



VILLAGE DIARY FOR APRIL

Mar. 24 Sun. Mothering Sunday Service. 11 a.m. at All Saints'.

Mar. 30 Sat. Churchyard Jumble Sale. 2.30 p.m. at School.

April 2 Tue. Mothers' Union. 2.30 at Vicarage. Bring & Buy.
Speaker - Mrs. Anne Hankey.

April 5 Wed. "Under-Fives" 2.30 p.m. at Vicarage.

April 6 Sat. Horticultural Society Spring Show at the School.

April 7 Sun. Palm Sunday Services. 11 a.m. at All Saints'.
6.30 p.m. at Appleford. (Bus 10.45 & 6.15)

April 10 Wed. Darby & Joan. Members' Speaking competition.
"How I came to live in Sutton Courtenay". Tape
recording of 17.372. Entertainment.
Youth Club closed (also on 17th)

April 11 Thu. Maundy Thursday Holy Communion, 7.30 p.m. at All Saints'.
A.G.M. of S.C. Angling Club. 7.30 p.m.

April 12 Fri. GOOD FRIDAY. Children's Service 10 a.m. at All Saints'.
'The Last Hour', 2 p.m. Evening Service 7.30 p.m.

April 14 Sun. EASTER DAY. 7 a.m. 8 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 noon & 6.30 p.m.
at All Saints'. (Bus 10.45 & 6.15)

April 18 Thu. W.I. "Countrywise" - Mrs. Lewis. Competition -
Reminders of Childhood.

DIARY CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

All events take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.
Please take contributions for the "Sutton Courtenay News" to the
Post Office, Rogers' Shop, or the Editor, Mary Thompson, 124 High St.
Before Copy Day, Wednesday, 17th April.

2.

Brief advertisements, letters, etc. are welcomed. The rate is 5p a line (except for trade ads.). "Welcome to Sutton Courtenay", "Found", and "Work wanted" are free. All contributions to the Post Office, Rogers' Shop or the Editor, Mary Thompson, 124 High Street, before Copy Day.

MR. HARRY HAYNES of Churchmere Road, would like to express sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness, letters and floral tributes in the recent sad loss of his wife, Mabel Rose. Please accept this as a personal acknowledgement.

The Wives Group recently collected for the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. The total collected was £40.25. Many thanks to all who so kindly gave and a special thank you to our collectors.

THE SUTTON COURtenay NEWS very gratefully acknowledges two donations of £5 each, and the equally welcome gift of 25p from an Old Age Pensioner. These gifts are particularly welcome as our hard-worked printing machine has had to go to a firm in Bromley for repair (by kind permission of the Vicar and his car!). Hence if there are too many errors in this month's News, please forgive us as the whole thing had to be written and printed in a day!

We apologise to the many people in Bradstocks Way who received no News last month - there is a bundle of your News sitting somewhere in this village! We hope to adjust the distribution of the News starting from this month and trust this will not happen again.

W A N T E D Someone to cover a Parker-Knoll chair in Dralon. Upholstery not necessary. Dralon supplied. Ring S.C. 360.

SUTTON COURtenay ANGLING CLUB

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 11th April, 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Will all winners of cups and prize money please attend. All members welcome. Bar and refreshments.

R.S.P.C.A. A Bring & Buy Sale will be held at 23 Church Street on Tuesday, April 23rd at 3.0 p.m. All gifts welcome. Tea will be served at River Cottage and a Raffle will be held there. All welcome.

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DIARY CONTINUED

April 21 Sun. Family Communion 10 a.m., Evensong 6.30 (Bus 9.45 & 6.15 p.m.)
April 23 Tue. R.S.P.C.A. Bring & Buy, Tea. 3 p.m. at 23 Church Street.
Wives Group. Bring & Buy Coffee Evening in aid of
Bennett House School. 8.0 p.m.
April 24 Wed. Youth Club reopens 7.30 p.m.
Darby & Joan. Whist Drive.
April 25 Thur. Youth Club A.G.M. 7.30 p.m. at Pumping Station.
April 28 Sun. Junior Church 10 a.m., Matine 11 a.m., Evensong 6.30 p.m.

Editorial: At the last Parish Council Meeting the opportunity was given to people to express their views on possible closure of the Power Station road. (See report on page 3). There is little to be gained at this stage by prolonging the arguments in the pages of the Sutton Courtenay News. Both the Milton Trading Estate and the C.E.G.B. were contacted after information was received that the C.E.G.B. was to lease land on either side of the road to the Trading Estate. A representative of the Trading Estate would make no comment on the matter, but a C.E.G.B. official stated that the road would remain open at present, and no action would be taken until a decision was made by the new County Council. In view of this, we would urge you, if you feel strongly either way (and the News tries to remain impartial!) to write to your County Councillor, Colonel R. Norman, Mill House, Milton, as the matter would now appear to be in the hands of the new Oxfordshire County Council.

.....On a lighter note, I would like to find out something about the history of the pubs in the village - I could do a pub crawl but would then be incapable of remembering anything! Morlands brewery kindly supplied me with some factual details but if anyone has some good stories, information, etc. about the village's pubs they would be very welcome.

THANKS to Mr. Michael Leitch, who recently came to live in the village, for this month's topical and appropriate cover.

Most of the poems that we print in the News are written by children from the Primary School when aged 10 or 11 or thereabouts - Here's a cheerful poem about the Spring.

THE GLORY OF SPRING by Rachel Greenway

The creeping old winter is gone,
There is no more winter here.
Lambs are being born welcoming
New spring year.
The daffodils toss their heads.
The daisies are raising high,
The chills are gone from their wintry beds,
Returning birds fill the sky.

My spirits rise when the spring-time comes.
I'm free to wander the river banks
To see the things so new and clean -
For these I give the greatest thanks.

I think about the hedgehog
In his dozy sleep,
The little jumping squirrel
And the playful lambs that bleat.
I love to see clear water
Trickling in a stream.
I forget the winter chills
And fall into a summer dream.
I love to roam the river banks -
For all these things I give my thanks.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - March 5th 1974
 (Including public meeting about Power Station Road)

At this meeting members of the public were invited to attend and speak during the discussion of the Power Station Road. This aroused great interest and the Village Hall was full to capacity. Mr. Farrant, representing the Oxfordshire County Council and Department of the Environment was also present. The Chairman opened with a brief summary of the situation. He said it was not the wish of the Parish Council to have the road closed, but that the C.E.G.B. are considering closure owing to difficulties with the barrier and over maintenance. Berkshire County Council had decided not to adopt it as they consider the proposed Milton-Didcot Link Road would be a more serviceable route.

The feeling of the meeting seemed strongly in favour of keeping the road open, at any rate for commuters between Sutton Courtenay and Didcot, for the facilities offered and for essential services such as Fire and Police, etc. The arguments in favour of closure included a decrease in traffic through the village and danger to school-children in Harwell Road.

Mr. Farrant said that his Department would note the views expressed, and, if they took over the road, it would probably be made up to first-class standard, which might attract considerable through traffic from surrounding areas. Finally Councillor Malein moved a proposal that the Parish Council is in favour of the road being kept open and maintained for the use of Sutton Courtenay residents but does not wish for a first-class road that would encourage traffic from outlying areas.

The Council then proceeded with further business as follows:-

Correspondence:

1. A letter from the Football Club asking permission to hold a Six-a-Side Tournament on the Recreation Ground on Sat. & Sun. May 11th and 12th, which was granted.
2. A letter from the Pre-School Playgroup asking for a donation towards equipment, possibly a book-case and books. This was regretfully refused.
3. A letter from the Friends of Sutton Courtenay concerning land in High Street. Councillor Smith has offered to demolish the skeleton of the burnt-out barn, free of charge, provided he can dispose of the material. This information has been forwarded to Mr. Caudwell. The Friends also expressed their approval of the improvement work started on the Village Green.
4. A letter from Mr. Curd, Treasurer of the Fund for providing the Old People's Christmas Dinner, following Mrs. Curran's request for a donation. He said that the total cost exceeds £200. A decision was postponed to a later date.

The Council felt that it would help them if, in future, all requests for donations could be received by November of each year, so as to allocate available funds for the following year.

5. A letter from the S.E.B. estimating cost of proposed new street lights:- Town Close £84; Hobbyhorse Lane £36; Churchmere Road £36. Also, too late to be included, another street light asked for in the lane leading to the Recreation Ground. The Council agreed that all these sites should be examined before proceeding further.

Planning Applications:

- 1) Grain Store for Mr. Caudwell. Concern expressed at the size, also lest it be used for grain drying.
- 2) Forecourt Kiosk, Owen's Garage for Mr. Basson. Objection on grounds of urbanization of the village.
- 3) Extension to form living-room and bedroom for Mr. Priestley, 18 The Green.
 No comment.

Parish Council continued.

5.

The question of purchasing a hand-cart for village cleaning was postponed as Mr. Bayer, owing to ill-health, will not be able to undertake the work. It was agreed that we advertise again in the Sutton Courtenay News for a maintenance man, and, should there be no response, the Vale of White Horse District Council would undertake the work at a charge of a pound per hour.

Future Meetings: The Council agreed that future meetings should be on the first Tuesday of every month - next meeting April 2nd. The Annual Parish Meeting (at which parishioners may speak) and Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council will be on May 7th.

W A N T E D - MAINTENANCE MAN * The Parish Council wish to employ a part-time maintenance man. Would possibly suit able-bodied pensioner. Anyone interested please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs. D. Newton, 11 Chapel Lane, Tel. S.C.425, for further details. *****

Going into OXFORDSHIRE

The changeover takes place on April 1st. You may like to note that the new Vale of White Horse District Offices will be located at the Abbey House, Abingdon. The former R.D.C. offices at 66 Bath Street will become the Department of the Environment.

Go-ahead for Footpaths Project

Proposals for footpaths projects totalling £18,000 have been agreed by the new Oxfordshire's Highways Committee. This includes a footpath between Sutton Courtenay and Milton at an estimated cost of £6,100.

The HEIGHT AND WEIGHT restriction on vehicles imposed by the Berkshire County Council comes into force in High Street on April 1st.

FRIENDS OF SUTTON COURtenay

The Committee of the Friends of Sutton Courtenay held a meeting on 18th February. The first item to be discussed was the placing of a seat and planting of two trees in High Street. It was decided to go ahead with the work and place the inscription plate at a later date. The Chairman reported that he had written to the Clerk of the Parish Council regarding the skeleton of the burnt-out barn in High Street, and a member of the Committee offered to dismantle the skeleton free of charge provided he could retain the steelwork. A letter was also sent to the Parish Council protesting against the application to demolish the barns in High Street.

Among other items discussed were the use of weed killer on the verges; the weight limit of lorries passing through the village; the dumping of rubbish; the garage at the Swan and the work done in the churchyard and on the village green.

Subscriptions: The present subscription will be valid until the next A.G.M. in September, from which date they will be collected annually.

QUOTE from a postcard circulated by a Berkshire Womens' Institute - "Mrs. ---- will talk on 'Prematurely Grey Hair.' This replaces the advertised talk on 'Living on a Fixed Income'!!

DO YOU RECOGNIZE ANY OF THESE NAMES?

CHEERS, LADY, UPTOWN, and PARISH CLOSES; Badwell Furlong, the Forty Horn Down, Hullgrove, Lummisham, Mill Swathes, Tullis Meadow, Summerfed all these places were to be found in Sutton Courtenay at the turn of the century. Do you know where they are now? We can also read in chronicles written at that time of the existence of a row of cottages at the back of Sutton Courtehay village street known variously as Filchamstead, Filcham or Fletcham Street. Is this the Frilsham Street of today?

Some Old Berkshire Sayings

"If it rains on Easter Day,
Plenty of grass but not much hay."

"Wash on Ash Wednesday, and you wash someone out of the family."

"Blessed is the Woman who bakes on Good Friday and five Fridays afterwards; but cursed is the woman who washes on Good Friday and five Fridays afterwards."

WOMENS' INSTITUTE

So far this year we have had a most interesting talk on Fiji by Lady Monteath and another on gardens of easy maintenance by Mr. Blackwell. The March meeting will be more serious when we elect out new President and Committee.

We held a successful Jumble Sale, making £37 for W.I. funds. It gave us great pleasure to learn that one of our members had won the County Draw, the prize being a Midsummer cruise to the Norwegian Fjords.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The ANNUAL DINNER will be held on Saturday, 27th April, 7 for 7.30 p.m. to be followed by a Dance. The "Key Sounds", a four-piece live band, have been engaged. Tickets, price £1.50, can be obtained from any Committee member, Mr. K. Knowles, 13 Frilsham Street, or the Secretary, Mr. D. Matheson, 102 Milton Rd.

Three of the Committee attended the recent meeting held at the Challow Branch concerning the proposed new area to be formed called the "Vale of the White Horse" affiliated to Berkshire County. This was agreed and the Chairman-elect is Major Debenham.

D. M. Matheson, Secretary.

"EVENSONG AT APPLEFORD" was much appreciated by the Sutton Courtenay "regulars": and will probably continue through the summer on fourth Sundays. There will also be some Sunday Evenings at the School and in the Open Air. But Evensong at All Saints' is too good to miss altogether and will be there normally on Sundays at 6.30 p.m.

THIRTY MORE BELFAST CHILDREN will be coming to Sutton Courtenay and Abingdon from August 6th - 16th. If you can help this time or would like a copy of the Report of the 1973 holiday, please contact the Vicar.

- SUTTON COURtenay DIRECTORY -

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