

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 42 No.3

APRIL 2013

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 | 2nd | 7.30pm | Spiritual Fellowship | Village Hall |
| Tue | 2nd | 7.00m | Annual Meeting for Electors in the Parish | Village Hall |
| Tue | 2nd | 7.30pm | Parish Council Meeting | Village Hall |
| Tue | 9th | 2.00pm | Women's Christian Fellowship | Village Hall |
| Tue | 9th | 7.30pm | SC Local History Society 'Wallingford' | Village Hall |
| Tue | 16th | 7.30pm | WI Talk 'Chusan' | Village Hall |
| Wed | 17th | | SC News Copy Date | |
| Sun | 21st | 2.30pm | Duck Race | Mill Lane |
| Thur | 25th | 10.30— 12.00 | Coffee Shop and Bookstore | Church |

All contributions for the next edition should be e-mailed to editor@suttoncourtenay.co.uk or taken to Changes in Milton Road or Burgrey Stores in the High Street 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

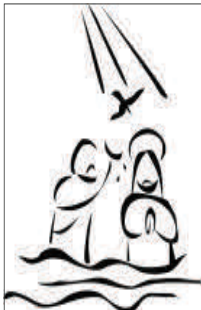
Various organisations have permanent bookings for use of the Village Hall on certain days of the week. Local individuals or organisations may nonetheless enter one-off bookings for events which clash with permanent bookings. **At least seven weeks notice must be given to Rita Atkinson (848694) or Caroline 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 MATRIMONY

WE SEND OUR BEST WISHES & CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING WHO WERE MARRIED IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCH RECENTLY

There were no weddings during March



HOLY BAPTISM

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

HAYDEN ANTHONY LIGHTNING BOLTON (3rd March 2013)

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

Sutton Courtenay Post Office

Are you aware that the Post Office is now situated in Burgrey Stores in the High Street? It opened as a new Post Office service on 26th March 2012, and has been operating almost a year. It operates from a newly formatted open plan counter within the shop. A wide range of key Post Office products and services are available. The opening hours are Mon-Fri 05.30 – 19.00, Sat 06.00 – 17.30, and Sun 06.30 -13.00.

HGVs

The Parish Council is concerned at the numbers of HGVs which are still going through the village in breach of the weight restriction limit. The County Council is being asked to move the weight restriction signs further along the road, so that large lorries have the opportunity to divert before entering the village. The Parish Council is gathering evidence about the number of HGVs in the village. If you therefore see such a vehicle could you please take the registration number, company information from the side of lorry and preferably take photographs. All breaches of the weight restriction should be reported to the clerk or your local parish councillor.

Millennium Common

The Common area at the edge of the landfill site was gifted to the communities of Sutton Courtenay and Appleford in 1999 for the benefit of local residents, as a nature reserve and area for walking, relaxing and enjoying the flora, and wildlife. It has been sensitively managed by the original committee of representatives from FCC, Hanson, Oxfordshire County Council, the Parish Councils of Sutton Courtenay and Appleford, other village representatives, and the County Councillor and District Councillor for over 10 years. Owing to people moving on, changes in council staff and the fact that Hanson no longer works minerals near the Common, the time has come for a review of the management of the area and to plan the future of the site

Volunteers, with an interest in wildlife and nature conservation are sought, to help plan how best to manage the area and possibly to join the committee. This way local people will feel ownership of the site and become involved with the decision making. Should you be interested in joining the Millennium Common Committee, then please contact the Clerk.

Odours in the village

When reporting odours in the village to the Environment Agency, the incident is recorded, but then feed back is not always given. It would be helpful to the Parish Council and others, when a report is made to the Environment Agency, if the person reporting an issue, asks for the incident to be investigated and information given as to the cause of the problem. Problems may or may not be attributed to the local operations on the landfill site, but if that is not the source of the odour, then information as to why it is thought not to originate there would be useful. When reporting an odour to the Environment Agency please ask for a call back and reports about the incident to be provided. Please let your local councilor know any information you are given.

Thames Valley Police – Community Policing Awards

Nominations are now open for the Community Policing Awards which give members of the public and community groups the opportunity to nominate someone who has made a real difference to their community. The awards are designed to recognize the efforts of Thames Valley Police's neighbourhood policing teams, including police officers, Police Community Support Officers and Special Constables.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS CONTINUED

You can nominate an officer by going to

<http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/newsevents/newsevents-events/newsevents-events-cpa.htm> and completing a nomination form.

Environment Agency – Volunteers

The Environment Agency is looking for volunteers who can commit to at least one day a week between May and the end of September to assist at the locks particularly between Reading and Lechlade. The role would include helping boats pass through the lock safely, taking ropes, directing traffic, operating sluices and lock gates and general site maintenance/gardening.

More information is available by telephoning the Volunteer team on 01491 828360 or email thames.volunteers@environment-agency.gov.uk

Planning Applications

The following applications were received by the Parish Council:

P12/V2244HH 44a Appleford Road - Two bay garage extension. Council had no objection

P13/V0326 HH 1 Hobbyhorse Lane - Replacement detached garage. Council had no objection

P13/V0222HH 136A High Street - Single storey rear extension, link area and study area. Council had no objection

Drainage details pursuant to condition 73 consent SUT/616/59-CM Landfill site. Council did not believe that the drainage proposed would provide an adequate solution to prevent off site flooding.

P13/V0233/FUL Demolition of 110 Milton Road and erection of 34 dwellings for Pye Homes

and P13/V0401/O Demolition of 44 Milton Road and erection of 70 dwellings for Redrow Homes. Council objected to these applications owing to traffic implications, lack of adequate drainage facility for surface and foul water and impact on the area. The Council considered instructing a drainage engineer to review data about foul sewerage capacity.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham, Abingdon, Oxon OX13 6PU Tel: 01865 391833
Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 2nd April, 2013 in the village hall, Frilsham Street at 7.30 p.m.

ANNUAL MEETING FOR ELECTORS IN THE PARISH

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 2nd April at 7.00 p.m.** in the Village Hall, Frilsham St

VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT—LOCAL PLAN

The District Council is preparing a Local Plan to guide development to 2029. This is out for public consultation and is available for viewing at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk where there is also a comment form for responses. The deadline for returning your views is Thursday 9th May.

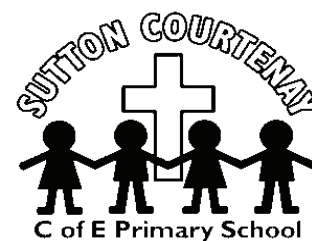
SUTTON COURTENAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Focus on FOSCs – Friends of Sutton Courtenay School

FOSCs is the name of our Fundraising Association which has now been running for two years. During this time the association has raised over £5,000 which is considerable sum for a small school.

Run by committed volunteers, the association has been responsible for organising: summer fetes, discos, Christmas bazaar (run alongside the church), family quiz nights and much more. Of course, without the support from the school community and beyond, the events that they run would not be so successful, as we need plenty of people to turn up to these events!

The money raised has enabled us to carry out lots of exciting projects and offer a range of different activities for the children to participate in.



Love life; love learning;



Circus Skills Day

To celebrate the end of the school year, FOSCs organised a circus skills day for the whole school. From Nursery to Year 6 children 'had a go' at juggling, Diablo's, stilt walking, plate spinning and even riding a unicycle. Great fun was had by all and some new skills were developed. The end of year treat for this year is being kept top secret!

Latest Books and Children's Newspapers

FOSCs fully support the school in developing a love of reading and want to ensure that our children have access to the latest high quality books. They are committed to spending part of the funds each year on brand new books that will be available for children to borrow. This lending scheme will be organised and run by the children themselves.

Developing an interest in current affairs is also crucial, so FOSCs wanted to help by funding a subscription to First News – the newspaper written for children. We are eagerly awaiting the first delivery.



Cookery – We have our own Food Technology Room

One of the big projects for this year was the development of the Food Technology room. Now fully equipped for cooking, thanks to FOSCs, the children have even greater access to learning culinary skills. The cake and bake sale organised by the committee saw them cooking with over 60 children!

This is only a small selection of what has been achieved by FOSCS – As you can see, it makes a big difference. So please support our next event – Summer Fete: Saturday 29th June 2013 (12.00pm—3.00pm), you are all very welcome.

ALISON ASHCROFT
Headteacher

www.suttoncourtenayprimary.co.uk

Telephone: 01235 848333

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

Churchwarden: David McKenzie (847489) **Treasurer:** Tim Budd (820942)

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

Children's Church: Vivienne Maunders (848077) **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...

Watch 'Les Miserables' to learn of God's grace and redemption

One of the most extraordinary films I have seen in recent years is the film 'Les Miserables' but it wasn't until I read these words by the Reverend Jonathan Meyer, Priest-in-Charge of St Mary the Virgin, Ewelme, that I realised that one of the most powerful sequences in it was filmed so locally!

He writes: "Watching the film Les Miserables is an ideal way to learn of God's grace, redemption and mercy. It was almost a year ago that I was approached and asked about filming part of Les Miserables in the church at Ewelme. Filming took place on 21st March, when the south porch was transformed into the residence of the Bishop of Digne. The convict Jean Valjean emerges from the door, singing the words 'and now let the story begin'. We saw this on a crisp March day, repeated over and over again with numerous cameras, film crews, lights, gantries and a churchyard full of sound technicians. On screen we saw the contorted face of Valjean rushing forward, and the camera showing us our church digitised on to a promontory in Provence. Most important to me was that this is the nub of the film. The Bishop's act of kindness, like the grace of God, is poured out in such a way that Valjean's life is transformed and transforms others." If you haven't already done so I recommend that you see the film, as it is a profound exploration of the power of forgiveness and redemption – something we all need in our lives.

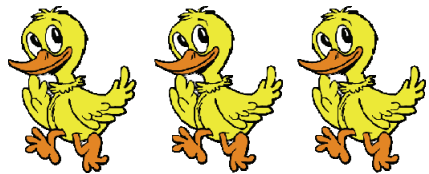
With love and prayers, Helen

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



All Saints' Church has just been officially confirmed as a 'Quality Assured Place of Interest' by VisitEngland, the national tourist board for England. It joins just over 100 other places assessed since the Scheme was launched in 2010. This is the first site to receive this accreditation in Oxfordshire and surrounding area. Several churches are included in the national list but there are other diverse locations from the Angel of the North, the 20 metre public sculpture off the A1 near Gateshead, to an exhibition of 20 large hand embroidered panels displayed at the Blue Belle Gallery at Lyndhurst in the New Forest.

Grade I status was bestowed on the Church nearly 50 years ago, recognising the building's exceptional architectural and historic qualities. The Place of Interest accreditation considers the way in which the Church is presented to all visitors. The report confirmed that both the interior and the churchyard are maintained to a 'very good' standard and it acknowledged the improvements that have been undertaken in the last 18 months. It also identified, however, that the building and its contents could be better interpreted. The Church is now entitled to display the quality rose marque which is also readily associated with accredited accommodation across the country plus over 1000 visitor attractions. Increased awareness of the building through this award should help increase the number of visitors leading to more financial contributions.



SUTTON COURTENAY DUCK RACE A Family Fun Event

Sunday 21st April - First heat 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!*

SMALL SAINTS

A weekly session for 0-4 year olds and their parents or carers offering a Bible story, craft activity, prayer and songs to help young children on their Christian journey, followed by play and refreshments.

**At 11am-12 noon on Wednesdays in term
time in All Saints' Church.**

For further information please contact
**Helen Kendrick, 848297 or Pat Napper,
848292**

COFFEE SHOP & BOOK SALE

Thursday 25th April

10.30am-12noon



All Saints' Church

CHURCH DIARY FOR APRIL

- **Tuesday 9th** – 2pm Women's Christian Fellowship Meeting at the Village Hall
- **Wednesday 10th** – 7.30pm Discipleship Explored at the Church.
- **Sunday 14th** – 10.30am DAMASCUS Group Eucharist Service at All Saints'
- **Wednesday 17th** – 11am Small Saints.
- **Sunday 21st** – 2.30pm Duck Race, Mill Lane, Sutton Courtenay (see advert for details on where to get tickets)
- **Tuesday 23rd** – 1.30pm Women's Christian Fellowship Bible Study at the Vicarage.
- **Wednesday 24th** – 7.30pm Discipleship Explored at the Church.
- **Thursday 25th** – 10.30-12 noon Coffee Shop & Book Stall in the Church – all welcome!

Tuesday 30th – 7.30pm Annual Parish Meeting.

This is 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 2012 and for electing Parochial Church Council Members and Deanery Synod Representatives.

CHURCH DIARY FOR MAY

- **Wednesday 1st** - 7.30pm DAMASCUS Group Council Meeting at All Saints' Church.
- **Saturday 4th** – 2.30pm Wedding.
- **Tuesday 7th** – 7.30pm Friends of All Saints' Church Annual General Meeting in the Church.
- **Wednesday 8th** – 7.30pm 30pm Discipleship Explored at the Church.
- **Thursday 9th** – ASCENSION DAY – 7.30pm Holy Communion.

Sunday 12th –Saturday 18th – CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

REST IN PEACE

We send our condolences and the assurance of our prayers to the family and friends of the following:

Thomas Ronald Evans who has died, aged 68, on Tuesday 5th February 2013, was born on 19th September 1944 in Wiltshire but grew up in Blewbury, attending school in Didcot. As a young man he worked on a farm before training as a butcher and from 1963 until well into the 1980s Tom worked in the butcher's shop in Bradstocks Way. He married his wife, Glynnis, in Didcot in 1964 and they had four children – Joanne, Sarah, Thomas and Ann. They lived over the butcher's shop in the early years of their marriage before moving to Tyrrells Way in 1978. Over the years Tom became the patriarch of a large family with 11 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and not forgetting the one on the way! Tom worked hard to support Glynnis and the children – sometimes having two jobs when he worked in the butcher's shop and then during his holidays would act as a Security Guard at Wimbledon. It was his family that was always the focus of his life and, although as a father he was protective and strict – he always seemed to know everything that was going on in his children's lives and his word was law - he did mellow with age and became a loving and indulgent grandfather. 'Grandad's Taxi' spent many hours on the road. His life revolved around the family and he was very proud of the achievements of the younger generation. He liked nothing better than sitting at the head of the table for Sunday Lunch every week listening to all their exploits. He was also a passionate sportsman – fanatical about football. In his earlier years he played for Didcot Town Reserves and he was a lifelong Arsenal Supporter. Sadly he suffered a collapsed lung in 1999 and this was followed by a series of strokes and a heart attack. Glynnis and the family lovingly and devotedly cared for him at home but when this became impossible he moved to Winterbrook in Wallingford where he and the family were given all the care and support needed. Tom was a man who knew his own mind and was never afraid of saying what he thought. He could be obstinate and awkward sometimes but he also had a good sense of humour and a ready smile. A home-loving man who worked hard to support his family and was absolutely determined to give his children the best upbringing he could. He was a generous and loyal friend and always willing to help others. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. *This is an edited version of the tribute given at Tom's funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick*

Roger Francis Savegar who has died, aged 79, on 12th February 2013, was born on 5th December 1933 in

Aston Tirrold to his parents Harry and Louise. He had two sisters, Joan and Heather. He spent his childhood in Didcot until the age of 18, when he was called up for National Service and sent to Germany to work as a motorcycle despatch rider. It was whilst home on leave that he met Margaret where her first impression of him was that he was a very handsome man. They were eventually married in Steventon Church in 1955 and lived in Steventon before moving to Sutton Courtenay in 1958 where they brought up their family – Annette, Glenn and Jacqueline. Through his working life Roger did a variety of things – he worked as a skilled vehicle technician in various local companies – including working at Didcot Power Station maintaining the generators in the very early days – Ameys Engineering at Wootton and finally Morlands Brewery until his retirement. He was always a keen motorcyclist and he and Margaret used to enjoy walking and cycling and Roger became adept at pushing Margaret up the hills on her bicycle! He loved tinkering with and looking after cars and working in the garden. He was a very practical man – skilled with his hands – and would never pay someone else to do a job he could do. He worked to very high standards and always liked to be busy. He was also very good at losing himself in a good book. Roger was never lost for words and could always tell a good story. He was expert at telling little jokes to cheer up his grandchildren if they were feeling sad and was very good at drawing pictures, making wooden aeroplanes or crosses to put on the graves of pet rabbits and even carved a wooden gun! Roger wanted to keep up with the latest developments in technology but was not that keen on computers – so he bought one which Margaret had to learn how to use. Over the years he and Margaret enjoyed many holidays with the family. The Isle of Wight always held a special place in his affections – the family recently calculated they had stayed at 32 different hotels there over the years. At weekends Roger liked nothing better than to gather the family together for Sunday lunch or a picnic and a walk. Roger was a caring, devoted family man, who was proud of his children and his seven grandchildren and all their achievements in life. He and Margaret had a strong and enduring partnership – they celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary on Boxing Day. Following his diagnosis at the end of last year Roger tried to keep going and faced his illness bravely and stoically, lovingly cared for at home by Margaret and the family, who will greatly miss him. *This is an edited extract of the tribute given at Roger's funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick which was held in All Saints' Church on Thursday 28th February.*

Kathleen Winifred Gostelow who has died aged 87, on Thursday 14th February 2013 was born on 11th October 1925 in Wanstead. She was the only child of Winifred and Clifford Horne and her parents ran a corner shop and dairy. She spent her childhood in East London and, on leaving school, initially trained as a Secretary before going to University College Hospital to train as a Paediatric Nurse. In later years, once her own children were at school, she worked at the Special Care Baby Unit in the Kingston Hospital. Kathleen met her husband Roy whilst on holiday in Devon and they were married in 1950, setting up home in Southfields, London, and they went on to have three children – John, Janet and Ann – followed, over the years, by seven grandchildren. As a mother she was firm but fair and always loving and nurturing. She doted on her grandchildren - of whom she was immensely proud and tried to play as big a role in their lives as she could. Twenty two years ago Kathleen and Roy moved out of London to Sutton Courtenay to be closer to the family and so that they could enjoy being part of the grandchildren's lives and watch them grow up. Sadly Roy died in 2000 – having been lovingly nursed and cared for by Kathleen. Following Roy's death, with quiet courage and determination, Kathleen rebuilt her life – continuing to do things for others whenever she could and always generous with her time and support. She was a good organiser and very practical. She was a committed member of the church community and of the WI, the Women's Christian Fellowship and Bible Study Group and the Evergreens – taking an active role in each one over the years. In fact, she was always active and on the go whether it was swimming, pottering in the garden, or taking the dog for a walk and, sociable and friendly as she was, she enjoyed meeting fellow dog walkers around the fields and village streets. She loved to travel – being particularly drawn to the sea. She also loved to drive – relishing the freedom and the independence it gave her - and she was always more than willing to give lifts to anyone who needed one. One of the hardest things for her in recent years was having to give up her car and all it represented. An intelligent woman – she loved to read; always had something interesting to contribute in our monthly Bible Studies and never failed to enjoy a game of bingo - even when her mind was failing, she could still play six books at once! And, despite the challenges of the recent past Kathleen still managed to retain her wicked sense of humour. Sadly her illness came to dominate the latter part of her life – but she kept going independently for as long as she could with the caring love and support of her family who did so much for her. *This is an edited extract from the tribute given at Kathleen's funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick.*

Norman Thomas Larkin Maconochie who has died, aged 73 on 5th March 2013 was born on 14th June 1939 in Colchester, to Rose and Richard Maconochie. Sadly, Norman's father died on Norman's second birthday, and his mother was too ill to look after her two sons. Norman became a Barnardo's boy and was placed into foster care, and eventually worked on a farm. Although his childhood wasn't particularly happy his experience didn't make him bitter but made him even more determined to give his children and grandchildren the best of childhoods. Aged 13 Norman was sent to a Barnardo's Boarding School in Hertford, known as 'Goldings'. This presented him with the ideal opportunity to learn the trade of carpentry and cabinet making. He achieved his City and Guilds at the age of 16. Barnardo's decided that Norman should take up his trade at a window making factory in London. However, the thought of that was horrifying and he left school and returned to Northamptonshire where he went back to work on the farm. He continued with his entrepreneurial skills – making turkey houses and pig sties and refurbishing beehives – beekeeping being a hobby he returned to in later life – and any of us who have tasted the honey will know what a successful enterprise that turned out to be! It was whilst working for Bird Haulage that Norman met Liz in Swindon in 1965 and for both it was love at first sight. Eventually Norman and Liz bought a large caravan and moved in together living at Holyport near Maidenhead until they bought Thatchway in Sutton Courtenay in 1970. They married in September 1973 Ian arrived in 1974. In 1976 Norman's son, Bruce, came to live with Norman and Liz permanently and, in 1979 the family was made complete by the arrival of Peter. Norman loved his growing family and he and Liz opened their home to friends and relatives – offering everyone a warm welcome. He worked hard all his life to provide the best he could for all of his family and he proved himself to be a dependable Dad who was always there for his children. Putting all the skills he had acquired through life into use he provided for his family through what eventually became a very successful family business - Sutton Courtenay Car Sales – until, due to Norman's failing health, they leased the business in 2011. Through his life Norman made some deep and abiding friendships. Both he and the family were immensely grateful for all the help and support these friends have given. Sadly, Norman suffered with heart failure and ill-health came to dominate his life. He often joked that he should have his own private suite at the JR as he spent so much time there. A fighter to the end, he kept going far longer than anyone could have anticipated. His bravery and determination were an inspiration to those around him. He was both practical and creative with an enquiring mind, who loved spending time in his workshop and in his garden. A quiet man, immensely kind and patient and honest – not ruthless but wouldn't suffer fools gladly and could be very stubborn. A man with a sense of humour and a chuckle that could always make you smile. A man who always had something interesting to talk about and who told a good story. Norman was a much loved husband, father, grand-father and friend and he will be missed by many people. *This is an edited extract from the tribute given at Norman's funeral by the Reverend Helen Kendrick.*

Daphne Jessamine Sinclair who has died, aged 88, on 8th February 2013, was born on 22nd February 1924. A private, family funeral took place at Oxford Crematorium on 25th February followed by a Memorial Service on 11th March in a packed All Saints' Church. The following tribute is written by Daphne Vanrenan, a friend of 76 years:

Jessamine? Friends who didn't know Daphne well tended to assume her second name had floral connotations; but in fact – her father having served in the Royal Navy – she was proud to claim she had been named after a battleship. This was no misnomer. The qualities of strength and integrity of purpose were to be seen in her character from the start; all the more extraordinary in light of the fact that she had always been an extremely delicate child.

Beset by childhood asthma, Daphne at the age of six developed intussusception, and during recovery from an operation was pronounced dead by her medical attendants. Her mother Violet, in despair, simply walked out of the hospital and bought flowers. On her return, she found her daughter regaining consciousness.

Crying and bemused -“Where am I?” asked the patient. “In hospital – safe with me.” But Daphne did not appear overjoyed. “I was in this lovely garden,” she said, “walking up a long long path. But a man in white held up his hand; 'No, Daphne', he said, 'not yet, you must go back’”

Whatever Daphne's observers may have made of this, it was clear that no child so young could have made up such a story. The bouts of ill-health came to a climax when Daphne contracted Polio. She was confined to bed at home, flat on her back, and warned not to move. Her mother appealed to a consultant who was also a family friend. “What is this child doing lying indoors in this weather?” he demanded. “Get her outside at once – into the sun!” And it was done. The patient slowly recovered. The only indication of what had assailed Daphne was that she carried one hand rather limply for the rest of her life (though could put it to use when required), and she would never again be able to run or walk quickly again.

At the age of twelve Daphne was settling down as a day pupil at The Knoll school in Camberley. And it was there that I got to know her – rather skinny with her rich chestnut hair in pigtails. What happy moments came my way through knowing her. She lived with her mother and grandmother, and faithful Nannie 'Kackie' who had looked after all three of them, in a pleasant house in Camberley; and I was included in many delightful outings with them, to the Isle of Wight, Switzerland, Malta.

Daphne had always been drawn to teaching, and after a year teaching at a boys' prep school, she started her own school, which grew in time to a day and boarding school for some 55 pupils aged from 5 to 14. This was forced to close when Daphne's determination to keep class sizes small clashed with the need to set fees at a realistic level.

Her other abiding interests were cookery, travel and sailing. She took a year's course at a college of Domestic Science. Apart from the wines and jams and pickles she could make for her own family, she eventually became qualified to lecture and give demonstrations, which she did with great flair.

In 1955 Daphne's maiden name, Taylor-Young, was changed to Sinclair by marriage to Eric, who went on to become the Company Secretary of a leading oil company, with whom she moved to Camberley, and then Guildford. Two sons were born to them, Christopher and Ian. Daphne had long since been interested in the Girl Guide Movement and the WI, and continued these activities for many years.

Sadly, Eric died in 1979; and some two years afterwards Daphne made her final move - to Sutton Courtenay - Here her involvement in many public-spirited activities continued. She held summer cream teas in her garden, in aid of Animal Welfare, a Village Fete in Autumn in aid of the Orangutan Sanctuary of South America (old world apes in the New World?) - Among the guests were Polyanna the donkey and a bald headed eagle. She was on the International Liaison Committee of WI Oxfordshire for many years responsible for organising, among other things, accommodation for ladies' groups from Lithuania, and men's cycling teams from France. She regularly attended All Saints Parish Church, Sutton Courtenay, where she organised collections and read lessons, that was important to her.

Her son Christopher had long since qualified as a doctor, and Ian became a broker for Lloyd's of London. Daphne had twice become a devoted grandmother.

She still often made her own dresses, embroidered tapestry seats and church kneelers, and loved to go to the theatre, especially enjoying opera and ballet. In spite of these multifarious activities, Daphne always had time for her friends - endlessly providing delicious home-cooked meals for them. For the past 20 years she voluntarily helped children with reading problems on a one-to-one basis.

Was there anything she could not do? - I asked her recently “Yes,” she said, without hesitation, “I've travelled round the world twice – Russia to Canada. But there's one thing I cannot, and never will be able to do, and that is – write poetry – I am happiest in the kitchen.”



Bite Back at Hunger

Christian Aid Week 12–18 May 2013

'It's very rewarding to know that Christians of different traditions are working together for one common aim during Christian Aid Week.' Christian Aid Week volunteer

Thousands of churches will stand together this Christian Aid Week to speak out for change. Some 100,000 committed volunteers will go out and put their faith into action, raising funds to help some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

This includes Britain's largest house-to-house collection, an extraordinary act of witness – demonstrating to our communities that we care about ending poverty and injustice.

There is enough food for everyone in the world, but one in eight people will go to bed hungry tonight.

This year's Christian Aid Week tells the story of how Christian Aid is helping communities to bite back at hunger through the lens of land rights in Bolivia, new technology in Kenya and innovative agriculture in Zimbabwe.

You can support Christian Aid Week by donating via the House-to-House Collection in Sutton Courtenay; at a church service in the special envelopes or looking out for local events, and discover how you can be involved by visiting www.caweek.org/article.

Most importantly of all, if you would like to help with the House-to-House Collection in Sutton Courtenay please contact Helen Kendrick at the Vicarage – 01235 848297 or helen@kendricks.fsnet.co.uk. We need as many volunteers as we can to make the collection easier for everyone!

It only takes a few hours of your time to 'Bite Back at Hunger'.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Our February meeting was our Easter Meditation and held in Church, led by our Vicar The rev Helen Kendrick. This meeting was well attended and all who came, I am sure, were very moved by her reading of the events of the Good Friday of many many years ago.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 9th April and held in the Village hall at 2pm and will be an illustrated talk by Nick Brazil entitled 'A journey through Peru'. Visitors are always very welcome at any of our meetings.

Rose Woodward (Secretary)

SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

Tues April 2nd 7.30 Village Hall. Spiritual Fellowship Meeting with David Chapman

Tues May 7th 7.30 Village Hall. Spiritual Fellowship Meeting with Christina Green

On Tuesday March 5th our advertised Medium Lita Bell was not well. Our good friend Caroline Price and I (Pat) gave a very uplifting and enjoyable service. Thank you all for your kind attention.

We much appreciate the help we receive with putting out and clearing up the chairs etc.

Enquiries – Pat and Sam 01235 847460.

SUTTON COURTENAY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



TUESDAY 9th APRIL

VILLAGE HALL 7.30 pm

“WALLINGFORD: ROYAL STRONGHOLD OF THE MIDDLE THAMES VALLEY”

Judy Dewey's illustrated talk will focus on the important and intriguing history of our near neighbour, Wallingford and its links with Sutton Courtenay. Judy is a well-known historian and lecturer and curator of Wallingford Museum. This talk will be followed up with a guided walk of Wallingford by Judy Dewey in June.

(This is the meeting which had to be postponed in January due to the ice and snow)

Everyone welcome: Members free, visitors £3

At the March meeting, the Station Manager and two colleagues gave us a detailed and informative account of the history of Didcot A, including why it was built here and how it functioned. Over the years staff have played an important part in education through visiting schools, establishing courses for students at the power station and hosting visits from thousands of students. By the time this News appears Didcot A will have ceased operating and the long process of decommissioning will soon begin.

Mary Thompson

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Lunch Club at Milton Methodist Church

First Tuesday of month, 12.15 for 12.30, 2 course lunch £3.50, booking by end of week prior to lunch on Ab 531409 or Ab 848336.

Keep Fit Class, easy, immediately precedes lunch.

Didcot and District U3A meeting

Tue 16th Apr, 2pm, Didcot Civic Hall, tel 07804 159993

Milton Hill Bowls Club

Open Day Sat 27Apr, 2pm, Milton Hill Green, contact Pete Walker, 122 High St , SC

Steventon Pre School

Nearly New sale, Sat 27 Apr, 9.30-11.30 , Steventon Village Hall

Charlotte Storrs Pottery

Sale of seconds and old stock, 5&6 May, 11-5, The Pottery, 8, The Green, Culham

KEEP SUTTON COURTENAY RURAL

UPDATE 20 MARCH 2013

Dear Neighbours,

At the time of writing, there are just days left before the consultation periods for the two major housing developments by Pye Homes and Redrow Homes in Milton Road come to an end. Thank you to those of you who took the time to attend our presentation on Saturday 2nd March; we were delighted with the level of attendance and hope that we provided you with some valuable information and inspired you to register your objection to both developments. The messages of support that we have received, before and since, have been incredibly inspiring and it is clear that we have the support of the village as a whole in our objections to these developments.

If you didn't manage to write, then it's **NOT TOO LATE** to do so! All letters regarding these planning applications that are received prior to the decision date have to be taken into account so please write now! The easiest way to register your objection is via our website:

www.kscr.org.uk

where you can find lots of helpful hints on submitting an effective objection, as well as direct links to the VOWHDC consultation websites for both applications. You can also object in writing to:

Pye Homes:

Mr David Rothery, Planning Department, Vale of White Horse DC, Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon OX14 3JE (quoting reference P13/V0233/FUL)

Redrow Homes:

Mr Stuart Walker, Planning Department, Vale of White Horse DC, Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon OX14 3JE (quoting reference P13/V0401/O).

We would like to give our **sincere thanks** to everyone who responded so generously to our appeal for donations. Please forgive us for not being able to thank each donor individually - the response was fantastic and your contributions have enabled us to supplement our consultation response with professional reports from a hydrologist and a transport planning expert. These reports, as well as our own submission, are available for viewing on the website.

The decision on the Pye Homes application is expected towards the end of April; the Redrow Homes decision is expected in June. Whatever the outcome, we should all feel confident that we have made the best possible effort to prevent these unnecessary developments. We will keep you posted!

Sheila Worsley (Chair)

on behalf of

Keep Sutton Courtenay Rural

Email: keepsuttoncourtenayrural@yahoo.co.uk Website: www.kscr.org.uk

SUTTON COURTENAY WI

In March we held our AGM and elected our new Committee for 2013/14 and formally thanked all the members of the old Committee for all their hard work during the past year. We also enjoyed a bring and share supper.

For our next meeting on Tuesday 16 April at 7.30pm at Sutton Courtenay Village Hall we have the author and adventurer Liam D'Arcy Brown who will be telling us all about Chusan – the forgotten story of Britain's first Chinese Island.

For further details please phone Ann 01235 821834.



News of Upcoming Musical Events at All Saints' Parish Church

After the eventful summer of 2012, well might you wonder what is in store for our faithful and growing band of local lovers of good quality live music in this atmospheric heart-of-the-village venue ...

[Bank Holiday] Monday 27 May at 10.45am

As a satellite venue of the Dorchester-based English Music Festival (now in its 7th successful year), we are delighted to be hosting a concert with a difference:

In Voice and Verse : Elizabeth to Elizabeth

... tracing 450 years of history in verse and music, to honour 60 years since our present Queen's Coronation; the fully professional performance will be further enhanced by an on-screen visual presentation. A unique 'feelgood' occasion, not to be missed! For further details please see the EMF website; admission £17.50.

Sunday 2 June at 6pm (t.b.c.)

By popular request we are also delighted to welcome a return visit from the

Lyra Ensemble of St Petersburg, directed by Andrei Sysoev

... who will regale us with a further, atmospheric selection of Russian vocal music both sacred and secular. Their first visit, late last summer, was to a pretty well-packed church and warmly appreciative audience, so hopes continue to ride high on each side as these friends come to us again on another British tour.

Admission @ £8.50 (concessions, £6) includes complimentary Russian refreshment!

Sundays 21 & 28 July, 4 & 11 August at 6pm (t.b.c.)

We are planning to run a fourth season of

Parish Proms

... involving familiar, and perhaps also some less-familiar but very competent local musicians, in this congenial time-slot just before Sunday supper.

Last year for fairly obvious reasons we concentrated on the British musical heritage, but 2013's programmes will range from around the world to bring you further selections of delightful repertoire (again, both familiar and probably less-familiar

yet deserving and attractive) in the mellow context of the village church in the early summer evenings.

Admission @ £6 (with proportional 'season' discounts) includes complimentary light refreshments.

For any further details please do not hesitate to contact Ian Miles

(Director of Music at All Saints') on 01235 426109 / 07788 715873 or at ianmiles@btinternet.com

BIRDWATCHER

It continues to amaze me how much wildlife is on our door-steps in this lovely village. As a Wildlife Photographer and someone who likes to be outside, I have learnt to love and respect Sutton Courtenay Wildlife. We are very lucky.

With the River Thames, small streams and the many gravel pits in the area, I have photographed lots of wetland birds, but my clear favourite is an electric blue & orange flash – The Common Kingfisher. They are arguably the most shy and elusive of all British birds, yet there are a few pairs living with us here in the village. Even though the Kingfishers have had a tough few months (flooding, snow and freezing lakes), it appears that most have survived to start another breeding season. Hooray.



© 2013 – Mike Dowsett
www.wildlife-gallery.com

Wetland birds aside, my small garden feeding area has been very active. In the last week alone I have photographed Blue Tit, Great Tit, Coal Tit, Long Tailed Tit, Goldfinch, Chaffinch, Greenfinch, Dunnock, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Green Woodpecker, Magpie, Jay, Blackcap, Fieldfare, Blackbird and of course, the Robin. Hovering above the village we have all seen the Red Kites who have made an amazing come-back, from near extinction in the UK, after the RSPB re-introduction program through the late 80's and early 90's (maybe more on the Red Kite next month).

Lastly a quick word to the family of three Tawny Owls that like to keep us awake most nights calling to each other from the pitch dark tree tops. "How on earth do you see the mice and voles from 50' up in complete darkness? Would it not be easier (and more social) to hunt during the day-light hours?"

Mike mike.dowsett@sky.com

Editors' note: Mike is very kindly standing in for our usual Birdwatcher, who has been ill and unable to get out to make his usual observations.

VILLAGE CRAFT AND PRODUCE SHOW 2013

Some of you will be aware that Daphne Sinclair passed away recently and she was the chairman for the Craft & Produce Show in the village and had been chairing the committee for many, many years.

The Committee has met recently to see if the show will still run and if a new chairman would come forward? With this I am pleased to say that the show will run this year on the 7th of September in the Village Hall.

If there are any budding Kirsty Allsops, Nigel Slaters, Marguerite Pattens, Van Goughs, Debbie Blisses, Alan Titchmarshes, David Baileys and Keith Floyds to boot then we need you!

Please keep your eyes peeled for the up and coming schedule of classes for the show in the Sutton Courtenay News in May.

Come on and give it a try.....

Tracey Frankum, Chairman 07941 950067

TOM EVANS

The family of the late Tom Evans would like to thank everyone for their kind messages and support.

A special thank you to the Reverend Helen Kendrick for the beautiful funeral service. It was a great comfort to us.

The money given at the service enabled the family to purchase three special portable DVD players for the Children's High Dependency unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

The Evans Family.

SNIPPETS FROM GERVASE DUFFIELD AND ED VAIZEY

Additional note from Gervase Duffield's article in March SC News

'...Since receiving the above, I have had a letter from FCC's regional estates manager, which says inter alia.
"A positive recommendation was not received from planning officers at the District Council in anticipation of the Planning committee to be held on 12 March 2013. The decision has therefore been taken by FCC Environmental to withdraw the planning application and re-evaluate our future options for developing such a facility at the Sutton Courtenay site."

That says nothing about why they left it to the last minute to withdraw, thus inconveniencing and angering a lot of people who wished to attend and hear the debate, but did not know it was cancelled at the last moment. And a real cynic might add, as one or two have done to me, that FCC do not seem to believe in the democratic process, not having sufficient confidence in their case to argue it out before a planning committee, and further they seem to want to get it all agreed with the planning officers or else withdraw their case. Both rather disturbing.

BRIDGE FARM PIT

Observant passers by will have noticed inactivity on the Bridge Farm pit site, but Hanson have not gone away. They plan to be back probably late Spring or early summer, and later in the year when the nesting season is over, the temporary lights will return when heavy loads must cross the road. The reason for the Hanson mothballing since Christmas is that they are working out aggregates at a Gloucester pit, but when house building really starts more widely Bridge farm pit will be needed once again.

Extract from Ed Vaizey's diary for 22nd March

1pm Didcot Power Station

Ed will be visiting Didcot A Power station which is about to be decommissioned. The last day of generation is expected to be Friday 22nd March, and the station manager anticipates that Didcot A will disconnect from the National Grid at 2pm. Ed is keen to witness this final 'de-sync'. Shift engineers who synchronised the first unit back in 1970 will also be there, coming back to witness the final de-sync.

LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The boundary of the ward in which Sutton Courtenay is located has been changed for the County Council elections due to take place on May 2nd. The new ward of Sutton Courtenay and Marcham comprises Sutton Courtenay and Appleford, Milton and Drayton, and Marcham and Shippon. This is a larger area than before, since the number of County Council seats has been reduced.

The candidates for the seat from the main political parties are Gervase Duffield, Conservative; Sean McWhinnie, Labour and Co-operative party; and Richard Webber, Liberal Democrat. Brief personal details are as follows:

- Gervase Duffield lives in Appleford and is our present Vale of White Horse District Councillor. His contact details are: tel 01235 848319, gervaseduffield@btinternet.com.
- Sean McWhinnie lives in Milton Village and is self-employed. His address is :2 Sutton Road, Milton, OX14 4ET, sean.mcwhinnie@which.net.
- Richard Webber lives in Drayton and is the present District Councillor for Drayton. His contact details are: tel 01235 534001, richard.webber77@ntlworld.com.

We, as editors of the Sutton Courtenay News, do not feel that this, your local newsletter, is the appropriate place for expressing political views, but that the information we have given above is of local interest.

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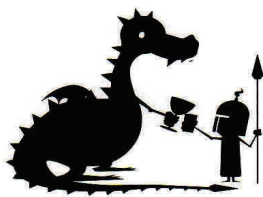
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| <p>Butternut, meatball, black pudding & butter bean stew with a garlic crostini £6-50</p> | <p>8oz Rib eye steak with a pepper sauce served with homemade chips and mixed leaf salad £17-95</p> | <p>Meatballs in rich tomato gravy Homemade Fish fingers, tartare sauce & salad</p> |
| <p>Crab and ginger cakes with a sweet chilli sauce, basil mayonnaise garnished with a tiger prawn & salad £6-95</p> | <p>Chicken, ham hock and leek pie with mashed potato and vegetables £11-95</p> | <p>Roast beef, sautéed onions & melted mature cheddar cheese Ham ploughman's</p> |
| <p>Bruschetta of chicken, homemade chorizo, sautéed potatoes & chilli. £6-50</p> | <p>Roasted chicken breast stuffed with homemade chorizo served on bubble and squeak £12-95</p> | <p>Chicken, bacon and stuffing with salad</p> |
| <p>Butternut soup with crusty bread & croutons £5-50</p> | <p>Crab and ginger cakes with a sweet chilli sauce, basil mayonnaise garnished with a tiger prawns and salad £13-95</p> | <p>Falafel & brie, with tzatziki & salad Pork & leek sausages, topped with grilled goats cheese and onion marmalade</p> |
| | <p>Spiced meat balls in a rich tomato ragout on bed of Tagliatelli with broccoli, parmesan and feta cheese £9-95</p> | <p>Bacon & brie with salad</p> |
| | <p>Twice cooked Belly of Pork served with a black pudding, potato, chorizo and vegetable stew £12-95</p> | <p>Club - Chicken, bacon & salad with mature cheddar cheese & mustard mayo</p> |
| | <p>Roast vegetable and goat's cheese tart with new potatoes and a roasted beet root and walnut salad £9-95</p> | <p>Grilled Parma ham, basil pesto, mozzarella & sun blush tomato baguette</p> |

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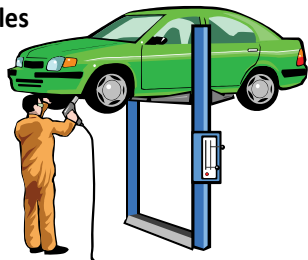
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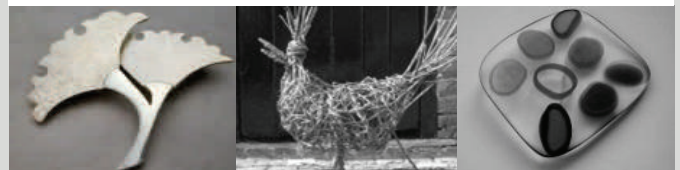


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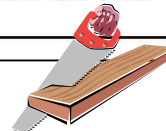
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