



Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

December 2014

December & January! Dates for your diary:
 2nd Dec. Sutton Singers Concert at the Chapel
 5th Dec. Primary School Christmas Fayre
 6th Dec. Village Christmas Market
 13th Dec. Carols around the Tree on the Green
 13th Dec. BOUNCE 5yr Anniversary Dance and Disco
 16th Dec. Defib First Aid Training
 6th Jan. Drama Group meeting at the Village Hall
 17th Jan. Small Breakfast at the Church
 This is the last Village Voice of the year, we'll be back in February, why not get involved in the new year; you can discuss your ideas over a pint with the editor during the festive holidays.

Merry Christmas to one and all from Village Voice!



Royal British Legion

The village Poppy Appeal raised over £2500, thank you to all those involved! The RBL AGM for Stanton Harcourt took place on the 17th November, new members attended and a new committee has been formed to take the branch forward. Further details of how to get involved and events in the New Year

Village Markets

The Christmas Village Market is on Sat 6th Dec

12 -2pm – lots of Festive goodies, gifts and stocking fillers! Free entry – all welcome.

There will be no markets in January & February, the first market in 2015 will be 7th March. New stall holders always welcome. Email jo@marketing-sense.co.uk.



Small Breakfast

17th January 9 – 11

Why go home and put the kettle on after you have bought your paper? Join us at St Michael's Church for a bacon roll, hot drink and a chat for just £2.50

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Thursday lunch club for the elderly and housebound are looking for new volunteers to cook for them. This could be main course or pudding or both!

We meet every week at Northmoor Village Hall and we are looking for someone to join our current volunteers and hopefully cook approximately once every 6 weeks. Money for ingredients is always reimbursed.

Any offers of help, regular or occasional, would be very welcome.

For more information please contact Jane Watts (882361)

This Month's Brain-Teaser!

If 3 peacocks lay 5 eggs in 8 days, how many peacocks will lay 29 eggs in 76 days?

Answer to last month's: 'An Anchor'

BOUNCE!

Save the date! Saturday 13th December, 7pm - 10pm

Bounce will be celebrating its 5 year anniversary with an evening of dance and disco this December!

The children and adult classes will be sharing their dance work followed by a disco for all in the village hall.

Tickets will be £6 each for adults and £2 each for children. Tickets will be on sale from October half term at Bounce on Saturday mornings.



ELF

TOKENS

RAFFLE

SNOWMEN

TOMBOLA'S

MINCE PIES

MULLED WINE

MARKET STALLS

NOVELTY GAMES

CHILDRENS CRAFTS

PRESENT BUY BACK

FACE PAINTING NAIL BAR

SANTAS GROTTTO

JOIN US 5.30-7.30PM

FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER

STANTON HARCOURT CE SCHOOL

MAIN STREET, STANTON HARCOURT, OX29 5RJ
ELF TOKENS CAN BE BOUGHT IN ADVANCE OF THE FAYRE FROM FOSHS MEMBERS

CHRISTMAS
FAYRE

ALL VERY WELCOME!

Sutton Singers

Invite you to their Christmas Concert
 And Carol Singing

Tuesday 2nd December, 7.30pm At The Chapel
 Mulled Grape Juice and Mince Pies
 To complete the Christmas Cheer

St Michael's Church 200 Club

November draw

1st 187 M Floyd

3rd 152 G Mason

2nd 166 A Chancellor

4th 193 P Harrison

SHAPE NEWS VOTING RESULTS



The SHAPE Committee are delighted to share the exciting news that we were awarded joint first place in the Lloyds Bank Community Fund Scheme. Our £3000 prize will be spent on equipment for the new village play areas. Thank you very, very much to everybody who voted for us (1078 votes in total!) and who helped by encouraging their friends, family and colleagues to vote. A fantastic result!



TREE PLANTING

Our thanks also to the large number of people who put on their wellies and brought along their spades to plant saplings on Jubilee Field – another occasion when the sun shone and lots of fun was had by all. Events like this demonstrate what a great village community we live in – it will be wonderful to see the trees grow over the years as all the children who took part also increase in height!

PROJECT PROGRESS

We are very nearly there with our fund-raising but every extra bit we receive will ensure that we do not have to compromise on the design or equipment choices. We are in the process of appointing contractors to develop the two sites in the spring, so need to finalise our accounts soon. If you would like to show support for the project – and the three members of the SHAPE Committee who have worked for over 2 years to make this happen – we would be very grateful for even a small donation (cheques to 'SHAPE' delivered to All Souls House at the top of the school lane, or direct to the SHAPE bank account – sort code 20-97-48, account 93938581).



The children in class 2 at Stanton Harcourt School have been learning about the prehistoric period. They have particularly enjoyed researching homes and shelters from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. They were so fascinated with the diagrams they found of a roundhouse, we decided to build one on the school grounds!

We had previously cleared an area during our Family Learning Day and it generated a lot of garden rubbish. We decided that prehistoric man would have used what was readily available. So, armed with a wheelbarrow of tools, Mr Peter Newman helped the children to build a framework for our own roundhouse design.

The children were so enthusiastic and eager to help, we decided to have a day outdoors finishing the roundhouse, creating cave paintings using natural materials, making clay fossils and we even



managed to complete a soil science investigation! Below are the comments made by the children whilst they were drinking hot chocolate and watching Stig of the Dump, who was the inspiration for our topic.

'I liked finding out how Stone Age people lived.'

'My favourite thing was using sticks to build a roundhouse.'

'I got to tie lots of knots.'

'I liked using the tools and getting messy hands.'

'You got to collect stuff to make cave paintings.'

'I like putting soil in a pot for our science investigation.'

'It's really creative making clay fossils.'

'It was awesome finding out what the Stone Age people felt like.'

We can't wait to visit the Hill End Outdoor Centre and visit their ancient settlement and find out more about how these prehistoric people lived! I am sure they didn't think to make stone circle monuments out of biscuits! Linda Walsh

Class 2 teacher at Stanton Harcourt School



STANTON HARCOUT AND SUTTON DRAMA GROUP

In a moment of weakness I agreed to take on the drama group- following the astonishingly hard act of Jan Tomlinson and Jane Eagle, who are stepping down. It was sort of now or never, as the group was in danger of disbanding despite years of hugely successful pantomimes and specially written productions by Jan.

The Summer Festival seems to me to be a good way to start. Something not too ambitious, to coincide with the theme and probably a promenade type production that can involve a lot of the village.

If you are interested in taking part – on stage, back stage, or if you have a dance group, or singing group or club and you are interested in producing a performance for us as part of the show- then please come to

The village hall on Tuesday January 6th at 7.30pm

Email me on holderjudith@yahoo.ca or

mikeparker12@gmail.com

Or call us on 01865 884435

Parish Council News

NEXT PC MEETING Monday 1st December 7:30pm.

Rockin' Around

The Christmas Tree

The Village Green Saturday 13th December 5pm

A collection will be taken for local charities

Join us for some festive fun and a mince pie or two!

Community Connect

Community Connect is a home-visiting service provided by West Oxfordshire Citizens Advice Bureau (WOCAB) for people experiencing isolation and difficulty accessing local support and information. Community Connect aims to:

- Reduce isolation;
- Promote independence; and
- Make WOCAB services more accessible for members of our community.

We have a caring, friendly team of staff and volunteers who deliver Community Connect in and around Witney and Chipping Norton and who:

- Provide information on local services and assist with any problems clients may have; and
- Can pop in regularly for a cuppa and a friendly chat.

Our service is free and our team is police-checked and fully trained to deliver the best possible service to our clients.

If you know of anyone in your community who would benefit from our service, please ask them to get in touch or pass on our telephone number and email address to them.

Telephone: 0300 30 30 127

Email: communityconnect@wocab.org.uk

We welcome all enquiries and will be pleased to offer as much help and support as we can.

Can you make someone's day?

We are seeking friendly and caring volunteers willing to spare a couple of hours each week to provide companionship to clients at home experiencing social isolation in and around Witney and Chipping Norton. The icing on the cake will be your enthusiasm and commitment coupled with our CAB training to enable you to transform the lives of people in your community.

We welcome all enquiries so if you can spare some time for a much needed service please telephone 0300 30 30 127 or email: communityconnect@wocab.org.uk

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

I am sure you are aware that Stanton Harcourt Parish Council is now very lucky to have a Defibrillator in situ, located at the entrance to the Village Hall.

We are very fortunate to be able to hold training sessions in use of the defibrillator - Ian Jones, Paramedic / Community Responder Liaison & Training Officer of South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust has very kindly agreed to hold a session in the Stanton Harcourt Village Hall on **Tuesday 16th Dec at 7pm**. The session should last around 1 hour.

We would like to invite any residents who would like to gain knowledge in the use of a defibrillator to join the session.

The sessions are limited to 15 people, as it is felt this is the optimum number and allows for a Q and A at the end of the demo.

If you would like to attend, may I ask that you confirm your place to the Clerk, Trudi Gasser (contact details below) as soon as possible?

WODC Improved online planning system up and running

People should find it simpler to view, track and comment on planning applications in West Oxfordshire following

the launch of a new online planning system by the District Council.

The Council has upgraded the planning section of its website www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning to give better online access to information.

The new system gives more detailed information and, for the first time, provides the opportunity for comments to be submitted online and applications to be tracked as they progress.

Cllr Warwick Robinson, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Housing, said: "Whereas the former system contained only limited information, it is now possible to follow planning applications from submission through to decision, in addition to registering to receive email updates about any applications you are interested in to ensure you are notified every step of the way.

"As well as making it easier to use, we hope this enables people to easily find the information they want at their fingertips and make the planning process more transparent for everyone."

The new system enables users to:

- view all planning applications made to the Council
- see where applications are on a map
- view documents and plans that provide details of the development
- submit and view comments on applications
- monitor applications or appeals - including associated plans and documents
- save personalised searches for a particular ward/parish or application type
- view decision notices

As well as improving online services for members of the public, planning professionals and partner agencies, the Council hopes the changes will enable town and parish councils to view more information online, giving them more timely information.

Paper copies of planning applications will continue to be available for viewing at the Council's Elmfield offices in Witney. Visit www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning for further information or call 01993 861000.

Parish Council Information

All official communications should be addressed to the Parish Clerk: Trudi Gasser, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA. trudigasser@rocketmail.com

Parish Council website:

<http://www.wospweb.com/site/Stanton-Harcourt-Parish-Council>

The Page 3 Bird

This Month's Bird is Penelope the Penguin, not a local bird but with global warming who knows! Penguins are the only birds that don't mind having cold feet. Recently thought endangered due to tasting of chocolate, they've been saved by starring in cute Christmas adverts for corporations while using their mad programming skills in secret to save the entire world through the development of open source software.



DID THEY WANT A NON-RELIGIOUS FUNERAL?

Then call or email Mike Parker OBE, accredited* humanist funeral celebrant 01865 884435 mikeparker12@gmail.com

*British Humanist Association

St Michael's Church

For help or advice on service arrangements contact Rev Andrew Tweedy: ☎ 01865 880914 or Church Warden Pat Burden: ☎ 01865 880652

December

7 th 9:30	Parish Communion & Sunday School	Stanton Harcourt
14 th 10:30 18:00	Benefice Communion Taizé Prayer Service	Northmoor Stanton Harcourt
21 st 10:30	Family Service	Stanton Harcourt
24 th 23:30	Midnight Communion	Stanton Harcourt
25 th 10:30	All Age Christmas Service	Stanton Harcourt
28 th 10:30	Benefice Communion	Stanton Harcourt

January

4 th 9:30	Parish Communion & Sunday School	Stanton Harcourt
11 th 10:30 18:00	Benefice Communion Taizé Prayer Service	Standlake Stanton Harcourt
18 th 10:30	Family Service	Stanton Harcourt
25 th 8:00 18:00	Holy Communion BCP Informal Worship	Stanton Harcourt Loc. TBA

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all readers of Village Voice, Rev Drew and Billie Tweedy.

Sutton Methodist Chapel

Contact: Rita Stockill ☎ 01865 880200

December

Sunday 7 th 10am	Rev Paul Weir
Sunday 14 th 10am	Mr David Tee
Sunday 21 st 10am	Christmas Story and Carols Service
Wednesday 24 th 4pm	Carols & Cake Service

January

Sunday 4 th 10am	Mr Keith Crawford
Sunday 11 th 10am	Rev Michael Langley inc Holy Communion
Sunday 18 th 10am	Local Arrangement
Sunday 25 th 10am	Service at Long Hanborough

Wed 3rd December & Wed 7th January

Coffee morning, 10.00–11.30 am. All welcome – if anyone would like to come and requires a lift to Chapel and home afterwards, please call 882051.

Witney Music Society

The next concert in the Winter series for the Society will be held on Friday 12 December at 7.30pm at Wood Green School, Witney. Duo Teresa Carreno, which takes its name from a famous 19th century Venezuelan pianist/composer, will perform a programme of cello music by Villa-Lobos, Debussy, Ravel and others, combining the Latin American and European musical traditions.

The first concert of 2015 will be held on Friday 9 January at 7.30pm at Wood Green School, Witney.

The Countess of Munster Musical Trust Concert will feature Manus Noble - guitar. He is an exciting new talent, tipped for success by some of the world's leading guitarists.

Further details from 01993 702296 or see our website

www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk

The Catholic Church of St Peter

Abbey Street, Eynsham. The Catholic church for Sutton & Stanton Harcourt

Fr Martin Flatman

☎ 07719 646790 ✉ frmartinflatman@gmail.com

Website: www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk

Weekend Services

Sunday Mass 10.00am with a Children's Liturgy
Saturday Mass 7.30pm;

Special Events

Parish Party – formerly the Cheese & Wine, Friday 5th December, 7:30 onwards, Tickets are now on sale.

Christmas Eve – Family Carols and First Mass at 6pm, Midnight Mass at 11:30pm.

Christmas Day – Morning Mass at 10am

New Years Day – Mass at 12 noon

Chris, Amanda & Bow welcome you to:

The Harcourt Arms



Regular menu offers:

Wednesday Night

Fish and Chips & a free drink ~ £10.95

Thursday Night

Steak night from £8.95 pp & free pudding

Lunchtime à la carte menu

now available 12.00–2.30 pm

À la carte dinner menu

Available Tuesday to Saturday from 6.00 to 9.30 pm

Sunday lunch ~ from £9.50 pp

Tel: 01865 881931 Emails: ahailes@btinternet.com and calleyone@hotmail.com

Recipe of the Winter: Leek, Potato & Bacon Soup!

300g/12oz Leeks (washed and sliced)

300g/12oz Potatoes (peeled and sliced)

150g/6oz bacon (chopped)

700ml/1¼ pint chicken or veg stock (~3 cubes dissolved in hot water)

½ pint milk, seasoning to taste e.g. black pepper.

- Sauté (cook) the leek, potato and bacon till soft.
- Add stock and cook till vegetables are tender
- Liquidise/Blitz to make more soup like
- Add milk, pepper and it's ready to serve with a nice bit of bread!

If you're posh you can serve with a dribble of cream in the top too to make it look pretty!

A Note From the Editor (not an advert)

Parish Council have asked us to formalise our advertising policy, if you have any views on this please let us know. Or if you have views on any other aspect please get involved (else you won't be involved) – simples!

Deadline for next issue is 24th January
village-voice@hotmail.co.uk

AS ALWAYS – Thank you to this month's contributors, reviewers, & deliverers

Published on behalf of Stanton Harcourt Parish Council

While we try to ensure the accuracy of information in Village Voice, readers use the information at their own risk. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Editor. Inclusion of an advertisement does not indicate endorsement of the product, service or event being advertised.