

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 41 No. 3

APRIL 2012

VILLAGE DIARY

The Diary is compiled from entries in the Village Diary kept at Burgrey Stores. Please enter your events in this Diary.

April				
Tue	3rd	7.00pm	Annual meeting of electors in the parish	Village Hall
Tue	3rd	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting	Village Hall
Tue	3rd	7.30pm	Spiritual Fellowship	Village Hall
Tue	10th	2.00pm	Women's Christian Fellowship	Village Hall
Tue	17th	7.30pm	WI	Village Hall
Fri	20th	6.30pm	Intergenerational Quiz	Village Hall
Sun	22nd	2.30pm	Duck Race	Mill Lane

DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED FOR SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

The Sutton Courtenay News is a free newsletter produced and delivered by volunteers 10 times a year. Although it is also available on the website www.suttoncourtenay.co.uk, it is hand delivered to over 1100 households in the village. We need two people to deliver to Bradstocks Way, odd numbers only, and to the new development at Orwell Grange in Appleford Road. If you would like to join the team, or for more information, please contact Judy Prout, tel 01235 847333, or e mail judyprout1@aim.com

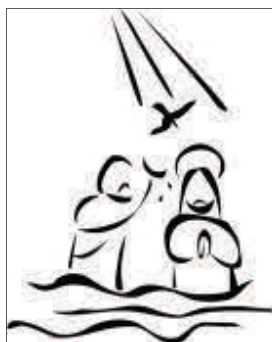
All contributions for the next edition should be e-mailed to editor@suttoncourtenay.co.uk or taken to Changes in Milton Rd or Burgrey Stores in the High St on or preferably before the copy date entered in the Diary above. To have any contribution published you must provide your name & contact details to the Editors. To advertise, e-mail advertising@suttoncourtenay.co.uk or telephone 07831-526784

VILLAGE CONTACTS

	Contact	Telephone
County Councillor: (Schools, Roads etc.)	Stewart Lilly 2 Hengest Gate, Harwell Village	832867
District Councillor: (Planning, Waste etc.)	Gervase Duffield Appleford House, Appleford	848319
Parish Council Chairman	Michael Jenkins Danluda, Churchmere Road	847174
Bookings for Village Hall	Rita Atkinson Caroline Grundy	848694 848697
Sutton Courtenay Website	www.suttoncourtenay.co.uk	
Environment Agency: Odours from Landfill		0800 80 70 60

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Various organisations have permanent bookings for use of the Village Hall on certain days of the week. Local individuals or organisations may nonetheless enter one-off bookings for events which clash with permanent bookings. **At least seven weeks notice must be given to Rita Atkinson (848694) or Caroline Grundy (848679) of the hall management team, e-mail: scvillagehallbookings@googlemail.com** This allows one week for them to convey the needful six weeks notice to whichever organization had the permanent booking.



HOLY BAPTISM

WE SEND OUR BEST WISHES & CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING WHO
WERE WELCOMED INTO THE FAMILY OF THE CHURCH THROUGH BAPTISM

ELLA-ROSE JANE GRISBROOKE

26th February 2012

This newsletter is produced by the editors, Diane Armstrong and Clare Pennicott, and Peter Draper, who is in charge of advertising. Our contact details are:

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

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Post Office

The Post Office Authorities have advised the Parish Council that as from 26th March a new Post Office service opened in Sutton Courtenay. This is now operating from a newly formatted open plan counter at Burgrey Stores in the High Street. The service will offer a range of key Post Office products alongside retail transactions. The opening hours are Mon-Fri 05.30 – 19.00, Sat 06.00 – 17.30, and Sun 06.30 -13.00.

Local Government Boundary Commission - Vale of White Horse District Council wards

A review is about to take place as to number of District Councillors and the wards that they represent, as the Vale of White Horse District Council wishes to reduce the number of councillors that it has. The aim will be to ensure that each councillor represents approximately the same number of electors, based on estimated population figures as at 2018. Currently the Sutton Courtenay and Appleford Ward has more electors per councillor than recommended. The Commission will invite comments in due course, and will publish draft recommendations. It is proposed that whatever is finally agreed will be implemented from the next District Council election in 2015.

Vale of White Horse District Council - Interim Housing Supply Policy

As mentioned in the February issue, the Vale of White Horse District Council has a draft Interim Housing Supply Policy, which if adopted by full Council in May, will encourage proportionate housing development in sustainable locations. The District Council has invited possible housing sites to be submitted for assessment. In Sutton Courtenay 6 sites have been put forward for screening, - 2 sites north of Milton Road, land at Peewit Farm, land at Cross Trees Farm, land south of the former Catholic Church site, and land at Long Barn, High Street. After approval was given for 140 houses at the Amey site in Appleford Road, the District Council acknowledged that the final policy would need to take into account that planning consent. The matter will be considered by the Parish Council at its next meeting.

Power Station

The Didcot Community Forum has been asking local residents about what they would like to see on the Didcot "A" power station site once it is decommissioned. The Parish Council has pointed out that the power station site is in Sutton Courtenay and the Vale of White Horse district and not in South Oxfordshire Council's area. Matters are at a very early stage and there will be plenty of opportunity to comment, but if anyone has any ideas at the moment about possible future uses of the Didcot "A" site, then please let the Parish Council know.

Grass Cutting season

As grass cutting season gets underway, please ensure that grass clippings are disposed of properly. In the past, there have been clippings tipped in Doctors Lane, in the recreation ground and on rural paths. Please help to keep the village tidy by placing garden waste in the brown bins available from the Vale of White Horse District Council or take it to the local recycling centre at Drayton. Parish Councillors and other volunteers clear up after residents who just dump garden waste, so please act responsibly and dispose of waste correctly.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham, Abingdon, Oxon OX13 6PU Tel: 01865 391833
Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd April, 2012 in the village hall, Frilsham St.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Residents need to be aware of the Vale of the White Horse District Council's IHSP (Interim Housing Supply Policy) where landowners were asked for any land for potential housing development.

In the Sutton Parish there are 6 potential Sites which could see approx 185 – 200 houses. This, plus the Amey and Catholic Church Sites already allocated could take the total up to approx 400 houses. This increases the buildings in the village by some 20%.

The Sites earmarked are:

1. Peewit Farm – adjacent field
2. The farm and accompanying land adjacent to the Recreation Ground
3. Long Barn to Westbrook
- 4 & 5. Behind Milton Road – 2 sites
6. Extension of the Catholic Church site/2 areas

This is the biggest potential development in 60 years. Bigger in total than the estate. It also needs to be noted that this also happening in

Drayton – potential 532 houses

Milton – potential 145 houses

Approximately 5000 in the Vale shared between other villages.

The whole infrastructure within the village is suffering now and this will be greatly increased in the form of traffic, sewerage etc. The other issue is development into the open countryside.

The Total potential amount of houses with in 5 miles of Sutton Courtenay (including the Didcot developments) is likely to be well in excess of 10,000 houses.

I doubt very much that the majority of these new houses will be “affordable” which is what is really needed by people these days

I would be interested in hearing what you think send me your views at: bill.hanks1@btopenworld.com

Bill Hanks

Parish Councillor

PUBLIC MEETING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS

This meeting is not a Council meeting, but is a public meeting of Local Government electors in Sutton Courtenay and an opportunity for electors in the parish to raise any items relating to parish matters. This parish meeting may, by law, discuss all parish affairs and pass resolutions about them.

You are invited to take part.

This meeting will be held on **Tuesday 3rd April at 7.00 p.m.** in
the Village Hall, Frilsham Street.

FROM ED VAIZEY MP

I thought it might be interesting to let you know the main subjects about which people write to me. In March, I received about 100 e-mails calling for changes in the Budget (mainly fuel duty); I also received over 250 emails from the 38 Degrees Campaign on the Health Bill. Most of my e-mails come from campaign groups but the issue on which I have received the most personally written emails has been gay marriage.

The Diamond Jubilee will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate not just Her Majesty's amazing reign but also all that is best about South Oxfordshire. I am sure many people are preparing for the Bank Holiday Weekend in June as I am (I am especially pleased my birthday is a bank holiday – long overdue recognition!). I also wanted to raise awareness of the new Jubilee Time Capsule project. The JTC is a unique and accessible digital project which invites people of all ages to share memories and stories of the last 60 years and it will be gifted to the Queen at the end of the year. It is a great way of engaging with the Jubilee celebrations and I encourage everyone, but particularly schools, to get involved at <http://www.jubileetimecapsule.org/>.

There are also many other cultural celebrations of the Jubilee around the constituency – Faringdon, for example, is holding a Craft Competition, Wallingford is having a big picnic in castle gardens, Didcot is having the Diamond of Didcot Awards in their new garden at the Civic Hall and Wantage and Grove have teamed up for a massive celebration across both towns.

Last year the National Citizens' Service pilot scheme took 8,400 teenagers on a course of helping the local community and personal development activities. This summer the scheme is hoping to expand its participation to 30,000 teenagers who will spend a fortnight adventuring away from home and then a three to four week stretch in the local community, where they will develop social action projects to benefit their area and see them through to completion. Aside from the enormous good that it does for local communities it also helps the graduates. After completing the scheme 96% of graduates felt more confident and 86% felt more responsible for their local area, plus 90% of the parents would recommend the programme to others. I heartily recommend this scheme to schools, parents and teenagers alike and you can find out more by visiting www.direct.gov.uk/ncs.

The continuing rise in unemployment is concerning, however, out of 650 UK constituencies, we rank 609th for unemployment with 1,242 people out of work – less than 2.5%. This rate is so low due to the supportive local environment for small local businesses – those ones that need every scrap of help they can get in these tough times. I was pleased, therefore, to hear about the launch of the Small Business Finance Directory which should help make it easier for such companies to find credit. The directory allows companies to search by region for alternatives to conventional bank loans and overdrafts. There are nearly 1000 sources of finance listed and I believe that it could prove a very effective tool for local business.

Finally I'd like to bring people's attention to the Big Lottery Fund which has awarded grants totalling over £25 million in the South East since January 2011 to over 1,000 projects including two in the constituency: Marcham C of E Primary School and Project Inspire, a plan to convert Fernham village church so it could also be used for community activities. I would encourage local projects to consider applying for National Lottery funding here (<http://ask.biglotteryfund.org.uk>).

As ever please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or orvaizey@parliament.uk. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS' SUTTON COURTENAY

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS', SUTTON COURTENAY

Priest-in charge: The Reverend Helen Kendrick (848297) Helen@kendricks.fsnet.co.uk

Churchwardens: Mary Warrington (847346) & David McKenzie (847489) **Treasurer:** Lynn Cabbage (848768)

Director of Music: Ian Miles (01235 426109, mob 07788 715873) **Tower Captain:** John Napper (848292)

Children's Church: Vivienne Maunders (848077) **Verger:** Bill Clarke (847183) **Sacristan:** Pamela Vivian

Flowers: Pat Napper (848292) **Women's Christian Fellowship:** Rose Woodward (848510) **Friends:** Nora Harragin (848235)

MONTHLY SERVICES OF WORSHIP

1st Sunday: Family Service at 10.30am

2nd Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 10.30am (with Children's Church) and Evensong at 6pm

3rd Sunday: Morning Worship at 10.30am (with Children's Church), & Evening Praise at 6pm

4th Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 10.30am (with Children's Church)

Wednesday: BCP Holy Communion at 9.45am

From the Ministry Team...

Life after Death Watch Beetle – On-going Improvement plans for All Saints

Structurally, the Church is now in good shape and work to dry the walls, improve ventilation and renew the rainwater pipes is completed. It has also stopped Death Watch Beetle activity in the roof. These considerable achievements mean that we may now turn our attention to other areas where the Church facilities fall short. The PCC considers these to be:

Heating

The Nave Dais

Toilet facilities

“Welcome” space and Storage

A Junior Church and Community Meeting Room

Heating

With advice from English Heritage and the Diocesan Advisory Committee, quotations for a gas fired hot water radiator system have been obtained. This type of system is now widely used in Churches, local examples being Milton, Drayton and Dorchester Abbey with very positive recommendations from their communities. The installation cost of about £70,000 will be sweetened by much lower running costs. We are on schedule to install this at the end of August (through September).

Nave Dais

An application to make the present trial arrangements permanent is with the DAC. It is proposed to remove the side facing pews on the N side, to level the whole area and to fit new carpet up to the Altar. This will make it more flexible in use both for services and concerts. This work will be done in conjunction with the Heating project, so that pipes may be run underneath.

Storage and Welcome Space

A shed is being obtained in which to store our ladders and staging, thereby releasing space at the SW corner. It is proposed to remove the Victorian pews from the rear side aisle and to make the floor level. The chairs will be hidden behind a screen using timber from the redundant pews on the dais. There will be wall space for photographs, Church news and information.

Junior Church and Community Meeting Room

Plans have been drawn up to improve our inadequate toilet, kitchen and meeting facilities by extending the present Kitchen Vestry outwards and sideways. This new room would be large enough for Junior Church and for meetings. It will have 2 toilets leading off it, one for disabled. A soundproof sliding partition will separate the two areas which when open will provide a spacious area for larger meetings and social gatherings. The kitchen facilities will remain in the Kitchen Vestry.

We do hope you will agree that this is a worthwhile set of proposals which will enhance the life of the Church and ensure that we can continue to serve the community into and beyond the 21st century. They won't all happen at once [except for the heating] – this is very much a 5 year plan. Comment, criticism and offers of help will be welcomed by David Knowles, Chairman of the Fabric Committee or any member of the PCC.

And finally, we shall have to be creative and raise money so to this end we are launching an appeal towards the installation of the heating system on Thursday 3rd May at 7.30pm in the Great Hall of the Abbey (see advert for more details)

With love and prayers, Helen

The Reverend Helen Kendrick, Priest-in-Charge of Sutton Courtenay with Appleford

Holy Week 2012

Easter Experiences

*All Saints' Church, Sutton
Courtenay*

A Dramatized Courtroom Scenario for Holy Week

You are invited to be a member of the jury as we listen to testimony from various people who played a part in the events of the first Easter.

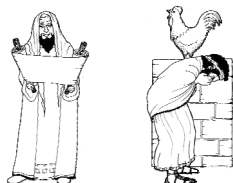
**Monday 2nd April – 7.30pm-
8.15pm**

*A Temple Stallholder and Mary Magdala
take the stand.*



**Tuesday 3rd April – 7.30pm-
8.15pm**

A Pharisee and Peter take the stand.



**Wednesday 4th April –
7.30pm-8.15pm**

*Peter continues his testimony and Pontius
Pilate, Mary, the mother of Jesus and an
Officer of the Guard take the stand.*



All are welcome

- **Sunday 1st – PALM SUNDAY** – 10am Procession with the Donkey from Tullis Close to All Saints' Church for the 10.30am Family Service.
 - **Monday 2nd, Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th** A Series of Dramatic Reflections for Holy Week from 7.30pm-8.30pm (see advert)
 - **Thursday 5th MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER WITH COMMUNION** - This year we will once again will be celebrating Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples with a Maundy Thursday Supper and Communion in All Saints' Church. We will be serving Lamb Stew (and a vegetarian option), unleavened bread, grapes and wine. Each course will be interspersed within parts of the Communion service and the communion bread and wine will be shared around the table. At the end of the meal the table will be cleared and the traditional 'stripping of the church' will take place. Everyone is welcome to come to this but to help with the catering we need an idea of numbers. Please add your name to the list, which is at the back of the church, if you wish to come.
 - **Friday 6th – GOOD FRIDAY** – 10.30am Hot Cross Bun Family Service. 2pm Holy Hour.
 - **Saturday 7th – HOLY SATURDAY** - From 9am Spring Cleaning and Decorating the Church for Easter Day
 - **Sunday 8th – EASTER DAY – ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!** -10.30am Parish Eucharist with Easter Egg Hunt for Children.
 - **Tuesday 10th** - 2pm W C F Meeting in Village Hall.
 - **Wednesday 18th** - 7.30pm – Annual Parish Meeting - a joint meeting of those whose names are on the church electoral roll, together with 'persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a Register of Local Government Electors' Churchwardens Measure 2001 paragraph 5 (1) and is held for the purpose of electing Churchwardens. Following straight on from the Annual Parish Meeting will be **the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 7.45pm**. This is a meeting of those whose names are on the church electoral roll for the purposes of presenting the annual report and accounts for 2010 and for electing Parochial Church Council Members and Deanery Synod Representatives.
 - **Sunday 22nd** – Duck Race (subject to having enough rain between now and then)! See advert for details.
 - **Wednesday 25th** – 8pm Baptism Preparation at the Vicarage for all those interested in baptism for themselves or for their children. Please contact the Priest-in-Charge for more details.
 - **Sunday 29th** – 10am DAMASCUS Group Shared Service at Drayton Church (no service in All Saints').
- Tuesday 8th May**– 7.30pm AGM of the Friends of All Saints' Church

REST IN PEACE

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

LAWRENCE MICHAEL RYAN who has died aged 61. A private family funeral was held at Oxford Crematorium on 2nd March 2012.

CYRIL JAMES HARRIS (TRIMMER) who has died aged 80 was born in Harwell in 1931 – the youngest child of William and Louise Harris. The family moved to Milton Road in Sutton Courtenay where he spent most of his childhood and attended school in the village. The origins of his nickname, ‘Trimmer’ are lost in the mists of time but he seemed always to have been called that and very few people knew he was called Cyril. On leaving school he worked as a labourer on various building sites and over the years he worked for Ameys, mixing asphalt, for the road building industry – an ideal job for Trimmer as it started early in the morning and finished early – allowing plenty of time for him to go fishing. He also worked as a farm labourer. He was always very good at fixing and mending things and liked nothing better than tinkering with cars but he was a countryman at heart and one of his particular pleasures was fishing and catching eels in the Thames. He loved the river and, later in life borrowed a small boat which he converted so that could get from Sutton Courtenay to Abingdon to have a drink in the pub. For many years poaching was another occupation as he always said he could earn more from selling his catches to the big houses than he could whilst working as a labourer. In 1998 he moved to Abingdon and in 2002 he had a leg amputated but could still manage to get to the pub in his wheelchair and then a mobility scooter. He enjoyed nothing better than a drink and a smoke with friends. After further surgery he died on 5th March 2012. *This is an edited extract of the address given at his funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick in All Saints’ Church on 14th March 2012.*

ANTHONY WILLIAM CURRAN (TONY) who has died aged 77 on 7th March 2012 was born on 6th April 1934 in Spring Road, Abingdon to his parents Minnie and Bernard Curran. He grew up on the Harwell Road, Sutton Courtenay with his brothers and sister – Francis, Josie and Philip. He was a bit of a lad and often got into various scrapes. He even had a near death experience when he fell into the River Thames and almost drowned but his life was saved by a soldier who pulled him out. He attended St Edmund’s School in Abingdon, which he left in 1949 when he started work in the greenhouses at Milton Hill House (the Esso Headquarters) where he stayed for three years before joining the Royal Artillery in June 1952. He was sent to Egypt to the Suez Canal Zone until he returned home in 1955 and he was proud of belonging to the Canal Zoners, the Suez Vets and the Royal British Legion and took great pleasure in attending reunions. On his return from Egypt he worked for H Linegar until 1966 when he joined ‘Premix’ at Ameys. He later transferred to Ameys Asphalt as a long distance lorry driver. After several years he went to work for South Oxfordshire District Council where he was put to work training the young unemployed boys in the Youth Training Scheme. Much to his surprise he really enjoyed this and was very proud of the young lads he taught building skills to. He took early retirement at the age of 60. He married Sylvia in St Edmund’s Roman Catholic Church in Abingdon on 25th August 1956 and the first year of their married life was spent living with Tony’s family until they moved to 30 Tyrrells Way where they were the first to move into the estate which was still being built around them. Sylvia and Tony went onto bring up their family of four – Sue, Micky, Martin and Clive which has continued to grow through the generations with grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In 1979 Sylvia and Tony were founder members of the Country and Western Club with their great friends, John and Ann Tolly which they ran for 25 years until ill-health forced them to retire. He served for many years on the Village Hall Committee and, using his practical skills, was involved in its maintenance. In later years his deteriorating physical health was immensely frustrating for him. He found it difficult to sit back and watch other people do the jobs he felt he should be doing and that he always felt he could do better. Straight talking, stubborn, obstinate and determined – he loved a challenge and held firm opinions on every subject which he wasn’t afraid to share. *Continued.....*

ANTHONY WILLIAM CURRAN (TONY) *continued...* He knew his own mind and in an argument was never wrong – and even when he was wrong he was always right! This could sometimes be very challenging for those around him. He was a man with a strong work ethic – often working seven days a week when his children were young in order to provide for them all. He cared deeply for this village – its history and its community – and, as with some of his generation, he found some of the changes he witnessed difficult. He was a man who enjoyed his life and who will be greatly missed by his family and friends. *This is an edited extract of the address and tribute given at his funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick which was held at All Saints' Church, on 15th March 2012.*

SMALL SAINTS

For 0-4 year olds and their parents/carers every Wednesday between 1.30pm-2.30pm in term time in Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School.

Led by members of the church we meet for a short Bible Story; craft activity; prayer and songs followed by refreshments. Just turn up or please contact Helen Kendrick 848297 or Pat Napper 848292 for more information.

ADVANCE NOTICE

'On Your Marks'

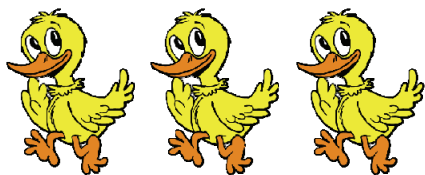
**And Get Set for the Olympic Themed
Children's Summer Holiday Club 2012
Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th July.
from 10-3pm.**

We will be learning what it means to belong to 'Team Jesus' and having lots of Olympic fun along the way – with games, craft activities, obstacle races and much, much more!

If you are interested in helping with the holiday club or would like to register your child/children then please contact

Helen Kendrick on 01235 848297 or helen@kendricks.fsnet.co.uk

This is run by All Saints' Church, SC and St Peter's Church, Drayton – It will be held in the School Hall, Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary School by kind permission of the Headteacher.



SUTTON COURTENAY DUCK RACE

- A Family Fun Event

Sunday 22nd April - First race 2.30pm

Start line in Mill Lane, Sutton Courtenay

Sponsor a duck for only £1.

Tickets available from Pat Napper, 848292
or Helen Kendrick, 848297

(Proceeds to All Saints' Church funds)

*Event to be held subject to adequate water
level in stream!*

SUNDOWNER 2012

All Saints Church

Sutton Courtenay

Heating Appeal Launch

You are invited for 7.30-9.30 to
the **Abbey Sutton Courtenay**

On

Thursday 3rd May

First Drink Free

Fantastic Finger Food

Grand Hamper Draw

Tickets just £5

from Burgery Stores, Tim Budd Tel: 820942,
Jasmine Hornsey Tel: 847376 and
David McKenzie Tel: 847489.

SUTTON COURTENAY WI

Our March meeting was our annual AGM, when once again we started the evening with a fish and chip supper. After some Institute business the new committee were introduced to our members as was our new President Sally Furze. A vote of thanks was given to Florence Hayden, our outgoing President for all her hard work in her past year of office.

To round off the evening Daphne Sinclair gave an interesting illustrated talk of her recent trip to Slovenia, which was well received by all the members.

Once again we have lots of different events arranged for the coming months, including a trip to the Theatre to see the musical "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and a trip to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. We will be visiting the Arboretum on Wednesday 23 May travelling there by coach from the village. We currently have some seats available, so if you fancy an interesting day out, please get in touch with Sally on the number below for more details.

For our April meeting, to be held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 17 April at 7.30pm we have a visit from Ann Lattimore who is going to speak on **"Bike Riding for Charity – Life begins at 55"** If you fancy coming along to hear Ann's anecdotes and meet lots of new friends then please turn up on the night when you will be made very welcome. For more information please call Sally on 01235 848924.

Ann Henderson

SUTTON COURTENAY SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

April 3rd Tue 7.30pm Village Hall

Spiritual Fellowship Meeting with Pam Morris

May 1st Tue 7.30pm Village Hall

Spiritual Fellowship Meeting with Irene Fowler

On Tue March 6th we welcomed for the first time Christina Green from Herne Bay who proved to be a very gifted lady. Her evidence, delivered in her very own pleasant manner, was truly first class and held everyone's attention. We have been lucky to book her twice next year. We look forward to seeing Christina again.

As usual the people who attended were a great asset.
Thank you.

Enquiries to Pat and Sam 07860 854199



PRE-SCHOOL SUPERVISOR

required term time only
for a small pre-school in
Milton Heights, Abingdon.

Hours Monday to Friday 8-30am to 12pm - 38
weeks per year.

This role offers a competitive salary based on
experience.

Qualifications - you will need to have a minimum -
NNEB * BTEC National Diploma * CACHE Dip
in Childcare & Education * NVQ Level 3

As an experienced practitioner you will be
passionate about working in childcare. The
successful applicant will support and work well
within a team.

Please send covering letter and CV to:
Red Dragon Chair,
c/o St Blaise Primary School, School Lane,
Milton Heights, OX14 4DR alternatively
email info@reddragonpreschool.co.uk

Closing date for application: 6th April 2012.

SUTTON COURTENAY ANGLING CLUB

The End of the Season

The 15th March to the 15th of June are a tough time for the dedicated river angler as these are the months of the closed season. Anglers argue about the necessity for this period. The Environment Agency and the Scientific argument is that fish need uninterrupted time for spawning, making fishy babies that is. There is an interesting counter argument based on class and politics. In summary coarse fishing is a “working class” sport and fly fishing is a sport of the “upper classes”. The writer is a fisherman by inclination but an historian by training he is aware that these terms are complicated. It is argued that the closed season is merely a device created by the well connected toffs to keep hairy oiks away from the rivers during the best part of the salmon and trout seasons. The fact that many canals and lakes do not have a closed season would seem to back up this argument.

It seems best that fish are given a break when spawning takes place especially when environmental conditions make it pretty hard for fish to manage to reproduce anyway. Lack of clean, clear water is a problem. The silting of gravel beds where many fish need to lay eggs can also be a problem and the predatory ravages of the introduced species of crayfish, who love fish eggs all affect chances to spawn. Look out for spawning fish over the next few months. Some fish come in very close to the bank to lay eggs on gravel or onto weed. Large female pike are surrounded by the much smaller males vying for attention.

So closed season advice is that there are plenty of good canals and commercial lakes around for a fishing fix. Oxfordshire is home to some of the best carp fisheries in the country. Linear Fisheries and Orchid Lakes are both nearby for big fish chasers and the Oxford Canal is a pleasant day out where you can fish with very limited equipment.

The Rivers are currently in the closed season. Anyone spotted fishing should be reported to the environment agency **0800 80 70 60** or the police.

In season the Sutton Courtenay Angling club would like to welcome anyone who wants to fish in the Thames but also to remind everyone that an Environment Agency permit and a Sutton Courtenay club ticket are necessary before you fish. Day tickets and season tickets (£28) are available at **Didcot Angling Centre** on Wantage Road and environment agency rod licences are available online and at the Post Office. Junior prices are considerably less.

izaakwalton@live.co.uk

WOMENS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Our meeting held on the 13th March was our Easter Meditation and held in Church and lead by our Vicar Rev. Helen Kendrick, and was as usual very good and enjoyed by all whom attended.

Our next meeting will be on the 10th April 2012 at the Village Hall at 2.00pm and will be an illustrated talk by Mr Ian Brown of the Jubilee Sailing Trust called ‘Changing Lives’ and should be very interesting. Visitors welcome.

Rose Woodward (Secretary)

MUSICAL DELIGHTS IN SUTTON COURTENAY

Notes for your summer diary ...



Upcoming MUSICAL DELIGHTS

for Sutton Courtenay and locally



By the time this *Village News* appears, with the All Saints' Singers' Rossini *Petite Messe Solennelle* already a happy memory, local lovers of good accessible music may be wondering what else is on the horizon.

English Music Festival (1-5 June 2012)

This fine, national-calibre but locally-based Festival is now into its sixth season ~ with All Saints' Parish Church hosting another of the 'satellite' chamber-scale concerts on Saturday 2 June at 2.30pm. Though some other events coincide with Village Jubilee highlights, plenty don't: the BBC Concert Orchestra is giving world première performances of Vaughan Williams's *Piano Fantasia* and Moeran's *Second Symphony*, also on offer are Parry's *English Symphony*, Elgar's *Violin Sonata*, rare Delius; cello works by Bridge, Walton, Britten and Ireland; piano transcriptions of Holst's *Planets* and Vaughan Williams' *Job*, and "King Arthur" music by Elgar, Britten and Purcell, along with English solo song, choral gems from Gibbons to Howells, brass band music by Bantock and Malcolm Arnold, contemporary music, songs and dances from Hardy's Wessex, unknown violin masterpieces, and light music.

Details and bookings at www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk/boxoffice.html.

Parish Proms

All Saints' Church is delighted to announce its own third season of Parish Proms which will, mostly, as usual be on Summer Sundays at Six. In this Jubilee year our programmes are based (though not exclusively) around the 'Best of British':

22 July: *The Charm of the Cello* with VALERIE FINDLAY

29 July: *A Treasury of Vocal Gems* with LYNNE WINTER

5 August: *Programme to be confirmed (please watch this space!)*

12 August at 5pm*: *Fascinating Flute* with JAMES THOMPSON

(* to avoid conflict with the Olympics' Closing Ceremony!)

Further details in due course ~ but please note the dates, and join us for these very enjoyable events offered by outstanding and experienced local musicians.

SUTTON COURTENAY CRICKET CLUB



It might seem strange to some of our readers, however the 2012 cricket season has already started – not out in Dubai commiserating with the England Test team, but in the rather more prosaic setting of Radley College Sports Hall! Yes, our Winter Nets have begun on Sunday mornings at 10.00 – 11.00, so please do come along, no matter what your age or ability, if you would like to try out for the team, or just fancy having a go; this will continue through till 15th April and then we move outside to the Recreation Ground starting Thursday 19th at 6.00.

We have an exciting list of fixtures at all levels for the club this year – starting with the U 17's who are entered into not only the Oxfordshire League, but also two T20 tournaments which will take place during the summer holidays; the U 13's also have a full season with entries into the League and a K.O. Cup, together with an 8 a side Tournament and a 'friendly' league during August. We will also be running our extremely popular Kwik Cricket team in the Vale Kwik Cricket League for those Juniors who are still learning the game – our youngest player is aged 6 and the game is played with a soft ball and bat, so Mums and Dads don't need to worry!

The Seniors will be representing our village in the Downs Cricket League 20/20 on Wednesday nights as well as a full schedule of Sunday 'Friendly' matches against other local villages and touring sides; we are also planning a Sutton Courtenay 7's tournament, under the banner of Cricket for Cancer, which will be open to local sides only on Saturday 2nd June – we are hoping for entries from The Plough, The George and The Swan amongst others, we will have a Pig Roast and BBQ and a Bouncy Castle for the kids so do come along and watch some entertaining cricket! We have also entered into The Cricketer National Village Cricket Cup this year, so please come along and support us on May 6th – we are at home to either Great & Little Tew or Shrivenham.

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

Whether you are a cricketer, a Mum or Dad, or just someone who loves the game and has a little time to spare we desperately need you to help us with running the club; making teas, baking cakes, transporting Juniors to away fixtures, scoring the book, running the website, cutting the grass, rolling the square, umpiring, fundraising, sponsorship – any help or assistance would be most gratefully received? All you have to do is to let either myself or our Chairman, Mr Kevin Jones, know you are able and willing!

On behalf of the Club, I would like to wish you all the very best for 2012, and to thank you all for all of your support and kindness over the years – we all feel immense pride in representing Sutton Courtenay, both on and off the field of play, and look forward to a bright future for the Club.

Kitson Thomas

Club Secretary

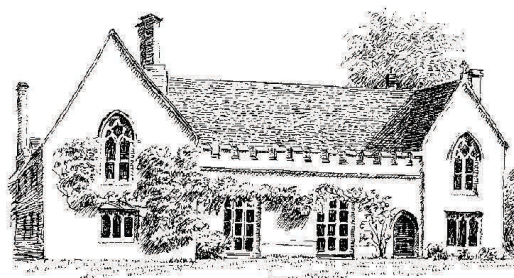
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5th - 9th April

SPRING RETREAT

Renewal and growth are all around us in the natural world and at no time of year more explicitly or excitedly than now in the Spring Time. Come, take some time out, to simply notice what is happening around you whilst enjoying the peace and spaciousness and holding of the Abbey and its community ...at the same time as being aware of these external changes notice the renewal taking place within you and really know how it feels for you to grow into the next season.

The retreat will be partially lead (a few suggestions rather than direction) with a minimum of structure, and 'held' by members of the Abbey community. There will be plenty of time to garden if you wish, read, take walks and get to know others of similar mind.

Easter - For those who wish to explore and honour this time in the Christian context we have linked with the Church of All Saints to mark the progression from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday. You are most welcome to join with the congregation to celebrate this time as well as make your own space at the Abbey.

Come and be welcome

£240 (£210 concession)

22nd April

KUM NYE

Kum Nye is a yoga and meditation practice, originating from Tibetan medical and Buddhist teachings. It uses movement, visualisation, voice and breath techniques and self-massage to harmonise our being. Through this practice we can tune in to our natural state and discover a little more what we really are. The movements are often very slow and generally gentle and are tailored to our own body's needs and limitations, so the practice is suitable for all abilities.

We have five sessions planned this year each session can be attended as a one-off but it will offer more richness to attend the full series. The series is based around the Five Elements of natural energy that express different phases of the endless cycling of life. They will be suitable for new students of kum nye or experienced practitioners and should work well with most yoga and meditation practices you may usually do.

10 am – 1 pm

£20 if booked in advance (£15 concession)

£25 if paying on the day (no concession)

POST OFFICE AT BURGREY STORES

The new Post Office opened at Burgrey Stores on 26th March. The shop continues to offer its normal service of delivering newspapers to Culham, Appleford, Milton and Sutton Courtenay, and to sell 'what you have forgotten to buy in the supermarket'. It has had an extensive refit.

Sutton Courtenay News sends its congratulations to Deepak and Rita Patel, and notes that they are asking customers to be patient for a little while because there is much to learn. We wish them every success in their new, much needed, venture.

Contact details: Burgrey Stores, 120 High St, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4AX, tel 01235 848227

PRODUCE AND CRAFT SHOW AND OPEN GARDENS

This is to be held earlier than normal this year, on Sept 1st in the Village Hall. We hope many people will enter. Schedules will be available in May.

As there are many activities planned for the village for both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and Olympics it has been decided that the Open Gardens weekend is to be postponed to another time. Gardeners, this gives you longer to prepare so I hope you will not mind. Many thanks for your offers.

Daphne Sinclair

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

We have been asked to give advance notice of the following local events

Fri 27th April 8pm Oxford Gospel Choir at Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot tel 01235 515144,

www.cornerstone-arts.org

Sunday 22nd April 2-5pm Great Marcham Garage and Plant Sale throughout the village

Sunday 13th May 2012 Abingdon Dragon Boats. Races throughout the day

Sunday 1st July 1pm Olympic Fun Day Sutton Courtenay recreation ground (more details next issue)



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Planet Aid UK is a non-profit organisation, and is the British member of the International Humana People to People **Movement**

MILTON HILL BOWLS CLUB

Milton Hill Bowls Club (Potash Lane, Milton Heights) will be holding an open day on Saturday, 28th April 2012 - all welcome - 2.00 at the Bowls Club (behind Milton Football Club) Please just turn up, or more information from the Secretary, Mike Whiting 01235 831306. Footwear provided.

Many thanks,

Sue Walker 122 High Street, SC.

Tel: 847158

BIRD WATCHER

One afternoon in early March we were walking on the landfill site when we saw a Red Kite floating around, easily recognisable by the forked tail which is used for steering. The Kite suddenly started to chase two Black Headed Gulls, which flew away. Then it attacked one of the Mallard Ducks which was swimming on the pond, attacking in the same way that Ospreys catch fish. There was a big splash and the Kite flew away, realising that a fully grown duck was too big to tackle. I consulted the local expert who suggested that the Kite was young and experimenting to see what could be tackled and what could not. Normally Kites are looking for an easy meal, preferably dead. They will take small rodents and rabbits live, but are mainly scavengers. In Elizabethan times they were very common in large towns such as London, where the method of rubbish disposal was to throw it in the street.



Red Kite

In January and February the Skylarks began to sing regularly as they laid claim to their territories. I noticed three fighting near the Milton Road.

In early March I saw that some of the Black Headed Gulls had developed the black head which gives them their name. This is the breeding plumage. For the rest of the year it returns to a black spot on each side of the head behind the eye.



Skylark

In January and February the Skylarks began to sing regularly as they laid claim to their territories

MY DAILY WINGED VISITORS

I would just like to say what a brilliant time of year it is for the wild birds visiting our gardens and I would like to share some of my sightings with you. I feel so lucky this year to be able to look out of my back garden and see such a spectacular array of different species during the day, but oh what time wasters they are! I've only got to see something move and out comes the binoculars.

Last year we had a family of woodpeckers nesting next door and to see and hear the babies flying about was a delight. Earlier this year we had the Green Woodpecker and now have the Lesser Spotted ones visiting 2 to 3 times a day, along with a family of partridge which started off as 18 but sadly gets smaller by the week and has now dwindled down to around 8 but still fascinating to watch scuttering around the garden in between the shrubs and carefully onto the lawn into the open. There always seems to be a look out and if it senses danger, then that's it, off they go flying across the field until tomorrow.

I was also looking at 6 to 8 tiny birds which landed onto our bird feeders the other day, beautiful little things with long tails, cream and pale pink on their delicate bodies. After looking them up on the internet it seems that they are Long Tailed Tits. Never seen these before but then neither have I seen the little yellow ones which again are in a group of 4 to 6 and join my chickens daily for their feed and sit up in the trees above the rest of the day. On looking closer at these (sadly, found one dead near the chicken run) it seems they resemble Yellow Hammers, which again wonderful to have them visit my garden.



Long Tailed Tit

Then there was a smallish hawk of some kind which landed on top of my fence, it sat there so still, just looking around, I couldn't move quick enough to get my binoculars and after I had a good look at him he seemed to take off in slow motion so I could take a good look at his wonderful feathers.

There are numerous of other little birds just like the ones in your gardens, the Blue Tits, Chaffinches, Robins, Doves, Sparrows, Thrush, then we have the Pheasants proudly walking about then bringing a smile to my face as they sprint across the lawn at the slightest noise or movement, a flock of Redwings come and cover the lawns at least twice a week, a nightly visit from a Tawny Owl, which did sound a bit eerie the first couple of times I heard it but now so used to it's cry I've come to miss it if it's not around. And not to mention the gathering of ducks every evening, again landing down with the chickens for their supper.

'Mr and Mrs' are the names we have given to a pair that come and land on our pond every year since we moved in, we know it's the same two because after their swim they cheekily know, that if they come to the glass door looking for us they'll get fed. Last year they thanked us with 9 beautiful ducklings, she'd sat there for weeks under our walnut tree. Mind you, the stress and sleepless nights!!! For weeks while she sat on those eggs in the quiet of night all alone in the dark and the sheer thought of a fox or some other creature getting her was awful. But with a little help from a human they all made it out of my garden across the field and into the river. And yes, yesterday Mr and Mrs returned to our pond to let us know that they are still alive and together!

Carol Chung

COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER...

JUBILATION

THE BIG LUNCH - SUNDAY 3RD JUNE 2012
ON THE VILLAGE GREEN, SUTTON COURTENAY

PROGRAMME FOR THE DAY

10.30-11.30am – Jubilation Songs of Praise in All Saints' Church

1-3pm – Bring your own picnic and join in the BIG PICNIC LUNCH on the Village Green

3-4pm Cream Teas served by the WI

All Day on the Green...

Bouncy Castle

Paint your own commemorative plate/mug for £5

Decorate your own Jubilee cup cake

Jubilee Pops (please submit your request for your favourite song/piece of music from the past 60 years on the forms which will appear in the May issue of the SC News)

Treasure Hunt

And in the Church...

Local History Display of Jubilees of the Past

Live large screen broadcast of the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant



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Sutton Courtenay Village Hall

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LETTERS & NOTICES

Missing bins

There was an article under speaker's corner in March regarding missing bins. The bins have microchips embedded into the plastic for waste management to be able to trace them. Your writer can call or email

Dawn Andrews - Waste Management Executive

03000 610610, dawn.andrews@biffa.co.uk,

She's located our bin in the past and been very helpful without the need for a new bin

Kind regards

Carol Ghadimi

Drayton Players

Are holding their AGM on Thursday 3rd May 2012 in the Caudwell Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton. at 7.30p.m.

There will also be an open meeting to discuss future productions for Drayton Players and we are asking anyone who may be interested in helping with these productions to come along.

We would appreciate ideas for plays, help with backstage, production and direction and anyone who would like to "tread the boards".

Please come along on the 3rd May - you will be very welcome.

Contact : Fred Stevens Chairman, Drayton Players 01235 200350

email: fred.stevens1@ntlworld.com

Babysitter needed

We are looking for a babysitter for our 4 year old son and our 18 month old daughter for 1 - 2 evenings a week.

We are also interested in meeting any childminders in the area. Please get in contact. Telephone: 01235 848901 or Email:

dr.b.brent@gmail.com

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Edith Mary Dearman

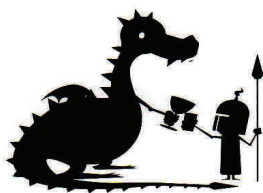
David and family would like to say thank to everyone for their messages of sympathy, cards, flowers, donations and to everyone who attended Mum's funeral.

Dave Deadman

Vacant Almshouse

Applications are invited for a vacant almshouse. Preference will be given to elderly widows with a connection to the village of Sutton Courtenay, but other applicants will be considered.

For further information, please contact Mrs R Allen, tel 01235 848667



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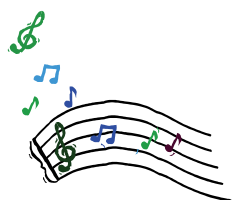
Chicken Burger - Char grilled Bbq Chicken breast and Bacon with Sauteed Onions and Guacamole

Vegetarian Burger - Falafel, Roasted Mushroom, Pepper & Haloumi with Tzatziki

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SATURDAY EVENINGS

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EASTER SUNDAY 8th APRIL

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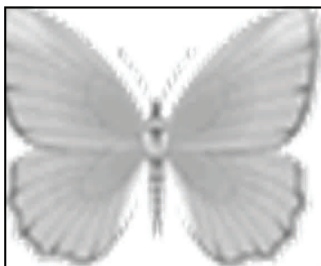
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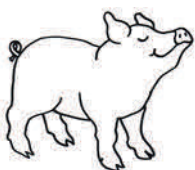
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