

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

DEC. 1972 VO 1 NO 12



VILLAGE DIARY FOR DECEMBER 1972

- Nov. 28 Tue. Wives Group - Visit to China Shop at Woodstock .
Nov. 29 Wed. LIBRARY, open 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. every Wednesday
Dec. 2 Sat. Darby and Joan Christmas Sale.
Dec. 5 Tue Mothers' Union 2.30 p.m.
Parish Council 7.30 p.m.
Dec. 6 Wed Darby and Joan, Cookery Demonstration.
Dec. 12 Tue Wives Group. Demonstration by BAMIX.
Dec. 13 Wed COPY DAY School Concert 7 pm
Dec. 14 Thurs Clinic 2.30 - 4.00 School Concert 7 pm
Dec. 18 Mon School Carol Service in All Saints Church 7 pm
Wives Group - Evening Out
Dec. 19 Tues Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner
Dec. 20 Wed Darby and Joan "Faringdon Silver Threads"
Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE Holy Communion 11.30 pm at All Saints
Dec. 25 CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Communion at All Saints 8.00 am and
12.00 Noon. Family Service 11. am.
Dec. 31 CAROLS by Candlelight 6.30 pm at All Saints.

All Events at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

COPY DAY for December is Wednesday, 13th December. Please make entries in the POST OFFICE DIARY and deliver contributions or adverts before that day.

Please USE DIARY as DATES are CLASHING!

LATE ENTRY!

Dec 16 Sat Football Pre-Christmas Dance. Tickets 40p obtainable from Dave Dodd, Lou Bond, Pete Harding. Licensed bar & refreshments

SUTTON COURTENAY DIRECTORY IAMEY GROUP

PHONE - for GRAVEL S.C.344, for ASPHALT, LATEXFLET Industrial flooring S.C.811, for PREMIX concrete S.C.355, CONBLOC building blocks S.C.281.

ANTIQUES

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FOR REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE & ALTERATIONS Phone S.C.254

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E.C. 1 p.m. Wed.

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Estimates Free. Telephone S.C.596.

LAST WORDS FROM THE FIRST EDITOR of Sutton Courtenay News :-

I am very pleased indeed that Mary Thompson agreed at our first Annual Meeting to take over the Editorship of the Sutton Courtenay News.

This more than made up for the fact that nobody else attended this meeting except the Committee and my wife! I am sure that she will do this really important work really well: and I pray for God's continued blessing on the "News" with her as Editor.

I am glad now to be able to concentrate on our parish pages in "Church News" (now an Ecumenical monthly), and I hope also to keep Mary well supplied with Church Notes and Vicar's Views and to let her have them regularly by Copy Day! I know from experience how trying it is when "Copy" is not ready and the typist is waiting!

If your Copy must be late, tell Mary in good time and she will try to keep a space for you.

FROM THE NEW EDITOR :- All those working on "The News" wholeheartedly thank George Jager for giving it such an excellent start by devoting so much of his valuable time, energy and experience to it. I, in turn, welcome any constructive criticisms or suggestions you may have, and particularly draw your attention to the article by Chris Taylor on Page 5, about bygone days in Sutton Courtenay. If they can delve into their memories, I would appreciate any stories or anecdotes from older inhabitants about Sutton Courtenay's more recent history.

THANKS this month to Callum Mackenzie who did the cover. Thanks are also due to the many typists who in turn type "The News" from an assorted assembly of papers. (A task, incidentally, which would be made much easier if Copy arrived on time!) These are :- Mrs. Crosskey, Mrs. Hands, Mrs. Woodward, Mrs. Halden, Mrs. Steptoe, Mrs. Newton, Mrs. Denton, Miss Lenton, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Rayner, Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Barnham.

CHURCH NOTES

The varied events of "Church Month" had varying degrees of support. Surprisingly few people even bothered to answer the invitation to the Marriage Thanksgiving, though the few that did come were evidently glad. The Baptism Tea Party had a more positive response; we shall certainly soon repeat this with a less elaborate tea. The Concert was stronger in quality than in popular support.

What did "ring a bell", even if that useful "middle A" was elusive, was "SONGS OF PRAISE" in the Village Hall. We had a real variety of people of all ages and degrees of Church attachment; and everyone appeared to enjoy singing under the lively leadership of Bishop Knell, and listening to the School Choir as well as All Saints'. Next time we shall also include at least one real old favourite.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 10th OCTOBER 1972

Matters discussed were as follows :-

Dutch Elm Disease

Councillor Davies reported that elm trees further along Ginge Brook were probably infected. It was decided to ask the County Forestry Adviser to look into this, and also to ask his advice about the possibility of injecting special trees (such as the fine one opposite the Plough Inn) against the disease.

The Village Green

The Chairman and Clerk of the Council appeared before the Chief Commons Commissioner on 5th October to present the document stating that the Lord of the Manor had in 1940 relinquished all rights over the Green in favour of the Parish Council.

Footpaths

Councillor Mrs. Moss reported that the footpath from Harwell Road alongside the Power Station was being used as a dumping ground for garden refuse. It was decided that the County Surveyor be asked to write to all residents of Harwell Road requesting their co-operation in preventing this.

Councillor Mr. Blinman asked whether the footpath from Milton Road to Tullis Close is now officially closed, as it is, in fact, no longer negotiable as a footpath. The Chairman said that it is not yet officially closed, but will be so in due course. This takes time.

Planning Applications

No comment was offered to applications for extensions to existing buildings from the following :- Mr. D.K. Dodd, Harwell Road, Mr. Woodward, 9 Milton Road, Mr. Maconachie, 114 High Street, Mr. Bowman, 65 Milton Road, application for garage. No objection if the screen of trees is preserved.

The next Parish Council Meeting, 5th December 1972.

BUYER BEWARE !

An elderly neighbour living on her own found two strangers at her front door who kindly offered to lop her overhanging trees for £20. She offered them £15 for the job and they took the cash and did the work and were away in a matter of minutes !

Now she asks "The News" to warn others not to buy goods or services from strangers at the front door !

FOOTBALL CLUB NOTES - BOYS CLUB TEAM NEWS.

The under 12's, 15's and 16 $\frac{1}{2}$'s have all won their first round matches of their respective cups. The under 15's and 16 $\frac{1}{2}$'s are also in the top three in their leagues. The under 12's have greatly improved this season but we are still waiting for the under 11's and 14's to hit the winning trail.

HOME FIXTURES UNTIL DECEMBER 17th are:

Sunday November 26th	- Under 11	- Didcot 11.00 a.m.
	Under 15	- Harwell 2.15 p.m.
	Under 16 $\frac{1}{2}$'s	- Didcot Eagles 2.30 p.m.
Sunday December 3rd	- Under 14	- Benson 11.00 a.m.
Sunday December 10th	- Cup rounds	(Fixtures not to hand).
Sunday December 17th	- Under 11	- Abingdon 11.00 a.m.
	Under 12	- Saxton Rovers 2.30 p.m.

Christmas draw tickets are now on sale, obtainable from any committee member.

INTER-VILLAGE VIOLENCE

The following is condensed from court records for the year 1212 A.D. in the reign of King John. The original is in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

The people of Culham said that the people of Sutton Courtenay had been in the habit of trespassing on their fields, and that every year for the past twenty years they had brought their cattle to graze on Culham's meadow and crop land. One day in 1212 A.D. the villagers of Culham again found a man from Sutton Courtenay on their land, pasturing his cattle there in spite of repeated warnings. They seized him and his animals and took them to the Abbot's court at Abingdon.

Next day Richard Bishop and others from Sutton Courtenay went to Abingdon and asked for the return of their cattle. This was offered, but they were not satisfied with the terms set by the Abbot's bailiff. Richard Bishop said that blood would be spilt over this affair, and that before three days were out fifteen men would be lying stiff and cold. And so they left the Court.

They opened the sluice gates of the mills so as to be able to ford the river more easily with their livestock. (They would cross at Sutton Pools, there being no bridge at that time.) They divided themselves into three groups, which they posted in ambush. Then they drove some cattle into the meadows on the Culham side.

When the people of Culham saw this they went out to round up the cattle, to drive them into Abingdon as before, but when they came close to the river, the men of Sutton Courtenay sprang out of their hiding places and attacked them. They killed two and wounded a third so badly that his life was in danger. Richard Bishop struck the first blow, striking down Roger of Culham with a stick and then beating him to death while his wife Juliana tried to protect him...

There then follows a list of those who took part, 12 for Culham and 42 for Sutton Courtenay, including 4 women. There is no record of what the judge said.

C.T.

CONGRATULATIONS :

The Chairman and Committee of the Abingdon, Didcot and Wallingford Branch of the Berkshire Blind Society wish to thank most warmly all those who gave and spent so generously to make such a great success of their Coffee Morning on November 2nd. The total realised was £133; £33 of this sum was taken by the Handicraft Stall which will go direct to the County Funds in Reading; the remaining £100 will be used for the benefit of the Blind in our own area.

FROM MRS. SKINNER.

I thought that all those kind people who gave me gifts on my retirement might like to hear what I have bought to go with the lovely candelabra given to me by the School Managers and the Grundig radio given to me by my school friends.

With the generous cheque of £25 I had from my schoolchildren I bought a "Teasmade" which wakes us every morning at 7 a.m. with a "cuppa" -such luxury! With the £50 cheque which my friends in the Village gave to me I have purchased a bureau. I have wanted one for a long time. It is a reproduction by Charles Barr in Regency design in rosewood and is so very useful. What a lucky woman I am to have these really wonderful gifts which I feel give out an affection for me. Thank you so very much indeed everyone. My husband would like to join me in wishing you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas with Health and Happiness in the coming year. God bless you all.

Dorothy Skinner.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS.

Atta recent Village Hall Committee meeting it was decided that the time had come to raise the hire charges which have remained unchanged until now since the Hall was opened over 7 years ago. I hope all who use the Hall appreciate the need for this. There are many maintenance expenses to be met as the Committee decided to tackle some of the deficiencies which exist in the building, its fixtures and fittings. The floor of the main hall has been thoroughly scoured and repolished; a sound-proof cover has been fitted to the hatch in the committee room; electric plugs, which were in a dangerous condition, have been replaced with flush fittings; and a start has been made on cleaning the hangings in the main hall. In the near future some broken panes will be replaced, the windows will receive their first clean for years and a general sprucing up operation will be mounted. I know that all users will welcome the improved appearance of the Hall and hope that greater efforts will be made to prevent damage and leave all rooms in a satisfactory condition.

Incidentally I would like to clarify a point which was mentioned in the last issue's Football Club notes, where it was stated that the Village Hall Committee had given its "blessing" to the Club's plans for Pavilion premises. The situation is that whilst we, of course applaud the enterprise and welcome any addition to amenities in Sutton Courtenay, the Committee has not yet had an opportunity to examine the plans in detail and to discuss their projects with the Football Club Planning Committee. I hope that we shall be able to do this in the near future.

Frank H. Bird, Chairman.

2nd SUTTON COURTENAY ALL SAINTS BROWNIE PACK.

This term we have been very busy. In the last two weeks of October we grew 40p into £7 for Shelter. This is £1 more than last year. We have also been collecting milk bottle tops in aid of Dogs for the Blind, and are gathering toys together for Oxfam. Nearer to Christmas we hope to go Carol Singing. Recently during Brownie Meetings we have been making a Scrapbook about Brownies and England to send to some Brownies in South West Africa.

Catherine Barnham.

A THOUGHT FOR CHRISTMAS from a reader.

O Little Child of Bethlehem,
Men fight as long ago.
If you came back again, my Lord,
Perhaps their hates would go.
The Star still shines to guide the way,
When will our wise men see,
Reach out and shake their neighbours' hands
In perfect unity.

NEWS, VIEWS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Brief news items and letters are welcomed by the Editor, Mary Thompson, 124 High Street, at any time before Copy Day. The rate for advertisements is 5p a line (approx. 10 words), except for 'FOUND', 'WORK WANTED', and 'WELCOME TO SUTTON COURTENAY', which are free. Take them to the Post Office, or Rogers' Shop before Copy Day.

MISS BAND, of 36 Chapel Lane, writes to commend the Westminster Theatre Pantomime (beginning on December 7th).

"Please will you help underprivileged children to come to "Give a Dog a Bone". Friends have raised over £2,000 each year for 8 years. Many thousands of children and their escorts are grateful. This wonderful show draws the battle line between good and evil in a convincing way for all ages."

SENIOR CITIZENS

On behalf of Senior Citizens, Mrs. Curran would like to thank all who gave donations, especially the Football Club, the New Inn and the Plough. £50 was raised at the Jumble Sale held on 4th November. If anyone in the village, aged 65 or over, has not received a ticket by 6th December for the Christmas Dinner, please contact Mrs. Curran, 10 Harwell Road.

R.S.P.C.A.

Mrs. Hailey, Hon. Sec. Sutton Courtenay Auxiliary, acknowledges with many thanks a donation of £3 from the Darby & Joan Club, following an enjoyable film of the work of the Society shown by Mr. Pennell of the London Office.

A MESSAGE to all members of 1st Sutton Courtenay Brownie Pack.

"Thank you very much for your presents. I have enjoyed my time with you a great deal."

Elizabeth Jager (Tawny), Assistant Brownie Guider.

1ST SUTTON COURTENAY BROWNIES would be glad to buy second-hand Brownie uniforms and Handbooks for re-use. May be left at 45 Milton Road.

FOR SALE

Newhome Cabaret Gas Stove. Excellent Condition. 4 years old. B. Burton, 40 High Street.

MORPHY-RICHARDS IRON. Good condition £1.

IMPERIAL TYPEWRITER. Hardly used. (Bought 1971). £12 or offer.

MINI SUN VISOR. Unused, pale grey. Accept 50p. Phone Frilford Heath 489 for all viewing details.

REMINDER ! Will Secretaries of all ORGANISATIONS please let Mrs. Mackenzie, 3 Abbey Cottages, or Mary Thompson, have their names, etc. WITHOUT FAIL before next Copy Day.

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Open all week. Closed Saturday afternoon. Telephone S.C.320

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Sunday 10.30 - 12.30 and 3.00 - 4.30.

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