



Stockbridge Parish Council Newsletter

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Trout n'About - 6th August 2023

Trout'n'About returns to Stockbridge for its 16th year on Sunday August 6th. Over the years the festival has grown in popularity and last year, despite the fallow years during lock down, attracted over 8000 visitors during the course of the day. This year that success was mirrored in the event being oversubscribed by local traders wishing to have a presence on the High Street. However the Trout'n'About committee took the decision to restrict the stalls to 100. This is far fewer stalls than were accommodated prior to lockdown but the Committee felt it that this would provide a better balance for the day. In addition to the High Street activities there will be an extra focus on the Recreation Ground, known for the day as 'The Festival



Field . The Festival Field will accommodate food-to-go stalls and a stage with entertainment. Free deckchairs and a range of refreshments will be available from the Football Clubhouse. The Trout'n'About committee is grateful for the support of the Recreation Ground Trust in making this part of the festival possible.

High Street businesses has shown their support by taking out adverts in the Trout'n'About programme and offering raffle prizes. This additional income to the festival will mean that post event and in line with the primary purpose of the event, the Trout'n'About committee will once again be able to furnish grants to good causes in the SO20 post-code. Over the years these grants have totalled over £50k.

Trout'n'About is now firmly established as one of the highlights in the events calendar of the Test Valley. The event is a wonderful opportunity to showcase Stockbridge at its best and it attracts guests from far and wide. Of course, alongside the local business community the festival's success is in no small part due to the support of the people in the Parish. The Committee knows that in some ways the day can be an inconvenience to Stockbridge residents and would like to thank them in advance for their understanding. We are also incredibly grateful for the teams of local volunteers and supporters from Stockbridge who bring to the event their wholehearted energy and tireless hard-work to ensure a successful day.

All that is left now is to hope for good weather on the day and that everyone will have a wonderful and memorable Trout'n'About 2023





The Trout Pond



Supported by
Test Valley
Borough Council

The Council is pleased to confirm that the project to re-render the trout pond has been completed. The Environment Agency agreed at the end of March to issue the necessary licences and the Council was fortunate that the contractor was available to undertake the work in April because the Fishing Club could not have allowed it to have taken place in May due to the fish spawning cycle.

The contractors had to install a dam to hold the water back from the walls and to protect the fish from debris before the re-rendering works could take place. The work involved removing all the weeds, debris and mortar from the sides of the pond, making good the places where bricks had fallen

away, cleaning the brickwork, spraying it with fungicide (EA approved) and then replacing the render. The only complication was a mother duck and her ducklings. The contractor's staff admitted that taking steps to avoid the ducklings was something that had not been included in their risk assessments! They even had to install a ramp to help the ducklings into the water when the dam was in situ.

Stockbridge Parish Council put together a "patchwork" of contributors for this project and would very much like to like to thank all of the following for their support: TVBC, HCC, Houghton Fishing Club, Orvis, The Grosvenor Hotel and Robjents.

Sharing information to prevent crime is an important way the Stockbridge traders can help each other.

Stopwatch WhatsApp Group for traders

As a crime prevention measure the Stockbridge traders will be taking up their mobile phones to pass along information to each other regarding any suspicious activity that they might be aware of. Prevention is always better than the complications of trying to catch a perpetrator and the WhatsApp group will enable traders to pick up quickly any concerning information.

The Parish Council was made aware of a WhatsApp group that was started by the Romsey TC which was successfully sharing information. The group for Stockbridge Traders will be developed from a similar one with the SBA but it will be open for non-SBA members. Any trader who would like further information should contact www.stockbridgebusiness.co.uk



The Lantern Arch Appeal in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Lantern Arch has now been installed on the Church gate and it is an attractive and fitting tribute to the Platinum Jubilee of the late Queen. The Parish Council would like to thank the impressive number of community contributors to the appeal. As a result of the community's generosity just over £5600 was raised. This money was used to pay for

the planning, design, for Mr Grobb the blacksmith's excellent work and for the electricians. A further electrical safety switch needs to be installed to complete the project.

The Council would like to thank those involved in the project including, Mr A Lawrence, Mrs S Milligan, Mr D Williams and Mr K Candler.



Your New Councillors

Stockbridge Parish Council and Test Valley Borough Council Cllrs were standing for election in May of this year. In the event the Parish Council election was uncontested so those who stood for election automatically became Councillors. There were 4 remaining Councillor positions and the Council has co-opted two Councillors for these. There are 2 places remaining. Anyone who would like to stand should contact the Clerk. Cllr Powell joined the Council in January and stood for election. Cllr Ian Jeffery is a Conservative Test Valley Councillor for the Mid Test Ward and will have a special interest in Stockbridge.

Councillor Derek Smith joined the Council at the May meeting. He is a long-term resident of Stockbridge having been born in the village and has a number of family members resident here. Joining the Council is in keeping with Derek's interest in village life as he holds a number of Stockbridge "jobs" including being

the 'Steeplekeeper' at St. Peter's Church and helps run the Stockbridge Neighbourcare. Cllr Smith has agreed to be the Councillor responsible for the cemetery. This is Cllr Smith's second time as a Cllr.



Councillor Bob Powell and his wife Lucy moved here from London almost two years ago.

Having effectively retired after selling a successful events business Bob was determined to put his free time into helping his new local community. "As well as being a councillor, I am now involved both as Chair Stockbridge Football Club

and Chair of The Trout n'About organising committee. These roles alongside that of a councillor are putting my free time to good use and I hope to make a positive difference".

He aims to bring his energy and experience to assisting with any issues for the Stockbridge community.



Councillor Alan Marshall joined the Council at the May meeting. He has spent the majority of his career working in the international telecommunications and financial services industries. Recently he has indulged his love of classic cars, starting a storage business and restoring old cars to their former glory.

He moved to the Test Valley area

twenty years ago and now lives in Stockbridge.

Alan thinks Stockbridge is unique and should be conserved. He has a particular interest in support for small businesses, keeping our water clean and rewinding the countryside. Alan will be responsible for the lengthsman and the environment.



Councillor Ian Jeffrey was re-elected as the Conservative Cllr for the Mid Test ward for TVBC in May and he will be Stockbridge's Cllr for Borough matters.

Cllr Jeffrey was a Royal Navy Weapons Engineer Officer for 37 years. After retiring from the Navy, he worked as a diplomat in Brussels as Deputy Director of the NATO Headquarters Communications and

Information Systems Staff.

Cllr Jeffrey has served for eight years as a TVBC Cllr with Cabinet experience for Communities and Leisure, and Democracy and Governance, and he currently Chairs the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

He and his wife live in Up Somborne.





What's on in Stockbridge

When	Where	What
7th July	S'bridge Cinema	Tar
12th July	S'bridge Cinema	The Fabelmand
15th July	St Peter's Church	From Bohemia to Broadway, Stockbridge Music
20th July	Town Hall	Parish Council Meeting
6th August	High Street & Rec Grd	Trout N'About
23 August	S'bridge Cinema	She Said
3rd September	Houghton Lodge	Music on the Test 2023
21st September	Town Hall	Parish Council Meeting
22nd September	St Peter's Church	Spiritato, Stockbridge Music

Please contact the Clerk if you would like your event included in this listing.

HCC's High Street Survey



The parking survey that HCC has carried out on the High Street has been a matter of concern for a number of residents including many who could not access the survey or who did not receive it.

The Council has written to HCC highlighting these and the concerns of the Council and has asked for a meeting with HCC in order to agree an appropriate way forward.

The Council is concerned that the survey was not made available broadly enough to include all voices in Stockbridge and it feels that everyone should have a say in such an important aspect of Stockbridge's community life.

HCC has not confirmed the reason behind the survey but it is hoped that the outcome will be positive for the community.

A Quick Round- up of News

Cllr Derek Halle has been elected as Chair of the Parish Council with **Cllr Michael Porter** as Deputy. The Council offers them both support in their new roles. The Council would like to thank those outgoing members for their commitment and service: Alex Lawrence, Guy Boney, Iain Bell and James Leslie. The Council is waiting for a quotation for the work on **Old London Rd**. HCC had suggested that this would be straightforward but in fact a number of authorities (eg: conservation and utilities) need to be contacted to make sure the final quotation is robust. The Council is reviving **Speedwatch** to encourage lower traffic speeds through Stockbridge. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to take part. **Lancaster House** is nearing transfer completion and the Council is considering setting up a separate Trust for the site. If you would like to be involved in the project contact the Clerk. The Council has met with Sparsholt College students who will be putting forward designs for the **Blandford Row Pocket Park**. The students designs will be presented for the community and the community's preferred choice will be taken forward. Do you know of **anyone who could deliver this newsletter?** Good rates offered and all maps. Please contact the Clerk (clerk@stockbridgeparishcouncil.org.uk).

