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| **Summer 2025** | GOOD NEWS  For Stanton Cross Residents | | | | | | | | **Issue #10** |
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| Maybe slowly the chain could be made longer as connections are made. It has been such a privilege to meet so many of you on Fridays over the last 3 months when we have come to the park to play.  We have enjoyed playing ball games, shaking the parachute, painting rocks, learning to skip, to throw, to shoot a rocket, to read a story, to hunt for bugs, to play hide & seek, to climb and to share.  But most of all has been the realisation of what a wonderful community this is to live in and what friendly neighbours we have. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Debbie Smith-Wilds  Dandelions and Daisy Chains  Building community  What began as a simple visit to the park in May led to such a wonderful journey of connection with people. We picked the daisies, joined them together in chains and enjoyed the bright dandelions with their golden heads. What could we do to help this community to grow? Many churches enjoy a toddler group but that is because they have a building. What does Stanton Cross have? Beautiful parks which are especially fun in the summer months! Perhaps we could use the park here to create a friendly space to play and meet others all at the same time? | |  | |  | | | | | | |
|  | | This project began in June  to create a sense of community  on Fridays at the park. | | | | | | |
| Giving thanks for Summer  Join the community gathering on Sunday 31st August at 7.00pm | | | | | | |
| To mark the end of the summer holidays and celebrate all that has been enjoyed, we would like to gather together to share in the fun and experiences we have had and invite YOU to join in. We will gather on the green near the 3 pigs park on the evening of **Sunday 31st August at 7pm**. We invite everyone to bring at least one picture – on your phone, printed out, on a postcard, drawn by you or your child - to share as we give thanks for all that we have enjoyed over the summer.  You will be able to share your picture with at least 3 other people and those who want to add their pictures to the display will be able to. | | | | From the summer fete, to the good weather; to all the places that people have been both locally, further afield and abroad.Or perhaps a pic of those you spent time with, your family, friends or pets. Choose the picture(s) that show what you most enjoyed and meet us at the park.  AH, 'TWOULD BE THE BLISS OF BLISSES IF I MIGHT GREET MY LOVE WITH ... | | |
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| The 3 little Pigs Park – called because  inside there are 3 pig statues and 3 little houses.  The scene for our Friday play sessions. | |
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| Dandelions and Daisy Chains  Building Community | | | The Three Little Pigs  A reflection | | | | Thankful 4 Summer  Sun 31st August 2025 | | | |
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| **Summer 2025** | GOOD NEWS | | | **Issue #10** |
| Building our lives – does faith play a part?  A Christian reflection on The Three Little Pigs | | | | |
| We all remember the story of the Three Little Pigs from our childhood. It was just a story to us when our Mamas read it to us as small children. But, as we know now, the story held a very important lesson for, not only children, but for us throughout life.  These three little pigs and their attempts at building a house provide a look into mistakes we might make as we build our lives.  To refresh, in case it has been a few decades since you heard the story ---- The first little pig built his house out of straw. There was no structure to it. There was nothing to hold it together. And when the wolf came, he easily blew the straw house down, leaving the poor little pig defenseless against the danger the wolf represented.  The second little pig, decided he would be smarter in building his house. So, he gathered all the sticks he could find, and began to build his house of sticks. Alas, his house suffered the same fate as his brother. There was no structure in his construction, and the wolf also came to his house and with one powerful huff and puff, completely blew the house of sticks into a pile of splinters. | | I can imagine that the third little pig had observed his brothers as they built their houses and watched as the wolf successfully destroyed their work, which lacked planning and forethought. So, he decided to build his house from bricks and mortar. His house had structure and form, which was the result of his wise planning.  And, sure enough, when the wolf came, and huffed and puffed, the brick and mortar house stood firm.  People today, unfortunately proceed with their lives in much the same way as the pigs went about building their houses.  We sometimes have problems with our foundations. We are God’s building. The strength of the building depends upon the foundation.  But this doesn’t happen in one fell swoop. Laying the foundation takes time and effort to learn the Word and begin to live it.    Another mistake the pigs make, and that people today make is that they use the wrong materials. | A third mistake the pigs and people today make is the lack of effort we are willing to put into assuring that our building is solid – that our life is built on solid rock.  We live in a super-fast-paced world. We want everything, and we want it now! We don’t want to wait for it. So, we settle for what we can grab immediately. And that, of course, leads to accepting less than we really want. It stops us from searching out the deeper meaning of life.  So when it comes to our relationship with God and His Son we try to get along with less than He has in store for us, and wants us to have. We want it now, without effort, without trials. But God doesn’t work that way.  We must place our faith and our trust – not in material things – but in the power of God. Have faith in Him. Don’t pull out of the race when trials come. Remember, God is running with us. He is on our side. | |
| **HOPE IN THE MAKING**  **The annual**  **GREENBELT FESTIVAL**  **Artistry. Activism. Belief.**  **takes place**  **at BOUGHTON HOUSE**  **off the A14 near Kettering**  **21-24 AUGUST 2025**  **Check online for tickets** | |
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| **Summer 2025** | GOOD NEWS | | | | | **Issue #10** |
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| Are you being served?  Revd Debbie | | Because whatever else we believe, we each have the life we are given to live the best we can. How lucky we are if we have choice and agency to decide how to live our life and make a difference in the world. For me, being able to help others to know how much God loves every part of his creation and the confidence that gives for living full and prosperous lives is paramount.  So seeking out the connections with our neighbours, with our colleagues, schools, with local businesses, with the Residents Association, the developers, our Councillors, our MP, our Mayor of Wellingborough who lives here at SC. The people of Victoria Ward, Wellingborough Town Council and NNC. All of these play a part in the nature of life here in Stanton Cross.  And when it comes to faith – there are many links between the different Christian churches – those part of the Wellingborough area and surrounding places.  However for this community, the question is how can we best serve the people of Stanton Cross? How can we help you to flourish? What is important to you? Let’s keep connecting and considering. For faith is  "being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see".  Thanks be to God for our continuing journey. | | | **Wellingborough**  Inter Faith Group  There is great diversity of belief in the Wellingborough area and this means we have the possibility to discover and share in our understanding of faiths and worldviews different to our own. There will be various opportunities for encounter during the year. | | |
| Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds  Vicar of Stanton Cross  & Irchester  [vicarstkatharines@gmail.com](mailto:vicarstkatharines@gmail.com)  Tel: 01933 312674 | |
| It is a huge privilege to be Vicar of Stanton Cross but you may be wondering what it’s all about – especially if you are not familiar with the Church of England. Some will think that it is only about leading services inside a church. Of course that is part of it and when we gather every Sunday at 10am at St Katharine’s we’d always be happy to see you. Yet, as a christian, I seek first and foremost to live my life loving God and loving my neighbour. That is to say, having the wellbeing of all in this community at heart and bringing those things before God in prayer each and every day. From my own experiences – of family life, of teaching, of working, of our society, I have witnessed the difference faith makes to people’s lives and the communities they are a part of.  Over the last 2 years, as I have met so many people here – of different denominations, churches and faiths, it has been so good to see the hopefulness with which you come to make your home within this community. | |
| Northamptonshire’s Agreed Syllabus for RE 2025-2028 enables children to learn about different beliefs, practices and worldviews in order that they may be able to encounter difference,recognise similarities and live in a society where we each show mutual respect and tolerance.A white cover with purple circles and blue text  Description automatically generated | | |
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| No photo description available.    May be an image of the Cotswolds and castle | One of the many spires you can see from Stanton Cross, St Katharines Church is a beautiful jewel of a building where worship has been offered to God since 1242. You are always welcome to any of the services or activities that are going on.  Every Sunday at 10am we gather to share together at St Katharine’s in giving thanks and praise to God, in lifting our hearts to him, in reading from the Bible and reflecting on our lives, receiving from him in the breaking of bread together and sharing in the remembrance of his love poured out for us. Everyone is welcome whether you have been many times or never before, whether or not you have been baptised or confirmed, whether you know the hymns or can’t sing. Just come as you are - it is the Lord who meets you here  **Find us on Facebook:**  **St Katharine’s Irchester**  **with Stanton Cross**  **AChurchNearYou**  **Irchester with Stanton Cross** | | | | A poster with text and leaves  Description automatically generated A poster for a harvest festival  Description automatically generated    **Sundays at 10am**  **Parish Eucharist**  **For all the parish family**  **Thursdays at 9.30**  **Service of Holy Communion**  **with refreshments and chat afterwards**  **YouChoose Youth Group**  **WildChurch :**  **Monthly activity outdoors**  **with fun, craft and food**  **for all the family**  **Our website** [**www.stkatharineschurch.com**](http://www.stkatharineschurch.com)  **A group of sliced bread  Description automatically generated** | | | | |
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**Get in touch to be a part of the activities we create here at Stanton Cross**

**Text or WhatsApp your ideas to Debbie 07407 113312**

**A Prayer for Stanton Cross**

**Heavenly Father we pray for all the homes in Stanton Cross and all those who have come to live here. May it be a place of peace, joy, and a strong sense of community where all are able to grow and flourish. We ask for your blessing on every home as we seek to build our lives and share in all that is good. Amen.**