

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 52 No. 8

OCTOBER 2023



VILLAGE DIARY FOR OCTOBER

Sun 1	Harvest Festival (pg 9)	All Saints' Church	11:00
Thur 5 & 19	WeCare2 (pg 13)	River Room	11:15-12:30
Fri 6 & 20	Bridge Afternoon (pg 12)	River Room	14:00-17:00
Sat 7	Community Brunch (pg 11)	River Room	9:30-11:30
Sun 8	Nadia Eide Concert (pg 21)	All Saints' Church	15:00
Thur 12 & 26	Community Café (pg 10)	River Room	10:30-12:00
Thur 12	Together in Stitches (pg 11)	River Room	19:30-21:00
Mon 16	Knit & Natter (pg 12)	River Room	14:00-16:00
Tues 17	WI (pg 11)	River Room	19:30
Sun 22	Abingdon Marathon (pg 4)		9:00
Mon 23	Village Hall AGM (pg 5)	Village Hall	19:15
Sat 28	Movie Matinee (pg 10)	River Room	16:00

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

NOVEMBER 2023 SCN DEADLINE – WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 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: 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

Refurbishment

The entrance, inner lobby and toilet areas are taking shape and the works are progressing well. The hall has not reopened yet however the Trustees are cautiously allowing, under supervision, the use of the hall for some essential bookings. We are doing all we can to honour users' bookings, but any building works that spill over into October could result in bookings being cancelled at short notice due to unforeseen problems. Obviously we hope that this does not happen and that all our users' bookings go ahead and the Hall is returned to full use in the coming months.

Please look on the website: suttoncourtenayvillagehall.co.uk for further updates during October.

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.

POST OFFICE SERVICES

The nearest Post Office is at Milton, 11H Park Drive OX14 4RS 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.

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.





Planning and Licensing

The Parish Council is a statutory consultee on planning and licensing applications in the parish and adjacent areas. The Parish Council does not make the final decision on an application but can make comments in support or to object to an application.

In recent weeks the Parish Council has been part of the appeal process for the Hobbyhorse Lane North development, the Parish Council objects to the development and has funded a planning consultant to assist in building the Parish Council's case against the appeal and to represent the Parish Council at the inquiry. The results of the appeal will be published online at <https://data.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/java/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P21/V2682/O>

Oak Taverns are applying for a street traders' licence to enable them to have a single food van outside the The George & Dragon each day in the afternoon and evening. The section of land they wish to use belongs to the Parish Council, therefore the Parish Council will be considering the request to use Parish Council land and the licence application at its 3rd October meeting.

If you have any comments to make on the application, please ensure they are submitted to the District Council before the deadline of Monday 16th October.

The official notice issued by the Vale of White Horse District Council is:

An application for a street trading consent has been made to Vale of White Horse District Council under Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 for:

Dyllies Pizza, Friends and Flavours, Fink Street Food, I'm Japanese, BBQ Sams, Kathma's Flavours and 1885 Burgers at The George & Dragon, 4 Church Street, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4NJ

The details of the new application are as follows:

Type of items sold – Hot and cold food. Hours and days - One of the above traders to trade each day, Monday to Sunday 12:00 to 21:00.

Any objection to this application must be made in writing to licensing.unit@whitehorsedc.gov.uk or Licensing, Vale of White Horse District Council, Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon, OX14 3JE by: 16th October 2023.

Grants

The Parish Council is pleased to be able to award grants to local organisations which benefit residents in the parish. The organisation must be a not-for-profit although it does not need to be a registered charity. The Council will consider grant applications for the 2024-25 financial year at a meeting in November. If you are a member of a local group which would benefit from a grant, please read the grant information on our website or contact the Parish Clerk (details below). Further details and application forms are available online at www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk/Grants_45801.aspx

If you received a grant from us for 2023/24 you can still apply 2024/25. Applications will need to be submitted by 31st October 2023.

Abingdon Marathon Sunday 22nd October 2023 – road closures in Sutton Courtenay

The annual Abingdon Marathon will take place later this month. The race start time is 9am with a 5 hour cut off for runners. Runners are most likely to be passing through Sutton Courtenay between 10:30am and 1:30pm. The organisers have said that everyone would be very welcome to come out and cheer on the competitors, the runners always really appreciate the support and they are sure that residents would offer a lovely warm reception.

The route brings the runners into Sutton Courtenay from Milton Park via the Harwell Road, then into the High Street, Brook Street, Drayton Road and north on Peep O Day Lane towards Abingdon before looping back around to the complete the section again. More details can be found online at www.abingdonmarathon.org.uk

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 3rd October (to be held at Sutton Courtenay CoE Primary School)**, Tuesday 7th November and Tuesday 5th December at 7.15pm. Hopefully the November meeting will be held in our normal venue, 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.



Welcome back!

It has been a lovely start to the new school year at school. The children have been amazing despite the heat. This year, we welcomed our new Trust Director of Primary Education, Mr Paul Shaughnessy. Now that more primary schools are joining us in Ridgeway Education Trust, we are able to have this new level of support and challenge from a primary expert. Mr Shaughnessy was the headteacher at Northbourne Primary School before this role, and he has also worked for the Diocese Schools Trust to support many different schools. He visited us on Thursday and was so impressed by how calm, purposeful and engaged all the children were. Here is the address of the video of our first day back. <https://youtu.be/EdHmgxzGHZk>

Teachers learning...

The first days of the term are very important for teachers too. Although they have been busy in the summer setting up their classrooms and planning together, it is important for us to train together as a staff team on key areas. One vitally important one is our safeguarding protocols, which we must keep refreshed regularly to make sure our school is a safe place for all our children. We were lucky to have training from our school Educational Psychologist. He not only works with individual children, but also supports staff to grow in their professional expertise so they are able to support all learners. There are also curriculum initiatives that we work together to launch. For example, this year we are moving to new maths teaching resources from White Rose, and we are also working on an initiative to bring more poetry into our teaching.



Off to a great start in the kitchen

This year we have new catering arrangements, as we have brought the provision 'in house' to the Trust catering. Mr Gills, the catering manager, has been on site working with Mrs Greenough and Mrs Pointer. This change gives us much more freedom to design the menu and be creative, and of course enables us to have better quality control. This term we have had more children than ever eating school meals, which, of course, is excellent news as this is a well-balanced, nutritional meal. We are also working hard to reduce the amount of ultra-processed foods the children consume.



Mr Stoodley's half marathon is coming up!

Mr. Stoodley, our Year 4 teacher, is raising money for the school to get more sports equipment and kit for the children to use. The big day is **Sunday 15th October**.

He is running with his brother Mark, whom he hopes to beat after losing to him by only 2 seconds over a 5k race on the last challenge they did together! Remember, you are not sponsoring him just for the race, but for the months of hard work training prior to the race!

Money, depending on how much is raised, will go towards team tops for going to competitions and sports equipment for PE. You can sponsor him on his go fund me page > Simeon Stoodley > School Sports and Running Equipment.



Headteacher: Ms Rachel Hornsey

Asst Headteachers: Lisa Knight & Louise Potter

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

Telephone: 01235 848333

ABINGDON MARATHON

The 39th Abingdon Marathon will be taking place on Sunday, 22nd October. The race begins at 09:00 and, as residents might be aware, the route passes through Sutton Courtenay twice over the course of the 26.2 miles.

We always do our best to keep any disruption to the village to an absolute minimum and are grateful for your patience whilst the event is on.

Runners are most likely to be passing through Sutton Courtenay between 10:30 and 13:30. The second time they pass, they will have run between 21 & 23 miles so will

probably be feeling very tired! Everyone in the village is very welcome to come out and cheer on the competitors; the runners always really appreciate the support and we are sure they will have a lovely warm Sutton Courtenay reception!



Kate Brook &
Nichola Poulton

abingdonmarathon.org.uk

A Multitude of Issues All Across the Sutton Courtenay and Marcham Division

OCC Children's Services

As you may have read in the Press, a recent Ofsted report listed Oxfordshire's Children's Services (along with others) as requiring improvement. There is particular criticism of the lack of support given to children with special educational needs and their parents. We have a number of families who have been affected by this. The Council has accepted the findings of the report in full and has already begun to take actions to rectify the problems including increased funding (with consequent pressure on the budget). I will give further details on the actions to be taken in my next report.

20mph zones

I am disappointed that this issue is becoming a political football for a minority of residents. Just to make it clear, I was elected to take decisions, some of which might be contentious. I repeat that the overwhelming number of people who have contacted me support the proposals. Rather than write separate emails to the 7 people who have contacted me opposing the initiative, I am restating my position here. 20mph zones are Parish Council proposals but I fully support them. There is mounting evidence that lives are saved and that the quality of life in our towns and villages is improved by 20mph zones – with or without enforcement.

Hobbyhorse Lane Appeal

The third attempt to get this application (turned down by planning committee several times) approved is currently being heard by a planning inspector. As such, it would be improper for me to express an opinion here. There will be time for that later. However, I wanted to commend on behalf of all Sutton Courtenay residents, the enormous amount of effort over many months put in by the Parish Council, their advisors and many well known residents with particular knowledge and experience. Whatever the outcome, it has been a pleasure to work with them.

VILLAGE HALL AGM

The Village Hall AGM will take place on Monday 23rd October at 7:15 pm in the village hall.

The Management Committee are actively looking for new Trustees to come onboard to help manage the refurbished facility and move it on to its next stage of development for the continuing benefit of the village. If you feel you would like to be part of this new phase then please come to the AGM, or contact Mary Warrington, Treasurer Trustee on contrary63@gmail.com

GigaClear Box at Parkside, Marcham

Walking down New Rd in warm weather, it is impossible to ignore the noise of the cooling fans and the disturbance caused to residents of Parkside. A number of public spirited residents have helped monitor the situation and, together with officers from VWHDC, OCC, and District and County Councillors, pressure is being exerted on the installers to address the problem. With District responsible for noise measurement and County responsible for internet provision, there has been a need for a coordinated effort.

Accidents and the Young

With the recent tragic accident in Marcham involving young people in mind, I have signed up to a task and finish group of the Police and Crime Commissioner Scrutiny Committee. This will allow me to raise the issue of education of future young drivers in schools and colleges. Education in schools has made a considerable difference in the approach of young people to drugs, smoking and alcohol. As a self confessed attendee of a speed awareness course, I am convinced that education is the most effective way of changing behaviour.

HIF1

Leaving aside the fact that the country is divided on whether or not road building is a solution to congestion, a decision on the future of this project is now in the hands of the Secretary of State. He has "called in" the decision of the Planning Committee to refuse the application. We should hear the result in the early new year.

MEPC

One of my roles as an elected councillor, is to Chair regular meetings of the. MEPC Liaison committee involving local parish councils and MEPC reps. Of all the meetings I have to attend, these are the most informative and constructive.

We are fortunate in this area to have such a successful and environmentally aware commercial operation in our midst. It is clearly a great place to work. I can recommend the bus services and the coffee. And, in case you are wondering, I do not have shares in the operation.

Richard Webber Cllr

Richardwebber777@gmail.com 07546 571521





I was honoured last month to be appointed the Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing.

It's particularly special for me to be placed in the Department for Education given that my pre-politics career was spent running organisations for children and young people. It often surprises people when I tell them that, before I became an MP, I had never been in politics before, whether as a councillor, advisor, or candidate.

In my new role I have responsibility for a wide range of areas such as early years and childcare – including the delivery of the Government's new commitment to provide 30 hours a week free childcare from when a child is 9 months old until they start school - as well as Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), children in care, adoption and kinship care – vital areas that help support some of our most vulnerable young people - not to mention mental health.

I am delighted to have the opportunity to work on giving children across the country the best start in life.

It was also a delight to attend the unveiling of the new Agatha Christie statue in Wallingford, a place she lived for 42 years. The sculptor, Ben Twiston-Davies, has done a really great job and it was a pleasure to meet her grandson, Mathew Prichard, who did the actual unveiling. I recommend a visit to see it when you have time!

Some other recent visits made by me included meeting with a group of unpaid carers in Wallingford, facilitated by Val

Wolsey and Carers Oxfordshire, to talk about their experiences and listen to their concerns; attending an Innovator Day at Harwell Campus where I gave a speech and talked to staff and investors about the world-leading work that Harwell is doing; and visiting SeeAbility in East Hagbourne which provides support services for people with learning disabilities, many of whom have sight loss.

I have been campaigning to see Grove Station re-opened since I was elected nearly 4 years ago and have now launched a petition of Parliament. This is something MPs can do on matters that are important to their constituents and I've done so to keep the pressure up. I am delighted that 1,750+ people have signed so far and the more signatures we collect, the stronger the message we send to the Department for Transport – so please do sign if you are able to and encourage your friends and family that live in the constituency to do so too. You can sign on my website at: www.david-johnston.org.uk/GroveStation.

If you read this in time, do attend or spread the word about my Pensioners' Fair at the Beacon in Wantage on Wednesday 27th September from 12:30pm to 4:30pm. I am grateful that so many local and national organisations will be in attendance including the Department for Work and Pensions, Age UK Oxfordshire, Barclays Bank, My Vision Oxfordshire, and Vale Community Impact. Details on my website www.david-johnston.org.uk/PensionersFair.

As ever, if I can help with anything then do please get in touch via david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project
Registered Charity 1098968



We eagerly await the reopening of the refurbished village hall as the cold and wet weather starts. Meanwhile we are still meeting at the recreation ground on a Wednesday evening. Please do contact us if you need any help.

We are delighted to welcome two new members to our team.

Daisy says 'I am one of the newest members of the Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project (ADYP) team. I became involved in ADYP after working alongside Jake within his other job at RAW Potential, an external school program. I was working there as part of my placement for my social work degree with Oxford Brookes. My journey with ADYP started back in March and I have loved becoming part of the team and feel I have learned so much from the more qualified members of ADYP team. It has been interesting for me to see the different approaches of social work and youth work. The side to youth work I have enjoyed so much especially at ADYP, is that we are so involved in the young people's lives and their communities. Due to this I believe we




have been able to build relationships that allow us to have harder hitting conversations and provide education around deeper subjects that other services wouldn't be able to. I feel like I bring a fun and enthusiastic energy to the team, as well as being creative in how I challenge the young people's thoughts and attitudes.'

'Hi, my name is **Alfie**, and I'm proud to be a new young leader for ADYP. I've had this position for a few months now, but I've been a part of the project for over 6 years as a young person. One of my best memories so far as a young person was playing doorstep bingo in Sutton Courtenay during COVID times. Some of my favourite experiences so far working with ADYP is going on lots of trips including, Millets Farm with Milton and Wet'n'Wild with Sutton Courtenay. I'm passionate about helping young people overcome the challenges they face and make sure every young person can achieve their full potential in school, at home and in the community.'



Tel: 01235 848694 www.damascusyouthproject.org.uk

 James Damascus, Jake Damascus

 James_Damascus; Jake_Damascus

YouTube-The Abingdon Damascus Youth Project-MIND GYM

SUTTON COURTENAY PRODUCE SHOW

The Sutton Courtenay Produce Show this year was held in The Abbey in Sutton Courtenay on Saturday, 2nd September. Some of the classes were exhibited in marquees in the grounds and some inside the Abbey itself. We were pleased with the number of entries, many from people who had not entered before, and relieved that the weather was kind to us. It was good to see many people came in the afternoon to view the exhibits, to visit the Abbey and to enjoy a cup of tea and home-made cake.

Rosettes & Cup Winners

Event	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Produce	Jane Allen	Sally Furze	Margaret Hamilton
Flowers	Jane Allen	Sally Furze	Margaret Hamilton & Val Dalby
Cookery	Jane Allen	Melanie Brown	Liz Maconochie
Drinks	Liz Maconochie	Laura Dicken & Jane Allen	Carol Chung
Crafts	Sally Furze	Jane Allen, Heather Woodward & Bryony Landsbert	
Art	Sally Furze	Carol Chung	
Photography	Jane Allen	Sally Furze	Zoe Osborne
Flower Arranging	Sandra White	Joy Dalton & Heather Woodward	
Overall	Jane Allen	Sally Furze	Liz Maconochie
Children's Classes			
Joint 1 st : Joseph Cusden, Joy Dalton, Beth Rabindron, Ussy Rabindron, Bella King			
Joint 2 nd : Amelia Tremlett, Penelope Mathews, Miriam Brown, Oliver King			
Daphne Sinclair Memorial Cup: Brian Blakeman – Best in Show			

Sutton Courtenay's Produce Shows

I have been thinking back over the years that I have been taking part in Village Produce Shows. Over 50 years ago the shows were run under Royal Horticultural Show rules – the chairman of the Sutton Courtenay show was John Francis and there were two shows a year. The Spring Show was held in the school and the Summer Show in a beautiful barn belonging to Sutton Courtenay Manor. Later on the show was held in a barn at Buckridges on The High Street. In recent years there has been just one show held in September in The Village Hall and we look forward to returning there next September.

Having decided that it is time for me to hand over the work of secretary to someone else, I am very pleased that my daughter-in-law, Lucy is taking on that role. Val Dalby





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

This time last year I wrote to you about autumn being a season of beauty and of abundance - even a celebration of the earth. It is also a season of preparation, of looking forward, as best we can, to the future. The harvest is gathered in, although this seems earlier every year.

The subtle changes to the seasons and the not so subtle changes to our climate are progressively becoming more important in our daily lives. To help think about what a Christian approach to environmental issues might look like, there is a 5 week course running, called: "A Christian Look at the Environment".* It starts on 18th October, in the River Room, Sutton Courtenay and online via Zoom. Please register your interest at admin@damascusparish.org.uk. All are welcome with no pre-reading or study required.

Revd. Phil Sutton mentioned in the September issue that autumn is a time for making a new start; thinking particularly of the beginning of the school year and the starting again of leisure activities after the summer break. Perhaps the New Year is not the only time for a new start or resolutions?

To mark the turn of the Millennium, a prayer was written by Revd. Peter Trow as a Millennium Resolution which could be used by all faiths and those with none. Like many prayers, it is an earnest wish or hope. It begins with an environmental hope and ends with a resolution wish. It is simple and short with five gentle reminders to us of how the future could be.

Let there be respect for the earth,
Peace for its people,
Love in our lives,
Delight in the good,
Forgiveness for past wrongs
And from now, on a new start.

Revd. Rosie Bruce, Associate Minister

*This course has been produced by The John Ray Initiative which is an educational charity with a vision to bring together scientific and Christian understandings of the environment in a way that can be widely communicated and lead to effective action. JRI's mission is to promote responsible environmental stewardship in accordance with Christian principles and the wise use of science and technology. The series of five bible studies draws on both theological and scientific insight to help groups and churches think about what a Christian approach to environmental issues might look like.

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

Holy Baptism

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

20th August 2023 - Maisie Georgia GIBBS

27th August 2023 – Ellie Dorothy BOOCOCK (Baptism conducted by the Reverend Dr Adrian Furse)

27th August 2023 – Violet Emilia STANWAY

Holy Matrimony

We send our best wishes and congratulations to Roger Cameron LOWE and Susan WHITEHEAD who were married in All Saints' Church on 16th September 2023

See pages 18 & 19 for obituaries.

CHURCH DIARY FOR OCTOBER 2023

Sunday 1st – 11:00 Family Service for Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Lunch in River Room – See advert for details.

Monday 2nd – 19:30 Baptism Preparation for all parents interested in baptism for their children.

Sunday 8th – 15:00 Live in Concert – a fundraising concert for Get Kids Going – Sport & Mobility for Disabled Children – featuring Nadia Eide and Stagecoach Choir and the Didcot Divas and Soloists

Wednesday 18th - 19:30 'A Christian Look at the Environment', River Room or join us via zoom

Wednesday 25th - 19:30 'A Christian Look at the Environment', River Room or join us via zoom

Sunday 29th – 9:30 DAMASCUS Parish Service in St Michael and All Angels, Steventon (please note there will be NO service in All Saints' today as it is a 5th Sunday of the month)

CHURCH DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

Saturday 4th – 9:30-11:30 Community Brunch in the River Room

Sunday 5th – 11:00 Family Service for All Saints Day, followed by Soup and bread lunch – all welcome!

15:00 All Souls' Service (see advert for details)



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 1st October 2023

11:00 Family Service for Harvest Festival

Donations of food gratefully received for the Abingdon Food Bank

They are in particular need of the following:

Tinned Soup - Sauces for rice e.g. Curry, Sweet and Sour etc. - Small tins of baked beans or spaghetti hoops etc. - Shampoo - Shower gel for men - Sturdy carrier bags - Washing up liquid - Cartons of long-life fruit juice - Bottles of squash
Cash (or contactless donations) will be given to Farm Africa

The service will be followed at 12.15 with a HARVEST LUNCH in the River Room
ALL WELCOME!

If you wish to come to the lunch please add your name to the list at the back of church or 'phone the Parish Office on 01235 847179 so we know for how many to cater for.

Donations for the lunch will go to 'Farm Africa'.

If you can help by making a Cottage or Shepherd's Pie or providing an Apple Pie or Fruit Crumble then please let us know via the Parish Office, 01235 847179.

ALL SOULS' SERVICE

A Special Service of Naming and Remembering those who have died

3pm on Sunday 5th November

All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay.

Refreshments of tea, coffee and cake will be available afterwards in the River Room.

Invitations will be sent to the next of kin of all those we have conducted a funeral for over the past two years.

But if you wish us to remember someone else – regardless of when or where they died – please add their name to the list at the back of church or let us know at the parish office.

If you need transport to and from the service, or have any other questions, please contact the Parish Office on 01235 847179 or admin@damascusparish.org.uk

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

If you would like to join the Christmas Choir to sing at our Christmas Services – particularly the Carol Service at 6pm on Sunday 17th December 2023 then please come along to the Tuesday evening Singing Saints at 19:30 – 21:00 in All Saints' Church. We can promise some musical joy (and a bit of hard work) and all are welcome! Or phone the parish office on 01235 847179 for more details.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

We are planning, once again, to make up Christmas Hampers for distribution around Sutton Courtenay in the week before Christmas. If you know of an individual, a couple or a family who would appreciate a gift of a hamper then please let us know their name and address and we will do our best to ensure a hamper is delivered to them.

The aim of the hampers is simply to spread the love of Christmas around the community.

Please email the name and address of the person(s) you wish to nominate admin@damascusparish.org.uk or telephone 01235 847179 by **Thursday 7th December 2023.**

Crafters Wanted to Create a Choir of Angels

When we hung sheep around the village during the pandemic, we never really imagined how popular it would be. Hunting for a crafted Christmas tree decoration the weekend before Christmas seems to have become a bit of a tradition, which many look forward to.

Last year people were stars and crocheted, knitted and sewed over 400 stars. This year we're looking for angels – any craft which will withstand being in a plastic bag overnight midwinter is welcome.



This year we're aiming to drop about 400 small angels around Sutton Courtenay and Appleford. If you can help instructions and patterns are available at the back of All Saints' Church. Alternatively, phone 01235 847179 or email admin@damascusparish.org or contact us via our Facebook page and we'll get them to you.

Your angels would then need to be back in church by **Friday 8th December** so we can prepare them for the Angel Hunt.

RIVER ROOM & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

MOVIE MATINEES

The next Movie Matinee in the River Room is on

Saturday 28th October 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.

RIVER ROOM 200 CLUB

In Support of the All Saints' Community Space

Winners at the Draw on 19 September were:

1st – No. 82 (£40.00)

2nd – No. 47 (£20.00)

3rd – No. 54 (£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 12th October at the All Saints'
Community Café in the
River Room at 10.30 am.

A Christian Look At the Environment

A time to gather, study the bible, discuss and pray through this important issue.

On Wednesday evenings over five weeks, using a course from the John Ray Initiative, we will examine different theological and scientific insights to help us think about what a Christian approach to environmental issues might look like.

All are welcome, no pre-reading or study is required!

Wednesdays,
18th October - 15th November 2023
7:30 - 9pm

The River room, Sutton Courtenay
and online via zoom.

Please register your interest at
Admin@damascusparish.org.uk
or on 01235 847179

Community Café in the River Room



Run by the church for the whole community

Thursday 12 & 26 October

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

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

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

Image by Freepik



S.C.I.D.S.

S.C.I.D.S. is on its way!

The story is ready! The team working!

"The Wizard of Oz"

All that is needed is a wonderful cast and
backup team. All are welcome, those who have
been before and those who are new to
S.C.I.D.S. do come along to the first meeting.

Aged between 7 and 107 years old -
we need you.

Sunday 26th November 3pm until 5pm

Sutton Courtenay Village Hall -

Watch the next Newsletter There will be lots
of fun, games, 'sign up' and tea, with S.C.I.D.S.
cakes of course! Make a note of the date and
come along. Any queries do contact Sally on
01235 847707 or sallydubock@gmail.com

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@btopenworld.com

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



We meet every third Tuesday monthly in the
river Room, All Saint's Church,
Sutton Courtenay at 7:30pm

Contact us at ofwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk or
Tel 01869 331081

17th October

A guest speaker – The Thames from its source

21st November

A guest speaker – History of Hairdressing

If you would like to come along to a meeting
for a visit you will receive
a very warm welcome.



BRIDGE AFTERNOONS

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.


Rubber or Chicago – you choose

Sobell House & Katharine House Hospices are currently recruiting Volunteers


In **Sobell House**, we currently require Ward Volunteers to support the work of the clinical team on our In-Patient Unit, and Volunteer Drivers are needed to help us in the transportation of our patients and equipment.

In **Katharine House and Sobell House Hospice**, we need Bereavement Volunteers and Volunteer Companions. These people are needed to help support our patients and families in the community and on both In-patient Units.

If you are interested in finding out more or would like an application form, please contact us at:
[PallcareVolunteerServices@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto: PallcareVolunteerServices@ouh.nhs.uk)
or Telephone: 01865 225994 / 01865 225868



**KATHARINE
HOUSE
HOSPICE**



PALLIATIVE CARE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SERVICE

We are looking to recruit volunteers for our bereavement service to provide support to family and friends who have lost someone close to them.

Our service offers the opportunity for people who are bereaved to share their experience of grief and their memories of the person who has died.

Are you

- Warm, empathic and a good listener?
- Able to support other people's expression of grief and distress?

Do you

- Have 16 hours a month to spare?
- Have your own transport?
- Want to make a difference?

What we provide

- Foundation level training given (approx 56hrs).
- Ongoing training, supervision, and support.
- Travel and phone expenses.
- Online mandatory training (approx 8 hours).

We do not recommend this work for those who have experienced a significant bereavement in the last two years and it is essential that all training is attended.

CLOSING DATE: 1 November, 2023

If you are interested in finding out more or applying, please contact us on:

✉ pallcarevolunteerservices@ouh.nhs.uk
☎ 01865 225994 or
☎ 01865 225868

www.khh.org.uk
www.sobellhouse.org

KNIT AND NATTER



Afternoons of chat and craft

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

ALL SAINTS' SINGERS



Advent Concert Save the Date

The next All Saints' Singers concert will be on Sunday 10th December in All Saints' Church at 7:30 pm. We will be singing Haydn's 'St. Nicholas Mass' and Chilcott's 'On Christmas Night'. We will also be asking for audience participation to sing some well known carols.

Come and join us.

Ticket details available next month.

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



MedicAlert and Thames Valley Police: Introducing Safe and Found

There are currently 944,000 people living with dementia in the UK. On average, around 40,000 are reported missing every year.

The MedicAlert Foundation, in partnership with Thames Valley Police, have launched a dementia safeguarding programme, Safe and Found. This new initiative supports those living with dementia and other memory or cognitive conditions.

Safe and Found is available nationally and enables people living with dementia to securely store their Herbert Protocol form digitally. This document contains information that aids a missing person search, giving the police a better understanding of who they are looking for, what they have done previously and what they may be likely to do in the future. It includes places of importance, routines and habits, their connections, medical details and more.

The Herbert Protocol is a proven strategy in reducing search time and increasing the chance of the individual being found safe and well. MedicAlert is helping to speed up the process by providing quick access to this critical information in an emergency.

Chief Superintendent Mike Loebenberg from Thames Valley Police said: "When a family member or friend goes missing, it is an incredibly distressing time for those desperate to know where they are. This fear and distress are exacerbated when that individual is living with dementia.

"Completing and keeping an up to date Herbert Protocol form printed or saved and easily accessible is really important, but we know this can be challenging. MedicAlert is a service that can help, by storing information and working to keep it up to date and accessible for officers if it is needed.

"As a MedicAlert member myself, I know this partnership will provide loved ones with peace of mind that Thames Valley Police can access important information quickly and save time in the search for those missing. I hope this offers reassurance to those living with dementia and their families."

The support of The McLay Dementia Trust makes the Safe and Found programme even more accessible.

MedicAlert and The McLay Dementia Trust will be providing the first year of MedicAlert membership free to anyone living with dementia in the UK.

"The MedicAlert charity is making dementia a priority. We are very proud to work with Thames Valley Police and The McLay Dementia Trust. These partnerships ensure you can feel safer and more comfortable to continue being active, socialising, and living well with dementia. Wherever you go, we will be with you." says Mark Hacker, MedicAlert CEO.

"MedicAlert has also launched the Carer ID and storage of Emergency Care Plans to support carers. This ensures that, should a carer have an accident, their loved one receives appropriate and continuous care."

To find out more about Safe and Found or how to apply for free membership through The McLay Dementia Trust grant, please visit the links below:

- medicalert.org.uk/mclay-dementia-trust
- medicalert.org.uk/safe-and-found

LOCAL ACTIVITY

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



Who is that lady? Can You Help?

My late mother Betty Blinman stands of the right in this 1960s holiday photo – but who is her companion?



Anyone who can help me identify her – or the occasion – please ring me on 01235 848464.

Many thanks,
Jonathan Blinman



Cheers for New Benches

I am a very old Sutton Courtenay-born person who welcomed news that we are to receive new seats, a great welcome. I would so love to hear that we get one by our bus stop. For me, because of difficulty walking, I can just catch the bus in the High Street to get to the shops but have to struggle back home. There has been a seat opposite the Plough Public house – sheer relief!

There are so many people driving occasionally someone stops to give a lift. Again, the bus stop that was by the telephone High St. is the most open space with high winds, then with sunshine the hottest and uncomfortable.

I know we can't expect a cover but to sit would help.

The Sutton Courtenay News is a great paper something to help one and all.

Name & Address supplied

Kicking Up a Stink!

September kicked off with warm weather and such an awful smell that many residents in the village couldn't sit outside or open their windows. The Sutton Courtenay Action Public Facebook group was full of residents kicking up a stink! After many calls to the Environmental Agency (EA), one resident emailed the FCC, the EA, David Johnston MP, Adrian Duffield, Head of Planning (re the proposed development next to the site) and the Parish Council.

These are the extracts from the reply from the Environmental Agency (as it's too long to publish in full):

- We are very conscious of the level of frustration in the local community regarding noxious odours. We received over **90 reports** of odour to our pollution hotline in the first week of September.
- Thank you for providing links to the Sutton Courtenay Action Public Facebook group. We do need to improve our communication with residents to keep them updated on what we are doing so they don't feel like their reports are simply going into a black hole. Unfortunately, we don't have the resources to call back complainants or visit them.
- We attend the Appleford and Sutton Courtenay Local Liaison Committee where parish and county councillors meet with the operators and all the regulators to discuss issues such as this. The last meeting was held on 11 September 2023.
- Our investigation into this matter is continuing. We are due to meet with FCC later this month to review their own investigation into these odours and compliance with their environmental permit.
- We have informed the planning authority about concerns on the proposed housing development in Hobbyhorse Lane. Our concern relates to the potential impact odours could have on a development situated so close to a large composting facility.
- We encourage residents who perceive a sustained malodour in the area to continue to report it via our pollution hotline number 0800 807060

Name supplied



Appointment of The Abbey Director

We are really pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Javier Takamura as Director of The Abbey. Javier, who took up his post on Monday 11th September, joins The Abbey at a crucial point in its development.

Javier has an academic background in history and religious studies and has particularly studied cross-cultural encounters between East and West including the Jesuits in Japan and the 'hidden Christians' on the islands of Nagasaki. He impressed the interview panel with his instinctive synergy with the purpose of The Abbey and the range of organisational skills he will bring to bear.

So welcome Javier and may your time with The Abbey be both fruitful and rewarding for us all.



Dr Javier Takamura (DPhil., Oxon)

An Opportunity for you to help shape The Abbey

The Abbey has a rich and varied history, stretching back hundreds of years. In 1979 a charity (registered charity number: 278687) was established which purchased the building. The Abbey now offers a unique inter-faith space for restoration and inspiration, for spiritual enquiry and practice.

As the Trustees and other supporters of The Abbey take forward the Regeneration Plan, now is the time to create a space in which together we can take a look to the future.

A workshop to consider purpose and explore ideas is planned for Saturday 21st October. You are invited to gather at The Abbey from 10:30am for refreshments, with the workshop starting promptly at 11am. Light refreshments will be available and a simple lunch will be provided, with the day ending no later than 4.30pm.

The workshop will provide an opportunity to explore a range of ideas, with all participants given the opportunity to both speak about their own ideas and listen to the ideas being shared by others.

In advance of this workshop, all those who care about the future of The Abbey are invited to send their thoughts and suggestions to Shlomo Downen, who will be helping to run the workshop.

So, please send your answers to the question: **"What would you like to see happening at the Abbey?"** to Shlomo by email to shlomo.downen@gmail.com

50th Anniversary of the visit of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

The Dalai Lama, who is one of the most significant spiritual leaders in the modern world, visited The Abbey on 22nd October 1973. We are hoping to have a special event to commemorate this anniversary and would love to hear from anyone in the village who was there. If all goes to plan the commemorative event will take place at The Abbey on Sunday 22nd October 2023.



The Abbey Entrance
22nd October 1973 -
Welcoming his
holiness

The Dalai Lama
in The Great Hall
at The Abbey,
22nd October
1973



Self-Guided RETREAT Week at The Abbey: 4th-11th November 2023

We are planning on holding a self-guided retreat week from Saturday 4th November and will be offering 3, 4 or 7 night packages to individuals or small groups. We will be offering meditation, yoga, sound healing, and reflective walks in the local area. We are also intending to offer Natural Voice singing workshops, as well as Sophrology and Reflexology from local practitioners. Why not come along and experience life at the Abbey!

To register your interest in this event please email Rebecca at the Abbey: rebecca.bolton@theabbey.uk.com

Join the Trustees of The Abbey

After years of being a hidden presence in the life of the village of Sutton Courtenay, The Abbey is making big efforts to engage with village life and become an important resource for local people. The Abbey Garden Party and the Sutton Courtenay Craft and Produce Show were great examples of the local community coming together. But we do need more people to bring their skills to help run The Abbey and keep it alive in the village. We need trustees and would urge you all to think about this. We particularly welcome people with financial skills, or knowledge about health and safety, but whatever it is you think you can offer, please get in contact with Adrian Rance-McGregor by email at: adrianrancemcg@theabbey.uk.com or drop by the Abbey Office, Monday-Friday from 9am - 3pm.

Easy Sudoku

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

Taken from www.puzzles.ca/sudoku (1089)

Medium Sudoku

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

WORDSEARCH

The topic is **HATS**

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

Taken from www.puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com



Baseball

Beret

Bobble

Bucket

Cowboy

Flat Cap

Panama

Pillbox

Porkpie

Straw

Top Hat

Toque

Turban

Beanie

Boater

Bowler

Cloche

Fedora

Helmet

Party

Pith Helmet

Sombrero

Sunhat

Tam o' Shanter

Trilby



Pa\$\$W0rD Protection

We know there is a sea of information out there around how to best protect yourself online. We also know the horror stories of hacking, online scams and identity theft.

But what are the quickest, most important things for you to do today to ensure it doesn't happen to you?

There are 3 quick and easy steps you can take today to secure your accounts.

1. Create a separate password for your email account(s) Your personal **email account** contains lots of **important information** about you and is the **gateway to all your other online accounts**, including banking, social media and online shopping.

If your email account is hacked all your other passwords can be reset, so use a strong password that is **different** to all your others.

2. Use 3 random words

Weak passwords can be hacked in seconds. Three random words is the recommended way of generating passwords, as it is easier to remember and takes trillions of years for a computer algorithm to crack.

Start with your most important accounts (such as **email**, then **banking** and **social media**) and replace your old passwords with new ones.

The Cyber Resilience Centre recommend looking around the room and picking three things you see, for example table, computer, map would become tablecomputermap – DO NOT use words that are associated with you for example animal names or surnames, as these are easy to identify if you are someone who uses social media.

3. Turn on two-factor authentication (2FA)

Two-factor authentication (2FA) is a free security feature that gives you an **extra layer of protection** online and stops cyber criminals getting into your accounts - even if they have your password.

2FA reduces the risk of being hacked by asking you to provide a second factor of information, such as getting a text or code when you log in, to check you are who you say you are.

Check if the online services and apps you use offer 2FA – it's also called two-step verification or multi-factor authentication. If they do, turn it on. Start with the accounts you care most about, such as your email and social media.

For more information: www.ourwatch.org.uk/passwords

PROTECT YOUR Pa\$\$WORD IN 3 EASY STEPS



- 1 CREATE A SEPARATE PASSWORD FOR YOUR EMAIL ACCOUNT
- 2 USE 3 RANDOM WORDS
- 3 TURN ON TWO-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (2FA)

SHARE THESE 3 STEPS WITH 3 FRIENDS

ourwatch.org.uk/passwords

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales. CIO No. 1173349

POSTAL SCAMS

Postal scams are sent in the mail. They can be addressed to you directly, and even use your name. They contain fake claims or offers that are designed to con you out of your money.

Here are common types of postal scams to be aware of:

- Lotteries and prize draws
- Bills from companies you don't use
- Psychics and clairvoyants
- Pyramid schemes
- Strangers who need help
- Unclaimed inheritance
- Advance fee fraud
- Fake job offers

How can I protect myself from postal scams?

- **Reject:** If you receive a letter that you think is a scam, ignore it and throw it away. Never reply.
- **Report:** Join the Scam Marshal scheme (www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk). You send them your scam mail so they can catch the scammers.
- **Ignore:** Don't call any premium-rate phone lines. These numbers start with **09** and can cost up to £4 per minute.
- **Verify:** If you're unsure, check the details of the organisation. Find the organisation's details using the phone book or via their official website. Never use the contact details listed on the scam letter, as it's likely they'll be set up by the scammer.
- **Opt out:** Try to avoid being added to mailing lists. For example, when you register to vote, tick the box to opt out of the 'edited register' (also known as the 'open register'), as this can be used to send unsolicited marketing mail.
- **Reduce:** Register with the Mailing Preference Service (www.mpsonline.org.uk). This will stop many of the direct-mailing companies from contacting you.

Taken from: www.ageuk.org.uk

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

Susan (Sue) Frances Lynn who died on 10th July 2023 was born on 8th October 1955 and grew up in Middlesbrough. Well known to the community of Sutton Courtenay through her connection with the All Saints' Singers, her funeral took place in All Saints' Church on 3rd August conducted by the Reverend Helen Kendrick and a personal tribute was given by Tony Furze, from which the following is an edited extract. "Sue's father, Kenneth, was a sensitive pianist and music lover who encouraged her in early learning of the violin. Sue took to the instrument so well and with such ease, that she was enrolled in The Yehudi Menuhin school in Stoke D'Abernon. The teaching and guidance she received from Menuhin was a great influence on her style of playing and she quickly became, with dedication and hard work, a favourite of her teacher. One of her contemporaries, Nigel Kennedy, she often beat in school playing competitions and she was fond of pointing out that he used to be such a nice boy and so well spoken! Towards the end of her time at the school she was chosen to accompany Menuhin on a tour of American cities playing the Bach double and Sibelius concerto to great acclaim. Sue remained on good terms with the Menuhin family for many years afterwards.

Sue won an ABRSM scholarship to The Royal Academy and began a new independent life studying under Sir Frederick Grinke for 3 years. During this time, she won many prizes; GLAA young musician of the year in 1976 and again in 1979; The Countess of Munster trust award and The Park Lane award for contemporary music. Sue formed a piano trio group of fellow scholars called Trio Zingara and together they won The Overseas League award. It was around this time that Sue started to develop a number of different illnesses that eventually plagued her life and sadly prevented her from developing her career as a soloist. She did however play with many orchestras becoming a great friend of Nigel Marriner of The Academy of St Martin in the Fields and was described by Iona Brown as the best leader the orchestra never had! Sue has guest led a number of orchestras, The English Chamber orchestra, the LSO and Philharmonic, and for many years she was the much-acclaimed leader of The City of Oxford orchestra. She worked with a number of bands in an unusual departure from classical – from "Take That" to Madonna on tour but also spoke with great pride about being the only woman ever to appear with The Bonzo Dog Doo Dah Band.

I hope that Sue will forgive me for saying that the pinnacle of her career was as leader to the All Saints' Singers orchestra! Many local residents will remember her playing The Lark Ascending with Patrick Salisbury conducting. Illness finally prevented her from performing and Sue specialised in teaching young people from 5 years to post graduate level. She will be remembered fondly by so many young people whose career she was so influential in starting. Sue was a woman who loved fun, wine and pizzas, Rock music, and with effortless ease played the violin like an angel." -Eulogy given by Tony Furze

Doreen Sparrowhawk who died on 12th July 2023 was born on 27th December 1939 at 30 Frilsham Street in Sutton Courtenay to her parents Les and Mary Austin. She was the third child in a family of six and she grew up in the village with her brother and sisters; attending the old village school and then going onto Box Hill in Abingdon. On leaving school she had a variety of jobs – working for Dr Sinclair at Lady Place; at the Didcot Depot as a packer in S Shed and for T&G Woodware and later on as a cleaner for Ameys. She also did seasonal work as a potato picker on the local farms. Doreen had first encountered Dick when she helped her Mum and Dad with the Cricket Teas at Appleford and Dick was playing for Marcham Cricket Club. But they met properly when they were both working for T&G Woodware. Dick was just 16 and Doreen was 15 when Dick plucked up the courage to ask Doreen to go to the pictures with him. They courted for five years and finally got married on 25th June 1960 – after Dick had asked her Dad for his permission for them to get engaged and then to marry. Their honeymoon was spent in a caravan in Weymouth and it was only on waking the next morning (having arrived in the dark the night before) to hear all the laughter from the other holiday makers on the campsite that they realized the outside of their caravan had been decorated with a large, 'Just Married' sign.

According to both of them they were friends from the moment they met and were happy ever after. After a few years living in a works' flat and then Palmer Place in Abingdon they moved, in 1970, to Tyrrells Way which became their family home. As a wife, Dick tells me, he couldn't fault her. They never had any secrets from one another and although they might have had differences of opinion over the decades, they never had arguments. Theirs was a real partnership of love and mutual support as they worked together to bring up their three children – Lesley, Paul and Terry. Doreen was a good cook, a knitter and dressmaker and homemaker – she kept the discipline in the home and was always firm but fair. Over the years they enjoyed family days out – travelling all over the country whilst Dick was an Archery Coach - and holidays by the sea which gave them many happy memories. Doreen was someone who loved all her family and who always put them first. The last few years of her life were not easy – either for Doreen, or for Dick and the family, as she developed dementia. But Dick lived out his wedding vows and cared for her at home with devotion and kindness, supported by Lesley and Paula. She and Dick also found great support and comfort through joining the WeCare2 group in the River Room – I know that Doreen particularly loved to sing and it was the gift of music which really animated her and gave her and Dick so much joy in recent times. The last few hours of her life were particularly traumatic for the family when Doreen went missing from home, but I know they are extremely grateful for the love and support shown to them all by the community of Sutton Courtenay who turned out to help look for her. She will be greatly missed by all those who knew her. *This is an edited extract from the address given at her*

funeral on 18th August at South Oxfordshire Crematorium, by the Reverend Helen Kendrick. Personal tributes were also given by members of the family.

Sheree Gair Hynd who died on 18th July 2023 was born on 25th August 1964 at The Marcham Road Hospital to Jim & Doris into a large family consisting of Kim, Teresa, Paul, Selena and later Matthew and Phillipa. A happy and joyful child who was cheeky and was nicknamed Flit by her Father because she never sat still. At 11 she attended Larkmead School. Sadly, Jim and Doris separated and when Sheree was 13 she moved with her mother and sister, Selena, to Grangemouth in Scotland where she stayed until she was 17, then returned to Marcham with her Dad. However, she never lost her love of Scotland and visited regularly over the years to see her mother, stepfather, Jim, and many friends.

Sheree started her career as a lab technician working on the lithium battery. After this she worked as a nanny in Wimbledon and then for her friends' children. During this time she met Paul at a party and they remained together for the next 38 years, settling in Sutton Courtenay. They both liked to socialise and enjoyed dinner parties, where Sheree would fuss over everyone. If you could say one thing about Sheree is that she always put others first. Paul and Sheree enjoyed many holidays over the years together and went on to have two children, Lauren and George. Sheree embraced the challenges of parenthood with unwavering dedication, ensuring they had a stable and loving home. She was a devoted mother who spoiled her children so much. Later, her path led her to Milton Hill, where she excelled; her ability to organise, her dedication and humour led her to create lifelong friendships which enriched her life. As if Sheree didn't have enough to do, she also lent a helping hand in the community, whether it was helping at the Village Hall or the Vicar's Fun Days or with Sutton Courtenay Cricket Club where she was the Welfare Officer. She would also help out with the legendary cricket teas. There was a groundless rumour that Paul only got onto the team because of Sheree's teas!

In Sheree's later years, her mental health deteriorated. It became extremely difficult for everyone to see somebody who was so special, so caring and with a real zeal for life, lose the fight. Until the end she was still concerned with others' needs above her own. She will be greatly missed by partner Paul, children Lauren and George and all her family and many friends who remember her infectious laughter, her indomitable spirit, her fierce love and the joy she brought into their lives. *Her friends and family filled All Saints' Church for her funeral on 22nd August 2023, which was conducted by the Reverend Helen Kendrick. This is an edited extract of the family tributes and address given at the service.*

Clive Neville Grundy (Harry) who died on 30th July 2023 was born on 26th July 1958 in the JR to his parents, Shirley and Neville Grundy. He grew up in Bradstocks Way, with his brother, Terry, and his two sisters, Yvonne (his twin) and Carol. He attended the village school before going onto

secondary school in Abingdon. When he left school he went to work at the MG factory and he was there until it closed. He then went to the Culham Labs where he worked as an electrician's mate. He transferred to the Patrol Service where he trained as a Fireman and for many years he would travel down to Reigate in Surrey for regular training. In 2004 he became the Incident Response Officer at JET and it was here that Tom, his son, followed in his father's footsteps. Harry also worked as a pallbearer for Michael Didcock.

Harry met Amelia whilst working at Culham and it was love at first sight. They were married in 1986 here, in this church, and became partners for life. They started their married life together in Catmore Close in Grove before moving to Brunel Crescent which became the family home with the arrival of Tom and then Robyn. As a husband, Amelia described him as one in a million – funny, sensitive, open, honest and her one true, irreplaceable soul mate. Tom and Robyn described him as a fantastic Dad with a great sense of humour, and someone who would always stick up for them and protect them, someone who was strong, caring and funny. He was someone who brought joy into every room.

Harry always kept himself physically fit and the list of his achievements at endurance events is quite incredible. He ran four London Marathons; he cycled from London to Edinburgh; he was passionate about deep sea diving and was an active member of Wantage Dive Club. He loved paddle boarding and doing anything adventurous. He was always a great lover of the outdoors – something he encouraged both Tom and Amelia to be too. Family holidays often involved camping in the New Forest or in Cornwall but also further afield to Ireland, Malta, Goza, Egypt, Maderia and Budapest. There was a part of him that would have loved to have lived near to the sea.

Harry was a lifelong football fan. He supported both Manchester United and Oxford United from the age of five, and played football himself as he grew up. He enjoyed gardening and DIY. He was very practical and could never sit still for long. He became an accomplished cook – always willing to experiment and would try new recipes after he had seen them on TV saying, 'I can do that!' Although, as Amelia pointed out to me he then went and used every saucepan in the kitchen and she had to clear up after him, so it was very much a team effort. Above all he was devoted to his family – being always there for them, caring, providing and protecting - and he took immense pride and delight in Tom and Amelia and was besotted by his granddaughter Elsie. Sadly, he became ill in November 2017 and since then had surgery every year. But throughout his treatment he continued working because he was dedicated to his job and didn't want to sit at home doing nothing, but always wanted to be useful. He was loved and cared for by Amelia and the family until his death. He will be greatly missed. *His funeral took place at All Saints' Church on 23rd August 2023 and this is an edited extract of the address given at the funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick.*



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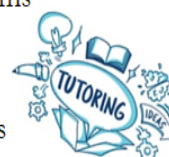
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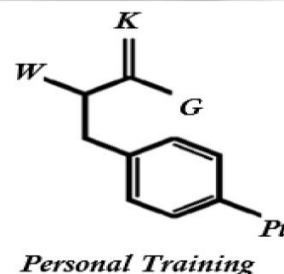
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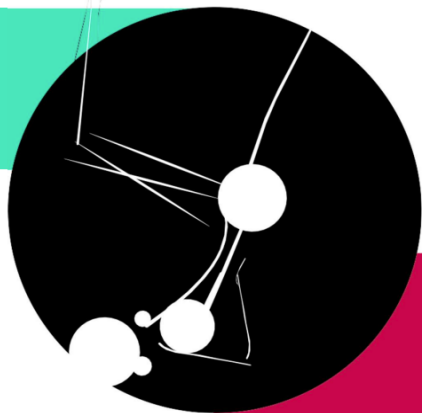


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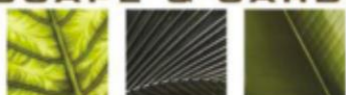
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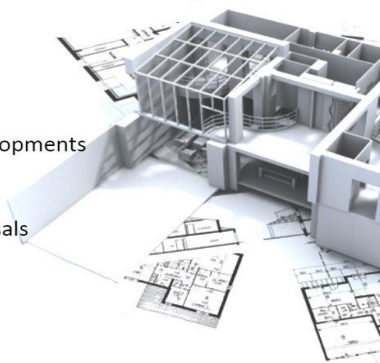


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