

St Lawrence, Stratford sub Castle Parish Magazine October 2026

Delivered free to every house in Stratford sub Castle



The mobile library visited Castle Keep for the first time in its new electric vehicle at the end of September. Each vehicle is fitted with four batteries and roof-mounted solar panels which power a chairlift to improve accessibility. This service, provided by Wiltshire Council Libraries, is much appreciated by our less mobile local residents.



Parish Team

Vicar: *Vacancy*

Associate Priest for Stratford sub Castle

Revd Suzie Allen **701333**

07401 191957

Suzie's day off is Monday

email: revsuzieallen@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Jeff Long

324421

Chris Lush

324681

Safeguarding Officer &
assistant priest (retired):

Revd Sandra Williams

07754 605647

stlawrencechurchsafeguarding@gmail.com

PCC Secretary & Admin Officer

Ella Liversage

ella.liversage26@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Nigel Afford

07825 887152

Organist

Helen Lucas

320169

Captain of Bell Ringers:

Alison Clayton

446634

Reading Room

John Walsh (Chair)

07913 867109

Heather Balston (Bookings)

411628

Ted Uren (General & Defects)

331766

Steve Mayall (General & Defects)

411337

Publication Team

Editorial coordinator:

Heather Platt

416946

IT coordinator:

David Balston

411628

dmbalston@gmail.com

This month's editor:

David Balston

Magazine Advertising:

Karen Baxter

07930 507506

Cut-off date for next issue:

16th October

stlawrencestratfordmag@gmail.com

View a digital version of the magazine at www.stratfordsubcastle.org.uk

Charity Comm. regn. 1144745 Reg. Address – 'Portway Fosse',
The Portway, Stratford sub Castle, Salisbury, SP1 3LD

Thank you to.....

the Church Flower Arrangers

We are sure you agree that the church always looks welcoming and the many flower arrangements placed in the nave and porch add colour and warmth. So, a big thank you to our industrious flower arrangers who, each week (with the exception of Lent) create and maintain the arrangements.



Heather Balston, Sarah Best, Carolyn Cardus, Jo Harrison, Lynne Pender, Joy James, Veronica Uren, Judy Villiers, Carrie Walsh, Glenys Westmacott.

Carrie Walsh (carolynblanch@me.com) is in charge of the flowers and if you like flowers, whoever you are, you would be welcome to be part of the team.

Dates for your October Diaries

- 1st - 3rd *The Girl on the Train*, Studio Theatre, see p28
- 2nd *Can we make Stratford sub Castle a Blue Zone?*, Friends of St Lawrence talk, The Reading Room, 19.30, see poster on p20
- 4th Harvest Festival, St Lawrence Church, 11.00, see p7
- 7th Mobile Library, Castle Keep, 11.00 - 11.25
- 7th 50s & Beyond, see p27
- 14th Guild, *Unsung Heroes: Animals in War Stories of how animals have served the Armed Forces in wartime*, Philip Whitmore, Reading Room, 19.30, see p22
- 8th Ladies Together, see p9
- 16th Cheese & Wine Evening, Reading Room, 19.30, see p28
- 21st Mobile Library, Castle Keep, 11.00 - 11.25
- 23rd *People's Emergency Briefing*, Reading Room, 19.30, see p24
- 25th End of Summer Time
- 29th Garden Club, Putting the garden to bed for the Winter, Roger Hirons, Reading Room, 19.30, see p25

Defibrillator

In case you need to access the defibrillator urgently,
please use the code C123X

The Revd Suzie Allen writes:

Not Wasting What We've Been Given

We have a pear tree in our garden. It's a small, unassuming thing, yet every year it faithfully produces a generous crop of fruit. The irony, of course, is that neither my husband nor I actually like pears. But rather than let them go to waste, we gather them up and pass them on — neighbours, friends, anyone who might enjoy them — leaving only a few windfalls for the insects and birds. It feels important not to waste what we've been given.



The tree releases its fruit when the time is right, and there is always more than enough. Its abundance feels like an invitation: take, enjoy, share. It's a quiet reminder that goodness is often meant to be passed along.

It's made me think about how careful we've become, as a society, not to waste things. We try not to waste food — buying only what we need, using up leftovers. We're more mindful of our use of electricity as prices rise. Even clothes are rarely thrown away now; instead we donate them to charity shops or use apps like Vinted to give them a second life. There's a growing awareness that what we have can be used well, shared well, stewarded well.

And many of us still carry that instinct to share. Children model it beautifully — offering half a biscuit, passing around toys, reminding us that generosity doesn't need to be complicated. In sharing, we open a door for connection, and sometimes something unexpectedly good grows from it.

But it raises a deeper question: what does it mean to give others not just something, but the very best of what we have?

In Christian faith, fruitfulness isn't only about avoiding waste or sharing our surplus. It's about offering the best of ourselves — our time, our attention, our compassion, our gifts — in ways that reflect God's generosity to us (not offering the dregs of ourselves... whatever is left at the end of a day or task). The "fruit of the Spirit" is not pears or apples, but qualities like kindness, patience, gentleness, and love. These are the fruits that bless others most deeply.

Just as the pear tree gives freely, without calculation or reluctance, we are invited to live likewise, generously — not out of obligation, but out of the

abundance God grows within us. When we offer our best, even in small ways, we become part of a harvest that nourishes our community and grows God's Kingdom.

May we be people who don't waste what we've been given, who share gladly, and who offer the best fruit of our lives for the good of others.

Revd Suzie

Parish Admin Officer and Parochial Church Council Secretary

St Lawrence Church, Stratford-sub-Castle

'Are you looking for part-time remote, flexible work that you can carry out alongside your other commitments/whenever suits you?
Are you experienced in basic administrative tasks and email communications?'

Then read on... We are seeking a part-time employee to support our parish priest for 180 hours per calendar year. This role combines working from home with attending monthly meetings, plus five evening PCC meetings each year. The post is based on a standard 12-hour month, with an additional 36 flexible hours scheduled as needed.

The salary is £15 per hour (index-linked), plus 12.07% pay in lieu of holiday. Please note that a DBS check is required for this role.

For enquiries, terms of employment, or a full job description, please contact: Revd Suzie Allen — revsuzieallen@gmail.com.

A reminder that the church is open for core hours from
10am to 4pm.

You may find it open outside these hours, depending on the opener.

Services at St Lawrence Church during October

4 th October	11.00	Harvest Festival Parish Communion* followed by Coffee and Harvest Lunch in the Reading Room, see p7
11 th October	10.00	Animal Service
	18.00	Evensong
18 th October	10.00	Parish Communion*
25 th October	8.00	BCP Holy Communion
	10.00	Matins*
	09.45	Breakfast Church in Reading Room

**These services will be streamed and are only available to those who have requested a link. If you would like to attend a service please contact Jim Platt, stlawstreaming@gmail.com*

*Readings for all services can be found on the church website
www.saintlawrence.org.uk*

Evensong



**All are welcome at St Lawrence Church
for our Evensong Service
Sunday 11th October at 18.00**



The BCP Communion Service
All are welcome at this traditional reflective service
at 08.00 on Sunday 25th October
in the St Lawrence Chancel

Lay Pastoral Assistant is available for pastoral care
Jenny Stone - 07511 226828



Saint Lawrence Church
Stratford sub Castle

JOIN US FOR A

HARVEST *festival*

**4TH OCTOBER – 11AM
ST LAWRENCE CHURCH**

Followed by a lunch in the Reading Room.
Please RSVP for this to Chris Lush:
pittcairn@hotmail.co.uk 01722 324681

Tickets for the lunch are free, with an opportunity to make a donation to cover costs if you wish.

We will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Salisbury Food Bank during the service and there will be a chance to make a financial donation to Juba School in South Sudan.

A New Look Magazine

If you have got to this page, you will have seen some of the ideas we have had about making the magazine a little easier to produce and we hope you like it.

All those taking part in the services know what they are doing and really all we need to do is put the name of the service, time and place for those who are new or don't know. For those who want to read the day's readings that information can be found on the church website, www.saintlawrence.org.uk.

We are also giving up trying to keep track of rota changes and are using that space to show our gratitude for all the sterling work performed by the many who keep our church and community going.

Now we need some help from our readers. If you like reading our reports on Festivals (like Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas) why not become a reporter. We would like to form a list of our budding authors who would choose a festival service they will be attending to say what happened and perhaps take a picture or two to illustrate it. Could this be you? It is the many voices that make the magazine interesting for all readers. Could you take a turn?

Who knows what we will do next to make the magazine more interesting and viable. Have you a suggestion? Get in touch.

Heather Platt
Co-ordinating Editor

Forthcoming Wedding at St Lawrence



12th December

Sarah Best & Grahame Dailey

15.00

Please pray for this wedding couple as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

DON'T FORGET

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2am on Sunday 25th October.
Put your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday 24th.

Welcome to

Tony Lubman & Sue Reid who have moved into 7 St Lawrence Close from a little village called Tufton in Hampshire. Sue has given us the following:

We are married but given I'd had my name for 47 years, I saw no need to change it 😊. We're both retired now having had careers as senior managers in both the public and private sectors. We also farmed sheep and cattle for about 12 years. We are passionate about the environment having significantly improved our previous land for wildlife and we hope to do the same on the 10 acres behind our new home. We have been bowled over by the wonderful warm welcome we have received from everyone we've met so far in the village and we hope to meet more of you in the future.

Sue Reid

Ladies Together

Ladies Together met in September to hear about 150 years of the Mothers Union. Carrie Walsh, a trustee and long serving member, spoke eloquently and passionately about the simple beginnings in Hampshire by Mary Sumner and its growth to the worldwide campaigning organisation it is today – 4 million members across 84 countries! Fuelled with lemon drizzle cake from Glenys, and Carole's biscuits, the group were thoroughly absorbed with the broad scope of work carried out by the MU. With grateful thanks to Carrie for such an engaging morning.

Ladies Together will meet again on Thursday 8th October at 51 Balmoral Road (SP1 3PZ), 10.00. The speaker will be former Diocesan Education representative in Juba, South Sudan, John Foster, who will be talking about his visits to the school there. Ladies, even if you haven't been before you are very welcome, this will be a rare opportunity to hear first hand about Juba, and there will also be coffee and cake.

Group co-ordinators: Glenys 01722 697309 Jan 07919 050798
Jane Miller jane.e.miller@btinternet.com

Stratford School starts the new term

The bells at St Lawrence Church were ringing to welcome all back to school and to start the new term. That was what was expected, but there were a few new starts to this year. Only a third of the school were turning up at a time to help alleviate the quantity of traffic around the school sorted out by initials a-g etc. Then there was a change in uniform where outfits which can be worn throughout the whole day being worn.



As has become tradition, those of the parents and carers who were able to, dropped by St Lawrence Church for a few moments of reflection on the changes which were taking place with their children and themselves as they were having to come to terms with leaving the children in the care of their new school. Revd Suzie Allen started with welcoming everyone and to impress on them that they were welcome to treat this as their church where their children would be worshipping throughout their time at the school. She also mentioned that there was Breakfast Church taking place every fourth Sunday to which all were invited.



Back to School Candles

During the service each child's name from Butterfly Class plus three others new to the school, one new teacher and one new teaching assistant were read out and those present were given the opportunity of lighting a candle. They are Nellie, Bonnie, Bonnie, Rosalie (known as Rosa) Liv, Daisy, Emilia, Edie, Beatrix (known as Bea), Gruffydd, Lyra, Reuben, Ronan, Aurora, Daisy, Inaya, Stella, Maryann, Finley, Harriet and Amelia in Year 3, Isla in Year 5, Harriet in Year 6, Miss Veratau in Hedgehog Class and Mrs Angie Smith Teaching Assistant.

Revd Suzie gave a blessing that they might go in peace to begin a new day with a sense of joy and thanksgiving for all that has been and all that is to come.

Thanks to Carole Long for providing tea, coffee and biscuits for those who were able to stay and get to know each other or catch up after the summer break.

Heather Platt

St Lawrence Church Calendar - 2026

Harvest Festival followed by Ploughman's Lunch	4 th October 11.00
School Harvest Service	7 th October 14.15
Animal Service	11 th October 10.00
Benefice All Soul's Service (at St Francis)	1 st November 15.00
Remembrance Sunday Service	8 th November 10.00
Advent Evening Service	29 th November 18.00
Wedding of Sarah Best & Grahame Dailey	12 th December 15.00
Christingle	13 th December 10.00
School Christmas Service	17 th December 14.15
Carol service	20 th December 18.00
Outdoor nativity	Christmas Eve 11.00
Midnight in Bethlehem	Christmas Eve 21.00
Christmas Family Communion	Christmas Day 10.00

Families and Children at St Lawrence

Sunday 11th October
10.00 Animal Service

Sunday 25th October
Breakfast Church
09.45 in the Reading Room
with Revd Suzie Allen



Breakfast Church - 25th October

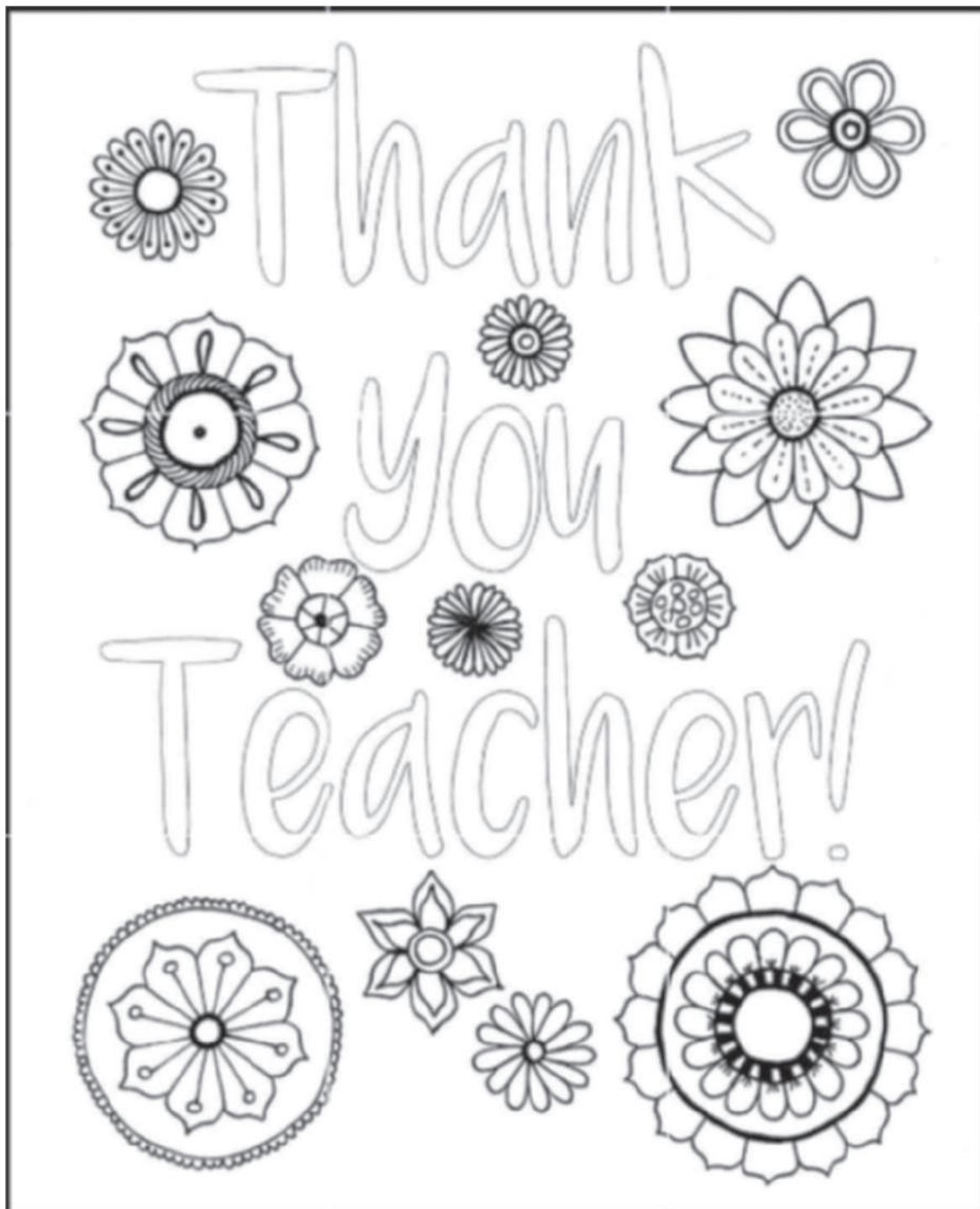
Come and join us on Sunday 25th October. There will be a yummy breakfast with fruit, muffins, Danish pastries etc.



The theme this month will be reflecting on the story Jesus told about The Talents! What might this mean for us today? We will think on this whilst engaging in our usual crafts or activities after our delicious breakfast! Everyone is welcome!

Children's Corner

Did you know that October 5th is World Teachers Day? We think teachers do a wonderful job and deserve lots of thank yous. Do you agree? Is your teacher supportive, informative, kind and considerate? Ask Mummy or Daddy to copy this picture onto a sheet of paper and then you can colour it in and give it to your teacher to show your appreciation.



Do you know who else are good teachers? Your parents of course and, we trust, your grandparents, and you might like to thank them as well because October 4th is World Grandparents Day! .



Saint Lawrence Church
Stratford sub Castle

ANIMAL SERVICE

11th October - 10 am
St Lawrence Church

Bring your pets - all species welcome!

Join us to give thanks for your furry friends. We will have a guest speaker from the Dogs Trust and there will be a collection in aid of their work.



Church in the Park Sunday 13th September

Our Benefice churches (St Francis, Hope and St Lawrence) joined together on Sunday for a 'Church in the Park' event in Victoria Park. The idea was to increase awareness of our churches and to invite people to come and explore what our faith meant through a variety of stalls and to join in a relaxed style of worship. Using St Francis of Assisi and his love of nature and creation as a theme there was a great selection of tents covering: "What is Faith?", Youth activities at St Francis Church, 'What's on' information on clubs and groups at St



Francis, tents with creative activities around the theme of nature and creation for adults and children, the Refresh tent with a delicious selection of cakes and the opportunity for personal prayer. There was a relaxed service accompanied by guitars and vocalists and everyone was impressed by the joyous singing of the very enthusiastic Youth Group. The story of St Francis of Assisi was told using puppets.



After a drizzly start during set up the rain cleared and we enjoyed a warm morning which encouraged curious passers by to drop in and find out what was going on. It was also a great opportunity to meet and talk with members from St Francis and Hope Churches.

From St Lawrence Church we provided an information tent with colourful displays on our Church Services, our Parish Magazine, the history of St Lawrence and particular features of the church, information on the



Commonwealth Graves and ANZAC day, Friends of St Lawrence and the support they give in helping to maintain the church. Community involvement and past and future events were also displayed. Revd Sandra in the gazebo next door to us represented our Breakfast Church with a range of activities including making origami animals and fishing for ducks and fish (all caught and released) in a plastic pond which was very popular with children. Breakfast Church is held on the fourth Sunday of the month in the Reading Room starting at 9.45am.



A successful and inspiring two hours and we very much hope it will be repeated next year.

Carrie Walsh and Revd Sandra Williams

It's that time of year again for the House of Opportunity Christmas Box Appeal.

Christmas is a very special time of year for us all but particularly for the children in Southeast Europe when they receive shoe boxes filled with gifts from the *House of Opportunity*.

Leaflets telling you more about the boxes are available in church or from myself. The leaflets give you information on what to buy to put in the boxes whether for a baby, child or adult as shown on the right. I do have several shoe boxes which I am happy to pass on to any of you or perhaps you would prefer to give gifts to me to pack for you. All completed boxes must be with me by the latest Tuesday 24th November.

house of opportunity		Category	
☐ Girl 0 - 1	☐ Girl 7 - 10	☐ Boy 0 - 1	☐ Boy 7 - 10
☐ Girl 2 - 3	☐ Girl 11 - 15	☐ Boy 2 - 3	☐ Boy 11 - 15
☐ Girl 4 - 6	☐ Woman	☐ Boy 4 - 6	☐ Man
Items in this box:			
☐ Baby-grows	☐ Gloves / hat / scarf	☐ Sweets	
☐ Candles	☐ Household tools	☐ Soap / shampoo	
☐ Cleaning / baby wipes	☐ Jewellery / hair accessories	☐ Toothpaste / toothbrush	
☐ Comb/brush	☐ Make-up	☐ Toy cars / vehicles	
☐ Deodorant	☐ Notepad / colouring book	☐ Underwear / socks	
☐ Dolls / teddies	☐ Pens / pencils	Other	
☐ Eraser / sharpener / ruler	☐ Razors / shaving gel		
☐ Face cloth / sponge	☐ Sewing kit		

Thank you

Heather Balston, hbalston@gmail.com

St Lawrence Church Porch Giving Basket

There is always a box in the porch of St Lawrence Church. Please feel free to add donations for both the **Foodbank** and **Alabaré** at any time. They will be collected and delivered to the appropriate charity.



Thank you so much for your latest donations to the Foodbank which amounted to 63.7 kg and were gratefully received.

Please see the Harvest Appeal on p17 for a list of items that have been requested this month:

Heather Platt

Alabaré thank you



Thank you from Alabaré for the four bags of groceries that I was able to deliver to them in August. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Carole Long

There is no change to the list of needs but Carole has asked them to review it for next month.

Food

Tinned Meals - stews, mince etc.
Tinned soups/baked beans/vegetables
Coffee, sugar
Long Life Milk, Cheese/Butter
Pasta sauces
Cooking sauces (sweet & sour, black bean, casserole type)

Toiletries

Deodorant
Sunblock
(no other toiletries requested this month)

Clothing
Hats, gloves, scarves
men's coats

Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 450 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

Fruit juice (long life)

Tinned Meat

Tinned Meal Stew/Chilli/Vegi

Tinned Veg

Packet Pud Jelly/Angel delight

Chocolate & treats

Jams and Spreads

Tinned Rice pudding/ custard

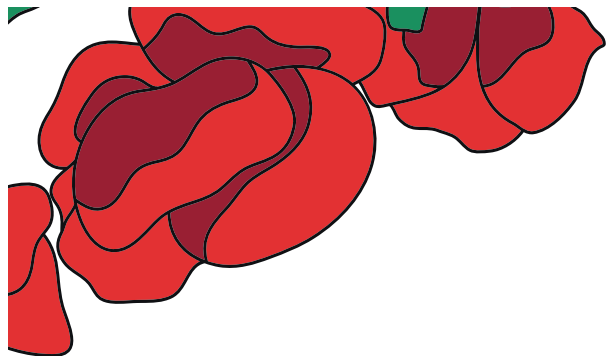
Deodorant

2in1 Shampoo/Conditioner

SALISBURY FOODBANK
salisbury.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1190323).





Saint Lawrence Church
Stratford sub Castle

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Commemorating the sacrifices of members of the armed
forces and of civilians in times of war.

10am, Sunday 8th November
St Lawrence Church

Refreshments in the
Reading Room following
the service

All are welcome





It's Advent – Time for Christmas Carols!

**Tuesday 1st December
7.15 – 8.45
4 Victoria Road, SP1 3NG**

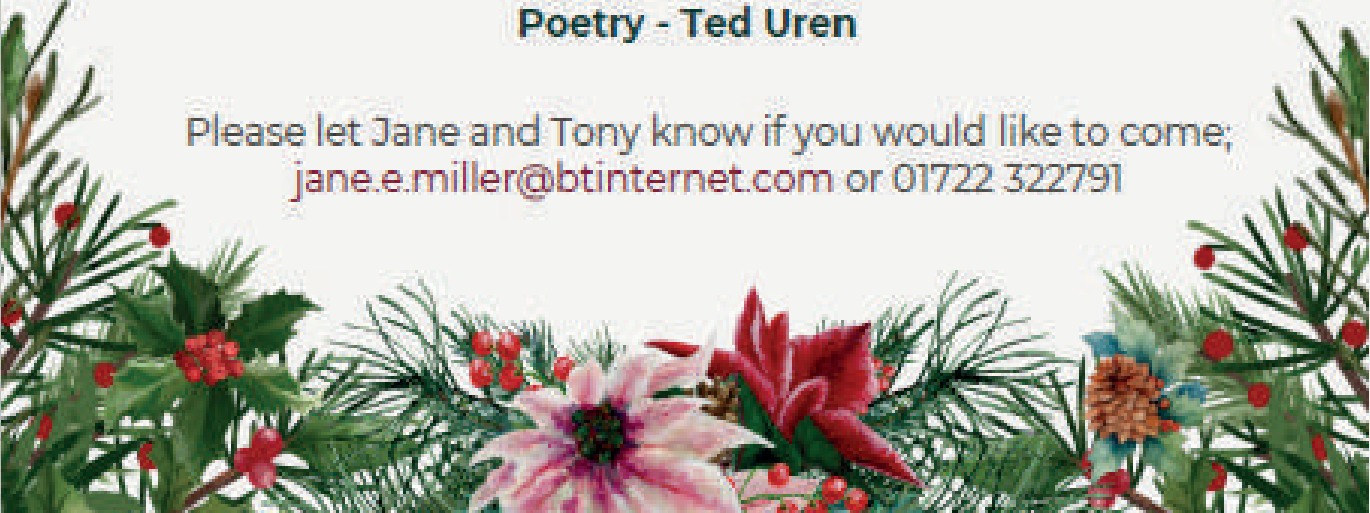
Wine, Mince Pies & Song

You are warmly invited to an evening in celebration of Christmas Carols. What are Carols and why do we sing them? What is the significance of holly and ivy, and was there really a partridge in a pear tree..?

Looking at traditional carols we will find out more about their history and the words, and finish the evening with a good sing song!

**Hosted by Jane & Tony Miller
Piano - Helen Lucas
Poetry - Ted Uren**

Please let Jane and Tony know if you would like to come;
jane.e.miller@btinternet.com or 01722 322791



**A FUNDRAISING EVENT by
The Friends of St Lawrence Church
Registered Charity no.1063271**

Friday 2nd October 2026 at 7.30 pm

**in the Reading Room, Stratford Road,
Stratford sub Castle, SP1 3LL**

“Can we make Stratford sub Castle a Blue Zone?”

A Blue Zone is defined as an area of the world where people live longer, healthier lives – often reaching 100 years and beyond.

Join local resident Clare Waddell for an engaging and practical talk on how simple changes in diet and lifestyle can make a major difference to both physical and mental wellbeing.



Clare holds a First-Class degree in nutrition, as well as a State Registration in Dietetics, and has worked in nutrition for 30 years.

=====

**Tickets: £10 FOSL members, £15 non-members
(includes wine or soft drink after the talk)**

**Please contact: Alix Smith 07590 260096
or email alix.smith@me.com**

Stratford sub Castle Summer Sunday Cafés – End of the Season 2026

After the overwhelming success of our August café, we made sure we had extra seating and extra cakes for our September café, which was the last for this summer season.

Once again, we broke all records since we began in 2013, with proceeds amounting to £679 being donated to Old Sarum & Longhedge Pantry.

What a great summer season we have had.....

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for continuing to support the cafés, whether helping, donating items or just coming along to enjoy the friendly atmosphere. After all, it couldn't happen without you.

LOOKING AHEAD - We will of course be holding our **Lunchtime Festive Christmas Cafe on SATURDAY 5th December (11.00am to 2.00pm)** so make a note in your diary to join us then.

Watch out for details nearer the time in the monthly Parish Magazines, on our village website www.stratfordsubcastle.org.uk (under Groups/cafe) and our village noticeboard.



Once again, my sincere thanks to everyone for your continued support. I look forward to seeing you in December.

*Barbara Mayall – Café Co-ordinator
(Tel: 01722 411337)*

Woodford Valley Kitchen Garden Market

Saturday 3rd October, from 9:00-11:30 in Woodford Parish Hall

The valley market runs on the first Saturday of the month (for the latest news, follow the market on its Facebook page). It offers bacon baps, coffee, in a café area; alongside fresh meat, garden honey, fruit & veg and various preserves and baked produce. There are craft stalls too.

Stratford sub Castle Guild

Join us for the next Guild meeting on

Wednesday 14 October

at 7.30 pm in the Reading Room

“Unsung Heroes – Animals in War”



Speaker Phil Whitemore

Heart-rending stories of how animals have served the Armed Forces in wartime from ancient times to recent conflicts and how they were cared for and recognised with awards and memorials.

Visitor & new member enquiries:
please contact Jenny Stone 07511 226828
View the Guild's latest programme on
www.stratfordsubcastle.org.uk

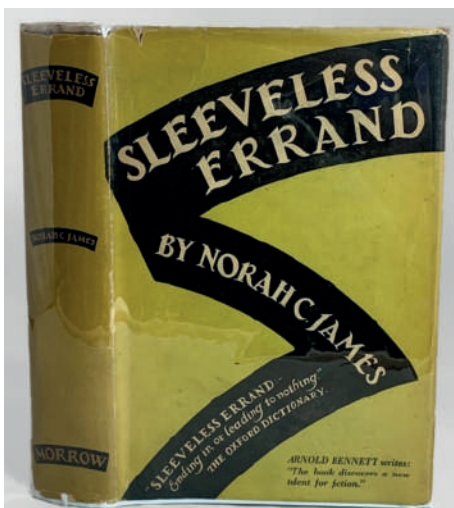
Censored

Miranda Pender

Miranda told us of the intriguing tale of Norah C. James, who is a past member of her wider family, and the obscenity trial of 1929.

Norah was born in London in 1895, into a wealthy, but disjointed family. She was left with a very negative view of marriage. She was also deeply affected by a history of mental health in her family.

Before taking up writing Norah had numerous careers, including as a nurse during the First World War, a trade union organiser for civil servants, and a journalist. Eventually she became the advertising manager for a British publisher. She was also a political activist which brought her into conflict with the authorities.



In 1929 Norah wrote her first novel called "Sleeveless Errand". In it she describes the disillusionment of the 'Lost Generation' in post-World War I London, looking at the mental health and social mores of the time. It contained gritty dialogue and a suicide pact. Initially the book sold well. But the Home Secretary ordered a prosecution under the Obscene Publications Act 1857. Norah was not prosecuted but her publisher was, for which later, when she became wealthy, she compensated him.

At the trial the Prosecutor said the book contained "conversations of persons with no idea of morality who were mainly drunk using foul language". The defence argued it merely reflected the behaviour of certain sections of society. It was ruled obscene for 'excessive' use of 'bad language' and all but a few representative copies were ordered to be destroyed. However, it was later published in Paris and New York and was a great success, being sought after by English tourists especially, who couldn't buy it in the UK.

Notoriety did no harm to Norah's later literary career. She wrote over 60 novels, many of which were hospital romances considered "racy" rather than obscene.

Norah was never deemed to be a great literary author and her books are now almost unobtainable and she is virtually unknown. Miranda, who has read them, said that whilst some of the language used was racist and sexist and would be unacceptable today, the obscenity “would not turn a hair”. Miranda felt that Norah wanted to portray real life as she saw it, but that was unacceptable to the establishment at that time.

The talk concluded with two songs composed and sung by Miranda to the accompaniment of her guitar. The songs were inspired by and reflected certain aspects of Norah’s story.

Our next meeting is 14th October when Phil Whitemore, recounts the heart-rending stories of how animals have served the Armed Forces in wartime from ancient times to recent conflicts and how they were cared for and recognised with awards and memorials.

Judith Kennard



People's Emergency Briefing

Reading Room – Friday 23rd October

Thank you to all those people who have already signed up to attend my screening of this film on the factual elements on the topic of Climate Change. Whatever your views, there is sure to be something to learn from this film of a conference held last November. Of course, since then, we have experienced a record-breaking hot summer with horrible wildfires, and before that, we experienced a seemingly endless pattern of rain storms last winter. Things do not seem to be getting better.

The film starts at 7.30pm, in the Reading Room, on 23rd October, and is free to attend (there will be opportunity to contribute to covering costs, but it is entirely voluntary). Please register with me so I know how many folks to expect.

After the film, I will be serving tea & coffee and there will be ample opportunity to discuss what we have seen, and swap ideas (without commitment) on what we can do in response.

The aim is that this will be a party politics-free zone, and we can concentrate on the facts and the evidence presented in the film. Maybe we can share some practical steps that each of us, as individuals, can take. If you decide to do nothing, then that is fine, but taken in knowledge of the facts.

Richard Death, RNDeath@hotmail.com

Cheese + Wine Evening with a Beetle Drive + Raffle

on Friday 16th October 2026

starting at 7.00pm

in The Reading Room

Stratford sub Castle SP1 3LL

£20 entry ticket (£15 for children under 17) includes your first drink, tasty cheeses, bread, biscuits and pickles as well as entry to the Beetle Drive with prizes to be won!

Come with a team of 4 or join a team on the evening.

You will be helping raise funds for

WILTSHIRE CREATIVE,

in partnership with local organisations,

to subsidise pantomime tickets for children

please email Kirsty for tickets:

kirstydudin2020@gmail.com



THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN



October 1 - 3 at 7.30pm
with a matinée on 3rd at 2.30pm

Adapted by Rachel Wagstaff and Duncan Abel
from the bestselling novel by Paula Hawkins and
the DreamWorks film of the same name, this
tense thriller of possible murder and unreliable
witnesses will have you on the edge of your
seat.

Tickets available from Salisbury Information Centre on 01722
342860 or online at
www.ticketsource.co.uk/studiotheatresalisbury

The word theatre comes from the Greeks. It means the seeing place. It is the place people come to see the truth about life and the social situation.

Stella Adler



STRATFORD SUB CASTLE GARDEN CLUB

‘Putting The Garden To Bed For The Winter’

Roger Hiron

**THURSDAY 29th October 2026
7.15 pm for 7.30 pm**

Reading Room, Stratford sub Castle SP1 3LL
opposite St. Lawrence Church

TEA AND BISCUITS WILL FOLLOW.
VISITORS, NEW MEMBERS, ALL WELCOME

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 26th November 2026

Please remember to renew your membership

For more information or help getting to the event Contact:

Rob Barclay 07867655642 or
robbarclay1@googlemail.com

Unveiling the Refurbished Noticeboard

The newly refurbished village noticeboard was officially unveiled on the 9th September 2026 before the first meeting of the new 2026-27 Guild season, by local councillor John Wells and Elizabeth Byford, a long-standing resident and currently the oldest Guild member.

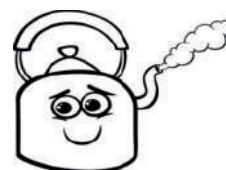


Witnessing the unveiling were Steve Mayall and his original build team, the current Guild committee, and Barbara Mayall (Guild Chair in 2016 when the noticeboard was erected).

The Guild hopes the noticeboard continues to be a well-used village resource for many, many years to come.

Terry Ereira

Kettle's On Coffee Mornings 2027



Kettle's On is a friendly coffee morning held on the third Wednesday of the month from January to April, 10.00 am until 11.30 am approximately.

Although it is organised by the congregation of St Lawrence Church, the morning is for the whole village community. It is a lovely way to meet new people in an informal and friendly way.

The dates next year will be: January 20th
 February 17th
 March 17th
 April 21st

If anyone would like to offer to host, just tea/coffee and biscuits, or wants to know more, please contact Christine Goldsmith on 01722 332169.

On behalf of past and future hosts, it would be great to see you.

Christine Goldsmith



Learn about our South Sudan Partnership

Our partners from South Sudan, Angelina Nyajima Simon Jial and James Wani are presenting a Road Show this month.

Date: Wednesday 14th October

Time: 19:00-21:30

Venue: St Francis Church, 3 Beatrice Road, Salisbury, SP1 3PN

This is a not-to-be-missed chance to meet and hear directly from Christian Aid staff and partners in South Sudan about how churches and communities are responding to immense pressures and bringing communities together in peace-building and resilience. James will bring a wide view of Christian Aid's work across South Sudan and how your support is making a difference. Angelina is the founder and director of Hope Restoration South Sudan and her work draws on her lived experience to empower vulnerable populations affected by conflict, displacement, and natural disasters in South Sudan. We will be able to reflect together on the amazing roles churches can have in making a difference, and meet others committed to that vision both locally and globally.

50s and Beyond

Please join in one of our upcoming '50s and Beyond' events. Don't forget to invite family, friends and neighbours; the more the merrier!

Monday, October 12th 12:30pm

Meet us for Lunch at Grillado, 68 Castle St, Salisbury. A main and a drink are just £12.99. Starters and dessert are also available. Preorders are due October 5th To place your order, or for more information, Contact Gordon Slack at copsewood02@btinternet.com or 07708 835303.

To find out more, or to be added to the email distribution list, contact kris@richardson.net or any of the organisers.

GRAYS STONE CARVING STUDIO



BESPOKE MEMORIALS & INSCRIPTIONS

**Creating memorials of celebration
and commemoration**

Individually designed, hand drawn and carved,
using traditional hand tools and techniques.
Made in collaboration with you.

Unit 2, Knowle Farm, Bowerchalke, Salisbury SP5 5BP
www.grays-stone-carving.co.uk - admin@grays-stone-carving.co.uk
Henry M: 07766 464048 Tam M: 07919 258708



Lewis Fletcher Garden Services

NEED HELP WITH YOUR GARDEN?

- LAWN MOWING
- HEDGE CUTTING
- GARDEN MAINTENANCE
- PRESSURE WASHING
- LANDSCAPING JOBS
- AND MORE!

CONTACT TODAY:

PHONE: 07886385912
EMAIL: LEWISFGS@GMAIL.COM



**M 2
PLUMBING**

- 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
- FAMILY RUN BUSINESS
- FULLY INSURED
- HEATING & HOT WATER PROBLEMS
- BATHROOM & SHOWER REFURBS
- ALL MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS
- BLOCKED DRAINS
- TOILETS & TAPS • LEAKS

DAVID MILLER
LUKE MILLER

M2PLUMBERS@OUTLOOK.COM
07818 046222

**Liam Bowen
Painter and
Decorator**

**Free Estimates
Competitive
Rates**



Mobile 07712 284618

**City and Guilds
Qualified**

Salisbury Flower Shed

Fresh flowers for all occasions
59G Old Sarum Business Park
Salisbury, SP4 6DZ
Tel: 01722 701041
Mobile: 07977 126076
salisburyflowershed@gmail.com
www.thesalisburyflowershed.co.uk



**YOUR LOCAL FULLY QUALIFIED
PLUMBER AND HEATING ENGINEER**

Over 30 years experience

- Gas & Oil
- Plumbing
- Heating
- Boiler & Cooker Servicing

**Same day and emergency service
available. No call out charge**

Please contact Harvey on 07767887788
or contactrcm@gmail.com



Gas Safe Registration no 133743



Can I Help You?

Home and Garden Maintenance

Tony Gooch

Call me on:

Mob: 07976 392064

‘Ourn’

Stratford sub Castle

Salisbury

SP1 3LQ

goochanthony353@gmail.com

D H TREES



ALL ASPECTS OF TREE SURGERY

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| ➤ SURGERY | ➤ SITE CLEARANCE |
| ➤ FELLING | ➤ PLANTING |
| ➤ DISMANTLING | ➤ TREE PRESERVATION |
| ➤ PRUNING | ➤ GRASS CUTTING |
| ➤ HEDGE CUTTING | ➤ FREE QUOTATIONS |

ALL WORK FULLY INSURED

01722 327000 or 07768 016865

dhtrees@btinternet.com

QUALITY KITCHEN MAKEOVERS

by simply replacing the doors and worktops

DREAM DOORS®
NEW LIFE FOR OLD KITCHENS



MODERN

CLASSIC

TRADITIONAL

CONTEMPORARY

- › Up to 50% less than a new fully fitted kitchen
- › Replacement kitchen doors
- › Cost effective made to measure solution
- › Worktops and appliances
- › Quick installation in 2-3 days by local professionals

9 The Maltings,
Salisbury,
SP1 1BD

Call us now for a free estimate:

01722 701769

Checkatrade.com 9.8/10
Where reputation matters

dreamdoors.co.uk

THE UK'S #1 KITCHEN MAKEOVER COMPANY



C2037



159485

CIPHE

Aquagas Salisbury

Plumbing and Heating



Gas & Oil Maintenance

Boiler Replacements

Bathroom Installations

Solar Heating

All renewable Energies

Installation - Repairs - Services



For a competitive quote contact us on:

01722 704497 or 07966 156197

Info@aquagassalisbury.co.uk

Unit 5, Glenmore Business Park, Telford Road, Churchfields



Friendly IT Services

- Problems with your computer?
- Need something set up on your computer, tablet or phone?
- Need help with your smart equipment such as TV's and speakers?
- Or just want to learn how to use them?

**Friendly and convenient home visits
by a female IT professional.**

Email: pippa@itangelsalisbury.com
Website: www.itangelsalisbury.com

07855 115041

Advertise your Business or Service

As can be seen we have a
wide range of adverts and
the magazine is delivered to
all the residents of
Stratford sub Castle

If you would like to be included
contact Karen Baxter on
karen.baxter64@yahoo.co.uk

Or 07930 507506



The Sewing Nook

*Alterations/Repairs/
New Garments
by
Jacqui Adlam*

*Orchard lodge, Gomeldon Rd
Winterbourne Gunner
07909 944004
jacquiadlam@gmail.com
www.the-sewing-nook.com*



For all your
DOMESTIC APPLIANCE
sales, spares & repairs

 **BAILEYS**

www.callbaileys.com 01722 323457

 **euronics** Practical members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters



**LOCAL, TRUSTED
HANDYMAN
SERVICES**

FOR ALL YOUR DOMESTIC NEEDS!

- ✓ Painting & Decorating
- ✓ Fence & Gate
Construction & Repair
- ✓ Patios, Paths & Steps
- ✓ Garden Maintenance
- ✓ Bathrooms Fitted
- ✓ Gas Heating
- ✓ Plumbing
- ✓ Electrical



CALL NOW FOR A FREE ESTIMATE!

-  07946 700 401 - Nick
-  info@volopropertymaintenanceltd.co.uk
-  www.volopropertymaintenanceltd.co.uk
-  www.facebook.com/volopropertymaintenanceltd.co.uk



SPARSHOLT
Local, Trusted

Wiltshire College
& University Centre

BUILDING HEROES





Fairfax House Residential Care Home

Where a caring welcome awaits

Fairfax House is a 20 bedroom, friendly, family-owned residential care home situated in the beautiful city of Salisbury.

We aim to provide a 'home from home' atmosphere and exceptional care.



All Inclusive
Fees



Person-Centred
Care



Residential
Care



Dementia
Care



Respite
Care



Day
Care

We understand that everyone is unique and that their personal choice comes first.



85 Castle Road | Salisbury | SP1 3RW | manager@fairfaxhousecare.co.uk

www.fairfaxhousecare.co.uk • 01722 332 846

The Community in Stratford sub Castle

Listed below is the wide range of activities that are available to all, wherever they live. Each organisation welcomes new members.

The **Friends of St Lawrence Church** (Registered Charity no. 1063271) raises funds for the upkeep of our historic church and grounds through the sale of tickets for events and Gift Aided subscriptions.

Contact: Rosemary Winson (Membership Secretary) 01722 325183

The **Garden Club** is open to everyone interested in gardens, gardening and plants. It is especially useful if you are new to the area.

Details: Last Thursday in the month September to June 19.30 (no mtg December; February at 2.30pm) in the Reading Room. **Contact: Rob Barclay 07867 655642**

The **Stratford sub Castle Guild** is a friendly group of men and women who meet to hear talks on an eclectic range of subjects.

Details: 2nd Wednesday in the month September to June 19.30 (except January & February 2nd Thursday at 14.00) in the Reading Room.

Contact: Jenny Stone 07511 226828

The **History Group** came about partly because of the wealth of material left by long-time residents which needed cataloguing. But the rich history of our parish is a fertile topic for further research and talks are arranged from time to time.

Contact: Barbara Mayall 01722 411337

Join the **Bell Ringing** team, an activity that stimulates the brain, helps keep you fit and makes a glorious sound.

Details: Practice nights Mondays. 19.30 - 21.00.

Contact: Alison Clayton (Bell Ringing Tower Captain) 01722 446634

Come along to our **Summer Sunday Cafés** in the Reading Room and meet up with neighbours for tea/coffee, cakes and a chat. Better still, volunteer to help. All proceeds to local charities.

Details: Once a month, May to September plus a Christmas Special.

Contact: Barbara Mayall (Café Coordinator) 01722 411337

The **St Lawrence Flower Team** is a friendly group of flower arrangers who decorate our (St Lawrence) church in a sustainable way.

Contact: Carrie Walsh 07970 284629

Details of the above can be found on our informative **Village Website:**

www.stratfordsubcastle.org.uk which features up-to-date Local News incl road closures; Bin collection dates; Local Events; Lost & Found; Photo Albums; Walks & Local History. **Contact** sscvillagewebsite@gmail.com

Defibrillator Guardian Rota : October

If you use the defibrillator or notice a problem with it please report it to:
Rosemary Winson Tel: 01722 325183 Email: rosemary.winson@gmail.com