

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 49 No. 10

DECEMBER 2020/JANUARY 2021



The Sutton Courtenay News Editorial Team would like to wish all our readers, distributors, contributors and advertisers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We hope that the next edition of Sutton Courtenay News will be in February 2021 (see page 3 for further information).

THE COPY DEADLINE for that edition will be
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20TH.

VILLAGE CONTACTS

County Councillor: (Schools, Roads etc.)	Richard Webber, 534001 richardwebber777@gmail.com
District Councillor: (Planning, Waste etc.)	Richard Webber—as above
Parish Council Chairman	Michael Jenkins, 847174 msjenkins@msn.com
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Adrian Rouse, 07730 313384 adrian.j.rouse@gmail.com
Brownies	Mary steventonrainbows@gmail.com
Stay & Play Toddler Group	Facebook page: @SCstayandplay
Chairman, Friends of All Saints	Sue Jenkins 07885 437454
Matrix Music School	847264
The Abbey	847401
Cricket Club	drb71@hotmail.co.uk
Sutton Courtenay WI	Val Melville 847612
Nordic Walking Group	Graham Wells 847322
Churchmere Carp Syndicate	Roger Rance 847241
DAMASCUS Youth Project	848694
Sutton Courtenay Local History Society	Mary Thompson 848527 marydthompson@outlook.com www.sclhs.org.uk
SCIDS (Drama Society)	Morna Whitlock, 848335 morna28whitlock@gmail.com
All Saints Singers	Kathy Harrop-Griffiths, 848230 secretary@allsaintssingers.org allsaintssingers.org
Sutton Courtenay Action	suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com
Sutton Courtenay Forum	suttoncourtenayforum@gmail.com
Neighbourhood Watch	07762 597118 nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com
Non-urgent Police	101 or policing team email AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
Environment Agency:	Landfill Odours 0800 80 70 60
Thames Water (leaks):	0800 71 46 14
Power Cuts:	105
Websites:	
Sutton Courtenay News	www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk
Parish Council	www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk
Vale of White Horse DC	www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk
Oxfordshire CC	www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

SUTTON COURTENAY POST OFFICE

A wide range of key Post Office products & services are available at Hari & Esha News (Burgrey Stores) in the High Street. The opening hours are: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 08.00 – 18.00

Wed: 08.00 – 17.00

Sat: 08.30 – 13.00

Sun: 09.00 – 12.00



SUTTON COURTENAY DEFIBRILLATORS



THE VILLAGE HAS TWO DEFIBRILLATORS. ONE IS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE FRONT ROLLER DOORS OF SUTTON COURTENAY TYRES ON THE HIGH STREET. THE OTHER IS ANOTHER ONE IS OUTSIDE THE FISH, APPLEFORD ROAD. FULL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS ARE GIVEN AT THE TIME OF USE.



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

The Ministry Team

Rector: The Reverend Helen Kendrick

The Rectory, 3 Tullis Close, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4BD

Tel: 01235 848297, e-mail:

rector@damascusparish.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Karen Hyde

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

Associate Priest: The Reverend Rosie Bruce

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

Associate Priest: The Reverend Phil Sutton

01235 526114 or 07507

378737, revphil@damascusparish.org.uk

Associate Priest: The Reverend Meg Heywood

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

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

Authorised Preacher: Paul James (848129)

Churchwardens: Nicola Turner (01235 833938) or Hilary Otterburn (01235 834725)

Services of Worship

1st Sunday: Family Service at 10.30am

2nd Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 10.30am (with Junior Church)

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

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

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

Wednesdays: BCP Holy Communion at 9.45am

Due to Covid restrictions these times may change.

Please check with the church. See pages 8 & 9



SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS CONTACTS

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

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

All contributions for the next edition should be e-mailed to editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk or taken to Burgrey Stores before the copy date entered in the Diary above. To have any contribution published you must provide your name & contact details to the editors.

To advertise, email advertising@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk or telephone 07761 375991

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

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



Appleford Road planning appeal

We mentioned last month that we awaited the outcome of this appeal on the application for 93 houses on Appleford Road. We have now

been informed that this appeal was rejected on various grounds, and the application will not be progressed. The Parish Council employed a professional consultant to make a statement on its behalf regarding the impact of the development on the village and a number of residents also participated.

Recreation Ground questionnaire

We would ask all residents to complete the questionnaire on the recreation ground which was included in the November issue of the Sutton Courtenay News. Completed questionnaires should be returned by 15th December after which the results will be collated and will be used to assist in what changes may be made to the recreation ground. The questionnaires can be returned to various locations in the village as detailed in the newsletter or can be returned directly to the clerk at the below address. Should you wish to complete the questionnaire electronically, please do email the clerk on info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk and an emailed version can be sent for completion and return.

Proposed Radcot Green development

Following the meeting with FCC in October, the Parish Council are awaiting responses to various questions raised by both residents and councillors during the meeting. The Parish Council will continue to press FCC for updates and meetings in which concerns can be raised.

Footpaths around Sutton Courtenay

The Parish Council continues to press Oxfordshire County Council in respect of the state of many of the footpaths around

the village. The Council have also met with representatives from FCC regarding footpaths which cross their land and some work has already taken place to improve the quality of the same. A further meeting will take place in December to discuss matters going forward.

Recreation Ground Litter Pick

The Parish Council would like to thank the Abingdon Damascus Youth Project for arranging and carrying out a litter pick of the recreation ground during October half term. The litter pick took place in accordance with all Covid-19 regulations which were in force at the time and a huge thank you to all people who participated helping to keep the village looking great.

Parish Council Budget

The Council will meet on Tuesday 8th December 2020 to set the budget for the financial year 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022. This year's meeting will take place virtually and should you wish to join the meeting please contact the clerk (details below) and you will be sent the link prior to the meeting.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 1st December 2020 at 7.15pm virtually, via Zoom Meetings

For further details and log in information, please contact the clerk.

Clerk: Helen Savery, 10 Sovereign Place, Wallingford

Email: info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk

Telephone: 01236 364211

SUTTON COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

**THE VILLAGE HALL WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR BOOKINGS SUBJECT
TO ANY GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE/
RESTRICTIONS THAT MAY APPLY
FROM TIME TO TIME**

To find out more or to make a booking

Please email scvillagehallbookings@googlegmail.com or

phone Rita Atkinson, Secretary, 01235 848694

'Stay alert, control the virus, and in doing so, save lives'

In accordance with government rules, the Village Hall Management Trustees have prepared risk assessments, guidance and new conditions of hire for users. These are being kept under constant review as the pandemic progresses and government guidance changes. They may change from time to time and at short notice.

FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

SCN EDITORIAL VACANCIES

Thank you to those readers who have expressed an interest in taking over editing Sutton Courtenay News.

We are hoping to arrange a meeting in early December (as soon as lockdown is over but via Zoom if lockdown lasts longer) for everyone to meet and discuss what is involved in further detail.

There are still vacancies on the Editorial Team. If anyone else is still interested please contact Diane or Clare – the more the merrier! If you would like to be involved but don't wish to edit, there are other admin roles available too.



Being part of something bigger

November is a busy month for reaching out beyond the school. This year we have had to rethink the way we approach this due to the national lockdown. However, somehow it seems more important than ever to help children be aware of common stories that link people outside of the beyond environment. Last week, we reflected on the stories behind Bonfire Night and Diwali, and shared how people across the world enjoy festivals related to light and darkness. This week, we have shared the stories behind Remembrance Sunday, and on a more contemporary note, the stories around the work that the Children In Need charity does and how it all started. All these things help to remind us that the things that make us human link us together, and never has it been more important to remember this than during a global pandemic!

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day felt very special this year. The week before we had recorded some of the older children reading prayers which were included in the virtual service broadcast via YouTube. Early in the morning of Wednesday 11th, I took a group of children down to the memorial. We were met by Reverend Helen who led us in prayers while we placed our wreath. I filmed this, and then all classes were able to show this just before eleven o'clock. After watching the video, all classes held a two minutes silence followed by a recording of The Last Post. I had the huge privilege of being able to 'walk the school' during the silence. It was deeply impressive to see such young children showing so much discipline and respect. There was not a sound and then as the trumpet echoed through the corridors it was extremely moving.



Children In Need Day!

Children were invited to come to school with spots! Some chose face paint and others went for a whole outfit. We also held a bucket collection at the beginning and end of school. At half past nine in the morning a group of three brave Falcons were interviewed on BBC



Radio Oxford. We were

so proud of the way they confidently spoke about what we have been doing and why they felt it was important to remember the stories behind Children In Need and the good work it does as a charity.



We need a new fence!

We have heard this week that our application to the national Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) to upgrade our perimeter fence has been turned down again at the appeal stage. To improve our perimeter fence to a suitable standard (it's a long way round and it needs to be very robust) will cost around £70-80,000. Obviously we cannot do this out of the normal school budget so we have to apply for the grant. It has come as a surprise to everyone involved that we were turned down as this is so obviously a safety and safeguarding issue. The children and I have therefore decided to take this further. They will be writing letters and we have invited the BBC to come and report on the matter. Watch this space!



Headteacher **Ms Rachel Hornsey**

Assistant Headteachers **Lisa Knight and Louise Potter**

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

Telephone 01235 848333

Need A (CHRISTMAS) Mask?



WE NOW HAVE CHRISTMAS THEMED MASKS & MASKS IN DARK COLOURS

Volunteers in the village continue to make and distribute reusable non medical face masks free of charge to residents of the village. Although cheap disposable masks are now widely available they end up in landfill at best. Reusable, washable, masks are preferred, many 100% cotton and bio degradable, so please save your money protect the environment and request a free mask from scfacemask@gmail.com.

The masks are even delivered to your door free of charge. For those wishing to make a donation, our group has been closely supported by the Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project and a donation to this charity would be very much appreciated, [https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/12999#!/DonationDetails](https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/12999#!/).

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

Our team have once again had an eventful few weeks with all the government guideline changes and the new lockdown announcement. With October of course comes half term and inevitably Halloween! In Sutton Courtenay the team were out delivering the Pumpkin Trail posters for families to safely walk around the village and find without having to knock on doors. Those that returned their trail form have been entered into a raffle and a winner will be announced!

The IWill group have been out researching other parks to develop ideas to approach the parish council to update the local play areas and make them teen friendly too.

During the Half Term week the staff, volunteers and young people held a litter picking event on the recreation ground collecting plenty of wrappers, alcohol containers and face masks in the process! We have received some fantastic feedback from a local member of the public - "Just to say who ever organised the cleaning up of the car park deserves recognition . Twelve full litter bags, and not a piece of litter left in the car park or surrounding area. As someone who loves our village this is an outstanding example of how much more welcoming a well maintained public area can be." Sadly due to the weather we couldn't get any pictures.

As we approach the second lockdown we are busy planning how we as a project can continue to work and engage with young people so stay tuned to our social media to keep up to date. If anyone needs support please do get in touch the team, details are below.

The ADYP Team – Roxy Elford, Jake Fleetwood and James Quartermain

Do contact any of us on

jamesq.ycat@gmail.com

jakef.ycat@gmail.com

roxy.ycat@gmail.com

Tel: 01235 848694 or 07875649008



Jake Damascus, Roxy Damascus, James Damascus



Jake_Damascus; James_Damascus; Roxy_Damascus

YouTube - The Abingdon Damascus Youth Project

Website - www.damascusyouthproject.org.uk

A one-year

Part-time trainee post

EMPLOYER: The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project (Registered Charity 1098966)

We believe strongly in developing inclusive, vibrant and sustainable communities in which young people have opportunities to be significant contributors. An important part of this vision is recruiting staff who have the passion to make a positive difference to young people and their communities. If you are supportive, young-people-focused and share our commitment we would like to hear from you. Previous relevant experience in youth and community work essential.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and we expect all volunteers and staff to share this commitment and undergo appropriate checks and training and provide references.

CONTACT: For more information please contact

rita.atkinson@googlemail.com or anne.whitehead284@gmail.com. If you are unable to access the internet, please telephone 01235 848694 or 07846663010

DEADLINE: Friday 18th December 2020. Start Date: 1st January 2021.

DAMASCUS Youth project is also supported, locally, by the Parish Councils of Drayton, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon

EDITORS' NOTE

We were delighted to attend the Youth Project's AGM on 9th November. We heard from Roxy, Jake and James about the inspiring work that is continuing to be done and the initiatives suggested by the young people themselves to help the elderly during this summer's lockdown including the outdoor bingo and the activity boxes. These have been much appreciated as the letters of thanks published in previous editions have shown.

We wish them all continued success in 2021.



N.B. Information correct at the time of writing, in mid-November.

Sutton Courtenay Covid-19 volunteers

Through November the volunteer group once again helped residents with shopping etc., and will continue to do so should restrictions continue. Please contact Emily Madge, Co-ordinator of the group, if you'd like to be put in touch with a volunteer. Contact Emily by calling 07707 779642, or email suttoncourtenayc19@gmail.com.

Other sources of support (food banks and finances)

VOWH Council can help if you're struggling with living costs. Call 01235 422600 or complete the online form at <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/coronavirus-community-support/support-for-people-who-need-help>. Citizen's Advice can help with food bank vouchers by calling 0300 330 904. If you're in financial crisis you can speak to a Citizen's Advice adviser in confidence by calling 0808 2082138 (free) between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

The Silver Line

This free, confidential, helpline provides information, friendship and advice to people aged 55 and above and is open 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Call the specially trained Helpline team on 0800 4 790 80 90 for:

- Conversation and friendship.
- Information and advice.
- Links to local groups and services.
- Setting up regular friendship calls.
- Protection and support for older people who are suffering abuse and neglect.

Scam warnings

Action Fraud has warned about fake PayPal accounts, where criminals trick online sellers into believing that payment for their items has been received and they're safe to send the items to the (criminal) purchaser. There are a myriad of scams purporting to be from GOV.UK and other government agencies. Be very cautious, as these emails look completely genuine. Check the sender's email address, that the grammar and spelling are correct, as these can be give-aways. If you receive a suspicious email forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk

Could you, or someone you know, be eligible for a free gas connection and central heating?

Heating a home with electricity is three times more expensive than with a gas central heating system, forcing many people to make the difficult choice between heating or eating to survive. SGN's Help to Heat scheme can support people struggling to make ends meet, by providing funding to connect some households to the gas network for free. In some cases they can also fully, or partially, fund a gas central heating system.

You, or someone you know, would qualify if you/they receive certain income-related benefits.

- If your household income, after rent or mortgage costs, is considered low, and the expected cost to adequately heat your home is high.
- If you are eligible under your local authority's unique criteria, known as its 'statement of intent'. This will include income and may also include health conditions and/or your home's energy efficiency rating.

To find out more about the Help to Heat Scheme visit <https://sgn.co.uk/HelpToHeat> or call YES Energy Solutions on 0800 015 5174 to speak to a Help to Heat advisor. You can also email the team at HelpToHeat@sgn.co.uk with your name and contact details.

CONTACTING THE POLICE

The police request that you should only call 999 in an emergency and 101 if it's urgent. If possible, please use the online reporting services at www.thamesvalley.police.uk

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



COVID, Lockdown, and Vaccines.

With the news that a vaccine or vaccines may be closer than we thought, it is very tempting for us all to take our foot off the caution pedal, but there remain many immediate threats which have to be addressed before we can indulge in mass celebrations. Our own Oxfordshire data suggests that the problem has moved away from the behaviour of the young to the behaviour of older people. It is the tendency of them (or perhaps I should say “us”) to want to get together with friends and family in our houses and gardens that seems to be the source of local spread of COVID-19. The second national lockdown gives us a window to get the figures under control. There are signs that the rate of increase is slowing, but we need it to flatten (or get the “r” number below 1). All of us our feeling anxious to see friends and family but if we are to get together at Christmas and/or as soon as possible in the new year, the health message is clear. We owe it to friends, family and each other to accept it.

Information overload?

In the meantime, the local community COVID groups continue to perform a vital function in looking after people of all ages, ensuring everyone is fed, has access to medicines and advice on where to go for specialist help. Given the hundreds of contact names and numbers and the detailed pages of instructions and guidelines from government and Councils, it would be easy to get lost in the plethora of well-meaning advice.

The simple message is that the local Community Group are the ones who can point us at any advice or help that may be needed.

Roadworks and congestion

One of the predictable outcomes of the Drayton Neighbourhood Plan was that the ambitions to improve road safety in the village would wind up with a period of traffic bedlam and hold-ups while improvements are carried out. Anyone driving through the village recently will have been held up outside the development

in the village centre. It was unfortunate that it has taken three attempts for the developer to get it to the correct design in the right place. However, the work is now done and the result is a “table” that should act as a traffic calming device. Given the ambition to have at least two similar tables elsewhere on Drayton’s roads in the next two years, we probably need a year to recover from the frustration that roadworks cause, before the next table is constructed!

One consequence of all the development in and around Drayton, Marcham, Milton and Sutton Courtenay is that services have to be upgraded – particularly water and sewage services – and this also involves temporary roadworks which can wreak havoc with local congestion and threaten local businesses already hard-pressed by COVID.

Appleford Road Appeal – battle won but the war rages on.

Most of us involved with this Appeal were delighted with the decision of the planning inspector to dismiss the appeal. As a result, the immediate threat of another 90 houses on the edge of Sutton Courtenay has gone. Interestingly, the reasons for the decision centred much more on the siting of the proposed development and that the site was not in the VWHDC Local Plan than on the traffic argument. The decision comes as an enormous relief to the residents of Appleford Road. No one is certain of the implications for other applications or how the Vale planners and the County Highways officers will approach them. The Appleford Road battle is won, but the War of Cumulative Impact continues.

Richard Webber Cllr OCC/VWHDC

richardwebber777@gmail.com

01235 534001

DAVID JOHNSTON MP



I was pleased to hold my first adjournment debate, where a backbench MP can raise any issue and require a minister to respond, in the House of Commons recently. My subject was safety and littering on the A420 and the A34 and I laid out in detail the safety problems we know exist on both roads. In

the last 6 years there have been 1057 accidents on the total stretch of the A420 and 2593 on the A34; these are just the ones that involved injury to people – it doesn’t include the accidents involving vehicle damage alone. I also wanted to raise litter issues as I regularly receive complaints about that, too. I will now sit down with the relevant minister to discuss how to improve both matters on both roads.

I took the opportunity to get in yet another plug for my bid for Grove Station, which the ministers at the Department are very used to be raising! I was pleased to hear there should be a decision soon about whether we will get money to explore how it could reopen. You can watch the debate on my Facebook page. In other transport news, the Government has just given the County another £3 million for cycle paths and footpaths.

Like I’m sure most of you, I did not want to be in another lockdown now. As some of you will know, the Oxfordshire

Conservative MPs had not supported the request of Council Leaders for us to go into Tier 2 in October as we felt it was premature and would have a detrimental effect on mental health, other health conditions and on our local businesses. The cases in Oxfordshire remain much lower than in other parts of the country and I hoping this will be the final lockdown and we can re-emerge into Tier 1, rather than Tier 2, but as always it will be the analysis of the Chief Medical Officer and Joint Biosecurity Centre that is crucial here.

The thoughts of all of us are of course on whether we will get to see our families in the way we like to at Christmas. I know the Prime Minister and the rest of the Government are keen that we will get to and I am hopeful this will be the case. The Government has set a window for university students to return home in time and is currently exploring what can safely be allowed. I think this may be my last message before it, so Merry Christmas when it arrives.

David Johnston OBE MP

Member of Parliament for Wantage

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

hattie.turner@parliament.uk

Telephone: 020 7219 6350



St Peter's, Drayton
St Peter & St Paul, Appleford
St Blaise, Milton
All Saints', Sutton Courtenay
St Michael and All Angels, Stevenston

From the Ministry Team...

Despite what you might have heard, Christmas has not been cancelled this year! Whether or not we are able to gather for worship, Christians in the DAMASCUS Parish and all over the world will celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, God with us. As I write we are in lockdown once again, although hopefully it will end as intended early in December. But the restrictions do make planning for Christmas quite difficult, for churches as much as for everyone else, and somethings (such as the Torchlight Procession in Sutton Courtenay) will not be possible this year. As I think about the next few weeks, the great Advent themes of darkness and light seem especially relevant. 2020 has felt particularly dark. Most of us have had moments of anxiety and uncertainty about the future. For some there has been fear and sorrow. Others have experienced illness and loss. All of us have endured unprecedented restrictions, limiting our physical contact with those we love and forcing us to keep our distance from each other. But despite all this, there have also been moments of light in the darkness. Many of us have been spending more time with our families. We have become more aware of what is really important to us. There has been great humour and forbearance. We have risen to the challenges that have confronted us. As a community, we have been looking out for those in particular need. We have been wearing masks, not for our own benefit, but to keep other people safe. The great Christmas Gospel tells us that 'the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it' (John 1.5). We don't know the actual date on which Jesus was born. It is just possible that early Christians took over the pagan festival of Sol Invictus. But it is very appropriate that we celebrate Christmas in the middle of winter, when the weather is coldest and the nights are longest. By a cosmic coincidence, on the longest night of this year, 21 December, there will be a rare 'great conjunction' between Jupiter and Saturn. Viewed from Earth, the two planets will appear very close together: just a tenth of a degree apart. It will be their closest conjunction since 1623. The two heavenly lights will almost converge, becoming a single light shining with exceptional brightness. Many people think that the 'star' the Magi followed to Bethlehem might have been a planetary conjunction, or perhaps a comet. Abraham, the ancestor of God's chosen people, was promised descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven (Genesis 15.1-6). The familiar lights in the heavens became for him a sign of hope and trust in God. When you look up at the night sky on 21 December, the light from Jupiter will have taken about 50 minutes to reach you, and the light from Saturn about 85 minutes. The three stars of Orion's belt are over 1200 light years away. The Andromeda galaxy, the furthest object visible with the naked eye, is 2.5 million light years distant. Celestial distances are mind-boggling. Space is very dark. But the light of the stars still reaches us, bringing hope and joy to those who look up and see it. The light shines in the darkness. We may be socially distanced, but God, 'through whom all things came into being' (John 1.3) is with us. The American theologian and civil rights leader, Howard Thurman, wrote this poem about lights in the darkness: I will light Candles this Christmas, Candles of joy despite all the sadness, Candles of hope where despair keeps watch, Candles of courage for fears

ever present, Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days, Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens, Candles of love to inspire all my living, Candles that will burn all year long. When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among others, To make music in the heart." Though the Christmas Trail this year in Sutton Courtenay we are hoping as many people as possible will display part or all of the Christmas Story in their garden or in their window. It might be something as simple as a Christmas Card with a Nativity Scene or it might be a full host of angels in the garden! The idea is to witness to God with us even in this difficult time – the light shining in the darkness. With love and prayers, Helen.

YOU STAY – WE PRAY!

All Saints' Church (part of The DAMASCUS Parish) prays on a weekly basis for all Sutton Courtenay residents who live and work in each road. In a 26-week Rota, everywhere is prayed for twice in each calendar year. As roads are of different lengths, some will be prayed for twice (on consecutive weeks) and some for three weeks. The Rector prays for all the village and of course we can all remember each specific area day by day.

At this time of Lock-Down, social distancing and even sometimes self-isolation, if you feel the need for special prayers and support, please contact the Parish Administrator on 01235 848297 or admin@damascusparish.org.uk. Our Church remains open for individual prayer but is closed for Services during Lock-Down, after which it will be subject to any new Covid-19 restrictions. Please contact the Parish Office for up-to-date details.

In December 2020 & January 2021 we will pray for those who live and work as follows –

Sunday 6 December to Saturday 12 December – Barretts Way, Churchmere Road

Sunday 13 December to Saturday 2 January 2021 – Bradstocks Way

Sunday 3 January to Saturday 9 January – Church Street, Mill Lane

Sunday 10 January to Saturday 16 January – Courtenay Close, Drayton Road

Sunday 17 January to Saturday 23 January – Frilsham Street, Hillyard Barns, Long Barns

Sunday 24 Jan to Sat 6 February – Harwell Rd, Southfield Drive, The Green, Ginge Brook

REST IN PEACE

Russell Graham Montague who died on 25th October 2020. The funeral was held in All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay on 12th November 2020, conducted by the Reverend Helen Kendrick and attended by family and friends and a Scottish Piper who piped Russell in and out of the church.

Please see Page 14 for a tribute

Thank you to those who came to the Act of Remembrance in All Saints' Churchyard on Remembrance Sunday. £233.50 was donated for the RBL Poppy Appeal.

Community Café in the River Room

At the time of going to print we do not know what will be possible by the next date for Community Café so we have decided to stay on zoom for now:

Thursday 10th December 2020 10:30am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86215690403?pwd=NFVjZjQ1bEhidDg2TWY4N2JING9GQT09>

Meeting ID: 862 1569 0403

Passcode: 205281

Please ring the parish office 01235 847179 if you would like the link emailed to you.

Memory Tree in All Saints', Sutton Courtenay



Throughout December 2020 a Memory Tree will be in All Saints' Church. You are invited to record the name of anyone you love who has died on a paper heart (provided) and to attach it to the tree. Please observe the COVID-19 guidelines: Wear a facemask whilst in the church building; Use hand sanitizer on entering and leaving; Keep 2m distance from others. Bring your own pen with which to write!

JIGSAWS & BOOKS!

Thanks to a generous donation we now have a selection of jigsaws available, alongside our bookstall, at the back of church. You are welcome to come and borrow books or jigsaws to help you through lockdown and beyond. If you wish to make a donation then the wall safe is on the left of the main door. The church is open during daylight hours.

Covid-19 restrictions permitting Helen will be on sabbatical from 26th December until 11th April. If you need the services of a priest during this time please contact the Parish Office on 01235 847179 or any member of the Ministry Team.

Thank you.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS

Because of the COVID-19 restrictions we have had to review and risk assess all the services and events which the church is responsible for organising in the community. This is what we hope to be able to offer:

Sunday 6th December

10:30 Family Service for Advent

Saturday 19th December

(from 9:30) Sheep-Bombing around the Village

Find a Lost Sheep and bring it to the stable in All Saints' Churchyard by 15:00 Christmas Eve

15:00 Carol Service OR

18:00 Carol Service

NB Please 'phone the Parish Office on 01235 847179 to advise which carol service you wish to attend so that we can welcome you safely.

Sunday 20th December

10:30 Morning Worship

18:00 "The Longest Night"

A short service of reflection for those who find the jollity of the Christmas season painful because of loss or bereavement

Plus the pre-recorded DAMASCUS Parish Nine Lessons and Carols available via www.damascusparish.org.uk

CHRISTMAS EVE

15:00 Open Air Crib Service in the Churchyard

The Torchlight Procession is CANCELLED for 2020. *However we are still hoping to raise money for Oxfordshire Mind and the Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project through our Christmas Trail.*

See advert for details.

23:30 Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:15 Family Eucharist OR

11:00 Family Eucharist

NB Please 'phone the Parish Office on 01235 847179 to advise which service you wish to attend so that we can welcome you safely.

Sunday 27th December

10:30 Holy Communion

Online services available via www.damascusparish.org.uk

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Thanks to a very generous anonymous donation, from someone who simply wants to give back to the community, we are planning to make up Christmas Hampers for distribution around Sutton Courtenay in the week before Christmas. If you know of an individual or a family who would appreciate a gift of a hamper then please let us know their name and address and we will ensure a hamper is delivered to them in the week before Christmas.

Please email admin@damascusparish.org.uk or 'phone 01235 847179 by 19th December 2020.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

CHRISTMAS STORY TRAIL



In Sutton Courtenay
19th December - 2nd January 2021
To raise funds for Oxfordshire Mind and the
Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

For a £3 donation, you are invited to:

Create a Christmas Story Scene (eg a flock of
sheep / a heavenly host / baby in a manger /
wise men and a camel)

Display it in your front garden or window

If you are unable to make a display yourself but would
like to take part please let us know as we can find
someone to help.

Trail Sheets will be available nearer the time - with
prizes!

For more details and to enter please email:

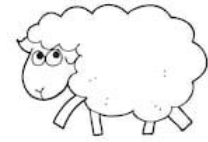
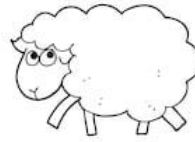
sctrail@yahoo.com

or contact the Parish Office
on 01235 847179

Deadline for entry is 12th December 2020

Thank you to Hannah Knowles and her amazing team for
taking on the organisation of this event

KNITTERS NEEDED FOR WOOLLY SHEEP!



This Christmas, due to COVID-19, we are unable to celebrate
as we might wish. But there are still things we can do. To
help us with one of our ideas we need knitters to knit as many
woolly sheep as possible. If you could help please phone
01235 847179 and we can deliver a knitting pattern to you.
The completed sheep will need to be shepherded to the Parish
Office by **SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER**. You can use any old
wool – and if you need supplies let us know and we will get
you some. Thank you!

Helen - 01235 847179

*You will then need to look out for the sheep which will be appearing
in the village from Saturday 19th December!*

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



THE FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS



**LAST OPPORTUNITY TO ENTER WHAT IS PROBABLY
OXFORDSHIRE'S BEST ONLINE VIRTUAL QUIZ VIA
ZOOM PLAYING FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR
OWN ARMCHAIR.**

**Enter as an individual or as a team of 6-8 people. Individuals will be
randomly placed in a team by the quiz master.**



Saturday 12th December 7.30 - 9.00pm



cost £2.50 per person

**ENTRIES : Please email: friendsofallsaintssc@yahoo.com for an
application form. The numbers will be limited so will be selected in
order of entry. There will be a Prize for the winners**

Everyone welcome!

We will also be holding a Yuletide Raffle:

1st Prize A weekend stay at Center Parc Longleat for a family of 4

2nd A Christmas Hamper (Value £50)

3rd A meal at a local Restaurant for 2 people

**+ many other prizes. email friendsofallsaintssc@yahoo.com for tickets @ £1
per ticket or £5 per book. Draw will be held on 12th December 2020**

* The Friends of All Saints' is an independent charity that has been in existence for over 30 years to assist
with the preservation and upkeep of the Grade I listed church in Sutton Courtenay.
Contact Sue Jenkins (Chairman) 07885 437454

CHURCHMERE POOL CARP SYNDICATE



Well it's nearly the end of the year, and the next SCN will not hit the street until February at the earliest. What a horrid year it has been in so many ways, never sure whether to open or to close the fishery. What with covid restrictions, and the fish having two spawning sessions in intervals that we could not fish. Then to cap it all the water fell foul of its own virus KHV, quite a few fisheries in the area were hit, so it would appear inevitable with transmission through many avenues, again we had to close for a number of weeks.

In spite of these setbacks, a number of good size healthy fish are putting in an appearance, and our committed anglers have braved some hideous climatic histrionics, no such thing as bad weather only poor preparation.

The pen swan and her signet have returned from vacation and we anglers can only look forward to a new and better dawn in 2021. So, from all of us at Churchmere Pool, tight lines a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

Roger Rance.

SUTTON COURTENAY NORDIC WALKING

Hopefully I will still be able to instruct during this month, for anyone wishing to learn the basic technique of how to use the poles and method of walking that defines Nordic Walking from all other types of movement.

This will take approx. an hour on a 1 to 1 lesson on the Sutton Courtenay Recreation Ground.

Please contact me at graymar.wells@btopenworld.com to book. All lessons and use of poles are completely free. I am British Nordic Walking, and INWA International Nordic Walking qualified.

The Sutton Courtenay Group started in Sept 2018 and since then some 80 plus people have learnt, a lot are from our village, but others come from far and wide in the County of Oxfordshire and have enjoyed two free walks each week since. If needed I can supply a brand new set of Decathlon Adjustable Poles at cost which is £21. Anyone in your family can use as the height is adjustable. (Most of our walkers use these).

Charlotte Storrs Stoneware Pottery Garden Gallery



Open from 24 October to 18 December, by appointment only



The Pottery, 8 The Green, Culham
pots@charlottestorrs-stoneware.co.uk
www.charlottestorrs-stoneware.co.uk





We provide fun, friendship, and challenge

Hello from Beavers, Cubs & Scouts



The Lockdown 2.0 has changed our plans and we are back to the virtual world. We were unable to meet at the annual ceremony at the war memorial and in the church but we still managed to find a way to remember our heroes in using digital world.



Christmas post by Scouts

Our members will be delivering your Christmas cards in Sutton Courtenay for only 20p per card. Take this opportunity to send a card to your friends and support our young people. The collection boxes will in All Saints' Church and Richard Mathews Florist between 1st and 20th December. More information can be found on the posters around the village and inside Sutton Courtenay News.

We are looking for new members

Our young people are growing up and moving to the older sections and therefore we have available spaces in Beavers (6-8

years old) and Cubs (8-10 years old). If you are a boy or a girl who likes nature, games and learning about the world in a fun way, come and join one of our sections.

Email us for more information on 26thAbingdon@gmail.com.

Marquee hire

Our Scouts group has marquee to hire locally. Our marquee can be set either as 40'x20' or smaller size 20'20'.

For information about the hire please use the contact above.

CHRISTMAS POST

By 26th Sutton Courtenay Scouts

What?
Christmas cards delivery in Sutton Courtenay village only

When?
1st December - 20th December
(delivered by Christmas Eve)

Where?
Postboxes are available in All Saints' Church and Richard Mathews Florist (both during opening hours)

How much?
Only 20p per letter

How?
Place your card with name, FULL ADDRESS and POSTCODE into one of our letterboxes together with the payment.

MORE MEMORIES OF VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

I was very interested to read the article in last month's newsletter sent in by Jonathan Blinman. It brought back so many memories.

I lived a few doors from Jonathan and yes we were super excited to see so many parachutes. One soldier broke a leg when he landed on the roof of an outhouse opposite the shop which is now the Post Office.

The party was held outside 110 & 112 High Street. I remember somebody that made a cake which was decorated like a Union Jack. An Army lorry stopped and it was full of soldiers in the back. To our delight they threw pennies at us.

I have a small black and white photograph of 15 children which was taken on the grass opposite the shop.

Back row – Jonathan Blinman, Reggie Lacey, Ray Mason, Stanley Lacey & John Lacey

Next row – Graham Lacey, Joan Carter, Joyce Tinson (now Rayner), not sure of the boy's name, me then Pat Burton, Paulene Amphlett, Pauline Clargo (whose mother kept the Plough) & David Brown

Front row – Christine Allen & Jane Lacey (now Walsh)

Pat Steptoe



SUTTON COURTENAY HISTORY SOCIETY



During the past months the History Society has been unable to meet due to the impact of the coronavirus. In the present circumstances it is impossible to predict when we will be able to hold meetings again, but hopefully there will be better times in the not too distant future. In the meantime a reminder about our website, sclhs.org.uk. As well as information about the village's history, there are many photographs past and present of the village and the surrounding area to view which are often added to by the webmaster.

Mary Thompson

A VERY SHORT LETTER TO THE EDITORS

I used to print the SC News in the early days when it was produced on the old Gestetner duplicating machine.

Myself and Pete Dell used to duplicate sufficient copies for the entire village in the basement of the Taylor's house in Mill Lane!

Paul Francis
Harwell Road

Editors' note: Paul mentioned this fact to us in passing when he submitted his British Legion piece, and we thought it well worth mentioning to the wider readership of Sutton Courtenay News!



Thank you to Katharine Robertson for this month's cover photograph of the beautiful crib scene, which she has handmade, and to Shirley Rance for the photographs of the beautiful winter foliage.



Current Situation

The All Saints' Singers, who meet regularly in Sutton Courtenay to sing classical choral works, have been unable to meet physically because of Covid restrictions. We have also not been able to prepare for our usual concerts at Christmas and Easter.

Some of us have, however, been meeting to sing using Zoom. Our music director has been taking us through some lovely pieces, such as Brahms' 'How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place', Vivaldi's Credo RV 591 and Mendelssohn's Te Deum. We are planning more beautiful pieces next term to add to our repertoire.

Zoom, whilst not an ideal substitute for our usual weekly choir meetings, is our only alternative at present, as we are all keen to keep singing in readiness for the time when we can meet again.

Interested in joining us?

We are hoping to attract new choir members – there is always room and always a need for good voices. It is unlikely that we will be able to meet physically until September 2021, at the earliest, but anyone keen can join us on Zoom if they wish. We are running 10 sessions from 15th January for £32 from 7:15 to 8:30 on Friday evenings and newcomers can enjoy two free sessions as a taster.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING – ANYONE WELCOME

We are also planning three Christmas Zoom singing sessions for three weeks from 27th November at the cost of £10. These are open to anyone who would like to join us. They run from 7:15 to 8:30 pm on a Friday evening. We will be concentrating on Christmas carols from Carols for Choirs Vols. 1 and 2, so the songs will be familiar to a lot of you. Have no fear that anyone will criticise your voice – you will be muted and will be singing to yourself at home, but in the jovial company of others on Zoom. Please join us.

Any queries please contact:

Sandra at chairman@allsaintssingers.org or

Kathy at secretary@allsaintssingers.org

Website: <https://allsaintssingers.org>

REST IN PEACE

Russell Graham Montague who died on 25th October 2020, aged 89, was born on 19th July 1931 in Croydon to Phyllis Anne and William Edward Ernest Montague. He was the first of three children. The family moved to Cambridge for a few months for greater safety during the war and then to Edinburgh to avoid the Doodlebugs. It was his stay in this beautiful city that ignited his lifelong love of Scotland. On leaving school he gained a place at the first Technical College in England and this was the launchpad to his scientific career. In 1949 he joined the RAF. After leaving he concentrated on educational improvement, studying at night school for a myriad of scientific qualifications. The lure of flying manifested itself in Russell joining a flying club and qualifying for his private pilot's licence. Flying all over the UK and Europe, many times in an open cockpit, brought thrills and spills which would have terrified his parents had they known of his escapades. Furthering his career as an experimental physicist Russell moved first to Harwell Laboratory and then to Culham and it was there, in 1966, that Wendy and Russell were introduced by her brother John. Three years later they married and moved into their home in Tullis Close where they have lived ever since. They went on to have two daughters, Sarah and Fiona, and four grandchildren – Laruen, Rachel, Olivia and Bobby – of whom he was greatly fond and proud. Russell was renowned for his impeccable appearance – always in a jacket and a tie. He would even work on his Jag dressed like that and rarely

damaged his pristine appearance. Russell continued to work on lightning protection and pulse power until he took early retirement in 1992. He then established his own company in high voltage electrical engineering and he loved the freedom that running his own business gave him. In 2005 Russell suffered a life-threatening heart infection but despite his severely weakened heart he exercised back to reasonable health. Being married to a gym teacher kept him on his toes! Until very recently he enjoyed the stimulus of a small amount of consultancy work at Cobham Lightning Systems. He continued to enjoy reading in depth around his subject and his bedtime reading was on quantum physics and mechanics. For many years he was active at both the local and constituency level in politics and was treasurer and Standard Bearer for the British Legion. History was another of his great interests and he had a droll sense of humour, a passion for silly songs and was a great story teller too. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. The funeral was held in All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay on 12th November 2020, conducted by the Reverend Helen Kendrick and attended by family and friends and a Scottish Piper who piped Russell in and out of the church. *This is an edited extract of the tributes given at his funeral.*

It was wonderful to see how the village supported the 2020 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal despite all the limitations and restrictions in place. Alan Calver was the single highest collector in our area, having raised an amazing £806.79 from his drive! The Liberty poppy print masks raised £355 and the raffle raised £262, which alongside the Remembrance Sunday collection at All Saints church, brings the village to £1,657.29. Well done Sutton Courtenay! On behalf of the RBL, thank you so much.

Here's the article I sent to the Oxford Mail:

Alan Calver, 83, a long-time resident of Sutton Courtenay and ex-para has raised £806.79 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal from his drive! Alan, who has been a Poppy Appeal collector for 3 years, was determined not to let the restrictions stop him from supporting the Poppy Appeal this year.

He requested help from the village Poppy Appeal organiser Georgia Broome to set up a stand on his drive, in line with restrictions. And over the two weekends before lockdown, in the rain, he inspired the village to come out and get their poppies. He is the single highest collector in the Abingdon area, raising £806.79.

Clare Oldfield, Poppy Appeal organiser for Abingdon said: "As an ex-para, Alan has well and truly lived up to the motto, proving he really is "Ready for Anything". I am incredibly proud of him. It's clear he would have collected more than £1,000 if there hadn't been the lockdown meaning he had to lose a crucial weekend's collecting. My heartfelt thanks to him!"

In June, Alan raised £4,049 for NHS Charities Together by walking 21km in the village.

Georgia Broome



Royal British Legion - Steventon & District Branch

This year's commemoration of those who gave their lives in the service of their country in time of war had to be changed from the usual format due to the ongoing Covid pandemic. It was not possible for a service to be held at the War Memorial in Sutton Courtenay but the Act of Remembrance took place in the churchyard.

Some of you will remember when Sutton Courtenay had its own Legion branch and also had a Women's section. Sadly membership numbers dwindled and the branch had to amalgamate with Steventon. The Steventon & District branch now covers the villages of Sutton Courtenay, Steventon, Milton, Appleford and Drayton – in a similar way to the Damascus Parish.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Russell Montague recently and send our deepest sympathy to his family. Russell had been a great supporter of the Legion and had laid the wreath on behalf of the Legion at the Remembrance service here for many years. He had been Standard Bearer for the Sutton Courtenay branch and it was fitting that the branch standard was paraded for his funeral on 12th November.

Our Treasurer, Rodney Clewley, has recently retired after 18 years in post and Simon Tuke from Milton has been appointed in his place. We are very grateful for all Rod's work over the years on behalf of the Legion.

Louise O'Sullivan has joined the Committee as our Welfare Officer in place of Jenny Collier whom we are glad will remain on the Committee. If any former member of the armed forces requires help in any way the Legion is here to help wherever possible.

We hope to be able to enjoy a more normal year in 2021. Fundraising for the work of the Legion will continue and the Legion is grateful for the tremendous support that it receives from the village.

Paul Francis

Hon. Secretary – Steventon & District Royal British Legion

Tel: 07799 026 666 Email: francisoxo@aol.com



Want to see your business or services advertised here?

Please contact advertising @ suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk



Gabi's Cleaning Service

www.gabiscleaningservice.co.uk

*Cleaning at its finest
High quality, friendly and flexible
cleaning service.
Ironing~Carpet cleaning*

07771391209

gabipapp@icloud.com

"Let there be light "
COUNSELLING

with Faith Zahavi

Transformative One-to-One Counselling
Find your voice and be heard
Overcome your fears, forge your path, find peace
Private sessions for individuals of all ages

Contact faithzahavi@gmail.com



LEARN SPANISH

Beginners to Advanced
1-to-1 or groups up to 6
Personal contact or Zoom

Ring 07714 765 109 or
send email to chelgueta@aol.com.

Many years' experience

FITNESS CLASSES

at Sutton Courtenay
Village Hall

Full range of fitness classes
on your choice including
Pilates, Dance &
Kettlebells

Classes on Monday evenings
& Tuesday mornings

Visit our website for more
information & book a class!
www.gemmapearcefitness.co.uk

Online

THE SWAN FOODHOUSE AND BAR

Modern British menu, authentic paellas and tapas
Freshly prepared and locally sourced ingredients



Our restaurant is fully open indoors during our current opening hours. Booking is recommended, please call or email us to reserve a table. We also have our large spacious beer garden for outdoor drinking and further dining.

We are still offering some of our menu as a takeaway option. Please call or email for more information.

We also cater for large parties on birthdays, weddings, christenings, funerals, outdoor events.

Large paellas up to 100 people also available
Traditional Sunday lunch, large beer garden and children's play area, sofa-style seating, real ales

www.theswanfoodhouse.com
01235 847446
food@theswanfoodhouse.com

Check out our website and Facebook page for current opening hours, which may change in accordance with government guidelines.

We'd like to extend our thanks and gratitude to all our customers who have supported us during these difficult times.

The Plum Pudding @ Milton



01235 834443

bookings@theplumpuddingmilton.co.uk
theplumpuddingmilton.co.uk

Traditional Sunday Lunch served from 12.00pm to 3.00pm every Sunday — booking advised

New kitchen now open new menu;
and new Chef Bruce Buchan
See website for details!

5 ensuite bedrooms available from 1 Oct

Oxfordshire's best source of reclaimed wood

One stop wood shop
for your DIY projects

General construction timber,
rare and craft woods at sensible
prices. Scaffolding boards, pallet
wood, plywood, natural edge native
hardwoods and a fabulous
range of reclaimed
wood furniture.



Find us at: 4 Suffolk Way, Abingdon OX14 5JX
Tel: 01235 861228 Email: info@owr.org.uk

www.owr.org.uk

Opening Hours:
Mon-Fri: 8.30am-4.30pm
Sat: 9.00am-3.00pm

An Aladdin's cave of locally reclaimed timber.

The Railway Inn

Station Road, Culham, OX14 3BT



Situated at Culham Rail Station

HOURS OF OPENING ARE:

Bar 12-10pm every day

Food 12-2pm & 5-8.30pm

Sunday Roast 12-2.30pm

Food Saturday lunch or Sunday evening

PLEASE PHONE TO BOOK A TABLE

www.railwayinnculham.co.uk
info@railwayinnculham.co.uk Tel: 01235 528046



The Fish

Restaurant and Bar

4 Appleford Road, Sutton Courtenay

Oxon, OX14 4NQ

Tel: 01235 848242

Email: thefishatsuttoncourtenay@gmail.com

www.thefishatsuttoncourtenay.co.uk

Takeaways available during lockdown
See website for latest information

**SERVING FOOD IN OUR GARDEN AND INSIDE — PLEASE PHONE
 CHECK WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DETAILS**

STILL OPEN FOR TAKEAWAY — SEE WEBSITE FOR MENU

Our extensive menu caters for both traditional and more imaginative tastes, and is regularly updated to include seasonal produce to bring the very best in fine food. Head chef Jean-Philippe & his team look forward to welcoming you to The Fish where you can also enjoy our large beautiful garden.

Meryl computer tutor

technical expertise with the human touch

Setup PC, Apple, tablet, phone, internet, printer

Fix technical & user problems, big or small

Learn getting started, new skills, better ways

07794 656607

info@computertutorabingdon.co.uk

www.computertutorabingdon.co.uk



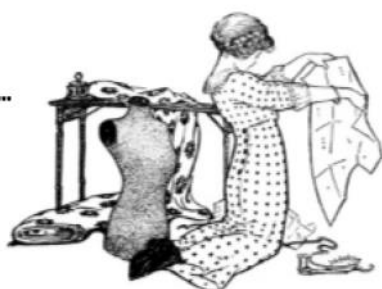
LOCAL PERSONAL TUTOR FOR GCSE & A-level PHYSICS

- improve your grades
 - exam techniques
 - Enhanced DBS
 - PGCE & Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)
 - Experienced
- £30-£40 per hr — contact **Norman Daw**
normanedaw@gmail.com / 01235 848437

THE SEWING LADY - Local Seamstress

Sewing services including ...alterations and mending, zippers and hems, ... invisible mending, dresses, coats, jackets, ball gowns, party, wedding, denim, suede plus more...

Check out my work...



simplycoralwood@gmail.com

Tel: 01235 847846

Mob: 07754265326

www.simplycoralwood.co.uk

.... FREE limited offer up-cycled fabric carrier bag with every repair or purchase!!



Private Tutor in English, Maths & Drama



including preparation of pupils aged
 6-13 for 11+/13+
 Senior School entry

*"Encouraging and fun —
 boosted my child's confidence no end"*

LAMDA Coach in Acting, Verse and Public
 Speaking for pupils of any age

Piers Heyworth, MA (Oxon), PGCE
 Headmaster The Manor Prep School,
 Abingdon 2006-2017 and James Allen's
 Prep School, Dulwich 1994-2006

piersheyworth4@gmail.com

01235 848848

Based in Sutton
 Courtenay



WEBSITE DESIGN

BY SARAH HALLIDAY

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

With prices starting at £500, I can work with you to build an easy to manage website that stands out from the crowd, without breaking the bank. Don't hesitate to get in touch at:

hello@sarahhalliday.com

www.sarahhalliday.com

Woodpecker Fencing



Quality work at competitive prices.

All aspects of fencing, brick walls, including repairs.

No job too small.

Friendly, reliable service. Fully insured.

NO VAT

Contact Daniel for a free no obligation estimate.

T: 01235 554915 M: 07596976720

E: woodpeckerfencing@yahoo.com

IVAN KILBEE HEATING LTD

Heating & Plumbing Installations & Maintenance
Heating Systems Powerflushed
Gas Boiler Replacements/System Upgrades
Unvented Hot Water Systems Installed
Gas Cookers, Fires & Water Heaters
Natural Gas & LPG



Phone/Fax: 01235 847527
Mobile: 07771 787585

27 Bradstocks Way, Sutton Courtenay



A.L. VICKERY AND SON

Hardware and much more!

Keys Cut while you wait,
cookshop, housewares,
tools, gardening...

...you'll save money, time
and mileage when you try



Vickery's first!

5 The Green, Drayton,
Abingdon OX14 4JA
Telephone 01235 531497
Just park outside!

OPEN Monday to Saturday 9am to 5.30pm

Pandora Landscape

Gardens Irrigation Plants Landscape



One-off projects
to restore a
neglected
garden to its
former glory

New patios laid old
patio repaired
paths & garden
gravelled
Patos & paths
pressure cleaned

All types of
fencing
supplied &
erected

Gardens maintenance on a regular basis.

Don't take our word for it – here's what our clients say:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/obeSQrGNYce4Q1tZA>

Mob. 07941093344

Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon, OX14 4AY

www.pandorandscape.com

**"Recycling
plant waste
Protecting the
Environment"**

**"If your shrubs
are out of
control, give
us a ring ..."**

Jack Gate Services

Installation, service and repair of manual
and automated gates

Specialist in automation and aluminium
gates

jackgateservices@gmail.com

Tel: 07519728145



1st CLASS TREE SURGEONS



07889 881 525



quote@firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk



www.firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk

- tree removal
- tree thinning
- stump grinding
- hedge trimming
- tree-pruning
- tree-felling
- landscaping
- fencing

Milton Garden Machinery Ltd

Don't Mown at the Mower!

Garden machinery winter servicing

15% discount in November, 10% in December,

5% in January — on all parts & labour

Collection & Delivery Service Available

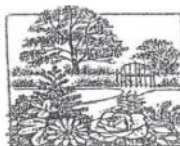
Windyridge Farm, Milton Road, Abingdon OX14 4EZ

Tel: 01235 555115

Email: paul@miltongardenmachinery.co.uk

www.miltongardenmachinery.co.uk

Established for over 30 years



PROFESSIONAL GARDEN SERVICES

Stephen R. Matthews

Tel: 01235 766412

Mobile: 07796 532356

Email: stephenmatthews.pgs@gmail.com

All aspects of work undertaken, including:

- Garden clearance and restoration
- Fruit tree, shrub and rose pruning
- Hedge cutting, rockeries, turfing
- Fencing and landscaping

ACORNS LANDSCAPE & GARDENING



We design, create and maintain beautiful outdoor spaces

Garden & grounds maintenance on a regular or seasonal basis.

Planting scheme.

Garden clearance and makeover.

Garden design & Landscaping.

Tree stump and root removal.

Fencing / Sheds

Turfing / Lawn care

Our garden maintenance team are trained or qualified horticulturalists to give the reassurance your garden will be in good hands. Call now for a free quote.

T: 07869 295792

E: milan.rnic@acornslandscape.co.uk

W: acornslandscape.co.uk



- Scarification
- Hollow Tining
- Lawn Aeration
- Overseeding
- Top-Dressing
- Removal Weeds
- Moss Control
- Professional Service

• **NO CONTRACT** •

Contact Steve-Dennis

01865 331501

Mobile 07894 983 801

email cotswolds@greensleeves-uk.com

PILATES CLASSES IN MILTON
SMALL GROUPS & 1-1

principalpilates.com
carolinehunt@btinternet.com
07758 814578



CHANGES

Unisex Hair Salon
01235 848453

Tuesday 9 – 5
Wednesday 9 – 7
Thursday 9 – 5
Friday 9 – 7
Saturday 8:30 – 3

8 Milton Road
Sutton Courtenay

**Town Furlong
Cattery**



Kingston Road, Frilford
01865 391864
www.townfurlong.co.uk

Larkmead VETS 

*Caring for Pets, Horses & Farm Animals
throughout South Oxon*



- Excellent operating facilities, including orthopaedic surgery.
- Extended surgeries, and regular Cat Only clinics available.
- Appointments available Saturday and Sunday.
- 24-hr emergency care, 365 days a year.
- Larkmead Vets cover all emergencies; we do not use outside agencies.

Didcot & Sutton Courtenay **01235 814991**
Cholsey & Benson **01491 651379**
Horses & Farm Animals **01491 651479**



www.larkmead.co.uk



**Village
Chiropodist**

Pam McIntyre

BSc, M.Inst.Ch.P, MAR

28 Harwell Road
Sutton Courtenay

Mob: 07711 587303

Tel: 01235 848762

Also available:
**Advanced Reflexology &
Aromatherapy**

The Abbey Chiropody Clinic

Mr P J Neighbour

Mr P A Neighbour

HCPC Registered Chiropodists & Podiatrists

14 Bath Street

Abingdon

Oxfordshire OX14 3QH

Tel. 01235 530577

www.abingdonchiropody.com

Surgery and Home Visiting Practice

BROOK FARM, MILTON ROAD

Free Range Eggs, Potatoes and other vegetables when available



Opening Hours:

Mon	Thurs	9am - 1pm
Fri		9am - 6pm
Sat		9am - 1pm

Tel: (01235) 820262



ABINGDON STONE AND MARBLE

Est 1846

- ◆ Monumental & General Masons
- ◆ Stone & Marble Fireplaces
- ◆ Kitchen Worktops
- ◆ Vanity Tops
- ◆ Flooring & Tiles

Marble, Granite, Slate, Stone, Architectural & Ornamental Stonework, Carving, Lettering, Gilding

161a Ock Street, Abingdon, OX14 5DL

tel: 01235 520617 or 07767 610670 or 01235 530739

mharris@abingdon-stone.co.uk www.abingdon-stone.co.uk



FEATHER & THISTLE

ARCHITECTURE - INTERIOR - DESIGN

Delivering Quality Personal Architectural Design Services From Start to Finish

- Home Extensions
- Commercial Extensions
- New Build Houses / Developments
- Planning Application
- Building Regulations
- Feasibility / Sketch Proposals
- 3D Modelling



****Free Initial Consultation****

Contact: Steven Graham

m: 07511 558 041

e: featherandthistle@outlook.com

MATHEWS & SON

GREENGROCERS

5 Harwell Road, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4BN

Veg Boxes
Fruit Baskets
E-mail Orders
Fruit Hampers
Herbs & Exotics
Daily Deliveries



Tel: 01235 848239 Mobile: 0795 8534183

Email: mathewsandson@hotmail.co.uk

travel counsellors



RELAX

With the promise that all your flights, holiday plans and business travel are in the safest possible hands.

At Travel Counsellors we're all about you. Your individual needs, wants and desires. Your aspirations and dreams. So if you're looking for a holiday to remember or for business travel that's hassle-free, all delivered with a personal and caring service that you won't find anywhere else, contact me - your local Travel Counsellor - now.

Fulfilling dreams; creating memories; stress free. We're Travel Counsellors

Call Me:
DEBBIE

01235 884260

TRAVEL COUNSELLOR



DEBBIE WILLIAMS

debbie.williams@travelcounsellors.com

www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/debbie.williams

With us...it's personal

MANSBRIDGE

PLUMBING AND HEATING DIVISION

Problem with your heating?

We can carry out a variety of work including but not limited to:

Landlord/Homeowner gas safe certificates

Gas and oil boiler services and breakdowns

New boiler installations

Bathroom installations

**Please contact us on
07493 924830 or 01865 321183**

We are a Checkatrade Approved and a CHAS Accredited contractor so you can be sure of a high standard of service.



Peter L Mansbridge & Son Ltd

Registered Office: 11 Sandleigh Road, Wootton, Abingdon, Oxon, OX13 6DP
Registered No: 5196759 VAT No 448 6305 34



SP COURIER SERVICES

"MOVING ASSISTANCE"

House - Flat - Apartments - Office

FURNITURE MOVED / TRANSPORTED

Ebay COLLECTIONS-DELIVERIES

Tel 07721 679487 + 01235 524589

Laura Powley 
School of Dance

Ballet, Tap & Modern Jazz Classes Based in Didcot


Ballet from age 18 months in a Parent & Toddler Class

Please Contact Laura for more Information on:

07577451009

laurapowley92@hotmail.com

Quality, bespoke blinds, curtains
and soft furnishings

 *Thimbles and Threads*



- Curtains
- Roman Blinds
- Cushions
- Roller Blinds
- Shutters
- Poles & Tracks

07811 296 454

www.thimblesandthreads.co.uk
info@thimblesandthreads.co.uk

griffin interiors

...soft furnishing solutions...

Interiors and soft furnishings workroom
located in Appleford making quality handmade
curtains, pelmets, blinds, cushions, alterations.

Headboards, loose-covers and upholstery.

Poles, tracks and fitting service.

Design studio with extensive library of fabrics
and trimmings.

Fabrics and curtain making materials available
for home curtain makers.

20 years experience. Off street parking.
Flexible opening hours.

01235 847135/07808 762626

www.griffininteriorsoxford.co.uk

Clean, Polished, Professional

TIME FOR A GOOD SPRING CLEAN? LET US DO ALL THE WORK!



**Your top to bottom blitz for a home
that's as clean as new**



But when you've barely got time to do a quick clean every
week clean!
You work hard and give a busy life- your spare time should be
quality time, not spent on your hands and knees scrubbing!
So let us help!
Our Cleaners take pride in cleaning your home as if it were
their own- it takes just one day to get your home looking
immaculate.

- ✓ SPRING CLEANING
- ✓ REGULAR CLEANING
- ✓ CARPET & UPHOLSTERY
- ✓ LAUNDRY SERVICES
- ✓ FULLY TRAINED STAFF
- ✓ FULLY GUARANTEED

WE ALSO OFFER

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY LAUNDRY & IRONING
CLEANING SERVICES



**RESIDENTIAL
CLEANING**

If you're not completely satisfied we will return and rectify the clean again FREE of charge
FOR A FREE ESTIMATE - CALL US TODAY ON

WANTAGE - 01235 426258 | OXFORD - 01865 957164

e: contact@ultrahomeservices.co.uk | w: www.ultrahomeservices.co.uk



arbocare

Professional Tree Care

Contractors to the National Trust & Local Authorities

Commercial & domestic work including
Treework & Stump Grinding
Grass Cutting & Turfing
Fencing & Landscaping

**24 HOUR EMERGENCY CALL OUT
FREEPHONE 0808 155581**

Head Office: 01235 813619 24 hr Mob: 07778 81136

Abigas 

The perfect time for an installation...
no long winter lead times !!



**WANT A NEW FIRE, STOVE OR FIREPLACE
GAS, SOLID FUEL OR ELECTRIC**

**COME TO THE COMPLETE FIREPLACE
SHOWROOM**

AT AREA A, UNIT 4, RADLEY ROAD
INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, ABINGDON OX14 3RY

MONDAY—FRIDAY 9AM—5PM
SATURDAY 9AM—4PM

01235 533301 / 01235 533078

www.abigas.co.uk

Altom Tree Care Ltd



**Tree Felling
Height Reductions
Stump Grinding
Landscaping - Fencing
Grass/hedge Cutting
Paddock Mowing
Maintenance Contracts**

SEASONED LOGS FOR SALE

**FULLY INSURED
FREE QUOTATIONS**

For a reliable, professional service, Mob: 07958 759747

01844 339833

Email: altomtree@fsmail.net

D R ELECTRICAL

48 High Street, Sutton Courtenay.

- ◆ Domestic & commercial also industrial installations
- ◆ Rewires
- ◆ Storage-heaters
- ◆ Extensions
- ◆ Extra sockets & repairs
- ◆ Security lighting
- ◆ Landlords certification

Fully insured

No job too small. Free quotations.

Tel: 01235 847030.
Mobile: 07850 558196



DRAYTON TELEVISION SERVICES

- New TV aerials fitted
- TV aerial repairs
- Satellite dishes for Sky, Freesat and foreign TV
- Storm damage repair
- Extra TV points
- TV wall mounting
- TV repairs
- Set up and tuning in

Heather Road, Milton
Est. over 15 years

Phone Mark for free estimate

01235 531451 or 07740 874 855

Electrical Problems?

**ROBERTS
ELECTRICAL**



Domestic • Commercial • Industrial

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Electrical Hard Wire Testing | • Domestic Electrical Reports |
| • Landlords Certificates | • Portable Appliance Testing |
| • Re-wires Full or Part | • Data and Telephone Wiring |
| • Electrical Showers Complete | • Heating Controls and Wiring |
| • Low Energy and LED Lighting Installations | • Extra Power or Lighting Points |
| • TV and Home Entertainment Installations | • Security Lighting, Fire and Intruder Alarms |

We are able to Part P/ Building Control our Electrical works

Office: 01235 528800 Mobile: 07786 930463
Windy Ridge Court, Milton Road, Drayton, Abingdon, OX14 4EZ

FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS

DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS



Most carpets dry within the hour
Unbeatable results, removes almost all spots & stains
call
GRIMEBUSTERS

01865 726983 01235 555533
www.grimebusters.co.uk

HALLS GARAGE

Established for 60 years. Servicing and Repairs

MOT's—Batteries—Diagnostic Facilities—All makes & models—Local vehicle collection service

MOT Tests from 6.30am. Ring to book a time! Ask for Fred or Dave.

The High Street, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4AH

01235 848236 or 07767 165072

mothallsgarage@gmail.com

Martin Gilbert Motor Repairs Ltd

Call us today for a no obligation quote

01235 553055



Did you know we offer:

richard@martingilbert.co.uk



Servicing



MOT



Air Con refill



Bodywork



Diagnostics



Repairs



Recovery

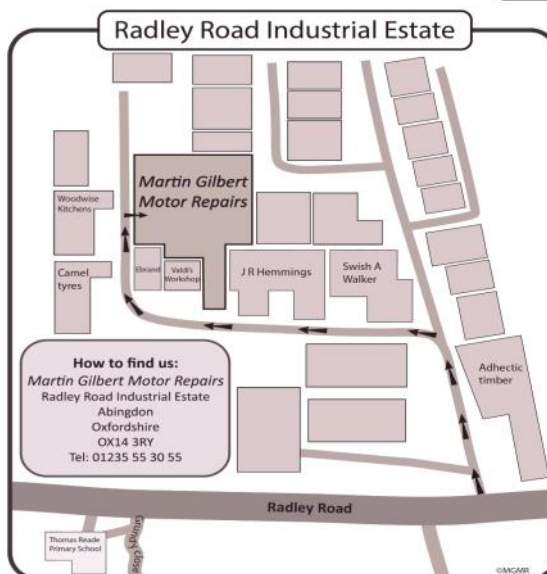
Cars & light commercial (up to 17 seater), mini buses & vans up to 3.5 tonnes. Trailer, horseboxes and Caravans. Courtesy cars & vans available.

Like us on Facebook for regular offers and updates.



**Radley Rd Industrial Estate,
 Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 3RY**

www.martingilbertmotorrepairs.com



Q SELF STORAGE

www.qselfstore.co.uk

at
**Dorchester-on-Thames
 and
 Stevenon**



We store:

- * Secure units for household and business---£31.06 inc. VAT per week
- * Caravan, trailers and RV's -----£600.00 inc. VAT per year
- * Fenced open storage with or without 20ft container-----POA

- *** Access: 24/7 - 365 days
- *** Entrance barrier
- *** Electronic coded gate
- *** Tracking CCTV
- *** Padlock supplied
- *** Excellent access, straight to unit doors
- *** HGV access
- *** HIAB collections for larger commercial items
- *** Household removal quotes

Tel 01235 847164 any time to view or book



ASPIRE

SCAFFOLDING SERVICES LTD

We have over 20 years of experience in the scaffolding trade, providing safe scaffolding solutions to commercial clients as well as residential customers.

We aim to provide the very highest standards of service, in a friendly and professional manner. We want your experience to be nothing short of first class!

office@aspirecaffolding.co.uk

www.aspirescaffolding.co.uk

Tel: 07769701379 or 07824876169

LINDSEY B ELFORD

PAINTER & DECORATOR

Est 1975



Call for a professional job from start to finish

Receive 10% off labour costs when quoting SCN

Tel: 07547 472988 or 01491 824047

ANDREW POWLEY DECORATOR



- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING
- WALLPAPERING SPECIALIST
- OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- ASSESSED & APPROVED BY DULUX
- CUSTOMER REFERENCES AVAILABLE

Tel: 01235 810055 Mob: 07870 981499

powleydecor@sky.com



Childs Contracts

Painting & Decorating – Interior & Exterior

Paperhanging – Domestic & Commercial

Insurance Quotations/Estimates

also

Artexing – Coving – Plastering

Tel: 01235 527000

A friendly service guaranteed

childscontracts@gmail.com

GB Gary Byrne

& Son

Painters & Decorators

Established since 1986

- ♦ Domestic & Commercial ♦ General Maintenance
- ♦ Competitive Prices
- ♦ No Job Too Small ♦ All Out of Hours Work Carried Out



Mobile: 07759 341525

01235 847278

www.garybyrnepaintersoxford.co.uk

info@garybyrnepaintersoxford.co.uk

24 Bradstocks Way, Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon OX14 4BY

Sharman Roofing

GRP fibreglass flat-roofing specialist

tiling, slating, leadwork, guttering and fascias,
new builds, re-roofs, extensions, maintenance
& sheds

all work considered, call Mark on

07979 791075

msharmanroofing@gmail.com



TEL: 01235 239631

Flat roofing specialists. Tile repairs. Fascias, guttering. Moss removal. Lead-work. Felt roofs. 10, 15, 20-year guarantees supplied with all roofing works

GET IN CONTACT FOR YOUR FREE QUOTATION

EMAIL: abingdonfeltroofing@outlook.com

Web: abingdonfeltroofing.co.uk

Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

Roger Bevan

9 Town Close
Sutton Courtenay
OX14 4BA



For ALL your home improvements

**General Building Maintenance & Repairs Bathrooms Kitchens Windows Doors Conservatories Soffit Facias
and Guttering Plumbing and Electrics**

Phone/Fax 01235 847582

Mobile 07833 601333

rogerbevan13@btinternet.com

The Oxford Window Repair Company

The wooden window specialists

Flaking paint and cracked putty on
your windows and cills?

We specialise in repair and renovation to give your
windows a new lease of life!

We replace old and rotten glazing bars, muntins and
rails, use the latest wood treatments and high-
performance fillers, and modern & traditional
paint solutions to give an excellent finish

Maintenance contracts are also available for your
peace of mind

All work guaranteed

Call us for your free estimate 07880 560 403

www.oxfordwindowrepair.com



Neil's Windows Quality windows & doors

UPVC, Wood & Aluminium windows & doors
Wide Range of colours & finishes
Lantern roofs
Broken & misty units replaced
Fensa registered & MTC qualified
QANW insurance backed guarantees
30 years' experience
References available

Our aim is 100% customer satisfaction

Call Neil - 07914 809688 or Helen - 07921213365
to arrange a free visit and quote.
Guaranteed no pressure sales.
Based in Sutton Courtenay

www.neilswindows.com



LING BUILDERS

**01235 848640
07990 543692**

Reliable local builder established over 30 years.

All types of building and maintenance work undertaken

**Kitchen Fitting
Patios, fencing and driveways
Extensions and New Build**

No job too small

KOGELS of ABINGDON Ltd

**HOME EXTENSION SPECIALISTS
AND GENERAL BUILDERS**

72 Steventon Road
Drayton, Nr Abingdon
OX14 4LD

Tel: Abingdon (01235) 531200
Email: kogelsofabingdon@btconnect.com
Web: www.kogelsofabingdon.co.uk

PLASTERING

- Internal & External
- Old Walls and Ceilings Over Skim
(Including Artex)
- Coving and Archways
- Damp-proofing
- All Repair Works
- Insurance Work Undertaken
- Fully Insured

Call Darren,

Mobile – 07468 433525

Home – 01235 847029

Email – wddplastering@hotmail.com



**DEW'S
MEADOW
FARM SHOP**

Direct to your door
Call our hotline:
01235 868634
and place your order now!
www.dewsmeadowfarm.co.uk
Oxford Road • East Hanney • Wantage • OX12 0HP



Richard Mathews Florist

Fresh cut flowers for all occasions

01235 847194

Order Online

www.richardmathewsflorist.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram



Family Nursery, Florist, Gift & Farm Shop

**Visit Savages to discover fresh quality fruit and veg,
home grown plants, flowers, giftware & foods**

The Nurseries, London Road, Blewbury, OX11 9HB

shop@savagesblewbury.co.uk

01235 850352



IT HELPS TO TALK

Confidential Counselling

Any Issue

Call Roz on 07773037028

Or e-mail talktoroz@gmail.com

Member of British Association for Counselling & Psychotherapy

SUTTON COURTENAY BASED WINDOW CLEANER

BRIAN PREWETT C-THROUGH WINDOWS

- ♦ WINDOW CLEANING SERVICE, FASCIA
WASHED, GUTTER CLEARING AND CLEANED
- ♦ MONTHLY/BI-MONTHLY OR ONE OFF JOBS
- ♦ FULLY INSURED

EST. OVER 15 YEARS

PHONE FOR FREE ESTIMATE

01235 848430 07932 057132



Beau Monde

INTERIORS LTD

Building and Refurbishment Specialists, all aspects of residential and commercial projects undertaken, including full Interior Design Service.

'From concept to completion with full project management'

Please Contact us on:

T: 01235 553 241

M: 07854 218507

beaumondedesign@aol.com

For more information visit us at:

www.beaumondeinteriors.co.uk