

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 52 No. 6

JULY - AUGUST 2023



VILLAGE DIARY

JULY	Sun 2	Friends of All Saints' Garden Party	Churchmere Rd.	12:30-15:30
	Thur 6 & 20	WeCare2 (p. 8)	River Room	11:15-12:30
	Sat 8	Community Brunch (p. 7)	River Room	9:30-11:30
	Thur 13 & 27	Community Café (p. 7)	River Room	10:30-12:00
	Thur 13	Together in Stitches (p. 8)	River Room	19:30-21:00
	Sun 16	Abbey Garden Party (p. 11)	The Abbey	14:00-16:00
	Mon 17	Knit & Natter (p. 10)	River Room	14:00-16:00
	Tues 18	WI (p. 8)	River Room	19:30
	Thur 27	Skate Park Sessions (p. 3)	Skate Park	14:00-17:00
	Sat 29	Movie Matinee (p. 7)	River Room	16:00
	Sun 30	Cream Teas (p. 7)	River Room	14:30-17:30
AUGUST	Wed 2 & 23	Children's Craft Session (p. 7)	River Room	14:00-16:00
	Thur 3 & 10	WeCare2 (p. 8)	River Room	11:15-12:30
	Thur 3, 10, 17 & 23	Skate Park Sessions (p. 3)	Skate Park	14:00-17:00
	Sat 5	Community Brunch (p. 7)	River Room	9:30-11:30
	Sun 6, 13, 20 & 27	Cream Teas (p. 7)	River Room	14:30-17:30
	Thur 10 & 24	Community Café (p. 7)	River Room	10:30-12:00
	Thur 10	Together in Stitches (p. 8)	River Room	19:30-21:00
	Sat 12	Pirates of Penzance – Opera Anywhere (p. 9)	All Saints' Church	19:30
	Tues 15	WI (p. 8)	River Room	19:30
	Mon 21	Knit & Natter (p. 10)	River Room	14:00-16:00
	Sat 2 SEPTEMBER	SC Craft and Produce Show (p. 12)	The Abbey	14:00

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

SEPTEMBER 2023 SCN DEADLINE – WEDNESDAY 16TH AUGUST 2023

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: 242283
Village Hall – SC: scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com
Cricket Club: drb71@hotmail.co.uk
WI - Sutton Courtenay Val Melville 847612
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 6

VILLAGE HALL

The Trustees are doing all they can to minimise disruption during the refurbishment which is due to start on 1st July. They are working hard to ensure all processes are in place so that the works can start promptly. Alternative accommodation has been found for some of our regular users during this period and we and our builder will be doing our best to reopen for September. However, as with all projects of this nature we will not know until nearer the end of August.

Please visit our website/booking facility at <https://suttoncourtenayvillagehall.co.uk/> in late August for updates about reopening, and going forward, you will still be able to book the hall for September onwards but your booking will show as pending until the Trustees have a confirmed date to reopen the Hall so there will be some uncertainty around it.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mary Warrington - Treasurer Trustee on: contrary63@gmail.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

The Post Office services in Sutton Courtenay are closing down see From the Editor page 10.

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 on Appleford Road.

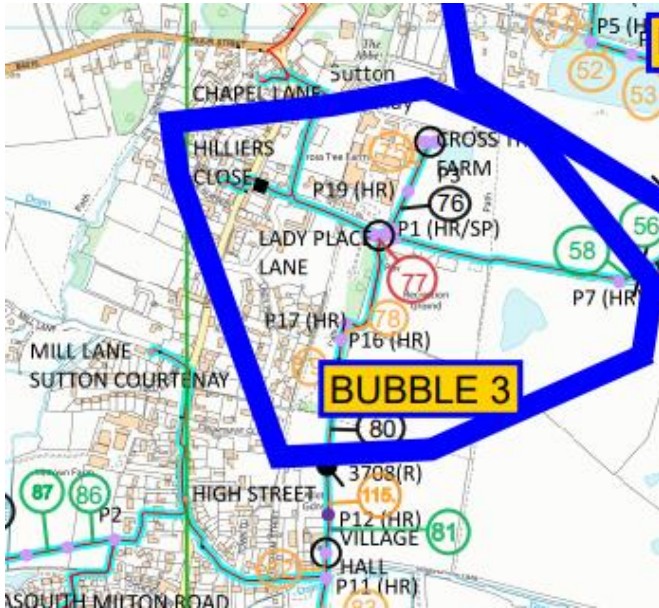




SSE to carry out tree works which might cause power outages

On Wednesday 2nd August 2023, SSE has arranged for a contractor to carry out tree works in the area of the overhead cables which run alongside the Village Hall and onto the Cemetery. Due to the nature of the work it is likely that the power supply will need to be temporarily disconnected.

The homes and businesses effected are in the area north of the Village Hall as indicated on this map. SSE will be sending notifications directly to affected premises.



Skate Park sessions this summer

Sutton Courtenay Parish Council is pleased to announce that the District Council's Active Communities Team are returning to Sutton Courtenay Skate Park this summer to run family sessions on:

2pm-5pm Thursdays 27th July, 3rd August, 10th August, 17th August with ATB.

Wednesday 23rd August with Team Rubicon

To find out more about the sessions and other activities taking place this summer visit www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/school-holiday-activities/ or call 01235 422 240.

Grass cutting on verges

The majority of the verges in the parish are owned by Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), in 2016 OCC approached all the Parish Councils in Oxfordshire and asked them to take on the responsibility of cutting the verges at least twice a year in return for a contribution of 10.25pence per square metre (£1.025 per 10 square metres) which is £1,607.74 per year. Sutton Courtenay Parish Council has been cutting the verges since then. In 2022/23 the actual cost to the Parish Council was £6,714.96 with the verges being cut once a month from April to October.

In 2023 the current grounds maintenance contract is due to be renewed. In May following adverse weather conditions and problems with the current contractor's equipment, the verges were not cut as planned. In late May the contractor advised that as

they planned to retire this year, they would be ceasing to work for the Parish Council at the end of the month.

At the time of writing this piece in June, the contract is out to tender with the intention of the new contractor starting work in July 2023. Aware that costs would have increased since the previous contract was agreed, the Council is looking to have the verges cut 3 times a year in March, June and September, with the first cut taking place in July 2023.

The decision to reduce the number of cuts is to support No Mow May and to reduce the grounds maintenance cost to the Parish Council which receives most of its funding from the precept paid by households via Council Tax.

If you have any issues with the verges within the 30mph speed limit area then please contact the Parish Council via the Clerk. Oxfordshire County Council continues to maintain the verges outside the 30mph zones.

Councillor Vacancies

Sutton Courtenay Parish Council can have a maximum of 11 Councillors. Following the May 2023 election process there are 2 seats vacant and the Council is looking to fill those 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.

Council meetings and contact details

Members of the public are welcome to attend Council meetings. The dates of the next meetings are Tuesday 4th July, Tuesday 5th September and Tuesday 3rd October 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.



Preparing for transition

It seems hard to believe that we have reached the final term of the school year already!

Children have learned so much this year and, as always, it is a joy to watch them progress, each at their own pace and in their unique, individual ways. This term is very much about preparing children for their transition to the next stage, whether that is the move from Foundation Stage to the main school, to a new class, or even to a whole new school! For our oldest children, this is a particularly special time. Meanwhile, there is still lots of learning to do in current classes as we complete the curriculum.

In June, teachers across the school have been busy carrying out assessments. Children in Kestrels class have been taking the Year 1 Phonics Screening test. In this, they have to read 40 words using their phonic knowledge and blending the sounds – to make sure they do not recognise the words, half of them are made up words naming alien characters. We have been impressed with the children's concentration and determination, as well as the progress all have made from their starting points. Across the rest of the school, teachers have also been completing assessments with children, ready to inform their report writing. These form an important part of the school calendar so that we can carry out a good transition to their next teacher.

Star dome!

We were lucky to have a visit from Science Oxford, who brought their star dome with them. This is a giant, inflatable tent the children can go inside. Once in, scenes of the sky are projected onto the inside walls for an immersive experience of star gazing! Children in Barn Owls, Robins, Kestrels, Kingfishers, Red Kites and Falcons all enjoyed the spectacular show, which links to the units they cover on their topic in their science curriculum.



See how the garden grows!

You will remember that last summer we planted a science garden behind Nightingales and Wrens classrooms. It has grown and matured over the past year and is now a wonderful sensory space. This week Year 1 have been making the most of it to explore the feel, smell and taste of different plants, which is a part of their science work this term focused on observation skills.



Looking through a lens!

We were so impressed with the number of entries to our half term photography competition, capturing mini beasts in their natural habitats. Well done to everyone who entered and earned a house point for their team! The photographs are on display in the school entrance hall. Here are the winners but there were so many lovely ones it was very hard to choose!



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

Well, that serves me right for taking a holiday. We were very privileged to be taken by family – no, not a political perk - to Hawaii. I have been passionate about volcanoes for many years and this was a great opportunity to see some of the best examples in the world. Most of the dramatic pictures we see of lakes of red hot lava are taken at night and during the few days or weeks of eruptions that occur every few years. Solidified lava is very hard and can take many years to break down. The result is not beautiful but thousands of acres of piled up black rock are mighty impressive. In the months and years between eruptions, steam pours out from the craters but tourists are lucky to see any boiling red lava. We were not lucky but, as we left, a sizeable eruption began. However, whilst we missed the spectacle, it seems that we did bring home some spectacular tropical weather with us. Yesterday's thunder, torrential rain and high winds mixed in with hot sunshine in southern Oxfordshire matched anything in Hawaii.

Meanwhile, local and national politics has been stormier than even the past two years have offered. The Reservoir issue rumbles on. Evermore contentious planning applications are in the pipeline. The HIF1 Road application is due to be heard at a two day planning meeting in late June. By next month things will have progressed on all these issues.

Other updates include:

Mill Rd. Bridge, Marcham – we expect work to begin on this long running issue very shortly.

Noise at Appleford sidings – An application to extend working hours was deferred by the OCC Planning Committee.

Grass cutting – budget cuts over the last decade have reduced the timetable to one cut per year. Visibility at many road junctions is a problem and is being steadily tackled under a priority scheme – major junctions first. We are getting there but, in the meantime, please take extra care at junctions.

20mph limits. St Helen's is now fully operational and work has begun on Drayton.

And finally, a little good news. VWHDC Climate Action Fund and OCC Councillor Priority Fund are offering grants for worthy local causes. More details on Council's websites or from me.

Richard Webber Cllr

Richardwebber777@gmail.com

07546 571521

DAVID JOHNSTON MP



Thank you to everyone who completed my health services survey. In total, 2,838 people did so, 77% of whom said they had had difficulty getting a GP appointment in the last year and 44% of whom said they had had difficulty accessing an appointment with a dentist. Unsurprisingly, 97% of people felt we do not have enough GPs for the number of people we have locally and 98% felt we do not have enough dentists. I completely agree and have been banging the drum on our health services since I was elected. Not long after the survey closed, I secured a debate in parliament about our health services and intend to keep banging heads together until we get the services we need.

I was pleased to take the Children's Minister, Claire Coutinho, to a local nursery recently to meet staff and children. The Government is making the largest single investment in childcare in history, which will give parents 30 free hours of childcare every week for 38 weeks a year from when their child is 9 months old until they start school, which will be very welcome to the parents who raise childcare issues with me when I knock on their doors. I have launched a childcare survey on my website which is designed to let parents (and grandparents) talk about their experience of accessing childcare and say what they'd like to see. It is open until the 12th July at www.david-johnston.org.uk/childcare.

Sticking with education and children for a minute, I was drawn to ask a question at Prime Minister's Questions and

used it to highlight the great news that English primary school children have just been ranked the best readers in the Western World – better than all other countries in Europe as well as America and Canada – and the fourth best globally. This is in large part testament to teachers and the Government's focus on phonics, which was resisted by some at the time but is clearly bearing fruit.

Depending on when you read this, you'll either just still have time to attend my 3rd Annual Climate Summit for constituents on Zoom on 4 July or it will have happened and you'll be able to watch a recording of it on my website or Facebook page. I was pleased that Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, has agreed to give the keynote speech – and, as ever, local and national experts have agreed to take part.

This year, I have been hosting at least one local young person for work experience every month including Anastasiia, who is originally from Ukraine. I first met her with the family who have kindly hosted her in North Moreton. It was good to have her with us in Parliament.

I've enjoyed getting into the swing of the summer events happening across the constituency, including the Hagbourne Church Fete and Uffington Fun Day. Do get in touch if you're involved in organising something you'd like me to come to, or indeed if I can help with anything else via 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

As I write this, today is a beautiful summer's day, with a clear blue sky and a fresh breeze. A calm June day after the recent dramatic thunderstorms. At this time of the year many of us will be trying to make the most of the great outdoors, and even taking some time to relax and enjoy the great British weather. We often take time off to do this, even take a holiday, a break, time for a change to the routine of daily life.

Jesus often took time to rest and get away from it all. On one occasion St Matthew (chapter 8: 23-27) tells us, that after preaching to large crowds, Jesus, along with his disciples, took a boat to go across the Sea of Galilee. They were going to the opposite shore to find some time and solitude to rest. As they were crossing, a furious storm broke. The worried disciples thought the boat was going to sink and went to wake up a sleeping Jesus. He woke up and asked them why they were afraid and then quickly subdued the wind and waves.

This story illustrates Jesus' calming effect. This you can take literally, and as an analogy, for our lives. There are many storms around us at this time; political ones, the cost of living, wars and refugees, climate change, the list seems endless. However, we are reminded in Matthew's story, that God both permits storms and delivers us through them. Storms do end, and calm will come again.

The lyrics to Rock Me by Thomas A. Dorsey might give you a little calmness too:

Make my journey brighter, make my burden lighter.
Help me to do good wherever I can.
Let thou presence thrill me, let thy holy spirit fill me
And just hold me in the hollow of your hand.
You just hide me in that bosom
'Til the storm of life is over
Rock me in the cradle of thy love.

Wishing you a calm and peaceful summer,

Reverend Rosie Bruce

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 JULY & AUGUST

Sun. 2nd – 12.30 Friends of All Saints' Garden Party
Mon. 3rd – 19:30 Baptism Preparation in the River Room for all those interested in a Christening service for their children or themselves.
Wed. 5th – 19:30 Big Read Group meet in the River Room
Sat. 8th – 9:30-11:30 Community Brunch in the River Room – all are welcome – see advert for more details.
Wed. 12th - 19:30 Big Read Group in the River Room
Thurs. 13th – 10:30-12:00 Community Café in the River Room.
19:30 Together in Stitches in the River Room
Sat. 15th – 9:30-11:30 – Churchyard Working Party – all welcome to help us care for the churchyard.
Mon. 17th – 2-4pm Knit and Natter in the River Room.
19:30 Sutton Courtenay Local Church Council in the River Room.
Fri. 21st – 9:30 Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School end of year service
Thurs. 27th – 10:30-12:00 Community Café in the River Room.
Sat. 29th – 4pm Movie Matinee in the River Room
Sun. 30th – 9:30am DAMASCUS Parish Service of Holy Communion at St Peter's, Drayton – **NB NO SERVICE IN ALL SAINTS**

CHURCH DIARY FOR AUGUST

Wed. 2nd – 2-4pm **FREE** Drop-in Craft Afternoon for families in the River Room – all children must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments available.
Sat. 5th – 9:30-11:30 Community Brunch in the River Room – all are welcome – see advert for more details.
Sat. 12th – 19:30 Opera Anywhere Presents, 'The Pirates of Penzance' in All Saints' Church. See advert
Wed. 23rd - 2-4pm **FREE** Drop-in Craft Afternoon for families in the River Room – all children must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments available

Holy Baptism

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

Clementine (Clemmie) Patricia Grace MORRIS (28th May 2023)

Oliver Shaun HOGGARTH (4th June 2023)

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

A THANK YOU FROM HELEN

to everyone who came and celebrated my 20 years of ministry in Sutton Courtenay and Appleford and across the DAMASCUS Parish. It was wonderful to see a church full of people, from across the parish and beyond, and to enjoy the lunch in the River Room afterwards. I am deeply grateful for the cards, gifts flowers and words of appreciation and affirmation. I love being here and the past twenty years have been deeply fulfilling – as well as challenging and hard work at times – but it is a privilege to continue to serve this community as parish priest. Thank you.

Helen Kendrick

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: Frances Elizabeth Faith **WILSON** who died on 6th May 2023 see page 13 for obituary.

And the following whose ashes were interred in the churchyard:

Janet **GREENWOOD** (27th May 2023)

Stephen **GRISBROOKE** (10th June 2023)

Jeffrey Stuart **OWEN** & Jennifer Ann **OWEN** (nee Carter) (17th June 2023)

MOVIE MATINEES

The next Movie Matinee in the River Room is on

Saturday 29th July 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.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN THIS SUMMER?

We're offering two **FREE** Drop-in Craft sessions for families this August in the River Room.

2-4pm

Wednesday 2nd August & Wednesday 23rd August

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Light Refreshments available (donations welcome)

For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 01235 847179.

DAMASCUS parish online prayer Tuesdays, 7:45 - 8:15 am

A time to gather together online to praise our Father God, to listen to Jesus, and to join the Spirit in interceding for each other, our community, our country, our world.

Contact: Helen and Katie on DAMASCUSprayer@gmail.com.

"they raised their voices together in prayer to God... After they prayed" things began to happen!
Acts 4:24,31

Community Café in the River Room



Run by the church for the whole community

Thursday 13th and 27th July

Thursday 10th and 24th August

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 River Room please 'phone the Parish Office on 01235 847179

CREAM TEAS

Don't forget the Cream Teas in the River Room
2.30pm-5.30pm on the following summer Sundays:
30th July, 6th August, 13th August, 20th August
& 27th August

RIVER ROOM 200 CLUB

In Support of the All Saints' Community Space

Winners at the Draw on 14 June were:

1st – No. 79 (£40.00)

2nd – No. 3 (£20.00)

3rd – No. 8 (£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 13th at the All Saints' Community Café in the River Room at 10.30 am.



Come and join us for breakfast baps and welcoming company. Open to the whole community.
River Room, All Saints' Church

After the success of this community event as part of the 'warm welcome' campaign, we have decided to continue running it once a month, funded by welcome donations, but free of charge.
Organised by Beth and Mike Summers in collaboration with All Saints' Church.

Future dates: 05/08, 09/09, 07/10, 04/11, 02/12

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

THE RIVER ROOM

All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay OX14 4AE

This attractive, light and modern room, with adjacent well-equipped kitchen, entrance foyer & two WCs (one accessible) is perfect for group meetings or private parties.

Capacity: 40 seated to 80 standing.

Plus – projector, complete A/V system, digital piano

All enquiries: 01235 847179

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

We care2

We care2 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

Alan & Morna Whitlock

Brookfield, 30 Chapel Lane. Sutton Courtenay,
OX14 4AN

morna28whitlock@gmail.com

01235 848335 or 07787 521039

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!



SUTTON COURTENAY WI



Come and enjoy the summer
with us - join us in July
for an evening of Bingo and Swishing
Garden party time to look forward to in August -
'Happy Feet' - foot care advice in September

We meet every third Tuesday monthly in the
River Room, Sutton Courtenay at 7.30 pm
Contact us at ofwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk
or Tel 01869 331081



Do You Enjoy Singing?

All Saints' Singers of Sutton Courtenay
are looking for new members



Research has shown that singing in a choir is good for you – it improves well-being, helps memory, posture and breathing, and reduces stress.

Come and reap the benefits of singing together!

We are a friendly community choir with an excellent music director.

There is no audition, and it is not necessary to be able to read music.

Please visit our website for details

www.allsaintssingers.org

or phone to find out more

07870 506774

*** Rehearsals start 8th September *
for an exciting Advent concert**

NORDIC WALKING

With a qualified instructor

Wednesdays & Fridays from 09:30 at the

Sutton Courtenay Recreation Ground (OX14 4AR)

For more information contact Graham Wells

at graymar.wells@bopenworld.com

COME ALONG TO THE STAY AND PLAY

EVERY FRIDAY
9:00-10:30
@ SUTTON
COURTENAY
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

FUN FOR
BABIES,
TODDLERS
AND PRE-
SCHOOLERS

£2 PER CHILD
WITH HOT DRINK
AND SNACK FOR
ACCOMPANYING
ADULT



FACEBOOK @SCSTAYANDPLAY



The Pirates of Penzance

Opera Anywhere is performing in All Saints' Church. Bring your own picnic to eat in the churchyard (bar available) from 6:00 pm 12th August.

"Every man and woman of them gave it both barrels of a piratical blunderbuss, and the church rocked with energy and fun"

Andrew Bell, Daily Information, Eynsham performance

Fundraising event for All Saints' Church –
Tickets in advance only

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 are negotiable.

All enquiries to:

Morna Whitlock (morna28whitlock@gmail.com)

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

BRIDGE AFTERNOONS

Starting again 15th Sept. : Come and play bridge on the 1st and 3rd Friday afternoons in the River Room from 2-5pm with a cup of tea and a piece of cake - £5

Tables, cards and score cards all provided

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.

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All Saints' Church
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Come along with your own knitting / sewing / craft and enjoy free refreshments and company.

Every 3rd Monday of the month 2:00 – 4:00pm

**The River Room, All Saints' Church, The Green,
Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon, OX14 4AE**

Tel: 01235 847179 for more information

Sutton Courtenay (National Power) Trust

Financial Problems due to the Current Economic Crisis?

If you live in Sutton Courtenay and are experiencing financial problems arising from the current economic crisis, you may be eligible for a grant from the Sutton Courtenay (National Power) Trust. For further information please email clerk.scnpt@gmail.com or telephone 07476 026406

ALL ENQUIRIES AND APPLICATIONS WILL BE
TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I would just like to thank Colin from CPPM Locksmiths who sorted out our front door lock at such short notice and so quickly.

Thank you again Colin.

Clare
Church Street.

Dear Editor,



Recently we walked down to the lake at the bottom of Churchmere Rd. used by an angling club and amazingly we saw two very big freshwater terrapins basking on a log at the side of the lake. Apparently, people sometimes find they are hard work as pets so they release them in lakes. They looked pretty healthy and happy all the same!

Piers and Sarah Heyworth

FROM THE EDITOR

We were sorry to hear that the village is to lose its Post Office in the near future. Hari & Esha News will continue to run the shop but villagers will have to travel further for Post Office services. The nearest for most in the village is at Milton, 11H Park Drive OX14 4RS. This Post Office offers a great service and is open Monday to Friday from 8.00 to 17.15 with a final collection time of 16:45. It is closed on Saturday and Sunday. Further afield there are Post Offices in Didcot (in WHSmith, 188 The Broadway OX11 8RN) and in Abingdon (5-13 West St. Helen Street OX14 5BL) both of which are reasonably accessible by public transport.

Another bit of news is closure of the Village Hall for refurbishment over the summer - see Page 2. We do hope it will open again promptly in September and look forward to seeing the improvements. It does mean that the Craft and Produce Show in September will be at the Abbey.

SCN HELP NEEDED

The Sutton Courtenay News is on the hunt for two more people to join our happy editorial team to help in production of this great magazine.

We need someone to support Bernie with publishing the adverts (advertising@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk) and we need a new Treasurer and Admin person to take over from Judy later in the year (scmail836@gmail.com). Both jobs are voluntary and each takes an hour or so a month. If you are interested and want to know more please contact either Bernie or Judy.

SCN Distributor Wanted

We need a new distributor for Katchside to deliver copies of SCN (24 copies) starting in September.

Please contact Sue on 847158 or the editors at editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk

Summer at The Abbey

After a busy start to June we'd like to keep you informed about events that are happening at our beautiful Abbey throughout the summer.

Our door is always open! If we are not busy running retreats and workshops then we'd love you to call in and say 'hello'! Please email us at welcome@theabbey.uk.com or give us a call - 01235 242 283, if you'd like to take a tour or would like to work with us.

Summer Events

- **16th July** - The Abbey Garden Party, 2pm - 4:30pm. Come and enjoy our beautiful gardens whilst listening to music from the Boulevard Swing Jazz band. There will be house & garden tours, cream teas, cakes, and fresh juices from our juice bar. All welcome **FREE ENTRY** no booking required.
- **2nd September** - The Sutton Courtenay Craft & Produce Fair will be held in the Great Hall and Abbey Grounds. More details can be found on page 12.

There are other events throughout the summer - to find out more please contact the Abbey

Daily/Weekly Wellbeing Programme

- QiGong in the Abbey Garden 8:00 - 8:30 am (**FREE**)
- Meditation in the main house 8:30 - 9:00 am (**FREE**)
- Heartfulness Meditation, Wednesday 19:00-20:00 in the Library of The Abbey (**FREE**)



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 at the Abbey or volunteer to help with the activities and be a part of keeping this historic building alive.

For all enquiries please contact Nancy or Rebecca:- welcome@theabbey.uk.com or for more information visit our website www.theabbey.uk.com

THAMES VALLEY ALERT



Holiday Fraud Alert from Action Fraud

Don't get burnt before you're on the beach: Action Fraud reports over £15m lost to holiday fraud in the past year.

Top tips to avoid falling victim to holiday fraud

- **Do your own research:** Booking your trip via a company you haven't used before? Do some research to check they're legitimate. Read feedback from sources that you trust, such as consumer websites. You can find a company's official website by searching for them on Google or another trusted search engine.
- **Look for the logo:** Check whether the company is an ABTA Member. Look for the ABTA logo on the company's website. If you have any doubts, you can verify membership of ABTA online on their [website](http://www.abta.com). If you're booking a flight as part of a package holiday and want more information about ATOL protection, or would like to check whether a company is an ATOL holder, visit the [ATOL](http://www.atol.org) or [CAA website](http://www.caa.co.uk).

- **Pay safe:** Book your holiday with a credit card, if you have one. Most major credit card providers protect online purchases, and are obliged to refund you in certain circumstances. Using a **credit** card (rather than a **debit** card) also means that if your payment details are stolen, your main bank account won't be directly affected.
- **Secure your email:** If your email is hacked, it could allow a criminal to access information about your holiday booking. Use 3 random words to create a strong password for your email that's different to all your other passwords. If you're offered 2-step verification to protect your email and social media accounts, always use it.

For a full list of tips to avoid becoming a victim of fraud, please visit www.atol.org/about-atol/how-to-check-for-protection/ or www.abta.com/tips-and-advice/planning-and-booking-a-holiday/how-avoid-travel-related-fraud.

Message Sent By Neil Gunnell
(NWN, MSA, Thames Valley, South Oxfordshire)

SUTTON COURTENAY CRAFT AND PRODUCE SHOW



SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER @ 2 pm

The Abbey, Sutton Courtenay N.B. NEW VENUE

Classes to include – Flowers-Flower Arranging-Vegetables-Fruit-Drinks-Cookery-

Crafts-Art-Photography,

Children's classes

Refreshments and Raffle



Schedule and entry forms available from Changes, Costcutters, Hari & Esha News, 6 High Street or download from suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk. It was also published in the May edition of SCN.

Entry forms to be returned to 6 High Street or 25 Milton Road by 31st August

SUTTON COURTENAY CRAFT AND PRODUCE SHOW

**Saturday, 2nd September, 2023 – The Abbey, Sutton Courtenay, Village
Green OX14 4AF**

ENTRY FORM

Please make sure your entries are staged between 9.45 and 11.00 a.m. without fail as after this the doors will be locked for judging to begin.

Late entries cannot be accepted.

Entry forms to either: Mrs Val Dalby, 6 High Street, Sutton Courtenay or
Mrs Brenda Budd, 25 Milton Road, Sutton Courtenay
on or by Thursday 31st August 2023

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL: _____

Entry fee 20p per item up to maximum of £5.00 per family - please remember to include this with your entry form. Entry for children's classes are free. Please use separate forms for different family members or indicate on one form.

Only one entry in each class per person please. Please circle class numbers entered:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70

For further information, telephone Val Dalby 01235 848633 or Sally
07766883560

OBITUARY - REST IN PEACE

Frances Elizabeth Faith WILSON who died on 6th May 2023 was born on 5th March 1931 in Aden, Egypt where her father was a junior officer in the Royal Airforce. The next posting was back in the UK near Slough – not as exotic. During the war years, Faith was at primary school. Then her parents were posted to Singapore and she went to Sherbourne School for girls in Dorset, where she passed a happy four years. She left school at 16. She first studied the piano and singing at the Royal College of Music. A concert career did not beckon so she took a piano teaching qualification and a secretarial course in Oxford. Later in life she did earn more than a little pocket money both by teaching the piano and later teaching sewing.

Her first job as a secretary was working for the Foreign Office, in Berlin. It later unfolded that in fact she had been working for MI6 in Berlin at the beginning of the Cold War – a secretary to the spies! Although she never talked about her job she did talk about her social life in Berlin which revolved around the presence of the Black Watch regiment in Berlin. In a letter to her parents she told them “I am out so much I barely have time to eat or sleep – and I need more dance dresses”. After MI6 she worked in London for a few years as a secretary.

She met Bernard, her future husband, on a skiing holiday in Zermatt and fell in love with him because, “he had such lovely broad shoulders”. They started their married life in Great Barrow in Cheshire with Bernard working as a chemical engineer for ICI in Runcorn. Three daughters appeared in quick succession. They moved to South Africa for 4 years – and another daughter was born there. Then back to the UK and in 1973 to Sutton Courtenay. Faith was 42 when she arrived – with 4 girls of primary school age and this village became her home for fifty years. She found work at the school teaching the piano and sewing. She was humble about her piano skills. She only taught beginners – and always said that if

she ever had a pupil who showed real talent she would pass them on to a far better pianist than her.

Music was always important to her and she sang in both the church choir and with the All Saints’ Singers – and also hired and organized all the members of the orchestra. I know she felt lucky that there was so much music in the village. Every August she went to the Edinburgh Festival - three concerts of chamber music and Schubert Lieder a day.

She cared for her husband until his death in 1995 and then rebuilt her life around her family and her many friends. Faith was a woman with a deep personal Christian faith – a loyal member of the Women’s Christian Fellowship and keen attender of the monthly bible study group.

Faith was always unfailingly polite; quiet and unassuming, but she had a keen intellect, and enjoyed theological discussions. Indeed, it was her faith which gave meaning to her life and underpinned all that she did. She drew great strength from worshipping at All Saints’ and receiving the sacrament. Even when dementia overtook her she was still able to sing every hymn and join in with all the words of the prayers. She greatly enjoyed attending the WeCare2 Group twice a month in the River Room – especially joining in with the singing. Even living with dementia, her faith seemed to help her live in the present moment; to accept that all would be well and to never lose her capacity to be thankful. She never stopped smiling. And, as her daughters said, she was always polite, always gracious. She was grateful for the care and support she received from her family and friends – and grateful that she was able to remain in her home in her final illness because of the loving care she received. She will be greatly missed by her family and her friends.

Her funeral was held in All Saints’ Church on 24th May 2023 where tributes were given by her daughters, and an address by the Reverend Helen Kendrick, from which this is an edited extract.

PUZZLES

Easy Sudoku

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

Moderate Sudoku

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

WORDSEARCH

The topic is **Ice Cream Flavours**

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

Taken from www.puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com



Bubblegum	Mocha
Butterscotch	Neapolitan
Caramel	Peanut Butter
Cherry	Pistachio
Chocolate	Pralines
Coconut	Rocky Road
Coffee	Rum Raisin
Cookie Dough	Strawberry
Mint	Vanilla

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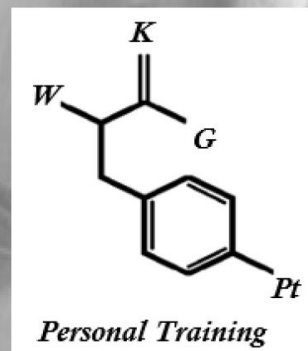
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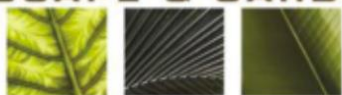
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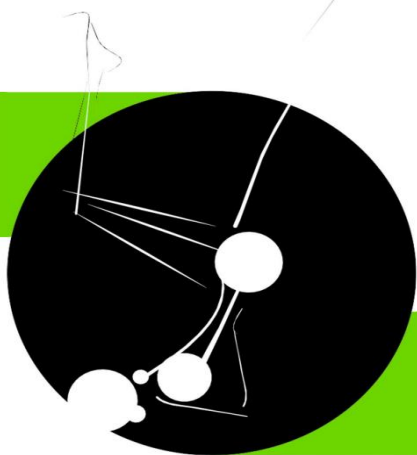
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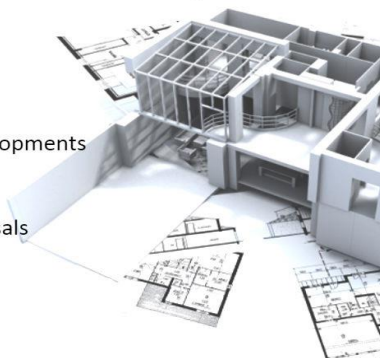
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