

SUTTON COURTENAY NEWS

VOLUME 43 NO.6

JULY 2014

VILLAGE DIARY

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



July				
Tue	1st	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Tue	1st	7.30pm	Spiritual Fellowship	Village Hall
Wed	2nd	11.00am	Teddy Bears' Picnic	Church
Fri	4th	8.00pm	An evening of Music and Song	Church
Sat	5th	11.00am	SC Primary School Fete	School
Tue	8th	2.00pm	WCF Garden Party	23 Harwell Road
Thur	17th	10.30am	Coffee and Cakes	Church
Sun	20th	6.00pm	Parish Proms	Church
Sun	27th	6.00pm	Parish Proms	Church
August				
Sun	3rd	6.00pm	Parish Proms	Church
Tue	5th	7.30pm	Spiritual Fellowship	Village Hall
Sun	10th	6.00pm	Parish Proms	Church
Wed	20th		COPY DATE SC NEWS	
Sept				
Sat	6th		Craft and Produce Show	Village Hall



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

County Councillor: (Schools, Roads etc.)	Richard Webber <i>Richard.Webber77@ntlworld.com</i>	534001
District Councillor: (Planning, Waste etc.)	Gervase Duffield Appleford House, Appleford	848319
Parish Council Chairman	Michael Jenkins Danluda, Churchmere Road <i>msjenkins@msn.com</i>	847174
Bookings for Village Hall	Rita Atkinson Caroline Grundy	848694 848697
Sutton Courtenay Website	www.suttoncourtenay.co.uk	
Environment Agency: Landfill Odours Thames Water Leaks		0800 80 70 60 0800 71 46 14

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

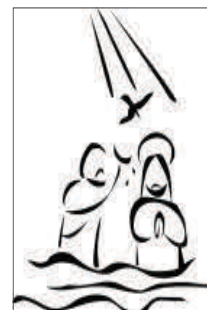
Various organisations have permanent bookings for use of the Village Hall on certain days of the week. Local individuals or organisations may nonetheless enter one-off bookings for events which clash with permanent bookings. **At least seven weeks notice must be given to Rita Atkinson (848694) or Caroline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



HOLY MATRIMONY

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

Wedding will be reported in September edition



HOLY BAPTISM

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING WHO WERE WELCOMED INTO THE FAMILY OF THE CHURCH THROUGH BAPTISM

Charlie James Roberts on the 1st June 2014

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

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

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Didcot Community Forum

The Parish Council is a member of the Didcot Community Forum. This is made up of representatives from the local area to discuss proposals and plans for Didcot. The role of the forum is expanding to include discussion regarding the Science Vale area and an Area Action Plan is proposed. The Parish Council is asking whether it can have a more formal role in the planning given the links with Didcot and the fact that part of the Science Vale area is within Sutton Courtenay parish.



Footpaths

We have experienced either warm or wet weather of late and the grass and tree growth is exceptional. There are some paths in the village which are impassable. The Parish Council would kindly remind landowners adjacent to footpaths that it is their responsibility to keep anything overhanging trimmed back to the boundary to allow people to get through.

Motorcycles on lanes

The Council has received reports of more and more motorcyclists riding illegally on the footpaths and lanes within the parish. Damage is being caused as ruts are left behind. Police have powers to seize motor vehicles that are being used not in a correct manner. Should anyone see a motorcycle being ridden off road inappropriately then please pass on the details to the Police by telephoning 101.

Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been considered :

P14/V09878/HH and P14/V0981/LB Demolition of extension and garage and erection of 2 storey extension and internal alterations. Erection of detached garage with study over.

P14/V1087/O 1 Abbey Cottages. The Council objected to the extension for the house and materials, which were out of keeping with the character of the grade I listed Abbey adjacent.

P14/V1087/O Demolition of existing dwelling and triple garages and erection of two new dwellings and triple garages at The New House, Churchmere Road. The Council had concerns regarding the larger footprint and impact of traffic on the unadopted lane.

P14/V0831/LB and P14/V0830/HH Erection of a garden office, conservatory attached to rear of property, velux windows in front elevation roof, roof lights to lower roof over kitchen at rear, 18 High Street. The Council objected to the application owing to the impact on the street scene, and the appearance of the elevation created at the rear.

PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED

P14/V1170/LDO Pre-development notification related to the addition of an exhaust chimney to the approved scheme at 172 Milton Park. The Council had no objections.

MW. 0055/14 and MW/0056/14 Formation of hard standing and non material amendment to extend the multi-purpose area across the remainder of the application site of consent APF/18979/s-CM, a wood recycling facility at Hill Farm, Appleford. The Council had no comment to make.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 1st July, 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall, Frilsham Street.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham Tel: 01865 391833 or

email:info@suttoncourtenay-pc.gov.uk.

RECYCLING BINS REMINDER

All paper and cardboard, including:

books - only if not suitable for taking to a charity shop
 catalogues
 phone directories (including the Yellow Pages)
 cereal boxes
 corrugated cardboard
 envelopes (including envelopes with windows)
 greeting cards
 junk mail
 magazines
 newspapers
 shredded paper (loose)
 tissue boxes
 toilet roll tubes
 writing paper

Glass

Mixed glass bottles and jars - any colour
 (and bottle tops, but please separate them)

All plastic bags, bottles, pots, tubs and trays (except film):

plastic or carrier bags (except black bags)
 detergent bottles
 drinks bottles (and tops)
 food and drink cartons (Tetra Paks)
 food trays
 general plastic packaging
 ice cream tubs
 margarine tubs
 plastic milk cartons and bottles
 shampoo bottles
 yoghurt pots

Remember: When possible, please remove the tops and squash the bottle to make more space in your bin.

Metal

aerosols
 clean foil
 food tins
 steel and aluminium food and drink cans (please wash and squash them first)
 metal lids (bottle and jar lids)

SUTTON COURTENAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we reach the end of another school year, I wanted to reflect on some of the fantastic events that have happened recently.

Sponsored Cycle in aid of the village War Memorial Renovation Project

At the beginning of the school year, in a Pupil Parliament Meeting, the children decided that they wanted to support the renovation project as part of their charity work this year.



We were lucky with the weather and every child ran or cycled round a route marked on our beautiful school grounds. The children worked very hard during the morning and many miles were cycled! The children raised in excess of £1,000. So if you did sponsor one (or more) of the children – many, many thanks. I am sure that the children will be very proud to know that they helped to renovate the stone and will help look after it in the future.

London Eye and Horse Guards Parade

A few weeks ago our Year 5 and 6 children visited London (by train and tube) to go to see the changing of the guards and to see which landmarks they could spot from the London Eye! The children enjoyed negotiating their way through the tube map and had to contend with thousands of people flocking to Buckingham Palace. The London Eye was definitely the highlight of the trip with all the children spotting the various iconic buildings – and learning about some new ones.

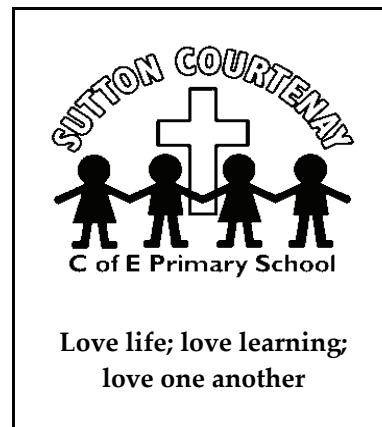


Summer Fete – Saturday 5th July 2014

Come and join us for lots of family fun at our 'Traditional' Summer Fete – Taking place between 11.00am-2.00pm. If you are unable to come, please support us by buying raffle tickets, which are now on sale (we have some fabulous prizes to be won) – These can be purchased from various outlets around the village or via the school office.



If you have a child that is approaching school age and would like to come and take a look at our school and find out more about what makes it special, please do make an appointment to come and visit us.



ALISON ASHCROFT
Headteacher

www.suttoncourtenayprimary.co.uk
Telephone: 01235 848333
email: office3243@ocnmail.net

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS' SUTTON COURTENAY

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS', SUTTON COURTENAY

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

Churchwardens: David McKenzie (847489) Pat Napper (848292) **Treasurer:** Tim Budd (820942)

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

Children's Church: Vivienne Maunders (847077) **Sacristan:** Pamela Vivian

Flowers: Ann White (848857) **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

Greetings from All Saints'

We believe in the Holy Spirit! When we say this in the creed in church the Spirit can seem like a bit of an afterthought, coming after God and Jesus. Yet in many ways the most powerful belief Christians have is a belief that God is at work in the world through his Spirit. It (or he, or she) is a Spirit of Love, a Spirit of Truth, a Spirit of caring. She is the strongest force for good in the world; a force that can overcome setbacks and disasters, a force that can turn enemies into friends. The breath of God and can be a gentle breeze but the old name of the Holy Ghost derives from a "gust" of wind and this Spirit can equally bowls us over with her power.

This Spirit is not just "out there". We believe that God's Spirit is also born in each of us. We all have a spark of the divine, and it is this spark that drives us to do greater things, and be better people, than we would in our own strength.

This same Spirit can inspire creativity and art and music and for those who are moved by music we have a wonderful mix of concerts over the summer. We start on 4th July with a very professional line up including the flautist Wissam Boustany. The evening is raising money for the Musicamp association of Zimbabwe, which encourages young musicians in that troubled land. Then on summer Sunday evenings we have the fifth season of our summer proms. What better way to finish a summer weekend than to join us for a drink and relaxed music. 3rd August is a particularly special prom on the eve of the centenary of the start of world war one. We look forward to a poignant evening of music of the period and a chance to reflect on the events that shaped the last century. Then in September the Lyra singers are returning from Russia and we are intending to combine supper and music to make a memorable evening. Look for the adverts elsewhere in this magazine for more details.

Music is one way to a Spiritual experience. Worship is another. Time spent alone in a building that has been dedicated to God may also open us to a glimpse of God's Spirit. I hope that over the summer each of us will find time to relax and open ourselves to God, wherever we might find him.

Tim Budd (Sutton Courtenay and Appleford Ministry Team)

Church Diary for July, August and September

2nd July - 11.00 am Small Saints' end-of-term Teddy Bears' Picnic in Church

4th July – 8.00 pm Concert by National Musicamp Association of Zimbabwe in All Saints' Church (international flautist Wissam Boustany performing)

17th July – 10.30 am Coffee, Cakes and Books in All Saints'

20th July – 6pm First of our Parish Prom in All Saints' Church

27th July – 3pm Open Air Songs of Praise at Steventon Green

23rd/24th July – Holiday Club in Drayton School

27th July – 6pm Second of our Parish Prom in All Saints' Church

3rd August – 6pm Third of our Parish Prom in All Saints' Church

10th August – 6pm Fourth of our Parish Prom in All Saints' Church

Saturday 13th September – Ride & Stride in support of Oxfordshire Churches

6th September – Lyra Ensemble

14th September – Duck Race

Saturday 20th September – A Grand Day Out – Whole Church Community Day on the theme of Imagination in Oxford

Saturday 21st September – Joint Damascus Group Service with Bishop Colin

Saturday 27th September – Damascus Group away day

Small Saints

Every Wednesday in term time from 11-12 noon in all Saints' Church. We are a friendly group of 0—4 year olds with their parents/carers providing a bible story, craft activity, fun singing and refreshments!

Contact Helen Kendrick, 848297

Coffee shop and booksale

10.30am to 12 noon

All Saints' Church

Drop by for coffee, cake, and conversation and browse the books on offer

TRACING VILLAGE FAMILY HISTORY



On June 22nd members of the Orwell Society returned to the graveside of Eric Blair (Orwell's real name) to commemorate the anniversary of his birth in 1903. He was never resident in the village unlike former Prime Minister Herbert Henry Asquith. While there is no doubt that these famous gentlemen's graves' receive the most visits by people from further afield, the All Saints' churchyard features the names of many generations of Sutton Courtenay residents. Over the next few months the Church wishes to work with the History Society to develop greater knowledge of the Village's long established families and share some of this information in future editions of the News. The Church obviously holds quite a considerable amount of archive material but also wishes to enhance its records to present in later exhibitions.

If you wish to submit any family history information (which you are happy to share with the local community) please contact Fred Cubbage (fred.cubbage@btinternet.com or 01235 848768) who is acting on behalf of the Heritage Room Working Group.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Our meeting held on the 10th June 2014 was our outing. Several members went on a visit to the Island Donkey sanctuary and really enjoyed a lovely afternoon. The weather was perfect, a lovely summer day. We all enjoyed walking around to see the donkeys and various other animals that live there. They are all so well cared for and a credit to all the staff there.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 8th July and will be our garden party and once again held by kind permission of Mrs Joan Moss in her garden at 23 Harwell Road, Sutton Courtenay, at the usual time of 2pm. If possible, please bring a garden chair.

Please note that we do not have a meeting in August.

Rose Woodward (Secretary)

PARISH PROM CONCERTS

~ All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay ~

5TH SEASON ! 2014 'PARISH PROM'



CONCERTS

*on Summer Sundays at Six**

Come & enjoy an ear-tickling selection of fine live music offered by established, friendly local performers in the atmospheric setting of ALL SAINTS' CHURCH ~ Oxfordshire's first VisitEngland Place of Interest.

Admission includes complimentary light refreshments!

20 July

ABINGDON GOSPEL CHOIR

An atmospheric programme of traditional Spirituals, mainstream and original Gospel music, sung by Abingdon's new ecumenical community choir ~ also featuring guest voices from Oxford Gospel (Events) Choir (Dir. **Jules Francis**)

27 July

'Songs with a Sparkle'

Abingdon sopranos **Lynne Winter** and **Jenna Elliott** (also on Trumpet!) set the rafters ringing with a scintillating selection of classics and 'standards'

*Accompanied at the Kreister baby-grand piano by **Ian Miles***

3 August

'Salon '14 : melodies & memories'

In an evocative sequence of Victorian & Edwardian salon pieces, music-hall songs and Great War-inspired repertoire, international baritone **Tim Robson** and **Ian Miles** (*piano/vocals*) mark 100 years since the very 'eve of Armageddon'

10 August

OXFORD HORN CHOIR

Directed by **Amy Thakurdas**, our 2014 season's unforgettable, rumbustious instrumental finale spans classic & lighter compositions from Mozart to Monty!

*** Concerts start at 6pm** on each given date, at **All Saints' Church** (off Sutton village green, behind the War Memorial; free parking available).

A complimentary *apéritif*, or non-alcoholic equivalent, awaits your arrival: what more civilised prelude to a summer Sunday supper? (Our aim is to finish by 7.15-ish.)

Admission £6.50, or Season Pass at £21 for all four events

*Also coming soon, by popular request : **A Russian Extravaganza** ~ Saturday 6 September ~ a supper concert featuring the **Lyra Ensemble of St Petersburg** (details t.b.c.)*

OFF ROAD MOTORBIKES

It has come to Police attention that a minority of people are regularly riding around on off road motorbikes on private land between Milton Park and Sutton Courtenay. The Police, local land owner and Sutton Courtenay Parish Council have all met to discuss this issue.

As stated this land is privately owned and the owners have not and will not give permission to any persons to ride or drive any kind of mechanically propelled vehicle on this land.

The local Neighbourhood Police Teams will be carrying out regular patrols in the area to tackle this issue. Those found to using the land for such activity's risk being issued with a Section 59 warning notice with consideration of having the vehicle seized, and if seen on a public road will face prosecution from appropriate driving offences, such as no insurance.

Section 59 Warning

A person maybe warned that if they continue to drive this or any other motor vehicle in a similar manner, or if they drive this or any other vehicle in a similar manner on any other occasion, or this motor vehicle is driven by anyone else in a similar manner, the vehicle may be seized under powers granted by Section 59 and 60 of the Police Reform Act 2002.

The fact that you have been issued with a warning will be recorded on a Police information system.

This Warning lasts for 12 months, if the vehicle or person is seen again within the 12 months the vehicle can be seized.

Should your vehicle be seized, you will only be able to reclaim it on payment of a removal charge of at least £150.00 plus a storage fee of £20.00 a day. If the vehicle is not claimed within 21 days, arrangements may be made for its disposal.

The Police, Parish Council and the land owners are concerned that someone may get hurt by such activity, either by hurting themselves or by hurting somebody else.

There are appropriate places where these vehicles can be used reasonably locally and we would encourage these places to be used.

If a land owner does give permission for land to be used for this activity, after 28 days, planning permission would be required, along with Public liability insurance as well as personal insurance should anyone get injured i.e. dog walkers or children. The Police would also want to see written permission at the time in the form of a letter with contact details for the land owner so checks can be made at the time to ensure full permission was given.

If any parents are aware that their children are using this land in this manner we would ask you to ensure that they do not. Many of the people involved seldom wear any protective clothing or helmets and risk serious injury should there be an accident.

This activity on this land will not be tolerated and those found using it for this will be dealt with accordingly.

PCSO Sandra Syphas C9482
Abingdon Outer Neighbourhood Team
Drayton, Sutton Courtenay, Appleford

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JULY 2014

- 1-6 **Oxford Scribes: Write On, Exhibition**, Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-4pm. FREE admission. Celebrating calligraphic society Oxford Scribes' 30th anniversary with an exhibition of members' work.
- 10-31 **Samantha Wadham: Interior Growth, Exhibition**, Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-4pm. FREE admission. Multidisciplinary Didcot artist Samantha Wadham interprets textiles through different materials and media.
- Sat 5 **Guitar: One-off Workshop for Adults**, 2.30-4pm. Learn to play acoustic guitar, all abilities welcome and no music reading necessary. Bring your own guitar!
- Sat 5 **Michael Law's Piccadilly Revellers, Music: Swing**, 8pm. Michael's the founder of the Piccadilly Dance Orchestra and returns with his new swinging six-piece, playing tunes from the 'between the wars' era.
- Thu 10 **Dance Connection presents: Beyond Limits, Hiring: Dance**, Thursday 10 and Friday 11 at 7.30pm. Saturday to 12 at 1.30pm & Anniversary Gala Night at 7.30pm (reception from 6.30pm). A cast of 100 talented young dancers celebrate award-winning performing arts centre Dance Connection's 20th anniversary.
- Sat 12 **Worby and Farrell: Deviations on the Piano, Music: Popular Classical**, 8pm. Internationally acclaimed concert pianists, they present a blend of comedy banter and amazing 'duelling' piano work.
- Sun 20 **Squashbox Theatre presents: Curious Creatures, Children's Theatre**, 2pm. Ages 4+. Learn lots about animals through puppets, comedy, slapstick and live music plus loads of amazing natural history facts.
- Fri 25 **Access All Areas**. Please call for details, times and booking information. Cornerstone gives a day over to creative activities for people with learning disabilities. Fully accessible.

**AUGUST 2014**

- 1-3 **Cornerstone presents the Sixth Annual Beer and Music Festival**, Fri & Sat midday-midnight, Sun midday-10.30pm. FREE admission. This year's festival has the biggest and best line up to date. No expensive tickets, no muddy fields, no overcrowding, just three days of FREE music and the best of local beers, ciders and food. Please see web site for up-to-date details of confirmed acts.
- 1-16 **Samantha Wadham: Interior Growth, Exhibition**, Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-4pm. FREE admission. Multidisciplinary Didcot artist Samantha Wadham interprets textiles through different materials and media.

SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES**August 2014**

- 5-15 **Drop-in and Doodle: Flower Power**, 10am-4pm. FREE. All ages (children to be accompanied by an adult). Create colourful cut-out floral silhouettes, inspired by our Interior Growth exhibition.
- Tue 5 **Clay Sculpture**, 1.30-3.30pm. Ages 5-12 years (adult goes free when accompanied by a child). Explore circus themes and create your own colourful ceramic sculpture, perhaps a clown or Big Top! All materials included.
- Wed 6 **NEW! Lino-Carving**, 10.30am-12.30pm. Ages 8-12 years (adult goes free when accompanied by a child). Make a lino-carved stamp with your initials in fancy lettering and use it to print with. Materials included.
- Thu 7 **NEW! Circus Skills**, 10.30am-4.30pm. Ages 7-13 years. Learn lots of fun skills with Circus Bezercus -juggling, diabolo, plate spinning, unicycling and stilt-walking. Show off your new skills at the end of the workshop.
- Fri 8 **NEW! 3-D Screen Printing**, 10.30am-4.30pm. Ages 7-11 years. Use some great new bits of kit to screen-print designs onto card and then use it to construct buildings and structures. All materials included.
- Tue 12 **Sci-Art School**. Ages 5-7 years 10.30am-12 noon. Ages 8-11 years 1-2.30pm. Three session course to exploring the art of science and the science of art. Paint, sculpt and draw whilst learning about the natural phenomena of the world around us. All materials included.
- Fri 15 **NEW! Crafty with Willow!** 10.30am-12.30pm. Ages 5-12 years (5 & 6 year olds to be accompanied by an adult). Have fun crafting all kinds of creatures and creations from willow. All materials included.
- Fri 15 **NEW! Crazy Comic Mash-Up**, 10.30am-4.30pm. Ages 8-13 years. Learn how to make a comic and how to use Apple laptops to make a cartoon animation. Use iStopmotion and Comic Life to create your own comics with pictures and drawings. No previous knowledge necessary.

Full details of our summer programme can be found on our website <http://www.cornerstone-arts.org>, with online booking facility. Or call the Box Office on 01235 515144, open Tuesday to Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 11am-4pm. Closed Monday.

SUTTON COURTENAY WI



Summer brings many opportunities for our WI. The Oxfordshire federation has planned several Blue Badge escorted trips to London, which many of our members are able to join. Last month we visited the Docklands museum and had lunch in Canary Wharf. What an absolutely amazing place to visit. We have had an exciting trip to see Grease in Oxford. Also last week some of our members visited The Barracks of The Household Cavalry in Windsor. We enjoyed a fascinating tour, learning the history, visiting the museum, meeting the horses and also some troops. We also got the opportunity to try on uniforms and helmets: what fun! Our meeting this month was our annual barbeque held in a member's garden. Our theme was Royal Ascot, so if you saw ladies in posh hats in the village, you know that it is your local WI!

In June our president, Ann Henderson, attended The National Federation AGM in Leeds and has given us an informed and lively report of the events. The National Federation Resolution to increase organ donation, by both carrying donor cards and making family aware of wishes, was debated at length throughout the country and the motion was carried by 98% voting in favour.

This month eight of our members enjoyed a relaxing lunch at The Waterside Cafe in Benson. Next month we meet at The Barley Mow in Clifton Hampden.

At our meeting at 7.30pm on 15 July in the village hall in Sutton Courtenay our speaker will be Ian Scott-Hunter, who is an ex-butler to the Royal family. We always welcome new members, so if you haven't joined us yet, do come along.

Beryl Davies



SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

On Tuesday June 3rd we all enjoyed our meeting with our old friend Tom Dodd. After an excellent address Tom worked with humour, accuracy and sincerity which really helped people. We will, of course, be seeing Tom again in the future.

Enquiries - Pat & Sam. 01235 847460

Tuesday. July 1st. 7.30pm Village Hall. Spiritual meeting with David Chapman

Tuesday August 5th. 7.30pm. Village Hall. Spiritual Meeting. Speaker to be announced later.



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

DIDCOT & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to a meeting as a taster before joining.

The July meeting will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 15 July, the topic being The History of Punch and Judy with Alix Booth. The August meeting will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 19 August with Keith Jansz, Mouth Artist.

Didcot & District U3A aims to encourage and enable older people in Didcot and District who are no longer in fulltime paid employment to help each other to share their knowledge, skills, interests and experience. There are over 25 interest groups including family history, gardening, wine appreciation, dance, science & maths, art appreciation, philosophy, play reading, creative writing, walking, bridge, crafts, books, poetry, singing, badminton, photography and 5 languages. There's something for everyone!

Tel: 07804159993

Email: didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>



The Soldiers of Oxfordshire (SOFO) Museum opened to the public on Sunday June 15th at 2pm. Thereafter it will be open from Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm and Sundays 2-5pm.

The Museum houses the collections from the Oxfordshire Yeomanry and the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry it will offer a Research Centre, a modern archive and collections store and Galleries in which the stories of the Soldiers of Oxfordshire will be told. The opening of the museum will be heralded by the Oxford Caledonian Pipe Band.

The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light infantry served alongside the Highland Light Infantry in both wars and were familiar with the pipes.....from the trenches of Messines in 1915 to the attack on the Reichswald forest in March 1945.

The imaginative concept of building the new Museum in the grounds of the existing Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock was that of Oxfordshire County Council. In accepting the Council's invitation, SOFO has raised the money to build, mainly from private donors, a substantial asset which will, in due course, become public property. It will be a vital resource for all interested in local and family history, and aims to be integral to the County's education system. From the outset, a functional modern design was called for and the result can now be seen to be settling well into its ancient setting.

The Oxfordshire Museum already attracts a large number of visitors. The presence of the SOFO museum will reinvigorate the whole site and attract a new audience drawn to the unique objects, stories and archives that the SOFO museum has to offer.

The displays in the Galleries will be a fantastic resource for families, young children, school visits, life - long learners and the keen social and military researchers who want to learn more about how conflict has affected the county. Conflict continues to affect the County today with the presence of several military installations and units, at bases such as the large logistic installation at Bicester, Dalton & Vauxhall Barracks and the RAF at Brize Norton and Benson. By placing key moments from history alongside current military actions, the museum will keep this important heritage alive, telling the stories of not only the county regiments but 'all' soldiers of Oxfordshire.

Battles: Among many others, SOFO has a rich archive from the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire chronicles, tracing the history of the regiment, with highlights from Waterloo, Pegasus Bridge and present day conflict. Momentous times from history with personal stories from letters home, diary extracts and newspaper reports. We look at the men who led the regiment through to the Royal Green Jackets and to the present day Rifles, discovering what life was like for an ordinary soldier and what he had to endure. Time and again, the personal stories drive home the image of a regiment bought together through training and leadership to carry out outstanding acts of bravery in the defence of the realm.

Airpower: A new departure for SOFO, recounting the history of airpower for the county and ensuring the RAF are honoured as well as the specific stories from D Day, air recognisance flights from RAF Benson and exploits from the Royal Flying Corps. We have also been given generous help and support from the Upper Heyford Action Group with stories from the Cold War. This includes details about the nuclear armed F111's positioned in the county making us all in Oxfordshire a target facing total destruction for thirty years during the cold war, a fact many didn't realise at the time and that more have forgotten now!

Modern Conflict: SOFO is committed to use the museum galleries and its programme of events to provide opportunities for Oxfordshire's military and their families to become more involved with others in the community at large, through family events and activities. SOFO has already worked with a number of schools who work closely with the families from the various bases through on line displays and opportunities for schools to curate mini exhibitions. Through the Modern Conflict display, 21st Century Soldier, SOFO has looked at modern conflict and through it the threat of the technological advances needed to counter life on the frontline. As well as the training of bomb

NAG5 SAFETY CORNER

NAG5 encompasses the villages of Appleford, Drayton and Sutton Courtenay and a new regular column in the village magazines aims to provide useful information for village residents, plus news and updates on NAG5 activities. For those with access to the internet, relevant links are provided. However, in this age of increasing electronic communications the very people who may be amongst the most vulnerable to rogue traders, telephone scams etc. may well be those who do not use the internet. Hence our concern and desire to ensure they are made aware through village newsletters. We are also working with Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators to ensure that, when required, information is speedily transmitted by e-mail or word of mouth. In this issue we raise awareness on two topical areas.

Scams

People caught out by a scam can sometimes feel too embarrassed or ashamed to report it. Please encourage friends, relatives and neighbours to report them by calling 0300 123 2040 or by visiting www.actionfraud.police.co.uk.

'Think Jessica' is a charity which provides anti-scam resources for the elderly and vulnerable. Criminals often target such people, who often live alone and have no access to the internet, by bombarding them with letters or telephone calls, posing as officials or offering large prizes. Free information packs can be obtained by writing to Think Jessica, PO Box 4442, Chesterfield, S44 9AS enclosing a loose 2nd class stamp, or visit the web site at www.thinkjessica.com for more information. We are ordering some packs and will keep you posted.

For information about staying safe online please visit www.getsafeonline.org or www.cyberstreetwise.com.

Smartwater



Smartwater is a brand of forensic marking fluid containing millions of microscopic particles that make up an individual property identification code. The liquid is invisible to the naked eye, but glows green under UV light. It can be used to mark valuable items (e.g. laptops, MP3 players, televisions, mobile phones, cameras, antiques, jewellery and bicycles). Thames Valley Police have kits for use in the home available at a greatly reduced price of £15 each (normally £60).

Over the past couple of months PCSO Sandra Syphas, with NAG5 representatives, has visited households in Appleford and Sutton Courtenay with kits and information about Smartwater, and had a very positive response. Appleford is now a designated 'Smartwater zone' and it's hoped that Sutton Courtenay will shortly follow suit. Householders in Drayton will be visited over the next few weeks. The hope is that all three NAG5 villages will become designated Smartwater zones. More information can be found on the Smartwater web site at www.smartwater.com, by calling Smartwater on 0800 521 669, or call the police on the non-emergency number 101.

NAG5 can be contacted at neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com or by calling 01235 848694.

ED VAIZEY MP

As you may have read in the press or seen on TV in recent months, there have been many web sites springing up which claim to offer government services. While these sites are not illegal, it is hard to see why they are necessary. These “third-party sites” charge for services that people can get for free, or at a lower cost, through GOV.UK websites – the official government sites. The third party sites usually exaggerate the benefits of their additional services, don’t tell you what you can get through GOV.UK, or imply an affiliation with government, and the sites can be very convincing. The services most affected have been:

- Booking Driving Tests (theory and practical)
- Driving licence applications (including the free service for over-70s)
- Passport Applications (and bookings for emergency appointments which are actually provided for free)
- European Health Insurance Cards (EHICs) applications which are also provided free by the Government.

The Government has been working with a range of organisations, such as Which and the National Trading Standards Board, to try to combat the problem and has had some success, with increasing numbers of users going straight to the Government sites, but there is still some way to go. I hope readers won’t mind me using my article this month to add to the efforts to publicise the best way to avoid being caught out.

If you need a government service, then the best way to find it on-line is to go to www.gov.uk, where you’ll see the very wide range of ways you can access government services on-line. If you go straight to www.gov.uk, you will always get the real service, directly from the right department and at the lowest possible cost. More and more services are now accessible on line and it is the quickest way to get all sorts of things you may need like vehicle tax discs and advice on visas.

More widely, in my mailbox this month, a number of constituents have contacted me with their concerns about modern slavery and supply chains. I abhor slavery in all its forms. It is an affront to the dignity and humanity of us all. I therefore welcome the Government’s Modern Slavery Bill, which will disrupt and imprison the organised criminal gangs behind much of the modern slave trade. It is the responsibility of us all to help stamp out slavery, and the private sector has to play its part. Firms must ensure that they do not do business with suppliers involved in trafficking, and the Home Office will continue to work with businesses and the Gangmasters’ Licensing Authority to prevent the exploitation of workers.

Other issues featuring in this month’s mailbox include live animal exports, making the school run safer and the human rights situation in the Central African Republic.

As ever please feel free to contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to get in touch, as I keep a very close eye on my emails and can reply very quickly. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.



COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Until recently, the major concerns of the County Council have traditionally been Transport and Education, County Planning issues have ranked a poor third. These days, both County and District have found Planning issues way at the top of their agenda.

Sutton Courtenay, Appleford and Milton, with their national infrastructure pressures from Didcot B, their regional pressures from the FCC recycling plant and Milton Park /Science Vale UK and their District housing pressures, can very fairly argue that the cumulative effect of all this must be taken into account when assessing planning applications of all types. If the present planning system does not allow cumulative impact arguments, then there is something badly wrong with the system and it needs to be changed. So many major planning applications in our already heavily congested area have major transport implications. The pressure on the long awaited "Milton interchange" improvements is immense, and the volume of current planning applications from all sides threaten to swamp its potential benefits before building has begun.

The pressure under the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) to accept new development - domestic and commercial seems almost irresistible. We are told that "in planning terms" unpopularity" is not a "material consideration" and that the risk of rejecting applications is that such decision will be overturned at appeal with costs being awarded against the planning committee. It is true that that is the system as is, but it is also true that "fear of costs" is also not a "material consideration".

I am certainly no anarchist when it comes to planning. I happen to believe that we need a lot more houses (how many more, and where they go are separate issues). I also happen to want this area to be as economically successful as it can possible be, and that its best chance of achieving this is for Science Vale UK to grow, and for us to become the UK centre for scientific research and development. If we've got the numbers of houses we need right (a big "if") and if we have got the right places for the houses (another big "if") then, I support it. If anything gets in the way of the growth and future of Science Vale UK – particularly traffic – I am against it. Rejecting the Million square foot Warehouse was, I believe the correct decision. What happens now will be interesting.

Richard Webber Cllr

OCC Sutton Courtenay & Marcham Division

01235 534001

richard.webber77@ntlworld.com



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CHRISTIAN AID HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION

This raised the magnificent total of £1,605.88 in Sutton Courtenay. We send congratulations and grateful thanks to all the 18 stalwart collectors who went out in all sorts of weather, and we also send belated thanks to Pamela Vivian for having organised the Collection for very many years, and to the Vicar and helpers for keeping the house-to-house collection going in 2013. Especially we thank everyone in the village who made a donation! Your generosity will benefit disadvantaged people all over the world.

Diane Hastings

CRAFT AND PRODUCE SHOW



A little reminder that the Sutton Courtenay Craft & Produce Show is being held on Saturday 6th September in the village hall. There is the categories' listing and application form on the Sutton Courtenay website to download. We look forward to seeing new and old faces again this year.

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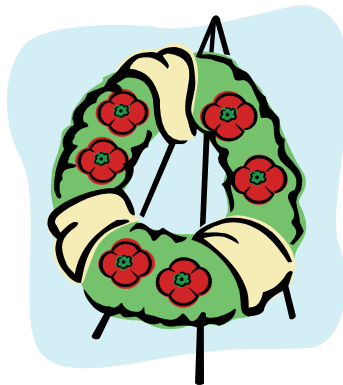
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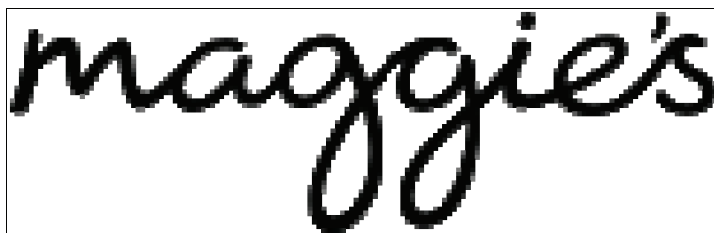
In this 100th anniversary year of the outbreak of the First World War, it is perhaps worth recalling that since 1914, there has only been one year, 1968, in which a British Soldier has not been killed on operations somewhere in the world. With many veterans now older, and in greater need of support, and a growing band of young veterans from current and recent conflicts, the work of the Royal British Legion remains as relevant and as important as ever.

The Steventon and District Branch of the Royal British Legion are therefore delighted to announce that following some concerns that there was insufficient support to maintain a full committee, the future of the Branch is now secure for the foreseeable future. The Committee is also very conscious that we cover Steventon **and District**, notably including Sutton Courtney and Drayton, and are very keen to see new members from across the wider area.

The Branch is planning a fuller calendar of events for this forthcoming year, notable for being both the 100th Anniversary of the First World War, and the 70th Anniversary of D-Day. This will be starting with a stall at the forthcoming Steventon Village Fete on the 5th of July, with an opportunity to purchase memorabilia to support the Poppy Appeal – a fund raising initiative which runs 365 days a year, not only during the November period of Remembrance. This will be followed by a barbeque, drinks and an ‘Aunt Sally’ competition at the Steventon Sports and Social Club, and all are very welcome, again particularly new members from across the District.

Branch meetings remain at **8.00pm on the third Monday** of every month; June’s being the 16th, and July’s being the 21st. Please note that the venue has now changed to meeting at the **Steventon Sports and Social Club** from 7.30pm on for a pre meeting drink, before the committee meeting itself at 8.00pm.





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If you are sociable, confident and outgoing and willing to dedicate half a day a week to help Maggie's, we would like to hear from you. For more information, please contact eleonor.green@maggiescentres.org or call 07920 848825. For more information about Maggie's, please visit www.maggiescentres.org

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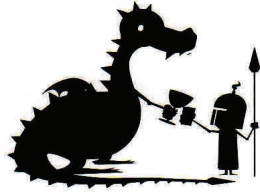
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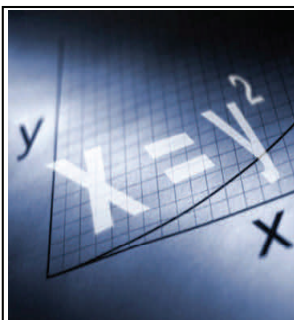


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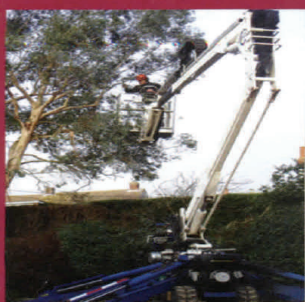


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