

Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt and Sutton

March 2013

Feeling husky in the snow

It's a dog's life for some when it snows, but these two on the right seem to have rediscovered their shared ancestry with huskies! High-grip, winter paws were in evidence.

Birds were out in force at feeders too, as the group of goldfinches below shows. Many households in the Village, as well as the School, took part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch at the end of January, with everything from regular garden visitors such as blackbirds, blue tits and chaffinches, through to less-common long-tailed tits, great spotted woodpeckers and bullfinches being recorded. For each one-hour watching session, the data are uploaded to the RSPB website and combined with results from across the country to provide a snapshot of changing garden bird populations.

Schools were closed as the snow fell, but this gave time for traditional snow-related pursuits, such as building this excellent snowman, below. Do you think he has a dog too ... and do they fly?

Thank you to everyone who sent in photos. *Village Voice* is made by the information and photos that you send in, so please keep them coming. We give priority to local news and events, but if there isn't enough then we include information about activities and opportunities from the local area to try to ensure that *Village Voice* is not a "waste of paper".



The Small Breakfast

Saturday 16 March at 9.00–11.00 am

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

**Please spare
some time for
a clean-up?**



Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 March

The Parish Council is organising a litter pick, and they need willing volunteers to come along and help keep the Village tidy. Please come along to show your support for the Village and help make a real difference to your local environment. Start by meeting at the Village Hall at 10.00 am on Saturday 9 and on Sunday 10 March. All are welcome, including children!

Although the local council will be lending all the equipment needed, including grabbers and bags, you'll need to wear sturdy footwear and clothing appropriate for the weather. You can spend as little or as much time as you want and you can limit yourself to the easy paths, or go cross-country for some extreme picking!

FOSHS Jumble Sale

Saturday 16 March, 2.00–4.00 pm

Stanton Harcourt Village Hall

All donations of clean and saleable jumble are welcome, and can be left at the Village Hall from 9.00 am on the day of the sale. If you need to deliver jumble before Saturday, please contact Darren on 07872 607706.

Friends of Stanton Harcourt School – Charity No 1061604

Easter Egg Hunt, Disco and Tea

Sunday 31 March from 3.00 to 6.00 pm

The Egg Hunt is at 'Simon's house on the corner' at 3.00 pm, followed by a disco and tea at *The Harcourt Arms* £4.70 per child. For more information, contact Darren on 07872 607706.

More FOSHS Dates for your Diary

Saturday 27 April – FOSHS Big Quiz with Supper

Saturday 13 July – Car Treasure Hunt and BBQ

**The Village Shop:
New Opening Hours**

Monday	7.00 am – 2.00 pm
Tuesday to Friday	7.00 am – 5.00 pm
Saturday	8.00 am – 12.30 pm
Sunday	8.00 am – 12.00 noon

**Children's
Auditioning Workshop**

Witney, Sunday 7 April

West Oxfordshire Academy of Performing Arts (WOAPA) in Witney is hosting two 1.5-hour workshops during the Easter holidays by **West End casting director, Jo Hawes**.

Jo is currently casting director for children in *The Lion King*, *Oliver!*, *Les Miserables*, *Shrek – The Musical*, *The Turn of the Screw* and *Goodnight Mr Tom*. She also manages the children in *Matilda the Musical*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Before the Party* and *Fences*.

Places are limited to 25 per workshop and initially only open to current WOAPA students. Any available spaces will, however, be opened up **from Friday 1 March** to non-WOAPA students who wish to take part. Children should be between 7 and 16 years old.

Tickets: current WOAPA students £25, and each sibling £15; ALL non-WOAPA students £30.

For more details, contact Brian Conroy, Principal WOAPA, at brian@woapa.co.uk or on 07943 353032; website: www.woapa.co.uk.

**Music, drama and
gardening at the School**

After a busy December, January started well with dance activities, bird-watching and a taster session of rugby on the agenda. In early February, the Drama Club produced 'Little Red Cap', which parents came to watch, and Class 2 and the orchestra went to the schools concert at the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford. On Saturday 16 February, some of the school governors and parents put on their gardening clothes and gave the garden around the school a spring clean, as well as pruning a number of the many trees we're lucky enough to have in the school grounds.

Thanks from Suzy Miller

I would like to say a huge thank you to all my friends in the Village for the cards and presents and phone calls that I received whilst I was in hospital and recuperating either in Ducklington or home. A special thank you to the children who attend the before-school club – your huge card was excellent ... it really cheered me up ... thank you all so very much ... I am now riding my bike, and driving, but still unable to go back to school, but I am working on this one ... watch this space.

Royal British Legion Meeting

Monday 18 March at 8.00 pm
Stanton Harcourt Village Hall

Think of Summer and Save the Date!

Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Festival Day

Saturday 22 June

The theme will be:

Heroes and Villains

Open Gardens commence on 15 June

So start thinking about ...

Your costume? Your garden?

Your Scarecrow? Good weather?

Watch *Village Voice* for more details

Want to get involved?

Contact: Jo Wilby on 01865 731690 or
07881 900920 or at jowilby@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you to everyone who supported the Bike Safe Barn Dance

It was a great evening and we raised over £1,000. Bike Safe is campaigning for a Community Path alongside the congested B4044 between Eynsham and Botley, which will help all road users in West Oxon who use the route.

Gigaclear

Ultrafast Community Broadband

You are invited to attend a:

Demonstration Day

Appleton Village Hall

Saturday 23 March

Call in anytime between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm

Join us to see what you can do with up to 1000Mbps of ultrafast broadband and have your questions answered by the experts

Take part in our speed challenge!

Bring your own device and see how fast it can upload and download

Discover the alternative to a landline that will save you money and still keep your existing telephone number

Check progress in your community:

www.gigaclear.com/can-i-get-it

Enquiries? Email us at events@gigaclear.com

Daffodil Day

@ Parsonage House

Sunday 24 March – Palm Sunday

10.00 am to dusk

Come and wander lonely as a cloud through the aconites, snowdrops, narcissi and daffodils ... weeds and all.

Plant stand, tea, coffee and cakes available.

Donations in aid of St Michael's Church.

All welcome!

Stanton Harcourt

Drama Group AGM

Tuesday 16 April at 8.00 pm

Stanton Harcourt Village Hall

After 20 years, Jan Tomlinson is resigning as Chairman/Director and Thelma Faulkner is resigning as Treasurer of the Drama Group. If the Drama Group is to continue we need new volunteers to put on future fabulous productions! If you want there to be another village pantomime, come along and get involved.

The next panto is planned for January 2014, but it can only happen if someone can take on the roles of Chairman and Treasurer! For more information, call Jan on 881709 or email ipag@dixpit.fsnet.co.uk

See you there! Oh yes I will!

Oil from ORCC Trading Ltd

An Ethical and Social Enterprise

Want to save money on the cost of heating oil? So do we! Join our community-based, countywide oil-buying syndicate and benefit from the power of bulk buying. To find out more, contact your local volunteer co-ordinator: Peter Bartrip (01865 881999; email: peter.bartrip@csls.ox.ac.uk) or ORCC Trading Ltd (01865 883488; email: oil@oxonrcc.org.uk) or visit www.oxonrcc.org.uk

Next Parish Council Meeting

Monday 4 March at 7.30 pm

in the Village Hall

All welcome!

St Michael's Church 200 Club

February draw

1st	297	P Hall	3rd	184	C Styles
2nd	247	B Cross	4th	291	L Loder

The Rotary Club of Eynsham presents

A Barn Dance with Jack's Maggot

Eynsham Village Hall

Saturday 9 March from 7.30 pm to 11.30 pm

Tickets £10 including supper

Tickets available at Eynsham DIY or contact

Harold Jerred on 01865 881869 or at

harold.jerred@talk21.com

A Rotary event to support local and Rotary charities

The Harcourt Arms Mothering Sunday Dinner Sunday 10 March

3 courses for £19.95 pp

Book soon to avoid disappointment!

Regular menu offers:

Tuesday Night ~ Pie and a pint £10.95 pp

Wednesday Night ~ Fish, chips and proper mushy peas ~ buy one at £10.50 and get the second for half price

Thursday Night ~ Steak night from £8.95 pp incl 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

St Michael's Church

Rev Sarah Sharp

☎ 01865 880249

✉ s550sharp@btinternet.com

March

3	9.30 am	Parish Communion and Sunday School
10	10.30 am	Mothering Sunday – Benefice Communion in Standlake
17	10.30 am	All Age Worship
	8.00 pm	Late 8ers – <i>Murder Mystery Night</i>
24	8.00 am	Holy Communion
31	11.00 am	Easter Day – Family Communion

Benefice Lent Courses: There are two opportunities this year to join a Lent course to fit in with as many different lifestyles as possible. Feel free to mix and match. Don't feel you must attend them all. This year we are looking at the York Course for 2013 by David Winter called *Glimpses of God: Hope for Today's World* featuring Bishop Stephen Cottrell, Rev Prof David Wilkinson, Rt Hon Shirley Williams, Rev Lucy Winkett, and Dr David Hope.

Mondays at The Harcourt Arms in Stanton Harcourt from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm, followed by a light lunch of soup for £3.

Wednesdays in Standlake Church vestry at 8.30 pm with coffee and biscuits.

Session 3 – Mon 4 or Weds 6 March:

The Son Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life

Session 4 – Mon 11 or Weds 13 March:

The God Who Shares Our Pain

Session 5 – Mon 18 or Weds 20 March:

The God Who Calms our Fears

Session 6 – Mon 25 or Weds 27 March: *Reflection*

Sutton Methodist Chapel

Contact: Rita Stockill

☎ 01865 880200

March

3	10.00 am	Rev R Donoghue, incl Holy Communion
10	10.00 am	Mr D Tee
17	10.00 am	Local arrangement
24	10.00 am	Mr R Bowler
31	10.00 am	Local arrangement

Weds 6 March: 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.

The Catholic Church of St Peter

Fr Martin Flatman

☎ 07719 646790

✉ frmartinflatman@gmail.com

Services: Sunday Mass 10.00 am with a Children's Liturgy Saturday 7.30 pm; Monday 5.30 pm; Tuesday 7.30 pm; Wednesday 9.30 am; Thursday 12 noon; Friday 6.00 am.

St Peter's Church: Open for prayer every day at Abbey Street, Eynsham, OX29 4HR. www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk

And finally ...

Handing on Village Voice

After 5 years and around 50 issues, Linda and I have decided that it's time to hand on the baton for *Village Voice*. We will complete the issues up to the July/August combined issue, so if you would like to take the reins from then or even before, you are welcome to drop us an email or give us a call to discuss it. See below for our contact details.

Parish Council information

The Parish Council posts its notices at four locations: on the Village Green, outside the Village Hall, in Sutton Lane near New Road, and at the top of Steadys Lane. When it is not practical to post at all four locations, the main ones are on the Village Green and at Sutton Lane. After approval at the subsequent meeting, Council Minutes are available in the Village Shop and on the website. All official communications should be addressed to the Parish Clerk: Trudi Gasser, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA.

☎ 01865 301720

✉ trudigasser@rocketmail.com

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

Thank you to this month's contributors. Material for *Village Voice* can be sent by email or put through Phil and Linda's letterbox. Please include your name and phone number in case we need to check anything.

Deadline for the April issue: Monday 18 March 2013

Published on behalf of Stanton Harcourt Parish Council by Phil and Linda Loder, 25 Bury Mead, Stanton Harcourt, OX29 5SD.

☎ 01865 883016

✉ village-voice@hotmail.co.uk

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