

# SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 48 No. 7

SEPTEMBER 2019



Churchmere Pool - Without the Towers in the background!  
See pages 14 & 15 for photographs of the Towers in the beginning and the end

## VILLAGE DIARY

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

<u>September</u>				
Tuesday	3rd	7.15pm	Parish Council meeting	Village Hall
Tuesday	3rd	7.30pm	Spiritualists meeting	Village Hall
Friday	6th	9.00am	Stay and Play (every Friday in month)	Primary School
Friday	6th	7.30pm	All Saints Singers practice	Matrix
Saturday	7th	2.00pm	Sutton Courtenay Produce Show	Village Hall
Thursday	12th	10.30am	Community Cafe	Church
Saturday	14th		Ride and Stride	Oxon churches
Sunday	15th	6pm	Founders day gathering	The Abbey
Tuesday	17th	7.30pm	WI talk "Tricks of the Trade"	Village Hall
Wednesday	18th	9.30am	Nordic Walking	Recreation Ground
Wednesday	18th		OCTOBER SCN COPY DEADLINE	
Saturday	21st	10am	Churchyard Tidy	Church
Tuesday	24th	7.30pm	SC Local History Soc talk "History of Harcourt Arboretum"	Village Hall
Thursday	26th	10.30am	Community Cafe	Church

## 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  
(Schools, Roads etc.) **richardwebber777@gmail.com**

**District Councillor:** Richard Webber—as above  
(Planning, Waste etc.)

**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 Cabbage, 848768

**Matrix Music School** 847264

**The Abbey** 847401

**Cricket Club** **drb71@hotmail.co.uk**

**SC WI** Val Melville 847612

**S C Community Nordic Walking Group** Graham Wells 847322

**The Churchmere Carp Syndicate** Roger Rance 847241

**DAMASCUS Youth** 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 0781 2037530  
**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  
AbingdonOuterNHPT@policing team:  
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**

**Oxfordshire CC** **www.oxfordshire.gov.uk**

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

### The Ministry Team

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

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.



## New Parish Clerk

The Parish Council is delighted to announce the appointment of Helen Savery from Wallingford to the post of Clerk to take over from the current clerk Linda Martin. Helen started working for the Parish Council from 1st September, and will be Clerk designate for a few weeks, working initially alongside Linda, learning the role. Her contact details will be published in due course. Helen has a wide, varied administrative background including finance, as well as a keen community focus volunteering where she lives as a cub pack leader. The Council welcomes Helen and wishes her success in her new role.

## Thames Water – Proposed works Brook Street/ Drayton Road and High Street

Thames Water has finished the trial holes and the only outstanding matter is some jetting and camera survey of some of the Drayton Road pipes. Applications have been made to the County Council for the relevant road closures, and the construction pack of drawings sent to the contractor. At the time of writing, Thames Water has a preferred starting date of October. They will be upgrading two sections of pipe. The first phase of the works will be approximately from Chapel Lane to Ginge Brook, and the second phase from Ginge Brook towards the Drayton Road. This second phase is not likely to commence until the new year. Similarly any works in the High Street will not take place until 2020. Timings will, however, be dependent on their contractors and obtaining the necessary orders for the road closures.

## Oxfordshire County Council – Presentation on the river crossing

At the beginning of the last Council meeting, a principal infrastructure planner, Mr. Aron Wisdom, gave a brief presentation in regards to the proposed new river crossing. The County Council, along with the District Councils had looked at a number of options for relieving transport stress points on the highway. Transport modelling had been carried out. The Government's Housing Improvement Fund had become available, and the County Council, had been successful in securing funding. The District Councils' Local Plans had included the river crossing, and transport plans were consulted upon in 2018. The County Council was now developing the schemes, not only the river crossing, but other transport improvements for Didcot. Formal and statutory consultation would follow.

The Parish Council stressed that it wished to be included from an early stage, and would not wish to be "consulted" after

discussions had been concluded by the County Council.

## Oxfordshire County Council - Electric Blanket Testing

Free Electric blanket checks are taking place in Oxfordshire. The local locations are as follows:

Tuesday 8th October - Oxford  
Friday 11th October - Abingdon  
Monday 21st October - Oxford  
Friday 25th October - Grove

Plus other dates and locations within Oxfordshire. To book your safety check appointment call 01865 895999 Option 1. Pre-booked appointments only on a first come first served basis.

## Footpath 27 - Closure

Footpath 27 will be closed from Frilsham Street through to Old Wallingford Way from 30th September to 28th October to enable the removal of the Magnox discharge pipe.

Anyone who has difficulties with the paths where Magnox has been working, should contact Oxfordshire County Council, as the rights of way authority at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/countryside/countryside-access/public-rights-way/report-footpath-issue>

## The Tree Charter 2019

The National Association of Local Councils is partnered with the Woodland Trust and supports its tree planting project. This year Tree Charter day is 30th November. Should any resident have suggestions as to locations for tree planting in the parish, then please let the Clerk know.

## Appleford Road – Bus Stop

The Council received comments at the July meeting that the bus stop and slab area was overgrown, and the Parish Council arranged for this to be cleared.

## Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been considered :

P19/V1472/FUL Variation of condition 4 of application P15/V1304/O to substitute approved Parameters Plan, (new road alignment) Didcot Power Station. The Council had no objections

P19/V1584/HH Rear first floor extension with dormer window. Addition of a roof lantern to existing flat roof, and alterations at 75a High Street. The Council had no objections

P19/V1573/O Erection of two storey dwelling at 75 Bradstocks Way. The Council objected owing to traffic impact, and noted that other applications for new dwellings elsewhere in the parish had been refused.

P19/V1682/FUL Office refurbishment and extension. 2morrow court, Appleford Road. The Council had no objections

P19/V1783/FUL Relocation of storage shed, All Saints Church, Church Street. Council had no objections provided it was screened.

Continued overleaf.....

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS CONTINUED

P19/V1728/RM Erection of 91 houses off Appleford Road (part of site already with outline consent)

The Council expressed concerns regarding the traffic and entrance beyond the 30 mph which needed relocating, inadequacy of open space areas, and screening for properties in Amey Close.

P19/V1714/LB Reinstate old attic space across bedrooms 2, 3 and stairwell. Add a dormer window in rear roof. Council had no objections.

P19/V1825/HH Replacement porch at 1 Tullis Close. Council

had no objections.

**Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd September, 2019 at 7.15 pm. in the village hall, Frilsham Street.**

Please check noticeboard outside Burgrey stores in case arrangements change.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham

Tel: 01865 391833 or

*email: [info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk).*

### Sutton Courtenay (National Power) Trust

This Trust was established with the donation from what was National Power (now RWE nPower). The Charity will be meeting in the Autumn and will consider grants specifically for the relief of poverty and distress, education, 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, 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. Any grant awarded is likely to be paid in the new year.

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

### Sutton Courtenay Produce Show

The committee are looking forward to this year's show on Saturday, September 7th and hope to have many entries in all the classes. New entrants are always welcome. Entry forms and schedules can be found on the Sutton Courtenay News Website, from local shops and in last month's issue of Sutton Courtenay News.

Please note that there were 2 errors on the original schedule: Class 8 should read 8a 3 tomatoes and 8b A truss of tomatoes - any variety and you may enter both. Class 69 - Petite flower arrangements - measurements should be 9 inches all dimensions.

Telephone 01235 848633 for more information.

The show is open for viewing from 2pm and there will be a raffle and tea and home made cakes are available

The Produce Show Committee

### 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.

### 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.



### ABINGDON 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

### SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS DISTRIBUTOR VACANCY

We are **URGENTLY** looking for a volunteer to deliver **SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS** to part of Drayton Road. If we are unable to find a volunteer we will not be able to continue to deliver to a section of the Drayton Road. If this happens arrangements will be made for readers to collect their copy from a collection point in the village. If you can volunteer please contact the Editors - [editors@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:editors@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk)



# SUTTON COURTENAY PRIMARY SCHOOL



As headteacher of a village primary school, it would be almost impossible to write my job description. It is a wonderful, varied role that can involve teaching, first aid, organising a plumber and helping with a fundraising event all in one day.

The most important part is setting the direction for the school to travel in, deciding what key priorities to work on that are in line with our vision and ethos.

Like most schools at the moment, we are reviewing our curriculum. The impetus for this is the changing nature of the Ofsted inspection framework, which will now rely less on the outcome of tests and more on the quality of education we offer as a whole. This is a welcome change. The curriculum we teach is at the very core of this and considering carefully what knowledge children need to be able to think creatively and problem solve across a range of subjects is vital.

Of course, reviewing the curriculum is nothing new. I have been teaching since 1991, and while some elements have stayed the same, others are unrecognisable. For example, I remember as a young teacher arriving early in the morning to load the BBC computer up from a cassette player plugged in at the side! It is right that we should constantly review the curriculum and think about what is relevant as times change. However, we can only guess at the world our youngest children will live in by the time they grow up. The aim of a good primary education should be to give them the strong foundations they will need to build on for a lifetime of learning: the ability to play and explore, be an active learner, have ever growing knowledge of the world, and the confidence to be creative. Since we have

joined Ridgeway Education Trust and been working closely with our secondary colleagues, we can see the relevance of this as student's progress through the system, past the hurdles of exams and on to the next steps of their life's journey.

Another thing that has been under review recently has been our school website. After many years of service it was beginning to look a little dated and cluttered. We have tidied the content and this week a professional photographer came to take shots around school to use on the home page.

Following the photographer around, I was able to see the curriculum with fresh eyes as I watched her take pictures of the children. Their total absorption as they handled the guinea-pigs, and their joy as they played with Cessy our school dog showed the importance of opportunities to love and care. Their co-operation as they worked as a group to create a moon buggy using wood and tools showed the importance of teaching sharing and listening. Their concentration as they used dictionaries to find the definition of new vocabulary showed the importance of developing a love of knowledge. These make inspiring photographs, but they are also the essence of our curriculum, and they are the timeless lessons of childhood.

*(This article appeared in the Oxford Mail in June)*

## SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS OF THE NEXT SCHOOL FUNDRAISING EVENT

Headteacher:

**Mrs. Rachel Hornsey**

Pupils and Families' Manager:

**Mrs. Helen Appleyard**

Contact:

[office.3243@sutton-](mailto:office.3243@sutton-)

[courtenay.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:courtenay.oxon.sch.uk)

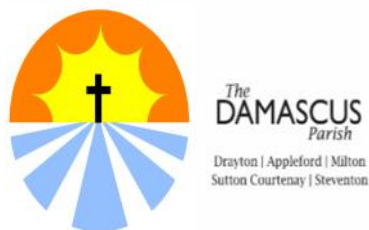
Telephone: 01235 848333



**Come and Join Us!**

We currently have spaces in most classes for September 2019. Contact the school office on 01235 848333 to arrange a visit.

# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



From the Ministry Team...

Dear Friends

One of the joys of holidaying in the English Countryside is being able to look round the parish churches which form a centre piece in most English villages. More often than not they are left open and visitors are encouraged to look around and tarry awhile. They are full of interest with hundreds of years of history mixed with up to date displays giving a glimpse of the communities that use the buildings today. They are oases of calm where one can sit for a few minutes and contemplate life and there is usually a peace that derives from the centuries of prayer that have been offered week by week in these buildings.

These churches are not museums. They each have a congregation, large or small, that keeps them alive and ensures that they are still at the centre of their communities. As pubs and shops have shut it becomes ever more important to preserve what were these "community centres" and to ensure that they remain open and welcoming to all.

You don't have to be on holiday to enjoy a visit to a church of course. Our local churches are all open and welcoming so if you haven't found your way in for some time why not go and spend a few minutes in the building. In the midst of what seems to be an uncertain future for our country our churches remind us that we have survived and flourished down the centuries and will doubtless continue to do so.

Of course you are especially welcome to join us for our worship Sunday by Sunday. Our congregations are ordinary people united by a simple faith that God loves us and by a desire to do all they can to make our villages more caring communities. We would love to get to know you better.

Tim Budd (Lay member of the DAMASCUS ministry team)

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## YOU STAY – WE PRAY!

All Saints' Church (now 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, a printed Rota is 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!

**St Peter's, Drayton**

**St Peter & St Paul, Appleford**

**St Blaise, Milton**

**All Saints', Sutton Courtenay**

**St Michael and All Angels, Steventon**

In September 2019 we will pray for those who live and work as follows –

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

Sunday 8 September to Saturday 14 September – Milton Road, Tullis Close

Sunday 15 September to Saturday 21 September – Milton Road, Tullis Close

Sunday 22 September to Saturday 28 September – Spring Field Way, Tyrrells Way

Sunday 29 September to Saturday 5 October – Spring Field Way, Tyrrells Way

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## SITUATION VACANT - Parish Administrator

Due to an unforeseen change in circumstances our current administrator is moving to another job and so The DAMASCUS Parish is once again looking for an Administrator to support the Rector, the Churchwardens and the Ministry Team. The ideal candidate will be computer literate; extremely organised; with a working knowledge of the Church of England and sympathetic to the Christian faith; be flexible and patient with a good sense of humour.

A full job description for this five hour a week free-lance / self-employed post is available on request from

[rector@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@damascusparish.org.uk)

or 01235 848297

or for an informal chat about the job contact Ann

[admin@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@damascusparish.org.uk)

Please send your CV and a covering letter to:

The Reverend Helen Kendrick, The Rectory, 3 Tullis Close, Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4BD or  
[rector@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@damascusparish.org.uk)

Closing Date for Applications – **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Interviews – **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Start date - to be agreed

## 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

Starting late September 2019  
in Sutton Courtenay



**#TryAlpha** - a series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith

Choose: **Friday mornings** (with coffee) 9.30-11am

Or: **Sunday evenings** (with supper) 6-8.30pm



To register interest & book for the launch event contact Karen:

[curate@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:curate@damascusparish.org.uk)

07526 985395



## 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 and to learn new music and to lead the singing at festivals.

For more information please contact Helen Kendrick on 01235 848297.



**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019 - 2.30-4.30pm**

**St Peter's Church, Drayton**

An opportunity to explore questions about death and dying, funerals and loss. We would like to help you think about these issues and perhaps start to plan what you would like to happen at your funeral. Come and join the conversation!

Tea, Coffee, Cake and Biscuits will be provided. If you require transport or need more information please contact one of the Ministry Team.

## CHURCH DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER

(unless otherwise stated events take place in All Saints' Church, SC)

### STARTING IN SEPTEMBER – ALPHA COURSES ON FRIDAY MORNINGS OR SUNDAY EVENINGS – SEE POSTER FOR DETAILS!

- **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>** – 19:30 Baptism Preparation for anyone interested in a christening for their child, St Blaise, Milton
- **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 12:30 – Half an hour of Silent Prayer – all welcome to join us in St Blaise, Milton. 19:30 Singing Saints
- **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>** – 19:30 Sutton Courtenay LCC Meeting
- **Monday 9<sup>th</sup>** – 19:30 DAMASCUS PCC Meeting
- **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>** – 19:30 Singing Saints
- **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>** – 19:30 Alpha Launch Party (see advert for details)
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>** – 10:30-12 noon Community Café. 14:30-16:00 Grave Talk – an opportunity to talk about death and dying – St Peter's, Drayton - all welcome!
- **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>** – Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride – if you would like to take part and help support the OHCT and All Saints' Church then please contact Fred Cubbage
- **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>** – 19:30 Singing Saints
- **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>** – 19:30 Singing Saints
- **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>** – 10:30-12 noon Community Café
- **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>** – 9:45 DAMASCUS Service of Holy Communion for all the churches in the DAMASCUS Parish at St Michael's and All Angels', Steventon **(NB NO service in Sutton Courtenay)**

### CHURCH DIARY FOR OCTOBER

- **Monday 7<sup>th</sup>** – 19:30 Baptism Preparation for anyone interested in a christening for their child, St Michaels Steventon
- **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>** – 19:30 Singing Saints

### CHURCH DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

- **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>** – 14:00-17:00 Giant Jumble Sale, Sutton Courtenay Village Hall – see advert for details
- **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 18:00 Service of Naming and Remembering for All Souls



## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH CONTINUED

We send our best wishes and congratulations to the following who were married in All Saints' Church recently:

### Holy Matrimony

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019 - Mark Anthony GIBBS & Danielle (Dannii) Susan BOLTON both of Sutton Courtenay

### Holy Baptism

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

Marcus James WHEELER (4<sup>th</sup> August 2019)

*Service conducted by the Reverend Helen Kendrick*

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

### COMMUNITY CAFÉ

10.30am-12noon

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September &

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September

*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.

## REST IN PEACE

**Margaret Elizabeth Foster (Peggy)** who died on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019 was born in the English-speaking part of Wales to Myra and Frederick Sutton on 12<sup>th</sup> June 1925. She was the second child in a family of five. She grew up and lived in Houghton, near Milford Haven. She had vivid memories of being rowed to school across the Cleddau Estuary to Burton and having to lie in the bottom of the boat during stormy weather! She attended Grammar School in Pembroke but had to leave because of ill-health when she was 14. As it was wartime she initially went to work in a Munitions Factory at Milford Haven and then, when she was 17 ½ years old, she volunteered to be a Nurse. She completed her training and was sent to a hospital in Llandaff near Cardiff where wounded soldiers were being sent to from the front line. Whilst there she, in Peggy's own words, "picked up and fell in love with one of the wounded soldiers" Albert Buckle -better known as Bert. When Bert was well enough he was discharged and returned to his family home in Sutton Courtenay. He and Peggy kept in touch with letters and eventually Bert went back to Wales and they were married in Llangwm Baptist Church. Peggy always remembered her first arrival in Sutton Courtenay. She had caught the train from Wales to Appleford Station. Expecting a taxi to meet her imagine her surprise when Bert's younger brother Les, who had been sent to fetch her and her suitcase, escorted her to his bicycle! Somehow she, Les and her suitcase made it across the fields to Sutton Courtenay on the bicycle. Bert and Peggy began married life living at the Buckle family home at 10 High Street before moving to their own home at 17 Frilsham Street. Peggy and Bert went on to have two children – Susanne and Elizabeth and they were a happy family. Susanne and Elizabeth remember Peggy as a lovely Mum who was a very talented dressmaker and knitter. She had been taught to sew by her Mother and she made many of their clothes as they were growing up. She even made Elizabeth's wedding dress and her four bridesmaid dresses. And every year she would make a doll dressed as a bride to give as a raffle prize for the Darts Club in which most of the Buckles were involved over the years. She loved dressing up and always had great poise and elegance. As a family they would spend several

weeks every summer in Wales with Peggy's family. They would catch the 10pm mail train and arrive in West Wales in the early hours of the morning to begin their summer holidays. Tragically Bert died suddenly from a heart attack in 1969. This devastated Peggy, but with help from family and friends she began to rebuild her life. Alf and Peggy had known each other as neighbours and friends and they had always got on well together and enjoyed a chinwag. They had a lot in common as Alf's wife, Violet, had also died. One evening they both found themselves at a dance in Sutton Courtenay Village Hall – it was meant to be fancy dress and Alf turned up as a tramp in his work clothes. Nevertheless he succeeded in charming Peggy and were married in Abingdon Registry Office 46 years ago. On marrying again they both welcomed and embraced their extended family as their own. They set up home in Abingdon together and Peggy's marriage to Alf was as content and happy as her first. Alf remembers her as a wonderful wife who was a very good cook who could make lovely cakes. Peggy would accompany Alf to the Speedway meetings all over the country and they both enjoyed visits to Spalding in Lincolnshire to see the tulips every spring. Over the years they enjoyed holidays in Butlins at Blackpool and went to Italy once and Peggy also travelled to America with Suzanne. For many years Peggy worked as a telephonist in the Post Office at the Abingdon Exchange until it closed in the mid-70s. She then worked at Rush Common as a Catering Assistant until she retired at 60. But her family were always her main focus in her life and Peggy was a wonderful grandmother. She enjoyed days out with her daughters, meeting up in Oxford for something to eat and to do a little shopping. She will be remembered by them all as very kind, loving and generous. Sadly four years ago she broke her hip in a fall and she developed dementia. Alf and Peggy moved to Stowford House in February this year and they had both settled in very well – appreciative of the love and care of all the staff in addition to the ongoing loving support of their family, who greatly miss her. *(This is an edited extract of the address given at her funeral in May by the Reverend Helen Kendrick – with apologies for the late inclusion in the SC News)*



**Dr Ronald William Newport (Ron)** who died on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019 was born in Bunbury in Cheshire on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1933 to Elsie and Thomas Prescott Newport. He was the oldest in a family of three – big brother to John, who died in 2014, and Maggie. He developed a lifelong love of learning and a thirst for knowledge, which never left him. In 1945 he sat the 11+, a year late because he had had chicken pox, but passed with flying colours. At school he met Joan – although Joan had heard of ‘Little Ronnie’ long before they met as Ron lived next door to two of Joan’s maiden aunts and whenever she visited they would talk of him and compare her school reports with his. ‘Little Ronnie’s beaten you this week’ When they did meet face to face they became genuine friends which led to marriage in St Mary’s Church, Wistaston in August 1959 by The Reverend Ivor Pugh – although neither Ron nor Joan realized the humour of his name until years later. They lived at Queensway in Didcot for two and a half years before moving to Geneva where Sally was born and they returned to the UK two and a half years later, two months before David was born. Ron had to lodge in a house in Wantage, whilst Joan and the children lived with her Mother until they were allocated another house in Appleford Drive in Abingdon. They looked for a home of their own and found 5, Chapel Lane in Sutton Courtenay, where they have lived for the past 52 years. Ron was respected and admired within the scientific community and following a first class degree at Liverpool University by the mid 60’s he had established himself as a leading expert in low-temperature technology, cryogenics, and his contribution to experimental physics was becoming broader by the day. He became Deputy Division Head in Instrumentation Division at RAL in 1981 and he was chosen by the Science and Engineering Research Council to lead an international team to design and construct an astronomical telescope to observe the heavens at millimetre wave 3 lengths allowing colder bodies to be observed. The telescope was to be constructed and operated on the summit of Mount Mauna Kea in the Hawaiian Islands - well above the altitude where serious working challenges arise. Funding was a problem and great diplomacy was needed to secure the site and ensure harmonious relations with our Netherland collaborators and local Hawaiian authorities. For Ron, this was bread and butter as were the extreme technical and engineering challenges that had to be overcome. The project was and still is a great success and on the 27th April 1987, The James Clerk Maxwell telescope was officially opened on the summit of Mauna Kea by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh. In recognition of the magnitude of this project, Ron accepted the Royal Academy of Engineering’s MacRobert award, the UK’s longest running and most prestigious national prize for engineering innovation. His contribution to astronomical science through The James Clerk Maxwell Telescope was recognised later by his election to the Fellowship of the Royal Astronomical Society. He was subsequently appointed to senior positions in the head office of the Science and Engineering Research Council and represented the Council and thus the UK on at least two major International bodies. He was then appointed to The Daresbury Laboratory, where he was a greatly loved and respected Director. Ron could well be described as a renaissance man – interested in jazz to modern art, wine to gardening, photography to stamp collecting and much more. He loved Dixieland Music and had

a remarkable memory for wine he had drunk and meals he had partaken. One of the most touching things in his last months of life was the great delight he still took in enjoying a taste of some of the wine he had collected over the years. In his last days, even a sip of communion wine would bring a smile to his face. Every camping holiday with the family was planned around visits to wine tastings at vineyards and the car was always filled with bottles. In the interests of getting the best value he would rarely allow Joan to get a workman in – there was a drawer in the house known as the ‘Daddy will mend it drawer’ – full of things waiting for Ron to get round to. But he did have practical skills – installing the central heating and making bookcases, speakers for his sound system and other furniture when required. He was also a bit of a hoarder. He relished the noisy family discussions at the dinner table and conversations with friends – although he did not like anecdotes. He never gossiped - and preferred lively conversations about serious topics such as food, wine, sports, politics and art. He knew his own mind but didn’t do arguments – he could be quite dictatorial at times - and, just as he set high standards for himself, so he had high expectations of those around him. His very focused view of the world did not necessarily make it easy for those closest to him. He had fairly avant garde taste – he loved the work of Jackson Pollack and relished structural modern art. He was a loyal Liverpool Football Supporter and enjoyed boxing; cricket and motor racing. He had a good sense of humour – loved to listen to anything from The Goons to Monty Python. One of his favourite occupations in recent years was watching University Challenge – but he couldn’t just watch it he had to score how well he and Joan did! Over the years he loved taking part in (and usually winning) the quizzes organized by the Friends of All Saints and, on moving to Bridge House, took part in their quizzes. He never ceased to take great delight in his grandchildren and thought the world of them. He was a man of faith, a faith which helped to give meaning to his life and underpinned all that he did to help others. He drew great strength from worshipping at All Saints’, serving on the PCC in various capacities and with Joan he has been an important part of our church and village community for many years. An intelligent, inquisitive, questioning person, who always looked for the most reasonable, optimum outcome in everything. He had a keen eye for detail and was never afraid to play devil’s advocate in PCC meetings by asking challenging questions to make sure we had considered all sides of the argument before coming to the right decision. And he was most supportive of our plans to provide modern facilities for today’s worshippers and the wider community. When he saw a need he responded to it. Despite the sufferings of recent times Ron was grateful for his life and the blessings of his beloved family and friends. He was immensely proud of his family and their achievements and he worked hard to provide for them and support them as best he could. He was grateful for the faithful love and care Joan gave him through the years and particularly in the last months of his life and for the exemplary care he and Joan received from the all the staff at Bridge House in Abingdon which enabled him to approach death with great dignity – loved and supported by all his family and with visits from friends. *(This is an edited extract of the addresses and tribute given at his funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick and by Dr Paul Williams)*

## CHURCHYARD TIDY 2019 – 21st Sept.



The churchyard surrounding the Grade I church is one of the most appreciated open spaces in the village according to last year's Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire. It is the sole responsibility of the church, helped with a small grant

from the Parish Council. The immaculate appearance of the grassed areas can be entirely credited to the dedication of John Napper. It is inevitable however that nature tries to take over and small saplings, ivy and brambles appear during the year. In the last two years a small group of volunteers have dedicated a morning to keep all areas in good condition. Anyone is invited to come along and help on Saturday, 21st September from 10.00 – 12 noon.) Please bring some gardening tools if you have some.) The reward is some refreshment and the satisfaction of keeping a community amenity in good order.

## THE RIVER ROOM

As you may have seen the River Room has emerged from the ground, and the build is moving forward. It is exciting.

**The great Sutton Courtenay Clear Out.** A big thank you to all who have contributed to this amazing scheme. The profit to the River Room funds to date is a grand £500.00 We are happy to continue - therefore you are not too late to search the attic and the shed, backs of cupboards and round the garden. As before just let Alex know (847443) and your item will be entered on the list!

**The Sunday afternoon cream teas** are set to make a profit of around £600.00 and have been very enjoyable. We have welcomed several walkers, and many who just 'saw the notices'. Delicious teas and a warm welcome have made for informal and pleasurable visits to All Saints'. Several of our visitors completed a quiz, and learned more about our beautiful Church in the process.

**However**, while this is all exciting and good news, we are still in need of further funds. In view of complex archaeology problems and the site proving more challenging than expected, costs have risen. At a time when several grants and funding sources are being pursued an application to BIFFA sadly failed. There is a considerable shortfall, and so our fundraising efforts continue! If you wish to make a donation, or add to one already made please contact the treasurer, Tim (527853).

**JUMBLE SALE**, we will be holding a Jumble Sale in the Village Hall on Saturday 2nd November from 2pm to 5pm Please see the poster for details.

Fred Cubbage, Tim Budd, Helen Kendrick, Janet Knowles, Alex Landsbert and Morna Whitlock



14th September is the day when over 500 churches in Oxfordshire welcome walkers and cyclists raising funds for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and a church of their choice. There is no maximum or minimum number of visits required. Just explore as many as you wish. For example, walk to Milton and you can collect three signatures – St Blaise CofE, the Methodist Church and Challoner Chapel at Milton Manor! There are 10 properties to visit in Abingdon. Most churches provide some refreshment!

In 2018 just four cyclists starting from Sutton Courtenay raised a total of £758. Half of that sum went to help maintain the fabric of the Grade I church. If you wish to take part in any way (or support the local participants) please get in contact with Fred Cubbage on 848768.

You can find out all the details at [ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/take-part/](http://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/take-part/)

Donate your unwanted stuff!

## Jumble Sale

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
November  
2 - 5pm  
Sutton  
Courtenay  
Village Hall  
With refreshments  
available

RAISING MONEY FOR THE  
RIVER ROOM BUILDING  
PROJECT – TO PROVIDE  
TOILETS, KITCHEN AND A  
COMMUNITY MEETING  
ROOM AT  
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

We're looking for toys; clothes; bric-a-brac etc in clean, sellable condition.

Happy to collect from your home or receive donations on the day between 9.30-11.30am.

**Doors will open at 2pm**

Please contact:  
01235 848297

Or email [rector@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@damascusparish.org.uk)



## THE ABBEY



**The Abbey  
Sutton Courtenay  
Founders Day Gathering  
Sunday September 15th  
2019  
6pm-9pm**

As the retreat centre at The Abbey prepares to mark its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2020, a special **Founders Day Gathering** is being held to piece together the jigsaw-puzzle-history of this glorious grade 1 listed Medieval Courtyard Manor House. Come behind the scenes for an evening of long forgotten tales and more recent story-telling. During an interactive evening we will work together to assemble and reveal the history of this place.

Members of the resident community will host the first part of the evening, setting the scene for a series of contributors who will shed light on the remarkable lives of some of

The Abbey's former owners, residents and notable visitors:

- Find out what makes this 13<sup>th</sup> century building so unique and significant
- Hear how, way back when, Benedictine monks from Abingdon were the caretakers
- Learn how Observer editor, David Astor, bought the house in 1958 and leased it for a peppercorn rent to charitable causes, such as the Bishop of Namibia and the

Ockenden Venture, to house post war refugees

- Uncover Fred Blum's vision for a New Era Centre at The Abbey which he and others rescued from dereliction in 1979
- Construct the timeline of real "people power" which has restored the estate to its current glory
- Take part in shaping celebrations in 2020

After a simple and delicious supper we'll reconvene and ask you to weave your own experience of The Abbey into the threads of the bigger picture and enlist your help to answer the many questions that have arisen.

If you have any knowledge to share as a former resident, staff member or guest, or remember the place from growing up in the village and know anything of its war-time history, we would especially love to see you! What else don't we know? What pearl of wisdom could you bring to the party?

The evening will draw to a close with a look forward to celebrating 40 years of community and volunteering at The Abbey. And as we look forward, we consider how to future-proof the building and way of life for those who will live here during the next 40 years.

An informal and convivial evening awaits you. Please arrive in time for a 6pm prompt start. Places are limited so booking is essential. All donations support restoration at The Abbey.

RSVP to Wendy [admin@theabbey.uk.com](mailto:admin@theabbey.uk.com). Or call 01235 847401



**THE SCHOOL'S  
NEXT  
FUNDRAISING EVENT**

**ITSMAGIC  
PETER .COM**

**A Fantastic Family Magic Show  
in support of  
Sutton Courtenay Primary School**

**Friday 18 October 2019  
Doors Open 6.00pm**

**Limited seats available  
£4 per child, £2 per adult  
Tickets available from the School Office or  
Melanie Brown (07802 659955)**

**OXFORDSHIRE'S  
MAGICAL  
CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER**

**07708-251312  
[www.itsmagicpeter.com](http://www.itsmagicpeter.com)  
[www.facebook.com/itsmagicpeter](https://www.facebook.com/itsmagicpeter)**



## SUTTON COURTENAY WI



Sutton Courtenay WI's summer has been fun and entertaining!

We have helped to raise funds for the village, held a coffee morning to raise funds for our WI.

Our summer trip had a last minute change due to the weather. But a very enjoyable day was had all the same.

We travelled back through the decades celebrating 100 years since the OFWI began. Florence Nightingale, Sandy Shaw, Greta Garbo and Madonna to name but a few all came along to enjoy our summer garden party!

If you would like to find out what we have planned for our next meetings why not come along and join us. Here are some dates for your diary.

17th September – 'Tricks of the Trade' (Spying in WW1) Melanie King

15th October – The Invigilator who set fire to his trousers, Anne Borrowdale

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

Please call Val on 847612 for more information.



### SUTTON COURTENAY NORDIC WALKING GROUP

**New Nordic Walking course starting Wednesday September 18th for 3 weeks, at no cost and poles provided. Experienced British Nordic Walking instructor.**

Sutton Courtenay Recreation Ground, OX14 4AW

Start time 9.30am



To find out more please contact Annalie at go active gold

[annalie.thomasson@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:annalie.thomasson@southandvale.gov.uk)

Following your instruction you will then have free access every Wednesday and Fridays to no cost walks along with ongoing tuition if requested. For answers to any questions please contact the Instructor Graham on 01235847322

### SUTTON COURTENAY SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

On Tuesday July 2nd, a great service with Sylvia Thorne from Swindon.

On Tuesday August 6th we had a meeting with our old friend David Chapman. It had the usual humour and excellent messages. Also a young man, Fin Wilkinson, gave us an excellent reading of his own.

Again thanks for the help with chairs etc.

#### DIARY

Tuesday September 3rd, Village Hall, 7.30pm, Meeting with Tom Dodd from Bridged, South Wales. A meeting not to be missed.

### CHURCHMERE POOL CARP SYNDICATE

Well we are back after the summer recession, I shall start with my usual whinge and whine. While all the rain has been falling any where but the Oxfordshire plain, other areas have been swamped, we could have done with a small share of this deluge. Our lake did not recover from the ultra dry summer of 2018, plus a dry winter, it is now in dire need of a monsoon as the lake is two feet below its summer level.



Now the welcome and wine, Churchmere has fished well this last two months, with most anglers catching good fish. There are now six recognised thirty pound plus resident, with a fine head of following twenties.

Lilies are now in full bloom, as are many of the wild flowers, unfortunately the hollyhocks have now gone over.

As a result of the power cut on Sunday morning some trees were shorting out the lines at the top end of the fishery. Southern Electricity Company came down at 1.00 am Sunday morning, and just demolished a whole line of the trees, they left them lying across the top track trapping two anglers to the far bank. After phone calls a team came down at 14.00pm on Sunday afternoon and cleared the track, all exciting stuff, no further damage due to the high winds. We were however very grateful to them as I believe they had many trees in the area to clear.

Roger 01235847241

*Editors' Note - see the amazing photograph on this month's cover*

## SUTTON COURTENAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - UPDATE

Over the summer the Steering Group have been concentrating on developing policy ideas for the draft Neighbourhood Plan. These must stem from needs identified by the village community.

Our sub-group (four members of the Steering Group) is now taking these ideas a stage further and starting to formulate draft policies. The issues include ensuring that Sutton Courtenay retains its own separate and unique identity, preserving and enhancing green and open spaces, future housing provision particularly type, design and allocation, reducing flood risk, infrastructure matters and community facilities.

These policies must be supported by evidence, based upon for example responses to our questionnaire, the Village and Landscape Character Appraisals and the Green Space Assessment which is currently being prepared by a village resident. There is also a requirement for compliance with planning law both local and national.



We are aware that green space within the village is very important to residents.

If you have a favourite green space please let us know as more evidence will strengthen the preservation and enhancement policy.

Photographs would also be appreciated. As the Vale of White Horse District Council declared a climate emergency earlier this year we are considering green policies. We would therefore welcome suggestions on possible locations for electric charging points within the village. and Please email Joanna O'Callaghan at [eatlands32@btinternet.com](mailto:eatlands32@btinternet.com) if you would like to help.

To keep up to date with our progress please visit the Neighbourhood Plan pages of the Parish Council website at: <https://www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk>.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS REFUSED

### GREAT NEWS – REDROW AND NORTH APPLFORD ROAD APPLICATIONS REFUSED

After 5 years of strenuous effort by the village, the Vale has finally refused the application to build 200 houses behind the village hall. This has been a long haul and it is a great credit to the resilience of the Sutton Courtenay community in opposing this development on such a risky site.

The opposition started with robust objections to the site being included in the Local Plan Part 1 as a strategic site. Subsequently, these were argued at the Inspector's examinations of that plan, reiterated in the preparation for two aborted appeals by Redrow, in numerous objections to its two applications and in countering the several iterations of its Flood Risk Assessment.

These processes involved both the Parish Council and Sutton Courtenay Action, in preparation for the aborted appeals and in commissioning an independent flooding and drainage expert. That is not to mention the 'Fair Deal for Sutton Courtenay' march in 2016 by 150 villagers, extensive volunteer effort and by an expert villager on traffic and those on the Sutton Courtenay Forum. Thanks are due to all concerned, and to those who contributed to fund the campaign.

Redrow has six months to launch an appeal against the decision, so there may be a way to go yet.

### NORTH APPLEFORD ROAD

On Wednesday 21 August the Vale Planning Committee also refused the application to build 93 houses North of Appleford Road, which had been on hold for two years. This is further credit to the local community and particularly to the 62 who objected to the application as long ago as 2015. Well done all.

Once again the OCC highways objection, stimulated by villagers concern about the traffic impact of the development, was the key issue Whereas previously the committee had

resolved to permit the development, subject to a Section 106 Agreement, the application was put on hold due to the OCC Highway traffic survey and subsequent objections to further development in SC until the Thames bridge is built.

Additionally, the proposal was a speculative application and was not in the Local Plan

The application was therefore refused on the grounds that:

- a. It was an unallocated site in the Local Plan.
- b. It would have an unacceptable impact on Highway Safety and the road network.
- c. The absence of a Sect 106 Agreement.

The applicant Peter Bretts (PBA) has six months in which to appeal. Meanwhile, we await details of if and when the new bridge over the Thames is to go ahead, which could have an impact on PBA's decision on whether to appeal.

Hopefully we will all have a few months in which to draw breath. There is now however a need for volunteers to refresh the team. Help please!

Anne Morgan Smith

To offer to help please email:

[suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com](mailto:suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com)

To keep up to date with the campaign register with the Facebook page:



Sutton Courtenay Action.



## DIDCOT POWER STATION AT ITS BEGINNING.....

Now that the demolition of the last three cooling towers of Didcot A has been accomplished it is interesting to look back at its beginnings.

When we came to the village in 1961 there was no sign of what was to come. I have very hazy memories of that time but I know that there were many objections from Sutton Courtenay, especially from those who had previously lived in the industrial areas of the North and knew what a power station would mean. However, a vote was taken among the town and parish councils of Didcot and the surrounding villages and the majority



were in favour. It had always been a foregone conclusion that the Power Station would come here: land was available on the old ordnance depot site, there was a ready source of water nearby, an existing rail line linked the site to the coalfields of South Wales and it promised future jobs (although there was then very little unemployment in the area) and, most reassuringly of all, we were told that tree planting would screen our view of the Power Station! So, construction started in 1964, Didcot A was commissioned in 1968 - and the landscape was changed for ever.

Sarah Ward



We wish to thank Sutton Courtenay History Society who have provided these photos from their archives. To see more, go to

[sclhs.org.uk/historical-images/power-station](http://sclhs.org.uk/historical-images/power-station)



## AND ITS END....



These photographs of the  
demolition of the Towers were  
kindly supplied by Fred Cubbage.

The photograph on the front cover  
is from Shirley Rance.

Thank you both.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

### Footpaths

Is anyone in this village concerned about the state of the official village footpaths? As someone who appreciates, and uses them on a daily basis I have been trying to contact our Parish Council with no success, and despite three emails to our District Council rep, who had prior to the elections had asked me to contact him, not one reply or acknowledgement.

When tree planting is a way in which we can reduce climate change, why have our local politicians ignored the opportunity of putting back some of the wholesale de treeing of a lot of our footpaths to extract the pipes from Harwell.

Speaking to the contractors I was told the Oxon council have refused to allow them to replant as the council would then have to maintain in coming years.

If someone does not wake up, then the council and more importantly our children and grandchildren will not be around to worry.

I have suggested to our council rep that as funding is available why not approach our school to organise a planting week with children and parents and others to plant trees along these now treeless paths this year, so that in years to come these children can tell their children and show them what their parents did for them and our little part of the World.

Graham Wells, Milton Road

\*\*\*\*\*

### Dog Fouling

Yet again we have to ask the few people who do not pick up after their dogs to do so. the path between Milton Rd and Milton Park may look like open country side but it's a foot path... used by many. most of us dog owners do the right thing, some do not and its getting worse. Its not only disgusting for other walkers but a health hazard. Pick it up please .....

Sheila Stevens

\*\*\*\*\*

### BBOWT Site

The Editors have received an enquiry from a long-time volunteer at BBOWT in Sutton Courtenay who is also a history researcher. In connection with the 50TH ANNIVERSARY of the BBOWT site, he is interested in finding out about the history of Milton and the Ordnance depot. He is trying to find out exactly what the BBOWT site was used for as there are wide concrete roads and lights on metal poles. If any readers have any information that may be of assistance please could they contact the Editors at

[editors@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk](mailto:editors@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk)

## DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

In the current atmosphere, it is very difficult to understand what might happen next. Almost everyone has their very own prediction of how things will turn out. Most of the predictions range between gloomy and utter despair. In order to cheer ourselves up, some friends and I played a game of "determined optimism" where each of us had to come up with three good things which could happen in the next year and how they might be achieved. It is a game I recommend to everyone, but the problem is that we all wished the world to be in different places so it is by no means a guaranteed way of spreading peace and harmony.

At VWHDC, what to do with the Local Plan is occupying everyone's minds. Much will depend on the HIF grant (£250m) and whether or not this will be guaranteed if either SODC or VWHDC were to decide to withdraw their plans in order to modify them. For VWHDC, this is particularly critical as their Plan is dependent on the delivery of "Valley Park, Didcot". Without the HIF money, OCC cannot afford the road improvements needed to deliver it. OCC would then be compelled to object to the plan which might then fail. In which case, the whole Vale would be back to coping with speculative development all over the District.

No-one wants that and we are all waiting for some clarity from Government. Unfortunately for Oxfordshire, Government is rather preoccupied at present so maybe to keep calm and sane, I will continue to play the "determined optimism" game.

Richard Webber Cllr

[Richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:Richardwebber777@gmail.com)

01235534001

## 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.**

We are looking for new singers as we start on Friday 6 September to prepare for our next concert on Sunday 24 November, which will include music by Mozart, Fauré and Vaughan Williams.

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.

# MILTON BOWLING CLUB

Potash Lane, Milton Hill

The Kennet League for over-55s (KLV, Roman numerals, geddit?) has reached its climax with us finishing 4<sup>th</sup> of 8 in our division, so top half of the table - just. No promotion for us this time but changes in the fixtures list for next season have our friends at Faringdon joining us together with Morland (from East Hendred) for the most local of derbies. Luckily for us we know them well, always have competitive but affable matches, and they both do excellent teas.

Regular readers may have noticed how important the social side of the game seems to be. It might be said that for some

members it is more important than the game itself but that is not borne out by the competitive edge displayed as we reach the climax of the in-house competitions to find club champions in the various formats. It's no holds barred when there is silverware to be won. With these, and a couple of ABL and mixed friendly matches to go the regular season is winding up but we don't stop yet. Our artificial green means we can play throughout the year, so if you would like a taster just turn up at a Club Night from 6 p.m. on a Monday for an informal roll-up. We are by the new Blaise Park development.

Or contact me, Derek, on  
*derekrees@msn.com* or 01235 834105.



## SUTTON COURTENAY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September

Village Hall 7.30pm



### “THE HISTORY OF HARCOURT ARBORETUM”

Illustrated talk by Timothy Walker

Many people enjoyed an earlier entertaining talk to the Society by Timothy Walker when he spoke about the history of the Oxford University Botanic Gardens where he was Director for many years. Harcourt Arboretum, founded in 1835 at Nuneham Courtenay, was annexed to the Botanic Gardens in 1964. The talk will look at the history of the site, and will include a walk in pictures around the 130 acre Arboretum which is open to the public.

Timothy Walker has presented a series on BBC TV and gives lectures to a variety of groups in Britain and abroad. Since 2014 he has been a lecturer at Somerville College, where he lectures to all 3 years of the Biological Sciences Course.

Everyone welcome: Members free, visitors £3

## 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)

6<sup>th</sup> Sept, 13<sup>th</sup> Sept, 20<sup>th</sup> Sept, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**!! PLEASE NOTE OUR DETAILS !!**

**Day and Time** - Friday Morning, 0900-1030

**Venue** - Sutton Courtenay Primary School

**Price** – 1<sup>st</sup> visit free Thereafter £1 per family (includes coffee and 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!

Contact details: Farzana Akter: 07935553595



## NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP (NAG5)

### Drivers targeted with fake parking fines

Reports of older people being targeted by individuals posing as police officers or traffic wardens have been received by Action Fraud. Victims with vehicles parked in car parks are being approached and told that they have parked illegally, or broken a speed limit, and that a photo of their car has been taken as 'evidence'. They're then advised that they will face a substantial penalty fine unless they pay a smaller up-front fee immediately. Those who opt to pay the smaller penalty are directed to a parking meter and asked to enter their card and PIN. While the victim inserts their card and is inserts their PIN the suspect surreptitiously watches over their shoulder. When the meter retains the card (having previously been tampered with by the suspect), the victim is told by the suspect to seek help from the company operating the parking meter, or from their bank.

If you're suspicious about the authenticity of the fine don't pay it until you've verified it with your local council. Never share your PIN with anyone, and always shield it when using an ATM or other machine. If your bank card is retained you should immediately contact your bank.

### HMRC Fraud

- There has been an increase in the reporting of malicious calls and voicemails purporting to be from Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC). Fraudsters are spoofing genuine HMRC telephone numbers to deceive their victims over the phone. They say that, as a result of the victim's non-payment of tax or other duty, the victim's liable for prosecution or other legal proceedings in order to settle the balance. The fraudsters then suggest that the victim could avoid this by arranging payment to be made immediately by methods such as a bank transfer or by purchasing iTunes gift cards.
- If the victim is hesitant, or refuses to comply, the suspect makes a threat such as immediate arrest, sending bailiffs to the victim's address or, in some cases, deportation.
- The period for which the tax is allegedly due is often sufficiently in the past to guarantee the victim will have little, if any, paperwork or ability to verify the claims. Once the money is paid the suspects sever all contact with the victim.
- In genuine cases HMRC will initially make direct contact via post/letter, and it's likely that the letter will

be followed up with a telephone call at a later date. If they do contact you by telephone they will

- quote the reference number on the initial letter you should have received. HMRC will never discuss something that you're not already aware of, like a tax investigation. They will never demand immediate payment.
- **You're advised to exercise caution when receiving messages or telephone calls of this nature.**
- Always question unsolicited requests for personal or financial information. Just because someone knows your basic details (such as name and contact information), it doesn't mean they are genuine. In these cases contact the company directly, using trusted methods such as a known e-mail address or telephone number. Never use an e-mail address or telephone number provided in an unsolicited letter or phone call.
- Legitimate organisations will never ask you to pay taxes, bills or fees by using an iTunes gift card or any other type of voucher. If you're contacted by anyone asking you to do this it's likely that you're the target of a scam.
- Don't allow yourself to be rushed or pressured into making a decision. There are no circumstances in which a genuine bank or other trusted organisation would force you to make a financial transaction on the spot. If you have received a telephone call, text or e-mail of this nature and have not lost money, you can report this as phishing to Action Fraud at **<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>** or call 0300 123 2040.

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 e-mail [neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com)

## SUTTON COURTENAY BROWNIES (FOUNDED IN 1950)

### Can we get going again ?

We were sad earlier this year when we had to close the Brownie Pack for a term due to low numbers.

It would be exciting to see if we can get the Pack going again and I wonder if there are any girls aged 7-10 who would like to join in ?

I wonder if there are adults who would be interested in helping to organise activities ? It is huge fun !

Do look on the Girlguiding website [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) or contact me with any queries.

Mary Thompson, Abbey District Commissioner,  
[steventonrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:steventonrainbows@gmail.com)

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IN SUTTON COURTENAY

Neighbourhood Watch is delighted to welcome a new Co-ordinator for Harwell Road, who will be visiting neighbours asking if they would like to join the new Neighbourhood Watch scheme. The recent change in data protection, GDPR, means that even if you were a member of the previous scheme you will still need to re-register to join the new one.

Sutton Courtenay now has Neighbourhood Watch schemes in:

Appleford Road	Courtenay Close
All Saints Lane	Tullis Close
Church Street	Harwell Road
The Green	Katchside
High Street	Spring Field Way
Lady Place	

If you would like a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your street and /or would like more information please do get in touch by calling 07762 597118 or e-mail [nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com](mailto:nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com)

Bridget Haffenden

Area Co-ordinator for NHW in Sutton Courtenay and Drayton



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Sutton Courtenay is one of the five villages forming the Steventon and District Branch of the Royal British Legion, the leading Armed Forces Charity.

We are fortunate to have our Chaplain and Secretary both resident in Sutton Courtenay. There is a team dedicated Poppy Fund Raisers who do wonderful work each year, and still several elderly veterans unable to take part, but we have no other active Members. We would greatly welcome any new arrivals in the village with an interest or with a service

background to join and support the activities of the Legion. Membership subscription is a modest £18 pa. We arrange a couple of social activities each year in addition to the Remembrance Day services in each village.

New arrivals or old hands willing to join us please contact me.

Nick Thompson Chairman Tel 832077



### Cancelled flights or lost luggage? Know your rights - Citizens Advice

Airports and air travel have always caused difficulties and stress, but in the present age

- with tight security and overcrowded terminal buildings - travellers have to deal with situations more fraught than ever before. To add to their problems flights are often delayed or cancelled, and suitcases vanish or turn up with items missing or damaged.

If you encounter any of these problems, you will be able to cope better if you are thoroughly familiar with your options before travelling.

If you're flying to or from an EU airport with an EU airline, under EU rules you might be entitled to compensation if you are delayed. You can check on the Civil Aviation Authority website [www.caa.co.uk](http://www.caa.co.uk) which also provides information on other eventualities and on ATOL financial protection for package flight travellers.

Depending on how long your flight is delayed and where you're flying to, the airline might have to provide you with food and drink, access to phone calls and emails, and accommodation if you're delayed overnight. Again, the CAA website (see above) provides relevant information.

If your flight is cancelled you might have the legal right to have

either a full refund or a replacement flight to get you to your destination (from another airline if necessary).

If your luggage is delayed, damaged or lost and the airline is at fault, you have the right to claim compensation from the airline. Act quickly because you might have to claim within seven days of your flight date. But if you have travel insurance or home contents insurance that covers luggage, an insurance claim might be a better option, depending on your excess.

The Citizens Advice website [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) will tell you everything you need to know.

For more guidance, telephone Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 040506 or visit Citizens Advice during opening hours. Details of office locations are on [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Pension Credit entitles over-75s to free TV licence – Citizens Advice

The BBC is planning to start charging over-75s for their TV licences unless they receive Pension Credit. Pension Credit is a benefit for people on low incomes who have reached the state retirement age.

Currently, those aged 75 or older receive free TV licences

.....continued over leaf



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which cover them and anyone else they live with. However, as from June 2020, over-75s will be means tested for the free licence. It is thought that more than three

million people will no longer be eligible to receive it.

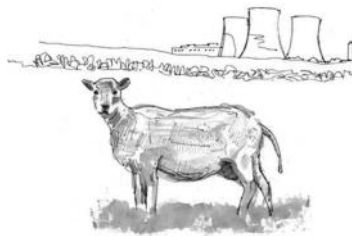
But if you can provide evidence that you get Pension Credit, you can continue to receive a free TV licence. Over a million people who qualify for Pension Credit aren't claiming it, the government says, so it's worth checking your eligibility.

Call the Pension Credit claim line on 0800 991 234 Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. to find out about your entitlement.

Alternatively visit <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit> You'll need to quote your National Insurance number and be able to give details of your savings and pensions, as well as the account into which you want your Pension Credit paid.

If you live in a care home or sheltered housing you can get an Accommodation for Residential Care licence which costs £7.50. You only need this if you watch TV in your own separate accommodation.

If you need help understanding this change, telephone Citizens Advice Adviceline on 03 444 111 444 or come and see us in person. For locations of offices and opening hours visit <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale>



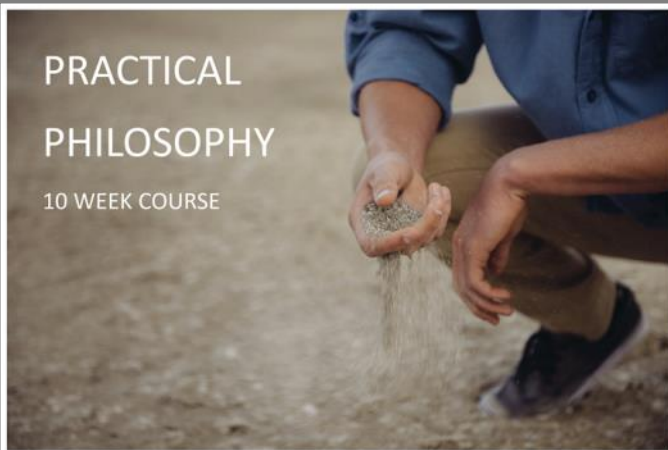
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## Want to see your business or services advertised here?

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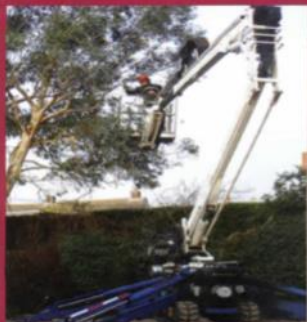
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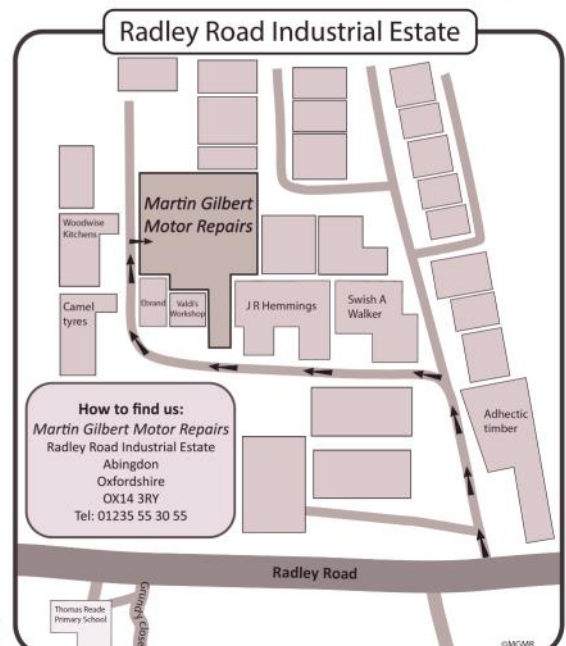
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