

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 50 No. 3

APRIL 2021



THE END OF LOCKDOWN IN SIGHT!

Vaccines are being rolled out!

Schools and colleges are back!

SCN has ordered a full print run!

The editors are glad to announce our first step on the road to normality - we have printed our usual number of copies of the Sutton Courtenay News and your copy will be delivered to your home.

Previous copies are available on the website under Archives at suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk

MAY 2021 SCN DEADLINE – WEDNESDAY 21st APRIL 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: Michael Jenkins, 847174
msjenkins@msn.com
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts: Adrian Rouse, 07730 313384
adrian.j.rouse@gmail.com
Brownies: Mary.steventonrainbows@gmail.com
Stay & Play Toddler Group: Facebook page: [@SCstayandplay](https://www.facebook.com/@SCstayandplay)
Chair, Friends of All Saints: Sue Jenkins 07885 437454
Matrix Music School: 847264
The Abbey: 847401
Cricket Club: drb71@hotmail.co.uk
Sutton Courtenay WI: Val Melville 847612
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 - currently on sabbatical
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

CURRENTLY AFFECTED BY COVID RESTRICTIONS

See Page 9

1st Sunday: Family service at 10:30 am
2nd Sunday: Parish Eucharist @ 10:30am + Junior Church
3rd Sunday: Morning Worship @ 10:30am + Junior Church
4th Sunday: Parish Eucharist @ 10:30am + Junior Church
5th Sunday: Special services across the Damascus Parish – please see church noticeboard for details.
Wednesdays: BCP Holy Communion at 9:45 am.



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 or taken to Hari & Esha News (formerly Burgrey Stores) 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 8477241 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.



Annual Parish Meeting of Electors

The Annual Parish Meeting of Electors will take place on Tuesday 6th April 2021 commencing at 7.00pm. Due to Covid 19 restrictions it will take place virtually this year via Zoom. Login details will be available nearer to the time both on the front page of the website or directly from the clerk. The Annual Parish Meeting will be followed by the usual monthly Parish Council meeting.

New Road and River Crossing

The Parish Council is in regular contact with Oxfordshire County Council regarding the proposed new road and river crossing. It is also endeavouring to forge links with other parish councils that will be affected by the proposals.

Footpaths Working Party

The Parish Council has decided to form a Footpaths Working Party to try and deal with problems on footpaths within the parish to make them more accessible to all, as well as in a good state of repair. Non-councillors are able to join the working party so if you would like to help, please do contact the clerk.

Footpath Works

The Parish Council has obtained funding and the permission of Oxfordshire County Council to carry out works to the footpaths along Church Street. The works are currently

delayed due to the current regulations in place but it is hoped that works will commence as soon as practicably possible once restrictions are eased. Volunteers will be welcomed but to comply with Covid-19 regulations and insurance, all volunteers will be asked to confirm their attendance prior to the day and will need to provide contact details for track and trace purposes. Further information, including dates when it is hoped the works will be carried out, and details of how to volunteer, will follow in due course.

Links on Website

The Council has decided that it may be helpful to have more links to relevant websites. If you have any suggestions, please contact the clerk and the Council will consider the request.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 6th April 2021, preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting of Electors which will commence at 7.00pm.

As mentioned above, the link will be available on the website or by request from the clerk prior to the meeting.

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

Email: info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 01235 364211

FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

We are delighted that our delivery team are keen to help us deliver this copy of the Sutton Courtenay News to your homes. We have been producing copies throughout the lockdowns but printing only a limited number for distribution to those who were unable to collect a copy from the piles we left in the church, the garage and the shops. The on-line copy has been available but there is nothing nicer than browsing through a paper copy over a cup of tea. Returning to deliveries feels so positive.

Thank you very much to our delivery team for supporting us.

A big thank you also to our advertisers who have continued to support the SCN throughout this difficult period.

If you have not seen a copy of SCN you may have missed the fact that we are three new editors who are struggling to get our heads around the job we have taken on. We are only too glad that our errors in the first two magazines of the year were not that widely distributed! I don't think we can bin that L-plate just yet, though!

You may also have missed the first of our Village Walks kindly provided by Simon Lazare. The second is published here, and I can strongly recommend the March walk (first in the series) which you will find in the March copy online.

We do not have a diary as yet, but it is nice to hear that events are being planned in the hope that Boris's Roadmap can be followed without a hiccup, and that we have a nice social summer to look forward to. Please let us know of your dates when you can.

Katherine, Kathy & Jennie
Editors



Easter Bunnies by Zen



Back together again!

The week beginning Monday 8th March served to remind us just how resilient our children are. There were a few anxious faces on Monday morning, but all the children settled into school incredibly quickly. As the children poured out of school at the end of the day, their excited chatter filled the playground. Over the course of the week, I visited every classroom to really observe the atmosphere closely. I would simply never have known that the children had been away for so long. Of course, huge credit should be given to parents and carers, as they had prepared them exceptionally well and worked so hard to keep things positive for them. There were a lot of very tired children this week though, as they get used to the noise and busyness of full classrooms again, and the wild weather definitely has not helped! But we are on our way, and this week has felt like a new chapter.



For the next couple of weeks the focus in school is very much on the social aspects of coming back together and playing and learning with friends. The children need to settle into those all-important routines which are the foundations for learning. This is not just about knowing when to talk and when to wait, or how to sit still. One of the key things we are working on as we settle back in is our **resilience** – keeping trying when things get challenging and using strategies to get us through. Another big skill is **independence**. With home schooling and smaller classes in school, some children have got used to extra help and will need time to get back into the swing of things in a class of 30! For younger children, we are allowing plenty of time to



play. For older ones, there are team challenges to encourage working together and planned down-time with mindful activities.

There will inevitably be some gaps in learning as a result of the very different experiences children have had over this year. However, it will take a while to see how much of this is due to children just settling back in after a very disrupted year. We need to take one day at a time and not stress about the usual milestones – there is plenty of time!

Mother's Day

There are some times of the year that naturally lend themselves to relationship education. As we approached Mother's Day, we talked to the children about mother figures in general, and how lots of different people can 'mother' you. We have encouraged them to celebrate special people in their families, recognising that each of them has a unique context and no two families are the same. During Wellbeing Wednesday this week, across the school we looked at flower shapes and designs, and the children made cards for someone in their lives who mothers them. Their designs are as unique as they are!



Headteacher: Ms Rachel Hornsey
 Asst. Headteachers: Lisa Knight and Louise Potter
 Office: 3243@sutton-courtenay.oxon.sch.uk
 Tel: 01235 848333



ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

Another month has passed, and everyone is hurtling towards summer. The team is feeling excited by the prospect of fewer restrictions, meaning we can offer more activities and get back to that community feeling once more. However, Easter is around the corner and the team is planning another fun filled half term! Details will be released via our social media pages.

Bootcamp update: the youngsters in the group have been working super hard on their leg strength and are starting to see the benefits from their hard work as well as the mental



health benefits too. “I look forward to this session every week, I know it’s going to be hard work but I always leave feeling better than I did when I arrived.... I can’t believe I held a wall sit for 4 minutes!” was one quote from a young person – it made our day in the office!

The support sessions have been focussing on getting ready for school and reducing the anxiety that returning to school has brought with it. We are so proud of all our young people

for the resilience and adaptability they have shown in recent months!

Pen Pals

The first few letters have been exchanged and the young people can’t wait to read the next responses. If you are feeling lonely, isolated or would like something extra to do, then get in contact with the team and we will get the process started for you. Another quote that made us all giggle was – “It used to take me 5 minutes to go to the shop and back, now its 20 minutes because I stop and chat to so many elderly people on my way from the summer bingo, I love it though”.

Walking Challenge

As you may know by now, we love to try and get you moving! Our 30-day walking challenge is here but there is still time to get involved. It is really simple; we provide you with a chart and a pedometer and you try to beat the daily step challenge. We will then collect the charts after 30 days! As always, use the details below to get in contact with the team!

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



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

WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day was on March 4th and because schools were closed to most pupils we have few photos to share with you. School closure did not stop one youngster from celebrating in style.

Well Done, Soldier!



NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP (NAG5) SAFETY CORNER

N.B. Information correct at the time of writing, in mid-March.

People who have received their Covid-19 vaccination(s)

After having the vaccination you should still continue to follow the rules. It is not yet known if it is possible for those who have been vaccinated to pass on the virus to others and there are concerns about further mutations.

COVID-19 vaccination

- When it is your turn to have the vaccination, the NHS will contact you - by phone, letter, email or, more recently, by text - with information about how to book your appointment. There are a variety of ways in which appointments are made: either via a phone call from your GP surgery, or you may be asked to make an appointment by phone or online. **Please be aware of the warning about vaccination scams, below.**
- If you have received a letter, but not booked an appointment, you may receive a phone call from the NHS Immunisation Management Service. This call will be from 0300 561 0240 and will be a reminder to book your vaccination appointment. The caller will ask if you need any help or support.

Vaccination scams

If, during the appointment booking process, you are asked to provide any of the following it is not a genuine communication from the NHS. There are many such scams in circulation, and you should not proceed any further.

- Your bank details.
- Your PIN or banking password.
- Copies of personal documents to prove your identity – such as your passport, driving licence, bills or pay slips.

The COVID-19 vaccination is available only through the NHS and is free-of-charge

Scams

Coronavirus has prompted a huge increase in scams. The latest reports include:

- A Royal Mail text scam, where the recipient is asked to click on a link to pay a small amount of money to have a package delivered. If you receive one of these texts **do not click on the link** since the aim is to obtain your financial details. Please **forward the text to 7726** (free of charge), so that your network provider can investigate.
- An HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS) scam, where criminals are using the Royal Courts of Justice contact information to claim that victims owe money to HMRC and that arrest warrants have been issued. Victims have been contacted by phone and email. If you receive any communication from HMCTS regarding HMRC you can be sure it is not genuine. **The Royal Courts of Justice will never contact you**

about tax matters. If you receive one of these emails please forward it to phishing@report.gov.uk

If you have been a victim of a scam it is very understandable that you might feel embarrassed and don't want to tell anyone. But please do report it to the National Fraud and Cyber Crime Reporting Centre - Action Fraud - by calling 0300 123 2040 or via the website reporting tool at www.actionfraud.police.uk

Our News in the March e-newsletter from Neighbourhood Watch has a lot of useful tips and advice about identifying and avoiding email scams.

www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/images/site_images/72598_Mar_2021_OUR_NEWS.pdf

CONTACTING THE POLICE

The police request that you should only call 999 in an emergency and 101 if it is 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

Bridget Haffenden



Violets

Infrastructure and Growth

For the last 10 years, the six ancient Oxfordshire villages of Appleford, Sutton Courtenay, Milton, Drayton, Marcham and Shippon that make up our County Division, have all been under pressure from rapid development and housing expansion. It is the same in many parts of the South of England, but our thriving economy has made us a focus of growth. As a result, we seem to need more roads, bridges, rail lines and reservoirs. This generates millions of tons of carbon and is making our targets in addressing climate change ever harder to achieve. The UK is chairing the Cop26 Climate Conference in Glasgow later this year and government is well aware of our responsibility and the need to be seen as a world leader in attempting to solve the Climate Emergency. It seems very likely that we will have to reconsider how we balance economic growth and recovery from the pandemic with understanding and controlling the carbon footprint of so many infrastructure projects.

Data Centres – A word of warning

In terms of number of people employed and amount of traffic generated, the increasing number of Data Centres appearing in our area are much preferred to ever more housing development. There are, however, two problems with Data Centres which need to be considered. First, they require a vast amount of electrical energy to run them. In time, renewable energy sources will satisfy that requirement but at present, the carbon footprint of these centres is uncomfortably large. Secondly, they generate a great deal of heat. In time it is hoped that we can develop systems for making good use of this heat. Companies building such facilities need to show they have made provision to address these problems.

School Streets

The County is considering adopting a plan whereby temporary traffic orders are made around schools at certain times of day to increase safety. Sutton Courtenay Primary School and its

parents have been concerned about child safety, at the beginning and end of the school day, for some time now. The traffic order would stop any traffic from driving past the school entrance during restricted hours. The route(s) for the diverted traffic would have to be carefully considered and some people would be temporarily inconvenienced. Hopefully, the safety of school children will persuade them that it is a sensible measure.

Joined up Cycling Routes

We have all wanted to see a system of safe, joined up cycling routes in our area that will encourage more of us to cycle. Whilst Peep-o-Day Lane is a most welcome new contribution to this, the apparent routes planned by OCC are tortuous, and there is a fear that people will not use them. There is also a concern that simply painting white cycle signs on the edges of existing roads, as has been happening, is not a sensible solution and may well lead to more accidents. It may take time and prolonged investment to get this right, but it will surely be better to improve things steadily rather than go for cheaper options that do not address the problem.

The Sutton Courtenay and Appleford Covid Group

This group was created in the early weeks of the pandemic to address issues around food and medicine delivery to those who needed it. Since then, it has grown into a support system for the whole community, which is second to none. It now considers other issues such as mental health, the problems of isolation and community safety. Comprising representatives from all of the major community organisations in the village, it has become an invaluable think tank and means of passing out information for all residents. I am very much hoping that it will continue well beyond the pandemic as a means of bringing people together.

Richard Webber Cllr

Richardwebber777@gmail.com
01235 534001

DAVID JOHNSTON MP



I was delighted that 2,620 people responded to my survey regarding Grove Station within just 2 weeks – thank you if you did. Some 98% of people supported it being reopened! Over 90% said they would prefer it to a new bus service and 89% said they would use their car less if it reopened. We have stiff competition as there are 85 different bids to Government for stations or lines to reopen, but I will keep bashing away until we eventually succeed.

I continue to be frustrated with Royal Mail. Our postmen and women work hard but something is clearly not right as constituents have been complaining to me about mail deliveries for several months and the problem has been reported in the national news too. When I called a meeting with them last year, they said they had gone from ‘a letter service delivering parcels to a parcel service delivering letters’ and it does seem to be the parcels they prioritise. Every fortnight I enter the ballot to have a debate in parliament about their service and hope I will be successful soon.

Unauthorised traveller camps were the subject of my speech in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill debate this month. The Bill has wrongly been accused of restricting our right to protest when actually the protest measures target actions we have seen by organised protest groups in the past

year such as people gluing themselves to roads and stopping ambulances getting through, or shutting down printing presses because they don’t like the editorial line of the papers involved. It is a wide-ranging bill that increases the sentences or time served for a wide range of violent and sexual offences, but it also clamps down on unauthorised traveller camps which are a regular source of distress in the constituency. At the time of writing, in 20 of the past 34 weeks there has been at least 1 such camp somewhere in the Vale or South Oxfordshire, frequently involving mess, noise, vandalism and other anti-social behaviour. The Bill will allow the police to remove such camps more quickly and impose stiffer penalties.

I had my first appearance on the BBC’s Politics Live on 18th March; an interesting if slightly strange experience. Whereas you can see everyone’s face when you watch on television, each of us panellists look into a black screen on our computers as we can’t see anyone! We discussed various topics including the EU’s latest silly comments regarding the supply and safety of the AstraZeneca vaccine, which has again been confirmed as completely safe. Despite the noise, we shouldn’t worry – we’ve now vaccinated over 25 million people, half the adult population, and remain on course to see every adult offered a jab by the end of July.

As ever, if I can help with anything then do email david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk



The
DAMASCUS
Parish
Drayton | Appleford | Milton
Sutton Courtenay | Steventon

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.....

Easter this year, as in 2020, will be celebrated, but it will be different, just as were all celebrations, anniversaries and commemorations last year. As we look with hope for future social gatherings and freedoms from lockdowns, we need to prepare for the "new normal". We perhaps need to review the past year and ask ourselves questions:

- What have we lost and must remain lost?
- What have we lost and must regain?
- What have we gained and must retain?
- What was gained and was alright for a while, but can now be lost?

These four questions were put forward after the first lockdown by the Bishop of Lincoln, and are worth thinking about again in 2021. So many things we took for granted have changed or been lost. New ways of daily living have been found and gained. As I read back the letter I wrote last April, I can certainly say that things have changed since last Easter! However, for Christians, Easter remains the highlight of the year: when Jesus' resurrection is celebrated. His showing to the world, that there is hope, there is life which is eternal. It is a time of new beginnings, of starting afresh, and also a reminder that we can always start anew with God. His faithful forgiveness will always mean we can start again; begin afresh; a new beginning.

At the time of writing, all corporate acts of worship are suspended for the safety of our whole community. However, we have planned various events and a variety of ways for retelling and celebrating the Easter story in the Damascus Parish villages. Details can be found on church notice boards and on the internet www.damascusparish.org.uk for further up to date information.

Everyone is warmly invited to join in and enjoy.

Reverend Rosie Bruce
rosie-bruce@hotmail.co.uk



Mirabelle blossom

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Palm Sunday – 28 March

10.30 Holy Communion with Revd Phillip Tovey
Distribution of Palm Crosses

Monday in Holy Week

10.00 Online Tenebrae Service available
(Readings, Music and Meditation for Holy Week)

Maundy Thursday (in church)

19.30 Meditation for Maundy Thursday

Good Friday

12.00 Holy Hour with Revd Karen Hyde

Easter Day – 1 April

10.30 Family Holy communion with Revd Phillip Tovey

(Due to distancing restrictions, please book for this service via the Parish Office on 01235 847179 or admin@damascusparish.org.uk.)

Please watch this space for upcoming services and check the Parish website and noticeboards for further details: www.damascusparish.org.uk

COMMUNITY CAFÉ ON ZOOM

The next dates for the on-line Community Café are:
Thursdays 8th April and 22nd April
at 10:30am

Please ring the parish office 01235 847179 or email admin@damascusparish.org.uk to receive the link.

Any queries contact All Saints' Pro-Warden Alison Budd on alison@pbudd.eu

JIGSAWS & BOOKS!

There are a selection of jigsaws available, alongside our bookstall, at the back of church. You are welcome to come and borrow books or jigsaws to help you through lockdown and beyond. If you wish to make a donation then the wall safe is on the left of the main door. The church is open during daylight hours.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS

All Saints' opened for worship on 21st March. If you would like to join us for Sunday worship you would be most welcome. Can we just remind you that face masks, hand sanitising and social distancing is required.

After Easter the normal pattern of worship will continue.

1st Sunday: Family Service at 10:30am
2nd Sunday: Parish Eucharist at 10:30am
3rd Sunday: Morning Worship at 10:30am
4th Sunday Parish Eucharist at 10:30am

The church remains open for most of daylight hours. It is cleaned daily. The food bank receptacle is in the porch and there are always lots of books and jigsaws available (see below) as well as a place for personal prayer.

On-line worship: Many of you have joined us for on-line worship and we are continuing to offer our pre-recorded online service every Sunday available via our website www.damascusparish.org.uk
Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to receive paper copies and we would be happy to post this out to you.

Sabbatical: Helen is away on sabbatical until the 11th April. We are looking forward to the return of a refreshed Helen. If you need the services of a priest during this time please contact the Parish Office on 01235 847179 or any member of the Ministry Team. Thank you.

RIVER ROOM 200 CLUB

The Draw last month was at the Community Café by Zoom on 11 March, and the winning numbers were:

1st Prize (£50) number 2

2nd Prize (£25) number 19

3rd Prize (£8.50) number 48

New members always welcome. Email:

landsbert@west-manor.co.uk

Mothering Sunday Posies

As we couldn't have our normal Mothering Sunday Service this year Mother's day 'posies' were delivered to members of the congregation. These were much appreciated. Thank you to all involved.



A Mother's Day posy

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



**THE 35th AGM OF THE FRIENDS
WILL TAKE PLACE VIA ZOOM
ON TUESDAY 11th MAY AT
7.30PM**

The Friends of All Saints' is an independent charity that has been in existence for over 30 years to assist with the preservation and upkeep of the Grade I listed church in Sutton Courtenay.

The Friends organise several fund raising events in the village and we hope to hold our annual Garden Party in July and our popular Yuletide evening in December. Further details will be published in the SCN nearer the time.

If you are interested in the preservation of this wonderful building and would like more information about joining the Friends please send email details to me so that I contact you. All members will receive Zoom details automatically for the AGM.

Sue Jenkins (Chairman) 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 x 3m (20ft x 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)

**VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ELECTION**

District Council elections are scheduled to take place on **Thursday 6 May 2021**. The following information might be helpful in helping you access your right to vote BUT you may have to act ahead of the election to guarantee it.

STANDING AS A CANDIDATE

It is still possible to stand as a candidate – but your completed application must be submitted by **4pm on Thursday 8 April**. More information can be found by clicking the link below or contacting the Electoral Officer: elections@southandvale.gov.uk or telephone 01235 422528 or visit <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk>

[Candidates and agents Briefing \(whitehorsedc.gov.uk\)](#)

A list of all candidates standing in the election will be published on **4pm on Friday 9 April**.

VOTING

If you want to vote (and are eligible), your details must be including in the electoral register by **19 April 2021**.

Currently, it appears that polling stations will be opened as usual on May 6th. Covid 19 precautions will be put in place to keep voters and polling station attendees safe. For example, you are encouraged to take your own pencil, and booths will be cleaned regularly.

However, if you would feel uncomfortable voting in person there are different ways you can cast your vote – by post, or by appointing someone you trust to do this on your behalf, which is known as a proxy vote. Remember, you must already be included in the electoral register if you want to vote by post or by proxy.

If you wish to **vote by post** in the May 2021 elections the Vale of the White Horse District Council (VWHDC) must receive your application by **5pm on 20 April 2021**. This is also the deadline if you need to alter an existing postal vote – please check to ensure that you are registered to vote by post at your current address.

You can apply for a **proxy vote** at any time until 5pm, on the sixth working day before an election, unless you already have already arranged a postal vote.

For further information, the website below is useful. Alternatively, contact the VWHCD on 01235 422422.

[Vote at your local polling station - Vale of White Horse District Council \(whitehorsedc.gov.uk\)](#)



Progress continues to be made on the Neighbourhood Plan which will help to shape the future of the village for years to come.

A wide range of studies is coming together to form a draft Plan which we hope to have ready to put out for consultation this summer. These include comprehensive reports on environmental issues, such as flooding, footpaths and cycle ways, green gaps between us and neighbouring towns and villages and how to make living in Sutton Courtenay as pleasant and fulfilling for all ages as we can make it.

A survey of local businesses to find out their needs and intentions has just been completed and a draft Design Guide has been prepared which should lead to better decision-making on any future proposed developments.

In line with the clear preference of residents in the village survey, we are not proposing any further large scale housing development in the village. There continue to be pressures on housing in our area and our Neighbourhood Plan will form an important part in considering any proposals affecting us.

For further information about the Neighbourhood Plan, please email:

Joanna O’Callaghan at outlands32@btinternet.com

or have a look at the Parish Council website:

www.suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk

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‘Stay alert, control the virus, and in doing so, save lives’

In accordance with government rules, 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 pandemic progresses and government guidance changes. They may change from time to time and at short notice.

DOG WALKING & SHEEP WORRYING

The editors were very distressed to hear of a dog attack on a lamb in Cross Trees Farm, Sutton Courtenay recently. The lamb's injuries are potentially life threatening.

Please remember at this time of the year sheep are lambing. Please follow the Countryside Code [The Countryside Code Leaflet \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) in particular:

“Keep dogs under effective control

When you take your dog into the outdoors, always ensure it does not disturb wildlife, farm animals, horses or other people by keeping it under **effective control**. This means that you:

- keep your dog on a lead, or
- keep it in sight at all times, be aware of what it's doing and be confident it will return to you promptly on command
- ensure it does not stray off the path or area where you have a right of access

Special dog rules may apply in particular situations, so always look out for local signs – for example:

- Dogs may be banned from certain areas that people use, or there may be restrictions, byelaws or control orders limiting where they can go.

It's always good practice (and a legal requirement on 'Open Access' land) to keep your dog on a lead around farm animals and horses, for your own safety and for the welfare of the animals. A farmer may shoot a dog which is attacking

or chasing farm animals without being liable to compensate the dog's owner.”

Taken from the Countryside Code.

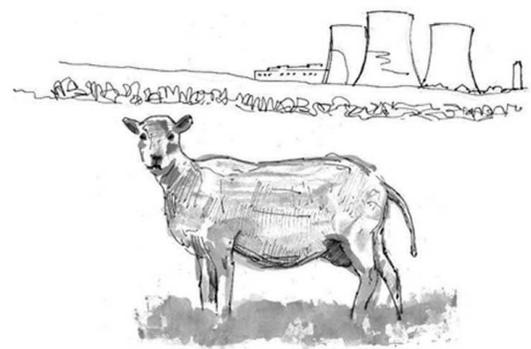
Also, please note:

“Under the [Dogs \(Protection of Livestock\) Act 1953](#), if a dog worries sheep on agricultural land, the person in charge of the dog is guilty of an offence. The Act considers sheep worrying to include attacking sheep, chasing them in a way that may cause injury, suffering, abortion or loss of produce or being at large (not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field or enclosure in which there are sheep.”

Taken from www.nationalsheep.org.uk

Please remember that even well-schooled dogs can get overexcited when near other animals.

Please take care!



Sutton Bridge over the Thames March 2021

THE PATH LESS TRAVELLED by SIMON LAZARE

This month's walk is a 4km (2.5 mile) walk starting from the High Street and takes in a nice stretch of the Thames.

Start at Old Wallingford Way located between 25 and 27 High St. Take the Byway (23) east for 65m and turn left into a lane. Proceed north (this was The Wallingford Lower Road, identified as a 40ft wide Carriage Road, on the 1804 Enclosure Map of Sutton Courtenay. It is now identified as a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) and is path No. 10, starting at the Abbey south gate and at this point turning east on what is now known as Old Wallingford Way).

At the top of the lane turn right toward Cross Trees Farm (path No. 3). At the entrance to the farm turn left, north. The land to the right is part of Prior's Court. Follow the path right then left, keeping Prior's Court on your right until you get to the crossing at Churchmere Road. Go straight across and continue along the gravel lane, north until you get to All Saints' Church Yard. Turn right, towards the east, and follow the lane around the Church Yard keeping it on your left. Continue north on All Saints Lane to the junction with Appleford Road, at the Fish Restaurant.

Continue across Appleford Road, down the path opposite, past Mill Cottage to the stile. This is Sutton Courtenay path No. 2 and it follows the right bank of the Thames (ISIS) downstream to Sutton Bridge. Note the views up and down the Thames. There is a small wooden kissing gate with two steep steps up to Abingdon Road, take care as there is no path on this side of Abingdon Road. Cross the road and turn left.

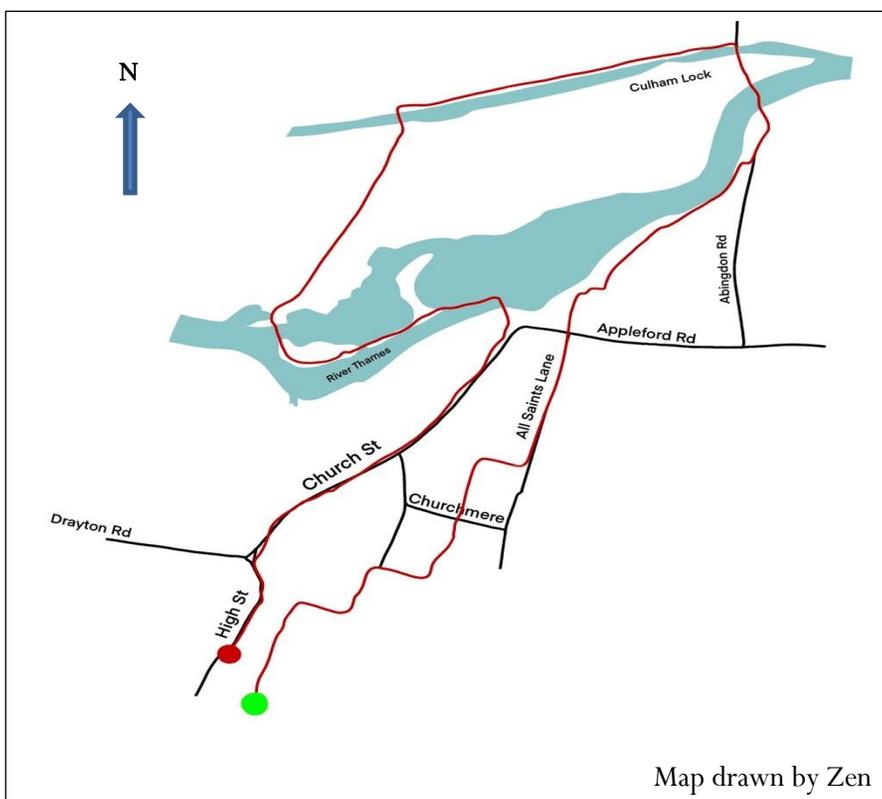
Cross Sutton Bridge, over the Thames and then Culham Bridge, over Culham Cut (a canal). This is now Tolgate or Tollgate Road, depending on which record you consult.

On the north side of the bridges, turn left, cross back over the road and go, west, through the gate, where the signs say, 'Thames Path'. Follow the canal west passing the lock and another wooden gate, along the canal until you get to the bridge on the left. This 500m section of the Thames Path is Culham's path 11 and is the Thames Path.

The bridge provides a good view up and down Culham Cut with many boats traveling up and down at weekends in the summer. There is also a good view, south east, of the Thames winding toward Sutton Bridge.

Continue South on Culham's path No. 2 toward Sutton Pools, the Archimedes screw hydro power plant and weirs on the Sutton Courtenay Parish Boundary. The path continues as Sutton Courtenay path No. 1 and is the old tow path along the Thames. Toward the end of the path it turns sharp right and crosses the river where the river passes under the wall of Mill House, where the paper mill that made Bank of England bank notes once stood.

Continue south along Church Street, the path does run between the houses and their front gardens. You can continue on this path all the way south along Church Street past The Green and The Abbey until you get to the junction at Cross Trees, the house at the top of the High Street. Turn left, taking care of the traffic at this junction and head south back down the High Street past The Croft on your left, which is the start of Byway 10.



Editor's Note: Crossing Church Street near the junction with the High Street can be difficult. There is a mirror on the Abbey wall which helps, but it is safer to cross further down Church Street when you have a better view of the road.



Dear Sirs,

All this talk of doggy of the month! Shameful!

I am sitting in my soap box and calling for equality for all pets!

Ever your cupboard-loving servant,

Puss of the Month!

If you would like a picture of your pet in the SCN please send one to editor@suttoncourtenaynews.co.uk

MILTON HILL BOWLING CLUB



We are back!

It looks as though members might be able to start bowling again at the start of April, if the Covid data works in our favour. Hopefully by then the annual power-washing of 1,000m² of outdoor carpet will have progressed to provide a decent playing surface as befits the start of a new season. There is no news yet about when or if the leagues in our part of the county will be running but it looks like there are enough mixed friendlies and internal competitions on the cards to keep us busy.

Fancy a go? New members are always welcome, whether seasoned players or beginners, as we do have free coaching available for learning and improving.

For a taster why not turn up to our **Open Day on Saturday 8th May**

to try your hand? Just drop in from 2 p.m. onward.

We supply all the kit, but please bring your own flat shoes.

Free tea and biscuits on hand.

See you then, or if you can't wait, contact me on:
01235 847158 (122 High Street)

Sue Walker

Milton Hill Bowling Club, Potash Lane, Milton Hill

SC CYCLE

Roofing Felt – Free!

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Phil Stublely 01235 847434



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We are looking for new members

Our young people are growing up and moving to the older sections and therefore we have available spaces in Beavers (6-8 years old) and Cubs (8-10 years old). If you are a boy or a girl who likes nature, games and learning about the world in a fun way, come and join one of our sections.

Email us for information 26thAbingdon@gmail.com.

Please note we respond to every email we receive, if you cannot find our response please check your spam folder or give us a few extra days.

Marquee hire

Our Scouts group has a marquee to hire locally. Our marquee can be set either as 40'x20' or smaller size 20'x20'.

For information about the hire please use the contact above.

Magdalena Wyatt

Puzzles of the month

This month, we prepared a Word Search with a Spring theme, and for people who prefer numbers, we have classic Sudoku.

6				4			1	
9		3					2	
	5					7		
	3		2	1	9			4
1	6	2					9	
	7			8		1		2
	4						8	
7	2	6				1	3	
				7				6

Spring Flowers

O	Y	S	D	A	F	F	O	D	I	L	I	A	C
S	M	O	S	S	O	L	B	H	C	A	E	P	M
W	I	L	P	A	F	R	E	E	S	I	A	P	R
E	S	D	A	O	L	L	I	R	I	S	E	A	C
E	L	O	G	I	I	D	W	A	C	I	N	I	A
T	N	T	N	D	L	A	H	H	R	H	I	N	I
P	A	N	S	Y	A	O	L	E	A	I	M	N	N
E	T	S	A	P	C	O	N	T	I	L	S	I	U
A	U	C	R	O	C	U	S	G	Y	A	A	Z	T
R	L	G	A	R	D	E	N	I	A	L	J	S	E
T	I	G	E	R	L	I	L	Y	M	M	A	P	P
A	P	R	N	S	P	E	D	O	O	W	G	O	D
A	S	G	A	E	G	N	A	R	D	Y	H	I	I
C	N	H	D	H	T	N	I	C	A	Y	H	L	N

MAGNOLIA
DAFFODIL
HYDRANGEA
FREESIA
LILAC
PANSY
HYACINTH
TIGERLILY
ZINNIA
JASMINE
DOGWOOD
PEACHBLOSSOM
GARDENIA
PETUNIA
TULIP
SWEETPEA
IRIS
CROCUS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/286916/>

SUTTON COURTENAY CRAFT AND PRODUCE SHOW

The committee are hoping that it will be possible for the Sutton Courtenay Annual Produce Show to go ahead this year on Saturday, 4th September in the Village Hall. The schedule is opposite and will also be in the May issue of the Sutton Courtenay News as well as on the website and will be as planned for last year so that any art or craft items that you may have made for 2020 can also be entered.

This year all the children's classes are divided into two sections – ages 6 and under and ages 7 to 11. As well as the usual classes for children up to 11 years of age, you will see that we have added some classes for 12 to 16 years old in other sections. The class for hand embroidery includes both cross stitch and canvas work.

The committee would welcome additional help with setting up the hall on the Friday evening and also clearing away at the end of the show. If anyone can spare some time to help, please ring 01235 848633.

The show is open to all - you do not need to have exhibited before and we would really welcome new entrants.

Val Dalby

S.C.I.D.S.

Exactly one year ago last week SCIDS performed Treasure Island, which apparently brought on a freefall into lockdown and a pretty extraordinary year. This week we should have been in the hall again with another good weekend ahead of us, and lots of rehearsals behind us.

Next winter we are, hopefully and fingers crossed, going to put on the next SCIDS production which Andrew Dubock has written for you all,

“The Real Legend of Robin Hood”

the team have their thinking caps on to provide music, set and costumes for a Swan, a Fish and a mystery guest - just look in the Sutton Courtenay News in October to find out when to come along to discover who or what that is!!

MEANWHILE To keep us all going Andrew has created a SCIDS epic on the link below. What a history SCIDS has made in 5 years!

I believe that anyone who has been a part of SCIDS from the start until now will love this. Parents, grandparents, audiences, and performers, this will bring back very good memories and remind us all that SCIDS is about being together in our village - just for fun. Enjoy watching on.....

<https://youtu.be/HKnsLYDyug>

this comes with best wishes from the entire SCIDS crew!

Any queries to Morna Whitlock,
morna28whitlock@gmail.com or 848335



An Easter Tree

NORDIC WALKING

Why walk with poles? This is what Nordic Walking is really about. It was developed in the 1930's in Finland to keep their Elite Cross Country skiers fit during snowless summer months.

This activity came to Britain in 2000 and now two main organisations each with different techniques and methods of teaching have evolved. Check out British Nordic Walking and UK Nordic Walking.

If you wish to sign up for a BNW induction course (this will always be free if delivered by myself) please contact me.

Graham Wells
Nordic Walking Group
01235 847322

THE CHURCHMERE POOL CARP SYNDICATE

First, I apologise for missing the last issue, but there was so little to report due to the appalling weather. Even with some uplift in the climate, catches have been down. To my knowledge only two fish were caught this month, both by Rob B; the best was 24lb 4oz. It is good to know they are on the move and will soon be looking to put on weight ready for the spring.

We have had a report of a possible otter sighting, which for anglers, is not good news. We will be on the look-out for confirmation. The terrapins have been observed sunning themselves on the odd warm days. Trees and shrubs are showing signs of regeneration, but the lilies and aquatic plants are yet to show.

Since the start of the committee taking over, things have moved on at a pace, with many initiative plans in mind. The water is in competent hands and the future is looking very promising.

Roger Rance

The Editorial Team would like to thank all of the advertisers for choosing to advertise in SCN and supporting the continued publication of SCN.

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This will all happen if we keep listening and following guidelines
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Keep safe and well

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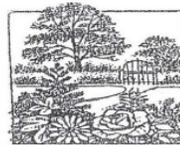
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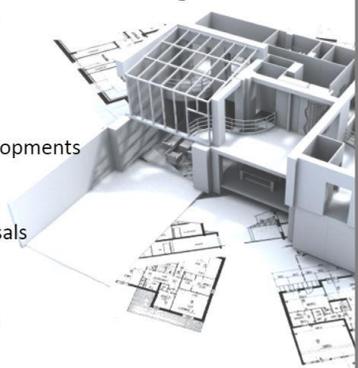


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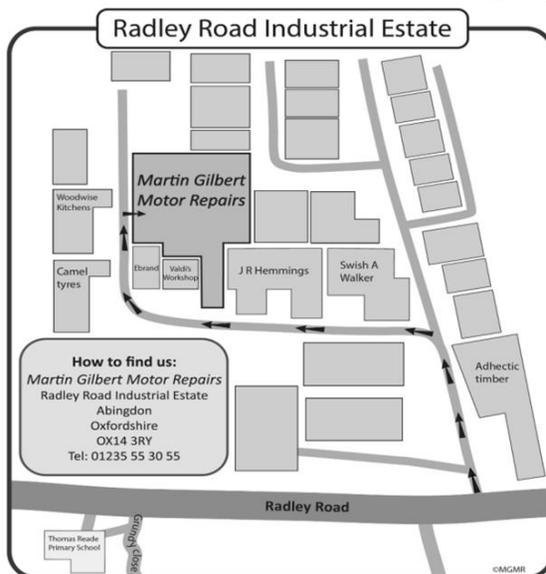
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