

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 52 No. 5

JUNE 2023



The Abbey by Lorenzo aged 7 (See page 7)

VILLAGE DIARY FOR JUNE

Thur 2 & 16	WeCare2 (p. 10)	River Room	11:15-12:30
Thur 8 & 22	Community Café (p. 9)	River Room	10:30-12:00
Thur 8	Together in Stitches (p. 10)	River Room	19:30-21:00
Sat 10	Movie Matinee (p. 10)	River Room	16:00
Mon 19	Knit & Natter (p. 10)	River Room	14:00-16:00
Tues 20	Sutton Courtenay WI (p. 12)	River Room	19:30
Tues 20	SCN AGM (p. 3)	Village Hall	19:00
Sat 25	George Orwell Afternoon (p. 10)	Church	14:00-17:00
Sun 2 July	Friends' Garden Party (p. 11)	Churchmere Road	12:30-15:30

Previous copies of SCN are available on the website under Archives at suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk

For information about financial help during the current economic crisis see page 12

JULY 2023 SCN DEADLINE – WEDNESDAY 21ST JUNE 2023

N.B. There is no August edition of SCN

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

VILLAGE CONTACTS

County Councillor: Richard Webber, 534001
(Schools, Roads etc.) richardwebber777@gmail.com
District Councillor: Richard Webber—as above
(Planning, Waste etc.)
Parish Council Chair: Rita Atkinson, 848694
ritaatkinson@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
Cricket Club: drb71@hotmail.co.uk
WI - Sutton Courtenay Amanda Bell 520057
Nordic Walking Group: Graham Wells 847322
Churchmere Carp Synd.: Andy Barrett 07717 662039
DAMASCUS Youth Project: 848694
SC Local History Society: John Talbot sclhs.org.uk
enquiries@sclhs.org.uk
SCIDS (Drama Society): Morna Whitlock, 848335
morna28whitlock@gmail.com
All Saints Singers: Kathy Harrop-Griffiths, 848230
secretary@allsaintssingers.org
www.allsaintssingers.org
Sutton Courtenay Action: suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com
Non-urgent Police: 101 or policing team email:
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
Parish Council: www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk
Vale of White Horse DC: www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk
Oxfordshire CC: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk
Village Hall: suttoncourtenayvillagehall.co.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
Assistant Priest: The Reverend Rosie Bruce
07766 421773 rosie-bruce@hotmail.co.uk
Associate Priest: The Reverend Phil Sutton 01235 635476
or 07507 378737 revphil@damascusparish.org.uk

Lay ministers: Jack Jarvis (831395) & Alex Landsbert (847443)
Authorised preacher: Paul James (848129)
Churchwarden: Hilary Otterburn (01235 834725)
Pro-Warden: Alison Budd (01235 527853)
Parish Office: 01235 847179 admin@damascusparish.org.uk

For Services of Worship - Please see Page 8

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.

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.

Sutton Courtenay Village Hall has a new website suttoncourtenayvillagehall.co.uk from where you can access a trial online-booking system. Please use it to make your booking inquiry. Full instructions are given. Also, any feedback would be appreciated so that we can fully evaluate the system. If you have any difficulties booking or you want to speak to someone about a booking, please contact Rita 01235 848694 or email: scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com

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 emailed to 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

For distribution enquiries please contact Sue on 847158 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 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.





Reporting problems in the parish

Recently the Parish Council has been made aware of problems with the surfaces at bus stops and uneven pavements/paths. Defects in the area adjacent to roads and roads themselves are the responsibility of the Highways authority which is Oxfordshire County Council. The Parish Council asks that residents report the problems via <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/> or by calling the County Council on 0345 310 1111. If the County Council fails to act, then please inform the Parish Council via the Clerk with details of the report including when it was made.

If you notice any problems at the **Recreation Ground, Cemetery, Village Green** or with any of the public **benches** in the parish then please report these directly to the Clerk to the Parish Council, Jennie Currie, (details below) as these sites are owned and managed by the Parish Council.

New Parish Council

Following the May 2023 elections 7 Councillors continued in their roles. At its May meeting the Council elected Rita Atkinson as their chairman for a second year and welcomed Robert Dalby to the role of vice chairman. During the meeting Fiona Wolveridge and Teresa Field were co-opted to the Council.

The Council is now looking to fill the remaining 2 seats by co-option. Individuals who are on the electoral register and who live or work in the parish or within 3 miles of the parish can be considered for co-option. If you are interested in working in a small team to contribute to local life, taking forward projects which benefit people across the parish, then please contact the Clerk, Jennie Currie.

Please note the role is unpaid, as a minimum you would be expected to attend monthly meetings and check your Council email account at least once a week. You would be asked to take an active role in a couple of areas of the Council's work across recreational amenities, the cemetery, planning policy, community infrastructure (defibs, benches, bins), community events and representing the Parish Council at meetings with local charitable and commercial organisations.

2022-23 Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return

Each year the smaller authority's Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) needs to be reviewed by an external auditor appointed by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd. The unaudited AGAR will be published on the Council's website and noticeboard.

Any person interested has the right to inspect and make copies of the accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those

records must be made available for inspection by any person interested.

The documents can be view by making an appointment with the Clerk to the Council between Monday 12th June and Friday 21st July 2023.

Council meetings and contact details

Members of the public are welcome to attend Council meetings. The dates of next meetings are Tuesday 6th June, Tuesday 4th July and Tuesday 5th September at 7.15pm in Sutton Courtenay Village Hall.

The agenda for the meeting will be published on the Council's website www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk and on the noticeboard outside Hari & Esha News, High Street, Sutton Courtenay.

Councillors: Rita Atkinson (chairman), Robert Dalby (vice chairman), Teresa Field, Lyn Hodder, Father Morkos, Joanna O'Callaghan, Hugo Raworth, Jason Warwick and Fiona Wolveridge.

Correspondence should be sent to the Clerk, Miss J. Currie, Sutton Courtenay Parish Council, c/o 44 Harrington Close, Newbury, RG14 2RQ info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk 07495 123 353. Alternatively, you can contact Councillors directly, their email addresses are on the website.

Sutton Courtenay News

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
at 7pm
on Tuesday 20th June 2023

Nominations for Chairman, Editor, Advertising
Manager, Treasurer & Administrator together with the
details of two seconds should be sent to
Judy Baggott at scmail836@gmail.com or
42 Lady Place, Sutton Courtenay

LOST & FOUND

FOUND - DISTINCTIVE WATCH

Found on the river footpath near the Endurance boat on
19 April a distinctive, designer watch. Please contact the
editors for further details:

editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk or 07946474238



Making Memories

Friday 5th May was a special day as we prepared to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. We wanted all children in the school to understand something of the historic nature of this event and make a day filled with special and happy memories. Thanks to Mrs Knight's hard work, everything went off incredibly smoothly! In our final assembly at the end of the day, we talked to the children about the sense of service a king must have, and about how we can all show this sense of leadership in our community by the way we are and the choices we make. We gave the children an overview of the key symbolic moments in the coronation service, so if they were watching they might recognise some parts!

A Parade of Crowns!

The children were invited to make paper crowns for the day— they looked lovely and there were prizes for the best ones. We all enjoyed the parade as the children walked proudly round the playground to claps and cheers. Pictured here are the winners from each class. It was very hard for staff to judge – they looked for creative and original ideas and signs that the child had made the crown themselves!



Picnic lunch time!

Mrs Greenough had been busy all week preparing our picnic lunch and it was all hands on deck in the morning making up the lunch bags for the children with Coronation Chicken wraps and crown shaped biscuits! It was touch and go, and we had various wet weather plans, but in the end, the weather smiled on us and it was dry enough to celebrate outside. In view of the dire forecast for the rest of the weekend, we consider ourselves extremely lucky! The whole school gathered on the playground for our picnic lunch, and there was an amazing atmosphere.



Fun and games!

After the picnic lunch, there were various traditional activities for the children to enjoy. The maypole was out in the hall for children who wanted a turn (as usual they tied the ribbons into many knots as they danced enthusiastically around!). There was also a wellie wanging competition, dressing up, parachute games and hoopla!



Equalities Award

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Bronze Equalities Award for our curriculum. The award is given to schools who ensure that learning promotes equality for ALL children, and raises awareness of this important issue. Just like privilege, equality can be a hard thing for young children to understand. Equality is not always about everyone having or being the same. It is about fairness of access, which may mean adaptations for some and being aware of how others are disadvantaged. The award considered the curriculum in its widest sense, including things like our assemblies, activities on offer, and the sense of personal development we strive to foster.



Headteacher: Ms Rachel Hornsey

Asst Headteachers: Lisa Knight & Louise Potter

Office.3243@sutton-courtenay.oxon.sch.uk

Telephone: 01235 848333

A reassuring message.

One of my obligations on your behalf is to serve on the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner Scrutiny panel. There, I meet Councillors from all around the Thames Valley area to discuss how we should hold the Commissioner to account.

The reputation of our police has taken quite a battering largely as a result of happenings in the Met. As we are the nearest neighbours to the Met, we might have expected that similar problems might spill over from the Met area into the Thames Valley. I am happy to report that I have seen little sign of this. Indeed, I have been very impressed with the determination shown by our Chief Constable and his team of Deputies in dealing with potential problems of misogyny, racism, bullying and the like.

A recent BBC documentary on some of the behaviour at the UN where there were accusations of bad behaviour running right up to the top of the organisation, made me realise just how important it is for the public to have confidence in large organisations that senior management is open, transparent and honest over any shortcomings. The moment that there is any sign of cover up, the reputation of the whole organisation is threatened. This is why I was much reassured by discussions with the senior Thames Valley Police team.

On a lighter note, we were shown one picture of the Commissioner walking across a field between two police officers. Doubtless, this was to convey the daily consultation that goes on between TVP and the Commissioner. However, it struck me that it could have been construed as the Commissioner being “taken in for questioning”. It just demonstrates how important presentation and image is in public life!

Election mayhem over

As new Councils and Councillors begin to get their feet under the table, the same local problems and challenges that we faced last month are facing us now. Housing and housing numbers, roads, traffic, active travel and the climate emergency all still need solutions. At the same time, inflation is proving harder to bring down than we thought. If any of our new councillors thought they were in for an easy ride, I fear they were mistaken. But with a bunch of new, fresh faces comes a feeling of optimism that things could get better. That is something we all need to build on.

Richard Webber Cllr

01235 534001

Richardwebber777@gmail.com

DAVID JOHNSTON MP



I hope you all enjoyed the Coronation weekend. Whether I was in Wantage, Didcot, Grove or Wallingford, the mood was upbeat, people were having a good time and there was plenty of food, music and activities.

The Coronation itself passed off perfectly, despite the weather – and the concert was great too. It was another reminder of how this country can do events like this better than anywhere else.

While we're still crunching the data, I wanted to thank everyone who completed my health services survey. I've had responses from nearly 3,000 people, which is a really great number to give a picture of what people are feeling across the constituency.

It's clear that, as I expected and as my inbox reflects, many people feel we do not have the health services we need. Nor do I. People particularly struggle to get an appointment with a doctor or with a dentist, but this is not the only thing that people would like to see more of when it comes to health. I will continue to campaign hard on this – watch this space.

After I held a successful crime summit with Thames Valley Police in Wantage, I was asked by local residents to hold one in Wallingford. I can confirm this will take place on 15th June, 6.30pm – 8pm and Waitrose have offered their café as a venue. Sign up on my website: www.david-johnston.org.uk.

Wherever you live, you can also sign up on my website for my third annual climate summit, which will be via Zoom

and will have Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, giving the keynote speech.

Sticking with the environment and climate change, I continue to lobby for the Local Electricity Bill, of which I am the lead sponsor, and which is now backed by 318 MPs. This would make it easier for small, community organisations that generate renewable energy to be able to sell it to the community. I am hopeful that with the Government's Energy Bill making its way through parliament at the moment, we might be able to finally make something happen that enables community energy to flourish.

Thanks to everyone who took part in my Apprenticeship Fair in Didcot – nearly 400 people attended and I had great conversations with a range of public and private employers about the variety of apprenticeships they offer. I was asked if I will be doing it again and I will be doing so.

A couple of other things in brief. I met with the Chair of Water Resource South East to again convey the objections local people have about the reservoir proposal. I also continue to encourage people to see if they are eligible for Pension Credit, which can provide an average £3,500 a year to pensioners. The figures show the uptake locally is increasing, but there are more people who could be getting it. See if you or someone else you know is eligible here: www.gov.uk/pension-credit/eligibility

As ever, if I can help with anything please email me via david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT



It's so nice when a plan comes together! Young people in Sutton Courtenay have really risen to the challenge we set out for them and have proved that they have what it takes to be the leaders in their community! Below are a few snap

shots from a recent session which focused solely on leadership, teamwork and problem-solving skills. We talked about different leadership styles and considered the benefits of co-operation over competition. In the weeks before we had been busy planting the seeds for this session and exploring social action with the young people. A subject that originally seemed alien to most of them became a term with which they felt more familiar, which resulted in young people using their voices to vote and affect change within their sessions. We are so proud of every single one of them!

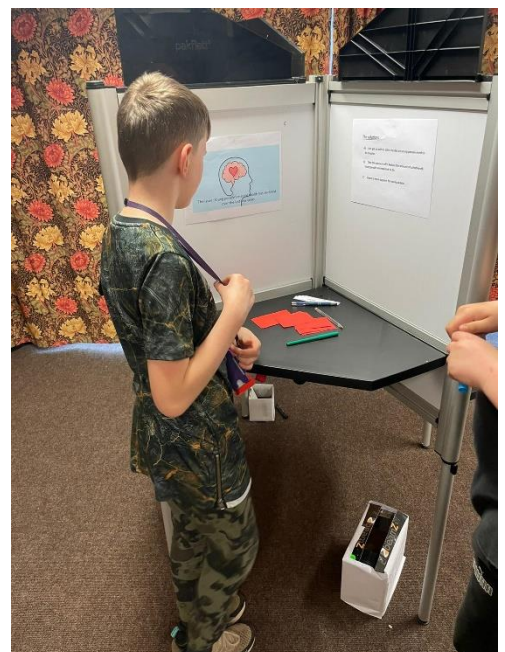
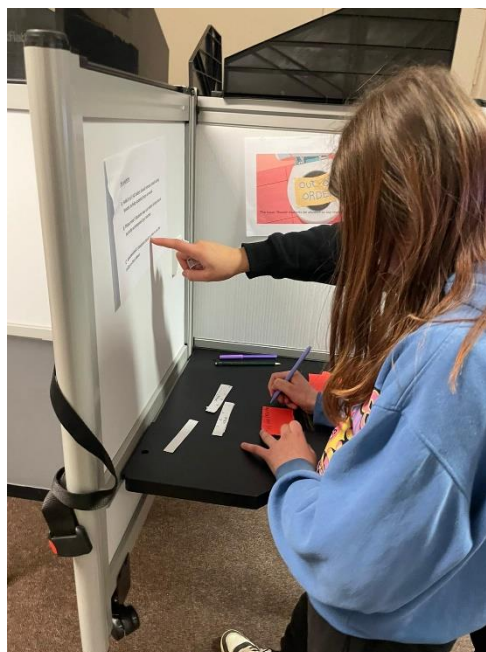


Above: Beware Crocodiles! - Given only planks of wood, we must get across this fast-flowing river infested with crocodiles – come on team, work together!

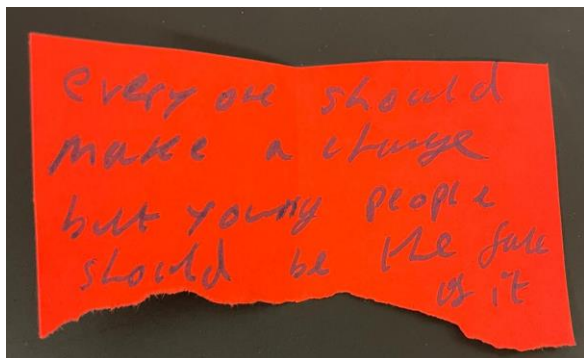


Left: Two-dimensional, homemade Rubik's cube (*well OK – rectangle*) the point is shall we all just do our own thing or work together under the direction of a leader to be the first team to put the items in order?

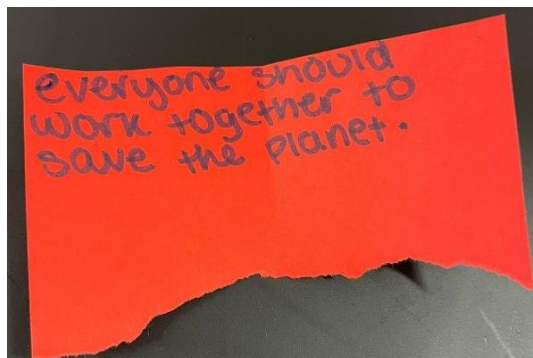
Right: Election Fever – polling booths were delivered early to the village hall, so on Wednesday 3 May, young people held their own election – good turnout! It was an election based around choosing the best policies on topics such as school uniform, permission to use the toilet during lessons (a current hot topic), mental health and the environment.



ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT



As always, we are grateful for support from the wider community. In May the Radley's Women's Fellowship invited us to talk about our work. Two young people went along and spoke confidently of their engagement with us and what it meant to them – these are young people who have not experienced such opportunities to express themselves in front of an audience before. The audience was so impressed that they organised a collection and made a donation to the Youth Project.



Tel: 01235 848694



James Damascus, Jake Damascus



James_Damascus; Jake_Damascus

YouTube-The Abingdon Damascus Youth Project–MIND GYM

Website - www.damascusyouthproject.org.uk

THE ABBEY

What's happening at The Abbey?

Work continues at The Abbey, with our regeneration plan well underway. The support of the local community is key to our success, so we want to keep you up to date with our activities and hope to see as many Sutton Courtenay residents and friends as possible joining in and using The Abbey.

Ways to participate:

Act as a Trustee - we are currently looking for a Treasurer Trustee with financial experience to join our board.

Become a Company Member or volunteer - apply to be a member to get more involved with the life of The Abbey or volunteer to help with the activities and be part of keeping this historic building alive. For example, you could help in the extensive gardens (did you know there's a walled kitchen garden and large greenhouse in need of regeneration?)

In the slightly longer term, we intend to review the Abbey's charitable purposes and to consider how best to pursue these in the future. We will welcome views from, and the involvement of, anyone in the village who is interested in this work. Further details will follow in due course.

Attend one of our events - coming up:

- 17 June – Women's Wellbeing Day
- 30 June - Music performance
- 16 July - SAVE THE DATE for The Abbey Summer Garden Party

Join in with our daily wellbeing programme -

- QiGong in the garden 08.00-08.30
- Meditation in the main house 08.30-09.00
- Wellness Warriors in the main house and gardens Thursdays 07.30-08.30

Book the Garden Lodge - Airbnb accommodation providing additional space for friends and family.

Keep checking The Abbey website for more details and keep up to date with our events and wellbeing programme and for how to contact us - theabbey.uk.com



Enjoying working at the Abbey

The lovely picture of the Abbey on our front page was painted by Lorenzo aged 7 using watercolour and pen. Lorenzo attends Art classes in the Abbey.



**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

I could do with a holiday this summer

June is the start of our meteorological summer, and when our hopes turn to restful warm sunny days in the garden or perhaps going on holiday. We look forward to a much needed break from the gloom of the crises and threats which surround us, or the gloom of the weather and our tiredness.

Pentecost heralds the start of summer – the time when the church remembers and gives thanks for God's gift of His life giving, life enhancing, Spirit. To the early church, God sent His Holy Spirit to be their strength in times of human weakness and vulnerability. As our energy, faith and hope diminishes, Pentecost reminds us again that God's strength is made perfect in our weakness.

Pentecost makes me realise that our sense of emptiness is not a negative thing, it is a capacity.

We read on containers the capacity they hold. Capacities are there to be filled. Without the Holy Spirit we are nothing. It is only through the Holy Spirit, God within us, that we come to believe in God's refreshing love. It is only through the Holy Spirit that we can pray at all; for true prayer is always the Holy Spirit praying in and through us. It is only through the Holy Spirit that we are capable of any genuine good, for that which is of God within us is good. Without the Holy Spirit we are an emptiness. But this emptiness is a capacity waiting to be filled.

W.J. Carey, Bishop of Bloemfontein from 1921-1934, wrote a prayer which he suggested should be 'prayed slowly; or brooded over; or thought and felt.' This prayer includes the lines: *'O Holy Spirit of God – come into my heart and fill me ... I offer to thee the one thing I really possess, my capacity of being filled by thee... Fill me so that I may live the life of the Spirit; the life of truth and goodness, the life of beauty ... and guide me today in all things.'*

The full prayer can be found at

prayerandverse.com/2019/02/05/holy-spirit-fill-me/

This summer, may God grant you restful and refreshing 'holy-days'.

Phil Sutton

Associate Priest

Services of Worship

1st Sunday: Family service at 11:00 am

2nd Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 11:00am + Junior Church

3rd Sunday: Morning Worship at 11:00am + Junior Church

4th Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 11:00am + Junior Church

5th Sunday: Special services across the Damascus Parish – please see church noticeboard for details

CHURCH DIARY FOR JUNE

Monday 5th - 9:30 DAMASCUS Parochial Church Council Standing Committee Meeting.

19:30 Baptism preparation for any families interested in baptism for their children, River Room, All Saints' Church

Tuesday 6th (and every following Tuesday – 7:45 online morning prayer – all welcome to join us – see advert for details

Wednesday 7th 19:30 The DAMASCUS Parish 'Big Read' – Restore, Renew, Rebuild – a six week course exploring the life of Nehemiah and the Mission of Jesus – to register please ring the parish office on 01235 847179.

Thursday 8th – 10:30-12 noon Community Café in the River Room.

19:30 Together in Stitches (craft group with wine)

Saturday 10th – 9:30-11:00 Community Brunch in the River Room – all welcome!

16:00 Movie Matinee in the River Room – all welcome!

Monday 12th – 19:30 Sutton Courtenay Local Church Council in the River Room

Wednesday 14th 19:30 The DAMASCUS Parish 'Big Read' – Restore, Renew, Rebuild – a six week course exploring the life of Nehemiah and the Mission of Jesus.

Monday 19th – 2-4pm Knit and Natter in the River Room

Wednesday 21st - 19:30 The DAMASCUS Parish 'Big Read' – Restore, Renew, Rebuild

Thursday 22nd – 10:30-12:00 Community Café

Sunday 25th – 2-5pm George Orwell Cream Teas and Craft Stalls. 3pm Act of Commemoration around the grave with the Orwell Society. 5pm Talk by Richard Blair

Wednesday 28th 19:30 The DAMASCUS Parish 'Big Read' – Restore, Renew, Rebuild.

CORONATION THANKS

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the Coronation events in Sutton Courtenay. The weekend began with a Community Breakfast hosted by Mike & Beth Summers, and their amazing team, with live-streaming of the Coronation service on two screens. Everyone who came said how much they enjoyed being together to watch such a momentous occasion. And on Sunday, Abbey Brass got our celebrations off to a swing as they led our 'Sing for the King' service in All Saints' which was followed by a glass of bubbly to celebrate Helen's birthday (thank you for all the birthday wishes) and then out onto the Village Green for the Big Picnic where the sun shone all day. Thank you to all the helpers who baked cakes, donated raffle prizes and who set up and put everything away again and helped to run stalls. We raised enough money on the raffle and the tea and cakes to nearly cover the costs of the day.

Thank you everyone!

Confirmation

Many congratulations to the following who were confirmed into the Church of England by the Right Reverend Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester at a special service on Sunday 23rd April in All Saints' Church.

Ralph Alexander ALLEN
Kate HOLLIDAY
Charlotte Elizabeth JAMES
John Edward JAMES
Emily YOUNG
Matthew YOUNG

And **Pat CAPUZZIMATI** who re-affirmed her baptismal vows.

Rest in Peace

We send our condolences and the assurance of our prayers to the family and friends of:

Edith (Cis) Grootz, who died on 7th April 2023
(Obituary on page 14)

Community Café in the River Room



Run by the church for the whole community

Thursday 8th June

Thursday 22nd June 2023

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 or make new ones. If you need transport to and from the church please telephone the Parish Office on 01235 847179

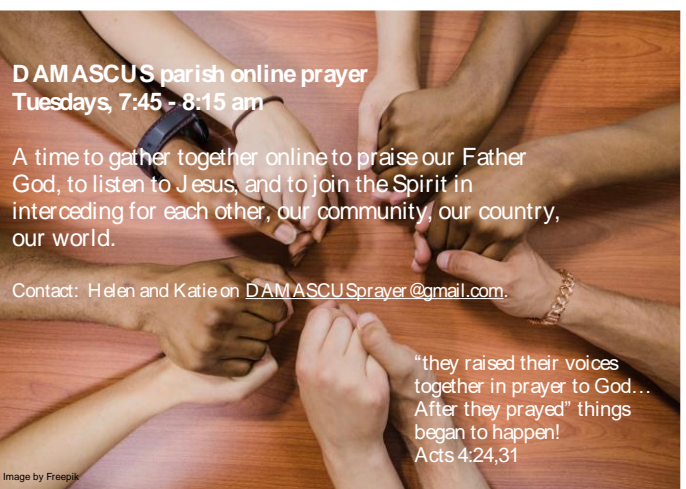


Join us as we read and discuss Cris Roger's book, which explores how we can learn from Nehemiah's story to create a more hopeful, faith-filled future. Together we will look at how we can join in with God's heart and mission for restoring all things, renewing and rebuilding our hearts, our focus and our world.

Starting Wednesday 7th June 7:30pm

In the River Room, Sutton Courtenay and online via zoom.

For more information and to register your interest please contact admin@damascusparish.org.uk or 01235 847179





George Orwell Afternoon Sunday 25th June 2023

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, SUTTON COURTENAY

2-5pm - Cream Teas and Stalls

(artwork; jewellery; mosaic; beauty gifts;
woodwork & bric-a-brac)

3pm Orwell Society Act of Commemoration

5pm Talk by Richard Blair – 'More Life
with My Father, George Orwell'

Tickets –from Hari & Esha News or 01235
847179 or admin@damascusparish.org.uk

Entrance to Craft Aisle – FREE!

£15 for Cream Tea and Talk.

£5 for Cream Tea only. £10 for the Talk only.

All proceeds to All Saints' Church, Fabric Fund

Together in Stitches

Do you wish you could find time for craft projects?

Would you like a fun evening,
meeting like-minded people in Sutton Courtenay?

If so, *Together in Stitches* is for you!



Bring your craft project, whatever that may be,
and come and enjoy a chat (and possibly a glass of wine)

Second Thursday in the month (7:30-9pm, River Room)

For more information 'phone 01235 847179 or just turn up!

RIVER ROOM 200 CLUB

In Support of the All Saints' Community Space

The result of the monthly Draw on 11 May, was:

1st – No. 3 (£40.00)

2nd – No. 8 (£20.00)

3rd – No. 11 (£10.00)

New members always welcome.

Please see the information in All Saints' Church or
email landsbert@west-manor.co.uk. The next draw
will take place on Thursday June 8 - at the All Saints'
Community Café in the River Room at 10.30 am.

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Do you live with, or care for someone
living with Dementia?

Wecare2

Wecare2 is a small group of people with dementia
and, of course, their carers. We meet on the 1st
and 3rd Thursday of each month from 11:15 to
12:30 in the 'River Room' at All Saints' Church.

Our aim is to sing a little, socialise a little and have
an "elevenses" together.

New members will always be welcome.

If interested either as a customer (transport can
be arranged) or to help, please contact

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morna28whitlock@gmail.com

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MOVIE MATINEES

The next Movie Matinee in the River Room is on

Saturday 10th June 2023 – 4pm

For a full programme to be sent to you please

email: admin@damascusparish.org.uk

or pick one up from the back of the church

Entry is **free** and refreshments (to match the theme of
each film) are available. Voluntary Donations in aid of
the Church Fabric Fund gratefully received.

THE FRIENDS' GARDEN PARTY SUNDAY 2ND JULY 2023



The Friends of All Saints' Church have great pleasure in announcing the date of their annual Garden Party which will be held on Sunday 2nd July from 12.30am -3.30pm in Sue Jenkins' garden, Churchmere Road, Sutton Courtenay. We welcome all members of the Sutton Courtenay Community and beyond. There will be a Jazz Band playing and entertainment will be arranged for children.

A buffet lunch will be served during the afternoon.

*Tickets £12 adults £6 children
(Family ticket for two adults & 2 Children £30)*

*Tickets available from Sue Jenkins
(SJenkins33@aol.com) or any member of the committee. Please ring 07885 437454 for details*

Entertaining This Summer?

Borrow a tent from
'The Friends of All Saints' Church'

The Friends of All Saints' Church have two good quality white tents that can be borrowed for your outdoor entertaining this summer. Each tent is 6m x 3m (20ft x 10ft) with sides that can be added or not, depending on weather.

A donation to The Friends of All Saints' Church would be appreciated.

To erect and strike the tents - Friends of All Saints' will provide a supervisor but the borrower would need to provide an able-bodied team of four as labour. Times for this would be negotiable.

All enquiries to:

Morna Whitlock (morna28whitlock@gmail.com)

David McKenzie (d.j.mckenzie@hotmail.com)

The Editor would like to apologise to Nicki Broadbent whose letter about a dog featured in the May edition. When faced with an unqualified 'it' in the final sentence and 2 paragraphs away from the subject of the letter – the dog - the editor changed 'it' to 'your dog' to improve clarity for readers, understanding that this sentence was directed to the owner of the dog in question. I am sorry that this has been interpreted as applying to all dogs. There was no intention to change the meaning of Nicki's letter. She has asked to have the following published:

The final sentence in my letter to the Editor in May's Newsletter was not what I had originally written or intended. I would not presume to tell all dog walkers to keep all dogs on leads only those who pose a threat to other pets and their owners.

Nicki Broadbent

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<https://service.oxfordshire.gov.uk/fosteringenquiry>

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- To act as first point of contact for staff and volunteers with regard to IT technical support for Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice.

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- Installing and configuring computer hardware, software, systems, networks, printers and scanners
- Testing new hardware and software before full-scale installation
- Responding in a timely manner to service issues and requests
- Attending team meetings and any other additional training as required.

Personal skills and qualities needed:

- Commitment to the aims and principles of Citizens Advice
- Experience in networking configuration, diagnostics and maintenance
- In-depth knowledge of Windows operating system and Google suite
- Problem-solving skills
- Ability to communicate clearly both verbally and in writing
- Practical experience with internet and network security protocols

Please email our recruitment team: recruitment@citizensadviceosav.org.uk State which location you would like to volunteer in, and include your contact details.

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Cycling	Polo	Volleyball
Diving	Rowing	Wrestling
Football		

Taken from www.puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com

Claudio Elgueta, a Sutton Courtenay resident, has informed SCN about the cycle ride he is currently doing. He left on 1st May to cycle from Oxford to Barcelona and back - a distance of about 2200 miles. He is cycling to raise money for Amnesty International, and also to celebrate his 75th birthday.

When he retired at 65 Claudio decided ‘to do something crazy every five years’. He ran the Oxford Marathon in 2013 and cycled from Land’s End to John O’Groats in 2019 (delayed because of family issues) and now has embarked on this amazing venture. He is a retired linguist and teaches Spanish at the U3A.

Claudio has a Facebook page for the journey www.facebook.com/groups/906057687210588

Donations to Amnesty International: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/claudio-elgueta-4

Good luck Claudio!



Claudio beside the Carfax Tower in Oxford

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O K I C T N S O C C D B E O L
B N K B O E N B G O L F Y T H
G E A O L T H U P O L O X B T
T L K D G E S O R G D F E A A
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R U L X X N I V U K U I J L E
H Z R H Q I E W X A E A I M U
N S R O J S Y U O U S Y O K O
W R E S T L I N G R T H E N S

REST IN PEACE

Edith (Cis) Grootz, who died on 7th April 2023, was born on 20th June 1925 in Wolverhampton, to her parents May and Percy Roberts, and grew up with her brother Ted. The family moved to Sutton Courtenay when her Father came to work for MG as a coachfitter.

As a child Cis belonged to a Dancing Academy where she did acrobatics and she and her mother would travel around the country to acrobatic displays. Cis always used to say that it was the money she earned from this that bought the three cottages on Chapel Lane which the family owned. She attended Sutton School on the High Street but left at 14 to go into Domestic Service at Northcourt House in Abingdon. The lady of the house soon recognized that Cis was not suited to the work so sent her home! For a while Cis moved back to Wolverhampton and worked in The Greyhound Pub – owned by her Auntie Doris.

When war broke out she moved back to Sutton Courtenay and it was working in the packing bay at Milton Depot, with her great friend Sylv, that she met and fell in love with Kurt, who was working as a Chef whilst a Prisoner of War. Kurt went onto be repatriated to Germany, but he was determined to return to Cis and – after one long year – he succeeded and arrived back in England to marry her. They walked to Didcot to obtain a Special Licence and they were married here in this church. They went onto have five children, thirteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Apart from a stay of 10 years in Canada the family settled in Sutton Courtenay, where Cis brought up her family and also worked in various jobs – including in the canteen on Milton Park and at John Adams – making cuddly toys and as a cleaner which she did until well into her 80s.

Her life was not without tragedy – losing two of her sons in tragic circumstances and battling with Lymph cancer when she was 85. When Kurt suffered a stroke she lovingly nursed and cared for him. Through all of this she proved herself to be a real fighter and struggler.

Cis loved shopping and always enjoyed going to car boot sales with Sylv, her best friend and buying chocolates and sweets for her grandchildren. She enjoyed the company of her really good neighbours – Billy, Ivan and Mrs Teat. She was always grateful for their love and support. She was a hard-working, houseproud and caring person and a loyal friend. Determined to be independent she could be very stubborn. She liked to be busy – and as long as she was busy she was happy - but above all Cis was someone who loved her family and who always put them first. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Her funeral took place in All Saints' Church on 26th April 2023 and this is an edited extract from the address given by the Reverend Helen Kendrick.

EASY SUDOKU PUZZLE

3		7	1	5			2	
	5		4		6	8		
	6	4			7	9	1	5
2		3		6	9		7	
6				4		2		
9			7			3	5	
	3	1					8	9
7			9					3
			3	1				

MEDIUM SUDOKU PUZZLE

		6		9		2		
1				7	4	8		
			2				7	
7		8	4		6			
				2				
	2		5		1			
	9				8		2	1
		7		5				8
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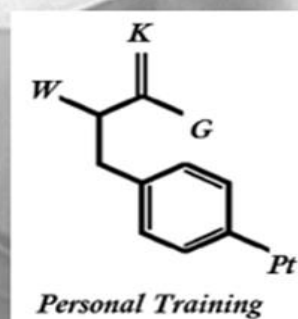
Taken from www.puzzles.ca/sudoku

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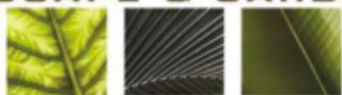
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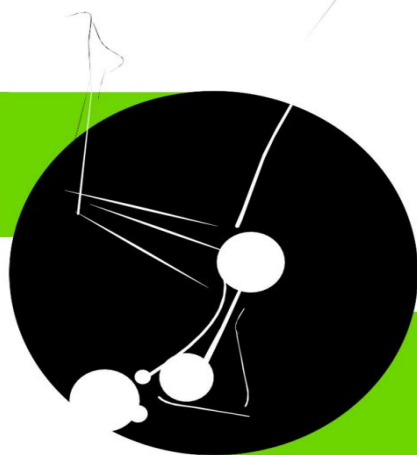
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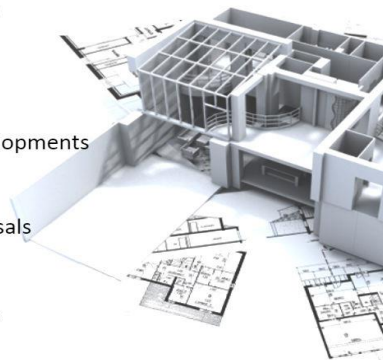
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