

# SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 48 No. 3

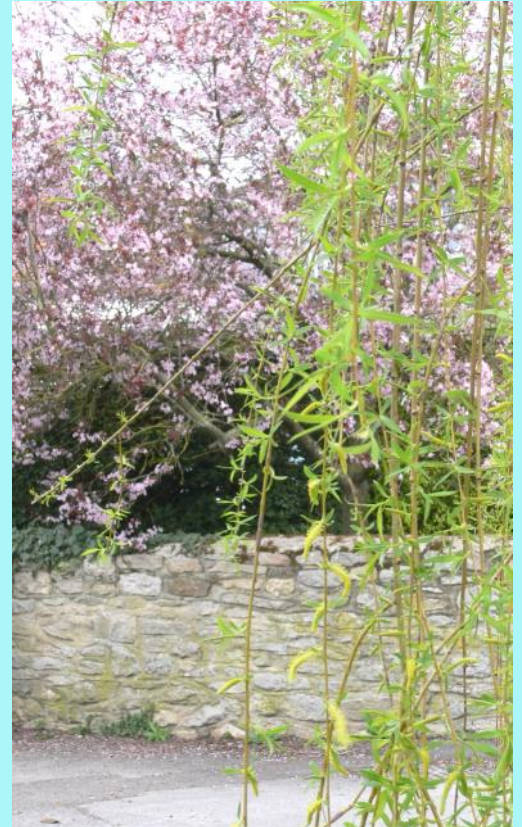
APRIL 2019

## VILLAGE DIARY

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

### APRIL

Tuesday	2nd	7.00pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall
Tuesday	2nd	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Tuesday	2nd	7.30pm	Spiritual Fellowship	Village Hall
Wednesday	3rd	9.30am	Stay and Play	Village Hall
Tuesday	9th	6.00pm	Season's first cricket training session	
Thursday	11th	10.30am	Community Cafe	Church
Sunday	14th	10.00am	Palm Sunday Donkey Procession	Tullis Close
Monday	15th - 22nd		Scarecrow Trail, see page 13	2 routes round village
Wednesday	17th		COPY DATE SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS	
Wednesday	24th	5.00pm	Young People's Consultation Event	Village Hall
Thursday	25th	10.30am	Community Cafe	Village Hall



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk) or telephone 07761 375991

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

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## VILLAGE CONTACTS

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

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

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

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

**Brownies** Sarah, 07855 544609

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

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

**Matrix Music School** 847264

**The Abbey** 847401

**Cricket Club** [drb71@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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

**Sutton Courtenay Local History Society** Mary Thompson 848527  
[marydthompson@outlook.com](mailto:marydthompson@outlook.com)

**DAMASCUS Youth** 848694

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

**Sutton Courtenay Action** [suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com](mailto:suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com)

**Sutton Courtenay Forum** [suttoncourtenayforum@gmail.com](mailto:suttoncourtenayforum@gmail.com)

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

**Non-urgent Police:** 101

**Neighbourhood team:** [AbingdonOuterNHPT@policing.thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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](http://www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk)

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

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

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

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

### The Ministry Team

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

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

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

Associate Priest: The Reverend Phil Sutton (01235 526114 or 07507378737) [revphil@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:revphil@damascusparish.org.uk)

Associate Priest: The Reverend Meg Heywood (01235 537100) [revmeg@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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.





## **Local Council Elections - 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2019**

### **Candidates**

Anyone wishing to stand as a candidate in the local elections has until 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to submit a nomination form to the Vale of White Horse District Council. The forms need to be returned by hand, and not posted. It is advisable to make an appointment in advance, before you visit the offices, by telephoning 01235 422528. The forms can be obtained via the Electoral Commission's website <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk>. Assistance can be obtained from the Vale of White Horse District Council's elections office or from the Parish Clerk.

### **Voter registration**

To vote on 2 May, residents need to be registered by Friday 12 April. Anyone who isn't registered at their current address should visit [gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://gov.uk/register-to-vote) to ensure they are eligible to vote.

### **Polling cards**

Those who registered to vote by 8 March 2019, should receive their poll card by Monday 8 April – anyone who doesn't receive it by this date should call the Elections team on 01235 422528 to make sure they are registered.

Anybody who registers to vote between 9 March and the cut-off date of 12 April should receive their poll cards during the week commencing Monday 15 April.

### **Postal votes**

If someone wishes to vote by post, the Elections team must receive their application by 5pm on Monday 15 April – application forms are available at [whitehorsedc.gov.uk/elections](http://whitehorsedc.gov.uk/elections).

Everybody who applies for a postal vote should receive their ballot pack by Wednesday 26 April – if it doesn't arrive by this date postal voters should contact the Elections team on 01235 422528 to request a replacement.

## **Appleford Railway Station – Sunday trains**

The Appleford Rail Group is seeking for at least one train to stop each way morning and late afternoon or evening, on Sunday. With no local bus service, residents are left without a means of public transport, so the request is based on public service need, as it would only take a couple of minutes for a train to stop at Appleford. Sutton Courtenay Parish Council has supported the Rail Group with their campaign as a Sunday

train service may help residents who live at the northern end of our village.

## **Oxfordshire County Council – Strategic Transport Improvements**

The County Council's plans for a package of strategic transport improvements for the Didcot and surrounding area which include the new river crossing, a bypass for Clifton Hampden, the new science bridge and the dualling of the A4130 went out for initial consultation last Autumn. The County Council then submitted a bid to central government for funding, and the Chancellor announced in the Spring budget that funding had been allocated.

The County Council has therefore secured £218m to progress the plans. Sutton Courtenay Parish Council has already expressed concerns at the first consultation stage to ensure that the best route for the river crossing is selected. Now that the funding is secured, the County Council will work on the detailed design for each scheme, and as part of that process, and going through the planning consent stages, they will consulting on each scheme separately. They are commencing by looking at the programme for each scheme and working out when public consultation is required. The Parish Council is keeping a very close eye on matters, and talking with the County Council to ensure that the voice of Sutton Courtenay is heard, as it needs to safeguard Sutton Courtenay from possible additional traffic impact from these planned road improvements.

## **Milton Road – Bus Shelter**

The Parish Council has been seeking quotations for a contractor to clean off the graffiti on the bus shelter in Milton Road. The preferred contractor has now been selected, and instructions given to clean it.

## **Village Green**

A contractor has been instructed to replace some of the old posts which have rotted, and to straighten others which have been knocked by vehicles. The posts are there to protect the Green, as it is an offence to drive on it, and the Council wishes to keep it a pleasant area for all.

## **Planning Applications**

The following planning applications have been considered :

**P19/V0244** Installation of structural members within rear barn to support existing walls, floor and roof structure at 4 Church Street. The Council had no objections.

**17/V1963/O** Erection of 200 houses off Hobbyhorse Lane – amendment to drainage. The Council continued to object to the development and referred to omissions in the information provided

**P19/V0053/FUL** Change of use to canine hydrotherapy and grooming centre at Trident Business Park. Council had no objections.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS CONTINUED

**P17/S4416/FUL** Change of use of land from agricultural land to farm park at Culham Hill – amendments to Green Belt area, drainage and access. The Council continued to object on grounds of traffic impact, and loss of green belt

**P19/V0428/HH** Demolition of existing conservatory and single storey rear extension. Erection of new side and rear two storey extension and associated internal reconfiguration at 30 High Street. The Council had no objection

**P19/V0352/HH** Extension, internal alterations and addition of first floor accommodation at 1A Drayton Road. Council commented that the proposal was a demolition and rebuild. There would be overlooking from neighbours, and glass should be obscured. Trees on the site, which was in a conservation area, should remain.

**Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 2nd April at 7.30 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).**

### 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 PARISH CLERK VACANCY



Sutton Courtenay Parish Council seeks a Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to take over from the current Clerk later in the year.

Hours up to 80 per month, home based, to be worked flexibly as required, to provide administrative and clerical support to the Council, and as the Responsible Financial Officer, to manage the Council's finances.

Salary will be negotiated depending on relevant qualifications and experience and is expected to be pro rata in the range £19,945 (£10.37 per hour) to £20,344 (£10.57 per hour).

For further information and an application pack, or for an informal discussion, please contact the present Clerk Linda Martin

[info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk) or telephone 01865 391833

Closing Date for return of applications is Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

Shortlisting and interviews will take place after Council elections in May and the formation of the new Council. Applicants will be informed of the timetable thereafter.

## 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 PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Our New Logo!

All is set for us to become part of Ridgeway Education Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> April this year. The school has already formed a strong partnership with our colleagues in Didcot and we are seeing many benefits of shared expertise, both educationally and in the day to day running of the school. This move will mean that children from Sutton Courtenay Primary School will have priority entry to the RET secondary schools if they wish to apply for places.

In readiness for our entry into Ridgeway Education Trust, we have been doing some work on our school logo and giving it an update. As you can see, the concept is the same. We have moved to three figures rather than four, to reflect our three school values of readiness, respect and responsibility. The figures are holding hands to represent our inclusive and supportive culture, and reaching upwards to reflect the aspiration we all share for our children.

## A Celebration of Books and Words

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March we celebrated World Book Day. All week, the children had been focusing on widening their vocabulary, and all classes used dictionaries as part of their English work. On World Book Day itself, there were some amazing costumes as everyone really enjoyed the chance to dress up. During the afternoon, Year 5 travelled by minibus to Didcot Girls' School where they spent time in the library with Year 8 pupils sharing books. The celebrations went on into the evening this year, with Hands On Storytime where children came back to school to share books and enjoy short craft activities.

In our school, we do celebrate books every day, not just on World Book Day! All classes are read to every day by their teacher, and our whole school reading scheme is the envy of many local schools.

## Science Week!

The 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March was National Science Week. On Wednesday, the children came out of their usual classes and joined together in their house groups for a morning of science. They moved round four different activities: classifying trees, reacting chemicals to make lava lamps, investigating static electricity and competing to make paper planes that flew the furthest. Everyone had lots of fun and it was lovely to see children of all ages in each house working together and supporting each other, whilst experiencing lots of hands on experiments.

## Sports News

The football team celebrated a win on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March. They played against The Hendreds School and it was a real team effort which paid off with a 3-0 victory. This is a great confidence boost to prepare us for the tournament later this month. Well done team and a huge thank you to Jake's dad for refereeing the game.

*Rachel Hornsey*, Headteacher

*Lisa Knight and Louise Potter*, Assistant Headteachers  
email: [office.3243@sutton-courtenay.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3243@sutton-courtenay.oxon.sch.uk) OR telephone: 01235 848333

## THE ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

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.

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

## 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.



# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



The  
**DAMASCUS**  
Parish  
Drayton | Appleford | Milton  
Sutton Courtenay | Steventon

## From the Ministry Team... Journeying Through Lent

Forty Days. Six weeks. A long time to wander

through the wilderness. People often don't look forward to Lent as memories surface of struggling to give up our favourite things. Words like 'sacrifice', 'discipline', and 'self-denial' are often used in ways that suggest that Lent is something to be endured rather than a time of renewal and spiritual growth. Perhaps it feels more like a punishment, or possibly just something you have to get through until Easter finally arrives. But at its heart, Lent is a journey. It's a path that we each have the choice to step onto that leads to the cross and to the empty tomb. Every year Christians celebrate Christ's death and resurrection. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration.

### We Journey Together

Along the way, there are hills and valleys, stones to stumble upon, and smooth paths to tread over with confidence; and hopefully along the way, there are moments of clarity where our faith or vision seems a little clearer, even though there will undoubtedly be moments where it seems foggy and uncertain. Why not travel with us on Palm Sunday as the churches re-enact Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with a procession. But as Holy Week approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens and the DAMASCUS Parish will be holding a Service of Shadows (known as 'Tenebrae') which will trace the story of Christ's passion. You're all invited. As with any journey, Lent is easier when travelled with companions.

### When Our Feet are Tired

Perhaps you joined us as we began our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday, or perhaps you just wondered why some people had been marked in ash with the sign of the cross on their foreheads...The imposition of ashes marks an ancient sign of penitence or remorse. As the cross is made specific words are spoken: 'Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ'. It is this turning away that determines how we travel, and on Maundy Thursday everyone is invited to gather for a Supper as we focus on the ways in which we are called to serve each other on our journeys, of faith or none, together.

### Where Christ Walked, We Will Follow

When Good Friday arrives we will be retracing Christ's journey to the cross and churches across the Parish will mark this journey in different ways. Each a pilgrimage in its own way: whether by procession to the church, through the Stations of the Cross around the church itself, or by quiet meditation. However we travel, perhaps we can take time to journey well with one another, to discover the riches of moving more slowly; and afterwards share in the traditional eating of Hot Cross buns.

### The Journey Ends AND Begins in Hope

So as you prepare for Easter this year, will you be ready to celebrate when a joyful dawn breaks upon Easter Sunday morning? God is never absent – our task is to encounter God

with new eyes and in new ways, in people we meet, places we stop, in nature's beauty and our own thoughts and feelings. Our experiences will have changed us and hopefully because of that, we might grow a bit, both individually and as a community, and maybe by the end, we might even feel a little better about Lent.

You're invited to come along, just as you are, to any of the services taking place across the Parish (details included with the Easter card in this magazine). All are welcome.

*The Reverend Dr Karen Hyde, Assistant Curate in the DAMASCUS Parish*

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### 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 29 March - Sat 4 April

Springfields Way, Tyrrells Way

#### Sunday 5 April - Sat 11 April

Partridge Close, Rye Gardens, Southfield Drive

#### Sunday 12 April - Sat 18 April

Damascus Ministerial Team

Helen Kendrick, Meg Heywood, Phil Sutton, Karen Hyde,

Jack Jarvis, Tim Budd, Alex Landsbert

#### Sunday 19 April - Sat 25 April

All Churches in the DAMASCUS Parish

St Peter's Drayton, St Peter and St Paul Appleford, St Blaise

Milton, All Saints' Sutton Courtenay, St Michael and All

Angels Steventon

\*\*\*\*\*

We are delighted to announce that Ann White has been appointed as Parish Administrator for the DAMASCUS Parish. She can be contacted on [adin@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:adin@damascusparish.org.uk) or via the Parish Office on 01235 848297.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you to everyone who supported the PANCAKE PARTY at the school on Shrove Tuesday. We raised just over £60 which will be used to purchase cooking equipment for the children to develop their culinary skills!

### 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

## CHURCH DIARY FOR APRIL

Monday 1st – 19:30 Baptism Preparation for all those wanting to have their children christened in the DAMASCUS Parish NB in St Michael's & All Angels, Steventon

Tuesday 2nd – 13:00 Year 6 from Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School come to church to 'Experience Holy Week'. 19:30 Singing Saints

Wednesday 3rd – 14:00-16:00 An Easter Reflection – The Faces of Easter – followed with refreshments – all welcome!

Friday 5th – 9:00 Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School Easter Service

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!

Tuesday 9th – 19:30 Singing Saints

Wednesday 10th – 19:30 The DAMASCUS Parish Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Thursday 11th – 10:30-12:00 Community Café

Sunday 14th – PALM SUNDAY – 10am meet with the donkey at Tullis Close for procession to All Saints' Church for Palm Sunday service at 10.30am.

## HOLY WEEK

Monday 15th – 7.30pm Tenebrae Service at St Blaise, Milton (see Easter Card for details)

Thursday 18th - MAUNDY THURSDAY – 7.30pm Lamb Supper with Communion (see advert for details)

Friday 19th - GOOD FRIDAY – 10.30am Hot Cross Bun Family Service. 12 noon Holy Hour – a service of reflection on the crucifixion

Saturday 20th – HOLY SATURDAY – from 9am Spring Cleaning of the church – many hands make light work – if you can spare some time to help care for our parish church!

Sunday 21st – EASTER SUNDAY – 10.30am Sung Eucharist with an Easter Egg Hunt for the children



## EASTER LILIES

At Easter we provide an opportunity to remember loved ones with a display of lilies in church. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of

this year's lilies in memory of someone, please put your donation in an envelope with the name(s) of those to be remembered and deliver to Ann White (see Village Contacts page) at 24 Frilsham Street by Friday 19th April. A list of those remembered will be on display in Church from Easter Sunday.

## Sutton Courtenay Community Showcase



Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019

11-4pm

The Village Green  
Sutton Courtenay

**Thank you to everyone who came along to the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:rector@damascusparish.org.uk)  
01235 848297

## 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

# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

### LAMB SUPPER WITH COMMUNION

19.30-21.00 Thursday 28th March 2018

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, SUTTON COURTENAY

At this special service we celebrate Jesus' institution of the Last Supper with a Maundy Thursday Supper and Communion in All Saints' Church. We will be serving Lamb Stew (and a vegetarian option), unleavened bread, grapes and wine (or grape / apple juice). Each course is interspersed within parts of the Communion service and the communion bread and wine will be shared with one another around the table.

At the end of the meal the table will be cleared and the traditional 'stripping of the church' will take place. Everyone is welcome, but to help with the catering we need an idea of numbers. Please add your name to the list at the back of church. If you have any questions please contact The Reverend Helen Kendrick, 848297

## NOTICE

**Wednesday 10th April at 7.30pm – the Annual Parish Meeting of the DAMASCUS Parish will be held in All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay**

This is a joint meeting of those whose names are on the church electoral roll, together with 'persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a Register of Local Government Electors' (Churchwardens Measure 2001 paragraph 5.1) and is held for the purpose of electing Churchwardens.

Following straight on from the Annual Parish Meeting will be the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This is a meeting of those whose names are on the church electoral roll for the purposes of presenting the annual report and accounts for 2018 and for electing Parochial Church Council Members and Deanery Synod Representatives.

## COMMUNITY CAFÉ

10.30am-12noon

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April &

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April

*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.

**On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April we will be raising money for the Cyclone Idai Appeal.** At the time of going to print Cyclone Idai has torn through Southern Africa unleashing a trail of devastating destruction. According to the UN, millions of people are in the direct path of what could be the "worst weather-related disaster to hit the southern hemisphere". Families have lost their homes. Many have lost loved ones. With people in need of urgent assistance, the situation across Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi is desperate.

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)

## THE RIVER ROOM

### All Saints' Church Building Project

This month we bring you very exciting news! We have received the tenders for the building of the River Room and complete renovation of the 1950s kitchen and loo, it is exciting but also daunting! The tenders are in at around £600,000. The River Room committee need all the help you can give, as despite an amazing grant of nearly £90,000 that has just been confirmed from WREN, we still face a considerable shortfall in funding. There a couple of grant applications in the pipeline and to date we have raised almost £550,000 with your generosity and many supportive grants.

As you can see we do need more of your help both practically and financially to bring this community project to completion.

We have invited, and he has accepted, Bishop Colin to 'wield' the first spade on Friday May 3rd at 8.30am, which of course, all are welcome to witness. Information posters inviting you to this event will go up in Burgrey Stores and on the All Saints' notice board at the Church gate. This is a giant step for Sutton Courtenay and our historic Church building!

Please contact Helen([rector@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@damascusparish.org.uk)) or any one of us if you would like to help in any way.

Tim Budd; Fred Cubbage; Helen Kendrick; Janet Knowles; Alex Landsbert; David McKenzie; Morna Whitlock.



We send our best wishes and congratulations to Noah Vjestica who was welcomed into the family of the Church through baptism on 3rd March 2019



## REST IN PEACE

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

**Clyde Newton Edwards**, who died age 74 on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019, was born on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1945 in Oxford to Elizabeth and Walter Edwards. He was the youngest in a family of seven, and at birth he was very poorly and not expected to live, so he was always especially precious to his mother who brought him up, as his father, who was a Lorry Driver for a Coal Merchants, sadly died when Clyde was 11 years old. He attended Donnington Bridge School before beginning work for P.J. Jones in Oxford where he learnt the trade of panel beating. He eventually went into business and co-owned the 'Centre Services' Garage in Oxford for about 20 years until he took early retirement on the grounds of ill-health. He and Pauline met in a pub and for Pauline it was love at first sight. Pauline asked him out by asking him directly, 'When are you taking me out?' Clyde replied, 'On Wednesday!' and the rest, as they say, is history. They became an inseparable partnership and were together for 43 years – and married for 32 of those. They moved to Sutton Courtenay in 1987. Pauline had lived in the village when she was a child so this felt like coming home. They both loved the house, with its proximity to the village school, and their good neighbours, for whose support over the years both Pauline and Clyde have been immensely grateful. Clyde was extremely practical – he built various extensions, conservatories and the sheds at the bottom of the garden – and he enjoyed turning the house into a home. Clyde was multitalented – not-only could he maintain cars and motorbikes, for which he had a lifelong passion, but he could cook and operate a sewing-machine! Whilst being the first to admit he was not a religious man he loved gardening and would spend hours outdoors with his flowers – finding a sense of peace and calm in touch with the beauty of the world. Both he and Pauline made frequent trips to Garden Centres. He loved food – particularly cream cakes, or ice-cream and fruit or Cadbury's Cream Eggs! But it wasn't only eating food that he enjoyed but also shopping for it. According to Pauline he could food shop for England and he liked nothing better than filling a

trolley with his favourite foods – sometimes spending several hours in the supermarket! Clyde also loved dogs – Shadow and Mylo were well known to Sutton Courtenay children as they would meet and greet the children as they walked up the school drive alongside the garden fence. He was very jovial and would see the funny side of most things. He was extremely social and gregarious and got on with most people – although did not tolerate those he called 'time wasters'. He was a great host – and enjoyed inviting friends and families to BBQs in the garden. He was caring and generous and wanted to help others if he could. He had an adventurous spirit – always wanting to meet new people and have new experiences. He and Pauline travelled to lots of places over the years, including Spain and Puerto Rico but also spent many happy holidays in their caravan in Bracklesham Bay, where they returned several times, making lifelong friends. Clyde loved clothes and was always smartly dressed – he had three wardrobes and fifty pairs of shoes! But above all he loved his family and worked hard to provide for them. When Pauline and he married, he took on her family as his own, becoming particularly close to her parents and brother, and was immensely proud of all his grandchildren and relished spending time in their company. At Christmas time he was a like a child himself and loved, not only the food, but also the numerous lights he insisted on putting up around the garden and the house. Sadly, the last eight years of his life were dominated by failing ill-health, following the development of kidney disease, and Clyde found it hard to accept that he was ill and found it very frustrating as the dialysis limited his independence. But he was lovingly cared for by Pauline and the family who did everything they could for him, and, along with the Kidney Unit at the Churchill Hospital and the support of the Marie Curie Nurses, enabled him to die at home, as he wished. He will be greatly missed by Pauline and all his family and friends who will remember him as, "Loving, kind and always laughing."

*This is an edited extract from the address given at his funeral held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 in All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay, by the Reverend Helen Kendrick.*

## ALL SAINTS' SINGERS

The All Saints' Singers, Sutton Courtenay was inaugurated almost forty years ago and gave its first performance in 1982 of Haydn's Little Organ Mass. There have been many changes since then but we remain a non-auditioned community choir meeting once a week over the winter to rehearse for two concerts a year one in autumn and one in spring.

We have an excellent music director: Sebastian Thomson and we use professional musicians and soloists at our performances in the All Saint's Church.

We rehearse on Fridays at 19:30 in the Matrix. We are looking for new singers so please check our website <https://allsaintssingers.org> to find more about us and when rehearsals will start.

Do not hesitate to contact the chairman, Steve Fisher <[dr.s.m.fisher@gmail.com](mailto:dr.s.m.fisher@gmail.com)> 0781 203 7530 if you would

like more information. You might like to go to <https://allsaintssingers.org/subscribe> to subscribe to our infrequent news letters Steve Fisher 0781 203 7530



Hear some exceptional music.....

## Toe-tapping Tea with THE TITANIC HOUSE BAND \*

All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 3 – 5 pm

£12.50 adult. Children *FREE*

Tickets available from **Burgrey Stores** (your local Post Office)

Unique opportunity to dance in a cleared area of the Church.

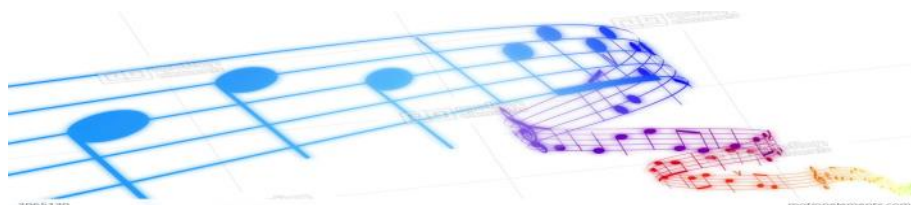
Sandwiches/cake and a glass of prosecco! (included)



Proceeds towards the **Church Building Project**

*\*[www.titanichouseband.org](http://www.titanichouseband.org)*

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



All Saints' Church

## *Art & Craft Weekend\**

Bringing Local talent together

22nd & 23rd JUNE 2019

### INVITATION TO EXHIBIT.

Following the success of the last four year's events, potters, painters, photographers plus craftspeople of all types of media are invited to 'phone (01235) 848768 or email : [lynne.cubbage@btinternet.com](mailto:lynne.cubbage@btinternet.com) for details.

**No charge for exhibition space**

**RESERVE THE DATE !**

Sales income to assist with the Church Building Project

# SUTTON COURTENAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - UPDATE



Thank you to those of you who attended our Community Consultation Workshop on 2 March 2019. The afternoon session was facilitated by Community First Oxfordshire, a community development charity which has had

involvement with 22 local villages and their Neighbourhood Plans.

The session gave the Steering Group an opportunity to:

- Stress the importance of the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan due the precarious position of the village, being surrounded by major development proposals such as Didcot Garden Town and also many associated local/national infrastructure works.
- Emphasise the point that Sutton Courtenay has reached saturation point, thus our Draft Plan will not propose to allocate sites for further development.
- Strive to produce a Draft Plan which will not only preserve, but also enhance, the village retaining what Green Spaces remain and ensuring that Sutton Courtenay retains its own separate identity.
- Confirm that the recently commissioned appraisals covering Village Character and Village Landscape support these objectives.
- Provide an update on the recent progress of the Plan.

Tom McCulloch from CFO gave a presentation including:

- The results of the Questionnaire Survey conducted last summer.
- The emerging aims, visions and objectives of the Draft Plan.

Questions from the floor were answered by both Tom and members of the Steering Group. Following the Question and Answer session, attendees were encouraged to complete Feedback Forms on the draft vision, aims and objectives. The responses are being collated by Tom. This information will help formulate policies for inclusion in the Sutton Courtenay Neighbourhood Plan.

There is a posting box at Burgrey for any attendee who was not able to return their form on the day. For those who could not attend the workshop, the form is available on 'The Neighbourhood Plan' page of the Parish Council Website <https://www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk>. Please do complete and either post the completed form in the box at Burgrey or complete the form electronically and email to Tom (email address on the

form). Your responses are vital to all stages of the Neighbourhood Plan process, as community involvement is examined in some detail by the Inspector.

It is important that there are opportunities for feedback from parishioners of all ages. Our next event is a youth consultation evening on 24<sup>th</sup> April (see poster) to enable the steering group to have a deeper understanding of the needs of young people in the context of the Neighbourhood Plan. Parents/carers – children under 16 will require your consent to participate.

We welcome comments and contributions to the Steering Group at any time; the next all-village have your say is the Sutton Courtenay Community Showcase on 18 May at the Village Green.

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

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

**SUTTON COURTENAY**

**youth** CONSULTATION

**PIZZA AND GAMES EVENING**

**WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL**  
**VILLAGE HALL**  
**5-6PM / AGES 8-12**  
**6-7PM / AGES 13 - 17**  
**7-8PM / AGES 18-24**

**HAVE YOUR SAY ON FACILITIES,  
CLUBS, TRANSPORT, HOUSING ETC**

**YOUR VOICE MATTERS!**

SPONSORED BY  
SUTTON COURTENAY  
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP  
ANY QUERIES CONTACT ROXY ON  
07875649008



## SCIDS

As the promoters of SCIDS we want to thank every single member of the team. Kirsty Butler, Sally Dubock, Kate Green and Bernie Jones as production crew led the superb cast of thirty juniors, and five wonderfully supportive adults. Also the backstage team Lilly Pallot and Alexandra Jones; Tim and Alison Budd, Lynne and Fred Cabbage, Vivienne Maunders and Andrew Dubock Without any one of these we would not have been able to bring to the village a pantomime, written by Antonia Lee (our eldest daughter!), which proved fun to perform and fun to watch.

Henry Drake gave us a superb real hero and Nadia Weisz and Kate Voyce were very lovely principal girls; even if one of

them did stay in her pyjamas!! DVDs are available - do contact us if you would like to purchase one! (£5.00 each)

I would love to mention them all but perhaps better to leave it to some members of SCIDS to give you their opinion of the event, now perhaps a part of the Sutton Courtenay calendar! Next year we would love to have more adults on stage, and of course any more juniors age 7+. Our thanks to all of you, you - the village, as supporters of SCIDS.

Alan and Morna Whitlock

From Henry Drake (Sam, our very own hero)

The best thing about 'Alice in Wifiland' was that really, behind all the things going on in 'Cutton Soreknee' what it is really about is a lovely village full of wonderful people, and that village is completely based on 'Sutton Courtenay'

Lilian (the drone who saved the day)

SCIDS is really fun, I loved getting my new costumes, singing the songs and learning my lines.

Bradley Gates (an Ace, and our MockTurtle)

The reason I love SCIDS is that I love drama. I love the creativity that goes into the show and I love the staff.

Freddie (an Ace and our Walrus)

I was always nervous but SCIDS really helped my confidence. It was great fun as well!

Susie (one of our lovable baddies)

I love it because you get to know new people and make friends around the village and it is nice to get better at acting. Plus you get tea and cakes every Sunday!

Eleanor (Queen of Hearts and Dorothy)

SCIDS is so much fun - Morna always makes it the best part of my week!





**Friends of All Saints' Church  
Annual General Meeting**

**All Saints' Church  
Tuesday 7 May at 7.30pm**

**Work of the Oxfordshire Historic  
Churches Trust**

**Guest Speaker, Basil Eastwood,  
Development Officer, OHDC**

Everyone welcome

Refreshments

no entrance fee

Registered Charity No 294227

**SUTTON COURTENAY  
SCARECROW TRAIL**

**15-22<sup>nd</sup> April**



Join our Scarecrow Trail with lots to see along 2 routes around the village. Pick up your Trail Map from Burgrey Stores on the High Street.

Return your map with your scarecrows ticked off and you'll get a sticker and be entered for a Prize Draw!

Trail Sheets are 50p per sheet.

All proceeds go to Sutton Courtenay Primary School and a fantastic local autism charity called OASIS ([oasonline.org.uk](http://oasonline.org.uk))

**THE ABBEY**

**Monday 7th April**

**"One of the finest living British pianists" –Musical Opinion**

**Julian Jacobson in an intimate piano recital in the medieval Great Hall.**

Attendance is by donation on the night; we suggest £15 for a concert of this quality but all are welcome and all proceeds support the work of the Abbey Sutton Courtenay, a registered charity. 8-25 years old attend free.

For bookings or enquiries email: [dylan@theabbey.uk.com](mailto:dylan@theabbey.uk.com)

**Monday 8th April 7.30pm to 9.30pm**

**Circle Dance** - an evening of gentle dancing to beautiful music from around the world. Second Monday of the month. New Dancers always welcome, no experience or partner needed.

Suggested donation £4 to £8 per person.

No booking necessary.

**April Thursday 18th 4pm arrival to Sunday 21st 4pm departure**

**Easter Rest & Renewal Weekend Retreat**

**Easter Retreat is £260 for three night full board.**

Contact Wendy: [admin@theabbey.uk.com](mailto:admin@theabbey.uk.com) or call 01235 847 401

[http://www.theabbey.uk.com/?page\\_id=217](http://www.theabbey.uk.com/?page_id=217) for more details

**April 4th, 11th & 25<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm to 9pm**

**Grace Notes a Woman's Chorus**

**Performance at The Abbey on 2nd May**

Grace Notes a Woman's Chorus, led by Natural Voice Practitioner Emily Marshall, will begin again on 17th. No need to book in advance. £5 per person

**Saturday 27th April 2.30pm to 5.30pm**

**The Big Dig at The Abbey Sutton Courtenay**

All Welcome Please RSVP:

Email: [admin@theabbey.uk.com](mailto:admin@theabbey.uk.com) or call 01235 847401

[www.bigdig.org.uk](http://www.bigdig.org.uk) for more details

## CHURCHMERE POOL CARP SYNDICATE



It has been a good year in spite of a weed bloom and low water with plenty of good twenties and thirties caught. Though it is the camaraderie of the membership that makes everything work and be worthwhile.

The water level is rising and more rain would still be welcome, on the sunnier warm days fish are beginning to show, group up and move around, so it bodes well for next year.

I am in total admiration of the fortitude of the hardy soles that have camped out in the recent inclement weather, it shows 'no such thing as poor conditions, just the right gear', that's easy for me to say, indoors looking out the window.

Well we are at the end of our year, a new Churchmere year starts 1<sup>st</sup> April. There are a few spaces for new members and application forms are available from Roger 01235847241.

Roger Rance

## SUTTON COURTENAY CRICKET CLUB

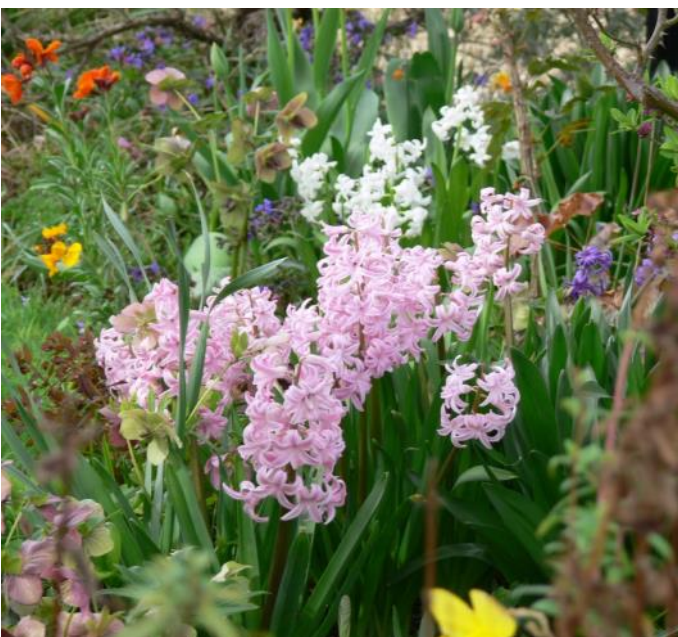


For all you budding cricketers, the days are getting longer and it is time for this year's Kwik Cricket competition! Any child who is in School Yrs 3-5 are most welcome to play. There are 8 teams in the league and during May, June and early July we play at each other's ground.

The emphasis is on fun, learning the basics of cricket and meeting new people.

All are welcome and our first training session will be held on Tuesday 9th April from 6pm to 7.15.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to email me at [drb71@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:drb71@hotmail.co.uk).



## SUTTON COURTENAY SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

On Tuesday March 5th we had a very enjoyable evening with our old friend Patrick Carbury who gave a great address and messages.

Not so many people this time, unlike last time. Did "Pancake Day" have anything to do with it? Again thanks for putting the chairs and tables away.

Any queries to Pat or Sam on 01235 847460.

### DIARY

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

Tues May 7th 7.30pm Village Hall. Spiritual Meeting with Judith Ford.

## 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](mailto:sarahanns@sky.com)

To find out more about Brownies look on the website at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)

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

## SUTTON COURTENAY NORDIC WALKING GROUP

Why Nordic Walk ?

Improve all aspects of your health especially your brain. Learning Nordic Walking uses loads cognitive memory, and is a way to lessen the risk of Dementia in later life. Balance, and bone strengthening exercises (especially good for ladies) are included before and after each walk .

It costs only your time. Instruction and Walks are free.

If wishing to try please contact Go Active Gold [Annalie.Thomasson@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:Annalie.Thomasson@southandvale.gov.uk) to register, and then please phone Graham on 01235847322 to book a taster.





## FAMILY FUN DAY AT APPLEFORD

On June 15th Appleford village will host a country fair to celebrate the opening of the railway to Oxford 175 years ago. This is part of special events at all stations between Didcot and Oxford.

The Appleford 175 fete s will appeal to all members of the family. The steam theme will feature steam trains passing the fair ground (courtesy of GWR) and steam traction engines on the field, and railway history displays. There will be food stalls for all tastes, cream teas, local beers, curries and barbeques. Children's stalls, rides, shows and competitions. For pet lovers there is Abingdon Dog Training Club display, and an animal sanctuary corner. There will be stalls for bargain hunters, for toys, books, confectionary, cakes, plants and much else. Exhibition displays of local activity groups and businesses. Special interest displays, vintage tractors and cars are in planning.

GWR is supporting all events by running special trains and buses. Event buses will run between Didcot (Railway Centre), Long Wittenham (Pendon Model Railway), Appleford and Culham. The fair is free to enter and will run from 12:00 noon on 15th June to early evening on the recreation field in the

centre of Appleford. This is alongside the railway line and 4 minutes walk from Appleford Station. This will be a very popular event so make sure you don't miss it!

For real rail enthusiasts the day will start with the Flying Scotsman steam engine passing through the station around 8:40 am, Great for photographers!. Go on line to [Culhamstation.co.uk](http://Culhamstation.co.uk) and click on "175th Anniversary celebrations" for a full programme of day events at all stations Didcot, Appleford, Culham, Radley and Oxford. Special one-day tickets are available for travel between the stations and for events.

In the months before, special competitions, photographic, adults and children's paintings and artwork on railway themes are being run. Prizes and work will be on display on the day.

For further information on Appleford 175 fete, and if you wish to make contact or have a stall you wish to bring, e-mail [Appleford175@gmail.com](mailto:Appleford175@gmail.com) or ring 01235 848336 (Chris & Mary) or 7768 490 277(Greg) and leave your details.



THE  
THIRTEENTH

# ENGLISH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Join us here at All Saints', Sutton Courtenay, for a glorious concert of lute songs and duets by John Dowland and John Danyel. Over in Dorchester Abbey you can hear the world première performances of a concerto by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, of a Symphony by Robin Milford, and orchestral works by Ralph Vaughan Williams and Lord Berners, played by the BBC Concert Orchestra. Other events range from song-cycles by Finzi, Ireland and Howells through choral, orchestral and chamber gems by Elgar, Holst, Parry, Britten and Delius to 1930s English jazz. Informative talks, convivial social events and glorious and historic venues will complete a wonderful second May Bank Holiday!

Please contact Festival Director Em Marshall-Luck at The English Music Festival, PO Box 123, Clunton, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 7BP or email: [em.marshall-luck@englishmusicfestival.org.uk](mailto:em.marshall-luck@englishmusicfestival.org.uk)

SUTTON COURTENAY  
DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES • OXFORDSHIRE  
24-27 MAY 2019

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

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Given everything that is happening or is soon to happen locally and nationally, I am going to focus on a big issue for everyone in this division but an issue which has nothing to do with Brexit or local elections. It is the Thames Water (TW) proposal for a new above ground Reservoir between Steventon, Drayton, Marcham and East Hanney.

This proposal is the third such proposal since 1990. The last two were turned down. TW are now arguing that the water is needed to supply much of the South East of England –it will supply little, if any water to Oxfordshire.

There are 3 threads to the argument.

- The first concerns **the Science**. Is a Reservoir needed at all? The last TW proposal in 2007 was turned down emphatically because the case for need had not been met by TW. Would water transfer or desalination be a cheaper solution to water need. In the end, it is the scientists who must provide an answer - not just TW's own scientists, but the well-funded and top level scientists from GARD (Group against the Reservoir).
- The second concerns **the Law** – in particular, the planning process which has to answer the question – Is this the best place for a Reservoir? And what are the implications for traffic and the environment?
- There is, however, a third issue which is often overlooked and unappreciated. It is **the Politics** surrounding the

whole proposal. And it is the politics which worry me almost more than anything. The way that the legal process works at present is that TW first approaches the regulator OFWAT with its proposal. There is every reason for TW to want a reservoir – they will own it, and it will sit on their balance sheet giving them a major capital asset against which they can borrow. It will be paid for, as will the cost of all public consultation (glossy brochures etc) by TW ratepayers. At the 2007 TW proposal, OFWAT allowed TW to raise £45m from ratepayers – about half of which was used to pay for legal fees to fight TW's case. When it came to a full legal enquiry, Councils trying to fight the proposal clubbed together to pay for legal representation. They managed to raise less than £1m - paid for through Oxfordshire residents' council tax.

While water companies own assets that ratepayers pay for. And while legal fees on both sides are paid for by ratepayers and council tax payers, there is little disincentive for water companies to keep trying their luck every few years.

In France I understand that the state owns the assets such as reservoirs. Private companies are employed by the state to run such assets. Is this not a better, fairer, more sensible system?

Richard Webber Cllr

Sutton Courtenay and Marcham Division

[Richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:Richardwebber777@gmail.com) or 01235 534001

## ED VAIZEY MP



This month I have met with Ministers in Westminster to discuss two important issues: railways and health care.

I met with Andrew Jones the Rail Minister, alongside his officials and Network Rail and Great Western. The Minister and I led discussions focussing on improvements along the Great Western Railway line, the potential for reopening Grove Station as part of a strategic project to develop commuter stations between Oxford and Bristol, and improved connectivity between Heathrow Airport and stations to the west, so one might travel direct to Heathrow from Reading for example rather than having to go into London and then back out to Heathrow. I will be looking at the East West Rail scheme and the Cotswold Line Promotion Group for inspiration in how to build a business case for improvements to commuter services between Oxford & Bristol and hope that colleagues in Parliament with stations along that route might join me.

I also met with Health Minister Caroline Dinenage. Alongside colleagues from Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Oxford Health and Vale of White Horse District Council the Minister and I led discussions on how we could improve Primary Care provision in the constituency. We discussed the ongoing situation in Wantage as well as our plans to develop new health hubs, both at an

improved Health Centre in Wantage and plans for a new health hub in Didcot

In the constituency I have met with a number of residents and local businesses this month, including meeting with GPs in Wantage, The Thames Valley Police Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner, Residents of Alfredston Place in Wantage who are receiving poor service from their managing agent, and a visit to the Environmental Education Centre in Sutton Courtenay hosted by the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust. I was also delighted to join local charity Mission Motorsport at Royal Hospital Chelsea to celebrate the launch of their new initiative Mission Automotive.

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](mailto:dicksonce@parliament.uk) or 01235 768 888. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to get in touch, as I keep a very close eye on my emails and can reply very quickly. Details of my activities in Parliament can be read on my website, <https://www.vaizey.com>. I also send out occasional general interest emails about developments in the Wantage and Didcot Constituency. You can sign up here: <http://bit.ly/EdVaizeyMP>.

# FLEXICARE ANNUAL COMMUNITY WALK

Flexicare is a small local charity that provides free, specialised babysitting for families with a severely disabled child. Flexicare operates within a ten-mile distance of Oxford city centre plus Wantage and Grove. This means we serve Abingdon, Drayon, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon. Flexicare has been providing this service for over 30 years, it couldn't work without the help of volunteers, some of whom have been with us since the very early days. We provide all volunteers with the training they need to help our families and we always need more!

Not only is Flexicare unique in being a needs-led community-based service, it also looks after siblings under 14 as well. If this means putting in more than one sitter, so be it. Our families use Flexicare for all kinds of reasons: one-on-one time with siblings, nights out with friends, dental appointments, yoga classes, a quiet cup of coffee. Registered children remain with Flexicare until their 18th birthday, or until they no longer meet criteria for services.

Give us a call (on 01865 321881 or 07342 041388) or send us

an email: [admin@flexicare.org](mailto:admin@flexicare.org) if you'd like to know more, volunteer or refer a family.

## Annual Community Walk....

We have discovered that Snells Hall at East Hendred is a particularly popular venue and we will be walking and running from there on Sunday 12 May. We provide a number of 5 mile routes and a ten mile route, together with a wheelchair/buggy friendly stroll around the village. We encourage runners to start at 8am and if we know you are coming, we'll have bacon rolls ready for your return. For walkers, registration is between 9am and 10am. There will be a refreshment tent on the Ridgeway at the Scutchamer Knob carpark (with 2 opportunities to visit for those doing the ten mile loop) and lunch for all walkers on their return to Snells Hall. Sign up to save time on the day at [www.flexicare.org](http://www.flexicare.org) or just come along. This is a very friendly family event, always much enjoyed.

Jayne Castle (Co-ordinator)

## LETTER TO THE EDITORS

### Fly Posting

As we brace ourselves for the annual influx of Culham Summer Fair posters once more (some of which, last year, were in place for up to 3 months), how do we deter the growing practice of unofficial flyposting on street furniture and trees in Sutton Courtenay? It may help if villagers set an example. A4 posters regularly appear on posts in Appleford road, for example, which are illegible to passing motorists and only serve to clutter

the street scene. Even official notices, such as those relating to planning or highway temporary information, frequently remain well beyond their required period. Larger, well presented, boards can serve a purpose in informing the community if they appear for a short period. As for other material, let's do what we can to prevent our streets appearing like a poster site.

Fred Cabbage (address provided)

## STAY AND PLAY



### Sutton Courtenay Stay and Play Group

Thank you to everyone who has supported the group over the last 18 months - we've really enjoyed meeting you and hope your babies and toddlers have enjoyed the fun and games at our group.

Wednesday 3rd April will be our last group meeting at the village hall (0930-1130).

We hope the group will start up again after the Easter holidays but unfortunately we couldn't confirm this before Sutton Courtenay News went to press.

Please keep an eye on our **Facebook page** ([@SCstayandplay](https://www.facebook.com/SCstayandplay)) to find out the latest news!



Editors' note: these pictures are provided by the Stay and Play Group - many thanks to the individual artists, whose names we don't know!





## NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION GROUP5 (NAG5) SAFETY CORNER



### Investment scams

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is warning people aged 55 and above to take the time to check that investment 'opportunities' are legitimate before handing over their money. On average victims of investment fraud each lost £32,000 last year, with a fifth of over 55s and

a third of over 75s believe that they've been targeted by an investment scam in the past five years. The FCA Warning List <https://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart/warning-list> is an interactive tool to check for firms that the FCA knows are operating without its authorisation. If you don't have online access consider asking a trusted family member to do this for you, or get professional advice. FCA advice to avoid being a victim of investment fraud is to:

- Reject unsolicited contact about investments.
- Before investing check the FCA Register to see if the firm or individual you are dealing with is authorised, and also check the FCA Warning List of firms to avoid.
- Consider seeking professional, impartial, advice before investing.

### Shed and garage security

As a result of recent shed and garage break-ins the police have issued the following advice.

- Keep your shed/garage in good condition with a close shackled padlock fitted to the door.
- Fittings should be bolted through the door and any screws concealed - it's easy to unscrew the ironmongery, steal contents and, in some cases, replace the screws to make it look as if the shed hasn't been tampered with.
- By using tamper-proof screws or coach bolts, together with a good-quality pad bar or hasp and staple and close-shackled padlock the shed owner will make it harder for a would-be thief.
- Prevent easy removal of window glass by using mastic. Fit grilles or mesh to windows to slow down the thief.
- Ensure all equipment and tools are locked away when not in use. Ensure ladders are locked to a secure fixture in the shed or garage so that they can't be used to reach top-floor windows.
- Chain large items, such as bicycles, together to make it much more difficult for a thief to carry them away.
- Fit a wire cage inside the shed or garage, where more expensive items can be locked away.
- Post-code or mark all property such as lawnmowers, bikes and tools with ultra-violet pens, engravers or forensic marking such as Selecta DNA or SmartWater.
- Install a shed/garage alarm.
- Install security lighting as a deterrent and use plants such as thorny shrubs to act as a barrier at potential access points.
- When building a shed put it where it's most visible to you and neighbours.

### New 'brushing' scam

This type of fraud involves Amazon sellers setting up an

account in a stranger's name, then sending their products to the unsuspecting recipient. The account that's been set up is then used by the fraudster to write fake 'verified reviews' in an attempt to improve their seller ratings. If this happens to you it should be reported to Amazon and you should change your password and order a new credit card. It's likely that your personal information will be involved in a data breach. To check if this is the case visit <https://haveibeenpwned.com>, which is a website that tells you whether your data has been part of a breach. Identity theft is a serious threat. Once a criminal has access to your personal information they can do anything from opening an account in your name and running up debt, to using it to obtain copies of your official documents.

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

### **SUTTON COURTENAY PRODUCE SHOW**

This year the show will be on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September and the schedule will be in the May issue of the SC News as well as on the website – it will also be available at The Sutton Courtenay Community Showcase event on the Village Green on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

As well as the usual classes for children, we have again added a class for 12 to 18 years old for a piece of original craft work of metal, ceramic or wood and are hopeful that more young people will enter. The class for hand embroidery this year also includes both cross stitch and canvas work. This year all the children's classes are divided into two sections – ages 6 and under and ages 7 to 11.

The committee would welcome additional help with setting up the hall and also clearing away at the end. Any offers to 01235 848633 please.

The show is open to anyone and you do not need to have exhibited before - we would love to see any of the new residents to the village taking part.

Val Dalby



## Sutton Courtenay Parish Council

### 11 Vacancies for Councillors

Elections take place Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## 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.

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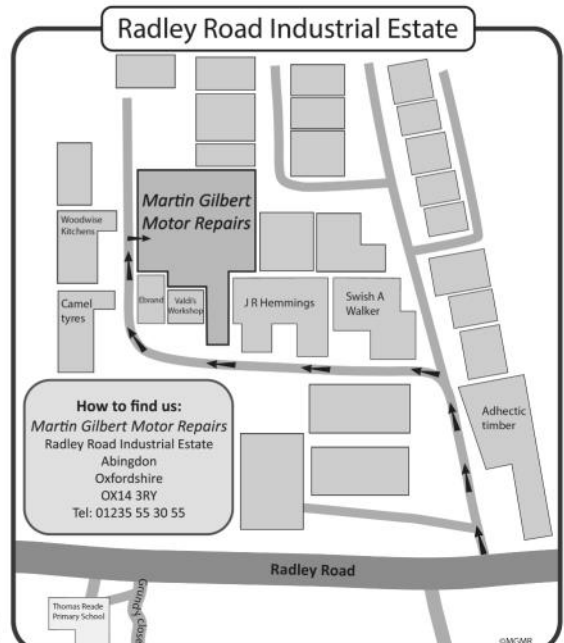
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