
Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton
April 2024

April 2024

Wednesday 3rd 10.00am, Café at the Chapel

Saturday 6th 8.00am, Men's Breakfast,
Harcourt Arms (see entry for details)

Monday 8th 7:30pm, Parish Council Meeting,
Old Guardroom

Saturday 13th 12pm to 2pm, Annual Meeting
of the Parish & Village Market, Village Hall

Thursday 25th 8pm, Village Hall AGM, Village
Hall

May 2024

Thursday 2nd All Day Local Elections (see
below)

Saturday 4th 8.00am, Men's Breakfast,
Harcourt Arms (see entry for details)

Monday 13th 7:30pm, Parish Council Meeting,
Village Hall

Every Thursday – Lunch Club (see entry for
contact details) and **Yoga with Alison James**
(email alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk for info)

**Every Tuesday (term time) – 7pm Sutton
Singers** (see entry for contact details)

STANTON HARCOURT & SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Upcoming elections in May

With District Council and Parish Council elections coming in May, do remember to check that you have registered to vote. Individuals who wish to vote in person, including those acting as a proxy on behalf of another individual, will be required to produce an accepted form of photographic ID to prove their identity before they will be issued with a ballot paper. Suitable forms of ID are your passport, Photographic driver's licence, Biometric Residence Permit, a Blue Badge, or a concessionary travel pass funded by our local authority. If you do not have one of the accepted forms of photo ID, you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate, which can be obtained free of charge. Anyone applying for this must already be on the electoral register.

Your District Councillors are your voice within West Oxfordshire. There are two District Councillors for our area and both would be more than happy to take your questions about their role in our community. Your Parish Council is the local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish and has an overall responsibility for the well-being of its local community. It is the level of government closest to

the community, with the district authority above it in the hierarchy. As it is the authority closest to the people, the work of the Parish Council falls into three main categories: representing the local community, delivering services to meet local needs and striving to improve quality of life in the Parish.

All six Parish Council seats will be up for election as the current term has come to an end for your current councillors. If you feel you would like to get involved in making decisions about your local community, local issues and make a significant contribution to the area in which you live or work, then this is the position for you! Do you have an interest in your local environment, local transport, local government finances, amenities, planning and housing issues, community events, anti-social behaviour and policing, and want to make a difference then please put your name forward – **Your Village Needs You!**

Anyone with questions about their registration status or elections can contact the Council's electoral services team at elections@westoxon.gov.uk or by calling 01993 861410.

Crime is on the rise – Beware!

It has been reported that there has been a rise in crimes taking place in rural areas such as burglary and theft. You may have heard that there have been some break ins in our villages too. Rural areas are more of a target for criminals as there is less traffic and people about to deter them. Please be aware of your surroundings and who is about. If you spot anything suspicious, please call the police and let them know. We were advised to beware of drones being used to check out properties. Here are some tips to help keep your property safe from the Police:

- Trim any hedges out the front of your house. Tall hedges and fences at the front can give cover to burglars, however tall fencing to the sides and back can make it harder for them to get in that way. A gravel driveway or path is noisy and can make you aware of people approaching.
- Lighting is a good deterrent, perhaps some sensor lights that will come on if someone comes on your property at night. Just be careful to fit them where they won't annoy your neighbours.
- Check that all windows and doors are secure when you leave your property. Try not to have any valuables on full display.

Annual Meeting of the Parish

It is time again for the Annual Meeting of the Parish. This is the meeting where we all come together to share with everyone what a fantastic place we live in and to encourage more people to get involved. Many village related organisations including the Parish Council will attend and be available to tell you what they do, answer your questions and encourage active participation. This year, we will be using the Holland

Room at the Village Hall alongside the monthly village market on Saturday 13th April, so you can attend both at once. Please keep your eyes open for any further details on the market and the annual meeting. If you have an organisation and you would like to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact me on rachel@shpc.co.uk Please be advised, space is limited this year as we are not using all of the hall.

Monitoring and Enforcement Team - Planning

Our villages have an industrial site and waste disposal site next to them. These sites are bound by certain criteria in their planning agreement such as traffic, litter and road condition. There is a team within OCC that monitors their behaviour and can issue enforcement to make sure that the planning conditions are being followed. Unfortunately, they can't monitor 24 hours a day and sometimes need our help. If you feel that these conditions are not being followed, they do have an email that you can contact them on, TellPlanning@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Residents being invited to boost their health and well-being with move together

Age is no barrier to taking part in Move Together – a free activity programme that provides support for those dealing with long-term health conditions or experiencing poor mobility. With participants ranging from 25 to 104 years old, the Council is calling on residents to get in touch with its Community Wellbeing team and find out if the programme could benefit them.

There are several ways to join the Move Together project – a referral from a GP or healthcare professional or self-referral using the form available on the website, or by phoning the team on 01993 861581 or emailing angela.burrell@westoxon.gov.uk. So, if you are living with a long-term health condition, or if you or a group you're part of could benefit from moving more to improve your physical and mental health, please get in touch today!

Courtesy on our footpaths

There have been reports of people using our footpaths around the village in ways they are not meant to be used. Not all footpaths are bridleways, and some footpaths are around children's play equipment. If you have dogs, please remember to clean up after them and keep them under control. There have been reports of dogs being off lead around the Leys playground that are not that friendly, and that people have been riding horses along this footpath too. Not everyone is keen on dogs and some dogs don't like to be around other dogs. Also, the footpath going past the Leys playground is not a bridleway. Please be considerate of all footpath users around the villages and follow the countryside code.

Your West Oxfordshire District Councillors are:

Lysette Nicholls

- Mobile: 07766 251125
- Email: lysette.nicholls@westoxon.gov.uk

Charlie Maynard

- Mobile: 07487 708681
- Email: Charlie.maynard@westoxon.gov.uk

Your Oxfordshire County Councillor is:

Dan Levy

- Mobile: 07852 748362
- Email: dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Your Member of Parliament is:

Robert Courts

- Phone: 0207 219 5638
- Email: Robert.courts.mp@parliament.uk

Your Parish Councillors are:

Matthew Judson, Chairman, matthew@shpc.co.uk

Rachel Arnold, Vice Chairman, rachel@shpc.co.uk

Keith Hickson, keith@shpc.co.uk

Joe Deane, joe@shpc.co.uk

Gill Sellars, gill@shpc.co.uk

Andy Hayden, andy@shpc.co.uk

Parish Council Information

All official communications should be addressed to the Parish Clerk: Trudi Gasser, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA. clerk@shpc.co.uk

Lower Windrush History Club

2nd April 2024 – Standlake Village Hall 7.30pm

Mark Davies – Professors of Rowing: Oxford & Cambridge Boat Race

7th May 2024 – St Giles Church, Standlake 7.30pm

Anne Carter – Guided Tour of St Giles Church Yard (donations to St Giles Church would be appreciated)

New members are very welcome and subs are £25/person for the complete season. Non-members can attend individual talks for £5/person.

If you'd like to join as a member, just go along to the first meeting with payment, or drop an email to lwhscommittee@gmail.com

Church News

St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt

Lower Windrush Benefice

*****Evening Prayer said most Mondays and Thursdays at 4pm*****

Easter 2024

March 31st, Easter Sunday

09:00 Family Holy Communion, St Michael's, SH

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Bunny will have been laying Easter Eggs all round St Michael's churchyard ready for them to be discovered by children of all ages in a grand Easter Egg hunt at 10.00am - rain or shine- on Easter Sunday morning (March 31st).

April 7th, Sunday

08:30 Holy Communion at St Michael's, SH followed by breakfast

April 14th Sunday

10:00 Benefice Holy Communion – St Michael's, SH

Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm we have a short service of Compline via Zoom. Thursday mornings we have Early Bird Prayer at 7:30am via Zoom. All Zoom codes can be found on www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org

For more information about all services taking place in the Benefice (Stanton Harcourt, Northmoor, Standlake, Yelford) please visit the Lower Windrush Benefice website: www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org

Sutton Chapel

SERVICE SUNDAY 14th April at 3.00pm

LED BY Rev Fred Ireland ALL ARE VERY WELCOME

St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Eynsham

For information about services at St Peter's please visit www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk/

Café at the Chapel



Every first
Wednesday of the month



WEDNESDAY 3rd APRIL 10.00 - 12.00

FRESH ROASTED COFFEE / SELECTION OF TEAS
TOASTED TEACAKES, CRUMPETS AND HOT
BUTTERED TOAST.

BOOKS AND GIFTS SALE TABLE TO BROWSE
WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!

Sutton Singers.

Sutton Singers continue to meet on Tuesdays during term time at 7pm.

Would you like to sing? Come and join in the joy and fun of singing together? No auditions needed. We welcome new members, have parties sometimes and our Musical Director - Lizzie Soden - is a joy to work with, fun, encouraging and says everyone can sing!

Get in touch with

Jan Tomlinson

on: 01865 881709 or

email: janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com



In March we took part in Chipping Norton Music Festival and were commended by the adjudicator, who was very positive about our performance. It is such a bright, positive and enjoyable Festival. Here we are outside the Town hall after our performance feeling very pleased with ourselves!



Village Shop & Post Office

Monday Shop only 08:00 - 10:00

Tuesday Shop & Post Office 08:00 - 11:30

Wednesday Shop only 08:00 - 10:00

Thursday Shop & Post Office 08:00 - 11:30

Friday Shop only 08:00 - 10:00

Saturday Shop & Post Office 08:00 - 11:30

Sunday Shop only 08:00 - 10:00

POST
OFFICE

Monthly Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast meet ups are held at The Harcourt Arms on the 1st Saturday of each month at 8:00 am to approx. 09:15 for a breakfast & general social chat. Have a full English, with tea/ coffee & toast. Other breakfasts available from the menu too. Open invitation to all, but anyone who would like to come along please let

Rob Brown know by text or telephone on 07957 664117 or email rlindsaybrown@btinternet.com so he can give the Arms numbers by the Thursday beforehand.

Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Royal British Legion Branch

The Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion Branch is 103 years old and was the 3rd Branch to set up after WWI. The main purpose of the Branch is to coordinate Remembrance on the Sunday nearest to the 11th November every year. So that as a community we do not forget the sacrifice made by so many. Not just the Great War but during all wars and conflicts since.

We'd love you to join us to keep the Branch going, otherwise there is a risk of it closing. If you are interested in joining the Branch, please email Jacqui: gravesjacqui@gmail.com

FIRST AND LAST MILE BUS SERVICE

First and Last Mile are pleased to announce that a new direct bus to Witney will be running every Wednesday from 14 February. The bus will leave Bablock Hythe at 09.30 and serve all bus stops including Flexneys Paddock at 09.41 and Sutton at 09.45. In Witney it will stop at Sainsburys as well as the Market Square. The return journey will depart from Sainsburys at 11.55 and Witney Market Square at 12.00. If the service proves popular the bus may run on other days in the future.

The 418 service will continue to run every 2 hours Monday to Friday to Eynsham.

We are happy to answer any queries at 07584 927 050 or info.firstandlastmile@gmail.com. Please email village-voice@hotmail.co.uk for a printable copy of the timetable.

COMBE MILL, BLENHEIM PALACE SAWMILLS, COMBE, OX29 8ET

Combe Mill 'In Steam' Sun 21st April

Come along and bring the children – April's Theme will be 'Military Vehicles' supported by the North Oxforas & Cotswold Military Vehicle Trust, with others represented., if you have an interest in the Military this is the event for you. Combe Mill will be open 'In Steam' with all machinery working and being demonstrated by our lovely volunteers, a Late 19th Century Grade 11 Listed Water Mill on Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode, in its day the workshop for Blenheim Palace estate, not to be missed. Tea Room will be open for refreshments to enjoy in the Picnic area by the River Evenlode. Browse our Mini Market // BBQ // Tombola and Raffle // Dogs Welcome. Adults £9.00, Seniors £7.50 Children are now FREE. Open every Wednesday from 22nd March to End of October self-guided tours and Tea Room open. £5.00 Adults, Seniors & Children £4.00 **Open:** 10.30am to 3.30pm Contact: Combe Mill Society, 01993 358694 www.combemill.org

THE THURSDAY CLUB

We meet every Thursday at Northmoor Village Hall between 12:00 and 2 pm. **COOKS NEEDED** We have several local volunteer cooks who work on a rota basis providing traditional food, but need more people to help ease the pressure on our existing cooks. If you feel you could help out generally or by cooking dinners or puddings please contact Anna on 01865 881363 / Michael on 01865 3004480 or pop in and see us one week between 12.00 and 2.00 "

Yoga at Stanton Harcourt Village Hall Thursday's 10-11am

If you like to relax, stretch, and get together then this is the class for you. Accessible for all and with equipment provided. Yoga is great to help with creating positive wellbeing, helping with the alignment of the body- and correcting any misalignments, exercises to help with maintaining fitness and keep us moving.

This class is donation based, with a suggested donation of £8. Any donation welcome, it is more important that if you think the class would benefit you that you come along. I look forward to meeting you there, for more information please contact me on 0789 002 6446 or via alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk

DON'T FORGET TO BID Funds for St.Michaels and all Angels. All bids for the Stanton Harcourt 1763 prints should be submitted to stmichaelsfunds@gmail.com (see Village Voice/ January) by the latest Saturday 6th.April 6pm. These have been well received and await their new owner!



200 Club

January Draw

1st Prize	284	H. Harris	£25
2nd	126	Mrs Thompson	£12
3rd	246	H. Parker	£8
4th	221	G Pugh	£5

February Draw

1st Prize	161	Mrs Mullard	£25
2nd	295	N. Eagle	£12
3rd	130	J. Stock	£8
4th	200	L Loder	£5

March Draw

1st Prize	192	Mrs A Shepherd	£25
2nd	114	N. Harrison	£12
3rd	142	P Jacobs	£8
4th	298	G. Hutt	£5

Do you run a small business, are you looking for premises?

Are you a florist, a beautician, hairdresser or another small business? The Harcourt Arms are offering the use of The Harcourt Stores for £500 per month all bills and wifi inclusive. If you are looking for premises, please come and visit us at The Harcourt and have a look at The Stores. You can also email me trudip@theharcourtarms.com or phone 01865 416516

Deadline for next issue is 20th of the month
village-voice@hotmail.co.uk

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.

Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Summer Festival



"All things Egyptian"

Festival Week Events

15th to 23rd June



Festival Day Saturday 22nd June

Festival Royals 2024

Our 2024 Festival Queen Victoria Wrembel has said:

"The Summer Festival is the biggest event in our village where everyone comes together and has a wonderful time."

I am proud to participate in this ceremony as the Queen and to begin the celebration of summer"

To find out who will be joining Victoria on the royal float this year look out for the May edition of Village Voice where we will be announcing who will be our Festival Attendant, Prince and Princess.

Festival Week Events

If you or your village organisation would like to hold an event during the week, get in touch with Keith Hickson (07764 132178, email keith@shpc.co.uk) who is co-ordinating the event schedule for the week. It would be lovely if we had some new events on the schedule this year so do have a think about running an event either as an individual household or as an organisation. Hosting a festival event is a great way to raise funds for your village organisation or for your favourite charity.

Festival Day Stalls

If you would like to have a stall on the field on Festival Day then please contact Lucy on 07775 604466 or email lucylowe1974@gmail.com

Programme Booklet

If you are involved in a local business and would like to place an advert in the Festival Programme booklet then contact Gill (gill@gillmason.com)

Village gardeners – plants and cuttings required!

The Festival committee are hoping to run a plant stall on Festival Day and would very much welcome any donations of plants in June. If you are sowing seedlings or taking cuttings perhaps you could produce a few extra and donate some plants to us in the summer. Thanks.

For other information about Festival email Jo Wilby at jjwilby@hotmail.co.uk



The Festival Committee

Oxfordshire Artweeks 2024

Artweeks is upon us again - your chance to view the best the county has to offer by way of all things artistic. Oxfordshire Artweeks runs throughout the month of May 2024 and allows artists in the county to display their work to the viewing public. As part of Artweeks, local artist **Paul Tomlinson** and his sister **Jane** are undertaking a joint exhibition at Jane's house, 7 Pigeon House Lane, Freeland over the weekends of 4/5 May and 11/12 May between 12 noon and 5.30 pm each day. Pictures, prints and merchandise will be available. Tea will be served. Everyone will be welcome. You can see more on the Artweeks website at <https://www.artweeks.org/v/jane-tomlinson-paul-tomlinson>



In collaboration with
Bartholomew Players
Presents an evening of

MURDER -

MYSTERY -

& MAYHEM!



Eynsham Village Hall

Saturday 18th June

Doors open 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

Tickets £12.00 Eynsham DIY
Available from Eynsham Cellars
Roy Wilkinson 01865 883917 or 07970 227364

SUPPER - BAR & RAFFLE

All profits for LOCAL and Rotary charities