarah gave a message for the Year 6 children to remember our school verse and run the race before them with perseverance.

The teachers completed the term by drawing together our curriculum redesign, which can be viewed on our school website. We also saw the impact of our new phonics scheme and the quality teaching put in place, which saw 96% of pupils achieve the threshold score and above in the statutory Year 1 Phonics Screening Check. We also saw the success of the work carried out to help the children improve maths fluency, with our Year 4 children achieving an average score of 22.8 out of 25 in the National Multiplication Tables Check. Well done to all the children involved.

Lydia Hunt, Headteacher

UPDATES FROM OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS



Amwell View School and Specialist Sports College

Amwell View School's 'Community Classroom'

On Wednesday 26th April 2023 Amwell View School and Specialist Sports College officially opened their Community Classroom, which is based in the village of Stanstead Abbots.

Hertfordshire's County Councillor Terry Douris spent the morning with the Community Classroom students, school governors, school staff and other invited guests from the local community.

The Community Classroom is a satellite provision based in the local village of Stanstead Abbots. Located next door to our existing charity shop, the Community Classroom allows its pupils to be in the heart of their local community. By being off site, pupils are granted a sense of trust and responsibility, where they know they are representing their school whilst in the community. The Community Class curriculum comprises of areas that are important for the transition from Amwell View to life after school. Pupils are given the opportunity to complete work experience placements, learn home management skills, cater lunches for themselves and their peers, allow their creative capabilities to shine and generalise these skills in various off-site contexts.



County Councillor Terry Douris at the Grand Opening



Work Experience at Appleby Cottage

The Community Classroom still remains closely linked to the main site; Music, Science and Dance lessons are delivered at school and pupils return for assemblies. The Community Classroom frequently hosts classes from the main site in their village classroom to share what they have been up to and practise new skills they have learnt. Pupils arrive and depart from the main school building for continuity, with transport to and from the village classroom, and to any off-site trips being provided, in the new Community Class minibus.

Amy Adams, Class Teacher, said: 'The new classroom is a wonderful facility. The pupils love the social 'American Diner', Art Studio and large classroom space. The curriculum and activities we are able to access with the students within the community have included a visit to the residents of Willowthorpe Care Home and the completion of a five-week block of fitness sessions at Anytime Fitness Hertford. Pupils

take ownership of their new space and curriculum through cooking their own lunch, keeping the classroom clean and tidy, as well as being members of their local community.'

Headteacher, Neil Ward, said: 'We continue to form links with local businesses and services to provide work-related opportunities for our pupils. The Community Classroom enables our young people to develop important life and social skills, which are needed for becoming members of the community when they leave school at the age of 19 years old.'

Janet Warrington, School Business Manager



Elysia and Freya handing out greetings cards at Willowthorpe Care Home

The Three Villages Magazine

PUZZLES FROM QUIZMASTER CATHAL BRENNAN

QUIZ: MOVIES

1. Who played Mrs Robinson in *The Graduate*?
2. For what movie did Tom Hanks score his first Academy Award nomination?
3. Who played park owner John Hammond in *Jurassic Park*?
4. What is the name of Quint's shark-hunting boat in *Jaws*?
5. What national monument does Cary Grant climb in the heart-pounding final moments of *North by Northwest*?
6. In what 1969 James Bond thriller does the famous spy fall in love and get married?
7. Who played the Prime Minister in *Love Actually*?
8. In what year was *Die Hard* released?
9. In *Back to the Future* Doc Brown stole plutonium from terrorists of which country?
10. Which child from *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* found the first golden ticket?
11. What was the first animated movie to be nominated for best picture at the Oscars?
12. Who starred as Arnold Schwarzenegger's twin in the 1988 movie *Twins*?

WORDSEARCH: OSCAR WINNING MOVIES



THE WHALE	LIFE OF PI	SHINE
AVATAR	THE KING'S SPEECH	TOY STORY
JOKER	THERE WILL BE BLOOD	GHOST
A STAR IS BORN	CHICAGO	MISERY
DUNKIRK	THE PIANIST	RAINMAN
LA LA LAND	SHREK	THE FLY
THE GREAT GATSBY	TITANIC	

WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG



Picture 1

Image credit: Rex Features



Picture 2

Image credit: Wikimedia Commons CC-BY



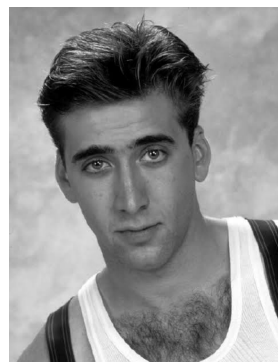
Picture 3

Image credit: Vintage Everyday



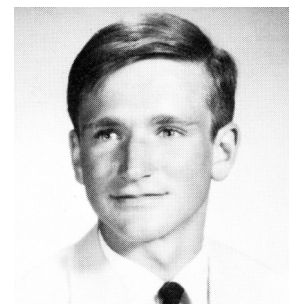
Picture 4

Image credit: Perth Now



Picture 5

Image credit: Vintage Everyday



Picture 6

Image credit: Seth Poppel Yearbook Library

MEET A LOCAL: DAVID HOPKINSON

From Maps & Town Planning to the Art of Heraldry

David Hopkinson was brought up in Chingford in the 1930s and after school he sat the Civil Service Exam and was accepted at the Surveying and Drafting School of the Ordnance Survey in Southampton.

After National Service, he spent 4 years as a cartographer in Blackburn and Preston, which took him a long way North, with visits home allowed just twice a year! After 4 years he spotted an opportunity to work for Essex County Council and was based at the Epping Office; he was involved in mapping the New Town, Harlow. David worked with Peter Rooke, who had an enormous interest in history and heraldry, and through his encouragement David entered the competition to create new arms for Harlow District Council. This began an interest that turned into a passionate hobby and David joined the Heraldry Society in 1958. He started attending art classes at the College of Arms, heading into London on his motorbike to learn the skills needed to draw and paint coats of arms, and to translate the written descriptions of ancient heraldry into vibrant and colourful works of art on shields and memorials, letters and commemorate scrolls.

A combination of script and art is needed on many manuscripts, and David developed a love and skill which meant that, following early retirement from local government work in Barnet, he was able to establish himself as a freelance Heraldic Artist. His commissions have been varied and he has enjoyed the pleasure his work has brought other people, especially those personal pieces of work such as the scrolls presented to noteworthy people who earn the Freedom of the City, also art work that has been given to the late Queen Elizabeth II and latterly a Loyal Address to H.M. King Charles III.

David's work and expertise have earned him an accolade as Fellow of the Heraldry Society and also Fellow of the Society of Heraldic Arts. Locally, we are proud to have David as part of our congregation at St Andrew's Church, Stanstead Abbots, and to have pieces of his work in the churches, including the new Arms of His Majesty King Charles III.

Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest



Some examples of David's work, including the new Arms of His Majesty King Charles III (above)

The Three Villages Magazine

REGULAR CLUBS, GROUPS AND MEETINGS IN THE THREE VILLAGES

1st Stanstead Abbots Brownies: Mondays 5.45–7pm (The Wilshire 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 Abbots & St Margarets Scout Group: Age groups as above. All groups meet at Scout HQ, Marsh Lane, Stanstead Abbots 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 Abbots Parish Hall. Transport can be arranged. Contact: 07850 458366 (Ann Hardy).

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 Abbots 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 everyone: A chance to eat, drink, sing and quiz all in one afternoon. Fun, fun, fun. 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 Abbots). A Chartered Standard local football club for Youth, Ladies' and Men's football, with youth starting from 6 years upwards in non-competitive leagues, and more competitive as they move up into Under 18s', Ladies' and Men's Football. Contact: Club Secretary at <https://stmargaretsburyfc.leaguerepublic.com/contacts.html>.

Stanstead Abbots 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 583256 or email saphttc@yahoo.com – or just come along!

Carpet Bowls Club: Our Carpet Bowls club meets every Tuesday from 7pm in Stanstead Abbots Parish Hall. We are an all-inclusive sport, suitable for all ages and abilities. Our members range in age from 9 to 90. No need to bring any equipment, everything is provided. First night is free. Come along and give it a try! For more details contact Pete (Tel: 07429142525 / Email: pmcook1@hotmail.co.uk).

St Andrew's Church Card-making Group: We meet in The Wilshire Hall starting at 1pm on the first and third Tuesdays every month. The cost is £4 per session to cover materials used and two cards will be made each session. We have a break midway for refreshments, which is included in cost. New members welcome – please contact Janet Dance on 07941096834.

Just Friends: a group for widows, widowers and divorced or separated people. We meet as friends to support each other, arrange activities and share names of trusted tradespeople. Meeting every 2nd Tuesday and 4th Thursday. If interested, please contact Mary (maryhallett14@gmail.com / 07899 861297 or 01920 870527).

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

ARMCHAIR SINGERS

Hello, I want to tell you about a rather exceptional bunch of people that do something special in the Nigel Copping Centre, Stansted Abbots every Monday afternoon at 1.30pm. We sing, laugh, drink tea, eat cake and forget about all our worries: a great way to spend an afternoon. Some of the members would like to share their thoughts...

Don's story

My name is Don Gates, I live in Bengoe, up the road from you, and I am in my ninetieth year. The Armchair Singers is Stansted Abbots' best kept secret! My doctor expressed concern about the plight of my chest and lungs, and said further therapy would be beneficial. Singing was suggested and my mate Colin mentioned a group called Armchair Singers. So, I pottered along and have never looked back! Monday 1st July 2019, a happy day. I was welcomed by a gang of smiling faces, young and not so young, but manifestly all young at heart. We start with gentle exercise (sitting) to get the body in tune before moving quickly onto vocal exercises to give the lungs a chance, and then we SING! We name it, Gabby plays it and we rock. The 310 bus passes outside and it is rumoured that on a fine day with the windows open drivers linger at the stop so the passengers can enjoy. We sing anything. Today we had a hymn, folksong, modern song, country, American, showbiz, The Beatles... you name it, we sing it. Come and join us! You'll love it, honest, you will.

Enid's thoughts

I enjoy our Monday afternoon sessions. It's one of the most enjoyable times in the week. Gabby and the team make newcomers very welcome. I come away knowing that I have been with friends. I had not known many previously and the outlook for the week ahead is far more positive. Singing makes such a difference.

A word from Jenny

Armchair Singers is a delight! Since joining, I have noticed an improvement in my breathing and chest pain, which in turn have contributed to my general health and wellbeing, and I would very much miss this class if it had to close. It's good for body and soul. The session costs £2.00 to cover hire of the hall, tea, coffee and the odd cake!! All that is needed is a sense of fun.

Gabby Hanley



THE EVERGREEN CLUB

The Evergreen Club continues to thrive – we are now in our 64th year. We have a new member making our club 17 strong. Bingo is still played every week when we meet in the Stanstead Abbots Parish Hall on Monday afternoons from 2 to 4pm.

As usual in August, we have been to two gardens for tea – one in Great Amwell and one in Stanstead Abbots. We will be visiting our President, Jonathan Pilkington, for tea in his garden in September.

Why not join us for tea and cake and good company on Monday afternoons?

We still need volunteers to bring and return our members. If you have the time to assist us with transporting members, please get in touch (07850 458366). Just once a month would be most welcome!

Ann Hardy

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GREAT AMWELL WOMEN'S CLUB HAS DONE IT AGAIN!



John (the Blood Runner) with Christine Lynch (Chair Lady of Great Amwell Women's Club) and Dulcie (Secretary).

Great Amwell Women's Club celebrated its 30th Anniversary this year (although it was really 32, but COVID got in the way of our celebrations). We meet twice a month in the Parish Hall, Hillside Lane, where we have speakers, celebrations, fun and games, days out and every year a Charity Night when we raise several pounds for local charities.

This year we supported The Herts and Beds SERV (Service by Emergency Response Volunteers) group of Blood Runners. This is a charity that has people working for them voluntarily taking blood and breast milk from one hospital to another as fast as they can on their motorbikes. The riders pay for the petrol themselves, give their own time up and are continuously on call as they could be required immediately.

Our Charity Night was hosted by Mike Coping who takes us through Play your Cards Right. He is a very funny and popular presenter, giving up his time for a fish and chip supper, which was also enjoyed by all. We were pleased that John arrived on his motorbike to represent The Blood Runners and enjoy the evening too.

Our raffle is always a success thanks to many donations, and the generosity of club members and the people who support our charity evenings. This year we are proud to say we raised £650 for The Blood Runners. We never know if one day we will need their valuable service (but we hope not).

Dulcie Fordham



Mike hosting Play your Cards Right.

STANSTEAD ABBOTTS AND ST MARGARETS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The Regulation 14 Consultation took place in the spring of this year – 2023. It was necessary for us to send our policies and a link to the main Neighbourhood Plan to a number of statutory consultees as well as to residents.

Once the Steering Group had received responses they went into action to consider what amendments, if any, were needed. The East Herts District Council Planning Officer, Laura Guy, came to a meeting with members of the Steering Group and many of her points about the plan were further explained; for instance, East Herts District Council is not participating in the First Homes Scheme therefore it could not be in the policy for housing.

The Planning Officer at Lea Valley Regional Park also came for a meeting with representatives of the Steering Group and reiterated her comment about the impressiveness of the document, which demonstrated what a huge amount of work had been done on the Plan. She took photographs of the site at Netherfield Lane and was reassured that the development would need few of the existing trees to be removed, and that the plans currently suggested would not include houses on the more elevated section of the site as there were to be green buffers around the homes.

There are many comments to consider – some are repeated – and the sub-committee that is looking at them will be producing a Q&A article for the Neighbourhood Plan website very soon. We still aim to have it all sent in to East Herts District Council during the autumn, but I think it is unlikely now that the referendum will take place this year.

Julia Davies (Chairman, Steering Group Stanstead Abbots and St Margarets Neighbourhood Plan)



CHARITY FOCUS: AMWELL VIEW CHARITY SHOP

The Amwell View Charity Shop first opened in October 2016 and expanded into the second shop in 2017. We asked Cheryl to tell us their latest news...

Here at Amwell View Charity Shop, we have recently added a new extension, where we are able to sell larger items and some items of furniture.

We are happy to say that it has been extremely successful as the people that shop with us will know. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all my volunteers for their hard work, as it was a lot of work preparing for the extension and with the new shop we are all working harder than ever.

Thank you to everyone for your support with donations – we are very grateful to all. We pride ourselves on not just being a charity shop, but being a support network for whoever walks through our front door and everybody is welcome. So again, a massive THANK YOU from the manager of the charity shop.

The shop is open weekdays, 10am to 4pm. Donations are always welcome and can be dropped off Monday to Thursday between 9am and 4.30pm, or on Friday between 9am and 2pm.

Cheryl Goodey, Manager



HELLO FROM YOUR LOCAL SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICERS!

Safer neighbourhood officers work as part of the Ware Safer Neighbourhood Team based in Tudor Square, Ware. The team is made up of five PCSOs, three PCs and Sergeant David Miller. Within our three villages, we have two local safer neighbourhood officers. We asked them to introduce themselves and tell us a little about what they do...



Megan Da Costa – Police Community Support Officer

The role of a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) is to provide a visible uniformed presence in the community to offer reassurance, gather information, and prevent crime and disorder. PCSOs compliment the work of Police Officers by focusing on lower-level crime and anti-social behaviour. If you have any questions or would like to be in touch with Megan, do email megan.dacosta@herts.police.uk.

Dean Watson – Safer Neighbourhood Police Constable

The role of a Safer Neighbourhood Police Constable is to provide an accessible presence to the community. They identify threat, harm and risk by working collaboratively with partner agencies and developing an understanding of local issues.

You will often see Megan and Dean patrolling Stanstead Abbots and Great Amwell, and holding community events where they provide crime prevention advice. They also visit the local schools to educate children on subjects such as road safety, bullying and staying safe online.

Thank you to you both for your hard work!

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SPORTS

In Focus: St Margaretsbury Tennis Club



St Margaretsbury Tennis Club is a thriving community based members club at the Recreation Ground, opposite the Folly Estate, St Margarets. We have been established for many years and have excellent facilities, including three artificial grass playing courts with floodlighting to allow all year round playing during the day and evening.

Our membership is in excess of one hundred members of all age ranges, so age is not a barrier – you're never too young or too old to enjoy tennis at our club. Our tennis calendar during the week includes Social Tennis sessions on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. In addition we offer the more competitive player opportunities to play team tennis in Ladies, Mens, Mixed and Seniors teams in various leagues throughout Hertfordshire.

If you are new to the sport of tennis or have not played for some time and feel you are a bit rusty we offer a full coaching programme run by our Coach Nicole Voss who can be contacted on 07504144324 or at nicolebtatenniscoaching@outlook.com. Group coaching on a Thursday includes a morning session for those getting back into the game, junior coaching from 4–6pm followed by adult coaching from 6pm at differing levels. If it suits you, more individual coaching sessions are available throughout the week. Do not hesitate to contact Nicole if you want to join in the coaching.

The club offers very competitive member subscriptions for all ages including off-peak packages and three month starter subscriptions if you want to see if you like tennis at the club, which we're sure you will.

All information on the club including contact details is available at St Margaretsbury Tennis Club website (<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/stmargaretsburytennis>) or please do not hesitate to contact Hon. Chairman Jim Springham on 07711771234 who would be delighted to take your call.

Jim Springham, Hon. Chairman



ST MARGARETSBURY SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB



St Margaretsbury Sports and Social Club provides sports facilities for the three villages. They host three member clubs: St Margaretsbury Football Club, St Margaretsbury Cricket Club and St Margaretsbury Tennis Club. They also have a function room (The Croft Room), which is fully licenced and available for hire. There is free parking on site with plenty of spaces.

For all enquiries please contact on 01920 870473 (club opening hours).

St Margaretsbury Sports and Social Club, The Recreation Ground, Stanstead Abbots, Herts SG12 8EH.

SPORTS

St Margaretsbury Football Club

St Margaretsbury Football Club, (close to Stanstead Abbots), have re-instated their Soccer School Youth Academy, which delivers professional coaching for Boys & Girls from 4 to 7 years of age. They offer one FREE taster session to give both parent and child the opportunity to see if they enjoy the experience.

The first session started on Friday 14th July and will continue every Friday from 5–6pm through to September. The cost is £45 for 6 weekly sessions, but they are also open to a pay-as-you-play option. All sessions are held on a grass pitch at the club ground – The Recreation Ground (Off Station Road), Stanstead St Margarets. If interested contact Luke on 07508 727912, or just turn up at the session in kit and boots ready to go!

The club has a pathway from youth tournaments up into youth teams as they reach 6 years and above. From there they can progress all the way up to U16 youth team, and ultimately into the U18 team as a stepping stone into adult football in teams for men and woman.



Gavin Wood
Club Chairman
St Margaretsbury FC

ST MARGARETSBURY FC ST MARGARETSBURY FC ST MARGARETSBURY FC ST MARGARETSBURY FC

Starts 14th July

ST. MARGARETSBURY FC

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- **Cost**
£45 for 6 weekly sessions at club
FREE Taster session before
- **Sessions**
Every Friday 5:00 to 6:00 pm
- **Development pathway**
Coaching-focused until players progress to play:
 - U7 mini-soccer festival games
 - U8 to U10 play 7-a-side
 - U11 to U12 play 9-a-side
 - U13 or older play 11-a-side
- **Senior pathway**
Eligible players from 16 years of age can progress up into the 'senior' U18 level, or/and ultimately the Senior Reserves or Mens or Women's First Teams.

Contact Luke on 07508 727912



St Margaretsbury Football Club
The Recreation Ground, Stanstead St Margarets, Herts SG12 8EH
www.stmargaretsburyfc.leaguerepublic.com

Sat Nav to our ground



St Margaretsbury Cricket Club



The season has just come to an end with all the teams enjoying some excellent matches and some great results achieved.

Formed in 1737 under the name Stanstead Abbots Cricket Club, St Margaretsbury Cricket Club is located on Station Road and have two of the nicest grounds in the local area offering cricket for all ages and abilities. Games are played at home every Saturday during the summer. The club fields four senior XIs on a Saturday, which all compete in the Saracens Hertfordshire Cricket League. There are also Sunday friendly matches. We also have a Ladies XI playing fixtures on a Sunday who are very keen to get some new members to come along. Lastly, the club also has a highly successful junior section, which fields teams from Under-9 to Under-17 age groups in the Hertfordshire Junior Leagues.

For more details, including fixtures and results, see their website <http://stmcc.org.uk/>, email info@stmcc.org.uk or call 01920 870473.

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POEM BY AUDREY FROM ARMCHAIR SINGERS

The Second Wind

As I was rushing round one morning – my breath left me without warning
Something was wrong – and instead of breathing, I stood there on the spot, just wheezing
I went the next day to my physician, to ask him what he might know
He gave me lots of breathing tests, ‘just breathe in – and blow, blow, blow’

I kept a diary of my symptoms, it's useful to keep track,
but with all my perseverance, my wind did not come back;
the Doctor said ‘My Dear, I'm sorry, but it's plain to see –
You have a case of Bronchial Asthma and COPD!’

But then I heard, at Stanstead Abbots, there is a group who sing
to help them cope with their breathing issues and the problems that these bring,
Sometimes we practise plucking apples, hanging on a tree,
and Gabby plays and the group starts singing, and YES, including me!

The Armchair Singers is our choir, and on Mondays we do our thing
and I'm surprised that I feel much better after we sit and sing.
I went back to my dear old Doctor, and last month he grinned
‘Well, we haven't got your old breath back. But you've found a SECOND WIND!’

RECIPE: GINGERBREAD PEOPLE

Another really easy and fun recipe! The warmth of the spices makes this a perfect treat for the autumn. The gingerbread people can be decorated however you like: here we used mini smarties and jazzies for buttons, and icing sugar squeeze tubes to create the faces.

INGREDIENTS

100g self-raising flour
50g brown sugar
50g softened butter/margarine
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 tablespoon golden syrup/honey

METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 190°C/Gas Mark 5 and line a baking tray with lightly floured baking paper.
2. Cream the softened butter/margarine, sugar and syrup/honey until smooth.
3. Add the flour and ginger, then mix into a soft dough.
4. Roll out on a floured surface to about 0.5cm thickness, then cut out using a shaped cutter.
5. Bake for about 10 minutes then remove and leave to cool on a wire rack.
6. Decorate as you like and store in an air-tight container.



Anna Bond

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

DIRECTORY OF USEFUL NUMBERS

THE 3 CHURCHES BENEFICE

Priest in Charge

Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest 01920 870115 / 07488 914972

Lay Ministers

Mrs Elizabeth Goldsmith 01920 422065

Mrs Lynne Griffiths 01920 460668

Mrs Rachel Melrose 01920 422092

Great Amwell with St Margarets

Organists: Mrs Jill Hall 01279 842328

Mrs Lynda Harrington 01992 422398

PCC Secretary: Mr Richard Mellor 01920 460474

Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Lyn Paddon 01920 487717

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 Brace 01992 447845

Treasurer: Mr Richard Mellor 01920 460474

Baptism enquiries: Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest 01920 870115

Wedding enquiries: Mrs Alex Richardson 01920 871391

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, Stanstead Abbots

Organist: Mrs Lynne Griffiths 01920 460668

PCC Secretary: Mrs Michele Ross 01992 302279

Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Michele Ross 01992 302279

Churchwardens: Mrs Janet Dance 01920 871262

Mrs Rosemary James 07730 095370

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 Maureen 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

The Three Churches Foodbank Hub 07487 350918

East Herts Citizens Advice Service 03444 111 444

CAP (Christians Against Poverty) 0800 328 0006

Anne Robson Helpline: Time to Talk 0808 801 0688

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

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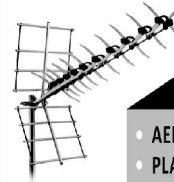
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For more information, email
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call 07721 751910. Find us on
Facebook (The Walled Garden -
Stanstead Abbots).



HERTFORDSHIRE
CONSTABULARY

Prevention First

You can receive instant police alerts about local crime, scams and crime prevention advice in Hertfordshire on the new OWL app.

No registration is needed. To get the app, search the App Store or Google Play for 'OWL crime alerts' or use the links below:



Google Play



App Store

Residents will receive alerts based on their postcode or current location.

The most important alerts such as a burglary, car crime, robbery or missing person appeal will be an instant notification and anything less urgent will be inside the app to be read more leisurely.

Users will also be able to see contact details for their local policing team, join other watches and contact police online or via the web chat facility.



Residents can also sign up to receive OWL messages by email via the website owl.co.uk/herts

PUZZLE ANSWERS (from Page 12)

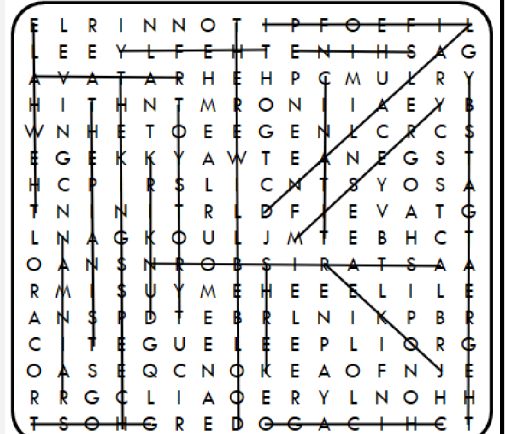
QUIZ

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Anne Bancroft | 7. Hugh Grant |
| 2. <i>Big</i> | 8. 1988 |
| 3. Richard Attenborough | 9. Libya |
| 4. The Orca | 10. Augustus Gloop |
| 5. Mount Rushmore | 11. <i>Beauty and the Beast</i> |
| 6. <i>On Her Majesty's Secret Service</i> | 12. Danny DeVito |

PICTURES

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Sean Connery | 3. Charlize Theron | 5. Nicholas Cage |
| 2. Goldie Hawn | 4. George Clooney | 6. Robin Williams |

WORDSEARCH





- No risk
- No fees
- No admin

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! ➡



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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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