SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 50 No. 5

JUNE 2021



VILLAGE DIARY

JUNE				
Thursday	10^{th}	10:30	Community Café	Zoom
Thursday	10^{th}	a.m.	200 Club draw	Zoom
Wednesday	16^{th}		COPY DEADLINE Sutton Courtney News	
Thursday	24^{th}	10:30	Community Café	River Room
Friday	$25^{\rm th}$	p.m.	Donkathon	Village
JULY				
Sunday	4^{th}	12:00	Friends' Annual Garden Party	Cross Trees
Sunday	25^{th}	p.m.	Cream Teas	River Room

Previous copies of the Sutton Courtenay News are available on the website under Archives at suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk

JULY & AUGUST 2021 SCN DEADLINE – WEDNESDAY 16^{TH} JUNE 2021

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

VILLAGE CONTACTS

County Councillor: Richard Webber, 534001 (Schools, Roads etc.) richardwebber777@gmail.com
District Councillor: Richard Webber—as above

(Planning, Waste etc.)

Parish Council Chair: Eileen Daw

eileendaw@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk

Beavers, Cubs & Scouts: Adrian Rouse, 07730 313384

adrian.j.rouse@gmail.com

Brownies: Mary steventonrainbows@gmail.com

Stay & Play Toddler Group: Facebook page: @SCstayandplay

Friends of All Saints - Chair: Sue Jenkins 07885 437454

Matrix Music School: 847264 The Abbey: 847401

Village Hall – SC: scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com

Cricket Club: drb71@hotmail.co.uk
WI - Sutton Courtenay
Nordic Walking Group: Graham Wells 847322
Churchmere Carp Synd.: Roger Rance 847241

DAMASCUS Youth Project: 848694

SC Local History Society: Mary Thompson 848527 sclhs.org.uk

marydthompson@outlook.com

SCIDS (Drama Society): Morna Whitlock, 848335

morna28whitlock@gmail.com

All Saints Singers: Kathy Harrop-Griffiths, 848230

secretary@allsaintssingers.org www.allsaintssingers.org

Sutton Courtenay Action: suttoncourtenayaction@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 (formerly 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 three defibrillators.

One is located outside the front roller doors of Sutton Courtenay Tyres on the High Street. The

second is in the old BT phone

booth opposite the Nursery on the High Street. The third 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

01235 848297 rector@damascusparish.org.uk

Assistant curate: The Reverend Karen Hyde

07526 985395 curate@damascusparish.org.uk

Assistant Priest: The Reverend Rosie Bruce

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

01235 537110 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

See Page 8



SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS CONTACTS

Sutton Courtenay News is published by the editorial team, the members of which are: Jennie Corrigan, Katherine Harrop-Griffiths (07946 474238), Kathy Whittaker and Bernie Jones (07761 375991). Bernie deals with all the advertising.

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

All contributions for the next edition should be e-mailed to editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk, taken to Sutton Courtenay Tyres petrol station shop or posted in the mailbox on the outside of the garden door of Cross Trees, 1 Church Street before the copy date entered on the front page. To have any contribution published you must provide your name & contact details to the editors.

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

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 suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk but please contact the editors to discuss what other arrangements can be made for those unable to access the website.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



Changes at the Council

The resignation of Mike Jenkins was acknowledged at the Annual Parish Council meeting. The council would wish to thank Mike

for his service to the Council and the residents of Sutton Courtenay who he has represented for 50 years. The new Chairman for this year 2021/22 was voted for and Eileen Daw was elected. Merouan Hemamda was elected as vice-chairman. Three new members of the Council, Patrick Stewart, Louis Thurman and Antony Willott were co-opted at the April meeting of the Council.

Return to physical meetings

With the end of emergency legislation, Council meetings will be returning to physical meetings from June. Meetings will take place in the larger room at the village hall while restrictions remain in place, with social distancing and other measures in place. There is a maximum capacity of 30 people in the room and we would be grateful, if you could confirm if you will be attending a meeting in advance, if at all possible, to ensure that every effort can be made to accommodate everybody.

New bridge crossing and relief road

The Parish Council has recently written to the Ministry of Communities, Housing and Local Government requesting an extension to the deadline of funding in relation to the new bridge crossing and relief road to allow substantive consultation with parishes affected by the proposals. The concern of Sutton Courtenay Parish Council is the impact of a proposed new roundabout in the village on traffic throughout the village and surrounding localities. Representatives from the Parish Council have met with Oxfordshire County Council and have on numerous occasions requested analysis and data relating to design and placement of the roundabout and have yet to receive the same. The Parish Council are aware of Appleford Parish Council's campaign for the relocation of a proposed fly over. Sutton Courtenay Parish Council has offered its support to Appleford Parish Council on the basis that the flyover is not moved from its proposed relocation position any closer to Sutton Courtenay and that it receives mutual support back in relation to any appeals relating to the proposed roundabout.

New Developments

The Parish Council has been made aware of a potential application in relation to the land at Hobbyhorse Lane. It is understood that flyers will be posted to residents requesting comments by the beginning of June 2021. It is also understood that FCC are looking to install a solar farm on their land and the council is seeking further information on the same.

5G phone mast

We were recently asked to comment on a planning application relating to the installation of a 5G phone mast in Bradstocks

Way. The Parish Council objected to the same due to the fact that it was not in keeping with the character of the village and also commented on the lack of consultation with both the council and residents. The Parish Council was keen to advise Vale of White Horse District Council that it is supportive of improvements to the communications infrastructure as a whole but had received no substantive information on the location and other possible sites within the vicinity. The Parish Council has now received notification that this application has been granted and, under the National Planning Policy Framework may not even have been required in any event.

Council Projects

The Council is currently undertaking several large and medium sized projects as well as the usual day to day duties it carries out. The large projects are the upgrade of the recreation ground and other facilities in the village, a village art trail and the upgrade and opening of the next phase of the cemetery. Other projects are, the ongoing campaign to improve the state of the footpaths in the village and surrounding areas which also includes a project to repair the Church Street footpath for which grant monies have been obtained and the replacement of stiles with kissing gates on land around the village. If you feel you have the skills or interest to assist with any of these projects, please do let the clerk know using the details below.

Casual Vacancy

Following the resignation of Michael Jenkins, a casual vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council. This vacancy will be filled by co-option unless ten members of the public request for an election to be held. Such request must be made in writing to the Returning Officer at Vale of White Horse District Council within 14 working days of the date of the notice of casual vacancy being advertised. The vacancy was advertised on the Parish Council website and the noticeboard outside Hari and Esha stores on Monday 17th May and the date of the end of the notice period is expected to be Thursday 3rd or Friday 4th June although at the time of writing final confirmation from the Returning Officer was awaited. Should you be interested in becoming a member of the Parish Council, please contact the clerk on the below address for further details.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 1st June 2021 at the Village Hall, Frilsham Street commencing at 7.15pm. Due to Covid-19 restrictions in place, please do let the clerk know if you intend to attend the meeting so that relevant measures can be put in place. Please check the website or the noticeboard outside Hari and Esha stores in case of any change.

Contact details: Helen Savery, Clerk to Sutton Courtenay Parish Council, 10 Sovereign Place, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 9GF. Email: info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk Tel: 01235 364211.

SUTTON COURTENAY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Our staff are our biggest asset!

With all the challenges of this year, we are amazed at how much we have managed to achieve together. This could not have been made possible without such a dedicated staff team, who regularly go above and beyond. Next year, we have a number of exciting staff changes. Mrs Vickers, who has served at the school for nine years, has achieved an Assistant Headship at Didcot Primary Academy. We are very proud of her! We have two new teachers starting in September. Miss Ellen Clark will be new to the profession. Mr Simeon Stoodley worked at the school as a teaching assistant in the year 2017-18, and also did some work for the DAMASCUS Youth Group that summer. Having qualified at Bayards Hill School and served there for two years, he saw our advert and wanted to return!

We are also keen to develop our existing staff. We are using Teaching Assistants in a much more fluid way, with the teacher leading the planning of classes but working closely with TAs on strategy and delivery. Teaching Assistants are now often at the front of the class leading a lesson while the teacher focuses on a particular group. We are deliberately avoiding situations where a TA is always with the same child or group. We have started trialling this already and we are seeing good results.



Meanwhile our caretaker, Mr Richard Greenough, celebrated 25 years of service at the school this month! He started in 1996. Some of you who attended the school then will remember. Mr Greenough says that when he arrived there was a portacabin in what is now Barn Owls' garden, where the Nursery class was located – but the two rooms which are now

Barn Owls and Robins were not used at all! The school was very small at that stage with less than 80 pupils. Over the years Mr Greenough has definitely made his mark on the school, constructing the Forest School, bottle greenhouse

and garden, Robins' outdoor area, and recently Kestrels' garden. He has also carried out numerous indoor projects including moving walls and doors and creating



ingenious storage solutions. This picture shows the school in the 1990s, looking towards where Robins' outdoor area is now.

We are also keen to welcome trainee teachers, and this term we have three students from Oxford Brookes

University and Abingdon and Witney College working with us in classes.

The children are good teachers too!

To help our younger children



get lots of practice, we have trained the older ones to listen to them while they read. They use a strategy of Pause, Prompt, Praise. We have made sure that the prompts they give are in line with our whole school routines so that this provides consistency for younger children.

Headteacher: Ms Rachel Hornsey

Asst. Headteachers: Lisa Knight and Louise Potter

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

Tel: 01235 848333

VILLAGE HALL



The village hall is a registered charity available for hire for community related recreational activities. It is located in Hobbyhorse Lane (OX14 4BB).

It has a large main hall, a smaller meeting room and kitchen. There are regular activities that take place on some weekday evenings. To find out more or book the hall please contact the Secretary to the Village Hall Management Committee Rita Atkinson on 01235 848694, email scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com.

Hire charges vary depending on the nature of the use of the hall. The maximum hire charge for the main hall is £16 per hour. Commercial bookings and regular hire are negotiated separately. Visits prior to hire are welcomed.

In accordance with government rules to prevent, and protect against, the spread of the coronavirus, 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 government guidance changes. Please do get in touch to check if your activity is permitted under the regulations.

ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project



Youth & Community Acting Together

As we head towards the midpoint of the year, the team once again are planning for half-term and summer holiday activities, so keep an eye out on the team's social media accounts for when the news breaks. We are happy to finally announce our new website has launched with a fresh new look and feel — go take a look!

As always, we have been busy working with the young people in the village and this month we have focussed on healthy relationships and sexual health. The young people were very engaged and the conversations were enlightening for both the team and young people. Our Youth Ambassadors were busy once again, this time helping to conduct a sexual health resource consultation that will inform a Public Health England report.



Older Group taking part in a Healthy Relationships Workshop

At 5pm every Wednesday we are on the field at the recreation ground with our gazebo and sports equipment. This session is well attended but we are always looking to support more young people. So if you are a young person aged 10+ please do come along and meet the team and see what we can do for you!



Sutton Courtenay Sport Session

The ADYP Team — Roxy Elford, Jake Fleetwood and James Quartermain, Emily Astley-Madge

Do contact any of us on jamesq.ycat@gmail.com, jakef.ycat@gmail.com, roxy.ycat@gmail.com, emily.adyp@gmail.com

Tel: 01235 848694 or 07875649008

f

Jake Damascus, Roxy Damascus, James Damascus, Emily Damascus



Jake_Damascus; James_Damascus; Roxy_Damascus; Emily_Damascus

YouTube - The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project — MIND GYM

Website - www.damascusyouthproject.org.uk

FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

Thank you for all your contributions this month. As lockdown eases and we are getting used to increased freedom we are seeing more events in the calendar for later in the summer going into autumn. It isn't surprising that things are slow to open up but, as a consequence, our Village Diary is not as busy as we would like it to be. If you do have events planned please let us know.

Most people are now used to using the internet and

sending emails, but if that is still not for you we now have two drop-off points for written communication. The people in Sutton Courtenay Tyres garage shop have agreed to take correspondence, and for those living at the north end of the village you are welcome to use the mailbox



attached to the garden door of Cross Trees, 1 Church Street. It is at the side of the road near the Triangle and easily accessible.

We are looking to recruit a new volunteer distributor (see page 9). Please think about joining the team.

Just a reminder that the July copy of the Sutton Courtenay News covers August too, so please send us notices to cover both months by $16^{\rm th}$ June.

We keep scanning the weather forecast, in hope rather than expectation of fine weather. Regardless, here's hoping we all have a good summer!

The Editors

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP (NAG5) SAFETY CORNER

Out-dated routers a potential security risk

Consumer watchdog Which? has reported that around 6 million people in the UK could be using routers that have not been updated since 2018. This means that crucial security updates have not been installed. Read the full article from Which?, including information about which devices are likely to be affected and how to request a new router, at tinyurl.com/3v6cxpjz.(link has been shortened for ease of use).

Warning about 'number spoofing' phone calls

The UK telecoms regulator, Ofcom, is warning the public not to trust caller ID as a means of verifying a caller's identification.

- Fraudsters are increasingly changing their caller ID to disguise their identity, which is known as 'number spoofing'.
- If a victim is hesitant about believing a call is genuine
 the fraudster may suggest that the victim compares the
 reverse of the bank card with the number that the call
 is from, (i.e. the number being spoofed).
- A recent report suggests that the number of reported cases of impersonation fraud including spoof calls nearly doubled last year to 40,000. It is believed that the real figure is likely to be much higher, because many victims won't report fraud to their bank or building society, or even tell their family or friends, due to feelings of embarrassment or guilt.
- Each case can involve the theft of thousands, or even tens of thousands of pounds, leaving the financial and emotional lives of victims ruined.

Pension scams

Almost eight million people in Britain have been targeted by fraudsters attempting to trick innocent pensioners out of their life savings. The number of pension scams has rocketed during the pandemic and it has quickly become one of the most common types of fraud. The number of reported crimes has jumped 45% this year, compared with 2020, according to Action Fraud. The Pensions Regulator has said it's investigating more than £54 million of lost savings, affecting 18,000 people. The Financial Conduct Authority has warned the true figure will be much higher.

7.6 million people report receiving unsolicited emails, texts or calls from people encouraging them to transfer or release money from their pension. Cold calling has been the most common way for scammers to target victims. Scammers have also increasingly used websites to lure unsuspecting victims. Aviva, the pensions group, identified 27 fake websites between March and September 2020, that purported to be the company and tried to defraud pension savers.

Reporting scam emails, phone calls, texts and letters

- If you've been the victim of a scam or fraud it's likely you'll feel embarrassed and upset. But please don't let that stop you reporting it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or at www.actionfraud.police.uk/
- Forward suspicious emails to phishing@report.gov.uk
- Forward suspicious texts, free-of-charge, to 7726 so that your service provider can investigate.

'Happy to Chat' benches in Abingdon

In order to help those in the community who are experiencing isolation and loneliness, Abingdon Town Council has marked some benches in the town as 'Happy to Chat' benches. By choosing to sit on one of these benches people indicate that they're happy for others to



join them on the bench for a chat or just to say hello.

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 CHURCHMERE POOL CARP SYNDICATE

Well, last offering I said we needed rain, beware of what you wish for! I'm in Cornwall at the moment and it has barely stopped.

As to the pool, it is in good hands. The committee organised a work party and have initiated some marvellous improvements, well done the lads. Fishing wise, things are leaping ahead. We have found a number of new thirties with Crinkle Tail topping out at 39 lb. 12 oz., a syndicate record to JM, nearly a forty, plus plenty of top end twenties showing.

I have not been to the pool as much as normal due to weather and holidays but I am pleased to report all bird life breeding well and lily plants and iris showing but no flowers as yet, but it won't be long.

So now, let's have some Summer please.

Roger Rance, Chairman

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Post Election Article

Editors of the Parish newsletters and Parish Council Chairmen have been very patient and understanding after the upheaval at OCC resulting from the May 6th elections. For me, it has been a surreal few weeks resulting in back to back meetings and negotiations leaving me with little time or energy for anything else. Whilst I need to ask for the forbearance of the few people waiting for responses to various pieces of casework, (I will be catching up in the next couple of weeks), there are some things I should say now.

First, many thanks to all those who voted for me to be your County Councillor for another four years. Secondly, an assurance to those who did not vote for me, that I hope that I can reassure you that I will strive to represent everyone in my Division with equal commitment. Thirdly, to thank my political opponents for their participation and making it a very fair fight as these things go. And finally, to reassure everyone that my main focus for the immediate future will be on those issues that affect my particular area which is under particular pressure from the impacts of new infrastructure.

And on a light-hearted note...

Of many doorstep conversations I have had over recent weeks, the one that gave me most cause for thought ran something like this...

"Hello, my name is Richard Webber. I am your County Councillor for the next two weeks anyway."

"Ah yes, good to see you. So, you will be wanting my vote then."

"Er yes, I suppose that is why I am here. Is there anything you would like to discuss? Any concerns? Any problems? Any issues?"

"Well look then, will you promise to wash my car?"

"Hang on a minute, there are more than 2000 cars in this village."

"Well, that's the point. You need to sort out your priorities."

I am still not sure what he meant.

Richard Webber Cllr. OCC richardwebber@gmail.com 07546 571521

DAVID JOHNSTON MP



We've had two Cabinet Ministers visit the constituency in the past month. First up was Priti Patel, Home Secretary, in support of Matt Barber's (successful) campaign to be the

Police and Crime Commissioner. She visited Great Western Park, where residents have had considerable problems with unauthorised traveller camps. This is something I have raised in the House of Commons on more than one occasion and something that Matt has campaigned against with people like Cllr Ian Snowdon. GWP residents appreciated meeting her as she is bringing forward the new laws on this problem.

The second was Kwasi Kwarteng, Secretary of State for BEIS. This came about after I told him about Johnson Matthey's new flagship site at Milton Park to develop and test the next generation of electric vehicle batteries; he said he'd be pleased to visit. After the official opening, I took him to Greencore Construction's Springfield Meadows development in Southmoor. I have already brought the Minister for Science, Research and Innovation to see their impressive homes and set up Greencore to meet the Government's Net Zero Champion, too, but I am keen for as many in government as possible to see how they've built not just net zero but carbon-positive homes.

While on the subject of the environment, I am holding a pre-COP26 summit for constituents on 1st July at which we'll talk about some of the key issues we need to make progress on, showcase some of the great local

organisations we have in the area – including Greencore – and agree ideas to send to Alok Sharma, President of COP26, ahead of the summit.

It has been good to be able to have more face to face meetings and visit more places as lockdown has eased. I have had very enjoyable visits to all sorts of shops, pubs (such as the Radnor Arms in Coleshill) and restaurants (such as the Fish in Sutton Courtenay). Other highlights have included Tom Brown's School Museum in Uffington, still in its original 1617 school building, and Flowers from Molly in Faringdon, which allows you to nominate someone to receive a bunch of flowers or a letter of hope if you think they could do with a lift.

I have secured the cross-party support I needed to be able to hold a debate in parliament on the performance of Royal Mail; it is clear we are not the only area that has been having problems. It is now just a question of when the debate can be scheduled. I read in the paper that in Wantage and Grove some residents have just received post from up to 13 years ago as a former postal worker had it in their home this whole time, but I don't think that accounts for all of the problems we've had!

As ever, if I can help with anything then do let me know via david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



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.....

Obeying the Rules?

This time last year we were still wondering how many of us would be obeying the new Covid rules. There had been quite a bit of posturing by those who seem to regard rules as challenges to be confronted: "Rules are there to be broken". However, recent studies have shown that we've all been remarkably good!

Of course, lockdown was effectively unenforceable because the police couldn't be outside every house and on every street corner — but it seems that disapproval from other people played a big part in whether the rules were being obeyed. The law has helped by making the rules clear and helping people to work together, and there has definitely been a sense of common identity in trying to protect the NHS.

But now, we might ask, are people going to follow the social distancing rules when it won't be against the law to mix, and they are just being asked to be careful? Or are they going to throw their masks away on June 21? There's much talk now about "Getting back to normal". But the guidelines, the rules about how to care for each other while the pandemic lasts, will still be there. It will only be a 'new normal'.

The thing about quotations such as "Rules are only there to be broken" is that they are usually a part of longer quotations which have been very well thought out — and not a call to blind disobedience, but a call to think; like this quote from Terry Pratchett: "Look, that's why there's rules, understand? So that you think before you break 'em."

Reason tells us that, sometimes, we need to obey rules in order to live in a safe and ordered society. Reason tells us that if we don't obey the road safety rules, we, or someone else, might get seriously injured or killed. Reason may tell us that the Covid danger might not be over by June 21, and that the logic behind the rules remains.

Jesus gave us an illustration. He got into real trouble with the religious authorities one day because his disciples had picked ears of corn to eat on the Sabbath - because they were hungry. But, said Jesus, the rule to rest on the Sabbath was made for the benefit of the people, not to make a rod for their backs (or words to that effect). He went straight to the original intention of the rule, and he applied it. We need to do that with the Covid rules.

Sometimes, by mindlessly applying a rule — or mindlessly dismissing it - we can completely miss the greater truth it is pointing towards. The greater truth here is the love of God, and his love and care for all people — and their safety and well-being.

Now that all our churches are open for Services again, we continue to be very careful with our social distancing precautions. People report that they feel safe, and we are always delighted to welcome any who would like to join us.

Alex Landsbert

Licensed Lay Minister in the DAMASCUS Parish

Church Services

1st Sunday: Family Service at 10.30
2nd Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 10.30
3rd Sunday: Morning Worship at 10.30
4th Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 10.30
The church is open during daylight hours.

There is space for personal prayer in the South Aisle. There is a box for the Abingdon Food Bank in the porch.

Junior Church

We are now delighted to again be welcoming children to Junior Church in the River Room each Sunday — except on the first Sunday of the month when we meet together for a Family Service.

Online Worship

Now that we are able to worship in church again our last Online Worship Service will be on June 16.

Please see the link at www.damascusparish.org.uk Thank you for joining us online!

Community Café

10.30 am to 12 noon on 2nd & 4th Thursday in Month Thursday 10 June via Zoom – with 200 CLUB DRAW (contact tim.budd23@gmail.com for link)

<u>Thursday 24 June</u> **IN RIVER ROOM!** (Subject to easing of Covid restrictions)

BOOKS AND JIGSAWS

We have quite a library of books and jigsaws in church! You are welcome to come and browse — and borrow or buy.

Please put a donation towards church funds in the wall safe to the right of the door.

Music in All Saints'

There has been no further guidance about everyone being able to sing in church again yet, but for our Services we are fortunate to have lovely organ and piano music, and singing from our choir.



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

ADVANCE NOTICE CREAM TEAS IN THE SUMMER

Something to Look Forward to!
Again, Covid-19 restrictions permitting, we are planning to host Cream Teas, in the River Room, on the following days in summer:

Every Sunday from 25th July to 22nd August plus Bank Holiday Monday 30 August.

There will also be bric-a-brac and book stalls; and a raffle.

PUT THE DATES IN YOUR DIARIES AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

RIVER ROOM 200 CLUB In Support of the All Saints' Community Space

The winning numbers at the Draw on May 13 were:

 1^{st} - No. 27 (£50.00)

 2^{nd} - No. 35 (£25.00)

 3^{rd} – No. 29 (£8.50) New members always welcome. Please see the information in All Saints' Church or email

landsbert@west-manor.co.uk

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY LUNCH

SUNDAY 4TH JULY 2021 AT 12 NOON CROSS TREES, 1, CHURCH STREET, SUTTON COURTENAY

The Friends of All Saints' Church will be holding their annual Garden Party on Sunday 4th July in the Garden of Robert & Kathy Leonard at 12 noon. Families and friends within the village and beyond are welcome to join us.

Tickets: £12 adults, £6 Children 6 & over Family ticket £30, 2 adults & 2 + children.

Tickets available from any member of the committee, or directly from the Chairman:

Sue Jenkins SJJenkins33@aol.com 07885 437454

Entertaining this Summer?

Borrow a tent from 'The Friends of All Saints' Church'

The Friends of All Saints' Church have two good quality white tents that can be borrowed for your outdoor entertaining this summer. Each tent is $6m \times 3m$ ($20ft \times 10ft$) with sides that can be added or not, depending on weather.

A donation to The Friends of All Saints' Church would be appreciated.

To erect and strike the tents - Friends of All Saints will provide a supervisor but the borrower would need to provide an able bodied team of four as labour. Times for this would be negotiable.

All enquiries to

Morna Whitlock (morna28whitlock@gmail.com)

David McKenzie (d.j.mckenzie@hotmail.com)

SCN VOLUNTEER NEEDED

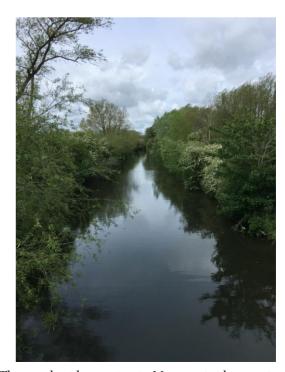
BARRETTS WAY VOLUNTEER DISTRIBUTOR NEEDED PLEASE

Rachael has delivered SCN to some of the houses in Barretts Way for a number of years. Sadly, Rachael is moving away from the village. We would like to thank her for delivering SCN over the years and we wish her and her family well in their new home.

If anyone would like to volunteer to take over Rachael's deliveries please contact Clare on 847566 for more information or email scmail836@gmail.com

Many thanks,

The Sutton Courtenay News Editorial Team



The canal mid-morning in May – rain threatening.

SUTTON COURTENAY PRODUCE SHOW

citizens advice

Help with long-term Covid

Over a million people in the UK are suffering from Long Covid, the accepted

term for the effects of Coronavirus lasting more than four weeks. And, sad to say, more than 70,000 people in this country have had Covid symptoms - fatigue, breathlessness, numbness, pain or partial hearing loss - for over a year.

If you are one of those affected, you should know that PIP (personal independence payments) may be available. PIP is financial support for those who have an illness, disability or mental health condition, making it hard for them to do everyday tasks or get around. Income, savings and employment status don't affect your PIP eligibility, and PIP can supplement any other benefits you might be receiving. To apply, you need to be aged between 16 and your state pension age, and you need to have had these health problems for at least three months and expect them to continue. For help with applying for PIP, contact Citizens Advice Adviceline on 0808 278 7907 (for Oxfordshire South and Vale).

There is more information about PIP at: www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/sick-or-disabled-people-and-carers/pip/

NORDIC WALKING

How would you like to walk, but with double the health benefits? Walking with proper Nordic poles, not trekking poles, using the taught technique can enhance your exercise by another 40% as you are pushing on the poles to work your upper body and propel yourself with less perceived effort. The poles take a lot of the weight off your joints to ease any existing problems with knees and hips and still ensure these joints can be exercised. Your posture is improved from the first minute of instruction. Courses are free and are run by a qualified British Nordic Walking Instructor at the Village Recreation Ground. The poles are provided.

Bookings are now being taken, to enrol please contact active.communities@southandvale.gov.uk.

If you can walk you can Nordic Walk, something only costing your time, and the reward is outstanding in fitness gained.

Graham Wells

The committee is hoping that the show will go ahead this year on Saturday, September 4^{th} . We are using the same schedule as planned for last year's cancelled show so that any art and craft items etc made then can be entered this year. The children's classes will all be judged in two age ranges -6 & under and 7 to 11 years of age. In some of the main classes we have included a section for the 12 to 16 age range. Some people have previously commented that 1 square metre is not good for a quilted item and so we will allow larger items but they must be folded to 1 metre square for display and judging as we are always limited for space.

As many people may have been keeping themselves occupied in various craft projects during this year's lockdowns, we would like to set up a display of anything you have made that isn't eligible to be entered into any of the classes - as long as it is not too large!

Anyone can enter in any class and we hope to see even more people take part this year. However, if we are again unable to hold a show, we would plan to use the same schedule for 2022 so that anything you might have entered in the Art, Craft or Photography classes will be able to go in the show then.

You may wonder what the money we raise from entry fees, teas and raffles is used for. Whatever remains after paying the expenses of running the show, is used for the benefit of the village. We have made donations to the Sutton Courtenay News and have provided some of the seats around the village. If you have admired the beautiful display of daffodils that have brightened various areas of Sutton Courtenay this spring, many of these were paid for in this way and were planted by the committee aided by some members of The DAMASCUS Group.

Any help on the Friday evening with setting up the hall would be greatly appreciated and also in clearing away after the show. Offers to 01235 848633 please.

The Produce Show Committee

Editor's Note: The full list of categories for the Sutton Courtenay Produce Show appeared in the April edition of Sutton Courtenay News and is available on-line at suttoncourtenaynews@co.uk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LITTER

I was extremely pleased to see the subject of litter raised in the Sutton Courtenay News last month because I think we all need to sharpen up on this subject. We live in a lovely village, long may it remain so.

In this throw-away society we live in, with the readily available take away food, eating on the move seems the norm (think back to our parents' age when eating in public was frowned on). Today, a quick nip to a fast-food outlet and instant lunch is available. Which in turn leads to, 'where shall we eat it?' and then discard the packaging. Unfortunately, it seems to be where we were sitting and not in the bin.

Is this because we can't be bothered? Or the bin is full? Do we need larger bins or more of them? Or is it a question of re-educating people to take their rubbish home? Yes, the fines are there, £80 seems quite stiff but hardly ever enforced.

Where does education start? In the home, by example or in

One positive and useful tip is to tape a plastic bin liner to the inside of your car for any rubbish, and an average family have a lot; sweet wrappers, ice lolly sticks etc. and who doesn't want a tidy car? I believe this would make a huge difference.

TAKE IT HOME!

Name supplied.

BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS

In 1982 I gave my first blood donation and this month marked my 250th donation. I started because my Dad used to go and the lure of free tea and biscuits was always there. I have moved around the UK, travelled abroad and there

has never been a problem with donations. I have even given blood in Germany for a time (better biscuits!). There are lots of good reasons to donate and the blood transfusion service is looking for 400 new donors a day to meet demand. This is in addition to the 135,000 new donors



a year needed to replace those who can no longer donate.

We are lucky in this area to have the JR which has a Centre equipped to take plasma and platelets which is life saving for patients suffering from anaemia, cancer and blood disorders. The staff there are great and I have spent many a session having a laugh with them even in these trying times.

You are still able to travel to the donation centres despite coronavirus restrictions.

Go to the National Blood transfusion service website www.blood.co.uk or call 0300 123 23 23

Steve Vincent

VANDALISM in LADY PLACE PLAYGROUND

On the evening of Monday 10 May (between 7:30 and 8:15pm) a child left their music bag in the playground by mistake. Some other children decided it would be fun to take the music books out and rip some of them to pieces. Another book had offensive graffiti scrawled over it. As the books come with CDs, replacements will cost £72.



WHAT A SHOCKING WASTE! UTTERLY POINTLESS!

The parent returned to collect the bag and took a photo of the destruction. They then reported it to the police.

Lindsay Matrix Arts Centre

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Do you print your own photographs? I have a selection of suitable papers – A4 and 4"x6" sizes If interested please phone 01235 847422

Florence

SUTTON COURTENAY WI



This summer will establish the direction of Oxfordshire for the next generation.

The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 will define the development strategy for the county for the next three decades, including both the quality and quantity of housing and the broad locations for growth.

TIME TO TAKE ACTION!

This is our best, and possibly only, opportunity to influence development in Oxfordshire over the next 30 years — don't miss it! Waiting until actual planning applications come forward is too late — we need your help to engage now, as policy is formed, so that we can give our countryside the best chance for the future.

The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) has prepared an Oxfordshire Plan 2050 briefing, to help you engage and get involved in planning the future of Oxfordshire. Download a copy from our website here: tinyurl.com/sm5dw2dk

Julia Benning | Communications Manager Mon, Tues & Thurs 9.30-2.30

T: 07392 769377

E: comms@cpreoxon.org.uk | cpreoxon.org.uk | facebook.com/CPREOxfordshire | Twitter@CPREOxfordshire | dshire

New Home Needed

Two healthy Rhode Island Red cockerels, 6 months old, looking for a new home together or separately.

Please contact: Abi <u>courtyard49@gmail.com</u>







On 26 May this year, our village WI will celebrate 100 years of meetings.

To commemorate this, we are donating a bench to the village.

We plan to site it on the village green.

We hope future generations will be able to sit down and perhaps reflect on what women have achieved over the years.

In these unusual times, the group meetings have been put on hold but we have a program ready for take-off as soon as it is allowed.

Speak to a member if you would like more information or contact Val on 847612



Do You Enjoy Singing?

All Saints' Singers of Sutton Courtenay are looking for new members



Research has shown that singing in a choir is good for you - it improves well-being, helps memory, posture and breathing, and reduces stress.

Come and reap the benefits of singing together!

We are a friendly community choir with an excellent music director.

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Could you give someone the opportunity to live the fullest life they can live? Help them grow in confidence? Encourage them to become more independent and do things they never thought they would be able to do?

The Shared Lives scheme matches people who need additional support to be independent, with carers and their families. The opportunity to share a family's life, as part of their household, gives them a valuable alternative to staying in residential care or being looked after by a team of support workers.

Becoming a Shared Lives Carer for Oxfordshire County Council will make a big difference to someone's life. If you love people, and are looking for something that is rewarding, paid and home-based - share your life, change a life - oxfordshire.gov.uk/sharedlivescarers



SEASONAL FLOWERS





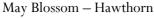


Red Campion

Cowslip

Ground Ivy







Apple Blossom

THE PATH LESS TRAVELLED by SIMON LAZARE

This month's walk is about 13km, 8 mile long, starting from The Green but you can stop and return at any point along the way. The route follows part of The Kingdom of Wessex Trail between Sutton Courtenay and Dorchester on Thames but the suggested walk is to the Saxon Hall in Long Wittenham. For information on this please visit https://sylva.org.uk/wessex.

From The Green, take Churchmere Road (Footpath (FP) 12) east until you find the entrance to the Millennium Common on your left, you could go straight on but it would be a pity not to take the opportunity to walk through the Common. Go through the kissing gate and follow the path north until it turns east. You can now follow any path through the Common, they all lead back to Churchmere Road.

When you leave the Common via one of the gates turn left, east, and continue along Churchmere Road, FP 12 to the landfill pit at the end. Here the path is temporarily diverted north around the pit. Follow the path keeping to your right. It turns east along the south side of a field and meets the Appleford Road, B4016. The path continues on the south side of the Appleford Road with a hedgerow between path and road.

The path continues south along Appleford Road to the corner where road and path turn left, east, and continue

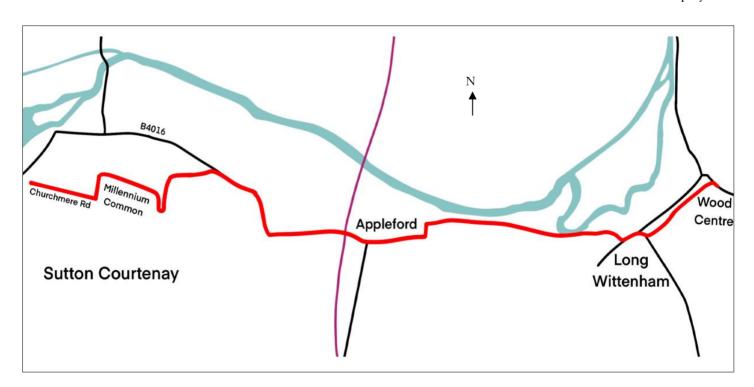
toward Appleford Station. The path ends abruptly before Bridge House, Appleford, and there is no footpath on the ramp up and over the railway bridge, so **take care** and keep on the right-hand side so you can see oncoming traffic. On the east side of the bridge there is a footpath.

Follow the path down to the junction. Cross the road onto Church St, Appleford Church is clearly visible. When you get to the church you will see the signs for the bridleway along the south side of the church. Follow this around the church heading north. Turn right, east. After a few meters you will see a stile, on the left, into the field. The public right of way continues east along the hedgerow but there is also a path along the bank of the river Thames with excellent views up and down the river. Follow the path east for approximately 1 km to the wooden bridge on the outskirts of Long Wittenham, continue on this path behind the houses until you reach the High Street.

Turn left, east, along the High St until you get to Didcot Rd. Turn right, south east, on Didcot Rd for a few meters to the lane on the left. Follow the lane, east, behind the houses to the end on Little Wittenham Rd. Turn right, and soon you will see the entrance to the House of Wessex. Retrace your steps to return to Sutton Courtenay.

Simon Lazare

Map by Zen







OVER THE HILLS THE DONKATHON WAY!

The Donkathon is a 200-mile challenge for me and my two donkeys, Wizard and Muffin, and also my standard poodle, Nelson.

The good news is that we will be passing through **Sutton Courtenay** on the afternoon of Friday 25 June. Do keep an eye out for us and come and wave us on our way. Our first night will be in Drayton and we plan to leave Drayton Green at 10 am on the morning of Saturday 26 June so do join us there if you miss us in Sutton Courtenay — we have a coffee stop at the Old Farmhouse Bakery in Steventon after we leave Drayton so lots of places for you to catch up with us.

Peter and I moved to Sutton Courtenay in 1969 but were soon deprived of that privilege when the boundaries were altered and we became part of Drayton where we lived until 2006. During this time, we both learnt to fly, and I flew solo twice around the world, the second time over the North Pole and Antarctica. Now, no longer able to fly having lost the sight in my right eye — my donkeys have given me a new lease of life!

Through the Donkathon we are raising funds for research into the progressive debilitating disease Multiple Sclerosis (MS). So, if you feel able to contribute towards this very worthwhile cause then we have a 'Just Giving' page on www.donkathon.org. HOWEVER — the most important thing is to join in the fun in whatever way you can. After a year of negativity this is something that is positive and inclusive, and above all, we want everyone to ENJOY being part of this exciting adventure.

Thank you — in anticipation! **Polly Vacher**

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Alan Calver, whom many of you will know, is planning another long walk. This time it is to be a whole MARATHON! 26 miles!

The route will be local and Alan hopes he will be able to do it on his 84th birthday on 21st August.

Sponsorship money will be given to three local charities.

CAN YOU HELP ALAN DECIDE WHICH CHARITIES?

Please write to us suggesting up to three worthwhile local charities — briefly giving the reasons for your choices.

Send to editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk, leave in Sutton Courtenay Tyres garage shop, or post in the mailbox on the outside of the garden door of Cross Trees, 1 Church Street.



PICTURES OF PETS



Happy Birthday Tio!

19 years old this month

Named after Grandma's favourite tipple (brother Pepe died 2 years ago) Tio enjoys sleeping, human company, being stroked and tinned tuna!

26TH ABINGDON SUTTON COURTENAY SCOUTS





We provide fun, friendship, and challenge

Adrian Williams

Rouse, the long-standing Group Scout Leader, has now stepped down from the position after more than 23 years of outstanding service to Scouting and to our village scout group. He joined 26th Abingdon Sutton Courtenay Scouts as a young Scout when he moved into the village in 1987 and had a brief spell at the 30th Abingdon for Venture Scouts (now Explorer Scouts) before returning as a Group Scout Leader in 1998. He wanted to give children the experiences that he enjoyed as a scout himself. On behalf of hundreds of children and parents we cannot thank him enough for the time, dedication and commitment he has shown to the group.

Adrian would like to thank the people who helped him during those years to make a difference:

"Ruth Knight: A remarkably kind and generous person who was the Group Scout Leader when I was a Scout.

Adrian Whitehead: the Scout Leader when I started to help on a weekly basis.

William Henderson: my predecessor who showed me the ropes of how to be the Group Scout Leader.

Andrew Henderson: my fellow Scout Leader when I started taking the lead role in Scouts. He organised a great district survival scout camp that around 30 young people attended.

Gareth Parsons & Matthew Attree: for restarting the Venture Scouts in the village, that later became Explorer Scouts. Many years of summer camps with the Scouts and Explorers/Ventures. The summer camps included the Lake

District, Kilder, Forest of Dean, New Forest, North Wales and Brittany.

Ross Holden-Smith: running Cubs for many years with an ability to ensure that all of the camping equipment came back clean.

Gavin Taylor: running Scouts for many years and introducing Scouts to the very popular 'Santa's trading post.'

Keith Wheeler: helping Gavin out with Scouts — and coming up with the group's mascot of Malcolm the Moose.

Simon Mills: helping with Scouts and enthusiastically joining in with bucket ball.

Linda Taylor: helping Gavin at Scouts, being Mrs Claus and the chairperson on the committee.

Alison Allen: running Cubs superbly for several years - he continues to organise the marquee.

Derek Tyrell: chairperson of the committee with excellent meetings at the George & Dragon.

Neil Jeskins, Sue Haliwell, Michael Pearson, Lucy Mulford, Kim O'Shea, Alex Goodyear and Gemma Williams-Rouse: for taking on the very demanding role of group treasurer.

Christine Hamilton: for being an excellent motivator and parent helper.

Roger Rouse: for bus maintenance, marquee assistance and helping construct the garage.

Magdalena Wyatt: Cub & Beaver leader in ar unprecedented year.

I am sorry if I have forgotten anyone. The young people have benefitted over the years from the help of the abovementioned people, from fundraising with the marquee, successful lottery grant application for new equipment and running the meetings on a weekly basis."

Adrian

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By Sudokuweb.org

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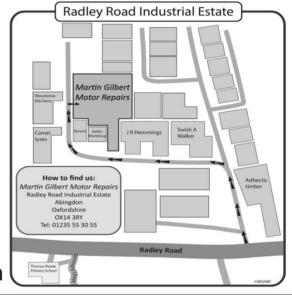
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