



Introduction: As the morning mist lingers a little longer over the fields and the leaves begin to turn copper and gold, October has officially arrived here in West Stafford. We have lots to look forward to this month including candlelight concerts, Coffee and Chat and a horticultural extravaganza.

Have a read and see what's happening right on your doorstep this month.

Upcoming events...

Candlelight church concert

Saturday 10th October 6pm to 8pm.

Jacque Walton and Sian Edwards are trekking part of the Great Wall of China to raise funds for Julias House Children's Charity the next event will be in St Andrews Church West Stafford - a candlelight concert with local artist Nina Garcia. Tickets will be £15pp to include a glass of wine or soft drink and available from sian_edwards@btconnect.com/07703774375 or Jacque Walton jacque.walton@outlook.com/07968633834

Bockhampton & District Horticultural Association

Friday 23rd October 7:30pm

The next event will be held in West Stafford Village Hall, West Stafford, where we welcome Phil Broomfield to present a talk on the developments at Thomas Hardys Gardens Max Gate. This event is free to all current members; we welcome none members £5pp pre-booking is not necessary. If you would like to consider becoming a member the rest of the year and 2027 will be £7.50, please contact the membership secretary adrian-edwards@btconnect.com.

Remembrance & Refreshments

Sunday 8th November

A short Service will take place outside the Village Hall (wet weather - inside). Gather 1045 hrs; Service starts at 1055hrs sharp to observe the Two Minutes silence at 1100 hrs. Following the Service there will be complementary refreshments in the hall: sherry or tea/coffee. All are welcome for this community Memorial Service to remember and honour those who gave their lives for us.

Church news...



MORNING PRAYER

Every Tuesday at 9.30am - all welcome.

PRIVATE PRAYER & REFLECTION

The church is open every day from 10am to 4pm.

HOME COMMUNION

If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home, then please contact the vicar - details below. Gluten free wafers are available.

October Services

Refreshments afterwards

4th - 10.30am Morning Prayer

11th - 4pm Harvest Thanksgiving Service

18th - 10.30am Matins

25th - 4pm Evensong

Thank You to all those who came along to the **Churchyard Working Party** to help with the Autumn gardening work.

Coffee & Chat - Saturday 17th October from 10am to noon. All welcome.

Riders & Striders - 23 folk visited our church. A Thank You to the Scott family & Paul Johnson, and our Stewards who offered a warm welcome & refreshments. The amount raised has yet to be confirmed.

Dates for your diary...

Saturday 10th October – Candlelight church concert

Sunday 11th October 7:30 Pipeline theatre - George and the Drag Queen

Friday 23rd October- Bockhampton and district horticultural association

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance and Roast

Friday 13th November 7:30 pm - Village Precept meeting

Saturday 5th December – Christmas market

Saturday 12th December – Christmas party

Village Christmas Party...

12th December

The annual Christmas party may seem very far away as we have only just entered October but believe it or not the Party is just 10 weeks away!

The evening will be full of festive fun, fantastic food, legendary live music and magical memories to be made. It is promised to be a great evening filled with Christmas magic!

Places are limited with only 60 spaces, so jump in to reserve a spot by emailing Gillian at gillmbarnes@aol.com. Tickets cost £20 for adults and £10 for children 5 and over. Each adult ticket paid by 30th November, will receive an envelope one of which will contain a golden ticket to win a bottle of champagne. There will be many other opportunities to win raffle prizes such as a £50 brunch voucher for two from Firefly, a £50 voucher from Halo Gallery and prints from Caroline Tucker and Nick Dale. So, hurry to reserve your places! We would like to include a bumper Christmas hamper prize, so donations gratefully received, please leave with Jen at Littlecroft, Glebeland Close.

Arts reach collaboration...

George and the Drag Queen - Pipeline Theatre

Sunday 11th October at 7.30pm

Arts reach collaboration with West Stafford and Broadmayne event will be held Broadmayne village hall. Former St. John's Ambulance volunteer Maddy recollects the strange encounter she witnessed between fellow volunteer George, and Usman, a refugee, at a village summer fete. George - a fount of old-school, wise-cracking banter now close to retirement, and self-appointed mentor to Maddy - asthmatic, unlucky in love, but with more than enough wit to outsmart George. When stranger Usman appears in their gazebo it turns out Usman and George know each other from a former, almost unrecognisable life, and the fallout turns this into a fete like no other. With sparkling dialogue and an immersive soundscape, 3 actors take you on a provocative, darkly comic, but ultimately life-affirming theatrical journey.

Tickets £15.00 adult; £6 U18 from www.artsreach.co.uk or jacquie.walton@outlook.com 07968 633834

Extra Information...

Unfortunately, the race night has been cancelled.

The Precept meeting is only around the corner and will be hosted on Friday the 13th of November at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. This is a financial meeting and the opportunity to request precepts for the coming year. Those wishing to request a precept need to contact the parish clerk Jen at mutley177@gmail.com

Fact of the month...

The word "Oyez" is the second person plural imperative of the Anglo-Norman verb "Ouir" to hear, translation as Hear Ye! The term came into use in England around the time of the uninvited visit by the Duke of Normandy – many thanks to Richard for kindly providing me with this fact!