

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 49 No. 7

SEPTEMBER 2020



Neil, Tracey and Harwell Road commemorate another significant date in history, the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day on 15th August. They would like to pay particular thanks to Graham for the Jeep, Mark for tractor and Tony for the Norton motorbike.

OCTOBER SCN COPY DEADLINE - WEDNESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2020

FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome back to the first full print run of Sutton Courtenay News since the lockdown! During lockdown we were able to have a limited number of copies printed each month (except for the April edition which was only available online). These copies were available for collection from the shops and the church and each edition was available online (as are all editions including this one) at

www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk

We were also able to deliver copies to some people in the village who did not have online access and were unable to collect a copy. Should we have another lockdown we will endeavour to do the same. Look out for the posters and online.

We are very grateful to our deliverers for agreeing to return to their normal roles. You may notice that this edition is a slim version but we hope that as things return to a new normal that we will be able to bring you more local news and information.

During lockdown we, Clare and Diane as editors, have decided that change is needed and we would like to give notice that we wish to stand down as editors from the end of the year. Bernie, who looks after advertising and the website, is willing to continue. So we are looking for editor replacements. If you contact us at editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk we will be happy to discuss with you what is involved. These are voluntary roles and can be kept as flexible as possible. We look forward to hearing from you!

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

VILLAGE CONTACTS

County Councillor: (Schools, Roads etc.)	Richard Webber, 534001 richardwebber777@gmail.com
District Councillor: (Planning, Waste etc.)	Richard Webber—as above
Parish Council Chairman	Michael Jenkins, 847174 msjenkins@msn.com
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Adrian Rouse, 07730 313384 adrian.j.rouse@gmail.com
Brownies	Mary steventonrainbows@gmail.com
Stay & Play Toddler Group	Facebook page: @SCstayandplay
Chairman, Friends of SC Parish Church	Fred Cubbage, 848768
Matrix Music School	847264
The Abbey	847401
Crickets Club	drb71@hotmail.co.uk
Sutton Courtenay WI	Val Melville 847612
Nordic Walking Group	Graham Wells 847322
Churchmere Carp Syndicate	Roger Rance 847241
DAMASCUS Youth Project	848694
Sutton Courtenay Local History Society	Mary Thompson 848527 marydthompson@outlook.com www.sclhs.org.uk
SCIDS (Drama Society)	Morna Whitlock, 848335 morna28whitlock@gmail.com
All Saints Singers	Steve Fisher 07812 037530 allsaintssingers.org
Sutton Courtenay Action	suttoncourtenayaction@gmail.com
Sutton Courtenay Forum	suttoncourtenayforum@gmail.com
Neighbourhood Watch	07762 597118 nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com
Non-urgent Police	101 or policing team email AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
Environment Agency:	Landfill Odours 0800 80 70 60
Thames Water (leaks):	0800 71 46 14
Power Cuts:	105
Websites:	
Sutton Courtenay News	www.suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk
Parish Council	www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk
Vale of White Horse DC	www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk
Oxfordshire CC	www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

SUTTON COURTENAY POST OFFICE

A wide range of key Post Office products & services are available at Burgrey Stores in the High Street. The opening hours are:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 08.00 – 18.00
Wed: 08.00 – 17.00
Sat: 08.30 – 13.00
Sun: 09.00 – 12.00



SUTTON COURTENAY DEFIBRILLATOR



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



ANOTHER ONE IS OUTSIDE THE FISH, APPLEFORD ROAD.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

The Ministry Team

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

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Karen Hyde
Tel: 07526 985395, e-mail: curate@damascusparish.org.uk

Associate Priest: The Reverend Rosie Bruce
Tel: 07766 421773, rosie-bruce@hotmail.co.uk

Associate Priest: The Reverend Phil Sutton
01235 526114 or 07507 378737, revphil@damascusparish.org.uk

Associate Priest: The Reverend Meg Heywood
Tel: 01235 537100, revmeg@damascusparish.org.uk

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

Authorised Preacher: Paul James (848129)

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 6 & 7**



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.



Development by FCC "Radcot Green"

Vale of the White Horse District Council recently made a "Call for Sites", areas which a landowner puts forward as a possible future development. FCC have put forward an area of land within Sutton Courtenay for possible use for future development. They will be presenting information to the Council at the start of the next Council meeting on Tuesday 1st September. The presentation will start at 7.00pm. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom and should you wish to attend, please do let the clerk know (contact details below) and the relevant meeting login details will be forwarded to you.

Litter Bins

The Parish Council have agreed, in principle, to arrange for a litter bin to be placed on Mill Lane. The most suitable location is to be agreed and any relevant planning permissions will need to be sought.

A discussion took place in relation to a dog waste bin the area of Tyrells Way/Bradstocks Way. This is not possible but it may be possible to place a waste bin which allow dog waste to be deposited to be erected,. The Council will look into a suitable location for the bin.

Recreation Ground Play area

The Parish Council are still working towards re-opening the play area. It was agreed that a professional inspection should be carried out on the equipment and this has highlighted a safety issue and recommends the play area remain closed until such time as the defect can be fixed. The Parish Council are following that recommendation and the play area remains closed. The Multi use Games Area and Skate Park are open for use but users must comply with the government social distancing guidelines in place.

New Defibrillator in Sutton Courtenay

The Parish Council are in the process of adopting the BT phone box on High Street (near to Lady Place). Once this has been handed over, the Parish Council will be arranging for the same to be used for the housing a defibrillator. This will be the third in the village, with one being located on the outside of The Fish on Appleford Road and the other being next to Sutton Courtenay Tyres on the High Street.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 1st September 7.00pm via Zoom

(please contact the clerk for login details)

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

Clerk: Helen Savery, 10 Sovereign Place, Wallingford, OX10 9GF

Email: info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 01235 364211

Reopening plans during the current Covid19 pandemic 'Stay alert, control the virus, and in doing so, save lives'

As we are all aware, there are many requirements and additional government COVID-19 secure guidelines around the reopening of community halls that must be put in place before they can be open to the public for use. The guidance also places requirements on those who hire the facilities.

The Village Hall Management Trustees have spent considerable time understanding and implementing these requirements – some of which get updated just as they have been implemented! **These are difficult times but trustees would very much like those users who feel able to abide by the new covid19-safety requirements to start using the hall again. We hope to open by 1st September in a limited way for smaller user groups following government guidelines on numbers attending an indoor event.**

We have prepared risk assessments, guidance and new conditions of hire for users which will be kept under review as the pandemic progresses and government guidance changes. We hope you will all bear with us. We are contacting all our regular users with regards the new conditions of hire but if anyone would like to hire the hall for a one-off event please get in touch with us.

Mary Warrington

contrary63@gmail.com

07798745193

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

August was a strange month for the project with extreme heat and thunderous down pours making it difficult to plan and deliver each week. The team however, have continued to deliver the Door Step Bingo in Barretts Way, this is still going from strength to strength and we have found an open area with plenty of shade to stay out of the heat and stay socially distanced.

Summer projects have kicked off with a bang!! Our Weekly multi-sport sessions on the recreation ground have been a massive hit and it was good to see young people back out enjoying some games, safely.

We have two new projects that have started in August, IWILL – a Youth Ambassador programme looking at leadership and youth advocacy, Hearts – Healthy, Empowered, Active, Resilient Teens looking at positive body image and fitness. Both of these projects will continue to run so get in touch with the team to join in!

SUTTON COURTENAY VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW

Update on Village Craft and Produce Show

Due to the ongoing situation it would be very difficult to stage this year's show while adhering to the present social distancing rules and so the committee has no choice but to cancel the show for 2020. However rest assured that anything you may have already stitched, carved, photographed, drawn or painted etc. will be able to enter the next show, which hopefully will be in September 2021, as the schedule will not be changed.

The Produce Show Committee



The Steering Group has continued the detailed work to produce a robust, evidence based draft of a Neighbourhood Plan for Sutton Courtenay that can be put to a vote of residents in due course. Particular recent focus has been on identifying important green spaces and the paths and tracks in and around the village that walkers and cyclists can use to get around, and on how they might be improved. Similarly, we have been clarifying the amenities and services that underpin the community. Funded by grants, we have engaged consultants to work with us to develop the policies and supporting evidence that make a convincing case for our Neighbourhood Plan.

Part of our work has been to record instances where the drainage system has been unable to cope, particularly at times of heavy rainfall or when waste pumping systems have failed. We would appreciate any information on flooding and drainage problems, with dates, location, and brief description, sent to our Chair (contact details below). In particular, we would like to know more about two such instances:

- when in the early 2000s did the High Street experience serious problems of sewage clearance?

- when was it that the pumping station off Church Street broke down, requiring tankers to take waste away until the pumps were repaired?

In the light of recent Government proposals for a radical overhaul of the planning system, neighbourhood plans could be even more important in informing councils responsible for identifying land for development. Sutton Courtenay has already experienced a huge amount of development, without corresponding improvements to road and other infrastructure. Our Neighbourhood Plan aims to provide a coherent set of policies, with evidence to back them, that enables Sutton Courtenay to avoid being overwhelmed or being absorbed into neighbouring villages or towns.

During the present social distancing period, the Steering Group is meeting via Zoom. Our next meeting is scheduled for 2.30pm on 9th September. If any resident would like to sit in "virtually", please let our Chair know.

Updates are on www.suttoncourtenay.pc.gov.uk and residents are always welcome to feed their thoughts to our Chair, Joanna O'Callaghan, at ootlands32@btinternet.com

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP (NAG5) SAFETY CORNER



Courier fraud and scams

Thames Valley Police has issued an alert about courier fraud, which continues to be prevalent in our area.

Courier fraud is the name given to incidents where criminals contact victims by phone, purporting to be a representative of the police or a reputable organisation, in order to obtain cash, cards and bank details. The police have issued the following advice and information.

- Criminals have used stories such as an unexpected order on an online account (which you may or may not have), or that your bank card has been found on a suspect in police custody and officers want to move your money into a safe account.
- There have been recent reports in our area of phone calls to residents from someone posing as a police officer, advising them that there's been fraudulent activity at their bank and that the officer believes the bank is using fake bank notes. The call recipient is asked to withdraw money from their bank account and take the cash home. They then receive another call, asking for the serial numbers on the bank notes. The caller then confirms that the notes are fake and says that a courier will be sent to pick them up. The notes were not fake and the victims lost their money.
- The majority of those targeted by criminals committing courier fraud are over 70 years old.
- **The police and reputable organisations will never ask you to move money to a safe account, to reveal your banking PIN or full password or send anyone to your home to collect cards, cash or jewellery. Police advice is to STOP, CHALLENGE and PROTECT.**
- Stop and think for a minute before parting with money or information. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- Challenge and question. Could the call be fake? It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore requests and hang up.
- Protect yourself and your money. If you think you've been a victim of a scam contact your bank immediately and report it

to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud and cybercrime reporting centre, online at <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/> or call them on 0300 123 2040.

Internet security information for parents

Young people live their lives online, and you may already have put boundaries in place to keep them safe. There are several websites which provide a wealth of information about social networking, apps and websites for parents and carers of children ranging from the under 5s to those in their late teens.

- Thinkuknow is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline. <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>
- Net Aware reviews the most popular social networks, apps and games. <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/?order=-popularity&category=Gaming>.
- Get Safe Online has a huge amount of information for all internet users, including sections on social networking and safeguarding children. <https://www.getsafeonline.org/>
- The Thames Valley Police website has information and advice for anyone concerned about online child abuse at <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/c/2017/hidden-harm/online-child-abuse/>

If you're concerned about the safety of a child call Thames Valley Police on 101 or the NSPCC helpline on 0800 800 500. The Abingdon Damascus Youth Project is a local charity which works with young people, supporting them within their community and home environment. Visit <http://ycat.org.uk/>

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

The local news on Covid in Oxfordshire continues to be mostly encouraging. There has been a spike in figures in part of Oxford City - almost certainly the result of partying by under 30s. This is reflected across the Country with an increase in under 30s cases. The message from the Director of Public Health is clear. Covid is far from over for any of us and if we are to avoid a second spike this winter, we need to maintain social distancing, wear masks when required and to follow Government advice as it is published.

The problem of A level and GCSE grades is firmly in the headlines as I write. Add in the issues around the reopening of schools for the new academic year, and it is clear that Education is going to dominate the news for some time. Allowing all predicted A level grades to stand rather than relying on a hastily drawn up algorithm looks like the only fair way to treat thousands of youngsters. Using algorithm moderated GCSE grades is also going to produce outcomes riddled with unfairness. It is likely that Schools will have to make judgements on who should take which A levels based on their own estimates of pupils' capabilities.

Now that the HIF (Housing Infrastructure Fund) has been signed off guaranteeing enough money to pay for the new roads around Didcot and the new bridge over the Thames, people are beginning to be concerned about some of the consequences. Will this mean yet more houses? How will the road system in our area in Abingdon, around Culham Bridge and at the Frilford crossroads cope?

The OCC Highways team (many of whom live in the area and are well aware of the issues we all face) are committed to visiting every parish to explain their thinking and their traffic modelling to everyone. I very much hope that all interested residents will be able to attend the presentations. The timetable for the consultation will be announced very soon.

As the lockdown has progressed, the impact on the mental health of all of us is beginning to show itself. Anti social behaviour and domestic violence is on the increase. Unemployment is rising, the economy is badly damaged and all age groups are affected. It is all too easy to become very depressed. And yet, families have shown

enormous resilience to it all, and local communities and Covid Groups have thrived and brought people of all types and all ages closer together than they have been since the last world war. I reckon people are being kinder and more caring towards each other than I ever remember. I wonder how history will treat this period.

Thames Weirs

A number of people, residents and media have contacted me over the appearance of the fence and locked gates beside the footpath by the weirs. As you will realise, this is an ongoing issue, is a Parish issue and I have no wish to complicate things further. I have considered carefully how I could help and have come to the following conclusions.

First, there is no quick solution.

Second, given the potential consequences of legal confrontation, that it might take years to resolve and the only certain beneficiaries would be lawyers and one side only, this route should be avoided.

Third, the best chance of a satisfactory outcome for everyone is to be patient, reasonable and polite.

I have written to the landowner a letter which includes

- An apology for the behaviour of a small minority of irresponsible people who have left litter and displayed some antisocial behaviour. This is an undeniable fact. Any other approach, is, in my view, likely to be counterproductive.
- A suggestion that a cooling off period is needed.
- A further suggestion that we try to negotiate a solution for the future involving restoring some limited public access.

I am aware that this may not work and will take some months at best. I am also aware that what I have said may anger some. However, I honestly feel that this is the best, possibly only option in the circumstances. If a majority disagree, I will step back from the process. I am happy to receive comments (calm and polite please) in support or opposition and will report any progress.

Richard Webber Cllr, OCC/VWHDC

richardwebber777@gmail.com or 1235 534001

SUTTON COURTENAY (NATIONAL POWER) TRUST

This Trust was established with a donation from what was National Power (now RWE nPower). The endowment sum is invested, and the charity meets from time to time to consider possible grant awards, and the management of the funds. The charity will be meeting in the Autumn.

If there is any organisation which benefits the residents of Sutton Courtenay, or an individual who would like to be considered for a small grant, then please contact the Clerk to the Trustees whose details appear below, by the end of September. Please state the purpose for the grant, the amount required, and if an organisation supply a copy of the latest accounts, together with income and expenditure figures, or if an individual please supply proof of need and bank statements.

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

email: SuttonCourtenayNPTrust@gmail.com

CHURCHMERE POOL CARP SYNDICATE



We have been having a torrid time of late, the fish have a disease and we have very sadly lost 19 fish so far. I have been in contact with the Environment Agency, DEFRA and CEFAS, they have taken specimens of which we have no results as yet. On a positive note 2 ducks have had a brood of ducklings which are doing fine and growing quickly, and the cygnet is almost fully grown. Happier news next time. Roger Rance.

SUTTON COURTENAY NORDIC WALKING GROUP

Welcome. Are you looking to improve your fitness, get motivated, and have fun. Do you like to being outdoors and exercising in a friendly sociable group? Then why not try something new.

Please contact Annalie.Thomasson@southvale.gov.uk from GO ACTIVE GOLD to book a one hour free class, poles provided, then join us for our twice a week walks round the village.



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

From the Ministry Team...

What's in your hand?

September is usually the time when we get back to our normal routines after the summer break. It often feels like a new start – especially for children and young people beginning a new academic year at school, college or university. Remember the new pencil case and new school shoes feeling? But with the current coronavirus pandemic, it's very different this year! We are not sure what schools and universities will look or feel like this year. Some of us might no longer have jobs to go back to after the summer. Some of us might find ourselves in ongoing lockdown. This will be a September like no other.

However, it is still a good time to consider how God can use us to make a real difference in our workplace, at school, amongst our family, friends and community. As Christians we believe that God equips us with everything we need to make His love known.

When God gave Moses the job of bringing the Israelites out of Egypt, He asked the question, 'What is in your hand?' (Exodus 4:2). Moses was holding his staff, which represented his livelihood (what he was good at); his resources (his flock represented his wealth) and his security (which God was asking him to lay down). God asks the same question of us: What has God given you? Our gifts, temperament, experience, relationships, mind, education can be used in the work God has given us to do. How will we use them to make a difference in the places where He calls us to serve Him?

John Ortberg, in his book *It All Goes Back in the Box*, speaks of Johnny, a 19-year-old with Downs syndrome. He worked at a supermarket checkout putting people's items into bags. To encourage his customers, he decided to put a thought for the day into the bags. Every night his dad would help him to prepare the slips of paper and he would put the thoughts into the bags saying, 'I hope it helps you have a good day. Thanks for coming here.' A month later the store manager noticed that Johnny's line at the checkout was three times longer than anyone else's! People wanted Johnny's thought for the day. He wasn't just filling bags with groceries, he was filling lives with hope!

What has God given you that will help and encourage others?

With love and prayers,

Helen, The Reverend Helen Kendrick, Rector of the DAMASCUS Parish

The River Room

The River Room keys were handed over to us on Tuesday 21st July and it has been wonderful to be able to use the room to serve COVID-19 compliant Cream Teas on Sundays in August. The churchyard has been re-seeded where the builders were. Please could you avoid walking on the bare earth / newly seeded areas to give the grass a chance to germinate and grow? This means NOT walking around the side of the River Room for now but keeping to the paths on the west and south side of the church.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Community Café in the River Room

(Table service only – COVID-19 restrictions apply – use handsanitizer, keep 2m distance & wear a mask when not eating or drinking)

Thursday 10th September &

Thursday 24th September

(in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care)

from 10:30-12:00

all welcome!

Churches Open for Private Prayer and Public Worship

We are delighted to announce that all five of our church buildings are now open for private, individual prayer during daylight hours and we welcome people to come in once again. We have resumed public worship in Drayton, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon.

Please note that face masks must now be worn in places of worship.

Please use the hand sanitizer provided when entering and leaving the building and observe the guidance on keeping safe physical distance.

It is now possible for baptisms, weddings and funerals to take place inside the church building (with restricted numbers only).

'Worship at Home' continues. Each week the DAMASCUS Ministry Team are taking it in turns to produce a homily and service – in written, audio and video format – which can be accessed either via our weekly mailing or the website www.damascusparish.org.uk or via the All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay Facebook page.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to be added to our mailing list please contact Alison Bampton, our administrator: admin@damascusparish.org.uk

(In order for us to keep contact details on our database each person must fill out a GDPR form if they have not already done so. This can be completed and returned via e-mail. You can ask to be removed at any time).

Most importantly, please let us know if you need help of any kind so that prayer and practical support can be offered in a safe way, or if you need advice on weddings, funerals and baptisms. Please contact the Reverend Helen Kendrick on

01235 848297 or email:

rector@damascusparish.org.uk

Rest in Peace

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

Dorothea Maria Concetta Epiphania Cassar

John Alexander Prout

Sean Peter Duffy

Stewardship and Giving

We realise that these are challenging times for many people but, as stewards and custodians of the churches in the DAMASCUS Parish we are having to consider the impact this pandemic is having on our finances.

Thanks to the generosity and thoughtfulness of many, a large part of our income comes in planned giving which gives us great stability.

However, there is no doubt that our income will be seriously affected by the church closures and not being able to run fundraising activities.

If you normally give through the Sunday collection plate please would you consider:

- continuing to put to one side the amount you would normally donate and bring it to church when we reopen for public worship
- set up a direct debit by joining the Parish Giving Scheme - forms can be emailed through to you - please contact the Stewardship Officer - David King stewardship@damascusparish.org.uk
- make a one-off bank transfer using these details
The DAMASCUS PCC
CAF Bank Limited Account
40-52-40
00031419
- writing a cheque payable to The DAMASCUS PCC and sending it to the DAMASCUS Parish Office, The Rectory, 3 Tullis Close, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4BD. Thank you.

Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust



As reported in the July SCN, the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust (OHCT) will be staging a Ride + Stride event this year on Saturday 12th September. Every aspect will be within current government guidelines every step of the way, but the restrictions mean the event will look and feel a little different this year, including no refreshments in the Church.

All the details, including those churches that have already confirmed whether they are taking part, can be found at www.ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride. Everyone is welcome to take part – as an individual, as a family or as a group of friends. OHCT encourage you to use the Sign up for Ride + Stride box on their website or use the paperwork obtainable through the local church coordinator (Fred Cabbage 01235 848768). They also encourage you to use Virgin Money Giving as the easiest and quickest way to gather sponsors

Half of any sponsorship money goes to any church of your choosing. All Saints' at Sutton Courtenay will open all day, as usual, and its near 1000 year fabric could certainly benefit from anyone who chooses to support your local church.

All relevant information should be found on the OHCT website but anyone wishing to know about previous years' experiences are welcome to email fred.cabbage@btinternet.com. With all charities ability to raise funds severely curtailed by the prevailing situation, your involvement on the 12th September is more important than ever and you learn more about the locality as well as exercise too!



Friends of All Saints' Church Sutton Courtenay

Registered Charity No. 294227

With maximum lockdown regulations imposed last May it was impossible for the Friends of All Saints' to hold their scheduled AGM. While its

Accounts have been legally accepted by the Charity Commission it is still necessary to conduct a meeting to formally approve the election of a Chair and its Committee for the remainder of 2020/21. All members are being notified of a virtual AGM on Wednesday 23rd September at 19.00. Anyone wishing to learn more and get involved in the charity are invited to contact the outgoing chair, Fred Cabbage (848768).



Do you care for a friend or relative? Do you look after a friend or a relative in their home or yours? If so, Healthwatch Oxfordshire wants to hear from you!

As an independent champion for people who use health and social care, we want to know what it is like to be an unpaid carer and about the help and support you receive or need.

Even if you only help someone for a few hours or you don't see yourself as a 'carer', your views are important.

If you are aged 18 or over and care for an adult relative, friend or neighbour who is elderly or has an illness, disability, mental health problem or addiction please share your views by completing an anonymous survey at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Unpaidcarers If you'd prefer to talk this through over the phone, or to ask for a paper copy of the survey to be sent out to you, please call 01865 520520.

To find out more about Healthwatch Oxfordshire see www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk

SCIDS

"The Real Legend of Robin Hood"



The team has talked, the script is fun and ready, ten musical numbers chosen and now the lyrics just need a little adaptation. SCIDS will, as usual, have a 'sign on' date in December and production dates in the Spring. All options are open, virtual - indoors - outdoors - it will happen.

However the dates are not yet set as we need to see how all the regulations move on during the Autumn. So, young and old; heroes; baddies; villagers of Sutton Courtenay, three rather strange animals; and loads of Merry Men and stage crew - SCIDS needs you all.

New to SCIDS, just watch for the sign on date and come along, no previous experience necessary !! You will be welcome.

Bernie, Kirsty, Sally and Morna morna28whitlock@gmail.com or 01235 848335

Litter

There are some lovely walks around Sutton Courtenay. Being in isolation I have been walking every day to keep active. Unfortunately those walks are used by other people and their dogs who are allowed to run free and so have deposited many piles of poop, making it difficult for walking and jogging with the increasing piles. Now believe me when I say I am a dog lover and have on many occasions taken my dogs for walks but have taken poop bags and cleaned up behind them. Can these people with their dogs have a little consideration for walkers and joggers and take a poop bag and clean up behind their dogs.

Sutton Courtenay Resident—name and address supplied

More litter!



I wonder whether you could place a short reminder in the next newsletter about the use of litterbins. I have been picking up bags and bags of discarded empty cans and bottles and other rubbish from the footpaths around Sutton Courtenay in the past weeks. The most surprising are the little plastic bags with dog-

poo. Picking up your dog's poo and then leaving the plastic bags forever lying around in the countryside completely defeats the purpose. It is frankly better to do nothing at all, then nature will clear it up eventually.

I am a member of Rotary Club Abingdon Vesper and Rotarians of the three Rotary Clubs in Abingdon are holding regular litter

picks in an effort to keep the countryside clean and beautiful. To date, the Riverside and Abingdon Vesper Rotary Clubs have held 7 litterpick sessions in Abingdon Parks, each time collecting numerous bags of rubbish. Wendy Winfield of the Riverside Rotary Club says "There is more litter after good weather, especially around seats and, surprisingly, bins. It is clear that people are meeting in the parks as a hideaway for smoking and the new craze of inhaling gas. Canisters everywhere." We plan to keep litter picking at regular intervals throughout the summer. Maya Smeulders

History of the footpath by the Weirs

My father Samuel Lewis was a builder who was contracted until his death in 1938 to keep the footpath and bridges safe for walkers. The path had been a tow path for horses bringing coal to the Wharf, now a private house.

During the war the lady occupant of Mill House opened the entrance to the island, which became known as 'Sandy Beach', because during wartime no-one had access to the seaside beaches. When UKAE Harwell was established after the war, water was diverted after use down to the Mill House garden, and away towards Wallingford. UKAEA then built a new footbridge entrance to the tow path.

Kay Slater

This is an extract from a letter from Mrs Slater in which she also expresses her thanks for the face masks (made by volunteers in the village) delivered to her.

Need A Mask



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#/>

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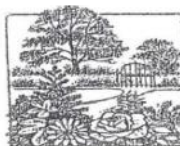
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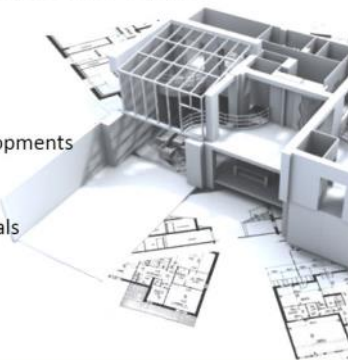


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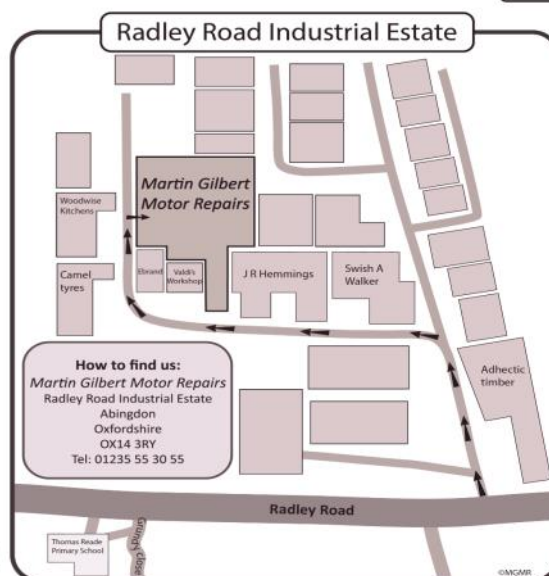
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