

# SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 47 NO. 1

FEBRUARY 2018

## VILLAGE DIARY

The Diary is compiled from entries in the Village Diary kept at Burgrey Stores. Please enter your events in this Diary.



### FEBRUARY

Wednesdays		9.30am -	Stay & Play Toddler Group	Village Hall
		11.30am		
		5pm -	The Abingdon Damascus YP Drop ins (see page 5)	Village Hall
		8pm		
Tuesday	6th	7.15pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
	6th	7.30pm	Spiritual Fellowship	Village Hall
Tuesday	20th	7.30pm	W.I.	Village Hall
Wednesday	21st		SCN MARCH COPY DEADLINE	
Thursday	22nd	10.30am	Coffee & Cake	Church
		12noon		

### MARCH

Saturday	3rd	7.30pm	Friends of All Saints Quiz Night	Village Hall
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#### ADVANCE NOTICE

As February is a short month and because of the way the copy deadline falls, the March edition may not reach readers until a few days later than usual, in early March.

Easter is early this year. We therefore have to bring the copy deadline for the April edition forward by a week. The copy deadline for the April edition will therefore be WEDNESDAY 14TH MARCH.

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#### DISTRIBUTOR VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a distributor to cover part of the Milton Road - see page 11 or contact the Editorial Team

All contributions for the next edition should be e-mailed to [editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk) or taken to Changes in Milton Road or Burgrey Stores in the High Street before the copy date entered in the Diary above.

To have any contribution published you must provide your name & contact details to the Editors.

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

## VILLAGE CONTACTS

**County Councillor:** Richard Webber, 534001  
(Schools, Roads etc.) [richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:richardwebber777@gmail.com)

**District Councillor:** Gervase Duffield, 848319  
(Planning, Waste etc.) Appleford House, Appleford

**Parish Council Chairman** Michael Jenkins, 847174  
[msjenkins@msn.com](mailto:msjenkins@msn.com)

**Beavers, Cubs and Scouts** Adrian Rouse, 07730 313384  
[adrian.j.rouse@gmail.com](mailto:adrian.j.rouse@gmail.com)

**Brownies** Sarah, 07855 544609

**Stay & Play Toddler Group** Sally 848664 or Ann 847662

**Chairman, Friends of SC Parish Church** Fred Cabbage, 848768

**Matrix Music School** 847264

**The Abbey** 847401

**Cricket Club** 07880 560403

**S C Craft Group** [lynn.cabbage@btinternet.com](mailto:lynn.cabbage@btinternet.com)

**DAMASCUS Youth** 848694

**SCIDS (Drama Society)** Morna Whitlock, 848335  
[morna28whitlock@gmail.com](mailto:morna28whitlock@gmail.com)

**Neighbourhood Watch :** 07762 597118  
[nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com](mailto:nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com)

**The Churchmere Carp Syndicate** Roger Rance, 847241

**Non-urgent Police:** 101

**Neighbourhood policing team:** [AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

**Environment Agency:** 0800 80 70 60  
Landfill Odours

**Thames Water (leaks):** 0800 71 46 14

**Websites:**

**Sutton Courtenay News** [www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](http://www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk)

**Sutton Courtenay** [www.suttoncourtenay.co.uk](http://www.suttoncourtenay.co.uk)

**Parish Council** [www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk)

**Vale of White Horse DC** [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

**Oxfordshire CC** [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

### The Ministry Team

Rector: The Reverend Helen Kendrick, The Rectory, 3 Tullis Close, Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 4BD. Tel: 01235 848297. e-mail: [rector@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@damascusparish.org.uk)

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Karen Hyde Tel: 07526 985395. e-mail: [curate@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:curate@damascusparish.org.uk)

Associate Priest: The Reverend Rosie Bruce, Tel: 07766 421773. [rosie-bruce@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rosie-bruce@hotmail.co.uk)

Lay Ministers: Tim Budd (527853), Jack Jarvis (831395) & Alex Landsbert (847443)

Authorised Preacher: Paul James (848129)

### Services of Worship

1st Sunday: Family Service at 10.30am

2nd Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 10.30am (with Junior Church) and Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

3rd Sunday: Morning Worship at 10.30am (with Junior Church)

4th Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 10.30am (with Junior Church)

5th Sunday: Special services across the DAMASCUS Group – please see church noticeboard for details

Wednesday: BCP Holy Communion at 9.45am

## SUTTON COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL



The village hall is a registered charity available for hire for community related recreational activities. It is located in Hobbyhorse Lane (post code OX14 4BB). It has a large main hall, a smaller meeting room and kitchen. There are regular activities that take place on some weekday evenings.

To find out more or book the hall please contact the Secretary to the Village Hall Management Committee Rita Atkinson on 01235 848694 or email [scvillagehallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:scvillagehallbookings@gmail.com) Hire Charges vary depending on the use of the hall. The maximum hire charge for the main hall is £16 per hour. Commercial bookings and regular hire are negotiated separately. Visits prior to hire are welcomed.

This newsletter is produced by the editors, Diane Armstrong and Clare Pennicott, and Bernie Jones, who is in charge of advertising. Mary Pike is responsible for distribution. Our contact details are:

**Diane editor @suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk** 07553 801032

**Clare editor @suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk** 07778 284193

**Bernie advertising @suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk** 07761 375991

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## Council budget 2018/19

The Parish Council held its budget meeting on 12th December to look at its expenditure for the next financial year. The precept request has been lodged with the Vale of White Horse District Council for £58,786. This is the amount charged via the council tax to the residents of the parish. This is an increase of £7,130 over what was given by the District Council last year, but the costs will be shared between a larger number of houses, as many of the latest houses on the new developments in the village have become occupied. The Parish Council will have significant expenditure this next year, particularly in regards to the planning appeals, and the employment of consultants to represent the Parish Council at the Public Inquiry. The Council believes that Sutton Courtenay has had more than its share of development and is supporting the Vale of White Horse District Council in its opposition to the proposed 554 new houses and other buildings, off Hobbyhorse Lane and Harwell Road. The Parish Council will also be giving grants to deserving local organisations for the benefit of the local residents. These include Sutton Courtenay news, the Scout Group, Damascus, the Primary School, the costs of providing the Community First Responder for Sutton Courtenay and the Citizens Advice Bureau, as well as other small grants.

## Appleford Road – pothole repairs

The Parish Council, as well as residents, have frequently contacted the County Council regarding the poor state of Appleford Road and parts of Church Street, particularly since the trenching works undertaken on behalf of Thames Water. There were numerous deep holes, and the Parish Council was very much aware of the problems they caused. Rather than repair several small areas, the County Council decided to arrange for resurfacing, particularly in the vicinity of The Fish public house. The Parish Council will continue to refer on areas which are not completed to its satisfaction.

## Cyclists on pavements

The Council has had reports of cyclists that ride on the footways particularly in the High Street.

This is dangerous for the pedestrians who use the path, and also for the cyclists themselves as vehicles emerge from driveways and side roads such as Courtenay Close where visibility is limited. Cyclists could get hit by a car. The Sustrans cycle route from Abingdon to Didcot is along the High Street, but cyclists should use the road and not the pavement. The matter has been brought to the attention of the Police, who will be patrolling the area, so for your own safety and that of others, please ensure you do not cycle on the pavements.

## Recycling

Your chance to talk rubbish with the Councils in Oxfordshire. Consultation is being undertaken by Oxfordshire County Council regarding how it can help reduce the quantity of waste thrown away and increase recycling. The results will inform the review of the joint countywide waste strategy. This sets out priorities across Oxfordshire for waste and recycling until 2030. The agreed priorities will be approved by the

Oxfordshire Environment Partnership and will be adopted by the relevant District Council later in the year.



To take part in the consultation and survey, which is open until 18<sup>th</sup> February go to <https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/wastestrategy2018/consultationHome>

## Stop Press and Latest Information

The Parish Council holds its meetings monthly on the first Tuesday of the month, and the agenda for those meetings is finalised one week beforehand. The copy deadline for Sutton Courtenay news is about one week after the Parish Council meeting. It is therefore not always possible to have up to the minute public information available at Council meetings, or in its articles in the News. The Council's website too is not done in house, so that cannot be immediately updated. To get over the problem, the Parish Council will be providing any stop press and urgent items to the Sutton Courtenay News team, with a request that information goes on its website. So for the latest news items, complaints received by the Council, and events about which, the Council wishes to inform residents then please check <https://suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk>

The Parish Council can email out its agendas and minutes to residents who wish to receive them, so should you wish to have regular copies of these, please email [info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk) and you can be added to the list.

## December Parish Council meeting

At the December meeting, there were 2 presentations, one on the independent studies on the Oxford Flood Relief Scheme. These concluded that there would no additional effect downstream should the Oxford Flood Relief Scheme go ahead. A business case for the Abingdon scheme should be available in the first quarter of 2018, and then more information would be available.

Also agents acting for Diageo Pension Trust gave a brief presentation about the plans for the warehouse site in Sutton Courtenay Lane. Residents should have received a leaflet through their doors about this. The large warehouse proposals have been shelved, and currently the plan is for a data centre to the rear of the site, and 2 smaller warehouses closer to Sutton Courtenay Lane. It is understood that the planning application for the 2 smaller units will be lodged in the early part of 2018.

## The following planning applications have been considered:

**P17/V2965/FUL** construction of 6 bed detached dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling at 1 Appleford Road. The Council wished the height of the dwelling to be reduced in line with the adjacent dwellings.

**P17/V1963/O** Additional highway information for Sutton

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Courtenay East site, Hobbyhorse Lane. The Council objected to the highway report as it compared Sutton Courtenay to large towns and cities and did not take into account limited rural bus services, the requirement for people to use their cars.

**P17/V3131/FUL** Retrospective application for the laying of a hardstanding. Material change of use of land from agriculture to domestic car parking on land south of 6 Abingdon Road. The Council commented that there was no tracking shown on the drawing and the vehicle would have to reverse into the road too close to traffic lights. No drainage was included in the hardstanding.

**P17/S4416/FUL** Change of use of land from agricultural land to farm park, wildlife and outdoor activity centre at Culham Hill off the A415. The Council had concerns regarding the traffic impact on Sutton Courtenay, and coalescence with Abingdon.

**P17V/3273/HH** Erection of two storey front extension at 14 The Green. The Council had no objection.

One planning decision that the Parish Council is pleased to report is the refusal by Oxfordshire County Council for mineral workings near Clifton Hampden. The main reasons being the impact of additional vehicle movements, the new link road and river crossing which would be prejudiced, and development was to take place in the green belt.

### Public Inquiry / Planning Appeals

The dates of the public inquiry are 23<sup>rd</sup> January to 2<sup>nd</sup> February, and it will be held at the Steventon House Hotel. In addition to all the written submissions at the time of the planning applications, the Inspector will hear evidence submitted as part of the appeal process, and will listen to the opposing views. His report and decisions will be available some weeks after the hearing.

**Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2018, at 7.15 p.m. in the village hall, Frilsham Street.**

**Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin**

**90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham Tel: 01865 391833 or email: [info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk)**

## Sutton Courtenay (National Power) Trust

This Trust was established with the donation from what was National Power (now RWE nPower). The Charity meets twice a year and will consider grants specifically for the relief of poverty and distress, education and recreation and any other general charitable purposes. The next meeting, will be held in the Spring. If there is any local organisation or individual who would like to be considered for a small grant, then please contact the Clerk to the Trustees, by the end of the month, stating the purpose for the grant, the amount required, and if an organisation supply a copy of the latest accounts.

Clerk to the Trustees: Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham, Oxon OX13 6PU Tel: 01865 391833

## SUTTON COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL - VACANCY

The Parish Council has a vacancy for a councillor, and the Council would welcome anyone interested in joining the Council to apply. The Council is the tier of local authority closest to the people and provides local services, and a vital part of the community. If you would like to help keep the Parish a desirable place to live, interesting in planning and development, and want to be a voice for the people, then please contact Linda Martin, Clerk to the Council, on 01865 391833 or email [info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk) to find out more about the role.

## SUTTON COURTENAY STAY & PLAY GROUP



Parents, grandparents, carers - please join us with your babies and toddlers for fun and games and a cup of tea

every Wednesday 0930-1130 Village Hall, Frilsham Street, Sutton Courtenay

Cost £3 per family (includes kids' snacks and tea/coffee) First visit free - come give it a try!



For more information

Facebook @SCstayandplay Tel. Sally 848664 or Ann 847662



## SUTTON COURTENAY POST OFFICE



A wide range of key Post Office products and services are available at Burgreys Stores in the High Street.

The opening hours are Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 08.00 – 18.00, Wed 08.00 – 17.00, Sat 08.30 – 13.00, and Sun 09.00 -12.00.



# SUTTON COURTENAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## An Exciting Year Ahead!

2018 promises to be a very exciting year at Sutton Courtenay School. The building work has been stalled by the collapse of Carillion, and as I write no work is happening on site. We very much hope this situation will be resolved quickly, as our grounds are in desperate need of reconstruction! Mr Greenough our caretaker has already done a lot in the new garden area, with the shed already erected and the raised beds coming on well. The new garden is bigger than the previous one. We will soon be collecting 2 litre plastic bottles to build our new bottle greenhouse! This was one of our favourite features of our old garden area, and always attracted a lot of attention. In order to raise money, we have applied for several grants. Do remember to vote for us with your tokens if you are shopping in any Tesco store under the 'Bags of Help' scheme. Our project is called 'Growing Our School, Growing Their Future.' In addition, we are planning an application to the Aviva Community Fund. This has a much higher chance of success if it is signed off by a financial adviser. Does anyone know of one who would be prepared to donate a small amount of time to help our school?

We started the term off with a lovely trip to see the pantomime Jack And The Beanstalk at the Oxford Playhouse on the first Friday of term. Our very own Mr Stoodley and one of our Year 3 children were both picked out to get up on stage—we were very proud of them! (Oh yes we were!) This trip was partly funded by our wonderful Friends Of Sutton Courtenay School, or FOSCS for short. Don't forget that as part of their fundraising, you can vote for us with your 'Bags of Help' tokens at any Tesco in the Abingdon area during January and February, so do look out for that if you are shopping in a Tesco store.

We are now working hard on new topics as we get back into our learning after the Christmas break. The children and staff have returned full of enthusiasm, and the topics planned are sure to give the children many memorable experiences. In the Nursery, a winter wonderland has been created with a huge amount of paper recycled from our shredder – it is constantly

'snowing' in there, and the Hoover needs emptying more than usual! Reception are learning about 'People Who Help Us' and have lots of visitors planned. Year 1 and 2 also have a



wintery theme, with their learning centred around the theme of 'Polar Explorers'. They are learning about different climates and animals around the world. Year 3 and 4 have an exciting topic called 'The Blue Abyss' which focuses around the ocean. There will be lots of science, but also lots of stories told and written based on the theme of '20,000 Leagues Under The Sea' by Jules Verne. In Year 5 and 6, the topic is 'Rebels'. They will be turning their classrooms into a street gallery, and will focus on the ideas of people who have wanted to change the world. Hopefully, many of them will grow up wanting to do the same!

FOSCS have very kindly given us the money to fund a poet in school this term. His name is James Carter and he will be with us on **Tuesday 16th January**. During the day he will carry out workshops with all the children to help them develop and write their own poems. There will be an **assembly at 2.30** to which parents and families are invited where the children will perform some of the poetry they have written during the day.

Many thanks to those of you who have volunteered to help in school with reading this term. You will be making a BIG difference! If you think you could help out in any way in school, whether it is as a one off sharing a particular skill, or on a regular basis running a club or helping in a classroom, please let us know.

*Rachel Hornsey*, Headteacher

*Lisa Knight and Louise Tristram*, Assistant Headteachers

email: [office.3243@sutton-courtenay.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3243@sutton-courtenay.oxon.sch.uk)

telephone: 01235 848333

## THE ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project  
Registered Charity 1098966



*Youth & Community Acting Together*

Weekly event:

Sutton Courtenay Drop-ins (@ the village hall:

Wednesdays

School Year 6, 7 & 8 – 5-6pm

School Year 9+ - 6-7pm

# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



The DAMASCUS Parish  
Deighton | Appleford | Milton  
Sutton Courtenay | Stevenston

During this month Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day, share the same date. It seems an odd mix, yet there is an obvious link: *love!*

Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, is about learning how to love God more, as we give Him space in our lives. It's also an opportunity to reflect on Jesus' experience in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13).

Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit, where He was tempted by Satan, but demonstrated the path of real love.

Jesus is tempted to turn stones into bread. Love gets to the heart of human need, not just satisfying physical desires.

Satan tempts Jesus to worship him. However, worshipping God is the beginning of love and results in sacrificial service to meet the needs of others.

Finally, He is tempted to put God to the test, by jumping off the Temple. Only real love can change hearts by practical love and care.

Lent teaches us how to live out the love of God in practice, as we follow Jesus in the way of the cross.

Valentine was Christ's follower, committed to sharing God's love with others. We know little about him, except that he was a priest who lived in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century AD and was martyred on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Emperor Claudius felt that soldiers in the Roman Army were distracted from their duty by their wives, and so attempted to outlaw marriage. It is believed that Valentine married couples in secret. He also helped Christians in Rome during times of persecution. He demonstrated the importance of showing real love in action.

In trying to understand the meaning of her revelations from God, Julian of Norwich found:

*'What, do you wish to know your Lord's meaning in this thing?  
Know it well, love was his meaning.'*

With love and prayers, Helen

\*\*\*\*\*

## Ministry Team Announcement

The Reverend Meg Heywood and The Reverend Phil Sutton have both taken up their posts as Associate Priests in the DAMASCUS Parish. Meg was licenced on 12<sup>th</sup> December at the same time as the Reverend Helen Kendrick was licenced as Area Dean of Abingdon and Phil was licenced on 21<sup>st</sup> January. It is a privilege to welcome them both into the DAMASCUS Parish.

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## Christmas Thanks

To all those who helped in so many ways over Christmas.

Unfortunately our Treasurer is on pilgrimage in Ethiopia as we go to press so I am unable to confirm how much was raised for the Thames Valley Air Ambulance at the Torchlight Procession and Carol Singing until next month. We know it was well over a £1000. So thank you to everyone who made a donation and thank you to the hosts of the Carol Singing – The Kings in

Milton Road, Joe and Katy in Springfield Way, Bernie and Kate in Lady Place and Alan and Morna in Chapel Lane. If you would like to host a carol singing session at Christmas 2018 just let us know! Also enormous thanks to all those who make the Torchlight Procession possible – the volunteer stewards, coordinated by the Churchwardens; Colin Whitehead & friends for the lights and sound; the Allen family & Callum Mackenzie for the bonfire. We could not do it without you!

Thank you also to everyone who supported the Christmas Tree Festival on the second weekend in December. Although the snow made the church look particularly festive and beautiful it did mean visitor numbers were down. However, we still raised enough to sponsor a third toilet in a developing country – so thank you to everyone for their support.

## Holy Baptism



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

Louise ALLEN (14<sup>th</sup> January 2018)  
Lincoln Jacob Malcolm ROSE (14<sup>th</sup> January 2018)

## COFFEE, CAKES & BOOKS

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

10.30am-12noon, All Saints' Church



Why not drop by for coffee, cake & conversation and to browse the books on offer? Open to all – a good place to meet. If you need transport to and from church please 'phone Helen on 848297.



## EASTER LILIES ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

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

# CHURCH DIARY

## FEBRUARY

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>** – 7.45pm Abingdon Deanery Synod in St Blaise's Church, Milton

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup>** – 7.30pm Baptism Preparation in St Peter's Church, Drayton for all families seeking baptism for their children in the DAMASCUS Parish

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>** – 7.30pm DAMASCUS PCC meeting at St Michael's, Steventon

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>** – SHROVE TUESDAY

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>** – ASH WEDNESDAY – Lent begins

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** - 10.30-12 noon Coffee, Cakes & Books

## MARCH

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 9.30-4pm Marriage Preparation Course for all couples getting married in the DAMASCUS Parish in 2018.

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 7.30pm Friends of All Saints' Quiz Night in the Village Hall

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup>** – 7.30pm Baptism Preparation in All Saints', Sutton Courtenay for all families seeking baptism for their children in the DAMASCUS Parish

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>** – 7.30pm Sutton Courtenay Local Church Committee in All Saints' Church

## REST IN PEACE

We send our condolences and the assurance of our prayers to the family and friends of **Eric Leslie FIDLER** who died on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2017 was born in Swindon on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1932 to his parents Phyllis and Harold Fidler and he grew up with younger brother Brian, attending the Council School in Conduit Road in Abingdon. He first met Margaret when she was 15 and he was 19 and they were both working at T&G Woodware in Abingdon. They became childhood sweethearts but it wasn't quite love at first sight - Eric was very shy and it took two weeks for Margaret to ask Eric out to the cinema on 13<sup>th</sup> January whilst they were standing outside Woolworths! They became engaged just a couple of years later on Eric's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday and they were married two years later in St Michael's Church in Abingdon. Before they were married Margaret always said she wanted four children and she got her wish with the birth of Lesley, Linda, Andrew and Diane. The family initially lived in Saxton Road in Abingdon before moving in 1958 to Sutton Courtenay. This is where they made their home, brought up their family and established long lasting friendships. Eric's working life was spent in a variety of places but mainly at Harwell. After he retired from Harwell he became a cleaner at Esso – Margaret was delighted that he took up this job as she was not looking forward to him being at home all the time! In his spare time he enjoyed playing golf at Haddon Hill – until arthritis in his hands stopped him. He enjoyed listening to music – particularly The Shadows and Enya. Both he and Margaret enjoyed going to the Football Club three times a week to have a drink and meet up with friends.

He loved company and could tell some good stories. Holidays were always a highlight of Eric's life. From family holidays in Hayling Island and Dorset – usually camping in pouring rain as we have heard – to coach trips with Margaret to Italy where they met some great people and made good friends. Eric had an immense love of animals – particularly dogs – but he also cared for all creatures great and small over the years – including a variety of birds – bantams, quails, chickens and a parrot and hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs and a tortoise. He would carefully hand rear injured birds that the family brought home – including a dove that Margaret found and even Eric brought home a lost kitten which he called Tuppence. Eric was very practical and could turn his hands to most jobs. A good electrician he would potter around the house doing DIY. Eric also enjoyed coming to this church and for several years he and Margaret were regular worshippers at our Family Services. Such was Eric's kind and helpful nature that he volunteered to go on the church cleaning rota – in fact for several years I think he was the only man who volunteered to help clean and dust! Sadly Eric developed Alzheimer's Disease and his condition deteriorated quickly. He received excellent care in the Wantage Community Care Home and Margaret and all the family visited him regularly and did whatever they could to support him. Margaret has truly fulfilled her wedding vows in caring for him so lovingly, devotedly and unconditionally. He will be remembered as a loving and caring husband, generous and kind, a devoted father and a hard worker who never wanted his family to go without. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends who attended his funeral in All Saints' Church on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December. *This is an edited extract of the address given at his funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick.*

## Friends of All Saints' QUIZ NIGHT Sutton Courtenay Village Hall Saturday 3rd March, 7.30 for 8.00 pm

**Tickets required in advance for this year's event:  
only £6.00**

Available at **Burgrey Stores** from 1<sup>st</sup> February or  
contact [fred.cubbage@btinternet.com](mailto:fred.cubbage@btinternet.com) 01235  
848768 by 1st March.

Tables of 6 maximum.

Up to **6 rounds** including General Knowledge,  
Music, Gardens etc.

**Prizes, Cash Bar, Admission at the door is  
£7.50.**

**An event by the Friends of All Saints' to raise  
funds for the Church fabric.**

# THE CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT

Help is needed.

We take things for granted - clean tap water, political high jinks, the postman, our NHS, our interesting weather chat. One of these is All Saints', our village church. We expect the wonderful Grade 1 listed building to be there for us, to visit, to give comfort (in times of trouble), for Christmas and Easter, to provide services for rites of passage - baptisms, weddings and funerals - whether we regularly worship or not. Would we care if our church was closed and deconsecrated? This has happened to almost 1,500 churches over the last 5 years, in Britain.

It seems that the way forward is to reopen our churches, for different activities, as things used to be pre-Victorian times, and to rediscover their original purpose. The Church should welcome everyone, and be at the heart of a community. We are working to secure our church, for you and future generations.

The Church Building Project is designed to do just that. It will provide support for all events in the church. The River Room will also stand alone, available for use, by interest groups, for hobbies, meetings, parties, lectures, complementing the role of the Village hall. It will store and display local historical material, for family historians, tourists and students. This will be a much needed additional space, as Sutton Courtenay continues to grow apace. The room will seat 60 in rows, or 40 around tables. The kitchen will be fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and

be able to cater for large numbers. There will be three toilets, one of which will be fully accessible.

This project will help to ensure the survival of our church, well into the future. It has been taxing the working party for more than three years! With your support, our aim is to complete the job by the end of 2019. We appeal to every household, to consider contributing. The total cost estimate is £500,000, half of which will pay for the toilets and kitchen. The rest is for the Room. £258,000 is still needed to reach the grand total. The grant application process continues, as do the fundraising events, but we very much need your contributions and help, as individuals.

Donations and pledges of any size, will be very welcome. **NOW is the time to do this**, if you have been thinking about donating or pledging. It will help greatly with the grant Application process, and of course to reach the final target. **This is a once in a life-time opportunity to make a lasting gift to your village.**

Donation forms are available in the Church, and from the Hon. Treasurer, Tim Budd ([tim.budd23@gmail.com](mailto:tim.budd23@gmail.com))

Thank you so much for reading this.

From The River Room Working Party.

January 10th. 2018

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

### FIREWORKS

I have just read the various comments from around the village on post November 5th firework parties and as one of the guilty few who enjoy these parties I would like to say that I'm disappointed. I saw the display in the early evening of the 12<sup>th</sup> November and it was magnificent. If I follow the advice given by your contributors I shall never again be able to go to open air concerts where loud fireworks are let off to the sound of Tchaikovsky 1812. I shall never again attend a Chinese New Year party or indeed a New Year's Eve dinner and fireworks party given by my friends. Sadly, I shall have to write to the ministry of defence and remind them once again that my windows shake when their helicopters fly over and wake me in the early hours of the morning. Might I also suggest that the non-caring dog owners who use the same footpaths and streets as I, take rather more care in clearing up the mess their pets make. I can find no legislation that prevents me from letting off fireworks but plenty on the health hazards of dog and cat residue. And whilst I'm on the subject, what about the incredible racket the peacocks make in the early hours with their screeching mating calls, not to mention their unwelcome deposits?

Tony Furze

### THE CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT

I would like to draw the attention of Sutton Courtenay residents to a small but comparable example which concerns All Saints' Church.

On September 21st 2017 an article appeared in the Oxford Mail entitled "St. Blaise Church in Milton near Didcot has been transformed into a village hub in £190,000 overhaul"

[http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/15550935.The\\_parish\\_church\\_transformed\\_into\\_a\\_village\\_hub\\_in\\_a\\_190\\_000\\_overhaul/](http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/15550935.The_parish_church_transformed_into_a_village_hub_in_a_190_000_overhaul/) \*\*\*

The same idea of re-ordering could be applied here for a much less expensive and grand project particularly in these times of austerity and more important issues to face.

Jenny Richardson

\*\*\* readers experiencing problems entering this web address from the print version of the News should try <https://tinyurl.com/y7kgmqwc> instead.

## VILLAGE CHRISTMAS DINNER THANK YOU

As relative newcomers to the village - we have only lived here for four and a half years and, as such, are regarded by many as "newcomers" - we would like to express our thanks to whoever provided and organised the Christmas Dinner for the over 70s.

We were not sure about taking advantage of such an occasion but were extremely glad we did. The food and drink and the company were most enjoyable. Thanks are due to all those who cheerfully cooked and served the meals and to those who provided the Raffle prizes. But above all, thanks must go to those who organised and paid for the occasion.

It was a truly celebratory Community Christmas event.

David and Penny Thomas

I would like to say a big thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Chung for the wonderful Christmas party they gave us in December. They gave us a full Christmas dinner, wine and beer, and a wonderful raffle. Everyone came away with a lovely present and a mini Christmas cake. A lot of effort went into it and it was helped by all of Carol's family dressed up Christmas dresses waiting on the tables.

So a big thank you from all who attended. It was a lovely gesture and a great afternoon.

Margaret Hamilton



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2017

On behalf of the Royal British Legion I would like to thank everyone who supported and gave so generously to the 2017 Poppy Appeal, and the house-to-house collectors for giving their time and continued support.

I am delighted to report that a record total of £3,242 was collected, comfortably exceeding last year's £2,909.

Mark Haffenden

Poppy Appeal Organiser, Sutton Courtenay & Appleford

Tel: 01235 847177

E-mail: [mark-haffenden@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mark-haffenden@hotmail.co.uk)



## SUTTON COURTENAY WI



Wishing you a Happy and Healthy 2018 from all at Sutton Courtenay WI

As another new year starts why not make joining the WI top of your resolution list! Our lovely members will make you very welcome, so come along and meet us. As usual we have a packed

programme ahead. Here are a few dates for your diary.

20<sup>th</sup> February, Guns & Roses to Hearts and Flower with Kate Lace

17<sup>th</sup> April 'Crafty Members' some of our fabulous ladies will be sharing their craft skills with us.

We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm at the Sutton Courtenay Village Hall.

If you would like more info, please call Val on 847612

## SUTTON COURTENAY SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

On Tuesday December 6th we had a fine meeting with Gaby and Clare from Oxford and Didcot respectively. Clare has not been with us before but, like Gaby, showed great talent. They worked well together and above all gave a good service and evidence.

On Tuesday 2nd January our friend from the village, Sharon Higginson, with a newcomer, Allan, gave a great service. Sharon always does an excellent service and we hope to see Allan again in the future.

Thanks again everyone.

### DIARY

Tuesday February 6th 7.30pm Village Hall  
Spiritual Meeting with Julie Ridgeway

Tuesday March 6th 7.30pm Village Hall  
Spiritual Meeting with Brenda Manning

## Warehouses' application

Following the delivery of a leaflet in December, Savills Investment Management will be submitting a planning application in February for two new warehouses.

The website [www.new-logistics-sc.co.uk](http://www.new-logistics-sc.co.uk) will then be updated and include a feedback form for the public to make comments on the application.



# DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

## The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project and Sutton Courtenay Parish Council celebrated the achievements of the village's young people at the parish council meeting in November when the chairman presented them with AQA Certificates in Youth Leadership for their contribution in the community. The young people, pictured below, worked extremely hard to plan, organise and deliver 'Sutton Fest' a community intergenerational Fun Day. Over 200 people came to Sutton Fest during the August bank holiday weekend for music, food, face paints, a football tournament, inflatables and lot of other fun activities for families to enjoy.



*Top left – Right  
Marlie Kendrick, Jake Oliver,  
Mike Jenkins - Parish Council  
Chairman, Chloe Pryde,  
Georgina Sawyer and  
Courteney Whittern*

*Bottom Left – Right  
Holly Freeland and Roxy  
Elford – Youth Workers*

### **EDITORS' NOTE**

*To see this photograph in  
colour please view the February  
edition on the Sutton  
Courtenay News website*

If you would like to know more about The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project, please contact  
Roxy Elford on 07876549008 / [roxy.ycat@gmail.com](mailto:roxy.ycat@gmail.com) or  
visit our website [www.abingdondamascusyouthproject.org.uk](http://www.abingdondamascusyouthproject.org.uk)

### **About The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project**

The youth project offers life-changing support to several young people in the village and also benefits the wider community as it is rooted within the communities it serves e.g. through the one to one support it gives and the workshops it organises. Increasing inter-generational cohesion and responsibility within the community is at the heart of all its work with young people. This is becoming increasingly important in our growing community.

**Please get involved to show your support to our young people – they are the future of your community!**

### **Ways in which you can get involved**

#### **Voluntary help**

We are always looking for adults who can spare a few hours to help with homework or are able to offer activities at the weekly drop in (Wednesday evenings) or talk to the older young people on issues such as employment/training/further education or just chatting and getting to know them! We do

have a rigorous safeguarding policy in place and all volunteers will require a DBS check.

#### **Funding**

We are a voluntary registered charity – this means that there is **no automatic** source of funding – every penny is raised through grant applications, events organised by trustees and begging letters. We need about £70K annually to ensure support for young people across the villages and South Abingdon of which about £15K is spent in Sutton Courtenay. Any donation you can make goes a long way.

Why support the youth project when there are many calls on our wallets these days and so many good causes?– Whilst many grant applications are made every year most grants tend to be given mainly for capital projects rather than the day to day running costs of an established project. The youth project works with young people to change lives, and hearts and minds in the community. It is the day to day running costs of doing

*(Continued on page 11)*

# DAMASCUS CONT.

(Continued from page 10)

this, with which the youth project needs help. The project tries to keep its overheads to a minimum with all the management and fundraising being done on a voluntary basis by the trustees. Nevertheless there are the youth worker salaries which need funding. Every penny raised goes into face to face to work with young people.

We are grateful to the parish council for its continued support; Champion Recruitment that supported us for many years; the many of you who do contribute and get involved in different

ways; Milton Park for provision of facilities for the youth workers and most recently to Evotec (UK) Ltd who adopted us as their charity for 2017 and raised £648.

We need more help please.

If you would like to donate please get in touch with our Treasurer Hans Sundin ([hsundin5105@googlemail.com](mailto:hsundin5105@googlemail.com)) or ring 01235 848694

If you would like to help, please contact Roxy Elford on 07876549008 / [roxy.ycat@gmail.com](mailto:roxy.ycat@gmail.com)

# SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

## A message from the retiring Chairman

I have stepped down as Chairman of the Sutton Courtenay News after a long association with it from when it was first produced in the early 1970s. A group of us got together to create a monthly newsletter to be distributed free to every household in the village with information about the village and local events etc. I was the first editor, delivered it for over 40 years, and it was a much simpler production compared to the professional edition of today. It was typed by hand, at first printed in the attic of the former vicarage, assembled on my dining room table by a group from the Young Wives and distributed by volunteers to every house in the village.

It should be remembered and appreciated that still today everyone, from the editors to distributors, is a volunteer and gives valuable time to producing the News. The aim is still to reach every home which is particularly important as the village expands and newcomers move into the village. Printing costs continue to rise and the News relies on income from advertisements, grants and donations from some of the village organizations for support.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all involved with the Sutton Courtenay News and wish it every success in the future.

Mary Thompson

**Editors' Comment :** The editorial team would like to thank Mary for all her help over the years.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **2017 AGM**

The AGM was scheduled to be held in the village hall at 7.30pm on 11th December Notice. Despite a few intrepid readers braving the snow and ice there were insufficient numbers to make a quorum. Arrangements are being made to rearrange the AGM in the spring. Notice will be given in a future edition. Notices will also be displayed at Burgrey Stores and at the village hall. In the meantime if any one is interested in helping or wishes to be nominated as Chairman, Editor, Advertising Manager or Treasurer please contact the editorial team at [editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk)

## 2017 Christmas Quiz Answers

1. What was the real name of the famous author buried in the churchyard?.....**ERIC ARTHUR BLAIR**
2. Which prime minister has a blue plaque to his name in the village?.....**HERBERT ASQUITH**
3. What is pictured on the village hall sign?.....  
.....**SWANS & REEDS/BULLRUSHES**
4. How many humps are there on the High Street?.....**11**
5. On what date was Sutton Fest held?.....**26th AUGUST**
6. Which memorial cup is awarded at the Sutton Courtenay Produce Show?.....**DAPHNE SINCLAIR**
7. What is the missing word? The **DAMASCUS** Youth Project?
8. What was the first name of the gentleman after whom Bradstock's Way is named?.....**EDMUND**

**The winner was Rachael Roberts.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **NEW DISTRIBUTOR NEEDED, PLEASE!**

Two of our very long-serving distributors have decided to retire. The Editorial Team would like to thank them both for all their help over the years. One vacancy has been filled. If you think that you could spend a short time each month (except January and August) delivering to some of the houses on the Milton Road - not all of them - please let the Editorial Team known by emailing [editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk). If you don't feel able to commit to each month but would be happy to help occasionally when a distributor is away or unable to do a delivery one month, the Editorial Team would also be pleased to hear from you.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't forget to check out the Sutton Courtenay News website [www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](http://www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk) for updates about village events and to see all adverts and photographs in colour. Complete editions of the News are available for digital download in pdf format from this website, as well as previous editions, and other material from the News.

We would welcome any comments and suggestions. We would also like to invite any budding photographers who would like to see their photos of the village and village life featured on the website, or used as page backgrounds, to submit them to us by email.

## S.C.I.D.S

This year SCIDS brings you a beautiful story, almost (but not quite) a world premiere. With 26 junior members and 5 slightly more senior members on the stage "The Land of XYZ" is set in the principality of Suttocourto, somewhere in middle Europe!

**Show dates Friday 16th and Saturday 17th March 2018**  
**Times - both evenings at 6.30pm and Saturday matinee at 2.00pm**  
**Venue The Village Hall, Sutton Courtenay**  
**Box Office - opens for bookings on Monday 19th February**  
**01235 848335 or alanwhitlock@hotmail.com**  
**012358 847707 or sallydubock@gmail.com**

  
Berkshire Buckinghamshire Oxfordshire Wildlife TRUSTS

**Workshop: HOOOO's For Dinner?**  
Tues 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2018  
10:00am – 11:00am & 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Become a detective with a difference! Discover what our local owls have been eating for dinner. Dissect an owl pellet and be amazed at what you find.

Activities are suitable for age 6+. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL.** £4 per child, accompanying adults free.

For those with pre-school children we run Nature Tot sessions every month. A great opportunity for you and your little one to have fun in natural surroundings. Activities include; mud painting, mask making, bug hunting and much more. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL.**

For all bookings please head to our website [bbowt.org.uk](http://bbowt.org.uk)

Get in touch  
Email: [sciecz@bbowt.org.uk](mailto:sciecz@bbowt.org.uk) Phone: 01235 862024

Where to find us  
Milton Park Estate, off the A34, 3 miles north of Didcot  
Sutton Courtenay, Suttocourty Road, Abingdon, OX16 4TE

Supported by 

See what's happening at our other education centres at College Lake near Aylesbury and Woolley Firs near Maidenhead.

[www.bbowt.org.uk](http://www.bbowt.org.uk) 



## SHED OXFORD @ THE ABBEY

Shed Oxford is now established and meets regularly on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.30 until 4pm.

This new "Shed" at the Abbey is part of a national movement which is spreading like wildfire across the country with new 1 or 2 new groups opening somewhere every week. These Sheds are now being recognised as a great way for combating loneliness and isolation and bringing people together with skills to carry out community projects.

Up to now the group have been meeting in a disused outbuilding at the Abbey but have big plans. "We're busy planning and preparing the ground for where our new purpose built shed will go," says John



Butler, chairman of Shed Oxford. "We've started the foundations but are now on the look out for any donations of materials so we can proceed with the build. We're looking for joists, concrete blocks, posts, flooring - in fact anything and everything you need for a shed!"

This is an exciting time in the evolution of Shed Oxford and new members are very welcome to come and contribute ideas and shape the future of this community project.

If you have any unwanted items which could advance the build please contact [shedoxford@gmail.com](mailto:shedoxford@gmail.com) or call John on 07484 819106

## OXFORDSHIRE VOLUNTEERS WEBSITE

Oxfordshire Volunteers ([oxonvolunteers.org](http://oxonvolunteers.org)) is a countywide volunteering website designed to link you with your perfect volunteering opportunity! Whether it's a regular weekly slot or a one-off opportunity, you'll find them all on the website. You might even want to apply for a position on a trustee board, helping to manage a local charity that you are passionate about. The website is great for groups too, who at last have one central place on the web to advertise their wonderful opportunities.

If you are a volunteer: go to [oxonvolunteers.org](http://oxonvolunteers.org), register yourself using the blue 'Try Volunteering' button and start searching for opportunities. If you are an organisation: use the 'Need Volunteers' button to register as a provider and start posting your opportunities!

This site is run as a partnership by Oxfordshire's three Volunteer Centres, funded by Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire City Council and Cherwell District Council.



In November, the Chancellor delivered his Budget. No one can pretend it was radical or revolutionary. But most will think that's a good thing. There's quite enough turmoil at the moment.

The main focus of the budget was housing - a deeply controversial issue in our part of the world. Nevertheless, people do know that we need to build more houses, as property ownership has fallen dramatically and houses have become unaffordable for many people. I am therefore encouraged that the Chancellor has outlined the Government's ambition to increase housing supply to its highest level since 1970 by the end of this Parliament. This will put us on track to deliver 300,000 homes a year by the mid-2020s with £15.3 billion new financial support for house building over the next five years – taking the total to at least £44 billion.

On a local level, it was promising to see an additional £215 million set aside for Oxfordshire to build infrastructure, deliver new homes and increase economic productivity across the county. This is a welcome step in ensuring our local area is fit for the future.

I welcome the announcement from Chris Grayling of the £47.9bn overhaul of the rail network in England and Wales, including restoring the Oxford to Cambridge rail link. This is part of the overall strategy suggested by the National Infrastructure Commission's report earlier this month on infrastructure growth across the Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford Arc, which Wantage & Grove Station is part of. I will be continuing to campaign in Parliament for a new station at Wantage & Grove whilst there is so much interest in rail infrastructure.

The Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has recently compiled a handy list of funding sources available for arts, heritage and cultural projects which may be useful for local organisations. There are many different avenues that organisations seeking support can pursue and I would recommend that anybody wishing to make an application first

contacts the relevant local office. Their staff will then be able to provide advice and support regarding the application process. Full list can be found at: [goo.gl/QjhSKD](http://goo.gl/QjhSKD)

On a similar note it is fantastic to see that over the past three months the Big Lottery Fund has provided nearly £55,000 of funding to 6 projects in the constituency. Every week over £13 million is awarded across the UK to support community activity with the money raised from National Lottery players. The organisation works hard to ensure the money reaches the people and organisations who make a real difference and it's great that the benefits are being felt in our area.

The brand new Didcot Concert Orchestra gives its inaugural concert at Cornerstone arts centre, Didcot at 4pm on Sunday 11 February 2018 playing music from the late Romantic era. More info can be found at: <http://www.didcotconcertorchestra.org.uk/>

I am delighted that this Orchestra has been established. Didcot is a vibrant and growing town, and the arts have always been a central part of its life. The concert orchestra fills a gap, and it is very much needed. Music brings great joy to people, and it also plays an important role in our schools and our communities. I wish the Didcot Concert Orchestra every success and I look forward to seeing them perform soon in Didcot – if not at the Proms!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any pressing issues that you would like help with. Either myself or one of my team will get back to you as soon as possible and do what we can to assist. You can contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, [dicksonce@parliament.uk](mailto:dicksonce@parliament.uk) or 01235 768 888. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to get in touch, as I keep a very close eye on my emails and can reply very quickly. Details of my activities in Parliament can be read on my website, <https://www.vaizey.com>. I also send out occasional general interest emails about developments in the Wantage and Didcot Constituency. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please complete the online form at <http://bit.ly/EdVaizeyMP>.

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Please forgive yet another article on planning and development; I will try to find something else to write about in future. It may not be easy.

The impact of Development on Drayton Road and its Neighbourhood Plan, the impact of development on the A415 through Marcham, Barrow Rd and the Marcham AQMA, the impact of development in Sutton Courtenay on Culham Bridge and an A34, itself already under extreme stress running through the middle of it all - it sometimes seems as if this County Division, of which we are all part, is being singled out for very special treatment. The truth is, of course, that many parts of the South of England are under similar stress.

However, with our very low unemployment and our local economy thriving, Government is wanting, expecting and depending on us to grow. For almost the first time, the stresses – particularly on our road system - are now so obvious and so acute that Government is realizing that without more

infrastructure, there are fewer and fewer sensible places to put the nation's much needed extra housing. Money has to be found and the calls for infrastructure before housing are becoming ever louder and more persuasive.

Hence, the "Growth Deal" - an initial "down payment" (Government term, not mine) of £215m over 5 years, to help us cope with all the housing our Councils are already committed to - may not be enough, but it's a start. Given that our housing is due to be delivered over the next 13 years, it appears that, if the deal is signed, there is the prospect of some infrastructure *before* houses. This is something we have been requesting for many years now.

On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, a planning appeal hearing will begin over 2 potential major developments in Sutton Courtenay. The OCC Highway officer's view is that the road network will not cope,

*(Continued on page 14)*

# COUNTY COUNCILLOR

(Continued from page 13)

at least not until a new bridge over the Thames has been built. This might happen in five years at the earliest. The planning appeal is due to last at least 8 days, we are told. We will know if the Growth deal is to be signed on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The timing of all this and the planning decision is going to be highly significant. The result, however it goes, will impact not just on Sutton Courtenay and the immediate villages around, but on the whole of Oxfordshire and almost certainly on planning in

the whole of the South of England. I would urge all those with an interest in planning and housing to join me in watching the progress of that appeal very closely.

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

## NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP 5 (NAG 5)

### Thames Valley Police advice about reporting suspicious behaviour

If you see anyone acting suspiciously please report it to the police by calling 101 or by e-mailing the Neighbourhood Policing Team at

[AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk), which will ensure that the information is picked up and actioned as necessary. The police request that contact is made by the person directly concerned, rather than a friend or neighbour. You should call 999 in the case of an emergency.

### Modern slavery

We all think it wouldn't happen in our town or village but, shockingly, three modern slavery crimes are recorded every week in Thames Valley and many more go unreported. Victims of modern slavery can be any age, gender, nationality or ethnicity. They are tricked or threatened into work, and may feel unable to leave due to fear of intimidation. If you suspect it, report it. The police rely on information from members of the public. Protection and support is available at [www.thamesvalley.police.uk/hiddenharm](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/hiddenharm).

**Would you recognise the signs?** How do they look? Scruffy, dirty, malnourished, injured? How are they acting? Anxious, afraid, reluctant to talk? What's their work situation like? Long hours, unsuitable clothing, wrong equipment? How's their accommodation? Overcrowded, poorly maintained, curtains always closed?

What are their movements like? Never leave the house alone, limited contact with friends and family, no access to money or identification?

### **Two simple ideas which could save a life...your life!**

**Message in a Bottle:** When the Emergency Services are called to the home of someone who has collapsed or been involved in an incident, they are faced with many questions. Who is this person? What medication are they taking? Are they allergic to anything? Who are their next of kin (or carers) to contact? Are there any pets in the house who will need care if this patient has to be taken into hospital? The small plastic 'bottle' container contains a yellow form on which the owner has provided vital information - medical conditions, regular medications, allergies, doctor's details etc. This

information could obviously prove critical in deciding any appropriate treatment or other necessary action. The bottle is placed inside the fridge on the door shelf just above where the milk is kept and a green sticker is placed on the outside door of the fridge. A second sticker is placed on the inside of the main entrance door.

The Message in a Bottle scheme is very strongly supported by our local Emergency Services who are impressed by the simplicity of the system. It is also now a national scheme – run throughout the country by Lions and some other organisations all with the same aim – ensuring that their community is being helped to the maximum. There are now over 100,000 of these little bottles in the fridges of Oxfordshire alone.

**Message in a Wallet:** This was Introduced in 2017 and folds, concertina style, to the size of a credit card and should be kept in a wallet or purse. Ideally you need a bottle and a wallet so that the information's available if you have either an incident or accident at home or while you're away from home.

NAG5 has stocks of these two items, which are available free of charge. Please order yours by calling 07762 597118 or by emailing

[neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com)

Please ensure you provide your name, a contact telephone number or email address and also tell us which village you live in.

**To contact the police call either :**  
**101 (for non-emergencies) or**  
**999 (for emergencies).**

---

Contact NAG5 by calling 01235 848694 or e-mail [neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com)

## Logs for Sale

Martin Drew

01865 343378 or 07774 170727



Want your ad to be seen in every house in  
Sutton Courtenay?

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teacher offers 1-to-1 tuition at home.

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## COME AND SING in HARMONY

Do you love to sing, but are not actively involved in music  
making at the moment? Do you sing already, but would like  
to try something new in 2018?

Harmony InSpires, an all-female a Cappella chorus based in Apple-  
ton, invites women of all ages to join a FREE evening course in a  
Cappella harmony singing on 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018

Find out more at: [www.harmonyinspires.org](http://www.harmonyinspires.org) or email [sing@harmonyinspires.org](mailto:sing@harmonyinspires.org)

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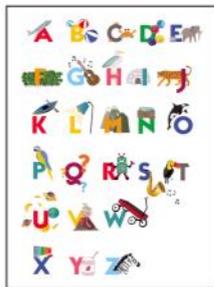
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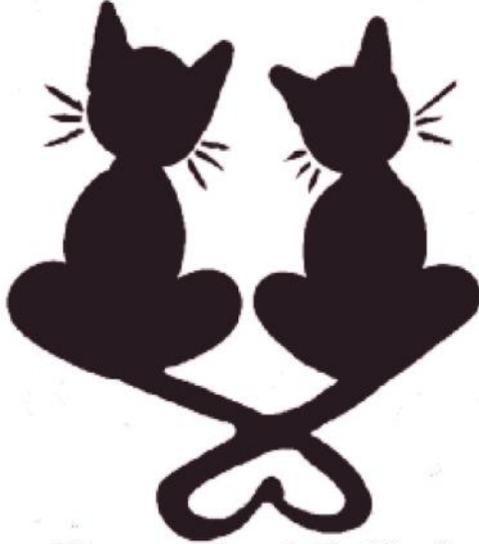


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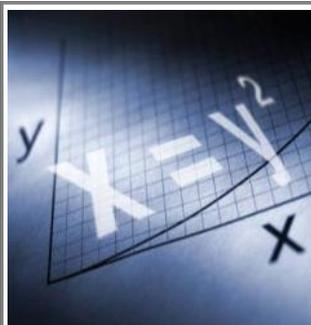


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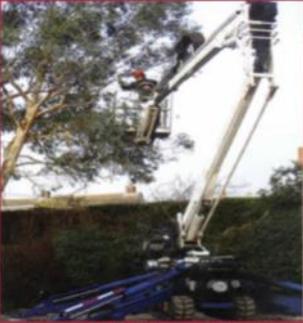
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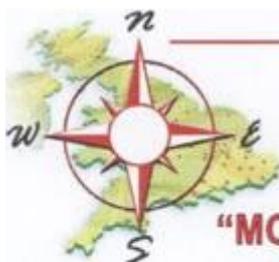
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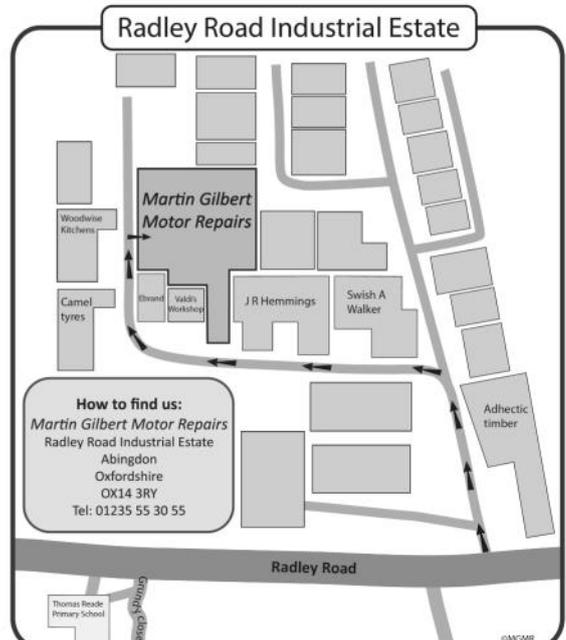
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