

# SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 51 No. 3

APRIL 2022



## VILLAGE DIARY

1 April	Bridge Afternoon	River Room	14:00 – 17:00
2 April	Movie Matinee	River Room	16:00
7 April	Wecare2	River Room	11:15 – 12:30
14 April	Community Café	River Room	10:30 - 12:00
19 April	WI	River Room	19:30
21 April	Wecare2	River Room	11:15 – 12:30
26 April	SCN AGM	Village Hall	18:00
28 April	Community Café	River Room	10:30 - 12:00
29 April	Bridge Afternoon	River Room	14:00 – 17:00
3 May	Friends of All Saints' Church AGM	All Saints' Church	19:30
7 May	Table-Top Sale	Village Hall	11:00 – 16:00

Previous copies of SCN are available on the website under Archives at [suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](http://suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk)

**MAY 2022 SCN DEADLINE – WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022**

Unless otherwise stated the Sutton Courtenay News copy deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

## VILLAGE CONTACTS

County Councillor: Richard Webber, 534001  
(Schools, Roads etc.) [richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:richardwebber777@gmail.com)  
District Councillor: Richard Webber—as above  
(Planning, Waste etc.)  
Parish Council Chair: Eileen Daw  
[eileendaw@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:eileendaw@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk)  
Stay & Play Toddler Group: Facebook page: [@SCstayandplay](https://www.facebook.com/@SCstayandplay)  
Friends of All Saints'-Chair: Sue Jenkins 07885 437454  
Matrix Music School: 847264  
The Abbey: 847401  
Village Hall – SC: [scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com](mailto:scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com)  
Cricket Club: [drb71@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:drb71@hotmail.co.uk)  
WI - Sutton Courtenay Val Melville 847612  
Nordic Walking Group: Graham Wells 847322  
Churchmere Carp Synd.: Roger Rance 847241  
DAMASCUS Youth Project: 848694  
SC Local History Society: Mary Thompson 848527  
[sclhs.org.uk](http://sclhs.org.uk)  
[marydthompson@outlook.com](mailto:marydthompson@outlook.com)  
SCIDS (Drama Society): Morna Whitlock, 848335  
[morna28whitlock@gmail.com](mailto:morna28whitlock@gmail.com)  
All Saints Singers: Kathy Harrop-Griffiths, 848230  
[secretary@allsaintssingers.org](mailto:secretary@allsaintssingers.org)  
[www.allsaintssingers.org](http://www.allsaintssingers.org)  
Sutton Courtenay Action: [suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com](mailto:suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com)  
Non-urgent Police: 101 or policing team email:  
[AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)  
Environment Agency: Landfill Odours 0800 80 70 60  
Thames Water (leaks): 0800 71 46 14  
Police Anonymous Hotline: 0800 555 111  
Power Cuts: 105

### Websites:

Sutton Courtenay News: [www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](http://www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk)  
Parish Council: [www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk)  
Vale of White Horse DC: [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)  
Oxfordshire CC: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

### The Ministry Team

Rector: The Reverend Helen Kendrick  
The Rectory, 3, Tullis Close, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4BD  
01235 848297 [rector@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@damascusparish.org.uk)  
Assistant Priest: The Reverend Rosie Bruce  
07766 421773 [rosie-bruce@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rosie-bruce@hotmail.co.uk)  
Associate Priest: The Reverend Phil Sutton 01235 635476  
or 07507 378737 [revphil@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:revphil@damascusparish.org.uk)  
Associate Priest: The Reverend Meg Heywood  
01235 537110 [revmeg@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:revmeg@damascusparish.org.uk)  
Lay ministers: Jack Jarvis (831395) & Alex Landsbert (847443)  
Authorised preacher: Paul James (848129)  
Churchwardens: Nicola Turner (01235 833938)  
or Hilary Otterburn (01235 834725)  
Parish Office: 01235 847179 [admin@damascasparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@damascasparish.org.uk)

**For Services of Worship - Please see Page 8**

## SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS CONTACTS

Sutton Courtenay News is published by the editorial team, the members of which are: Katherine Harrop-Griffiths (07946 474238), Kathy Whittaker and Bernie Jones (07761 375991). Bernie deals with all the advertising.

Sutton Courtenay News is printed with support from the Sutton Courtenay Parish Council.

All contributions for the next edition should be e-mailed to [editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk), taken to Sutton Courtenay Tyres petrol station shop or posted in the mailbox on the outside the garden door of Cross Trees, 1 Church Street before the copy deadline. To have any contribution published you must provide your name & contact details to the editors.

To advertise, telephone 07761 375991 or email [advertising@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:advertising@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk)

For distribution enquiries please contact Sue on 847158 or Shirley on 847241 or any of the editors.

The Editors have been contacted by people outside the village who would like to continue receiving a copy of Sutton Courtenay News. It can be viewed on-line at [suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](http://suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk) but please contact the editors to discuss what other arrangements can be made for those unable to access the website.

## SUTTON COURTENAY POST OFFICE

A wide range of key Post Office products & services are available at Hari & Esha News in the High Street.

The opening hours are:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 08:00 -18:00

Wed: 08:00 - 17:00

Sat: 08:30 - 13:00

Sun: 09:00 - 12:00

## SUTTON COURTENAY DEFIBRILLATORS



The village has three defibrillators. One is located outside the front roller doors of Sutton Courtenay Tyres on the High Street. The second is in the old BT phone booth opposite the Nursery on the High Street. The third is outside the Fish, Appleford Road.



## VILLAGE HALL

The village hall is a registered charity available for hire for community related recreational activities. It is located in Hobbyhorse Lane (OX14 4BB). It has a large main hall, a smaller meeting room and kitchen. There are regular activities that take place on some weekday evenings. To find out more or book the hall please contact the Secretary to the Village Hall Management Committee Rita Atkinson on 01235 848694, email [scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com](mailto:scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com).

Hire charges vary depending on the nature of the use of the hall. The maximum hire charge for the main hall is £16 per hour. Commercial bookings and regular hire are negotiated separately. Visits prior to hire are welcomed.

In accordance with government rules to prevent, and protect against, the spread of the coronavirus, the Village Hall Management Trustees have prepared risk assessments, guidance & new conditions of hire for users. These are under constant review as the government guidance changes. Please get in touch to check if your activity is permitted under the regulations.



## Gigaclear Presentation and Annual Parish Meeting of Electors

As well as the Parish Council meeting, the 5<sup>th</sup> April meeting will also include the Annual Meeting of Electors and a presentation by Gigaclear relating to the installation of broadband infrastructure in the village. Timings are as follows:

- 6.45pm: Presentation to Parish Council by Gigaclear.
- 7.15pm: Annual Meeting of Electors
- 7.30pm: April Parish Council Meeting

Agendas for both meetings will be published on the website in due course. Please contact the clerk on the details below should you require the agendas in alternative formats.

### Flyover and Bridge Crossing Planning Application

Five local parishes continue to work together in relation to this planning application. Residents and representatives of both Sutton Courtenay and Appleford Parish Councils along with Councillor Webber also spoke at Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March. We await the County Council's final recommendations on the application and will keep you updated.

### Hobbyhorse Lane Outline Planning Application

We await the outcome of this planning application, to which the Parish Council have objected.

### Recreation Ground

The recreation ground survey results have been collated and forwarded to our architect. They are now finalising the plans and preparing the tender documentation. Further updates will be provided in the Sutton Courtenay News and on our website in due course.

### Footpath Closures

We have been made aware of footpath closures in the area to allow National Grid to safely carry out works to the overhead cables. A section of footpath 12 will be closed between 20<sup>th</sup> April and 6<sup>th</sup> June and footpath and bridleway will be closed on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April and then 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June. Advance notice signage will be in position and diversions are in place. Plans showing the exact locations of the closures can be found on the Parish Council website.

### Vacancies on the Parish Council

There are vacancies on the parish council. Should you wish to help make a difference to the community you live in then please contact the clerk on the details below.

Clerk to Council: Helen Savery, 10 Sovereign Place Wallingford, OX10 9GF.

Email: [info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk), tel: 01235 364211

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of **Sutton Courtenay News** will be held at Sutton Courtenay Village Hall on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 6pm

Nominations for Chairman, Editor, Advertising Manager, Treasurer & Administrator together with the details of two seconders should be sent to Clare Pennicott at [scmail836@gmail.com](mailto:scmail836@gmail.com) or 8 Church Street, Sutton Courtenay.

If government Covid restrictions require the meeting to be held virtually, please email [scmail836@gmail.com](mailto:scmail836@gmail.com) with a request for a link to the meeting if you would like to attend.

## SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS - NEEDS A NEW TREASURER

Could you spare an hour or so a month to look after SCN's finances and help with its administration?

What is involved?

Mainly it will be:

- Invoicing the advertisers
- Looking after the accounts (the vast majority of banking is done online)
- Keeping the distributor list up to date (it only needs updating if a distributor moves or retires)
- Arranging the AGM

If you would like more information, please give me a ring (07778 284193) or email me ([scmail836@gmail.com](mailto:scmail836@gmail.com))

Clare



## Helping our children make sense of the world

It has been a worrying few weeks in the wider news outside school as we have watched events in Ukraine unfold. In school, we have been very much led by the children in the way we have handled this. In most classes, there has been no need to mention the situation in Ukraine at all as the children have not brought it up. This is likely to be because of the good choices parents and carers have made, protecting children from seeing the worst images or overhearing worried conversations. In the older classes,



the children have shown significant interest, and teachers have skilfully drawn on prior knowledge of the history and geography of Europe to

develop their understanding. The children have been impressively mature in their conversations about the events as they unfold, and we have been very proud of their reflections and desire to understand at a deeper level. You can see a video of a group of Year 5 children explaining their understanding by clicking on this link: <https://youtu.be/CDn76f6r2y8>

Our curriculum is designed so that children can see threads between their different subjects and apply these to new situations – for example, characters and settings from stories and novels, religious traditions, geographical borders, historical contexts, and the impact of science on our world. It is a curriculum designed to give the children a good foundation for life as an active and engaged member in whatever community they find themselves.

### David Johnston MP visits

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March our MP David Johnston came to visit. This had been planned for a while but was cancelled just



before the holidays due to the storm. At the time of the COP 26 climate conference, the children wrote letters to world leaders and Mr Johnston

forwarded them to Alok Sharma, the president of the conference. You can see the video of some of the children reading out extracts from their letters on this link:

<https://youtu.be/gcZFszE9dn8>

Mr Johnston came to talk to the children in person about their understanding of how they can proactively work for climate change. It is essential that, as other events overtake the news, we do not forget the importance of thinking about the long term needs of the planet that our children, and their children, need to live on. The children met Mr Johnston in Forest School, which seemed a suitable setting. They asked lots of excellent questions, and Mr Johnston explained what governments could do to encourage sustainable solutions and to follow up on the promises made at the COP26.

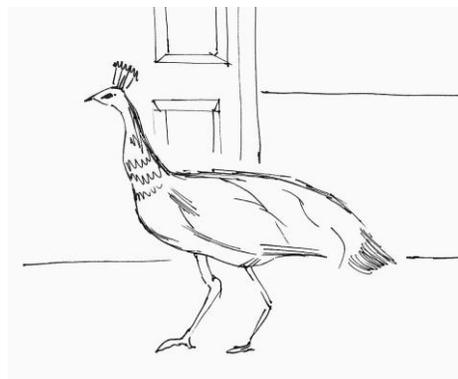
### Governors' Role

Governors are our critical friends. They regularly come into school, and they know the community well. Our chair of governors, Dr Rita Atkinson, has been involved with school life for thirty years.



She is also a well-known figure in the community who manages the funding for the Damascus Youth Project. Three times a year, the whole governing body meet to discuss reports on the progress of the school. In between this time, the Curriculum and Standards Committee meet to discuss the content and direction of the curriculum and its impact on the children, including through attendance, behaviour and the progress children are making. Recently, a group of governors spent the morning in school. They visited the early years classrooms, learned about phonics, heard some children read, and talked with staff and children about RE across the school. If you would be interested in being a school governor, please do let us know via the school office.

Headteacher: Ms Rachel Hornsey  
 Asst Headteachers: Lisa Knight & Louise Potter  
 Office: [3243@sutton-courtenay.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:3243@sutton-courtenay.oxon.sch.uk)  
 Telephone: 01235 848333



# ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

Wow, this year seems to be flying past at speed and the Youth Drop-In sessions have become the place to be for young people on a Wednesday night. As a team we couldn't be happier to see young people engaging so positively.

Firstly, a huge thank you to the team of volunteers and the young people who helped to make the Senior Citizen's Tea Party such an amazing afternoon. From baking and making sandwiches and special mini burgers, showing people to their seats, and calling out the bingo numbers, everyone played their part and made the day so special. A special thank you to Sovereign Housing, Christian Alba's Traditional Butchers of Hungerford, a resident of Sutton Courtenay for their generous donations and to the Groove Company for the music.



The Football Bootcamp session at the Recreation Ground was a blast too with lots of young people getting involved to work on the fundamentals of football. They practised different dribbling, passing, control and shooting skills and then applied them in the game held at the end of the session.

At the Wednesday night drop in we have spent the last few weeks discussing the harm and side effects of various illegal substances. We have a number of different resources from board games to our 'Drug Box'. Parents – if you would like to understand more – please do get in touch. It is extremely important that young people are educated about the facts around drugs peddled out on the streets and the risks they take when they start down the route of experimentation.

Finally, a further thank you to all the young people who have taken part in the Parish Council's Recreation Ground upgrade survey. Our young people are looking forward to the refurbished play park!

The ADYP Team – Roxy Elford, Jake Fleetwood and James Quartermain, Emily Astley-Madge

Do contact any of us on [jamesq.ycat@gmail.com](mailto:jamesq.ycat@gmail.com),  
[jakef.ycat@gmail.com](mailto:jakef.ycat@gmail.com), [roxy.ycat@gmail.com](mailto:roxy.ycat@gmail.com),  
[emily.adyp@gmail.com](mailto:emily.adyp@gmail.com)

Tel: 01235 848694 or 07875 649008



Jake Damascus, Roxy Damascus, James Damascus,  
Emily Damascus



Jake\_Damascus; James\_Damascus; Roxy\_Damascus,  
Emily\_Damascus

YouTube - The Abingdon Damascus Youth Project  
MIND GYM

Website - [www.damascusyouthproject.org.uk](http://www.damascusyouthproject.org.uk)

**We are looking for new trustees**

Join us to help improve local health and care services

## Healthwatch Oxfordshire is recruiting new Trustees

Want to help us make health and care better in Oxfordshire?

Healthwatch Oxfordshire is the independent champion for people who use health and social care services across the county. We are here to find out what matters to people and help make sure their views shape the services they need.

If you care about the way local health and care services are run and **can spare some time to help get the right services to the people who really need them**, please think about joining us as a Trustee.

This is a voluntary role and a really exciting opportunity to make a difference!

To find out more about the role and how to apply see [www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/news/becomea-trustee](http://www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/news/becomea-trustee)

## Here's a timely message from Buckingham and Surrey Trading Standards.

Please protect yourself with the following information:

- Scammers will pretend to be legitimate well-known charities, creating their own charity names, and impersonating people impacted by the war in Ukraine.
- Scammers will be cold-calling, direct messaging and creating fake websites and pages on social media to raise funds. Avoid clicking on links or downloading attachments in unsolicited emails, texts or social media messages. They may attempt to lure you into unwittingly downloading malware onto your device or take you to a fake website to steal your money and personal information.
- Do not donate via fundraising pages on platforms that do not verify the legitimacy of the fundraiser or that do not guarantee your money will be returned if the page is determined to be fraudulent.
- Be careful about crowdfunding requests as these may be fake and come from scammers.
- Check the terms and conditions of funding platforms and ensure you are dealing with official organisations. If you are unsure, make your donation to an established charity instead.
- If you think you have paid money to a scammer, please contact your bank immediately.

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/charities>

Message sent by: Neil Gunnell (NWN Multi Scheme Administrator, Thames Valley, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Local Policing Area.)





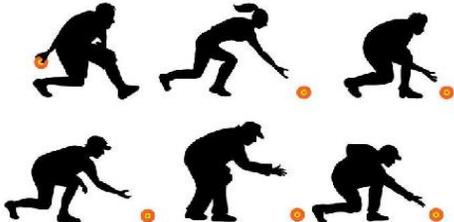
**MILTON HILL  
BOWLING CLUB**  
[www.miltonhill.go-plus.net](http://www.miltonhill.go-plus.net)



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Potash Lane, Milton Heights, OX14 4DR  
( enter by Redrow's new Blaise Park)

**Open afternoon**  
2pm until 5, Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> May



Bowls is for all ages and a fun way to keep fit and flexible.  
Come and try your hand on our **NEW ALL WEATHER CARPET**.  
No experience necessary, just turn up.  
Flat shoes preferred but overshoes can be provided.

## COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

As I write, the Thames Water/Water Resources South East consultation on (amongst other things) the proposed 4 square mile, 30m high reservoir is about to close. Thanks largely to the efforts of GARD (Group Against Reservoir Development) there have been hundreds of responses from individuals, as well as organised meetings and presentations in all the villages immediately affected, plus questions and a debate in the House of Commons. It is rare to find such unanimity of feeling from well informed residents, Councils and MPs against a major infrastructure proposal. This will be the third attempt by Thames Water to get this proposal through. Each time it has cost the public purse millions. At least this time around the arguments against are better funded and well organised. The “gated” process for decision making may go on for many months more, but hopefully the final decision will finally remove the threat of Europe’s largest above ground reservoir supplying water to London and Southern Water being built in Oxfordshire.

The proposed new road (HIF Rd) between Didcot, the Thames and the Golden Balls roundabout, is the other major hot topic for local Councils at all levels. Decision time is almost upon us and there is still some disagreement about the best way ahead. Originally conceived more than 10 years ago as a means of alleviating the traffic congestion – present and future - generated by so much housing development around Didcot and the surrounding area, there have been many changes and events which have made many doubt the original assumptions. Changes in population forecasts, the arrival of new Local Plans, changes in Council administrations, increasing awareness of the Climate Emergency, Covid and (yes) Brexit have created a very different

world. Are roads and new road- building the best solution in a world fighting climate change? Urgent discussion of alternatives – better bus services, more focus on Active travel, possible Light Rail lines - are all being considered. Everyone wants to find a 21<sup>st</sup> century solution that fixes the problem for the foreseeable future and one that is flexible enough to cope with rapidly changing demands.

On the plus side, and just at the moment there is a distinct lack of plus sides, our local science and technology and its development continues to be the envy of most of the country. Advances at Harwell and Culham and MEPC continue to make world news while Milton Park is leading the way on local traffic initiatives.

With a Ukrainian son in law, I am painfully aware of how events in Ukraine are on everyone’s mind. It is extraordinary how it has brought the West together and how local people are accepting that the world economy will take a hit, but that is nothing to what Ukraine, its residents and its President are coping with. While we wait for Government to get a workable system together, people wishing to offer help and accommodation are encouraged to contact VWHDC who have a growing list of those interested.

And, together with all the above, Councils and Councillors are working hard to address all their regular issues – parking, roads and highways, environmental health, housing and, never forgetting, dog poo!

Richard Webber Cllr  
[Richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:Richardwebber777@gmail.com)  
01235 534001

### DAVID JOHNSTON MP



I am writing this at home, having caught Covid. I am pretty sure I had it right at the start of the pandemic, in early 2020, but it was before the testing regime we developed so I can’t know for sure. This time, I’ve definitely had the 2 lines, confirmed by a PCR. It isn’t pleasant but I’ve had all 3 jabs and so I mostly have symptoms of a head cold and fatigue.

I have a partner but being at home alone all day makes me think of 2 things: firstly, how hard it must be to be on your own all the time. If you can, please volunteer for organisations like the Didcot Good Neighbour Scheme, through which I see a widower each week. The second thing I’m reminded of is what a vital job all the various community groups did during the pandemic to support their neighbours.

You may or may not know that PMQs are predominately allocated by electronic ballot the week before they take place. Having been drawn for only 1 PMQ in my first 25 months, I was then drawn for a further 2 in just 3 weeks. The first I used to raise the lack of new GP surgeries we’ve had to support all the new houses that have been built. The second I used to raise the reservoir proposal, a shadow of uncertainty over the Steventon, Hanneys and Drayton area for over 2 decades now.

For all the yah boo politics PMQs has long been criticised for, it remains the best place to raise a local issue as it a rare occasion when the House of Commons is full, people outside parliament are watching on tv and it means the Prime Minister’s office swings into action to help deal with the issues you’re having.

It was very moving to be in the House of Commons for President Zelensky’s address to MPs, as it has been to watch him and the Ukrainian people resist the brutal invasion Putin has launched on their country, with support from the UK and its allies. I know people have been frustrated by the pace at which refugees are being brought to the UK and I agree the system did not move fast enough at the outset. It is now moving much faster, and we have several generous strands for entry. It is important that we know we can put in the right support the refugees that we take – we still have Afghans in hotels in Oxfordshire because we don’t have houses for them – and so we have to make sure we have the right health, education and pastoral support in place as soon as possible, on which the Government is working hard.

One final thing: Grove library is 50 years old this year and has a great collection of items from 1972 (or thereabouts) on display for a month!

As ever, if I can help with anything then do let me know via [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk)



The  
**DAMASCUS**  
Parish  
Drayton | Appleford | Milton  
Sutton Courtenay | Steventon

St Peter's, Drayton  
St Peter & St Paul, Appleford  
St Blaise, Milton  
All Saints', Sutton Courtenay  
St Michael and All Angels, Steventon

## From the Ministry Team...

Easter's importance and long history of celebration has given rise to numerous customs and traditions over the years. These traditions are both religious and secular, some remembered and kept, some forgotten and lost. Hot cross buns and Easter eggs come quickly to mind.

Eggs can look as dead as a smooth oval stone, but we know better. We know that if an egg is fertilized and kept warm by the parent, that hard shell will start to crack and into the world will climb a small animal full of life. The symbolism of an egg can be found in different cultures and faiths. It is often used to demonstrate new life, birth or regeneration. The emergence of a chick from an egg can be symbolic of Christ rising from the tomb. So, the egg reminds us that what looked dead and hopeless on Good Friday was actually full of life, new life, because on the third day Jesus defeated death to be alive forever. This is the good news message, this is the Christian message of hope and of freedom. As I write this to you, the fearful pandemic of Covid still grips the world. Now a new unrest, the conflict in Ukraine, although not global, is testing our freedoms.

Hot Cross buns seem to be available all year round now because of they are delicious. Hot Cross buns are but one of many different food-related traditions at Easter, but they all have something in common which is to remind us of God's love for us. It is in Jesus' life and his experience on the cross, that we can taste and see that God is good.

Decorated and chocolate eggs are what we all enjoy on Easter Day. They are always bright, cheerful and delicious and that's because Easter Day is party time for Christians as we celebrate the fantastic news that Jesus is risen.

In whatever way you celebrate Easter 2022, I hope that you will find some joy, hope, and peace.

Reverend Rosie Bruce

*Associate Minister in the DAMASCUS Parish*

## Services of Worship

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: Family Service @ 10:30 am

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Parish Eucharist @ 10:30 am + Junior Church

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Morning worship @ 10:30 am + Junior Church

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Parish Eucharist @ 10:30 am + Junior Church

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Special services across the Damascus Parish

– please see church noticeboard for details.

Wednesdays: BCP Holy Communion at 9:45 am.

## CHURCH DIARY FOR APRIL

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>** - 9:30-12:15 Quiet Morning in St Peter's Drayton – all welcome!

16:00 Movie Matinee in the River Room

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>** - 19:30 Baptism Preparation in St Blaise, Milton

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> PALM SUNDAY** - 10am Meet at Tullis Close for Palm Sunday procession with the donkey to All Saints' Church for the 10:30am service.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> MAUNDY THURSDAY** - 10:30-12 noon Community Café in the River Room.

19:30 Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday followed by Lamb Stew Supper in the River Room – please add your name to the sign up sheet at the back of church if you wish to come or e-mail [admin@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@damascusparish.org.uk)

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> GOOD FRIDAY** - 10:30am Hot Cross Bun Family Service.

12 noon Holy Hour

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> HOLY SATURDAY** - from 9:30am to 12 noon – Church Spring Cleaning. Many hands make light work – please help us to keep the church sparkling and prepare it for the Easter Celebrations.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> EASTER DAY** - 10:30am Holy Communion with Easter Egg Hunt for children

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>** - 10:30-12 noon Community Café

## CHURCH DIARY FOR MAY

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 19:30 Baptism Preparation Evening at St Michael's, Steventon

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>** – 13:30 Wedding at All Saints'

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>** – 19:30 Murder Mystery Evening in the Village Hall – see advert and posters for details – tickets on sale now!

## CHURCH DIARY FOR JUNE

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>** – 10:30am Open Air Songs of Praise on the Village Green with the Abbey Brass Band followed at 12:30 by the **BIG PLATINUM JUBILEE BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC LUNCH** on the Village Green – with bouncy castle; Fancy Hat Parade and Jubilee Cake Competition celebrating the past seven decades (once the cakes have been judged they will be cut to share for free with a cup of tea.



**Holy Baptism**

We send our best wishes and congratulations to the following who was welcomed into the family of the church through baptism:

**Harley George TYLER** – 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Rest in Peace**

We send our condolences and the assurance of our prayers to the family and friends of the following people who died recently:

**Joyce Emily Alice TEAT** aged 96, on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

**Jack BRISTOW** aged 23, on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

See obituaries page 14

\*\*\*\*\*



**EASTER LILIES  
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

At Easter we provide an opportunity to remember loved ones with a display of lilies in church. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of this year's lilies in memory of someone, please put your donation in an envelope with the name(s) of those to be remembered and deliver to Ann White at 24 Frilsham Street before Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April. A list of those remembered will be on display in Church.

**MOVIE MATINEES**

The next Movie Matinee in the River Room is on  
**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – 4pm**  
For a full programme to be sent to you please email:  
[admin@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@damascusparish.org.uk)  
or pick one up from the back of the church  
Entry is free but donations to church funds welcome.

**MURDER MYSTERY EVENING**

19:00 for 19:30

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022**

Sutton Courtenay Village Hall

See advert and posters for details.

This is a shared fundraiser for Sutton Courtenay Village Hall and All Saints' Church and we need some help please. If you can help with the catering or with setting up and decorating the hall and clearing up afterwards please contact the parish office on 01235 847179.

**Community Café in the River Room**



*Run by the church for the whole community*

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

**from 10:30-12:00**

all welcome!

Why not drop by for coffee or tea & delicious homemade cake & conversation and to browse the books or jigsaw puzzles on offer?

Open to all – a good place to meet with friends. If you need transport to and from the church please 'phone the Parish Office on 01235 847179

**Thank you to all those who supported the Community Café on March 10<sup>th</sup> – we raised £166.32 for the DEC Ukraine Appeal.**

**200 CLUB**

**In Support of the All Saints' Community Space**

Winning numbers at the Draw on March 16 were:

**1<sup>st</sup> – No.74 (£51.00)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – No. 89 (£26.00)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – No. 51 (£10.00)**

New members always welcome. Please see the information in All Saints' Church or email [landsbert@west-manor.co.uk](mailto:landsbert@west-manor.co.uk). The next draw will take place on Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup> - at the All Saints' Community Café in the River Room at 10.30 am.

**BRIDGE AFTERNOONS**

Come and play Bridge on Friday afternoons in the River Room 2-5 pm with a cup of tea and piece of cake - £5  
Tables, cards and score cards all provided

**Because one of our usual sessions falls on Good Friday we will be meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April**

Just come along and we make up tables based on experience/choice. All standards of play welcome – from experienced players to those who are 'just in need of a refresher', 'very rusty' or learning.  
Rubber or Chicago – you choose.



**SATURDAY  
21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2022**

**MURDER  
MYSTERY  
EVENING**  
**SUTTON COURTENAY  
VILLAGE HALL, OX14 4BB**



**19:00 for 19:30 start**

**Tickets £20 per person**

It is 1953 – Coronation year – and Sutton Courtenay is entered into the Best Kept Village Competition. The community is having a celebration in the village hall, but all is not as it seems. Murder, mystery and mayhem are just around the corner.

**Come dressed in 1950s costume to add to the atmosphere!**

**includes a  
cocktail, nibbles  
& 2-course meal**

**Cash Bar**

**Raffle**

**Tables of 8**

**Joint fundraiser  
for All Saints'  
Church and the  
Village Hall**

**TICKETS ON SALE FROM**

01235 847179  
or e-mail:  
admin@damascusparish.org.uk  
or from Hari & Esha News

Come and join us for an entertaining and challenging evening as tables of eight work together to find out whodunnit.

### The Sutton Courtenay Produce Show

The committee are delighted to announce that, after an absence of 2 years, the Sutton Courtenay Produce Show will take place this year on Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have kept the schedule the same as the one planned for 2020/21, when Covid restrictions sadly meant that the show was cancelled so that you may enter any items that you had made during this time. The schedule will be accessible on the Sutton Courtenay News website and it will also be printed in later editions of the Sutton Courtenay News. As usual, schedules and entry forms will be available from local shops and businesses nearer the time. There are children's classes for under six, seven to eleven and some of the other classes have a section for 12 to 16 years old. However, children may compete against the adults in any class if they so wish.

So, all you keen gardeners, knitters, craftspeople, artists and photographers get planning and making. The population of Sutton Courtenay has grown significantly since our last show in 2019 and we would love to see entries from people new to Sutton Courtenay as well as from familiar faces.

Val Dalby

### THE LATEST CALVER CHALLENGE!



**ON SUNDAY, JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup> 2022, ALAN CALVER (aged 84) WILL BE JUMPING OUT OF A PLANE**

**AT 15,000ft (with a parachute)!**

**SPONSOR HIM TO RAISE FUNDS FOR AID IN THE UKRAINE.**

**FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**



**SUTTON COURTENAY WI**



**COME AND JOIN US . . .**

**FOR A LIVELY FRIENDLY EVENING**

**At our meeting in April we'll be fascinated by  
'A Collection of Dolls'  
and their stories**

**Spring is here, and Summer is not too far away  
- join us and see what exciting things  
we'll be up to in May, June, and the  
rest of the year!**

**We meet every third Tuesday monthly in the River  
Room, Sutton Courtenay at 7.30 pm.**

**For details contact our Secretary on 847612**







After our Yamaha Music School open day on 27 March, we have a few places for 2 to 7 year olds in our group music courses. Please phone or email us for details.

**DANCE**

We have a new ballet teacher, all the way from Finland: Bryndís Einarsdóttir. It's lovely to hear the excitement (and laughter sometimes), coming from the main hall on Thursday evenings. The children will be in a show at the beginning of April – hopefully, we will have some photos for another edition of the SC news.

**ART**

The students from our KS2 and KS3 Visual Arts Courses are producing some wonderful creations under the guidance of Victoria Furze. The KS2 classes now have a waiting list, but there's space in the older sessions for school years 7, 8 and 9. Why not come and try a session? Thursdays from 5:30 to 7pm.

**ALL SAINTS' SINGERS**

Are back rehearsing at Matrix! Friday evenings are once again full of joyous singing.

01235 847264 [mail@matrixmusicschool.co.uk](mailto:mail@matrixmusicschool.co.uk)

The Nursery, Sutton Courtenay

**SC RE-CYCLE**

**FREE TO A GOOD HOME**

We have six solid pine farmhouse-style kitchen/dining chairs which we would love to donate to anyone who could use them.

For collection only: please call 07762 597118



**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**IN MEMORY OF BERTIE**

At the beginning of February I had to say goodbye to my beautiful Bertie. We had been together for 13 years. During that time he and I made many new 'doggie' friends and I thank him for that.

I would also like to say thank you for the cards and flowers I received from you, my friends.

I hope to see you all very soon.

Pat Steptoe

**Bertie**



Spring 2022  
Table-Top Sale

**Great Items  
For  
Great Causes**

Fun activities for children  
while you browse

Refreshments & Cakes  
also available

**WHEN:** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
**TIME:** 11:00 - 16:00  
**WHERE:** Sutton Courtenay Village Hall

**Spring Cleaning?**

Do you have any NEW & NEARLY NEW  
items or any UNWANTED GIFTS to  
donate to our sale?

Asking for: great quality clothing, jewellery,  
glassware, books, handbags. Knick-knacks,  
soft toys, toiletry sets, games, bottles for a  
tombola, extraordinary donations for a raffle  
& any other Great Items!

For more information about where to donate or  
to arrange a collection please contact:

Rita	848694
Kathy	07966 512062
Carolyn	07411 127711
Victoria	07900 980895
Mary	<a href="mailto:contrary63@gmail.com">contrary63@gmail.com</a>
Sally	<a href="mailto:sally.aitio@gmail.com">sally.aitio@gmail.com</a>

Supporting: DAMASCUS Youth Project, Europa School,  
Sutton Courtenay Primary School & the Sutton  
Courtenay Village Hall

**What is Nordic Walking?**

It is an enhanced walking technique that uses special poles to work your upper body as well as your legs. It gives you a highly effective all over body work out that doesn't feel like one. It is an enjoyable social activity which takes place in open countryside and can be practised throughout the year. If interested, then come down on any Friday during April to the Sutton Courtenay Recreation Ground at 09:00 to meet the qualified instructor and arrange for an hour of FREE tuition. Poles are provided. Then you can join any of our six different walks which are:

- Short – 40 minutes
- Medium – one hour
- Long – an hour and a half

Each Wednesday and Friday starting at about 09:45 from the same venue.

If you can walk you can learn this technique. The pace and length of your stride is not important, but the journey is. This is a Sutton Courtenay Community Free Event.

Graham Wells



**Flexicare Community  
Walk**

**Sunday 8th May 2022**

**Cycle, run or walk circular routes of varying lengths across the Ridgeway. A wheelchair/buggy accessible route is also available. Refreshments will be provided en route.**

**Starting at Snells Hall, East Hendred, OX12 8LA**

**Raising money to support Flexicare, an Oxfordshire based charity providing a free, specialised sitting service for families with a severely disabled child.**

**Register at [www.flexicare.org](http://www.flexicare.org)**

Registered Charity Number: 1172635

flexicareoxford

## REST IN PEACE

**Joyce Emily Alice TEAT** who died, aged 96, on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022 was born on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1925 in Mapledurham, where her father was a cowman, to her parents, Richard and Kathleen Annie Satchwith. Tragically her mother died whilst Joyce was young and her Dad re-married. This was not a happy time for Joyce and she was taken into care. She lived in a home, with other girls, in St Clements in Oxford. She always spoke fondly of this time and particularly of Mrs Batty, the woman who was charged with looking after the home. It was whilst in care that Joyce learnt to sew and to knit and she became extremely skilled at both. It was also whilst in care that her faith grew – the girls always had their Sunday dinner on a Saturday because they attended church every Sunday. She learnt to love singing – something which remained with her throughout her life.

On leaving care Joyce worked in service and, at one point, worked at the Naval College in Pangbourne. She returned home to look after her Dad when he became ill and cared for him until he died. Over the years she worked as a cleaner at Milton Manor and then at Bryson's – the then boys' school in Milton Village. She also worked at both Culham and Harwell and did private house cleaning for Major Phelps in Sutton Courtenay until well past retirement age. She met and fell in love with Cyril Charles Teat, and they married when Joyce was only 17, setting up home together in Sunninghill. They then moved to Milton Village and then to Sutton Courtenay into the house on Bradstocks Way which became Joyce's home until 2020. They thought the world of each other, and it was a happy marriage. Sadly, Joyce and Charles were unable to have children of their own, but they went onto adopt three children as babies, one after the other – David, Jenny and Larry; and Joyce strove to be a caring and loving mother to them all. They had a happy childhood and Joyce was definitely the one who ran the household and provided all they needed despite some hard times. Sadly, Charles was often in poor health and so it was Joyce who made the rules, but their Dad was a softer touch, as the children soon discovered, and he often broke them! Tragically Charles died in April 1982 from a heart attack and Joyce was widowed at a relatively young age. It was difficult for her when her son, David, moved to America, although she did fly out to visit him, and she was devastated when he died twenty two years ago.

As the years went on, she loved becoming a Nan, or Nanny, as she was known, and she was immensely proud of all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In later life she enjoyed travelling – taking a boat cruise on the Rhine and various coach trips around Britain. I first encountered her nearly 19 years ago, when I arrived in this village, as a loyal and faithful member of our worshipping community here at All Saints. She was a modest and unassuming individual but also an immensely caring, faith-filled person, a loyal friend who made a difference to the lives of those who knew her. She was a stalwart of the Young Wives which morphed, as the wives aged, into the Women's Christian Fellowship. She was also very involved in the WI and the Evergreens Club for

many years – usually to be found putting the kettle on and serving tea, or washing and tidying up - as well as giving loyal and faithful service to the church – always on the refreshments and cleaning rotas and making cakes. She knitted non-stop – often making the most amazing dolls, blankets and baby clothes, and doing cross stitch for presents for family members and friends, or generously giving them away as raffle prizes to help at fundraising events. She loved to help in any way that she could. She led a very active social life with friends across the village and beyond – as in later years she was a member of the Abingdon community choir at Trinity Church, and she loved going into the café in Ock Street regularly. She was always interested in people and never failed to be friendly and welcoming with a warm smile. Love shone out of her.

In 2020 Joyce moved to the newly opened Launton Grange in Bicester as their first resident. Although sad to leave Sutton Courtenay and all her friends here she had a wonderful time in the care home where they gave exemplary care – it was like a five-star hotel, and she loved it. She will be greatly missed by her family and her many friends.

*This is an edited extract from the address, given by the Reverend Helen Kendrick, at the funeral held in All Saints' Church on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022.*

**Jack BRISTOW** who died, aged 23, on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022, when killed by a falling tree in Storm Eunice, was born in the JR on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1998 to his Mum, Teresa, and Dad, Gary. The family lived in Didcot and he attended the primary school in Sutton Courtenay. Even as young toddler he loved helping his Dad wash cars, and from an early age showed a great love of being outdoors – always wanting to play outside. He loved tractors – inheriting this from his Grandad, Richard - in fact, he loved anything on two or four wheels. Jack moved to Spain with his Mum and Stepdad, Glenn, when he was about six years old. He loved life in Spain and quickly picked up the language. He used to get up early, leave a note for his Mum saying he had gone to work, and would spend the day with the local gardeners who kept the beach and gardens clean and tidy. He loved to help them and drink tea with them! They returned to England permanently when Jack was about 9 and he went back to Sutton Courtenay Primary School before going on to St Birinus. Jack, like many young men, did not enjoy his school days. He was not academic and found it hard. Although he did learn how to write very neatly. His great love was always for trucks, tractors and motor cross – which he did with his Dad – after he had bought him his first bike. His dream was to be a long-distance lorry driver. He would often go to work with his Dad and spend the day sitting in the driver's cab just for the pleasure of being there. This fascination with motors continued all his life – although he never had much luck with cars, as everyone he bought seemed to have something wrong with it, or they were just not fast enough for his liking.

On leaving school at 16 he did a Conservation and Countryside course at Abingdon and Witney College before

## REST IN PEACE

beginning a series of jobs: working on a dairy farm; landscape gardening; delivery driving; working for John Deere washing tractors; working for Biffa to name a few. As Teresa said, he had more jobs than hot dinners! When he was at work he worked hard but if he wasn't happy he left. Eventually he found his niche working in Traffic Management. He worked hard to get all the qualifications and seemed to have finally down and found something he enjoyed and was good at.

However, home was always where his heart was. He loved being there, simply chilling. He enjoyed spending time on his gaming PC – playing Euro farm and Truck Simulator. He had recently discovered a love of cooking and because of his cake-making success, he decided he wanted to apply to take part in the next Bake Off. Knowing his determination when he had put his mind to something I wouldn't have been at all surprised to see him on our TV screens. Jack loved his family and would keep in constant contact through the day – with phone calls and messages. He was adored by his grandparents – he was the apple of their eye, and they were very proud of him. He would always enjoy talking about tractors and farming with Grandad Richard. He loved dogs – the family dog Sylvie and her two puppies from her latest litter – Rosco (who was Jack's dog) and Sid, who would only wag his tail for Jack. But apparently Jack only walked them once! The family have some lovely memories of holidays abroad in Rhodes and in Marrakesh but Jack didn't really like the sun and he hated sun cream, so on a beach would lie under two towels and a beach umbrella to stop himself getting sunburnt.

Jack became a father with the birth of his son Harvey, and, although things were not easy at first, he was building up a relationship with him and had become a proud and adoring Dad who deeply loved his son. Jack met Courtney via Facebook but it turned out that Courtney had already met Glenn and Sylvie, the dog, whilst walking to work past their

house every day. Having messaged one another, Jack and Courtney got talking and *never* stopped. In August 2020 Courtney moved in with Jack and his family and they have been inseparable ever since. They spent Christmas with Courtney's family in Ireland (Jack relishing the drive all the way to Holyhead to catch the ferry) and he enjoyed getting to know them all – especially spending time playing with her little sister.

He and Courtney complemented one another – Courtney was indecisive and Jack decisive. He always made her laugh and, as we have heard, they adored one another and made each other happy. He was cheeky and smiling; warm and friendly with a natural ability to talk to anyone. He was imaginative and inventive and could tell the most amazing stories to entertain and make people laugh. He certainly had a mind of his own and could be stubborn and independent and could often be impatient - characteristics not always easy for those around him. He often thought that he was right, especially when it came to his own way of doing things – for example the ketchup always had to be on the opposite side of the bread to the egg in an egg sandwich! But above all, he was a loving and caring individual who adored his parents and loved Courtney, and was a loyal friend to many. He was always chatty, cheerful and friendly to everyone. He will be greatly missed by his family and his many friends who filled the church for his funeral.

*This is an edited extract from the address, given by the Reverend Helen Kendrick, at Jack's funeral which was held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 in All Saints' Church.*



Snakes' head fritillery

**www.YELLOWDOGUK.co.uk**

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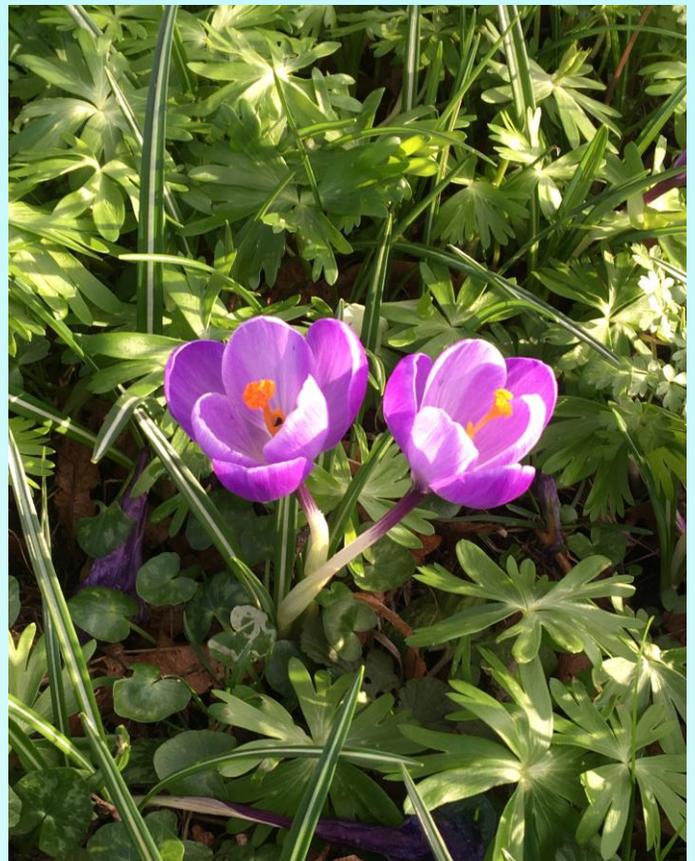
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**22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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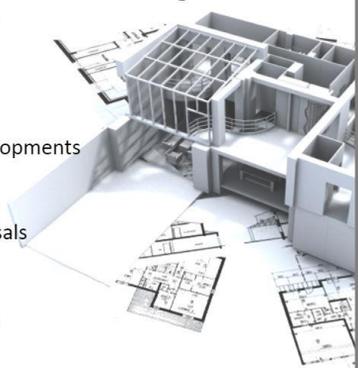


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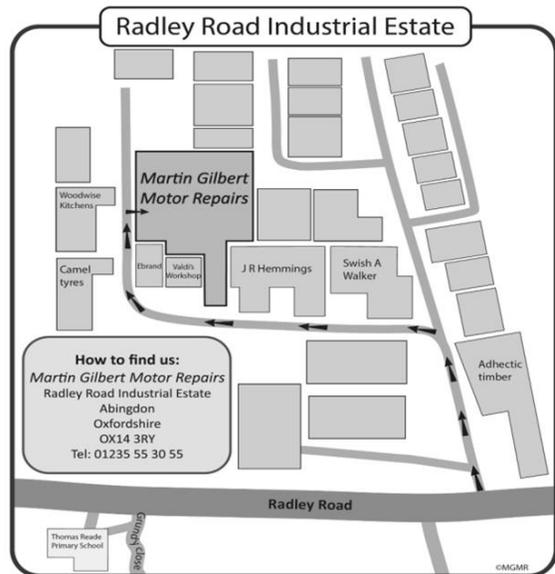
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