

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 48 No. 2

MARCH 2019

VILLAGE DIARY

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

MARCH

Saturday	2nd	2pm - 5pm	Sutton Courtenay Neighbourhood Plan Community Consultation Workshop	Village Hall
Tuesday	5th	7.15pm	Parish Council	Village Hall
Tuesday	5th	7.30pm	Spiritual Fellowship	Village Hall
Wednesday	6th	9.30am – 11.30am	Stay & Play (see page 13 for further dates)	Village Hall
Wednesdays		6pm - 8pm	DAMASCUS Youth Project (see page 4 for further information)	Village Hall
Saturday	9th	7.30pm	Friends of All Saints' Church Quiz Night	Village Hall
Thursday	14th & 28th	10.30am –12 noon	Community Café	Church
Friday	15th	6.30pm	SCIDS production : Alice in Wifi Land	Village Hall
Saturday	16th	2pm & 6.30pm	SCIDS production: Alice in Wifi Land	Village Hall
Tuesday	19th	7.30pm	W.I.	Village Hall
Tuesday	26th	7.30pm	Sutton Courtenay Local History Society	Village Hall
Friday	29th	7.30pm	SCN AGM	Village Hall
Sunday	31st	7.30pm	All Saints Singers Concert	Church

APRIL

Tuesday	2nd	7pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall
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From snow and ice to wonderful colourful daffodils and blossom everywhere in less than a month. Please send us your photographs of the village through the seasons or village events and we will try to include a selection each month.

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS CONTACTS

This newsletter 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. All contributions for the next edition should be e-mailed to **editor @ suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk** or taken to 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, email **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 Sutton Courtenay News is printed with support from Sutton Courtenay Parish Council.

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VILLAGE CONTACTS

County Councillor: Richard Webber, 534001
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(Planning, Waste etc.) Appleford House, Appleford

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msjenkins@msn.com

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts Adrian Rouse, 07730 313384
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

SC WI Val Melville 847612

S C Community Nordic Walking Group Graham Wells 847322

The Churchmere Carp Syndicate Roger Rance 847241

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Sutton Courtenay Action **suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com**

Sutton Courtenay Forum **suttoncourtenayforum@gmail.com**

Neighbourhood Watch 07762 597118
nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com

Non-urgent Police: 101

Neighbourhood team: **AbingdonOuterNHPT@policing.thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk**

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

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

Websites:

Sutton Courtenay News **www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk**

Parish Council **www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk**

Vale of White Horse DC **www.whitehorsedc.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**

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 07507378737) **revphil@damascusparish.org.uk**

Associate Priest: The Reverend Meg Heywood (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

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 (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** 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.



Parish Council Website

The Council's new website is up and running. This has a total new look and replaces the previous website which had been in place for some years. There was a need to update the site to enable users of small screens, such as tablets and mobile phones, to access the site easily, as well as those using desktop computers. The site is more user friendly, and has been uploaded with new content and information. In case you find any teething problems when using the new site, then please contact the Clerk. The site can be found at www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk.

Thames Water - Possible Speaker

Unfortunately Thames Water last month were not in a position to attend the meeting of the Parish Council, and have said that when their studies on the drainage needed to accommodate growth in the catchment area are complete, they will attend a Council meeting to outline their thinking. The Parish Council will, as far as possible, advertise the date and time of their presentation when it is known.

Redrow Planning Application – Hobbyhorse Lane

Last month the Parish Council reported that it had written to the Vale of White Horse District Council to express its concern regarding the time taken in connection with this protracted application. The District Council has gradually been extending the date when the application could be determined, but the Parish Council understands that no further extension of time will be permitted. However, new drainage and flood risk assessment information has been submitted by Redrow and this has been considered by the Council and other interested parties. It is very much hoped that this planning application will be determined very shortly.

Parish Council Elections

On 2nd May there will be elections for the Parish Council. As part of the local council you will have responsibility for running local services, deciding on how much to raise through the council tax, influencing and shaping the long term development policy for the parish, and as part of the planning process, comment on planning applications in the parish. If you wish to improve the quality of life and the environment in the local area and help deliver local projects then consider standing as a candidate for the Parish Council. The main meetings are just once a month, in the evenings, except August when there is no meeting.

The village is a busy place at the moment, monitoring the science vale enterprise zone, and the planned area for the

Didcot Garden Town, the Oxford Cambridge expressway, as well as overseeing the Neighbourhood Plan, community infrastructure spending, and beginning to focus on plans for improvements to the recreation ground and creating a new burial area within the cemetery.

If you wish to be part of these exciting times, then for further information on standing as a candidate for the Council, as well as the nomination pack, go to the Electoral Commission's website. <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk>. If you have difficulties with this site then contact the elections office at the Vale of White Horse District Council at elections@southandvale.gov.uk, or the Parish Clerk may be able to help with general information too. In addition, if you are unsure about what is involved, then please feel free to talk to your local parish councillor who can tell you what they do. All nomination forms have to be with the Vale of White Horse District Council at 135 Milton Park, delivered by hand by 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday 3rd April. It is advisable to make an appointment in advance before you visit the offices, by telephoning 01235 422528. (SEE ADVERT ON PAGE 18)

The following planning applications have been considered:

P18/V3158/HH Realign pitch and unify roof to east side of property to create covered walkway and adjust wall to enable access at 13 Brook Street. The Council had no objections.

P18/V2617/FUL Variation of P16/V1457/FUL to rectify garage design and position and clarify boundary at 51 High Street. The Council believed the application was lacking in sufficient detail to enable it to reach a decision. It was unclear as to which garage on the site the application related. Nevertheless, the garage was some 5.3 m tall and being close to the boundary would impact on the neighbouring property.

MW.0148/18 Request for Scoping Opinion for proposed concrete block factory and associated plant and machinery on the Landfill Site. The Council expected to see reports on how this impacted on Sutton Courtenay in regards to noise, lighting, and transport.

P19/V86/ Single storey rear and single storey rear and side extension at 16 Appleford Road. The Council had no objections.

P19/V0170/HH Single storey conservatory to the rear at 58 Lady Place. The Council had no objection.

P19/V0196/FUL Demolition of west wing of building 3 / 4 and alterations to divide into 3 B1 /B2/B8 units with associated loading areas and car park rearrangement at Building 3 / 4 Trident Business Park, Basil Hill Road. The Council had no objections.

P18/V2770/FUL amendment to partial conversion of existing outbuilding at Buckridges 13 High Street. The Council had no objections.
.....continued

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS CONTINUED

Notification received from Oxfordshire County Council that further information relating to the planning application by Hills Quarry Products Ltd for permission to extract sand, gravel and clay at Fullamoor Plantation, Clifton Hampden had been submitted. The Council continued to object and support the views of Clifton Hampden Parish Council

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th March, 2019 at 7.15 p.m. in the village hall, Frilsham Street. Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham OX13 6PU, Tel: 01865 391833 or email:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk.

ANNUAL MEETING FOR ELECTORS IN THE PARISH

This meeting is not a Council meeting, but is a public meeting of Local Government electors in Sutton Courtenay and an opportunity for electors in the parish to raise any items relating to parish matters.

This parish meeting may, by law, discuss all parish affairs and pass resolutions about them.

You are invited to take part.

This meeting will be held on **Tuesday 2nd April at 7.00 p.m.** in the village hall



SUTTON COURTENAY POST OFFICE

A wide range of key Post Office products and 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, and Sun 09.00 -12.00.



SUTTON COURTENAY DEFIBRILLATOR



A DEFIBRILLATOR IS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE FRONT ROLLER DOORS OF SUTTON COURTENAY TYRES ON THE HIGH STREET.

FULL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS ARE PROVIDED AT THE TIME OF USE

THE ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project
Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

WEDNESDAYS
SUTTON COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

Year 6,7 & 8: 6-7pm
Year 9+ 7-8pm

It is £1 entry and a tuck shop is available.



Cessy, Our School Dog

Cessy is a gentle and friendly black cockerpoo. She belongs to Ms Parks and soon she will be staying for the mornings, taking

walks with us and joining in playtime. Cessy loves to make friends and she has been having a wonderful time getting to know the adults and children in the school, especially Wrens class where she currently spends lots of her time.



Cessy had a very successful first week in school. The children had to be really disciplined about ignoring her. This is so that she can remain calm and get used to her new environment. At the moment, Cessy only stays in school for an hour and then goes home. She will build up her contact time very gradually. Cessy wears a smart school uniform bandana round her collar.

Across the country, dogs are increasingly being welcomed in to schools and hospitals as the social and emotional health benefits they bring are vast. Organisations such as *Dogs for Good* and *Dogs Helping Kids* believe there is significant potential for dogs to help young people in a range of educational environments, bringing benefits to their academic, emotional and social development. Many local primary and secondary schools (including St Birinus and John Mason) have recently welcomed a dog into school life and when we learnt about the benefits we thought it would be a great idea for our children too.

A Day of Reflection

On 24th January the whole school took part in a special RE day to develop the children's understanding of Christianity and its key themes. As a Church of England school, we welcome children of all faiths and no faith, not just Christians. But we do encourage all children to reflect spiritually and be knowledgeable about the world's different wisdom traditions. Each class investigated a different aspect of the Christian message, and then presented their findings to Reverend Helen.

Talented Musicians

In many schools, ever tightening budgets have had a huge effect on the amount of music teaching they are able to provide. Our school has always had a strong musical tradition, and we have had to work hard now that we can no longer afford the county music service to provide the same high standards. Our recent music concert assembly made us all very proud. Our choir sung with their usual enthusiasm, and our individual pianists (and one ukulele player) performed with great confidence. All classes are studying basic musical notation through our music scheme, Charanga.

Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year was celebrated across the school this year. Barn Owls class followed instructions carefully to make red paper lanterns. Meanwhile, in Key Stage 2, more complicated lantern designs were created and Miss Li, our Mandarin Chinese teacher, delighted the classes by teaching in full traditional costume. The children learned about the traditional Chinese calendar. The Year of the Pig has well and truly begun here at Sutton Courtenay.

Rachel Hornsey, Headteacher

Lisa Knight and Louise Potter, Assistant Headteachers

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

telephone: 01235 848333



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



The
DAMASCUS
Parish
Drayton | Appleford | Milton
Sutton Courtenay | Stevenage

From the Ministry Team...

Last weekend we held a marriage preparation day for couples who are getting married in our churches over

the coming year. It is designed to help couples to step back from the wedding preparations and ask some of the bigger questions about how to make a success of their marriages over the years ahead. We discuss everything from who will put the bins out (usually the man) to what are each person's hopes and aspirations for the years ahead. We emphasise the importance of good communication and share our belief that any problem is soluble if tackled together.

For most villagers the main contact point with the church is likely to be Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms. These pivotal events in family lives are times when the church can provide an historic venue, and a place to celebrate or commemorate. Our clergy also provide a level of support and care to families at these times that can be hard to find elsewhere. Most importantly we can help people to glimpse something of God and rediscover a faith in something beyond themselves. Please don't wait for the next family funeral to join us. Sunday by Sunday we provide a community of friendly caring people who enjoy worshipping together as well as socialising over a coffee. It may take a little courage to enter a building you rarely visit, but there is a warm welcome to be had in all of our churches.

Lent starts on 6th March this year with an Ash Wednesday evening service at Drayton. The weeks from then until Easter are traditionally a time to think more deeply about our faith. We are running a 3 part study course at St. Blaise, Milton on Wednesdays starting on 13th March based on a booklet written by the Bishop of Oxford. This will be followed by a quiet day at Drayton on Saturday 6th April. Please Look out for further information (see advert in this issue of the Sutton Courtenay News).

Tim Budd, a Licensed Lay Minister and Member of the DAMASCUS Ministry Team

Singing Saints - Come and Sing!

Singing is Good For You!

We are a group of singers (the Singing Saints) meeting on Tuesdays in All Saints' Church from 19:30-21:00 under the expert leadership of Paul Francis. We are a mixture of existing choir members, experienced singers and enthusiastic novices – all are welcome! Our aim is to build singing confidence at our services; to learn new music and to lead the singing at the Easter services. We are also rehearsing for the Community Showcase on 18th May – perhaps some Abba Songs!

For more information please contact Helen Kendrick on 01235 848297.

CHURCH DIARY FOR MARCH

- **Monday 4th** – 19:30 Baptism Preparation, All Saints' Church (for all parents interested in baptism for their children)
- **Tuesday 5th** – 15:30- 17:00 Pancake Party for Shrove Tuesday at Sutton Courtenay CofE School. 19:30 Singing Saints.
- **Wednesday 6th ASH WEDNESDAY** – 19:30 Service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes in St Peter's, Drayton (please note NO service in All Saints)
- **Saturday 9th** – 19:30 Friends of All Saints Quiz Night in the Village Hall
- **Monday 11th** – 19:30 DAMASCUS PCC
- **Tuesday 12th** - 19:30 Singing Saints
- **Wednesday 13th** - 19:30-21:00 Lent Group, St Blaise, Milton
- **Thursday 14th** – 10:30-12:00 Community Café at All Saints
- **Friday 15th** – SCIDS Pantomime
- **Saturday 16th** – SCIDS Pantomime
- **Sunday 17th** – 10:30 Morning Worship with Guest Speaker Jon Bright, the Director of the Citizens Advice Bureau, for Oxfordshire South and the Vale. All are welcome to come and here Jon talk about the invaluable work that CAB do in this area supporting many people – the collection at the service will be for CAB who give free, confidential information and advice to assist people with money, legal, consumer and other problems.
- **Tuesday 19th** – 19:30 Singing Saints
- **Wednesday 20th** - 19:30-21:00 Lent Group, St Blaise, Milton
- **Tuesday 26th** - 19:30 Singing Saints
- **Wednesday 27th** - 19:30-21:00 Lent Group, St Blaise, Milton
- **Thursday 28th** - 10:30-12:00 Community Café at All Saints.
- **Sunday 31st** – 19:30-21:00 All Saints' Singers Concert for Passiontide in All Saints Church

CHURCH DIARY FOR APRIL

- **Saturday 6th –A Quiet Morning** from 10:00-12:15 (9:30 for coffee & Danish pastries) at St Peter's, Drayton for a chance to take some time out and simply be still with God. Open to All!

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

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

YOU STAY – WE PRAY!

All Saints (now part of The DAMASCUS Parish) prays for all those who live and work in Sutton Courtenay, by each road on a weekly basis. As roads are of different lengths, some are prayed for twice (on consecutive weeks) and some for three weeks. There is a printed Rota in the Prayer Space of the Lady Chapel at All Saints' Church. In addition to the Rector's prayers as she travels round the village, the specific roads are prayed for by name at Sunday Services and at each Wednesday's Morning Prayer, and of course we can all remember each specific area as we move around Sutton Courtenay!

In the coming month we will pray for those who live and work as follows:—

Sunday 24 February to Saturday 2 March – Lady Place, Katchside, Hobbyhorse Lane

Sunday 3 March to Saturday 9 March – Lady Place, Katchside, Hobbyhorse Lane

Sunday 10 March to Saturday 16 March – Milton Road, Tullis Close

Sunday 17 March to Saturday 23 March – Milton Road, Tullis Close

Sunday 24 March to Saturday 29 March – Spring Field Way, Tyrrells Way

THANK YOU TO THE PEOPLE OF SUTTON COURTENAY FROM VIVA

The Christmas 2018 collection in Sutton Courtenay (from the Carol Singing around the village and from the collection at the Torchlight Procession on Christmas Eve) raised an amazing **£1,300** for Viva, a charity that works for vulnerable children around the world.

We have received this short note from Andrew Dubock, who works for Viva, lives in the village, and came to speak to us at All Saints in December.

“A huge thank you to everyone at All Saints, and the village as a whole, for raising an amazing amount for Viva's Christmas Parties programme! We're really encouraged by your gifts, which will enable us to reach out to greater numbers of children through the Parties next Christmas. I'm delighted to report that, during December, more than 6,600 children attended 31 parties worldwide, in countries such as India, Costa Rica, Nepal and Tanzania. Our partners in Zimbabwe and Venezuela held parties too, in spite of the ongoing unrest in those places. We hope the Parties will be the launchpad for churches to impact even more children all-year round. Please do keep us in your prayers.

Many thanks again for your support. Andrew.”



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

Grace Louise WHARTON (3rd February 2019)

Sutton Courtenay Community Showcase



Saturday 18th May 2019

11-4pm

The Village Green
Sutton Courtenay

Thank you to everyone who came along to the meeting on 13th February and to everyone who has already committed to help. It promises to be a great village occasion.

The event will be seed-funded by the Vicar's Fun Day Fund and will provide an opportunity for different groups to promote what they offer the community and to invite more people to join them – whilst providing a fun day for all ages.

Any money raised will be shared across the community and divided between:

The Stay and Play Toddler Group
Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary school
The Scouts (for the refurbishment of their hut)
The DAMASCUS Youth Project
The Football Club
the provision of a defibrillator near the Village Green and the furnishing of the River Room

We need volunteers to run stalls; to help set up the event and clear up at the end.

If you would like your organisation to take part or you would like to volunteer to help in anyway then please contact:

The Reverend Helen Kendrick
rector@damascusparish.org.uk
01235 848297

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

10.30am-12noon

Thursday 14th March &

Thursday 28th March

Run by the church for the whole 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.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

PANCAKE PARTY SHROVETUESDAY 5th March 2019



Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School

Bradstocks Way

3.30pm-5pm

Open to all 0-11 year olds

(**must** be accompanied by an adult)

£1 per person for 2 pancakes
(you can buy more if hungry!)

Easter Egg Raffle and Games

For more information please contact the Rev'd Helen
Kendrick, 848297

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

LENT GROUPS 2019



ALIVE IN CHRIST

A three session course for small groups

Steven Creft

19:30-21:00 St Blaise, Milton

On the following Wednesdays:

13th March – 20th March – 27th March

And also a Quiet Morning on Saturday 6th April from
10:00-12:15 (9:30 for coffee & Danish pastries)
at St Peter's, Drayton for a chance to take some time out
and simply be still with God.

All are welcome! Transport can be provided.

Written by the
Bishop of Oxford
Exploring St Paul's Letter
to the Colossians

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Saturday 9th March is the date of this year's

Friends of All Saints'

QUIZ NIGHT Sutton Courtenay Village Hall

7.30 for 8.00 pm

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

Available at **Burgrey Stores** from 9th February or by contact with fred.cabbage@btinternet.com
01235 848768 before 8th March.

Admission at the door is £7.50.

Tables of 6 maximum.

Up to **6 rounds** including General Knowledge, Music, News etc. **Prizes. Cash Bar**

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

OPEN TO EVERYONE!

REST IN PEACE

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

Albert George Henry Charles (Albie) who died on 23rd December 2018 was born in Sturry Street, Poplar in the East End of London on 2nd December 1929. He was the fourth of eight children of his parents Annie and George, a docker, who was always known as Albert – so to avoid confusion when Albert was born he was known as Albie. As a small boy he used to go to the docks where his father worked and ‘rescue’ tortoises which were being imported into this country but had ‘escaped’ from their containers. He would then sell them off to friends and neighbours! He attended Harbinger Road School until war broke out and he was evacuated to Abingdon when he was nearly 11 years old. He continued to attend half days at school in Abingdon. And in the holidays he and his brothers and sisters would go hop picking at Kingston Bagpuize. Eventually he entered National Service – serving with the Army - and was stationed in Scotland. He and Dolly used to see each other in the pubs in Sutton Courtenay. Albert was obviously smitten and, after breaking off his engagement to another girl, asked Dolly out to the pictures. She said yes and they had a two year courtship before marrying on 9th March 1957 in All Saints’ Church, Sutton Courtenay. There were so many relatives living in Abingdon that they hired a coach to bring all the guests to the wedding and the reception, for 103 guests, in the old Village Hall on Old Wallingford Way. Their friends and neighbours did all the catering for them. They were together as a couple for 65 years and married for just under 62 and lived their whole life together in the High Street. Albert had a long and varied working life. He

started in the MG Factory in Abingdon, where he learned carpentry skills, and then went to Morlands Brewery as a driver. He also worked at Curtis’s and Bottrells in Abingdon before going to Ameys. He also worked as a gardener at Norman Hall for fifteen years. He had different interests over the years. He was a good darts player and was on the team of the New Inn in Sutton Courtenay. In his younger days he was also a very talented ballroom dancer and competed up to a professional level. He enjoyed watching wrestling and football on the TV and would get very involved in cheering the wrestlers on. He was always very supportive and generous to his wider family and enjoyed helping out whenever he could. He became very close to his nephew David who he would often take with him all over the country in his lorry whilst working for Ameys and Albert and Dolly would take David to Weymouth for holidays. In fact, Albert seems to have been the main driver in the family – taking them to London on trips to see relatives or down to Portsmouth to see Harry, his brother, until her death, he would always visit his Mum in Abingdon every Sunday. Over the years he and Dolly went on many coach trips to nearly all the seaside towns in England and on some enjoyable holidays abroad to Austria, Germany and Jersey. He was a very familiar sight in Sutton Courtenay getting in and out of his car on the High Street and would always smile, say hello and be prepared to stop and chat. He was always friendly and helpful to family, friends and neighbours – who he always looked out for. For many years he was involved in the old peoples’ parties in the village. He will be greatly missed by Dolly and all his family, friends and neighbours. *This is an edited extract from the address given at his funeral held on Wednesday 16th January 2019 in All Saints’ Church, Sutton Courtenay, by the Reverend Helen Kendrick.*

SUTTON COURTENAY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



Tuesday 26th March
Village Hall 7.30pm

“EARLY WOMEN PROFESSIONAL GARDENERS”

Illustrated talk by Katherine Bradley

With Spring in the air perhaps our thoughts are turning to gardening! It is now big business with garden centres everywhere. This talk will describe some of the pioneering and influential early women gardeners and you may have visited one of the gardens designed by one of them. The local interest will include Norah Lindsay who lived at the Manor in Sutton Courtenay and transformed the gardens there before becoming a well-known designer and landscape gardener.

Everyone welcome: Members free; visitors £3

Future Meetings: 14th May: AGM and a focus on Sutton Courtenay history

20th June: “The House of Wessex Project”

Mary Thompson History Society website sclhs.org.uk

SUTTON COURTENAY NORDIC WALKING GROUP

LEARN HOW TO MAKE WALKING MORE
ENJOYABLE AND REGAIN YOUR HEALTH AT
THE SAME TIME

This is an activity for every OVER 55 years young , in Milton, Sutton Courtenay or Culham who are able to spare half an hour to learn how walking with poles could help them. This is especially suitable for anyone who, for what ever reason, has been less active than they would have wished to get back to a more healthy life style with the physical and mental benefits of this easy to learn activity.

If you would like to try it out for free (poles provided free as well for the taster) then please contact

Annalie.Thomasson@southandvale.gov.uk. Go Active Gold , and request a half hour one to one with a local qualified British Nordic Walking Instructor. These take place on the Sutton Courtenay Recreation Ground .Wed and Friday mornings from 0940. though other days and times can be arranged to suit.



Following this basic instruction , then you will be invited to join as many the Go Active Gold walks each Wednesday, and Friday's , all free, as you wish .These are all led by your Instructor, who will help you improve each walk to get maximum benefit from the technique taught .You will of course be able to walk by yourself with your poles if unable to make any of the walks . Once learnt, Poles on holidays are a great way to explore the area as well.

Since the Go Active Gold course in September, over thirty new Nordic Walkers have taken part and many are regulars on these walks each week as part of like minded social group.

Poles can be purchased from £23 up to £50 which will last a lifetime, and are height adjustable so any member of your family can use them to enjoy following instruction.

A host of online sellers stock these as well.

SUTTON COURTENAY BROWNIES



Sutton Courtenay Brownies

(founded in 1950)

We would love to recruit more girls to join Brownies !

If you would like to know what we do, please contact Sarah Anns on 07855 544609, or email sarahanns@sky.com

To find out more about Brownies look on the website at www.girlguiding.org.uk

Mary Thompson

Abbey District Commissioner

steventonrainbows@gmail.com

SUTTON COURTENAY WI



There seems to be a hint of spring in the air and the evenings are already getting lighter. A good time to start something new.

Why not come along and see what we will be doing in the coming months.

19th March is our annual meeting (members only)

16th April Mike Brook – Musings from the amateur stage.

21st TBA

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

If you would like more information, please contact our Secretary Val on 01235 847612.





Assessments to underpin policies in the Neighbourhood Plan

In all our Neighbourhood-Plan consultations to date, there has been overwhelming feedback on the importance we all attach to our rural environment - the footpaths; meadows along the streams and the River Thames; open green spaces; views on entering and leaving the village and much more. A wish to preserve the special architectural and historic features that gives our village its distinctiveness has also been expressed.

To underpin policies, in the Neighbourhood Plan, that will address preservation and enhancement of our environment, the Steering Group has commissioned two appraisals. A Village Character Appraisal is being undertaken to systematically identify and document the special features of our built environment.

The parallel Landscape Character Assessment being undertaken will provide evidence for the rural context and, for example, identify open areas that are demonstrably special to us and could underpin policies on designation of green spaces. It would also include an assessment of the footpaths and any sensitive and vulnerable views that need to be mapped and recorded within the evidence base.

The specification for a housing needs assessment is being worked on and current available traffic/transport data being assessed to determine the scope of a transport/traffic assessment.

If anyone has any information, photographs, data that would help build the evidence base for any of the above assessments please do get in touch.

Support to the Steering Group

The Vale of White Horse District Council provides support through its Neighbourhood Planning Officer. Our February meeting was attended by the officer, who has taken away our express wish to be able to comment on the future major developments within our parish but outside the Neighbourhood Plan designated boundary – power station, Didcot Garden Town (DGT) / Milton Park/Enterprise Zone. We look forward to a response on how these issues could be documented within the Neighbourhood Plan.

The officer also confirmed that currently there is no requirement to identify and allocate sites for further housing development within the context of a properly researched and reasoned Neighbourhood Plan. Comments on issues relating to sites already in the Vale's Local Plan Part 1 can be included.

Community Consultation

We have our Community Consultation Workshop on Saturday 2 March from 2pm to 5pm in the Village Hall.

Consultation with young people will take place on Wednesday 24 April from 5pm in the Village Hall – more details to follow in the April edition of the Village News

More Information

The Steering Group meets the third Monday of the month at 7pm in the Village Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

DON'T FORGET!
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
WORKSHOP

2nd March 2pm -5pm Village Hall
see page14 for further details

Save the Date

**Young People
Consultation
Event**

5pm

Wednesday 24 April

Village Hall

Please email Joanna O'Callaghan at oatlands32@btinternet.com for further information or to play your part in producing our community's Neighbourhood Plan

More information can be also found at <https://www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk/>

STEVENTON & DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Rather to our surprise The Steventon and District Branch was given an award for recruiting the largest percentage increase in members in the Region last year. There is clearly still life in the old dogs yet! Well done.

The next Committee meeting will be held in the Steventon and Sports Social Club at 7pm on Monday 18 March. All members and prospective members are welcome . We will discuss

activities for later this year.

This year we remember the outbreak of WW2. If there are any surviving veterans from that war still living in our villages we would be glad to know. Also, if there are any people who came as evacuees during the war to our villages and are still living here it would be good to know and learn of their experiences. We know of only one.

Brigadier Nick Thompson Hon Chairman Tel. 832077

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

SUTTON COURTENAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Having read the letter in the February edition of the Sutton Courtenay News about the Neighbourhood Plan I was moved to write to set the record straight and to shift the balance of the discussion from the overwhelming negative, to the positives in developing a plan.

I was present at the meeting. There was no formal show of hands and even the incomplete attempt to arrange one from the floor was not 'overwhelmingly against,' except on one table. The Chairman of the Parish Council made it clear at that time, that whether or not to go ahead with the NP was a matter for the council, drawing on the views expressed at the meeting. There is no question therefore of the PC overriding the views of the meeting, but rather of it carefully considering the options and the evidence from the discussions.

A better reflection of the of the views of the meeting is to be found in the discussions of 18 issues around developing an NP. In these, the majority actually expressed clear support for the Neighbourhood Plan process. The minutes recorded by Community First give a figure of 179 positive reactions to those issues, as opposed to only 97 negative responses.

At para. 2 of the letter, mention is made of a Parliamentary report dated 12/10/18. Interestingly that report states: "According to Government figures from March 2018, there have been 500 referendums and the overall view was that neighbourhood planning provided an opportunity for 'meaningful' community engagement in the planning process'.

There is also evidence that even 'interim neighbourhood plans' have seen off speculative developments. I don't think that there is any basis for the claim that all the developable land will be built on whether or not the NP is produced and there is evidence that NPs have been successful in the selection of sites. The Sutton Courtenay Plan could state which sites should be developed and on what the terms. If there is evidence of affordability being an issue then the involvement of a community land trust could be a requirement, making the housing affordable in perpetuity. If there is a demand for self/custom building, then land could be reserved for this purpose. If there is evidence of under-occupation and a shortage of attractive options for downsizing then the NP could require smaller houses to be built. None of this would be

possible without a plan.

My view is that there is plenty of scope for improving input to our NP process and for increasing the level and quality of community engagement. The authors of the letter are well placed to make a positive contribution to improving the situation. The NP would benefit from fresh energy and new enthusiasm.

Callum Mackenzie

DOG FOULING

If a dog defecates at any time on designated land and a person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence.

Being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces, shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces.

(Dogs (Fouling of Land Act) 1996)

As a responsible dog-walker, I frequently take my dog around the villages of the DAMASCUS group (with the exception of Appleford). I am shocked and embarrassed how often I come across abandoned dog mess in accessible places. This is unpleasant to see, never mind step in, and I wonder whether owners have noticed that their dogs have a reflex that encourages them to defecate where they catch the scent of previous deliveries.

PLEASE could dog-walkers (1) pick up the mess, (2) deliver the poo-bag to an appropriate bin (rather than dropping it or hanging it from bushes) – and (3) observe the NO DOGS notices posted on Recreation Grounds?

Those who ignore these rules bring every dog-owner in to disrepute.

Martin Woodgett

(Milton)

SUTTON COURTENAY STAY & PLAY GROUP

Please Join us with your Babies and Toddlers for fun and games

@ Sutton Courtenay Village Hall
between 9.30-11.30 am

Dates for March

6th March

13th March

20th March

27th March

£2 per Family (First visit free) –
includes children's snacks, tea/coffee.

Contact us – [facebook@stayandplay](https://www.facebook.com/stayandplay)



Sutton Courtenay News Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the
Annual General Meeting of
Sutton Courtenay News
will be held in
the Committee Room, Sutton Courtenay
Village Hall
on
29th March 2019
at 7.30pm

Nominations for Chairman, Editor,
Advertising Manager & Treasurer together
with the details of two seconders should
be sent to

Clare Pennicott at
clarepennicott@btinternet.com or
8 Church Street, Sutton Courtenay

S C I D S
presents

Alice in Wifiland

Friday 15 March 6.30pm
Saturday 16 March 2.00pm & 6.30pm

Sutton Courtenay
Village Hall

Tickets: Adults £7, Under-12 £5
Phone 848335 or 847707

The Box Office open on 25th February

Telephone 848335 or 847707

SUTTON COURTENAY ALL SAINTS SINGERS

SPRING CONCERT

Sunday 31st March 7.30.p.m.

All Saints Church Sutton Courtenay

A Musical Banquet

Sutton Courtenay's community choir, The All Saints Singers warmly invite you to their annual Spring Concert. We will offer an evening of music by Haydn and Vivaldi and the wonderful trumpet concerto by Fasch.

The choir will perform Haydn's 'Maria Theresa' Mass with the support of four virtuoso soloists including our regular Penelope Appleyard (soprano) and Michael Hickman (bass) together with Dominic Bevan (tenor) and Freya Jacklin (alto). As usual we will have professional orchestra, all under the direction of Sebastian Thomson. The programme will also include the Credo by Vivaldi and three 'a cappella' pieces sung by the choir including Bruckner's motet *Locus Iste*.

As usual we have an orchestral piece and this year the orchestra will play the Trumpet Concerto in D by Johann Fasch. It is an amazing piece of music – really worth coming for!

So, please do come. Tickets £12 at the door or at Burgrey's Store, Sutton Courtenay, and The Abingdon Bookstore.

<http://allsaintssingers.org>

CHURCHMERE POOL CARP SYNDICATE



Again the appreciable rain fall is missing us, the lake is still eighteen to twenty four inches down, I watch the weather forecast ever evening and mutter ungentlemanly thoughts at the charming lady telling me that 'There is much rain over Northern Ireland, Wales, and Western Scotland, and it will be a bright day over the South, the Midlands, and eastern Counties'.

Robert 'Two Bivs' had two good fish last week, both just a mere fraction under thirty pounds, give them a few weeks and they will be full thirties. 'Pimmie', was spinning in the new swim and getting a take every other cast.

Albert and Pat have made a great job of the new swim in the reedy bay this side at the top, along 'Broadway' our name for the main track to the Millennium Common from Churchmere Lane.

Our swans have over wintered here and appear to now be resident, the coots still quarrel amongst themselves and are most amusing, kingfishers are seen regularly. Most of the new trees and shrubs are showing buds but more on the flora at a later date.

Roger Rance



SUTTON COURTENAY SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

On January 1st we had no service, so the first service this year was on February 5th. We had a large congregation and our village lady, Sharon Higginson, gave a good service with some really excellent clairvoyance.

We thank you all for attending and we were pleased to see and welcome some new people. We remember those who are not well at the present time from near or far.

Enquiries to Pat or Sam on 01235 847460.

DIARY

Tues. March 5th : 7.30pm Village Hall Spiritual Meeting with Patrick Carbury.

Tues. April 2nd: 7.30pm Village Hall Spiritual Meeting with Diane Lytolis.

Come and have your say at the COMMUNITY CONSULTATION WORKSHOP

Independently facilitated by

Community First Oxfordshire

on

Saturday March 2nd 2019, from 2pm to 5pm

at

Sutton Courtenay Village Hall

Refreshments will be served



Courses and Activities



OPEN MORNING

Yamaha Music School - children's courses

Come and visit us on **Sunday 24 March 2019** to find out more!

2 - 3 year olds: Parents presentation at 10am (no children please)

4 - 7 year olds: Taster lessons for accompanied children - please book



CONCERT SERIES

Music at Matrix

Folklore - 7pm Sunday 31 March

Hannah Hipp, mezzo soprano, with Emma Abbate, piano

Music Across Continents - 7pm Sunday 19 May

Cecilia Le Poer, voice, with Amadou Diagne, voice and rhythms



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A match made in... *Homeshare*

“Andy has been a great support to me all these months...” Rosemary



Andy and Rosemary share a cup of tea at home
© BBC Sunday Politics South

Rosemary joined Homeshare Oxford earlier this year when her husband became seriously ill and she needed some extra support.

Homeshare Oxford, which is run by Age UK Oxfordshire, links up older people who have a spare room and need some extra help around the house, or companionship with people looking for low cost accommodation.

Andy has now been living with Rosemary for over six months and both are benefiting from this

innovative way of living. Andy is a newly qualified NHS occupational therapist and was looking for an affordable, place to live in Oxford close to where he is was working. But with Oxford's high rental costs, finding the right place was not easy:

“Even as a working professional now, it's hard to make ends meet when most of your income is going out on rent in these amounts. It would have been another shared house... possibly with another 9 people.”

For Rosemary, sharing with Andy has meant reassurance in addition to useful help with things such as dog walking, gardening and IT know-how! Andy has also provided moral support at a time when Rosemary needed it:

“My husband was very ill... and we decided it would be good to have someone living in the house. Then he died, sadly.. and Andy stayed on which was great for me because I didn't like being on my own. Andy has been a great support to me all these months.”

Homeshare Oxford is expanding throughout Oxfordshire and would be very pleased to hear from other people interested in finding out more.

To find out more please get in touch!

Website: www.homeshareoxford.co.uk
Email: homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk
Telephone: 01865 410 670

The Editors have been advised by AgeUK as follows that Homeshare Accommodation is available in the village:-

A room in a spacious, comfortable home for an independent, understanding person in exchange for up to 10 hours help a week. A car driver, who could sometimes help with lifts to shops and appointments, would be ideal. Some companionship and shared meals from time would be appreciated. An interest in classical music would be a bonus! Please contact Homeshare Oxford for more information.

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION GROUP5 (NAG5) SAFETY CORNER



Avoiding purse or wallet thefts

There have been a number of recent purse thefts in the Abingdon area. The most common type of theft is known as 'handbag dipping', where offenders remove purses from

handbags left unzipped or unattended. Stolen bank cards are often used very quickly by offenders, often even before the loss of the purse is noticed. Thames Valley Police has issued advice, to help to deter thieves and reduce the risk of becoming a victim of pickpockets, as follows.

- Keep your handbag on you, closed or zipped with no valuable items such as mobile phones on display.
- Never leave it unattended or on an adjacent seat or seats in theatres, pubs or on public transport.
- Carry bags in front of you, or diagonally across your chest.
- Try to avoid carrying more cash than you need, either on your person or in your purse or wallet.
- When using a cash point shield your PIN in case thieves are watching in the hope of stealing your card in order to withdraw money. Thieves often work with accomplices. Ensure you quickly return cards to your purse or wallet, fasten it shut and then store it securely in your zipped or closed handbag.
- In cafes or restaurants put your bag on your lap or on the floor between your feet, with your foot on the strap. Alternatively, place the strap through one leg of the chair.
- Crimes should continue to be reported by either using the online form on the police website (see link below), or by calling 101. If a crime is in progress you should call 999.

Fraud

Fraud continues to be a major concern. Courier fraud, where a victim is encouraged to hand over their bank card and PIN number or cash, to a courier, is still prevalent in our area. We all think we wouldn't be taken in but don't be so sure. Fraudsters are ever more sophisticated and convincing in the ways in which they try to obtain our money. If you are contacted by telephone, e-mail, letter or someone on your doorstep who claims to be from your bank, the police, the council, a utility company, your internet service or telephone provider or other organisation or business please try to remember the following.

- **Whatever the caller, letter or e-mail** may say, don't panic. That's precisely the aim. Stop and think.

No genuine organisation will ever contact you asking for your PIN or your full password.

- Ask personal callers for ID and then say you'll close the door while you go and make a call to establish their authenticity. If they're genuine they'll understand your caution and be happy to wait. Don't call any telephone numbers shown on their ID. Look up the number yourself.
- If you express concern about the validity of a phone call and the caller says they can give you a phone number to ring, to check on them, you should *never* use this number. Make a note of it and then put down the phone and look up the number yourself, using a source you can trust such as a bill, official letter, phone book or do an online search.
- Once you have found the number *never* use the phone you have just put down - the caller will probably still be on the line and will answer the new call you're making, pretending they are your bank, the police or whoever. *Always* use a different phone to make the new call.
- Never hand over your bank or credit cards and provide the PINs to anyone.
- If you believe you've been a victim please contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or use the reporting tool on the Action Fraud website <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk>. The police will investigate once a fraud has been reported to Action Fraud.
- In South and Vale there were 117 referrals from Action Fraud to Thames Valley Police in 2018, with 28 of those from the Abingdon area. Throughout the country many more go unreported.

To contact the police about non-emergencies use the online reporting tool on the 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 email**

neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

There is so much going on locally and nationally at present, there is little space to be worrying about global issues. Whatever we think of the Schoolchildren's action day on climate change, no-one can deny that their protest provided a temporary distraction from our other concerns. But for those of us who think Climate Change matters, the impact of the Children's Protest must not be temporary. When future generations judge our generation, it won't be Brexit they judge, but it may well be whether or not, we took brave decisions to address climate change, or did we duck the issue and allow them to have to cope with the consequences.

Apart from the shrinking number of climate change deniers, there are two main answers to the growing concern.

One is that we already have targets and "we are doing what we can".

The other is that "there is little or nothing that we as individuals can do which will make a difference."

It seems that both those answers are wrong.

The evidence is growing that our targets, local, national and global are nowhere near ambitious enough. What is being done at present, will not prevent major climatic, social and economic impacts that will be on us within 12 years. We should be striving for Carbon neutrality at least by 2030.

There is a growing global initiative of "Climate Emergency" policies being adopted by individuals and local councils. Such policies include a commitment to apply pressure to higher tier authorities to follow suit. As the pressure upwards builds, there is evidence that national and regional governments respond by setting the same targets. This has happened in Australia and there are signs that the policies of California and

other US states is having an effect, even on the Trump administration. In the UK, there are now more than 20 local councils which have established Climate Emergency policies with ambitious, zero carbon policies. Such a policy was recently adopted by VWHDC and Oxford City Council. A similar proposal is being put to OCC at their next meeting. These policies will contain detailed advice to residents, to businesses and all local organisations on how they can contribute.

But how can we make much difference, when most global warming is being caused by large emerging economies? If developed countries such as ours, (who after all started it all with our industrial revolution!), take the lead with the most ambitious targets, we can encourage emerging countries to strive to follow suit. China is already beginning to confront the problem. It will take years for them to get to carbon neutrality. It took us decades to realize what we were doing to our climate, and decades to start to address the problem. We have a duty to lead with our research and our actions.

Whilst there is still time to address the problem, it is only a twelve year window, so let's take on board the message of the Children's protest and the 15 year old Swedish girl who said:

"I want you to feel the fear I fear every day. And then I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to panic. I want you to act as if your house is on fire. Because it is."

Richard Webber Cllr

Sutton Courtenay and Marcham Division

01235 534001

richardwebber777@gmail.com

Sutton Courtenay Parish Council

11 Vacancies for councillors

Elections take place Thursday 2nd May

To be eligible to apply to be a councillor you need to be over 18, preferably a resident of Sutton Courtenay on the electoral roll (although exceptions do apply), able to attend evening meetings, and above all interested in local issues and matters that affect Sutton Courtenay

See the note in the Parish Council's article for further information

Sutton Courtenay (National Power) Trust

This Trust was established with the donation from what was National Power (now RWE nPower). The Charity will be meeting in the Spring and will consider grants specifically for the relief of poverty and distress, education and recreation and any other general charitable purposes. If there is any local organisation or individual who would like to be considered for a small grant, and who has not yet applied, then please contact the Clerk to the Trustees 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

ED VAIZEY MP



Highways England and the Secretary of State for Transport have been examining options for the location of the new **Oxford-Cambridge Expressway**, and have narrowed it down to one broad corridor.

Within this, there are up to one hundred specific routes the road could take. Highways England will be engaging with communities and local organisations along the corridor throughout 2019 and 2020 before announcing their preferred route in Autumn 2020.

There is also an opportunity here to include the A420 in the plans, which would take the route to the West of Oxford and add connectivity to Swindon, a considerable bonus. I also hope that this road can help relieve pressure on the A34, which is not currently fit for purpose and badly needs better infrastructure to support it.

I've no doubt that like me many of you were shocked and surprised to see an article in the 6th February edition of the Herald titled '**Oxfordshire physiotherapy private contract fiasco exposed in full.**' I have been trying for some time to lead efforts to coordinate between the different **health care** managers and providers, hosting roundtable meetings and leading discussions on how to move forward in providing the correct services that residents

require. Therefore I'll continue to lobby hard locally and in Parliament for better healthcare. I am meeting Ministers in the Department of Health and Social care to discuss these important issues and will continue to engage locally as well.

Constituency Visits

It was a great pleasure to plant a tree as part of the Woodlands Trust Commonwealth Canopy Project at the Sylva Foundation and receive a tour of their fantastic establishment. I've also met recently with a delegation from local parish councils to discuss improvements to the A420, and attended a working session of 'Didcot First' at Milton Park to hear updates about the local economy, businesses and community actions.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any pressing issues that you would like help with. You can contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 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. You can sign up here: <http://bit.ly/EdVaizeyMP>

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WEBSITE DESIGN

BY SARAH HALLIDAY

I'm a Sutton Courtenay based website designer who works with small businesses to create clean, simple, elegant, photo-driven websites that reflect their core values and personalities.

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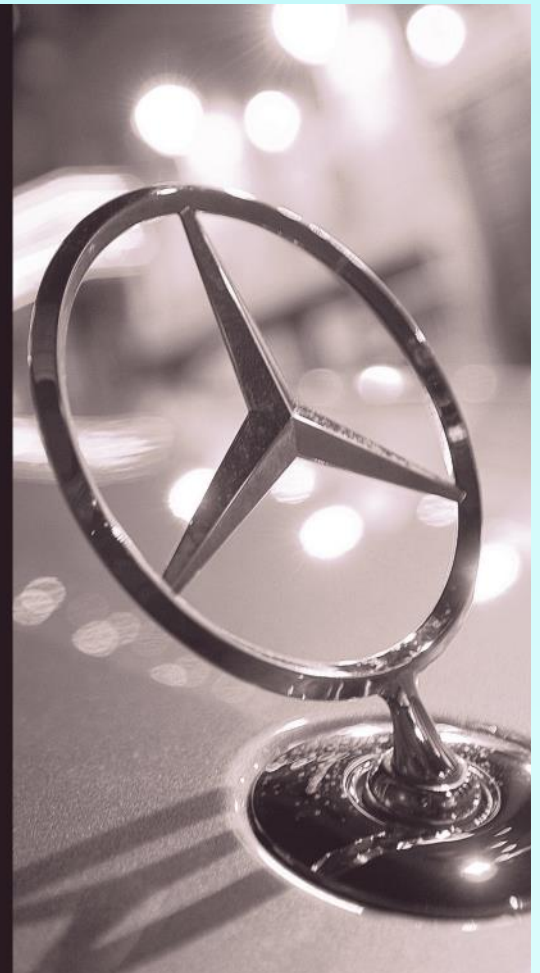
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Guinness £3.50 a pint and Special Pudding list 12.00 - 2.30pm

Mothers' Day, Sunday 31st March 12.00 - 2.30pm

Free pudding for each mum dining and free lucky number to win a bouquet of flowers

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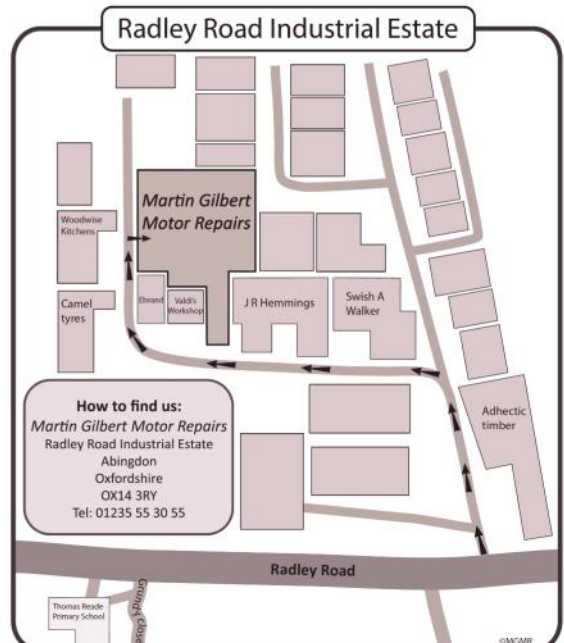
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