Stratton Parish NEWS Serving the Community



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Winter 2015 Issue 20



Event starts at

1.00pm - 7.00pm

At Grange Leisure, Grange Drive, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon Wiltshire SN3 4JV



Glitter Tattoos and Santa's Letters

Face **Painter** and Tombolas



Christmas In **His Grotto** *1.30pm*



Pick A Lolly and Snow **Ball Toss**

Feed The Reindeer

Lucky Dip

Have \ **Your Photo** Taken With Elsa & Anna 3.30pm – 6.30pm



Colonel Custard will be stilt walking and balloon modelling between 3.15pm and 6.15pm



Finale gig with acts from SOUNDBITES and more to be announced







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Welcome to our new Councillors

Please see below for an insight into a few of our newer members to the Council. Their contact details are on the back page of this newsletter. Please contact the Councillor closest to where you live to help you resolve any issues you have with parish services.



Lower Stratton Ward
Cllr Mrs Anne Brooker

I have lived in Stratton St Margaret for over twenty five years, I served in HM Forces for sixteen years, where I met my husband Col. More recently I worked for Cirencester Town Council. Col is born and bred in Stratton and attended Grange Infants, Grange Junior and Kingsdown schools as have our three children: Sophie 19 (Chester University), Harry 17 (Army Foundation College, Harrogate), Charlotte 15 (Kingsdown School).

Col took the offer of voluntary redundancy from British Telecom after eighteen years service at which point we bought and converted Brewery Farm House in Swindon Road into a Bed & Breakfast, which we still run.

I am very community spirited, I put myself forward for election to give something back and to make a difference to the community that has become my home.

I look forward to serving the people of St Margaret's ward.



Upper Stratton Ward Cllr Brett Jouny

I am delighted to be a member of the Stratton St. Margaret Parish Council. Having been a teacher for over 10 years I have seen the impact a community can have on a young person and their chances in life. I am passionate about improving our local community and ensuring that all have the chance to access and gain the best from their local area.

I have a young family which has, for me, highlighted some of the issues I would like to address within Stratton. Being part of the Parish Council allows me to take a better overview of the needs of our community and will enable me to take action and assist all residents of the area, wherever possible. I will be keen to gain the opinions and voice of the community to ensure that these needs are met. I believe in community and am excited about my chance to get the best for Stratton and its residents.



Cllr Stuart Leach

I came to Swindon in 1974 as a newly married, newly appointed teacher, and am still working for the Borough as a Home Tutor. I have lived in Stratton for the last 25 years, both children attending Grange Juniors and Kingsdown School. Since I was 8 years old I have been a Scout.

I have assisted Scout Groups in the town since I came to live here. Presently I am the acting District Commissioner for Swindon Ridgeway Scout District. I also chair the committee of the Stratton St Margaret White Hart Allotments, which arranges social events for the allotmenteers and our families.

My family are season ticket holders for the Wildcats Ice Hockey team where I embarrass them with my partisan support and funny hats. My genealogical research has taken my family back five hundred years to Cheltenham via Gloucester, so I'm a relatively local man. Unfortunately, despite my rugged good looks, I cannot prove a tenuous connection to Hollywood heart throb Cary Grant. I enjoy camping, gardening, walking and spending time with my grand children. I was elected to the Parish Council in May 2014 where I sit on the Planning and Highways, Open Spaces, and Finance and General Purpose Committees.



Coleview Ward

Cllr Mrs Karen Ponting

I have always enjoyed voluntary work and being involved in local projects. When we were house-hunting about 18 months ago I decided that, if we moved into a parished area, I would try to support the Parish Council and find a way to participate.

I became a co-opted Councillor a few months ago and feel there is a lot that the community can achieve if it works together. I would therefore encourage any resident with enthusiasm and commitment to get involved.



Merton Ward Cllr Mrs Claire Crilly

I have lived in the Stratton St Margaret area for over 20 years. I work at UKSBS Ltd in information technology and have a finance background. I also do voluntary work for the Methodist Housing Association.

I became an independent Parish Councillor as I wanted to help to make our parish a good environment to live in and to focus on fairness and equality in our community.

My other interests are archaeology, history, nature and for my sins, I am a season ticket holder at Fulham Football Club!

Welcome From Cllr Joe Tray

As we approach the festive season I would like on behalf of the council to wish you a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year. The Council and its employees have been undertaking many projects to make Stratton St Margaret a desirable place to live, work and visit. The council currently has 17 Parish Councillors with 6 vacant seats. Please contact the Clerk if you wish to join the Council.



The year ahead will be challenging and exciting as the Parish Council considers the devolution for the maintenance of Street Care services from the Borough Council. This brings new opportunities for the Council to have closer control of its area with regard to the maintenance of cutting of grass verges, hedgerows and flower beds throughout the Parish. However this would result in an increase in the Precept of approx £100,000 each year over the next few years to sustain this service. A consultation will be undertaken with all residents before the Council makes its final decision. I am pleased to welcome David Boase, Senior Parks and

Open Spaces Officer to the team and I am sure that his passion and knowledge of Open Spaces will be invaluable to the Council.

We say goodbye to Danny Mason, Head Groundsman at the end of November and wish him well in his future career.

We are about to launch a new website so please look out for that, also you may wish to like our Facebook page and Twitter accounts @strattonpc @grangeleisure1 where we will keep you posted on the many community activities that we engage in.

Casual Vacancies For Parish Councillors

The Parish Council currently has vacancies in the following wards:

Coleview and Lower Coleview

Please email the Clerk to the Council for further information or visit our website if you are interested in being co-opted onto the Council.

Stratton St Margaret **Community Christmas**

Come and join us in singing carols and getting ready for Christmas!

Thursday 17 December 2015, 7.30pm. At the Peace Memorial, Ermin Street. Followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies at Grange Leisure



For more information visit



StrattonPC Find us on Facebook

www.strattonstmargaret.gov.uk or call 01793 823761





Stratton Festival

Bringing the community together

FREE ENT 16 JULY 2016

12 -10.30pm

Grange Leisure, Grange Drive, Swindon, SN3 4JY

Sunday 17 July Musical Arts Day





BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

Last Year We Raised Over

£1,000



The Parish Council is looking for volunteers to help organise all aspects of the Festival's preparations and events. If you are a local resident, work in the area, or a local business who has an interest in the Festival, we want to hear from you!

For more information email deputy.clerk@strattonstmargaret.gov.uk.



CRAFT FAYRE

SHOWCASING NEW MUSIC

E MUSIC

MAGIC SHOW

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT AND MORE...

23 July 2016

StrattonStro

Join in our stroll around Stratton taking in live music and great Arkell's beer.

6 pubs across the Parish, over 20 bands from Midday to late.











Parish Council in the Community

Keeping Stratton St Margaret Clean



Report a dirty street or land that needs cleaning by contacting SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL ON 01793 445501 OR GO ONLINE TO REPORT ANY INCIDENTS

Stratton Education come along to the Grange Leisure every week and have sessions in the gym, sports hall and the artificial grass pitches. This gives the group a chance to take part in different sports activities such as badminton, football, table tennis and much more.

In return Stratton Education help with community projects such as clearing the footpaths across the Parish and helping with our popular events.

Welcome to our new Senior **Parks and Open Spaces Officer**

The future is bright, the future is green for Stratton St Margaret Parish Council as this month they appointed a new Senior Officer to manage the Parish's diverse and growing portfolio of Parks and Open Spaces.

David Boase joins the Parish Council from Swindon Borough Council, where he was responsible for 5 times Green Flag award winning Stanton Country Park and Local Nature Reserve, as well as a number of other parks, open spaces and reserves across the Borough. David began his career in Parks Services as a volunteer just six years ago, becoming a seasonal, then full time Ranger.

David has forged ahead in making up for any lost time, pushing forward projects, and even studying for an Environmental Degree with the Open University on his days off. David had this to say about the appointment "These are very exciting times for Stratton St Margaret. I hold the value of our Parks and Open Spaces with the highest esteem. I see that it is my duty, not only to maintain our parks and open spaces, but to protect them for future generations with all their character, and the only way to do that is to make sure that they remain relevant at the heart of the community. I look forward to continuing the good work of Stratton St Margaret Parish Council.



Raise The Roof With Praise!



Earlier this year members of St Margaret's Church found themselves singing

'Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink!'

Water is coming in through the roof, the floor and the walls. The church has been galvanised into action. In July they launched a 'Building for the Future' project with a coffee morning and an opportunity to look around the church with fresh eyes. People were invited to share their loves and hates and their ideas about the future. Long term plans to protect this ancient and lovely building for future generations and make it more accessible to the community are being developed.

There will be lots of opportunities for hearing about how to get involved in the fundraising plans for a Local History project and the launch of the 'Buy A Tile' initiative. Next event is 28 November, see below for more details.

Stratton St Margaret

An event for the whole communi 10am until 4pm on 28 November St Margar **Church and Community Centre.**

> There will be displays in the Church from around the community, and fundraising activities for different community organisations. The Parish Council, Brownies, Guides, Scouts, Preschool, Toddlers Groups, and a variety of people have been invited to take part.

There will be light refreshments served all day, a cake stall and bottle stall amongst others, Scout stamps will be on sale and children can write a letter to Santa or go to work in an Elves Workshop for all ages who like to get creative!

A lucky programme will be available for the chance to win a fabulous prize. For more information or to take part please contact Stratton Team Ministry on 01793 827021 or visit www.strattonteamministry.co.uk



Grange Gym

Why not give the gift of health and fitness this Christmas with a Grange Leisure gift voucher...



Ask our team for further details.

6 Month Membership Parish Residents only 9.99 per month

Non parish residents only £20.99 per month

All Prices Include

ALL Classes NO Joining Fee FREE Fast Track Induction **MODERN** Fully Equipped

Choose

RELAX In Our Cafe and Bar

Months for \angle the price of 10 FROM £199.00

Annual One Off Payment

Or Choose

PAY AS YOU GO **GYM MEMBERSHIP**

ASK OUR TEAM FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Plus CORPORATE

GYM MEMBERSHIP

The Centre of your Community

FROM £14.99 PER MONTH

Join today Young at call our team on:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.00am - 3.00pm concession rate applies £3.00 The aim of this session is to offer the over 60s our gym during the day in particular to those that do not wish to commit to a membership.





Stratton is top of the league for football

We have increased our partnerships with local football clubs and now welcome Swindon Town Ladies to our Leisure Centre. The team will be using our artificial grass pitches for training. The players that are unable to train due to injury or rehab will also use Grange Gym to help with recovery. Swindon Town Ladies currently play in the FA Premier League South West Division 1 and sit at the top of the division.

Swindon Town Football in the Community have expanded their sessions on our 3G pitches and use the facility for their advanced coaching centres, which develops the opportunity for kids in the local community to take part in football. During the half term period, we had visits from other advanced centres such as West Brom. Games were played throughout the day on the 3G pitches.

Stratton Juniors now have a home for their Football teams and are based at Meadowcroft. They have teams of under

7's right through to under 16's, allowing kids of all ages from the local community to use our pitches. We look forward to developing a long-term partnership and would like to thank Lower Stratton Men's Team for their continued use of our pitch at Grange Leisure.

At Grange Leisure, we have also secured the home fixtures of Sevenfields, Greenmeadow and Northside Athletic. We would like to wish all teams the very best for this year's season.





Don't forget to book your Football Birthday Party - please call for details.

Lesmills

New Fitness Programme Available now featuring BODYBALANCE™*, BODYATTACK™*, BODYHIIT™* and GRIT Launches in January 2016.





Open Mic Nights • Race Nights • Quiz Nights • Discos

NEW MENU NOW AVAILABLE

Tuesdays & Thursdays 2 course lunch special £4.50, 12.00 - 2.00pm



What's on at Grange Bar

BT Sport

WEDNESDAYS

Open Mic Night Starting at 8.00pm

Take to the stage with featured artists every week

NOVEMBER 2015

20 November - Disco/Karaoke Starting at 7.30pm

21 November - Quiz

26 November - Rock'N' Roll Bingo 8.00pm

27 November – Christmas Extravaganza From 1.00pm – Finale Gig at 7.00pm

DECEMBER 2015

3 December - Seniors Christmas Lunch 2 courses £9.95

11, 18 and 19 December – Party Nights, places on sale 12 December – Quiz

17 December - Rock 'N' Roll Bingo

31 December - New Year's Eve Party - tickets on sale

JANUARY 2016

9 January - Quiz

12 January - Quiz

23 January - Quiz

Stratton St Margaret Christmas Day Lunch 2015

25 December 12.00 noon - 3.00pm at Grange Leisure, Grange Drive, Swindon

With the generosity and support from our team at the Parish Council, the local community and businesses we are able to run a complimentary Christmas Day Lunch this year at Grange Leisure, for isolated people in the community. A traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings (vegetarian option available) will be served from 12.00 noon.

Please reserve your place by calling 01793 825525 and speak to Emily Harris.

We are hoping that transport can be arranged for those locally who cannot get there independently. Please contact **Debbie Hodgson on 01793 829335** to discuss.

Volunteers Welcomed

Everything is done by a team of dedicated volunteers who organise and put on the event on Christmas Day. We are always looking for more people to help. If you would like to lend a hand please call Emily Harris on 01793 825525.

Grange Bar Christmas Opening Times

Christmas Eve - 12.00 noon - 11pm

Christmas Day - Closed

Boxing Day – 12 noon – 6pm (last orders 5.30pm)

Sunday 27 December – 11am – 10.30pm

Monday 28 December – 12 noon – 11 pm

Tuesday 29 December - 12 noon - 11pm

Wednesday 30 December - 12 noon - 11pm

New Year's Eve - 12 noon - 1.00am (last orders 12.15am)

New Year's Day - Closed

Grange Leisure Christmas Opening Times

Christmas Eve – Closed at midday

(except Grange Bar)

Christmas Day - Closed

Boxing Day - Closed (except Grange Bar & Gym)

Then usual opening times until New Year's Day – Closed

Council Meetings

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council is committed to making local government open and accessible. All of our meetings are open to the public and press and are held in the Stratton Suite, Grange Leisure, Grange Drive, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon, SN3 4JY.

Before every meeting the Agenda can be viewed on noticeboards throughout the Parish and on our website. All minutes are uploaded on the website. Here is the current calendar until the end of May 2016.

Date	Council/Committee	Start
November 2015		
24 November	Finance & General Purpose	7.00pm
December 2015		
1 December	Planning & Highways	7.00pm
15 December	Full Council	7.00pm
January 2016		
5 January	Planning & Highways	7.00pm
12 January	Finance & General Purpose	7.00pm
19 January	Planning & Highways	7.00pm
26 January	Open Spaces	7.00pm
February 2016		
2 February	Planning & Highways	7.00pm
9 February	Property Management	7.00pm
16 February	Planning & Highways	7.00pm

Date	Council/Committee	Start
March 2016		-
1 March	Planning & Highways	7.00pm
15 March	Planning & Highways	7.00pm
22 March	Full Council	7.00pm
April 2016		
5 April	Planning & Highways	7.00pm
12 April	Finance & General Purpose	7.00pm
19 April	Parish Assembly	7.00pm
26 April	Open Spaces	7.00pm
May 2016	=	_
3 May	Planning & Highways	7.00pm
10 May	Property Management	7.00pm
17 May	Planning & Highways	7.00pm

Borough Councillors' Ward Surgeries

Swindon Borough Ward Councillors conduct Surgeries to keep in touch with the electorate. See below to find your nearest one.

Date	Location	Time
Gorsehill & Pinehurst		
Clirs John Ballman, Ray Ballman & Carol Shelley		
Contact Councillors for further details: John Ballman, Ray Ballman: jbswin@yahoo.co.uk Carol Sh	nelley: cshelleyswindon@gmail.com	
Stratton St Margaret and South Marston		
Cllrs John Haines, Colin Lovell, Russell Holland		
Last Saturday of each month (apart from December)	Grange Leisure	10.00am - 11.00am
Penhill & Upper Stratton		
Clir Paul Baker		
Every 3rd Monday of the month for a 6 month trial period	St Peter's Church, Penhill Drive, Swindon	10.00am - 11.00am
Cllrs Teresa Page & Joe Tray		
2nd Saturday of each month	Upper Stratton Library	11.00am - 12.00pm
Covingham & Dorcan		
Cllr Richard Hurley, Kevin Parry, Dale Heenan		
First Saturday of each month	Liden	11.00am - 12.00pm
First Saturday of each month	Coleview	11.00am - 11.45am
First Saturday of each month	Messenger Pub	12.00pm - 12.45pm

Chat to the Chairman

Meet Chairman Cllr Joe Tray every other Saturday at Grange Coffee Shop to discuss your Parish Council concerns.



Contact information

Parish Councillors

Ward Key: Coleview: C Stratton St Margaret: SM St Philips: SP Lower Coleview & Nythe: LCN

Chairman: Cllr Joe Tray

3 Cairndow Way, Stratton St Margaret SN2 7TQ

t: 07813170202

e: j.tray@ntlworld.com

Vice Chairman: Cllr Roger Smith

39 Watermead, Stratton St Margaret SN3 4WE

t: Contact via office

e: roger@stratone.demon.co.uk

Cllr Mrs Brenda Archer

15 Bourton Avenue, Lower Stratton SN3 4LY

t: 01793 822263

Cllr Miss Alison Bridges

59 Winton Road, Lower Stratton SN3 4XL

t: Contact via office

Cllr Mrs Anne Brooker

73 Swindon Road, Stratton St Margaret SN3 4PU

t: 01793 825343

e: anne38@btinternet.com

Cllr Mrs Claire Crilly

8 Wise Close, Upper Stratton SN2 7LT

t: 01793 867867

e: claire_hollyberry@msn.com

Cllr Mrs Carol Ennis

Seagulls, 6 Crispin Close, Stratone Village SN3 4XH

t: 01793 831335

e: carolennis2@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr John C Foley

59 Winton Road, Lower Stratton SN3 4XL

t: Contact via office

Cllr Mrs Eileen Foley

7 Dockle Way, Upper Stratton SN2 7LQ

t: 01793 822110

e: cllrjohn@ntlworld.com

Cllr John Foley

7 Dockle Way, Upper Stratton SN2 7LQ

t: 01793 822110

e: cllrjohn@ntlworld.com

Cllr Brett Jouny

21 Hyde Road, Upper Stratton, Swindon SN2 7RT

t: 01793 977959

e: brettjouny@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Stuart Leach

24 Ermin Street, Swindon SN3 4RQ

t: 01793 828038

e: stuartleach24@hotmail.com

Cllr Mrs Andree Murphy

2 Orchard Grove, Upper Stratton SN2 7QR

t: 01793 337144

e: andreemurphy57@hotmail.com

Cllr Ms Tara Page

9 Hatch Road, Stratton, Swindon SN3 4XY

t: Contact via office

e: tarpaguk@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Mrs Teresa Page

13 Haig Close, Upper Stratton, Swindon SN2 7QN

t: 01793 825481

e: teresapageswindon@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Mrs Karen Ponting

17 Slade Drive, Swindon SN3 4DS

t: 01793 820645

e: kponting@btinternet.com

Cllr Mrs Rosa Tran

44 Burden Close, Stratton St Margaret SN3 4HE

t: 01793 826283

Parish Council Contacts

Clerk to the Council Mrs Tracy Predeth, Parish Council Office, Grange Leisure, Grange Drive,

Stratton St Margaret, Swindon, SN3 4JY t: 01793 823761

e: clerk@strattonstmargaret.gov.uk







Stratton St Margaret Parish Council

Local Member of Parliament

Justin Tomlinson, MP t: 01793 533393

e: justin.tomlinson.mp@parliament.uk

Parish Council Christmas Opening Times

The Parish Council Office will be closed from midday on Christmas Eve until 9.00am on Monday 4 January 2016

Swindon Borough Council Ward Members

Gorse Hill and Pinehurst

Cllr John Ballman

t: 01793 694584

e: jbswin@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Ray Ballman

t: 01793 694584

e: jbswin@yahoo.co.uk

Stratton St Margaret & South Marston

Cllr John Haines

t: 07901 534640

e: jcthaines@hotmail.com

Cllr Colin Lovell

t: 01793 321634

e: colinplovell@gmail.com

Cllr Russell Holland

t: 07999 566623

e: rholland@swindon.gov.uk

Penhill and Upper Stratton

Cllr Paul Baker

t: 01793 334598

e: pauljbaker@ntlworld.com

Cllr Mrs Teresa Page

t: 01793 825481

e: teresapageswindon@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Joe Tray

t: 07813 170202

e: j.tray@ntlworld.com

Covingham and Dorcan

Cllr Dale Heenan

t: 01793 613189

e: dale.heenan@googlemail.com

Cllr Richard Hurley

t: 07966 533997

e: rhurley@swindon.gov.uk

Cllr Kevin Parry

m: 07914 309291

e: cllrkevin.parry@ntlworld.com

Police Contacts for North East Swindon

Area Inspector Insp Charlie DUCKER 1009

Area Sergeant PS 1989 COPELAND

Community Police: Stratton Neighbourhood Police Team PC Jack NEWMAN 1966 PCSO Stuart BIRD 6100

Highworth

PC Sandra HIGGINS-HUGHES 2514 PCSO Lee WHEELDON 3991

Rural North PCSO Juliet EVANS 6236

swindonnortheastmpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk Telephone: 101 for non emergencies 999 for emergency calls

Latest Community Surgery information on the Stratton St Margaret Parish Council website.



North East Team: Swindonnortheastnpt-stratton

Highworth: Swindonnortheastnpt-highworth&villages

Wiltshire Police (Swindon) call 101 (non emergency). If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired you can text phone on 18001 101