

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 49 No. 2

MARCH 2020



RECENT FLOODING IN THE FIELD BEHIND THE VILLAGE HALL

VILLAGE DIARY

The Diary is compiled from details sent to the Editors or added to the Village Diary kept at Burgrey Stores.

MARCH

Tuesday	3rd	7pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Thursday	12th	10.30am - 12noon	Community Café	Church
Friday	13th	6.30pm	SCIDs - Treasure Island (see page 14)	Village Hall
Saturday	14th	6.30pm	SCIDs - Treasure Island (see page 14)	Village Hall
Tuesday	17th	7.30pm	WI Annual Meeting - members only	Village Hall

WENESDAY 18TH

SCN APRIL COPY DEADLINE

Saturday	21st	2pm -4pm	Open House	River Room
Tuesday	24th	7.30pm	Sutton Courtenay Local History Society	Village Hall
Thursday	26th	10.30am - 12noon	Community Café	Church

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

VILLAGE CONTACTS

County Councillor: (Schools, Roads etc.)	Richard Webber, 534001 richardwebber777@gmail.com
District Councillor: (Planning, Waste etc.)	Richard Webber—as above
Parish Council Chairman	Michael Jenkins, 847174 msjenkins@msn.com
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Adrian Rouse, 07730 313384 adrian.j.rouse@gmail.com
Brownies	Mary steventonrainbows@gmail.com
Stay & Play Toddler Group	Facebook page: @SCstayandplay
Chairman, Friends of SC Parish Church	Fred Cubbage, 848768
Matrix Music School	847264
The Abbey	847401
Crickets Club	drb71@hotmail.co.uk
Sutton Courtenay WI	Val Melville 847612
Nordic Walking Group	Graham Wells 847322
Churchmere Carp Syndicate	Roger Rance 847241
DAMASCUS Youth Project	848694
Sutton Courtenay Local History Society	Mary Thompson 848527 marydthompson@outlook.com www.sclhs.org.uk
SCIDS (Drama Society)	Morna Whitlock, 848335 morna28whitlock@gmail.com
All Saints Singers	Steve Fisher 07812 037530 allsaintssingers.org
Sutton Courtenay Action	suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com
Sutton Courtenay Forum	suttoncourtenayforum@gmail.com
Neighbourhood Watch	07762 597118 nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.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
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

SUTTON COURTENAY POST OFFICE

A wide range of key Post Office products & services are available at Burgrey 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
Sun: 09.00 – 12.00



SUTTON COURTENAY DEFIBRILLATOR



THE VILLAGE HAS TWO DEFIBRILLATORS. ONE IS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE FRONT ROLLER DOORS OF SUTTON COURTENAY TYRES ON THE HIGH STREET. THE OTHER IS



ANOTHER ONE IS OUTSIDE THE FISH, APPLEFORD ROAD.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

The Ministry Team

Rector: The Reverend Helen Kendrick

The Rectory, 3 Tullis Close, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4BD
Tel: 01235 848297, e-mail: rector@damascusparish.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Karen Hyde

Tel: 07526 985395, e-mail: curate@damascusparish.org.uk

Associate Priest: The Reverend Rosie Bruce

Tel: 07766 421773, rosie-bruce@hotmail.co.uk

Associate Priest: The Reverend Phil Sutton

01235 526114 or 07507 378737, revphil@damascusparish.org.uk

Associate Priest: The Reverend Meg Heywood

Tel: 01235 537100, revmeg@damascusparish.org.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)

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 Parish – please see church noticeboard for details

Wednesdays: 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 (OX14 4BB). It has a large main hall, a smaller meeting room and kitchen. There are regular activities that take place on some weekday evenings.

To find out more or book the hall please contact the Secretary to the Village Hall Management Committee **Rita Atkinson** on **01235 848694**, email scvillagehallbookings@gmail.com or telephone **Jackie** on **01235 847817** 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.

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS CONTACTS

Sutton Courtenay News is produced by the editorial team, the members of which are Diane Armstrong (07553 801032), Clare Pennicott (07778 284193) and Bernie Jones (07761 375991). Bernie also deals with all advertising.

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

All contributions for the next edition should be e-mailed to [editor @ suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk) or taken to Burgrey Stores 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, email [advertising @ suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:advertising@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk) or telephone 07761 375991

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

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



Thames Water Sewerage Works

The Council are in correspondence with Thames Water regarding the proposed sewerage works which are due to

take place on both the High Street and Drayton Road. The High Street works are scheduled to begin on 28th February (weather dependent) and will take a period of approximately 8 weeks. The works will be traffic light controlled and one lane will be kept open at all times.

The Drayton Road works will not (and indeed are not allowed) to start until the High Street works are completed. Council have been given a provisional start date of 25th May 2020 but this may change dependent on weather and the High Street works being completed. Council have also had confirmation from Thames Water that appropriate signage confirming the village and businesses are open as usual have been requested and further signage can be added during the works if required. Thames Water should be writing to people affected by the works and are keen to ensure works cause as little disruption as possible. They have confirmed that access to Chapel Lane and Ginge Brook will be maintained for residents, along with properties in close proximity to the works. This phase of work is due to last for 10 weeks.

Annual Parish Meeting

Every year, a Parish meeting has to be held. This year's meeting will be on Tuesday 7th April 2020 at 7pm in the Village Hall on Frilsham Street. There will be a report from the Chairman of the Parish Council, presentation of the parish's accounts and the parish charities along with other items.

Neighbourhood Plan

A reminder that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will be presenting to the Parish Council prior to the March Parish Council Meeting. The Parish Council meeting will therefore start at the earlier time of 7.00pm on Tuesday 3rd March in the Village Hall

Extra meetings of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are being held. Please check the website or the Sutton Courtney Newsletter for any extra meetings that may be held.

Reporting problems to Oxfordshire County Council

Problems, such as issues with roads and footpaths, faulty street lights and potholes can be easily reported to Oxfordshire County Council via the Fix My Street website which can be found at <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>. Photographs can be uploaded if applicable.

Cemetery

Shortly after Christmas, some personal and sentimentally precious decorations disappeared from two graves in Sutton Courtenay Cemetery. If anyone knows anything about their whereabouts please contact the parish clerk on info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk. Thank you.

Tree Planting

As mentioned in the last newsletter we should be receiving some trees from Councillor Webber to plant within Sutton Courtenay. We are awaiting confirmation as to the species, age and number of trees which we will be receiving but if anybody has any

suggestions as to where these could be planted to benefit the community, please do contact the clerk on the details at the foot of this update. Thank you to those people who have already responded. The suggestions will be considered once we have final details on the trees to be donated.

Planning Permissions

The following planning permissions have been considered:-

MW.0008/20 Section 73 application to continue the development of the extraction of sand and gravel and restoration using in situ and imported clay materials to create a wet woodland habitat as permitted by MW.0094/18 (P18/V2171/CM) without complying with condition 16, in order to remove the remaining stockpile of sand and gravel by road rather than conveyor. Bridge Farm Quarry Sutton Courtenay.

Comments: Council feels it has no choice but to support the application but would request a road sweep of the local roads on a daily basis

MW.0004/20 Section 73 application to continue the development permitted by planning permission no. P18/V2145/CM (MW.0093/18) for proposed new stockpile area to be used in conjunction with mineral extraction permitted by planning permission no. P16/V2694/CM (MW.0127/16) for the storage of approximately one month supply of mineral to enable continuous supply in case of flooding for a period of up to three years from date of commencement of extraction under planning permission no. P16/V2694/CM (MW.0127/16) to enable vehicles to transport remaining sand and gravel from the stockpile to the plant site Bridge Farm Quarry, Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon, OX14 4PP

Comments: Council feels that it has no choice but to support the application but would request a road sweep of the local roads on a daily basis

P20/V0175/HH – New House extension including detached garage at 10A Katchside Sutton Courtenay

Comments: Council has no objection but would request that the a condition be inserted that the garage may not be used for residential purposes and that the District Council is consistent with regards to the County Council current views in relation to increase of traffic through the area.

Road/Footpath Closures

The following road/footpath closures are in place/will be taking place in the local area:-

From 1st February 2020 - Drayton: Bridleway 373/18 Lambrick Way southwards to Quarry Entrance and Quarry access road to Drayton Road (Peep-O-Day Lane). The closure is due to bridleway improvement works which are expected to be completed on 17th April 2020. Exemptions are included for emergency services and for the works and for pedestrian access to premises which are only accessible from the closed section of bridleway. The alternative off-road route for those affected by the closure will be locally signed via paths 373/15 southwards to 373/26, west on 192/1, north on 192/21 & 192/9, northeast on 192/16 & 192/8, east to Peep-O-Day Lane, and vice versa.

22nd March & 23rd March 2020 – Appleford: road from Main Road to Hill farm over Appleford Level Crossing to allow railway level crossing works to be carried out. The closure will operate overnight from 11.30pm to 4.30am.

.....continued

Access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for those frontages within the closure area, subject to the progress of the works and liaison with the works supervisor.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd March 2020 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall Frilsham Street

Please check Noticeboard outside Burgery Stores or the Parish Council website in case arrangements change.

Clerk: Helen Savery, 10 Sovereign Place, Wallingford, OX10 9GF Email: info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk Tel: 01235 364211

This Trust was established with a donation from what was National Power (now RWEEnPower). The endowment sum is invested, and a small amount of interest is generated. The Charity will be meeting in the Spring and will consider grant applications.

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 whose details appear below. Please state the purpose for the grant, the amount required, and, if an organisation, supply a copy of the latest accounts, together with income and expenditure figures, or if an individual please supply proof of need and bank statements.

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

SUTTON COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL



Our hall is a community facility managed by volunteers (trustees) for everyone in the community. It is the focus of many groups from the village and the surrounding area who meet weekly or monthly for a variety of activities.

It could be the perfect venue for your large family gathering, party, group dining, formal occasion, client gathering or committee meeting. We can also make arrangements for conference meetings for local businesses.

It is an excellent venue for children's parties as the main hall can easily accommodate a Bouncy Castle. The hall has sound equipment, and the bar area facilities include a fridge and a large urn. Crockery can be hired or you can bring your own.

In addition there is a kitchen and a smaller hall/meeting room.



There is ample onsite parking. Behind the village hall is a tennis court which can be used free of charge.

Community hire charges for the main hall are £16 p/h but if you want to use the hall on a regular basis, the rates are negotiable.

We encourage you to come and look round prior to booking.

The Village Hall is situated in Hobbyhorse Lane, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4BB

Contact: Rita Atkinson on scvillagehallbookings@gmail.com or telephone 01235 848694 or Jackie on 01235 847817

COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATES ON RECYCLING

Oxfordshire County Council will be closing recycling centres for two days during March and April to carry out a deep clean. We would be really grateful if you could share this new with residents in your communications channels.

Below is a short article for you to include and I have attached a notice should you wish to display it.

During March and April, your Household Waste Recycling Centre will be closing for two days to carry out a deep clean and essential maintenance.

Closing dates:

Alkerton (Banbury)	- Tues 3 rd & Wed 4 th March 2020
Ardley (Bicester)	- Tues 17 th & Wed 18 th March 2020
Dix Pit (Stanton Harcourt)	- Tues 24 th & Wed 25 th March 2020
Drayton (Abingdon)	- Tues 28 th & Wed 29 th April 2020
Oakley Wood (Wallingford)	- Tues 31 st March & Wed 1 st April 2020
Redbridge (Oxford)	- Tues 10 th & Wed 11 th March 2020
Stanford (Faringdon)	Tues 21 st & Wed 22 nd April 2020

Full details can be found at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wasteclosure including details of your nearest site during closures. Thank you in advance for your patience.

For those residents with van or trailer permits, please note these can be used at any of our centres.

GET YOUR WASTE TO THE RIGHT PLACE

A new and magical hero is in town to kill the confusion around recycling. The Waste Wizard is a new online tool that's here to provide a magical solution to help Oxfordshire residents in their quest to solve the riddle of household waste and defeat General Waste.

Type in your postcode and the name of any item to find out whether it can be reused, repaired, donated, recycled, if it needs to go into a specific bin or can be disposed of at a Household

Waste Recycling Centre -
oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastewizard





On Education Sunday on 2nd February, the church service moved from All Saints' Church to our school hall.

At the service, Reverend Helen talked to us about how we are learning all the

time, and how we can be formed and reformed by our experiences and habits throughout our lives. Helen has

brought air drying clay with her, and everyone had a chance to make a pot. Later, Helen invited us to reform our pots into something new.

We are so lucky to have an incredibly close and supportive relationship with the team at All Saints' Church. Regardless of your faith, the children get so much from this. We are connected closely with the village community, and with people of all ages through joint events such as the Christmas bazaar and craft days. Each week, a team of volunteers comes into school for an Open The Book assembly where they help the children act out key bible stories. Once again, these help children to understand basic moral concepts no matter what their background or belief.

Our Partner School in Kabubu, Uganda



In October that School Council had made a scrapbook with photographs for our partner school in Kabubu, Uganda. We included pictures of our classrooms and

some of the wonderful resources we are lucky to use. As always, we also focused on the things we have in common with the children there, such as our love of books and sharing stories. We even have the same colour uniform! The children in Kabubu have been back in contact this term and sent us some lovely pictures of their craft sale and speech day, which sounds a bit like our bazaar or fete.

Sports News

This term has been a busy and exciting one for football. On Tuesday 4th February we played our first game in the Small Schools' 7 a side league. It was a home game against St Michaels, Stevenston. At half time we were 1-0 down but in the second half we settled down and really started playing as a team, winning 3-2! Well done to all of the team and our scorers, Ashton with an

amazing shot from the half-way line and Rudie with 2 fantastic goals.

Then on Thursday 6th, following our win before Christmas at the Vale Small Schools 7 a side tournament, we went to the County Finals at Boundary Park. We were playing against Tetsworth Primary school who had won their tournament. It was a challenging first half in which we were down 2-0. However, after half time we came out fighting and although the final score was 3-1 to Tetsworth it was an equal second half with a goal each. Ours came from Rudie in the final minutes of the game with a cracking pass from Val and beautifully placed tap in.

Thank you to the whole team for the commitment, hard work and sportmanship they have shown across both games. We are looking forward to the rest of our league games!

Headteacher **Mrs Rachel Hornsey**

Assistant Headteachers **Lisa Knight and Louise Potter**

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

Telephone 01235 848333

SUTTON COURTENAY STAY & PLAY GROUP



All parents, grandparents and other carers - please bring your babies and toddlers to join us for play and chat on a Friday morning (term time only)

!! PLEASE NOTE OUR DETAILS !!

Day and Time — Friday Morning, 0900-1030

Venue — Sutton Courtenay Primary School

Price — 1st visit free. Thereafter £1 per family (includes coffee & tea for grown ups but no snacks for the little ones)

Please note there is no parking available in the school car park.

Please park on the street outside

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page (@SCstayandplay) to find out the latest news!

DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project
Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

Years 6,7, and 8, 6-7pm, and Year 9+, 7-8pm

Activities at the Village Hall every Wednesday

Entry is £1 and a tuck shop is available

SO, SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A YOUTH CLUB!

CHURCHMERE POOL CARP SYNDICATE



Water water everywhere and not a drop to drink. That's enough for now, well that is what I think.

Yes the lake is full now and looks well, we should survive any coming drought this year.

The irises are beginning to show in the margins and with the water lilies will make a fine display. Spring, I look forward to it with the blossoms and bulbs.

We bought a few stock fish again this year, all from the same genetic code Leney strain, just a few each year to keep an age line and generation intact without over stocking.

Some hardy members have been fishing through the last few weeks and have caught some fine specimens.

We have closed the area called Kiddies throughout the storms due to falling branches, and remind walkers to remain vigilant when under trees, listen out for braking boughs.

Roger Rance

ALL SAINTS SINGERS



DO YOU ENJOY SINGING?

The All Saints' Singers are a small and friendly group of choral singers, led by a professional music director, who meet on Friday evenings at 7.30 in the

Matrix Music School, Sutton Courtenay.

Membership is free to new members in their first term, so why not come along and give us a go?

Further details on our website <https://allsaintssingers.org> or from our Chairman, Steve, on 07812 037530.



SUTTON COURTENAY WI



Despite the recent weather spring will soon be in the air, a perfect time to come along and find out what we are up to. Trips out, Cinema Club, interesting speakers, craft and social evenings too. Dates for our next meetings:

17th March – Annual Meeting (members only)

21st April – Mike Brook – Top of The Greasy Pole

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

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



WANTED

Are you having a clear out?

We would like your books, any thing at all: paperbacks, hard covers, childrens ... ready for our big book sale later on this year. Or any old clean duvets for us to make dog beds to take to the dogs home. Contact Margaret Hamilton Sutton Courtenay WI: 07711331385 . I can collect.

Thank you

SC NORDIC WALKING GROUP

Nordic Walking is a full-body exercise. It is easy on the joints and suitable for all ages and fitness levels .

Find out about the Nordic Walking Technique , the health benefits and getting started. Join one of our classes for free tuition, and poles included for the course. Then free walks twice a week in Sutton Courtenay ,and Surrounding villages with other Nordic walkers of all ages and fitness.

Please contact Annalie.Thomasson@southandvale.gov.uk
at Go Active Gold





YES, WE CARE!

The Young People of Sutton Courtenay supported by The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project conducted a litter pick of the Recreation Ground and High Street leading to the Village Hall during the February Half Term.

Fourteen Young People and two parents braved the rain and attended the day where 12 bags of rubbish were collected from the area. All manner of things were found in the bushes bordering the Recreation Ground and on the pavement from an old boot covered in moss to part of a kitchen worktop, copious energy drink cans and lots of electrical tape.

Staff at the Youth Project try to organise a litter pick in every Half Term in various places so contact them if you are interested in attending one! **“It may not be our litter, but it is our community!”**

Roxy Elford (07875649008) and Jake Fleetwood



Amazon Prime scam calls

In the three months between October 2019 and January 2020 over £1 million was stolen from victims as a result of this scam. One person alone lost over £65,000.

- Victims receive an automated call saying they have been charged for an Amazon Prime subscription and are prompted to 'press 1' on their phone keypad to cancel the subscription.
- Once they've done so they're directed to a fraudster posing as an Amazon customer service representative, who says that the subscription was purchased fraudulently and that remote access is needed to the victim's computer in order to fix a security flaw, and to prevent it from recurring.
- They're asked to download a remote access application, often the 'Team Viewer' app, which grants the fraudster access to the victim's computer.
- The Team Viewer software is then mis-used by the criminal to monitor the victim logging into their online bank account, thus providing their personal and financial details.
- There are other variants of this crime, one being where the fraudster tells the victim that they're eligible for a refund on an unauthorised transaction on their Amazon account.
- * Always question uninvited calls, texts or e-mails. Contact the company directly using a known phone number or e-mail address.
- * Have the confidence to refuse requests for financial or personal information. It's easy to get embarrassed or flustered, but it's fine to stop the discussion if you don't feel in control.
- * Never install any software or visit a website as the result of a cold call.

Fake PayPal e-mails

Between October and December 2019 Action Fraud received over three thousand reports about these fake e-mails. Victims reported losing a total of £1,121,446 during this period. Those targeted included people selling electronics, vehicles, phones and household furniture via online marketplaces.

- Fraudsters send the victim an e-mail, purporting to be from PayPal, in an attempt to trick them into believing they have received payment for an item. The fraudster then sends a follow-up e-mail requesting a tracking number in the hope that the victim will be rushed into shipping the item before they've had a chance to verify the payment.
- * Log into PayPal and check for any new activity rather than acting on the e-mail or clicking any links. PayPal will e-mail or notify you in the app if you've received any payments.
- * Check the basics by looking out for misspellings and grammatical errors.
- * Phishing scams often mimic the look and feel of PayPal e-mails and request sensitive information, which is something a genuine PayPal e-mail would never do.

- * Avoid clicking on links or downloading attachments. Hover over the link to see if it looks genuine.
- * Consider using a protected payment method, such as PayPal, for online purchases. PayPal can reimburse you if your purchase doesn't arrive or match the product description.
- * Use common sense and steer clear of anything that seems too good to be true!
- * If you think you've received a phishing e-mail you can forward it to spoof@paypal.com without changing the subject line. PayPal will let you know if it's fraudulent.

These two scams are very common at present but there are many others circulating such as those purporting to be from HMRC and TV Licensing, for example. Please remember that you shouldn't give any personal or financial information to cold callers, either in person or remotely, no matter who they claim to be or however convincing they are.

Please report any scam, fraud or cyber crime to Action Fraud, the National Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting Centre, by calling 0300 123 2040 or report online at <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk>.

To contact the police about non-emergencies please use the online reporting tool on the Thames Valley Police website at: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk>. You will be contacted within 24 hours of filing the report. If you don't have online access please call 101 for non-emergencies. Call 999 in the case of emergency.

Contact NAG5 by calling 01235 848694 or e-mail neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Traffic calming on Drayton Road

If we are to have a new "build-out" on Drayton Road, can it please be better designed than the one on Milton Road, especially with cyclists in mind? I cycle through the Milton Road build-out several times a week. It is deficient in the following respects:

- No cut-through for cyclists entering the village, meaning that one has to vie with impatient motorists when giving way to on-coming traffic
- Poor signage: currently it says "Give way to oncoming vehicles"; clearly many motorists do not consider cyclists as vehicles and refuse to give way
- When this does happen, there is no drop-curb, so it is impossible for a cyclist to escape an on-coming car that ignores the cyclist's right-of-way

Finally, a new build-out on Drayton Road needs to be carefully integrated with the existing cycle path, both in positioning and signage. It would also encourage more cyclists to use the cycle path if the road surface at the entry/exit point could be improved.

Nick Dunton

“THE BLAME GAME”

When things go wrong, it seems there is always someone to blame. “Heads must roll!” or, more recently, “Deputy Heads must roll”. It seems that if heads of some sort don’t roll, we are never satisfied. In politics, at all levels, it seems that this rule is even more fiercely applied than elsewhere. If the social worker did not pick up on someone in trouble, or the train doesn’t run to time, or the bus doesn’t turn up, or the pothole hasn’t been filled, or the streetlamp has been off for months, or my neighbor is annoying me, *someone* is always answerable. Whilst it may be true that everything that goes wrong is always at least one person’s fault, society often seems to want to spend more time and energy discovering who is to blame than it does in trying to ensure that the same mistake doesn’t happen again.

I wonder how many well-meaning, hard-working people have suffered as a result. I am not talking about scapegoating here – that is unforgivable – I am talking about people who may well have got things wrong, but who are then asked to pay a far too heavy price as a result of society’s attitude to blame.

So, why am I writing this? As a District and County Councillor, I am often painfully aware of how blame can be shunted around because no-one is prepared to risk being blamed.

“That’s not my job, it’s his/hers.”

“That’s not my department, it’s theirs.”

“That’s not my Council’s responsibility, it’s the other’s.”

“I never received the email.”

“Government won’t give us the money to do it, or to do it better.”

I receive more than a dozen or so emails a day requiring me to act. Here is how I apportion blame:

As far as possible, I try to act quickly (Not always successful – my fault)

I nearly (my fault) always manage to pass on to a relevant officer or council department the concerns expressed in the email. Quite often, I have to follow up with a further request (their fault) to get anything done. Sometimes, in the eyes of the email writer, I am wholly responsible for the issue (not fair, their fault). Sometimes things slip through the net because I thought the problem was resolved (my fault) or because someone at a Council has let it slip (their fault) or nothing can be done (government’s fault or everyone’s fault).

I am sure you get where I am going with this. In the end, the only thing that really matters is that the problem is solved and, if it can’t be, it is passed on or up to someone else who may be able to solve it.

It seems that “pinning blame” on someone has become an objective above all else and this does not necessarily create an atmosphere where individuals work best, where councils and councillors work best and where society works best. Blame properly and fairly applied should improve things. It should always be tempered with patience and understanding that people make mistakes and, in most cases, they are the people most likely to avoid the same mistakes in future.

Richard Webber Cllr

Richardwebber777@gmail.com

01235 534001

SUTTON COURTENAY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



Tuesday 24th March
Village Hall, 7.30pm

POWER IN THE LANDSCAPE: ANGLO-SAXONS BETWEEN ABINGDON AND DORCHESTER

Illustrated talk by John Boothroyd

Extensive excavations over the years have revealed significant Anglo-Saxon settlements in the area, including the large great hall complex excavated at the

Sutton Courtenay/ Drayton site. It was possibly a royal centre associated with the early Saxon rulers of Wessex. Was Sutton linked to the other Anglo-Saxon settlements? This talk will describe the importance of them between Abingdon and Dorchester.

John Boothroyd is an archaeologist from Oxford Archaeology who has been involved in recent excavations and discoveries about the history of the sites.

Everyone welcome: Members free; visitors £3

www.sclhs.org.uk



Update from the Sutton Courtenay Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

The Steering Group is pleased to report that we have made a very positive start to 2020.

The Parish Council has successfully secured a grant of just under £9000. The grant must be spent by 31st March and it will cover the costs of employing two firms of consultants with good relevant track records. One firm was successful in securing a green buffer between East Hagbourne and Didcot in the East Hagbourne Neighbourhood Plan and has also undertaken assessments for the Didcot Garden Town Plan; the other firm is experienced in working with the VWHDC particularly on neighbourhood plans and policies.

Specifically, packages of work are:

1. To assess and build the evidence base for the importance of the:
 - open spaces and landscaping within village
 - key views and landscape character that form an integral part of the village setting
1. To produce a layered, digitally superimpose-able visual representation of all the designations of spaces to facilitate clarity of presentation
2. To refine the draft policies and produce the supporting text justifying the policies and linking to the evidence base (the assessments).

We have received a very positive response from the Neighbourhood Plan Officer at VWHDC in respect of the work we have undertaken to date.

There are still gaps in our assessments. For example, we need to

- Map the biodiversity in our village
- Build the evidence base for flood-prone areas of the village

Biodiversity data is available from Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) and the Environment Agency has flood maps. However, to make the evidence base robust so that the policies on biodiversity and flooding stand up to scrutiny by the inspector we need as much anecdotal evidence as we can gather. To this end, we are looking

- To gather local sightings in wildlife and species or plants
- To gather residents' anecdotal and historical evidence of surface water; groundwater and /or sewer flood risk incidents

If anyone has evidence (photographs (date stamped), notes, records) that they are able to share please contact the Steering Group. Additionally, it would be much appreciated if residents could log significant species or plants. This information could be loaded up onto iSpot where you are able to post a photo, state the location & identify the wildlife (<https://www.ispotnature.org/communities/uk-and-ireland/observations>).

If you have time to spare, please do join the Steering Group to help gather and collate the evidence. Steering Group meetings are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend. We are making a presentation to the Parish Council on Tuesday 3 March at 7pm. Should anyone wish to learn more please feel free to attend this event as well.

Updates on www.suttoncourtenay.pc.gov.uk and residents are always welcome to feed in their thoughts to our chair, Joanna O'Callaghan at oatlands32@btinternet.com

HELP WITH HOME REPAIRS



Get help with home repairs

There are services and funds available to help people (owners and private tenants) stay independent, safe and well in their homes, and Oxfordshire County Council has developed a referral service to help residents (or carers) access the right organisations in their area, to get the help they need.

The type of help that can be provided are services such as new boilers, repairs to boilers, loft or cavity wall insulation, access to a local and trustworthy repairs service and general advice on how to stay safe, well and affordably warm in your home.

For more information or to make a referral visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homerepairs

SC—CYCLE

Declutter sustainably!

Advertise any item you would like to give away to someone in the community for free, or £1 per item if you are charging. If you would like to advertise here please contact the Editorial Team (see page 2)

****FREE****

Aluminium framed greenhouse.

If you would like it I'm afraid you'll have to dismantle and move it.

Please call SC (01235) 847665

We provide fun, friendship, and challenge

Hello from **Beavers, Cubs & Scouts!**

The days may be shorter this time of year, but it does not stop us from being very busy. Earlier this year, we welcomed new members to our group and the current ones were awarded the badges for their hard work during the summer and autumn terms.



In **Cubs & Beavers**, we talked about Emergency Aid. Children learnt what to do in an emergency situation, recovery position or how to treat minor bleeding using fake blood wounds (our apologies to sensitive minds for the gruesome picture). Looking ahead for a few sessions, **Beavers & Cubs** will brush up on their knots and other pioneering skills.



Our **Scouts** have been busy during the winter too. We have been doing knots, debating, interior design for the hut, fire lighting and the starlite substance for carrying fires around in your hands. We have a camp planned next month where we will be putting the skills to the practical test.

Come and Join us

If you would like your child to join any of our sections, email us for more information on 26thAbingdon@gmail.com

Marquee hire

Our Scouts group has marquee to hire locally. Our marquee can be set either as 40'x20' or smaller size 20'20'. For information about the hire please use the contact above.



Following tradition, we all visited Millets Farm Ice Rink in December and we must stress that every one of us improved tremendously just during this session.

Clear winter nights are said to be the best for stargazing, therefore we are learning about stars and constellations, even making a model of our solar system. So not to be only stuck indoors, we also went swimming and enjoyed the slide and waves in Didcot.



Yamaha Music School Open Morning



Sunday 15 March

A fantastic way to learn how to play! Yamaha takes a creative and developmental approach to children's music education. Join a class at Matrix and see your child progress from beginner through to advanced levels. We look forward to meeting you!

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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...

Church of England launches energy rating tool for churches - as Synod considers new 'net zero'

The Church of England is launching an energy rating system similar to those used for household appliances. The aim is to help monitor the carbon footprint of its almost 40,000 buildings, as General Synod has recently voted on a major new proposal to reach 'net zero' CO2 emissions.

The hope is for all parts of the Church of England, from parishes to national bodies, to aim for ambitious year-on-year reductions in emissions to reach 'net zero' by 2045 at the latest.

In a first step, parishes are being offered a new rating tool, which calculates their energy consumption. It will take into account factors including the type of power they use, whether they are on 'green' tariffs, the size of the building and usage.

The Bishop of Salisbury, Nicholas Holtam, the Church of England's lead bishop for Environmental Affairs, said: "The Church of England has buildings in every architectural style and material from the past 1,500 years, posing some unique challenges when it comes to energy efficiency.

"However, churches are not museums; they are living buildings which serve their communities every day of the week, and being greener isn't about doing less, it's about equipping parishes to get smarter about energy consumption.

"Christians are called to safeguard God's creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. Faced with the reality of catastrophic climate change, which will affect the world's most vulnerable people the soonest, radical and immediate action is our only option."

A paper sent to Synod members before February's General Synod also outlined the potential impacts of climate change directly affecting the Church. It warned parishes that, as impacts start to accelerate, more churches will need to be prepared to play missional roles in their communities, including offering sanctuary in extreme weather events, as was seen at the church of St Cuthbert, Fishlake, following flooding of the River Don last year.

The DAMASCUS PCC is committed to running energy audits on all our churches and looking for ways to develop as 'Eco-churches'. Watch this space!

The Reverend Helen Kendrick, Rector of the DAMASCUS Parish

For all baptism, wedding or funeral enquiries please contact the
Reverend Helen Kendrick on 01235 848297 or email:
rector@damascusparish.org.uk

Transport to & from All Saints' Church

If you'd like transport (or can offer a lift) to Church on a Sunday,
or to other events, please contact Diana Hasting:
3 Chapel Lane, OX14 4AN Tel/Ansafone: 01235 847430

YOU STAY – WE PRAY!

All Saints' Church (part of The DAMASCUS Parish) prays on a weekly basis for all Sutton Courtenay residents who live and work in each road. In a 26-week Rota, everywhere is prayed for twice in each calendar year. As roads are of different lengths, some will be prayed for twice (on consecutive weeks) and some for three weeks. As well as the monthly Rota in .S.C. News, there is a printed Rota in the Prayer Space of the Lady Chapel at All Saints.

In addition to the Rector's prayers as she travels round the village, the specific roads will be prayed for by name at each Wednesday's Morning Prayer. And of course we can all remember each specific area as we move round Sutton Courtenay!

We send very best wishes to everyone in Sutton Courtenay, and especially to all the new residents in the various new Estates now occupied.

During March 2020 we will pray for those who live and work as follows

Sunday 1 March to Saturday 7 March – Lady Place, Katchside, Hobbyhorse Lane

Week 20 – Sunday 8 March to 21 March – Milton Road, Tullis Close

Week 22 – Sunday 22 March to 4 April – Spring Field Way, Tyrrells Way

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

10.30am-12noon

Thursday 12th March

Thursday 26th March

Run by the church for the community



All Saints' Church

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

Singing Saints - Come and Sing!

Singing is Good For You!

We meet on Tuesdays in All Saints' Church from 19:30-21:00 under the expert leadership of Paul Francis to learn some new music, hymns/carols and anthems, to support the worship in All Saints. We are a mixture of experienced singers and enthusiastic novices and are in need of more men – but all are welcome!

For more information please contact Helen Kendrick
on 01235 848297

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH DIARY

MARCH

Monday 2nd – 14:00 Bible Course in Drayton Church Room
19:30 Baptism Preparation for parents wishing to have their children baptised in the DAMASCUS Parish, St Michael and All Angels, Steventon

Tuesday 3rd – 12.30pm Silent Prayer for half an hour, St Blaise, Milton. 19:30 Singing Saints, SC

Wednesday 4th – 19:30 Bible Course in St Blaise, Milton

Saturday 7th – 9:30-4pm Marriage Preparation Course for all those getting married in the DAMASCUS Parish

Monday 9th – 14:00 Bible Course in Drayton Church Room

Tuesday 10th – 19:30 Singing Saints

Wednesday 11th – 19:30 Bible Course in St Blaise, Milton

Thursday 12th – 10:30-12 noon Community Café, SC

Friday 13th – 18:30 SCIDS Performance of Treasure Island, SC Village Hall

Saturday 14th – 14:00 & 18:30 SCIDS Performance of Treasure Island, SC Village Hall

Monday 16th – 14:00 Bible Course in Drayton Church Room

Tuesday 17th – 19:30 Singing Saints

Wednesday 18th – 19:30 Bible Course in St Blaise, Milton

Saturday 21st – 14:00-16:00 Open House at the River Room – all welcome – see advert for details

Sunday 22nd – MOTHERING SUNDAY – 10:30 All Age Worship to celebrate the Mothering Love of God – ALL WELCOME!

Thursday 26th – 10:30-12 noon Community Café, SC

Sunday 29th – 11am DAMASCUS Parish Service at St Blaise, Milton (NB NO service in All Saints this Sunday)
19:30 All Saints' Singers Concert in All Saints, SC

Monday 30th – 19:30 Baptism Preparation for parents wishing to have their children baptised in the DAMASCUS Parish, SC

Tuesday 31st – 19:30 Singing Saints, SC

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 before Friday 10th April. A list of those remembered will be on display in Church.

**Saturday
21st March 2020
2-4pm
ALL WELCOME!**

open **house**

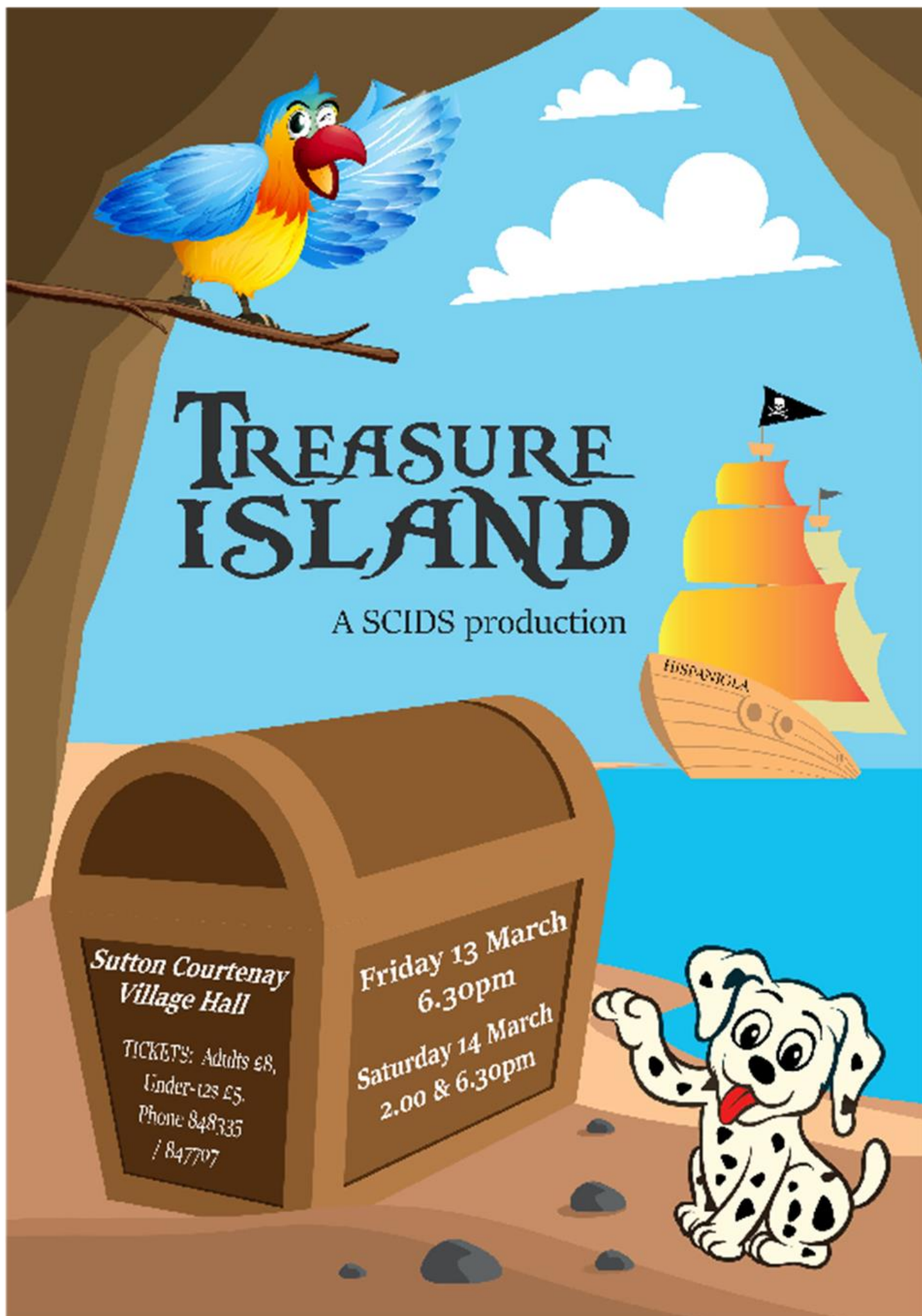


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THE ABBEY SUTTON COURTENAY

Circle Dance - Monday 9th March 7.30pm to 9.30pm

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Rest & Renewal Retreat - March Tuesday 17th 10am arrival to Thursday 19th 2pm departure

The Abbey provides a nurturing peaceful space for self-guided meditation, contemplation, prayer and relaxation. For 3 days you are invited to join The Abbey community for silent meditation and home cooked vegetarian meals. Our monthly Rest & Renewal Retreats run from Tuesday to Thursday, two nights full board, with delicious freshly prepared vegetarian food. Contact Wendy: admin@theabbey.uk.com. Call: 01235 847 401

Or visit our website for more details: http://www.theabbey.uk.com/?page_id=217

Grace Notes a Woman's Chorus - March 5th & 19th March 7.30m to 9pm

Led by Natural Voice Practitioner Emily Marshall, songs of strength, joy and beauty in A Capella harmony. Just walking through the door is your audition. £5 per person.

Chamber Music Recital - Tuesday March 24th 7.30pm to 9pm

An intimate recital in the Abbey's medieval Great Hall, featuring world-class musicians from Russia, Finland and England. Sini Simonen, violin. Maia Broido, viola. Ursula Smith cello. Robin Green piano. Music by Fauré and Brahms. Suggested donation £15 for a concert of this quality but all are welcome and proceeds support the Abbey Sutton Courtenay, a registered charity. 8 – 25 years old attend free.

The Abbey's Springtime Log Fire Evening Presents: The Language of Totalitarianism - Sunday March 29th 6.30pm to 8pm

The Abbey's second in a series of six Log Fire Evenings exploring aspects of global transformation through personal transformation.

Viktor Klemperer's *Lingua Tertii Imperii* (Language of the Third Reich) was published 73 years ago. Klemperer's analysis of language as a tool for social transformation is uniquely relevant in the present. Klemperer's notes, which he compiled between 1933 and 1945, are possibly the most important record we have of how language shapes and consolidates ideologies and worldviews, and more importantly, how language is weaponized to bring about social transformation. 75 years after the end of the Holocaust, Klemperer's linguistic and social study of language seems to become more important by the day. Anti-Semitism is rife throughout Europe and beyond, populist and formerly centrist parties throughout Europe are re-shaping public discourse and also public policies. In his talk, Johannes Frank will focus on Klemperer's *Lingua Tertii Imperii* and revisit its central arguments on the backdrop of contemporary political language.

Viktor Klemperer was a German-Jewish linguistic scholar and diarist, and survivor of Nazi persecution and the horrors of the Second World War including the bombing of his native Dresden.

Johannes Frank is a Berlin-based author, publisher and manager of the Jewish scholarship fund ELES.

Entrance to the event is free but donations for refreshments would be greatly received. Places are limited, booking is essential either via eventbrite, or by emailing: admin@theabbey.uk.com.

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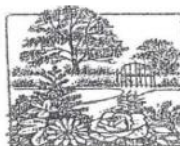
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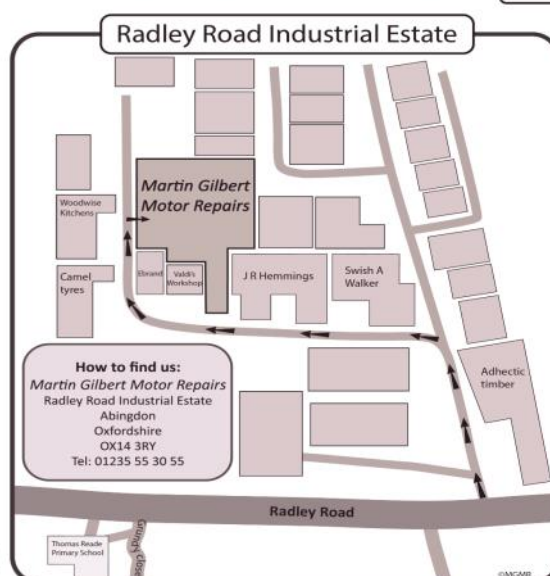
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