
Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton
February 2024

February 2024

Saturday 3rd 8.00am, Men's Breakfast,
Harcourt Arms (see entry for details)

Monday 5th 7:30pm, Parish Council Meeting,
Old Guardroom

Wednesday 7th 10.00am, Café at the Chapel

March 2024

Saturday 2nd 8.00am, Men's Breakfast,
Harcourt Arms (see entry for details)

Monday 4th 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)

**The monthly Village Market is having a
break and will be back in March – please
look in next month's edition for a full list of
this year's dates.**

STANTON HARCOURT & SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Upcoming elections in May

With District Council and Parish Council elections coming in May, your monthly reminder to check that you have registered for your vote.

Your District Councillors are your voice within West Oxfordshire. They are elected to represent your interests regardless of if you have voted for them. 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 Councillors are your point of contact for any local interests and represent you from a local level. Due to low numbers of candidates, there has not been an election for over fifteen years. If you are interested in standing as Parish Councillor, you can contact any of your current Councillors or the District Council.

Anyone with questions about their registration status, elections or even to stand as a Parish Councillor, can contact the Council's electoral services team at

elections@westoxon.gov.uk or by calling 01993 861410.

Changes with DIY waste at your recycling centre

Following a Government change to legislation, small amounts of personal non-household DIY will be accepted free of charge across all OCC sites from 31 December 2023.

From 2 January, you must book in advance for your free visit using the new booking system, bringing proof of your booking to the site. Failure to do so may mean you are charged the full advertised costs. (You only need to use the booking system for your free allowance visits).

[Charges for non-household waste \(DIY\) | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

NHS Health checks for the over 40s

You may feel fine, but as we get older our chance of developing specific health conditions increases.

The aim of the NHS Health Check is to tell you if you are at higher risk of developing certain health problems such as heart disease, kidney disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke, or dementia.

Health checks are about prevention rather than treatment. Your NHS Health Check can detect potential health problems before they do real damage.

Having a free NHS Health Check in the community with Health Checks Oxfordshire or at your GP practice can help you stay healthy.

Changes to our roads.

You may remember we sent around a survey asking what you thought about making the villages 20mph areas. The results came back that the majority were in favour so we put forward a plan to have a 20mph area installed. The plan was accepted (you can see full the details online at

<https://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ielssueDetails.aspx?Id=34196&Opt=3>) and you will have now doubt noticed that it is currently being implemented throughout our villages. We are hopeful that this will be even more of a deterrent for speeding drivers through our village and make the roads safer.

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

THE EYNHAM LINK Giving lifts to and from Eynsham

The Eynsham Link has been in existence for over 6 years. It was set up in response to the withdrawal of the Route 18 bus service by the County Council – largely because patronage was low and the subsidy the service required was very high.

But without the bus service villagers who don't own cars, and villagers who temporarily do not have access to a car, find it difficult to get to Eynsham and the main centres of Witney and Oxford. For many the bus services from Eynsham to Oxford, Witney, etc are good so the prime need is to get to and from Eynsham

The First and Last bus service, which started in 2022, was welcome and has part filled the gap but it only runs to Eynsham 5 times a day Monday to Friday so there are many other times when villagers need a lift. The Link works through a WhatsApp group so anyone needing a lift puts a message on the App giving the rough time they need a lift and this alerts all those in the group who have cars. They can respond if they happen to be going to/from Eynsham around that time and they then communicate via the App with the person requesting the lift as to the exact time and pick up point.

For this to work consistently there needs in our estimation to have a minimum of 100 villagers in the scheme/on the App. We need more villagers who own cars therefore to volunteer to give the occasional lift- and very importantly anyone who doesn't own a car to join the scheme.

So if you are willing to offer a lift from time to time please join the Link. And if you regularly or occasionally need a lift please join the Link. Apart from having a smart phone the only requirement is to contact John Brown at jbrown1uk@yahoo.com and he will add you to the group.

If you have any queries about the Link and how it works email Mike Parker at mikeparker12@gmail.com We hope many members of our community volunteer.

Mike Parker, Richard Thomson,
Gil Hilliard, John Brown

Lower Windrush History Club

6th February 2024 – Standlake Village Hall 7.30pm

Tom Crook – The Great Stink: Victorian Engineering

5th March 2024 – Northmoor Village Hall 7.30pm

Liz Woolley – Lord Nuffield and the Oxford Colleges

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

Thai Yoga Massage in Sutton

Dear Neighbours, I have been a qualified massage therapist since 2011, qualifying in Thai Yoga Massage at the start of 2020.

The benefits of Thai Yoga Massage include-

*improved circulation, breathing, posture, flexibility, digestion.

*works to improve your body's alignment, is described as having yoga done to you.

*aims to restore and balance the body's energy system.

This massage is performed over clothing, and is both laying and sitting. Each massage is carried out by looking at your individual needs and tailoring the massage to you.

Please email for more information at alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk

Thank you ☆

Church News

Lower Windrush Benefice – St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt

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

February Services

Sunday 4th (2 Before Lent)

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 11th (Sunday next before Lent)

10:00 Benefice Holy Communion

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 SUN 11 FEB AT 3.00PM

LED BY DAVID SARBUTTS.

ALL ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR OUR INFORMAL SERVICE.

St Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Eynsham

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

*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.

Café at the Chapel

EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY
OF THE MONTH



NEXT CAFE
WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 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!

Offer of Support to Veterans

Have you ever served in the UK Armed Forces?
Your local Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion
Branch is here for you and your family. Anyone
who has served for at least one day in the UK
Armed Forces, whether as a regular or a reservist,
can access support. We can offer social contact/
companionship and information on sources of help.

We'd love to hear from you and/or join our local
Branch. Contact Rachel on elliottcains@gmail.com
or Jacqui on gravesjacqui@gmail.com

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



**We are currently working towards our
performance at Chipping Norton Music
Festival in March. Come along and join in
the fun.**

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



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 Summer Festival

"All things Egyptian"

Festival Week Events 15th to 23rd June

Festival Day Saturday 22nd June

Festival Royals – Attendant required!

Victoria Wrembel, our Festival Attendant last year will be
crowned "Festival Queen" on Festival Day. We are
looking for an Attendant to join Victoria on the Royal
Float and become Festival King/Queen in 2025.

If you are in school year 7 or above and would like to be
our Festival Attendant, email your details to
jowilby@hotmail.co.uk before 6pm on Friday 29th March.
A name will be drawn "from a hat" of those who have
expressed interested. The winner will be announced in
May's edition of Village Voice.

(Youngsters – please ask your parent or carer to email
on your behalf. Grown-ups – please make sure that any
young person you are nominating is happy to take on
this role!)

Our Festival Prince and Princess will also be chosen in a
draw that will be made at Stanton Harcourt School
before Easter.

A plea to all gardeners! Plants and cuttings needed!

The Festival committee are hoping to run a plant stall on
Festival Day and would very much welcome any
donations of plants in June. So as you all start to sow
your seedlings or take cuttings over the spring perhaps
you could sow a few extra seeds and donate some
plants to us in the summer. Thanks.

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. Hosting a
festival event is a great way to raise funds for your
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)

For other information about the
Festival, email Jo Wilby at
jowilby@hotmail.co.uk

The Festival Committee



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

****Our First 'IN STEAM EVENT' at Combe Mill This Year****

17th March 2024 Themed 'Science at the Mill'

Browse Gift Shop, Tombola, BBQ and Tea Room also open. Accompanied by Market Stalls. Combe Mill in its day was the workshop for Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode. It is a late 19th Century Grade 2 listed Watermill with Steam Beam Engine, Restored Waterwheel, Line Shafting, Collection of Towers Clocks, Barn Engines with all machinery running as used in its day. Make a poker in our Dual Blacksmiths' Forge, Tinkering Area for the Children and much more.

Admission: Adults £9.00, Concessions £7.50, CHILDREN now FREE // Dogs most welcomed // Free Parking // Ask about Gift Aid. **Open:** 10.30am to 5.00pm

OPEN WEDNESDAYS FROM 20th MARCH 2024 for self-guided tours, with volunteers on hand to talk about Combe Mill and its history. **Admission:** Adults £5.00, Concessions & Children £4.00 **Open:** 10.30am to 3.30pm Contact: Combe Mill Society, 01993 358694 www.combemill.org

Raising funds for St. Michael and all Angels Church

St. Michael and all Angels, Stanton Harcourt has acquired by gift an incomplete set of three (out of four, lacking frame three) well framed prints of the Society of Antiquaries prints of Stanton Harcourt, dated 1763 (by Lord Harcourt and Paul Sandby). Their condition is good and they each measure 76 cms by 61 cms. (please see photos).

They will be displayed Stanton Harcourt Village Hall 10th February and 9th March (around lunchtime) and at Northmoor Village Hall on 16th March from 10am to 12pm. The prints are available to acquire either singly, or as a lot, by confidential bid on a website called "St. Michael Funds", which will be created on March 1st 2024 and is open to all. The successful bidder will be announced on Easter Monday on the relevant website. In the meantime please address any enquiries to St. Michaels and all Angels. These prints, considered historically and artistically important, are part of our

national art collections. The photos don't do them justice – please do come to the open viewings.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

STANDING WITH GIANTS NORMANDY 80

Dan and his team desperately need volunteers to finish this impactful installation to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings this summer. The memorial will be shipped over to France early April, and set up, before opening to the public for the summer. It will be part of high profile events and coverage planned to mark this important anniversary and is made up of 1,475 silhouette figures, one for each life lost under British Command on D-Day, 6th June 1944.

Dan needs help painting and assembling these figures – they are based just outside Stanton Harcourt, very close to the recycling centre. Please do give some time if you can.

Please contact Dan Barton on 07919182007 // info@standingwithgiants.co.uk <https://www.standingwithgiants.co.uk/normandy-80>